



SOUND EXPRESSIONS

A Quarterly Publication

PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE



*Suzanne Miltich,
2006 ArkSHA President*

Well, summer is here - with its fiery blast of sun and heat. We've recently returned from a two-week vacation, visiting family and friends and sailing on Lake Erie in our 19-foot live-aboard. With all the repairs and mishaps we encountered before leaving and then before setting sail, I was reminded of how much patience, flexibility, and ingenuity sailing requires. Once on Lake Erie, I added cooperation to the list. Living aboard and traveling in a 19-foot sail boat with another person certainly demands cooperating to 'work together.'

President Continued on Page 3

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ArkSHA Convention 2006:

Working Together



**By: Jennifer Fisher,
ArkSHA VP of Continuing Education**

The theme for this year's convention is "Working Together," and it is packed full of remarkable speakers from across the country. Whatever population you serve, I believe you will find sessions that are applicable to you.

The convention will begin with the traditional Wednesday evening session for public school based Speech-Language Pathologists by Jane Willard. On Thursday we will start off with a general session that is designed for everyone - Mike McKinley of Thinking Publications will be speaking to us on working together.

Thursday featured speakers will present 3-hour sessions that repeat so you will have an opportunity to participate in more than one session.

See **Working** on page 4

**ArkSHA 2006
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

ArkSHA MISSION STATEMENT

To provide leadership, professional development, and quality membership services for audiologists and speech-language pathologists; to serve as the catalyst for innovative practices in prevention, assessment, diagnosis, and treatment of communication, hearing, balance, and swallowing disorders; and to advocate for the provision of quality programs and services and for the rights of people with communication hearing, balance, and swallowing disorders.

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INFORMATION CENTER

**Arkansas Board of Examiners
In
Speech-Language Pathology
And
Audiology**

101 E. Capitol, Suite 211
Little Rock, AR 72201

(501) 682-9180 Office
(501) 682-9181 Fax

Email: ABESPA@ipa.net

www.abespa.com

Arkansas Medicaid Website
www.medicaid.state.ar.us

Arkansas Department of Education
(501) 682-4475
www.arkedu.state.ar.us

Arkansas Department of Health
(501) 661-2328

ASHA Action Center

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(President Continued from page 1)

Sounds a lot like life doesn't it, even professional life where we often have to wait longer than we'd like to see the results of our work, attain our career goals, etc. As the Piet Hein plaque on my wall says, 'Things Take Time.' And waiting can be difficult in this time of fast food, instant messaging, etc. Flexibility is required when we have to change what we're doing with a client/patient to see results. I remember learning early on that, if you're not successful in a therapy program, change what you're doing. Ingenuity is often required to determine the change that is needed for a particular client/patient as you review known methods and try them. Ingenuity can also mean using what's available creatively. I recall, as a student, being asked to think of all the things that could be done in therapy with a piece of white paper. That was before the days when so many materials became available, though I think it's a good exercise still.

That brings me to the notion of 'working together.' In June, ArkSHA Board members joined by our management and interested Association members gathered on Petit Jean Mountain for a leadership conference led by Dan Clanton whose consulting firm helps groups of people learn to work together. While there, we learned about working together as a Board and with committees and members, our partner members in ArkSHA.

I invite you to attend the upcoming ArkSHA convention in Hot Springs where I'm sure you'll find support for the patience needed to 'hang in there' and will learn new tools to increase your flexibility and enhance your ingenuity in clinical settings.

Don't miss the opening session with Mike McKinley, husband of the late Nancy McKinley of Thinking Publications. Mike is a dynamic speaker who will entertain us while telling how we're even better when working together. Another special event at the convention is the awards reception—a time to socialize, to honor individuals receiving awards, and to learn about the progress of ArkSHA's strategic plan. Be sure to stop by ArkSHA's table in the exhibit area; while there complete a survey form and speak with a Board member.

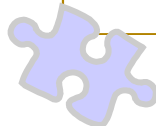
Meanwhile, enjoy the pleasures of summer—sweet corn, Arkansas tomatoes and peaches, swimming in cool streams, reading a good novel, vacationing, or whatever your summertime pleasure. You'll be refreshed and have increased patience, flexibility, and ingenuity when you return to your professional life. I hope that you will become an active ArkSHA partner member. Be a partner in your Association—Join a committee; get involved in the work of ArkSHA's strategic plan; consider serving on the Board.

