



President's Message

Jeffrey Adams,
EdD, CCC-SLP



Dear Colleagues,

As legislators, lobbyists and concerned Arkansans convene at the state capitol in Little Rock for the 91st General Assembly of the Arkansas Legislature, I am reminded of each of you and your contributions to making the lives of individuals with communicative impairment better. Each day, you face the challenges of clinical practice in your settings. I, along with other ArkSHA Board members, have the privilege and responsibility of advocating for our beloved professions in a challenging political landscape. As an association, we need each of you to join and participate in advocacy efforts to advance speech-language pathology and audiology practice in our great state.

I am sure you are aware that Medicaid reform is upon us. The ArkSHA Board has been working for months alongside the Arkansas Physical Therapy Association and the Arkansas Occupational Therapy Association to influence Medicaid policy. A therapy cap with prior authorization for minutes beyond 90 will be a reality for us in July of 2017. Currently, there are efforts by many ArkSHA members to guide policy with the development of the prior authorization process and the requirements for external therapy review.

ArkSHA continues to advocate for audiologists and speech-language pathologists in other ways, too. In March, ArkSHA will host a student advocacy day at the capitol to expand the presence of the professions among lawmakers, and to make them more aware of the essential services that we provide. We also are watching the educational environment and have been at the forefront of conversations with Arkansas Department of Education Commissioner Johnny Key regarding new initiatives. Past ArkSHA President Kami Rowland is spearheading efforts to create a Roles and Responsibilities document for speech-

language pathologists working in the schools. Vice President for Speech-Language Pathology Services Dr. Chenell Loudermill has been working alongside representatives from the Arkansas Department of Education to highlight the contributions that speech-language pathologists make toward literacy initiatives. Vice President for Audiology Services Dr. Cliff Franklin is leading an ad hoc committee exploring the impact that Audiology Assistants would have in our state. Cindy Watson is forming a committee to address specific clinical practice issues faced by independent therapy providers.

In addition to political and clinical practice efforts, ArkSHA is committed to broadening the professional development of the membership. Alicia Davidson, Vice President of Continuing Education, and Dr. Melanie Lowry are working to develop the premier conference for communication sciences and disorders in Arkansas. Please save the dates in October for the annual ArkSHA Convention in beautiful Hot Springs!

ArkSHA corresponds with our members through the ArkSHA Quarterly, the online forum on the ArkSHA Website and through social media on Facebook. Membership in ArkSHA connects you to a network of healthcare and educational leaders committed to advancing the work you do. Membership dues are a small investment you can make to potentially yield great returns for your career and our professions. If you have not joined or renewed your membership, please do so online at www.arksha.org. Also, please consider volunteering for a committee or running for a position on the ArkSHA Board.

It is an honor to serve ArkSHA on your behalf. As we move forward in 2017, I hope you will continue to support the association and the important work that is before us. Please do not hesitate to contact us if we can assist you in your clinical practice or with advocacy efforts.

Sincerely,
Jeffrey C. Adams, EdD, CCC-SLP

ArkSHA 2017 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

ArkSHA MISSION STATEMENT

Connecting, learning and communicating with audiologists, speech-language pathologists, future professionals and consumers through:

Advocacy
Education
Mentoring
Networking
Resources

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Email: ABESPA@ipa.net

www.abespa.com

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

Arkansas Department of Education
(501) 682-4475
www.arkansased.org

ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
(501) 661-2328

ASHA ACTION CENTER
(800) 498-2071
www.asha.org

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Best Association Management

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Little Rock, AR 72221

Phone: (501) 244-0621
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Email: arksha@arksha.org
www.arksha.org

Plane Ride

by Ashlen Thomason, MS, CCC-SLP

He was one of those kids. We all know the kind. One of those patients who has so many needs that it's hard to know where to begin. One of those kids whose electronic medical record takes the computer a few extra ticks to open. One of those clients who somehow embodies essentially all of the "big nine." Though he does not use verbal communication, he was making it well known to his mother and I via long, loud cries that his number one need was to get out of the unfamiliar speech office.

