



Sound Expressions

A Quarterly Publication

PRESIDENT'S LETTER



*Laura Smith-Olinde,
2007 ArkSHA President*

Summer! In central Arkansas we had more rain this July than in the previous eight years I have lived here (maybe combined!) then in August we had absolutely no rain. What a change! I hope summer was good for you and school is off to a good start.

In my last President's Perspective, I invited members to contact me regarding regional meetings around the state. I am sorry to report that I have had zero people contact me about helping to set up these meetings. I think this could be a good way to network, and find out what's going on in your part of the state, maybe even get state CPEs. I hope that interested individuals will be in touch (lso@uams.edu 501-569-8904 - W). The ArkSHA board is ready to move on this but we need your help.

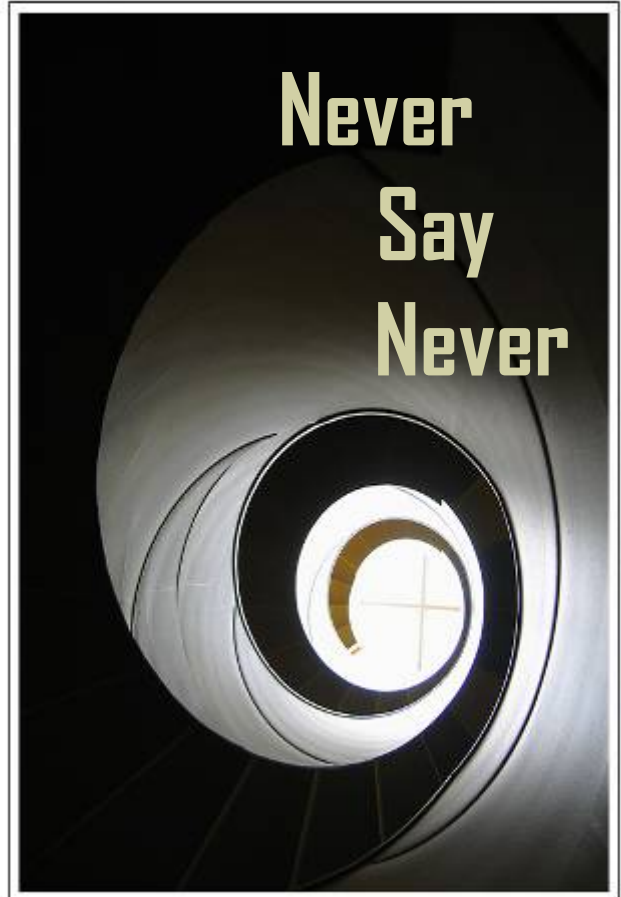
President Continued on Page 3

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

President's Letter	1 & 3
2007 Executive Board	2
Convention Highlights	3
Better Hearing and Speech Month	4
The Power of One.....	5
Who will serve?	5
Free reproducible language and early literacy Activities in English and Spanish....	6
Never Say Never	7
Arkansas Hearing Society Convention.....	8
Financial Report	8

2007^F

ArkSHA Convention



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**October 4 - 5, 2007
Hot Springs Convention Center
and Embassy Suites**

**ArkSHA 2007
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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And
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Arkansas Medicaid Website
www.medicaid.state.ar.us

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

Arkansas Department of Health
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ASHA Action Center
(800) 498-2071
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Work on the convention is progressing. Continuing an exciting tradition begun last year, we will have a general opening session, with Amy Hasselkus of ASHA speaking. Amy is the ASHA Associate Director of Health Care Services and will have important information for us regarding SLP/audiology ASHA health care initiatives. Of course the featured speakers will be covering a variety of topics with something for everyone.

Colleen Allen, this convention's chair, wants people to know that the convention will be fun as well as informative. She and her team have worked up a great 'casino night' for Thursday evening as a fundraiser for the scholarship program. To assure everyone has a grand time, each registration pack will contain one \$10,000 chip! Players will be able to bid on items at the end of the evening with their chips. Again, all monies raised will go to the scholarship fund. And if I am repeating the following from my previous 'Perspective', it needs to be: the ArkSHA board voted to increase the scholarship to \$1000 annually!

