



Grandpa's White Cane

by Jim Hoxie and Joanna Jones with illustrator Alex Portal

With great pleasure, we, the authors and illustrator, introduce a dynamic book about learning to use a white cane. Visual impairment education became a driving focus for Spearfish SD resident Jim Hoxie when his eyesight greatly declined. In 2017, he received white cane orientation and mobility training at the Central Blind Rehabilitation Center, Edward Hines Jr. VA Hospital, Chicago.

As Hoxie shared his story in his local community, he was inspired to write a children's book entitled *Grandpa's White Cane*. The illustrations are photographic images of his home town with caricature overlays. In the book, Hoxie tells about his many steps in the darkness of becoming visually impaired followed by the joy of gaining confidence with his changed abilities. Educating children and adults about the tall white cane has become his goal. This children's book was originally supported by the Spearfish Lions Club in South Dakota.

An excellent twenty minute podcast interviewing the authors about the book was created by Hadley. <https://cdn.hadleyhelps.org/HadleyPresents/AudioTrack/2022-10-14.mp3>

Bill Scholl, MD 19 Lions, Knights of the Blind committee chair, Shelton WA, has encouraged Lions to replicate Jim Hoxie's model to teach children and adults about the tall white cane.

The audible book through the National Library Service for the Blind and Print Disabled sponsored by the Library of Congress is available as a Braille and Audio Reading Download (BARD) access number DBC06000. On Amazon, hardback books are \$18.75, paperback books are \$10.00 and free for KindleUnlimited users.

White Cane Day is October 15.