Suzanne

Join Us for Our Wine and Cheese Reception

Thursday, October 26
5:15 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Partially Sponsored by:
John Halloran and
Prentke-Romich Company



Featured speakers and titles are:

Mike McKinley (General Session)

The Music is YOU...But Together We're Even Better

Jane Kitson

Let's Leap into Literacy and Make Language Learning Fun!

Kenneth Wolf

Cultural Competence:

Implications and Expectations for Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology

Jane Auriemmo

Advanced Hearing Aid Technology Solutions:

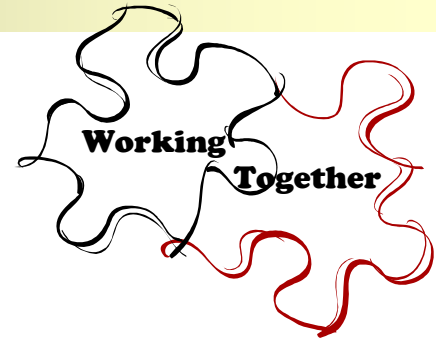
Integrated Signal Processing, Verification Strategies, and Pediatric Applications

Constance Dean Qualls

Management of Neurologic Communication Disorders in Today's Global and Technological Society

Chris Holcomb

A Reduction of Self-Injurious Behaviors in an Adolescent with Autism Using Positive Behavior Support and Applied Behavior Analysis



Poster presentations return to ArkSHA. This year there will be more than 25 posters representing the work of Speech-Language-Hearing professionals from around the state which were selected for presentation at a regional, national or international meeting during the last three years.

I look forward to seeing you in Hot Springs!

You won't want to miss our Thursday evening wine and cheese reception. This year's award recipients will be recognized following a message from our President, Suzanne Miltich. There will be live music and a silent auction to benefit the ArkSHA scholarship fund, so bring your dancing shoes and your wallets. It will be a great opportunity to meet with your fellow professionals and just have a good time.

Jennifer Fisher

Working Together

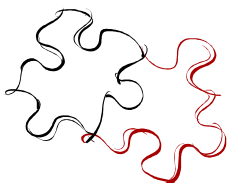
We can piece the puzzle together and make a difference

Plan now to attend the

2006 ArkSHA Convention

October 25 - 27, 2006 • Hot Springs, Arkansas

Download the Whole Convention Program at www.arksha.org



ArkSHA Scholarship Deadline

Linda Edwards

ArkSHA Treasurer

The Scholarship Committee will soon become active reviewing applications from graduate students throughout the state. The Scholarship Committee is composed of the Treasurer who serves as Chairperson, the Executive Committee (President, President-Elect, and Past President), and two additional members. I want to take this opportunity to discuss how the scholarship amount is currently determined.

Our scholarship is currently distributed based upon an endowed status. "Endowed" simply means that the invested principal is protected. Protecting the principal is accomplished by awarding gifts or scholarships from the interest or dividend earnings of the principal only while never using any of the funds from the principal. The ArkSHA Scholarship was set up originally with "endowed status." This arrangement allows the scholarship fund to perpetuate itself each year without ever jeopardizing the principal investment. Under this endowment arrangement, ArkSHA as an association reaps a number of benefits. First, the scholarship is not the product of a single elected board. The scholarship "transcends" all elected officials and will continue to exist and be awarded annually regardless of elected leadership. Second, the annual scholarship award has the potential to grow in at least two ways. Donations made to the account will increase the principal. Increasing the principal will increase the interest that can be awarded each year. Also, in periods of economic prosperity, the scholarship award should increase with increased interest rates. In recent years, interest rates have been very low; therefore, our scholarship amount awarded has been lower.

When working with scholarship committees in the past, I am stunned at how few students apply for small yet helpful scholarships.

As a graduate student, I remember stressing over the cost of my week's supply of Ramen noodles, so I know that any amount of money is helpful.

Please encourage any graduate students you know to review the eligibility criteria for the ArkSHA Scholarship. The scholarship application is located on the ArkSHA website as well as in this issue of the ArkSHA Quarterly. The website application can be accessed and printed without the use of a password.