Last, the ArkSHA board thinks that the organization has become too "top-down", with few members giving input that direct the board to the issues that matter most to them. To address this, the convention will have one session Friday morning (entitled "Tell ArkSHA Where to Go!") designed for members to give information and direction to board members for next year. Please plan to attend this session (which is offered with ASHA CEs), as YOU will be the driver of future ArkSHA initiatives.

See you there!

Laura

**Conference Attire
Business or business casual is
appropriate**

**The 1st 500 convention registrants will
receive a FREE ArkSHA pocket calendar.**

Convention Highlights

ArkSHA'S Bi-Monthly Board and Annual Business Meeting

Wednesday, 4:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.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 (see p. 5, this newsletter). All members are invited to attend. The meeting is in the Embassy Suites Hotel.

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.

Students! Meet the Graduate Programs of Arkansas

Thursday, 11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Representatives from each Arkansas graduate program will present a brief description of their program. All presenters will then take questions from students considering graduate school to pursue either a master's degree, an Au.D., or a Ph.D.

Awards Lunch

Thursday, 12:30 p.m. - 1:45 p.m.
Come find out this year's award winners!

Casino Night and Silent Auction

Thursday, 5:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.
Come cash in your \$10,000 complimentary chip and try your hand at Roulette and Black Jack and make your bids at the Silent Auction. Free drinks and appetizers!

"Tell ArkSHA Where to Go!"

Friday 8:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.
Members of ArkSHA, come let a Board member know about particular issues you believe should be addressed by the state association. The Board wants to hear from you!

And Much More!!

BETTER HEARING & SPEECH MONTH: WHAT A FEW GOOD MEMBERS CAN DO

How did you celebrate Better Hearing & Speech Month? Here's what a few good ArkSHA members did. Read on and begin planning what you will do in 2008--

JoAnn Gregory, SLP in the Watson Chapel School District in Pine Bluff, says she always mentions Better Speech and Hearing Month when presenting Speech Improvement awards at the school assembly in May. She says, "I tell them that 1 in 10 Americans has a speech or hearing problem, including our elementary campus of 550 kindergarten and first graders." She decorates a bulletin board for her room or places a poster in the window of the door to her room. JoAnn joined ArkSHA's Marketing & Recruitment Committee this summer. She's a great addition to the committee and is planning to work in her area to recruit students into the professions.

Jill Fitzpatrick, SLP with Arkansas Otolaryngology Center in Little Rock, asked the major hospitals and therapy centers in Little Rock to provide brochures and promotional items, which she placed in bags and delivered to PCP and pediatric offices, retirement communities, daycares, etc. ArkSHA's President, Laura Smith-Olinde added information about ArkSHA to the bags before delivery. Jill is on ArkSHA's Marketing & Recruitment Committee and serves as Arkansas' MICS (Medicare Intermediary & Carrier State Network) representative to this network sponsored by



SLP Debbie Wall screens O.U.R. Cooperative Technology Coordinator, Nathan Cline's hearing

ASHA.

Janette Brown, a member of ArkSHA's Marketing & Recruitment Committee, mobilized her colleagues at the O.U.R. Education Coop in Harrison. They did hearing screenings for Coop staff, asked the Boone County Judge to declare May is Better Hearing & Speech Month, met with students at Jasper High School to review career information, and distributed ASHA recruitment brochures to school counselors via school-based SLPs. Hats off to these SLPs who 'spread the word' in Boone, Marion, Newton, Carroll, Searcy, and Baxter Counties.



Boone County Judge, Mike Moore, recognizes May is Better Hearing and Speech Month in Boone County by signing a proclamation. Back row left to right: SLP Mary Killian, SLP Vanessa Kelly; and SLP Janette Brown

**Casino Night
Silent Auction
Prize Drawings**

**Try your hand at
Roulette
and Black Jack!**



**Don't miss out!!!
Thursday evening
5:00 to 7:00 p.m.**

“The Power Of One”

Service to our wonderful professions does not have to be done in public or on a “grand scale.” The power to touch just one young person may have a tremendous effect on the future of audiology and speech-language pathology.

