



SOUND EXPRESSIONS

Vol. 17 Issue 1

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Ashlen Thomason,
PhD, CCC-SLP



Dear Colleagues,

I am honored to be writing you for the first time as the 2018 ArkSHA President. I hope that your 2018, so far, has been filled with rewarding moments helping your clients take on whatever swallowing, hearing, or communication obstacles they face. While you work toward bettering your patients' lives, the ArkSHA Board is dedicated to making your voices heard regarding the challenges that you meet every day in clinical practice.

The Fiscal Session of the 91st General Assembly kicked off on Monday, February 12th. Our Board members and lobbyists are committed to advocating on your behalf during the present arduous political landscape to continually remind Arkansas lawmakers about the importance of audiology and speech-language pathology services to the quality of life of Arkansans. Specifically, we are working with Arkansas lawmakers in an effort to attain funding for the longstanding unfunded stipends for school-based speech-language pathologists upon passing their Praxis exams. Our ad hoc committee, led by Kami Rowland, is in the final stages of wrapping up the new Roles and Responsibilities document for speech-language pathologists working in the schools. ArkSHA Board members are also involved in the ongoing conversations taking place with the Arkansas Autism Legislative Task Force, promoting the evidence-based roles of speech-language pathologists in best practices to treat autism spectrum disorders.

During this fast-paced period, please remember that the ArkSHA Board has a variety of ways to keep up with our members, including our members-only Facebook page, the online forum through the ArkSHA website connecting

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Join us on
Facebook

Group Name:
Arkansas Speech
Language Hearing
Association

ArkSHA 2018 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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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
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www.asha.org

The views expressed by the authors
in this newsletter do not necessarily
represent that of the board/
association.

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Call for 2019 Board of Directors

Submit your nomination by May 31, 2018

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 Audiology Services
- Vice President-Elect for Continuing Education
- Secretary

Nominations may be submitted directly to Jeff Adams, Past President, by May 31, 2018, at jadams@eastersealsar.com or to the ArkSHA office at arksha@arksha.org.



President's Message Continued...

members to a network of leaders in various clinical settings around the state, and our quarterly newsletter. Standing together is paramount in this political landscape; if you have not renewed your ArkSHA membership, please do so online at <http://www.arksha.org/>. If you would like to become more involved advocating for audiology and speech pathology issues in Arkansas, please consider joining an ad hoc committee or running for a position on the 2019 ArkSHA Board.

We hope that you will mark your calendars and plan on attending the 2018 ArkSHA Convention, October 10th-12th. We are happy to be bringing the convention to a new venue in Little Rock: the newly remodeled Robinson Center. Our Vice President of Continuing Education, Dr. Melanie Meeker, and Vice President-Elect for Continuing

Education, Jennifer Fisher, are putting together a fantastic group of presenters for this year's event.

I wish you all a wonderful spring of difference-making. I appreciate your service to our professions of speech pathology and audiology.

Best regards,

Ashlen Thomason, PhD, CCC-SLP
ArkSHA 2018 President



Call for ArkSHA Honors and Awards

Submit your nomination by July 15, 2018

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. Nominate individuals for the following awards:

Louis M. Dicarlo 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.

Nominations may be submitted online at www.arksha.org or directly to Jeff Adams, Past President, by July 15, 2018, at jadams@eastersealsar.com or to the ArkSHA office at arksha@arksha.org.

Awards and honors recipients, as well as Poster Ambassadors, will be recognized at the Awards Ceremony at the Annual Convention in Little Rock, Arkansas, October 10-12.

Call for Poster Ambassadors

Submit your nomination by July 15, 2018

ArkSHA selects up to one child and one adult poster ambassador each year to represent the dedicated work our professionals do to make a difference in the lives of individuals and their families. We have all had clients that truly inspired us as professionals. You may consider someone who has made significant gains in therapy, someone who has overcome insurmountable odds, or someone who is irresistible, charming, full of charisma and adorable. Write a letter and tell ArkSHA who should be the 2018 ambassador!

Nominations can be submitted online at www.arksha.org and should include contact information for both the nominee and the person making the nomination. Please submit a summary of why this person should be selected as Poster Ambassador and a picture of the nominee if available.

Please submit all nominations directly to Jeff Adams, Past President, by July 15, 2018, at jadams@eastersealsar.com or to the ArkSHA office at arksha@arksha.org.