Completed application should be sent directly to ArkSHA at the following address: ArkSHA, P.O. Box 250261, Little Rock, AR 72225. The deadline for submitting applications is September 30, 2006. If you or your students have specific questions about the scholarship, please contact me at lindae@uca.edu or 501-450-5486.

Thanks to Rick Neeley, past ArkSHA Treasurer, for his help in writing this article.

Treasurer's Report

ArkSHA finances as of July 25, 2006

<i>Simmons Checking Account</i>	\$23,541.03
<i>Simmons Main CD</i>	\$59,585.56
<i>Simmons Scholarship CD</i>	<u>\$20,583.89</u>
<i>Total Assets</i>	\$103,710.38

ArkSHA Congratulates Jill Fitzpatrick Arkansas' First MICS Representative

Jill Fitzpatrick is a speech-language pathologist at Baptist Therapy Center in Little Rock and was appointed by the ArkSHA Board at its June meeting.

MICS refers to the Medicare Intermediary & Carrier State network developed by ASHA to enhance and perpetuate advocacy, leadership, and communication at the state level in order to influence administrative and public policy decisions that impact Medicare coverage and reimbursement.



Arkansas Speech-Language-Hearing Association 2006 Scholarship Application and Guidelines

- 1) The applicant must be enrolled in a Communication Sciences and Disorders graduate program in the state of Arkansas. (Proof of enrollment required - Faculty Advisor or Program Director signature).
 - 2) The applicant must be an Arkansas resident who, at present, plans to work in-state after graduation.
 - 3) The applicant must submit a short narrative, not to exceed one-half page explaining their financial need for the scholarship.
 - 4) The applicant must submit an undergraduate transcript.
 - 5) Applications will be mailed to graduate program directors by May 15th and will be available upon request from the ArkSHA office or at [.www.arksha.org/scholarship.pdf](http://www.arksha.org/scholarship.pdf).
 - 6) Both professional and personal letters of recommendation must be submitted with the application (minimum 3, maximum 5).
 - 7) The applicant's involvement in professional organizations such as ArkSHA, NSSLHA, AAA, etc. should be emphasized.
 - 8) All applications must be received by September 30th to allow committee members ample time for consideration.
 - 9) The scholarship amount will consist of the interest earned from October of the previous year to September 30th of the current year. As more contributions are made to this account, the size and/or number of scholarships will grow.
 - 10) Failure to complete academic commitment will require a full refund of the scholarship amount to ArkSHA.
 - 11) The scholarship winner(s) will be announced and presented with a check at the Annual ArkSHA Convention Awards and Scholarship Reception.
- *The Scholarship Committee will be composed of the ArkSHA President, Past President, President-Elect, Treasurer, and two additional members. Once the recipient is chosen by the Committee, that applicant will be presented to the ArkSHA Board for final vote and approval.

Full Name: _____

Major Field of Study: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Age: _____

Place of Employment: _____

Marital Status): Single Married

Number and ages of dependents, if any: _____

Present Address: _____

Permanent Address: _____

Number of years as a member of :

ArkSHA _____ NSSLHA _____ AAA _____

Home Phone: _____

Work Phone: _____

Email: _____

Undergraduate University: _____

University you plan to attend in the Fall of 2006: _____

Fall 2006 Semester Hours: _____

**Please mail all required application materials
before September 30, 2006 to:**

**ArkSHA Scholarship Committee
P.O. Box 250261
Little Rock, AR 72225**

**Questions? - Contact Linda Edwards
lindae@uca.edu**

Signature of Applicant: _____ Date: _____



"BILL" it and They Will Come!

Another victory has been achieved in North Little Rock due to the grassroots efforts of speech-language pathologists across the State of Arkansas. Our bill may have not been appropriated, but it was the ember that has initiated a "fire" that is spreading across our state. We applaud North Little Rock schools who have now voted to honor the matched local stipend for their speech-language pathologists. Kudos to Dorothy Farris and her team of speech-language pathologists for stepping up to [the](#) plate!



EMBER SPARKS FIRE!