We could all take a lesson from our colleague Sandra Holt, CCC-SLP at O.U.R. Cooperative in Harrison. Sandra has been mentoring a high school student who is interested in becoming a speech-language pathologist. Michaela McClelland is a senior at Deer High School and she has been volunteering her time assisting Sandra with children with communication disorders. She plans to major in Communication Disorders at UCA in Conway. Michaela has been volunteering her time to help with a student that has been diagnosed with autism. Michaela is gaining valuable experience by devoting her time to helping others. She has played an active role in helping implement The Picture Exchange Communication System (PECS) that utilizes pictures and symbols.

Sandra's work with Michaela is worthy of recognition and I hope that we can all take some time to make an investment in the future of our profession. Way To Go, Sandra!!

WHO WILL SERVE?

Hats off to these ArkSHA members who have ‘stepped up to the plate’ to run for office:

President-Elect

Carol Fleming
Kay Hall

Treasurer

Cherin Pace
Monica Scott

Vice President for Speech-Language Pathology

Jill Fitzpatrick
Brent Gregg

Vice President-Elect for Continuing Education

Cathryn Hollis

This slate of candidates is presented by the Nominations & Elections Committee and has been approved by the Board. Additional information about the candidates will follow in an email blast. And remember YOU can still run for office!

NOMINATE A MEMBER FROM THE FLOOR: You may nominate yourself or another member at ArkSHA'S Annual Business meeting, which will be held on Wednesday afternoon at 4:30 p.m. in the Embassy Suites Hotel. If you want to nominate someone, be sure to have the candidate's consent and, per our bylaws, the candidate needs to bring a resume or curriculum vitae and written statement of acceptance that expresses an awareness of the duties and responsibilities of the office for which they are nominated.

2007

ArkSHA



**Embassy Suites and Hot Springs
Convention Center**

October 4-5, 2007

FREE reproducible language and early literacy activities in English and Spanish

Developed by Angela Notari-Syverson, Ph.D. and Kristin Rytter, Ph.D, with Judy Challoner, Faith Haertig Sadler, Young Sook Lim, Ph.D., Marilyn Sturm, and Rodd Hedlund (2005).

To download materials go to www.wlearning.com and click on the purple button that says "Free Parent Education Handouts" on the home page.

These materials include 46 home and community activities for adults and preschool children that encourage early language and literacy development in young children. They are appropriate for children with disabilities as well as children who are developing typically.

Each of the 46 activities includes 1) An activity description, 2) Hints for making the activity fun and developmentally appropriate, and 3) A brief self-evaluation form that cues parents and other caregivers to notice their children's skills, and also cue adults to examine and grow their own interactions with their children.

The materials are specifically designed to address the three key skills of 1) language development, 2) phonological awareness, and 3) general print awareness.

The files are in PDF format to allow easy and secure downloading. Five files for each language (Spanish and English) include:

- Table of contents listing the 46 activities
- Level 1 activities (activities designed for developmentally younger children)
- Level 2 activities (activities that include a stronger focus on print)
- Level 3 activities (activities that focus on more complex language use)
- A brief activity self-evaluation form

The materials are made available by Angela Notari-Syverson and colleagues, and may be copied and distributed as long as they are not sold.

To download materials go to www.wlearning.com and click on the purple button that says "Free Parent Education Handouts" on the home page.

For questions please contact:
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The 2007 convention framework is in place and it is looking to be a fabulous convention. The featured speakers are set and we have something to offer everyone.

Carren J. Stika is a licensed clinical psychologist and Adjunct Assistant Professor/Instructor at San Diego State University, School of Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences. She is the former director of research for the Rehabilitation Research and Training Center for Persons who are Hard of Hearing or Late Deafened, which was funded by the US Department of Education, National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitative Research. Currently, Dr. Stika is the principal investigator for a federally funded project to develop a quality of life measure for individuals with adult-onset hearing loss. She also serves as co-principal investigator for the Disability Rehabilitation Research Project on Persons Aging with Hearing and Vision Loss, which is a collaborative project of Mississippi State University, San Diego State University, and the Helen Keller National Center.

Rebecca McCauley is a Professor in the Department of Communication Sciences at the University of Vermont. She received a Master's and Ph.D. from the University of Chicago in the social sciences and psychology, respectively, and entered the profession of speech-language pathology through postdoctoral work at the University of Arizona and Johns Hopkins University. Her areas of expertise include speech sound disorders and language disorders in children.

