



# SOUND EXPRESSIONS

A Quarterly Publication

## PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE



*Suzanne Miltich,  
2006 ArkSHA President*

Well, the convention is over and my year as ArkSHA President is winding down.

As I write this in early November, the past 10 months have seemed like a whirlwind of activity, and much has been accomplished. We've developed a strategic plan for 2006 through 2008. We had a leadership conference for Board members and prospective Board members with a facilitator who gave us a 'partner-member' point of view. With the leadership of Kay Hall, Brandi Nixon, and Mike Mitchell, a plan has been developed to obtain appropriation of salary supplement legislation for school-based SLP's.

*President* Continued on Page 2

## Welcome to the new members of the 2007 ArkSHA Board of Directors

**President-Elect**  
**John Lowe, III, Ph.D., CCC-SLP**  
University of Central Arkansas



**Vice President-Elect for Continuing Education**  
**Kim McCullough**  
University of Central Arkansas



**Secretary**  
**Arianne F. Pait, M.A., CCC-SLP**  
Arkansas State University



**Vice President, Audiology/  
Hearing Sciences**  
**Frank L. Olinde, Jr., M.A., CCC-A**  
Central Arkansas Veterans Healthcare System

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

President's Perspective.....	1 & 2
Honors & Awards Recipients.....	2
Working Together Produces Excellence .....	3
Job Announcement.....	3
Convention Pics .....	4
Successful Convention .....	5
States Recognize Certification .....	5
Ask Why.....	5
ArkSHA Needs YOU.....	6
Tribute to an SLP .....	7

(President Continued from page 1)

We have a new Arkansas representative to ASHA's STAR (State Advocates for Reimbursement), Cheri Stevenson, and the first ever MICS representative, (Medicare Intermediary and Carrier State Network) Jill Fitzpatrick. We've filled two positions on the ABESPA Board, placing Lynn Raney Hill in the Audiology position and Rose Nabholz in the Senior position that had been vacant for so long. We again have ArkSHA members who are liaisons to the ABESPA and Hearing Instrument Dispensers Boards. Thanks to Jennifer Fisher and her Convention Committee, we've had a successful convention with almost 500 SLP's and Audiologists in attendance. Through your contributions, we've raised almost \$1,000 for the Scholarship Fund and hope to meet our goal of \$1,200 by year's end.

Much remains to be done, and we'll move into a new year with these initiatives from our strategic plan--

1. Obtain appropriation of Act 1178 during the 2007 Legislative Session;
2. Advocate for improved classroom acoustics in Arkansas schools;
3. Advocate for and implement hearing conservation programs;
4. Advocate for increasing the Medicaid reimbursement rate;
5. Advocate for enforcing case load restrictions for SLP's in schools; and
6. Develop an improved website that will better serve our members.

I look forward to working in 2007 with Laura Smith-Olinde as ArkSHA President and with John Lowe, who will join the Board and Executive Committee as President-Elect. I welcome them and know that, with their excellent leadership and the contributions of other Board members, ArkSHA will continue to be a force of positive change for SLP's and Audiologists in Arkansas and for the people they serve. As we move into 2007, join ArkSHA as a 'partner-member.' Volunteer for a standing committee or an advocacy group working to implement one of ArkSHA's focused initiatives.

I have been honored to serve as your ArkSHA President and thank the Board and 'partner members' who gave their time, talents, and energy to this year's accomplishments.

*Suzanne*

**Congratulations to the  
2006 ArkSHA  
Honors and Awards Recipients**

**Frank R. Kleffner Award**  
Richard (Rick) A. Neeley

**Audiology Award**  
Donna Fisher Smiley

**President Award**  
Suzanne Miltich

**Pediatric Poster Ambassador**  
Ethan Morris

**Adult Poster Ambassador**  
Justin Trautman

**Certificate of Appreciation**  
John Halloran

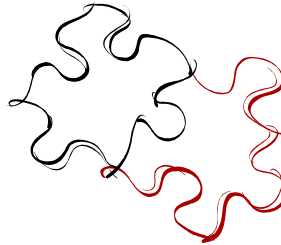
**NSSLHA/ArkSHA Student  
Membership Recognition**  
UAMS

**ArkSHA members:** In the next few days you'll receive an email from the ArkSHA membership committee inviting you to take a survey. It will take about 5 minutes to complete; please complete the survey to help ArkSHA serve you better. Thanks!