The next few months will be crucial as we prepare for the 2007 legislative session. We need your help. Please contact your Representative and Senator and inform them of our bill and the need to get it appropriated. Remind them of the excess in dollars to the tune of 600 million and we only need 2.5 million to appropriate our bill. We have [many](#) political races. Contact those individuals seeking a term. When they want your vote, they are more apt to listen. Gain their support. Make personal visits if your time allows. We need a victory! We need you. Be an "ember!" Spread the word!



ASHA SEAL WORKING FOR YOU!

Carol Fleming, Past President, and Kay Hall, ASHA SEAL (State Education Advocacy Leader), are busy working to initiate a state-wide advocacy group to address personnel shortages in the public schools. If you know someone in the professions of OT, PT, or special education or a superintendent, principal, psychological examiner, special education administrator, [or](#) ADE representative who would be a good source for us to contact, please send their name and contact information to Kay Hall @ kmhall@conwaycorp.net or 501-733-0667.

A survey was recently sent for the ADE to complete regarding personnel shortages in Arkansas. You will be notified as results of the survey come in.

Brandi Nixon, VP for Speech-Language Pathology, and Kay Hall, ASHA SEAL, are also working on workloads/caseloads in the public schools in Arkansas. More to come.....

Note:

State Education Advocacy Leaders, or SEAL's, are appointed by ASHA-recognized state speech and hearing associations to advocate on education issues such as caseload/workload, salary supplements, and maintenance of personnel standards in school settings. The State Education Advocacy Leaders were established in 1999 under ASHA's priorities.

The mission of the SEAL's network is to enhance and perpetuate the advocacy, leadership, and clinical-management skills at the state and local levels to influence administrative and public policy decisions that affect the delivery of speech-language pathology and audiology services in school settings. Kay Hall is Arkansas' representative to the SEAL network.

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes - April 21, 2006

3:00 p.m.

Mather Lodge

Petit Jean

Board members present at the meeting included: Suzanne Miltich, Donna Smiley, Beckie Weaver, Amy Shollenbarger, Carol Fleming, Laura Smith-Olinde, Linda Edwards, and Brandi Nixon. Also present were Randy and Nancy Martinsen, ARKSHA administrators. President Suzanne Miltich called the meeting to order at 3:15 p.m.

Presentation and approval of minutes

Amy Shollenbarger presented the minutes from the February 2006 board meeting. **Laura Smith- Olinde made a motion to approve the minutes as corrected. Carol seconded.** The minutes were approved as corrected.

Committee Reports

Past President, Carol Fleming

Nominations and Election Committee

This committee is made up of DeAndra Gibson, Carol Wood Percy, and Janet Browne. A Call for Nominations was placed in the Sound Expression Newsletter. Action needed includes completing a slate of officers for 2006.

Honors and Awards Committee

The members of the Honors and Awards Committee are DeAndra Gibson, Janet Browne, and Donna Fisher Smiley. A Call for Honors and Awards was placed in Sound Expressions. An article announcing the 2006 Poster Ambassadors was submitted for Sound Expressions. The 2006 Poster Ambassadors are Ethan Morris, 4, and Justin Trautman 23. Continued action is needed to select recipients for the Honors and Awards, which will be presented at the ArkSHA Convention.

Marketing Committee

The committee is comprised of Carol Fleming, Janet Browne, and Carol Wood-Pearcy. Governor Huckabee's office was contacted regarding a Proclamation for May is Better Hearing and Speech Month. The Marketing Committee will continue to work on ideas for public awareness of our professions.

President Elect, Laura Smith-Olinde

Membership Committee

Laura moved to accept two new members. Linda seconded. The motion carried.

The new members include Sherri Lovelace, SLP, and Rabab Long-Thornsberry, SLP. Ideas for increasing student membership were discussed.

Treasurer, Linda Edwards

Treasurer's Report

The scholarship committee includes Rick Neely from ASU and Shay Fortune from the Tri District Educational Cooperative. All taxes have been taken to the accountant. \$6,778.17 in an Emergency CD was transferred to ArkSHA's Main CD on March 8, 2006. Linda is finalizing a credit card application. As of 4-20-06, the summary of accounts was as follows: Simmons Checking \$42,927.36, Scholarship CD \$20,400.87, and Main CD \$58,952.76.

Secretary, Amy Shollenbarger

Archives and History Committee

This committee had nothing to report.

