



PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

Aleecia Starkey
2011 ArkSHA President



Hot! Hot! Hot! Few of us can even remember the snow storms and bitterly cold days of last winter. We are so busy trying to figure out how to get from the car into the office without totally melting, that the days of winter seem long, long ago. However, for many in our profession it is time to start thinking of a new beginning as the 2011-2012 school year is just around the corner. For much of my life the beginning of a new school year was more exciting than the beginning of a new calendar year. It was a time of fresh boxes of crayons with wonderful pointy ends, composition notebooks with their crisp white pages just waiting for the story of my summer, and my trip to Arkansas to visit my grandparents. It was the time for new cotton dresses stiff with starch and embellished with smart sashes, tied into bows that would last until first recess! It always seemed a magical time for me, whether I was a student, a school clinician or the parent of a student. A time of wondering who my teacher would be, who would be the new kid in school, would old friends be in my class and would I make new friends in my new class?

There are differences from my childhood, of course, as children do not have three months off in the summer, school starts weeks before Labor Day and August in Arkansas does not have a crisp feeling of a fall in New England. Although things are different now, I think some things remain the same. There will always be children who love the look, feel and smell of a new box of crayons (a box of 64 please!); children who will hate that scratchy, itchy feeling of a new shirt, pants or dress; and children who can't wait to write about their summer vacation.



Saddle Up



With ArkSHA!

**Arkansas
Speech-Language-Hearing
Association**

**2011 CONVENTION
OCTOBER 12-14**

**Embassy Suites
Little Rock, Arkansas**

**Featured Keynote Speaker: Marilee Fini
Thursday, October 13**

**Registration Form &
Convention Brochure
Included in this newsletter!**

The professions of educational speech-language pathology and audiology may serve children with disabilities; however, some of these children may share the same sense of excitement and appreciation for a "new" start as other children. I think it is something for professionals to remember. Are you beginning a new year with a sense of excitement and a readiness for a new beginning? If you are not, find a school picture of your gap-tooth six year old self and remember the wonder.

See you at convention. I am going now to buy some school supplies. Hmm... wonder if there is a box of crayons larger than 64 crayons....

Aleecia Starkey,
2011 ArkSHA President

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.

ArkSHA 2011 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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INFORMATION CENTER

ARKANSAS BOARD OF EXAMINERS IN SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY AND AUDIOLOGY

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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
(800) 498-2071
www.asha.org

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Little Rock, AR 72221

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Fax: (501) 224-0988

Email: arksha@arksha.org

www.arksha.org

Treasurer's Report

June 30, 2011 June 30, 2010

ASSETS

Current Assets

Checking/Savings

1010 · Operations Checking	21,483.32	2,641.94
1040 · Operations Money Mkt	85,853.60	99,150.69
1050 · Scholarship Money Mkt	24,582.31	23,141.53
Total Checking/Savings	<u>131,919.23</u>	<u>124,934.16</u>

Accounts Receivable

1200 · Accounts Receivable	8.87	0.00
Total Accounts Receivable	8.87	0.00

Total Current Assets	131,928.10	124,934.16
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<u>TOTAL ASSETS</u>	<u>131,928.10</u>	<u>124,934.16</u>
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Jeff Adams,
Treasurer

Call for ArkSHA Honors and Awards Nominations

The Honors and Awards Committee is requesting nominations for ArkSHA Honors and Awards for 2011. Please nominate individuals for the following awards:

- **Louis M. DiCarlo Award for Clinical Achievement**
- **Frank R. Kleffner Clinical Career Award**
- **Paula J. Gober Public School Award**
- **Research Award**
- **Audiology Award**
- **Honors of the Association**

You may email your nominations to cbflem@swbell.net; send your nominations by mail to Carol Fleming at 815 Coulter Road, Sherwood, AR 72120-5919; or fax to the ArkSHA office 501-224-0988. Be sure to include your name and a biographical sketch of the nominee including their professional history. Nominations should indicate the award you are nominating the individual for and why you think they should receive recognition. Awards and honors recipients will be announced at the Awards Reception at the Annual Convention in Little Rock, Arkansas. Nomination forms are available online at www.arksha.org.

Membership Report

When given the charge of increasing membership, many things came to mind:

1) What are the advantages of being a member of ArkSHA?

Answers: Allows your voice to be heard! Provides discounts for conventions and other CEU opportunities. Keeps you informed of Legislative happenings (both nationally and at the state level). Allows networking with other SLPs.