His speech visit with me was only his second stop among his list of four disciplines to see as part of his regular cleft lip and palate follow-up. Trying my best to cover each domain of his speech-related needs, I had a host of questions for his mother and screening procedures for the patient. As I was taking notes about his copious needs wondering if I could contribute anything at all to this sweet young man's plan, his mother seemed to read my mind. "Do you really know what would be helpful?" she said. "Get that hospital in Northwest Arkansas completed." She went on to explain how miserable the car ride—three hours each way—and multiple appointments are for her son and their family. Though her suggestion was only sarcastic, and she just needed a much-deserved moment to vent, this patient's mother showed me the most effective way our team could help her family. It took tons of phone calls among multiple care teams at Arkansas Children's Hospital, but we managed to get this patient's care transferred near his home.

The new Northwest Arkansas campus of Arkansas Children's Hospital is not completed; however, the Arkansas Children's Hospital Lowell campus was a plausible solution to the family's needs. A few times per month, surgeons, specialists, nurses, and various healthcare professionals board an eight passenger plane in a hanger in Little Rock and leave at around sunrise to join their ACH colleagues in Lowell to serve children in the Northwest corner of the state. Around three times per year, I get to be one of those lucky team members who gets to pack up supplies, squeeze in the hatch doorway, and keep my feet tucked under

me as not to scuff the shoes of the greatest cleft surgeon, specialty nurses, ultrasound technicians, and Immunologists in the state. After a day of patient care, we fly back to Little Rock at quitting time.

When attempting to schedule my very first meeting as President-Elect of ArkSHA, Jeff Adams just couldn't believe that I could not make the suggested meeting date due to my turn in the rotation to fly to Lowell to see cleft lip and palate patients. He noted that it really isn't every day that speech pathologists have to board a plane to go see their patients. During my flight I couldn't help but think about how nice it was to watch the sunrise from that altitude, to collaborate about patients mid-flight, and to think about how much better today's visit will be for the scared boy I saw in Little Rock for his last cleft visit. Of course, I had to get a plane ride picture to help give Jeff a visual of what I was up to that day. Though I look pretty happy in this picture, the best shot would have really been of the mother's face when she was



in and out of our Lowell clinic quickly, checking off several of his care needs in one trip not far from his home. Another Kodak moment would have been the tear-free patient taking advantage of the Lowell clinic's mural-covered hallways to explore outside of his consult room between visits, a staunch juxtaposition to the car-fatigued crying boy I met in Little Rock.

Though Jeff's sentiment about the novelty of boarding a plane is true, I think as clinicians, we are constantly looking for ways to "meet clients where they are." Aren't those the sweetest moments of being in a helping profession? This first quarter of 2017 and my first as an ArkSHA board member, cheers to all of you who are meeting your clients where they are today. Whether that means programming that cochlear implant with the child in momma's lap, modifying the takeout food that your patient's family brought in to be consistent with dietary guidelines, or agreeing to work on /s/ in the physical therapy gym swing, enjoy the view.

Call for 2017 Board of Director Nominations

Have you ever wondered how YOU can make a direct impact on your profession, have input on the direction of programs or be on the forefront of legislative issues? Well, wonder no longer!

This is your chance to be a part of the exciting changes and growth of YOUR Association. All members in good standing are encouraged to apply for the Board of Directors. And if your dues aren't current, now is the time to rectify that situation so you can submit a nomination for yourself or another member who would like to jump in with both feet to help shape plans for ArkSHA and willingly represent our membership.

ArkSHA needs strong leaders to stay abreast of issues that impact our professions and who will work as a team to move ideas into actions.

Being an ArkSHA board member is not only a great way to serve the professions of audiology and speech-language pathology, but a wonderful way to meet fellow professionals within the state of Arkansas who are energetic and inspiring! The board typically meets the 2nd Friday of every other month, with a call-in option available.