Current research projects address variability in vowel production in severe speech disorders and regional dialects and validation of a teacher rating scale for students' communicative competence. In addition, she is editing a book on the treatment of children with language disorders.

Gary McCullough is an Associate Professor of Speech Language Pathology at the University of Central Arkansas. He has a Ph. D. from Vanderbilt University, M.A. from the University of Tennessee-Knoxville and a B.A. from Washington and Lee. His areas of expertise include Voice, Neurogenic Communication Disorders, and Swallowing Disorders.

Rebecca Hines is an experienced secondary co-teacher and an outstanding presenter. She is the author of *Co-Teaching in the Inclusive Classroom: Powerful Strategies for Creating Success for All You Students (Grades 6-12)*. She is also a professor at the University of Central Florida at Daytona Beach. Dr. Hines is a dynamic presenter who uses her background in comedy and her experience in secondary co-teaching classrooms to weave together an exciting seminar with ready-to-use strategies for both special and general educators as well as therapist who work in the classroom.

Donna Fisher Smiley (Audiologist at the Conway Public Schools and Arkansas Children's Hospital EARS program), Steve Upson (Audiologist at Arkansas Children's Hospital), and Joanna Wakefield (Audiologist at Arkansas Children's Hospital) will update audiologists on the issues related to the delivery of audiology services to school age children and to schools. Topics will include: selection and verification of personal FM systems, cochlear implants and the school age student, and the coupling of personal FM systems with classroom amplification systems. Participants will gain knowledge that will allow them to better serve the school age population around the state.

I hope we have offered something of interest to everyone. I can't wait to see you at the convention in October.

Colleen

NEWS Arkansas Hearing Society Convention (AHS)

Over the past several weeks, I have received several comments from Audiologists regarding the Arkansas Hearing Society (AHS) Convention. The AHS Convention is consistently good, and this year it is exceptional. The Hearing Society brought in Charles Berlin, Mead Killion, and Gus Mueller. Each individual speaker would be considered an excellent choice for the ArkSHA convention. Normally one would have to travel to a national convention to see all three of these gentlemen at the same time.

Community Audiologists have written and emailed me asking, "Why can't ArkSHA put on a convention like this?" This is a completely reasonable question. There are roughly twice as many licensed audiologists as hearing aid dealers in Arkansas. However, there are some important differences.

- First, Arkansas law requires that all persons licensed as hearing aid dispensers obtain one hour of ethics continuing education that focuses on Arkansas law. Besides the AHS meeting, only the Missouri AAA group and the Oklahoma hearing aid dispensers provide this hour. So for most dispensers, the Hearing Society meeting is mandatory, which increases attendance.
- Second, (perhaps as a result of the mandatory ethics hour), the Hearing Society is able to set a meeting fee of \$275 for members and nearly \$400 for non-members. The ArkSHA meeting member fee is \$125 this year.
- Third, the Hearing Society's yearly dues are considerably higher than those of ArkSHA. I believe that AHS dues are around \$150 per year, compared with \$50 for ArkSHA.

I presented a motion at the February ArkSHA board meeting to raise dues by five dollars a year. That motion failed (it received support from only one other member). Let me say that I think ArkSHA provides a quality convention considering the funding that we have available. But without some mechanism to (and let's be frank here) coerce attendance at the ArkSHA convention, and also enable ArkSHA to raise dues and fees, we will never have the kind of meeting that the Hearing Society is able to put on year after year.

I believe this is an important issue, and I look forward to hearing from ArkSHA members who have any suggestions for improving this situation (franklaura5804@sbcglobal.net). Although Arkansas is a small state, I believe that we do have the numbers and resources to improve this situation.

By: Frank Olinde

ArkSHA Finances as of September 18, 2007

Linda Edwards
Treasurer

<i>Metropolitan Checking</i>	\$ 76,341.00
<i>Metropolitan Scholarship CD</i>	\$ 20,558.56
<i>Simmons Main CD</i>	<u>\$ 62,177.04</u>
<i>Total Assets</i>	\$159,076.60



As always, I welcome any comments you may have about ArkSHA finances. My email address is lindae@uca.edu, and my telephone number is 501-450-5486.