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**“Working Together”...** That was this year’s convention theme and I can proudly say that many people did just that – worked together to produce an excellent conference. I have many people to thank for their involvement and assistance with the convention: Sharon Ross for helping make registration go so efficiently; Kay Hall for her wonderful hospitality; Donna Fisher-Smiley and Gary McCullough for their input on the program committee; Sara Shock and Linda Edwards for the silent auction; Colleen Carter Allen for recruiting moderators, getting ASHA approval, and arranging the reception entertainment; Patti Martin and Julie Jackson for organizing the poster session; Richard Neeley for organizing and moderating the student research forum; Jane Willard, Shelly Weir, and John Halloran for their willingness to conduct sessions year after year; and all members of the board for their readiness to step in when needed and for offering encouragement along the way. A special thank you goes to our superb management group, Randy and Nancy Martinsen, Lisa Rew, and Kat Hills of Martinsen Management Inc. As always they were terrific and professional in every way.



I would also like to thank the many volunteers that helped with moderating and registration. It takes so many people to make the convention work and I appreciate each and every one of you.

Our featured speakers this year came from coast to coast. They enjoyed dinner at Pompeii’s on Wednesday evening, compliments of PsychCorp. Each one of them commented on the great hospitality that was demonstrated to them throughout their stay in Arkansas.

And most importantly, I want to thank those of you who attended the convention this year. We had nearly 500 people participate this year. It is my hope that this number will grow steadily each year. We worked together and were able to raise nearly \$1,000 for the scholarship fund from the silent auction and from donations. It is our goal to raise a total of \$1,200 by the end of the year, and we are well on our way. If you did not have an opportunity to donate to the scholarship fund there is still time to help us achieve our goal!

I would also like to thank the many volunteers that helped with moderating and registration. It takes so many people to make the convention work and I appreciate each and every one of you.

Thank you all for the opportunity to serve you as the convention chair for 2006. I hope you will consider helping out with the 2007 convention. Colleen Carter Allen will be the Vice President for Continuing Education and I am sure she will welcome any amount of help you can offer.



**Clinical Instructor** (non-tenure track) nine month position in the Department of Speech-Language Pathology at the University of Central Arkansas. Start August, 2007.

Required: Master’s Degree in Speech-Language Pathology, ASHA CCC and Arkansas License in SLP and clinical experience.

Duties include Clinical Supervision, possibly teaching, off-campus liaison, academic advising, and committee work.

Review of applications will begin January 15, 2007, and continue until the position is filled. Applications should include three references, vita, and statement of interest in the position.

Applications should be sent to:

Jim Thurman, Chair Search Committee  
Box 4985  
UCA  
Conway, AR 72035

UCA is an AA EOE employer.

**Working Together Produces Learning....Understanding...Friendship...Fun**



Attendees spin, hop, clap, stomp and shake with Jane Kitson, "Mother Goose".



Dr. Constance Qualls and Dr. Ken Wolf enjoy the awards reception.



Conference Chair, Jennifer Fisher and an attendee



Donna Fisher Smiley and Linda Edwards



Colleen Carter Allen



Graduate Scholarship Winner, Debra Vittitow and friends



ArkSHA Attendees Enjoy the Reception



Chris Holcomb discusses positive behavior support plans.



Chana and Randy entertain while attendees bid on auction items.



Tony & Suzanne Miltich

Carol Fleming with Poster Ambassador, Ethan Morris



# ArkSHA Convention Successful

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ArkSHA Finances as of November 8, 2006

	<i>Balance</i>
<i>Simmons Checking</i>	\$ 64,290.86
<i>Simmons Scholarship CD</i>	\$ 20,632.66
<i>Simmons Main CD</i>	\$ 59,585.56
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$144,509.08</b>

Once again, ArkSHA held a very successful convention in Hot Springs in October. I have heard so many positive comments from members and from students about the convention. ArkSHA's convention is a wonderful learning experience and a time to be motivated by the remarkable speakers. It also allows opportunity to visit with present and former colleagues and opportunity to reminisce with former classmates. As I see my former classmates, it brings me back to the time that I dreamed of being a practicing professional. I'm sure we all remember back to when we were students working so hard to achieve our goals. Now that I am a practicing professional, seeing those friends at ArkSHA reminds me that I am living that dream!

Speaking of student dreams, ArkSHA awarded the graduate scholarship to Debra Vittitow, a very deserving pre-professional from the UALR/UAMS program. The scholarship award is something we have to be proud of as ArkSHA members. It is a thrill to be able to ease a little bit of the financial burdens that one deserving student carries. I would like to see our organization help students in a bigger way. With contributions from our members, we could eventually award two scholarships! In this issue of the newsletter that you are receiving by mail, we have included a scholarship donation card. I encourage you to donate to the fund. At the same time, you have the opportunity to honor or remember someone who has inspired you.