Please submit nominations for candidates for the ArkSHA board which include:

- President-Elect
- Vice President of Speech-Language Pathology Services
- Vice President-Elect for Continuing Education
- Treasurer

Nominations may be submitted directly to Kami Rowland, Past President, by May 31, 2017, at kmrowland72@gmail.com or to the ArkSHA office via:

- Mail: P.O. Box 24103, Little Rock, AR 72221
- Phone: 501-244-0621
- Fax: 501-224-0988
- Email: arksha@arksha.org



Call for ArkSHA Honors and Awards Nominations

Arkansas has the best of the best!

Please 'spotlight' a colleague/mentor/professional in the fields of speech-language pathology or audiology by submitting a nomination for honors and awards. Please complete the awards nomination form, which can be found on the website at www.arksha.org.

Nominate individuals for the following awards:

Louis M. Dicarolo Award for Clinical Achievement: Individuals demonstrating significant contributions to advancing knowledge in clinical practice within the past 6 years are eligible for nomination by state associations to receive a recognition award.

Frank R. Kleffner Clinical Career Award: Individuals demonstrating significant contributions to clinical science and practice over a 20-year career are eligible for nomination by fellow professionals to receive a recognition award.

Paula J. Gober Public School Award: Recognizes distinguished clinical service by an individual in a public school setting.

Honors of the Association: The highest honor the association can give and recognizes distinguished contributions to the field of communication disorders. It is limited to members of the Association.

Research Award: Recognizes individuals who have made significant contributions to the research literature related to the professions of speech pathology or Audiology.

Audiology Award: Recognizes distinguished service by an audiologist.

Please submit all nominations to the attention of Kami Rowland, Past President, by July 15, 2017, at kmrowland72@gmail.com or to the ArkSHA office via:

- Mail: P.O. Box 24103, Little Rock, AR 72221
- Phone: 501-244-0621
- Fax: 501-224-0988
- Email: arksha@arksha.org

Awards and honors recipients will be announced at the Awards Ceremony on Thursday, October 12, at the Annual Convention in Hot Springs, Arkansas.

Thanks to ArkSHA Members Who Have Chosen to Sponsor Student Memberships

Many thanks to all those ArkSHA members who have chosen to sponsor a student membership! The following is a list of donors and (if specified) the school at which they have chosen to sponsor a student membership. You can join this list by going online at www.arksha.org and selecting the link on the homepage under “**Help a student become a member of ArkSHA by becoming a sponsor**”.

Jeff Adams (UALR/UAMS)
Monica Scott (UCA)
Rebecca Hall (ASU)
Rebecca James (UCA)
Natalie Benafield (UCA)
Alicia Davidson (ASU)
Lacy Lewis (UALR/UAMS)
Carol Wadley (ASU)
Glenda Hanson
Jan Nelson (ASU)
Chenell Loudermill (UALR/UAMS)



Students can go online and submit a student member scholarship application to receive one of the donated memberships. Application can be found under the “Scholarship” menu.

R.I.S.E. Arkansas by Chenell Loudermill, PhD, CCC-SLP

On January 26th, the Arkansas Department of Education (ADE) launched RISEArkansas (Reading Initiative for Student Excellence in Arkansas). There was a press release held at the capitol and I was invited to attend. The governor talked about the reading statistics in Arkansas and discussed the goal for Arkansas students to increase reading proficiency by 10% in 3 years. Commissioner Key discussed the social media campaign in which community



Donna Ziller, Governor Hutchinson, Chenell Loudermill, and Commissioner Key.

members are encouraged to take photos of themselves reading with children and post them using #RISEArkansas. I have been working with them on this initiative and they are thrilled to have

someone from local organizations such as ArkSHA and in higher education collaborating with them in their efforts to address professional development for teachers and foster a love for reading in children. Below is a link to view other photos from the press release as well as a link to RISEArkansas. I just wanted to share this with you all in hope that you will share the information about RISEArkansas with others.