Publications Committee

The 2nd quarter Sound Expressions is being put together. Action needed is for the Publication Committee to meet and discuss ways of shortening the Sound Expressions newsletter so it can possibly be mailed out to members at least twice a year.

**Vice President for Audiology Services
Charlie Palmer**

Charlie did not attend the meeting, but he provided a report for review in his absence.

**Vice President for Speech-Language
Pathology Services, Brandi Nixon**

Carol made a motion to request that Cheri Stevenson, ASHA STAR, be ArkSHA's representative on the Medicaid Therapy Workgroup. Amy seconded. After a board vote, the motion carried.

**Vice President for Continuing Education
Jennifer Fisher**

Jennifer did not attend the meeting. The board reviewed her submitted report. Jennifer is working with Randy and Nancy Martinsen on the upcoming ArkSHA Convention.

NEWBORNS GET MORE HELP...

Legislative Council Donna Fisher-Smilely & Beckie Weaver

Donna and Beckie reported about the ASHA Legislative Council meeting they attended in March. They submitted an article about the Legislative Council meeting for the next Sound Expressions newsletter. They reported that Vic Snyder and two other state senators have signed the repeal of the Medicare Therapy Cap.

Association Lobbyist, Mike Mitchell

Mike did not attend the meeting.

Old Business

Cheri Stevenson agreed to be the ASHA STAR.

ABESPA candidates are needed - one Senior Member Position and one Audiology Position.

ArkSHA members are encouraged to contact their representatives about appropriating the money for the Salary Supplement Legislation, Act 1187.

Suzanne reported that the Leadership Conference will be held June 10, 2006. The ArkSHA board meeting will be held from 9:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m, followed by lunch and a leadership conference in the afternoon. ArkSHA Board members need to invite Association members interested in serving on the Board to attend the Leadership Conference. Dan Clanton will be the speaker.

New Business

Suzanne has contacted several people to be a MICS representative.

Jennifer Fisher, our Vice-President of Continuing Education, had a baby girl, Rachel Leigh Fisher, on March 4, 2006.

After no further business, **Carol made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Amy seconded.** The meeting was adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

A bill to reauthorize early hearing detection and intervention programs is under consideration in the U.S. House of Representatives. Jim Walsh (R-N.Y.) and 28 co-sponsors introduced H.R. 5250, the EHDI Act of 2006. The legislation builds on the 1999 newborn hearing screening law.

Also, Alabama and Georgia have recently passed legislation to require new applicants for Audiology licensure to have a doctoral degree effective January 01, 2007.



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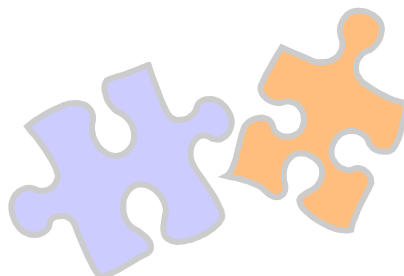
(501) 624-9200

Free:
Breakfast Buffet
Parking

Fitness Center

Single - \$114 - Double - \$124

Manager's Reception Every Evening



Board of Directors Meeting Minutes - December 15, 2005

3:00 p.m.

Martinsen Management, Inc.

813 West Markham Street, Little Rock, AR 72201

MINUTES

Board members present at the meeting included: Carol Fleming, DeAndra Gibson, Jennifer Fisher, Charlie Palmer and Suzanne Miltich. Also present were Randy and Nancy Martinsen, ARKSHA administrators.

President Carol Fleming called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m.

In Amy Shollenbarger's absence Carol Fleming presented the minutes from the October 21 2005 board meeting. Rick Neeley **made a motion to approve the minutes as corrected.** Jeff Adams **seconded the motion.** The minutes were approved as corrected.

Committee Reports

Past President, DeAndra Gibson

Nominations and Election Committee

DeAndra presented the nominees for officers needed for ArkSHA in 2006.

Honors and Awards Committee

Marketing Committee

President Elect, Suzanne Miltich

Suzanne reported that there was a 14% decline in membership. The committee will look at membership and recruitment and retention to determine a possible solution.

Treasurer, Rick Neeley

Treasurer's Report

Rick reported that ArkSHA has \$55,100 in CD's. The association has severed ties with Merrill/Lynch and no more brokerage fees will be paid. There is a total of \$131,000 in total assets.