As always, I welcome any comments you may have about ArkSHA finances. My e-mail address is [lindae@uca.edu](mailto:lindae@uca.edu), and my telephone number is 501-450-5486.

Linda Edwards  
Treasurer



## States Recognize National Certification with Stipend

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Oklahoma and Rhode Island recently passed legislation recognizing national certification for their states. School-based SLP's in Oklahoma will be paid an additional stipend that totals 4.5 million. Another neighboring state has accomplished this feat. Please use this information when talking with your representatives. **Advocate now!!!!** The Legislative session is just around the corner.

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### ASK WHY

Charlie Palmer

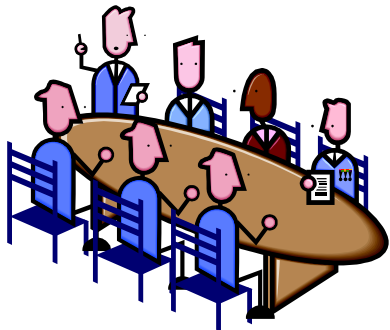
Well, not much to say about current legislation issues at the present. Obviously, with January around the corner, that will be bound to change. We'll keep you posted as new issues arise.

On another topic, I need your help. Yes, **you!** Here's what I'd like you to do. Ask at least one colleague that is not a member of ARKSHA, "Why aren't you a member?". It's that simple. We all know someone that fits the bill. As an association, I don't think we ask this question enough. After all, without our members, we don't exist. Where are we falling short for audiologists in our state? No answer is too short or too simple. Email your answers to [drparrothead@hotmail.com](mailto:drparrothead@hotmail.com) and thanks in advance.

## ArkSHA Needs YOU!

Kay Hall  
ASHA Seal

### Build it and they will come!



The Salary Initiative Task Force met on Wednesday evening of the ArkSHA convention. New members attended, and it was a productive meeting. Many heads are better than one, and we had some great discussion on a plan of action. The state was divided among task force members by county, and we now have contacts in all sections of our state. ArkSHA needs all of its members to help make our bill become reality and see that it is appropriated in the upcoming legislative session.



**WE NEED YOU!**

1. Write a letter to YOUR representative.
2. Write a letter to YOUR senator.
3. Better yet, VISIT THEM. Personal visits are the most powerful.
4. Contact other SLP's in your area and encourage them to contact their representatives and senators.
5. Visit with your superintendent and school board. Let them know we just want equality. We need their support. These are powerful groups.
6. Work with LEA's and enlist their support.

Let your colleagues, administrators and LEA's know what you do each and every day to enhance the educational performance of students.



Brandi Nixon, ArkSHA VP for SLP; Kay Hall, Salary Initiative Task Force Chair; and Mike Mitchell, ArkSHA lobbyist, gave a presentation on advocating for your profession. The turn-out was great, and new members were placed on the salary initiative task force. If you were not able to attend this session and would like to see the Power Point presentation, please e-mail Kay Hall at [hallk@conway.afsc.k12.ar.us](mailto:hallk@conway.afsc.k12.ar.us) or [nixonb@conway.afsc.k12.ar.us](mailto:nixonb@conway.afsc.k12.ar.us) and we will e-mail you the presentation for your review. Feel free to use the presentation to share with SLP's in your area.

## *A Tribute to the Speech-Language Pathologist*

*By Rhiannon Screeder*

*(A graduate student at The College of Saint Rose)*

### ***I am an SLP***

I know the mouth better than anyone  
And the larynx  
And the brain  
And the ear  
I am the person who works with them  
I work with the young  
The old  
The sick  
And the strong  
I am their bringer of hope  
And strength  
And courage

### ***I am an SLP***

I am a good listener  
But I also love to talk  
I like to play on the floor with the kids  
But I can be serious with the adults  
I can help you reduce your accent  
But I love the way you sound when you use it  
I can help you with your language  
Your articulation  
Your voice  
Your fluency  
Your swallowing  
Your literacy  
And your fear of speaking.

### ***I am an SLP***

I can be a counselor  
A teacher  
A friend  
A shoulder to cry on  
And a role model

### ***I am an SLP***

You can find me in the schools  
The hospitals  
The home  
The nursing homes  
And millions of other places  
I can work with you for years  
Months  
Weeks  
Or even days.

### ***I am an SLP***

My profession is one of collaboration  
Determination  
Hard work  
Perseverance  
And constant change  
But I enjoy the challenge  
The people  
The good times  
The goals reached  
And the pace  
I can be creative  
Spontaneous  
Resourceful  
And quick on my feet

### ***I am an SLP***

And I have the best job in the world  
Because

**I can make a difference.**