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/131231660@N04/albums/72157675915934354>

<http://www.arkansased.gov/divisions/learning-services/r.i.s.e.-arkansas>

ArkSHA Honors the Late Betty Bass by Naming the Student Scholarship in her Memory



The ArkSHA board voted unanimously at their February board meeting to name the student scholarship the Betty Bass Student Scholarship in memory of Betty Bass who passed away February 1, 2017, after a 5 year battle with breast cancer. Betty worked for the Arkansas State Board of Speech Pathology and Audiology from 1995 until retirement in 2015 and was a strong advocate for ArkSHA during this time. When she announced her retirement in 2015 she was recognized at the ArkSHA Annual Convention for her many years of dedication to the industry (photo at left).

Upon her passing, kind words were shared on the ArkSHA Facebook page:

Thank you Betty for your years of service to us and our association. You were the glue that crossed many changes for us. You handled so many things with grace and style. -Karen Bright

Such a great friend to Audiology and Speech Pathology!- Patti Martin

She was so kind and patient when I was navigating all the initial paperwork. She was wonderful and will be greatly missed.- Rachel Glade

Please consider making a donation to the scholarship fund by filling out the form below or going online to the ArPA website: www.ArkSHA.org.

Betty Bass Student Scholarship Donation Form

We are able to offer scholarships to our student members each year thanks to your generous donations throughout the year, and our social and auction at the convention. You can donate in honor of or in memory of someone, if you choose. Current students are the future of our industry, and we are glad we are able to support them when needed.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ ST: ____ Zip: _____

Email: _____

I would like to make a contribution to the ArkSHA Scholarship Fund in the amount of \$ _____

In Memory In Honor of: _____

Check #: _____
Visa/MasterCard # _____ - _____ - _____ - _____
Exp Date: _____ CVV: _____
Name on Card: _____
Billing Address (if diff from above): _____

Donate online at
www.ArkSHA.org or
Mail this form with check
payable to ArkSHA at:

**P.O. BOX 24103
LITTLE ROCK, AR 72221
or FAX to 501-224-0988**

Student Advocacy Day at the Capitol

It was another successful day at the Capitol for ArkSHA's second Student Advocacy Day. The graduate programs from around the state were well represented by their student representatives. This year twelve graduate students participated in the day's activities. ArkSHA board members and our lobbyists welcomed the students with goody bags at the Capitol. Randy Thurman, one of our lobbyists, gave a tour of the Capitol to the students and introduced them to Senator Cheatham, who spoke about the importance of advocacy for our professions. Senator Cheatham was key in getting House Bill 1149 Act 607 passed and signed that would allow incentive bonuses for nationally certified speech-language pathologists who work in the schools.

Understanding the history of the past decade in trying to get the bonus funded was paramount in getting the students ready to advocate before the House members regarding our role in the schools and finding a sponsor to make sure the speech pathology language that had been recently cut from Senator Clark's SB555 was amended and put back in place. We all saw



the importance of relationships and advocacy work up close and personal when Morgan Miller, a graduate student from UALR/UAMS who has a personal relationship with Representative DeAnn Vaught, spoke to her with Randy and Kami and asked her to sponsor the amendment. Representative Vaught was more than happy to help Morgan, ArkSHA, and our profession in this endeavor. Following our main goal for the day being accomplished, the students also heard from Representative Fite.

The graduate students, the ArkSHA board members, and ArkSHA lobbyists hosted lunch for members of the House and Senate at the Capitol Hill Apartments. Graduate students were able to discuss interests and areas of concern with legislators while Dr.

Franklin's AuD and audiology students provided free hearing screenings. (Photo below, far right.) Following lunch, ArkSHA lobbyists gave Student Advocacy Day attendees access to additional legislative hearings and presented further relevant information on activism in politics. ArkSHA received positive feedback from participants and legislators. We look forward to continuing the tradition of Student Advocacy Day again in 2018.