2) Why aren't some SLPs in Arkansas joining ArkSHA?

Answers/Excuses: Forgot to renew until conference time. I don't renew until I see the conference topics/speakers. My employer doesn't pay my ArkSHA dues. Poor Economy. Some SLPs prefer newsletter/membership mail-outs to e-mail; that might increase membership.

3) Is there anything we can do to encourage or entice non-members to join?

After our Quarterly Meeting in April, an email blast was sent out to the previous year's members as a reminder to renew. This resulted in a gain of 30 members, raising our current membership to 264 members. In 2010, we had 218 people renew/join just prior to the ArkSHA conference for a total membership of 554 members. Our goal is to increase membership throughout the membership year and to continually increase the total number of members higher than the previous year. This will enable members to be informed and involved throughout the year, rather than just a few months a year. In discussion about membership promotion, some ideas that have been generated are:

1) Might we change the membership year to run from October to September?

2) Could we give discount for early renewal (before deadline)?

3) Maybe we could award a discount to those who recruit new members?

I invite you to PLEASE shoot me an email/note/call and let me know what you think might increase membership! Can't wait to see each of you in Little Rock in October!

Monica Scott,
President Elect

Poster Ambassadors Meet Governor Mike Beebe

Governor Mike Beebe met adult poster ambassador, Fred Chilcote, and child poster ambassador, Brandon Workman, when he proclaimed May: "Better Hearing and Speech Month". They were joined by ArkSHA board member, Carol Fleming, family and friends.



Fred Chilcote, second from left, lives in Little Rock and was nominated by Terri Hutton.



Brandon, center, lives in Conway and was nominated by Kay Hall.

ArkSHA Members Meet Members of Congress and Advocate for the Professions

Dr. Beckie Weaver and Carol Fleming participated in Capitol Hill visits sponsored by the ASHA PAC recently. Both members met with Senators Mark Pryor and John Boozman (and/or their staff members: Tate Huer, Lauren McClain, and Jack Sisson) to discuss issues impacting the professions and the consumers who are served while attending separate meetings at the ASHA national office. Issues of interest included the therapy caps for Part B outpatient reimbursement, support for the Hearing Aid Assistance Tax Credit bill, and Medicare Telehealth/Telepractice coverage for audiology and speech language pathology services. Dr. Weaver noted that Tate Huer, Senator Pryor's healthcare aide, has historically been supportive of our professional issues. Carol met with Senator Pryor's education aide, Lauren McClain; initially, and then Senator Pryor joined their meeting. Carol took that opportunity to thank Senator Pryor for co-sponsoring the ASHA "Listen to Your Buds" campaign. Senator Boozman's aide, Jack Sisson, asked Carol during her meeting if she knew Dr. Weaver. He recalled that some of the issues being brought forth were the same that Beckie had discussed when she was in D.C. for the ASHA Advisory Council meeting and were being addressed by Carol during her visit.

During Carol's visit, she also met with aides for Congressmen Tim Griffin and Mike Ross (Peter Comstock and Kate Callanan). She discussed the reauthorization of ESEA, IDEA funding, Hearing Aid Assistance Tax Credit, the inclusion of speech-language pathologists in Literacy Programs, and HR 2140 (which ASHA and AAO-HNS, a national medical association of ENTs, currently do not support as it grants audiologists unlimited direct access to Medicare patients without a physician referral).



Above, from L-R: Carol Fleming (SLP- LRSD), Lisa Cannon (Aud - Denver Public Schools), Kathy Wheat (SLP - Lawton Public Schools), Rep John Kline, Marie Ireland (SLP - VA Dept of Education), Les Aungst (Retired - ASHA PAC Chair)

Following these congressional meetings, Carol met with Rep John Kline (MN) who is the chair of the House Education and Workforce Committee at the Capitol Hill Club. ASHA arranged this private meeting for the School Finance Committee (the only ASHA committee that solely represents the interests of public school clinicians). Chairman Kline told the committee there are five issues to be addressed through legislation for the reauthorization of ESEA which include ideas on consistency of language, accountability, teacher efficacy, flexibility in funding, and highest quality in effective educators. He noted that much of the work the committee has completed to this point has been spent on educating the new members of Congress. Rep Kline did share that his granddaughter has been affected by the work of a speech language pathologist. It was touching that he shared this personal bit of information with the committee. Carol and members of the SFC are looking forward to further

conversations with Rep Kline and members of the Education Committee by providing information and perspectives on behalf of educators and specialized instructional support personnel (SISP).



