

A Special Thank You to Randy Crabtree

SSEEO has drawn its strength from dedicated Board Members and has attracted outstanding volunteers over the past 18 years. One of those Board Members is Randy Crabtree.

Randy has served his three-year term as SSEEO President and will be stepping down from this position. He will continue to raise awareness of stroke prevention and help others in their post stroke journey.

Randy has been raising stroke awareness through his accounting profession. He is a CPA and a widely followed author, lecturer and host of the podcast, *The Unique CPA*. In one of his recent episodes, Randy talked to Rob Brown, co-founder of the Accounting Influencers Roundtable. They both shared their experiences as stroke survivors during Stroke Awareness Month and highlighted the lessons learned from these life-changing events. One of the biggest of those lessons is the importance of being open and vulnerable with friends about struggles and of not waiting for a consequential event to make positive changes in one's life. The full episode can be listened [here](#).

SSEEO will miss Randy's leadership but happy he will be spending more time traveling, watching and playing sports and having his favorite beer with his wife Kathy and two sons.



Stroke & Vision Loss

Vision problems are very common after a stroke. According to research

Caregivers Corner

Caregivers play a critical role in the health and well-being of their loved

from 2019, about 60% of people who survive a stroke have a visual impairment to some degree; the types of visual impairments vary greatly among these stroke survivors.

Vision problems can happen because of brain damage and a stroke can affect various parts of the brain. Strokes can cause a wide range of symptoms, including changes in balance and vision.

The type of vision problem a person may experience depends on the location of the stroke. If a stroke affects the part of the brain controlling and receiving information from the eyes, this can cause vision problems.

For example, a stroke can damage the occipital lobe which is responsible for processing visual inputs. A stroke can also affect the brainstem, which handles visual balance, interpreting objects, and eye movements.

Vision problems a person had before a stroke may also worsen after a stroke or add new visual impairments.

Click [here](#) to read the full article and learn more about types of vision problems after a stroke.

Click [here](#) to listen to the SSEEEO podcast ***Stroke and Vision Problems.***



ones.

Most caregivers are often unprepared for the post stroke journey. Personal hygiene, monitoring health, administering medications, managing medical, therapy and social appointments, and typically the most stressful task - managing finances.

Despite the responsibilities involved in their loved ones care, caregivers often want to be involved in the recovery journey and provide tangible assistance and support for the person dealing with life after a stroke.

In an effort to support caregiving, SSEEEO will be dedicating a section of each newsletter to offer tips, resources, stories and more.

Click [here](#) to listen to SSEEEO's recent webinar ***Focus on Caregivers*** with David Bowman.

David shares his experiences as a caregiver when his mother experienced a severe stroke. He and his family had many challenges but they worked together to manage their mothers care while researching helpful resources, services and support.



OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY WITH STROKE SURVIVORS!



Are you a stroke survivor who could benefit from additional occupational therapy but no longer qualify for therapy services?



JOIN US!

for a unique pilot program with Occupational Therapy students who will assess, design, and implement interventions for functional deficits due to stroke. This program bridges the gap in therapy services for stroke survivors while providing valuable fieldwork for Occupational Therapy students.



Watch the WGN News story to learn more about the program [HERE](#)



"The most valuable learning experience in class was working with SSEEO stroke survivors" - OT Student

Survivor Kathy stated, "The young ladies were genuinely interested in listening to my journey in stroke recovery along with remaining challenges and struggles I face daily. One of my favorite aspects ... has been working on a strategy of what is important to me, like printing, cursive, playing the keyboard etc. and what I'd like to continue to work on with the hope of recovering additional fine motor skills."



WHO:

Stroke survivors no longer receiving therapy (near Naperville, IL)

WHEN:

August 2022 - November 2022 (6-8 Sessions)

WHERE:

In your own home (led by OT professor and 4 OT students)



For more information, contact christine@sseeo.org



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