Morgan Miller and Representative DeAnn Vaught





Preview of Thursday's 2017 Convention Speakers

Keynote Speaker: Marilee Fini

Breaking the Silence of a Communication Disorder

Marilee Fini, MA, CCC-SLP, is a practicing Speech Pathologist and has been running her own private practice, MLF Speech Therapy in Cleveland, OH. In her practice, she primarily works with children and adults who stutter. In addition, Marilee serves as an Adjunct Professor at South University and Lakeland College where she teaches public speaking courses. Marilee has been a professional speaker for over 16 years and has traveled across the U.S., presenting to many diverse audiences on stuttering. Marilee sheds a unique light on the subject of stuttering since she has spent most of her life dealing with her own stuttering. Marilee was awarded the "Annie Glenn National Leadership Award - Best Practices in Speech-Language Pathology" given to her by The Ohio State University Department of Speech and Hearing Services in recognition for excellence in leadership in the field of Speech Pathology and dedication to individuals who stutter at the OSSPEAC Conference in 2013.

Dr. Elizabeth Walker

Effects of Auditory Access on Language, Literacy, and Psychosocial Outcomes of Children With Hearing Loss

Elizabeth Walker, PhD, CCC-A/SLP is an assistant professor in the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders at the University of Iowa. Dr. Walker is a dually-certified speech-language pathologist and audiologist. Her research focuses on pediatric aural habilitation, specifically examining malleable factors that relate to individual differences in speech perception and language outcomes for children who are deaf or hard of hearing. She is an investigator on multiple grants funded by the National Institutes of Health, including Outcomes of Children with Hearing Loss, Outcomes of School-Age Children who are Hard of Hearing, and Complex Listening in School-Age Hard of Hearing Children. She has taught courses in Rehabilitative Audiology, Advanced Rehabilitative Audiology, Developmental Language Disorders and Educational Audiology. Dr. Walker received her Bachelor of Arts from the University of Iowa (1999), her Master of Arts from the University of Minnesota (2002), and her PhD from the University of Iowa (2010).

Ashlen Thomason, MS, CCC-SLP

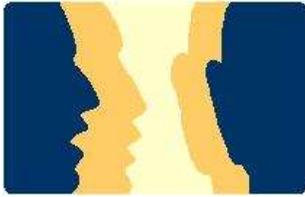
Fluency

Renee Hill from Talk Tools

A Sensory Approach to Treating Childhood Apraxia of Speech.

Consider submitting a presentation application by May 31 for the opportunity to present on Friday, October 13.

(Call for Papers form on next page and on the website.)



Phone: (501) 244-0621
Fax: (501) 224-0988
Email: arksha@arksha.org
www.arksha.org

CALL FOR PAPERS

2017 ArkSHA Convention

October 11-13, 2017 – Hot Springs Convention Center

Please fill out one form per presenter for each presentation
Email attachments to: arksha@arksha.org with a subject line saying "ArkSHA Call for Papers"

PRESENTATION TITLE (maximum of 10 words):

DEADLINE FOR ALL PRESENTERS- Deadline May 31

All Presentations Shall be Made on Friday 10/13/2017

_____ **PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATION** _____ **STUDENT PRESENTATION**

Speaker's Name (w/degree/certification): _____

Employer (or School): _____

Complete Mailing Address: _____

Daytime Phone: _____ **Home Phone:** _____

Email: _____

PROFESSIONAL PRESENTERS must submit all of the following in **Word format** by email by May 31, in order that continuing education credit may be applied for:

- This Application (May be faxed or scanned and emailed)
- Narrative Abstract (max. 75 words) - for the Convention Program
- BRIEF Bio - (max. 100 words) - for the Convention Program
- Current Resume
- Minimum of 3 Learning Objectives

PLEASE SPECIFY: _____ 1 Hour Presentation _____ 2 Hour

STUDENT PRESENTERS must submit all of the following in **Word format** by email by May 31, in order that continuing education credit may be applied for:

- This Application (May be faxed or scanned and emailed)
- Narrative Abstract (50 to 75 words) - for the Convention Program
- Brief Bio

Subject Matter Professor: _____ **Phone #:** _____

PLEASE SPECIFY: _____ 15 Minute Presentation _____ 30 Minute Presentation

The ArkSHA Convention Program Planning Committee reserves the right to select or deny any presentation in order to provide an appropriate variety and number of timely topics within the logistical facilities and timeframes available.