Join Us Under the Big Top at the 2018 Convention October 10-12, 2018 DoubleTree Hotel and Robinson Conference Center

By Popular demand, ArkSHA brings you more on the topic of fluency with **Craig Coleman**, MA, CCC-SLP, BCS-F. His will be presenting 6 hours on Thursday. Craig Coleman is an assistant professor at Marshall University and a Board-Certified Specialist in fluency Disorders. Mr. Coleman is currently serving as coordinator of ASHA SIG 4 (Fluency). Craig is an adjunct instructor at Indiana University of Pennsylvania and Co-Director of the Stuttering U summer program for children who stutter, their families, and SLPs.

On Friday, **Valerie Fleming** will present 4 hours on issues related to dementia and cognitive decline. She will speak on differentiating mild cognitive impairment from normal aging and share lots of information on assessment tips and tools. She will discuss cognitive linguistic decline in a variety of clinical populations and share latest information on promoting healthy aging and risk factors for mild cognitive impairment/dementia. Dr. Fleming will also present information on treatment of cognitive decline.

More speaker details to come! Be sure to check our ArkSHA Facebook Group!





Betty Bass Student Scholarship Donor Stacy Sanders, MS, CCC-SLP

ArkSHA: *How many years have you been a licensed clinician?*

SS: I have been a licensed clinician for 25 years.

ArkSHA: *What is your current place of employment and population you serve?*

SS: I currently serve in the public school and also do some private practice. I service 4 through 10 years of age.

ArkSHA: *Where did you attend graduate school?*

SS: I attended Graduate school at Arkansas State University in Jonesboro.

ArkSHA: *Who were some of your biggest influencers and mentors when you were a student?*

SS: Professionally I don't know that I had a person that greatly influenced my career or studies. My truly greatest mentor was the Lord. My greatest support team was my husband and grandmother. They supported me physically, mentally, and spiritually. I am self and goal motivated. I felt the field of Communication Sciences and Disorders was my calling because I wanted to make a difference in

lives of individuals in every aspect.

ArkSHA: *What is your best advice for speech-language pathology and audiology students?*

SS: I have had many student clinicians continually throughout years and am now blessed that my daughter is completing her degree in CSD and try to give them all encouragement and advice. I encourage them to always continue to learn in all realms of CSD because

it's a growing field of knowledge, never be ashamed if you don't know the answer but never give up searching for the answers, be flexible because everyday changes, and pray daily that you will be a positive influence or smile in someone's life.

ArkSHA: *Is there any person or group of people you would like to challenge to join you in donating to the Betty Bass Student Scholarship?*

SS: I challenge school based SLP's to contribute to the scholarship fund due to the shortage we have in this area of practice so that others will have the opportunity to complete their degree.

I challenge school based SLP's to contribute to the scholarship fund due to the shortage we have in this area of practice...

Be sure to visit our website to access the scholarship information and awards applications.





ATTENTION Students!

Apply for the Betty Bass Student Scholarship by October 1

Download the scholarship application online at www.arksha.org/images/pdf/scholarship.pdf

Scholarship Guidelines:

1. A Faculty Advisor must verify enrollment and graduate GPA at the time of application, and append a short letter of support.
2. The applicant must be an Arkansas resident who plans to work in-state after graduation.
3. The applicant must submit a short narrative explaining their financial need for the scholarship.
4. The applicant's involvement in professional organizations such as ArkSHA, NSSLHA, etc. should be emphasized.
5. Both professional and personal letters of recommendation must be submitted with the application (minimum 3, maximum 5).

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): _____

Mail this form with check
payable to ArkSHA at:

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

SEAL

State Education Advocacy Leader

The SEALs network charge is to enhance and perpetuate the advocacy, leadership, and clinical management skills of school-based ASHA members 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.

SEAL: Lauren Rogers
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Conway, AR 72034
Slp.laurenrogers@gmail.com

Co-SEAL: Carol Fleming
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401 N. Pine Street
Little Rock, AR 72205
cbflem@swbell.net

STARs

State Advocates for Reimbursement

The State Advocates for Reimbursement (STARs) are ASHA-member audiologists and speech-language pathologists who advocate locally with legislators, state insurance commissioners, health plans, unions, and employers on matters related to private health plan reimbursement.

Cheri Stevenson
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2412 Fairway Ave.
North Little Rock, AR 72116
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StAMP

State Advocates for Medicare Policy

ASHA's State Advocates for Medicare Policy (StAMP) enhances and perpetuates the advocacy, leadership, and communication of ASHA members at the state level to influence administrative and public policy decisions that impact the Medicare coverage, reimbursement, and delivery of speech-language pathology services and audiology services.

Aletha Cook
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CALL FOR PAPERS

2018 ArkSHA Convention

October 10-12, 2018

DoubleTree Little Rock & Robinson Conference 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 April 30
 All Presentations Shall be Made on Friday 10/12/2018

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 April 30, 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 April 30, 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