He also said that there was a total of \$37,000 profit from the convention. He thinks that the higher profit was due to raising the registration fees. Even though attendance was down, we brought in approximately \$10,000 more.

Secretary, Amy Shollenbarger

Archives and History Committee

No Report

Publications Committee

No Report

Vice President for Audiology Services,

Charlie Palmer

Charlie commented on his "Heads Up" article regarding the ADA. He does not think anything will come of the situation.

Vice President for Speech-Language

Pathology Services

Jeff Adams

Jeff reported that guidelines are needed for those who speak Spanish. He has asked that interested parties let him know what resources they use, but has had no luck. He will contact Beth Eaton for guidance. Medicaid has provisions for Spanish speaking children in Arkansas.

He also suggested that the Physical Therapy/Occupational Therapy Association

Vice President for Continuing Education

Margie Gilbertson

No Report.

Vice President Elect for

Continuing Education

Jennifer Fisher

Jennifer reported that the ArkSHA convention was registered with ASHA and approved for continuing education credit. Our ArkSHA convention information was placed on the ASHA and CSAP websites. Jennifer also reported that the 2006 ArkSHA convention dates are Oct. 26-27, 2006.

(December Meeting Minutes continued on page 11)

**Legislative Council
Donna Fisher-Smiley & Beckie Weaver**

Donna and Beckie are going to attend the Legislative Council meeting at the ASHA convention in San Diego in November, 2005.

Association Lobbyist, Mike Mitchell

Mike was unable to attend the Board meeting. His report was available for the board to review. No actions were taken regarding his report.

ASHA SEAL, Kay Hall

Kay did not attend the meeting. She submitted her reports for discussion by the board.

Old Business

There was no old business.

New Business

Kay Hall, the ASHA SEAL, asked the board to discuss a state advocacy group. Carol Fleming and Kay Hall already serve on this group. 10 other states have this work group. The purpose of the group is to provide a grassroots effort to deal with legislative issues in the state. The group will include parents, therapists, and professionals. Carol Fleming will meet with Eileen Crow from ASHA to get more information about the group.

Suzanne Miltich reported that the ArkSHA board will have a training with Stan Dublinski on April 21-22, 2006.

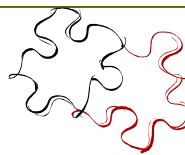
Suzanne also reported that there will be a leadership training June 10, 2006. The Board will meet with any interested ArkSHA members.

Jeff Adams asked for the appointment of two ArkSHA members to represent the association in developing an initiative to address reimbursement rates with Arkansas Medicaid. **Suzanne moved that the VP for Speech-Language Pathology and Cheri Stevenson form an Ad Hoc committee for Medicaid reimbursement issues. DeAndra seconded.** The board approved the motion.

DeAndra Gibson moved to adjourn the meeting. Jennifer Fisher seconded.

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Convention Highlights



Lunch with the Exhibitors

Thursday, 12:30 p.m. - 1:45 p.m.

This complimentary event is a great opportunity to enjoy a delicious sandwich buffet lunch as you visit the vendor booths.

Wine & Cheese Awards Reception

Thursday, 5:15 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Partially Sponsored by:
John Halloran and Prentke-Romich Company

Student Research Forum

Friday, 8:30 - 10:00 a.m. New graduates will have an opportunity to present the findings of their recently completed projects. Come see what our newest colleagues have discovered!

Poster Sessions

At least 28 posters representing significant recognized work of the Arkansas research community will be displayed in Horner Hall throughout the Convention.

"Ask ABESPA" Booth

Betty Bass, Executive Director of the Arkansas Board of Examiners in Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology, will be on hand to answer questions about ABESPA's guidelines and continuing education requirements.

Exhibits

Thursday, 7:30 a.m. - 6:30 p.m. & Friday, 7:30 a.m. - Noon

Commercial and non-profit exhibitors will be displaying their products and services. Special prizes will be awarded to lucky individuals who visit the exhibit booths.

ArkSHA'S Annual Business Meeting

Friday, 7:30 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.

Join the ArkSHA Board of Directors and fellow members for the Association's Annual Business Meeting. The 2007 slate of officers will be presented. All members are invited to attend.