SLP Summit



ASHA held a Professional Summit, “Clarifying and Promoting the Regulation of Clearly Differentiated Provider Roles” on July 22-23, 2011, in Tyson’s Corner, VA. ASHA was

the convener of the summit, which consisted of small group discussions that focused on provider roles in Speech-Language Pathology. Stakeholders were chosen nationwide to participate in the discussions, which lasted over 1½ days. The stakeholders represented the following groups: Academic programs that educate individuals who participate in the service delivery process; Members of licensure boards; SLPs that supervise support personnel; Speech-language pathology assistants; State Education consultants; and State education advocacy leaders.

At the conclusion of the Summit, six recommendations were produced and several substantive observations were noted. The ASHA Board of Directors will review and discuss the recommendations; however no actions have been taken to operationalize these to date.

Recommendations and Observations noted from the Summit (not inclusive):

- To address the misunderstanding and misalignments that result from the lack of a shared nomenclature, ASHA should develop and publish a lexicon for the individuals that participate in the continuum of Speech-Language Pathology service delivery.
- Having completed a thorough study of practice in all 50 states, ASHA should develop and publish a framework that articulates the range of acceptable practice within the discipline.
- Having identified principles of good practice in states such as Texas, California, Arkansas, Tennessee, North Carolina, Oklahoma, and Louisiana, ASHA should develop a model for state adoption that offers an optimum structure for the preparation and appointment of Speech-Language Pathologists.

- ASHA should develop and articulate principles, protocols, and pathways of effective supervision for both supervisors and those who benefit from supervision.
- While there are some states with policies that appear to be working well, discrepancies from one state to another create confusion, limit mobility, complicate efforts to create reciprocity agreements, and, perhaps, discourage potential practitioners from pursuing the discipline. There is in particular a wide variety in bachelor’s programs that may qualify an individual for licensure as an SLPA.
- Following Board of Directors review and action, ASHA should prioritize and pursue the recommendations of the Summit according to a clear timeline.
- Because the SLP shortage was both a conspicuous prompt for the Summit and beyond the Summit’s proper purview, ASHA should consider convening a Summit focused exclusively on issues of capacity at the graduate (SLP) level.
- ASHA should revive the issue of extending membership to SLPAs. In a related observation, ASHA should more clearly endorse the SLPA—not as an expedient but as a valuable resource for and within the profession.

For more information on the summit, feel free to contact Carol Fleming (cbflem@swbell.net) who was selected to participate representing the professional interests of Arkansas.

Event Calendar

August 12	ArkSHA Board Meeting
September 16	ABESPA Meeting Conference Room B
October 12	ArkSHA Board Meeting
October 12-14	ArkSHA Annual Convention Little Rock Embassy Suites
November 18	ABESPA Meeting Conference Room C
December 9	ArkSHA Board Meeting

Slate of Officers 2012

ArkSHA is pleased to announce the following individuals for the 2012 Board of Directors. These individuals will be presented to the Board of Directors during the annual business meeting in October.

President-Elect

Miranda Crabtree (SLP, Mid South Rehab)

Vice President-Elect of Continuing Education

Marilyn McGehee (SLP, University of Arkansas)

Michelle Leach (SLP, Arkansas Children's Hospital)

Vice President of Speech Language Pathology Services

Melodee Owens (SLP, Private Practice)

Treasurer

Sam Atcherson (Aud, UAMS/UALR)

Nanci Young (SLP, Pocahontas Schools)



Nominations from the floor will be accepted during the annual meeting which will be held on Wednesday afternoon, October 12. Any interested individuals can contact Nominations chair, Carol Fleming, for more information (cbflem@swbell.net).

Association News



The Mission of the Arkansas Speech-Language-Hearing Association is to provide leadership, professional development, and quality membership services for audiologists and speech-language pathologists. How do we uphold our mission statement? ArkSHA offers annual professional conventions and co-sponsored workshops with continuing professional education credits. They encourage participation on committees and association activities. ArkSHA offers a variety of services including advocating for improved services to people with disabilities, developing joint committees between ArkSHA and other agencies to address issues of mutual concern, and development of association position statements that concern the membership. If you have not participated on a committee, now is the time. ArkSHA is always looking for members to volunteer to be on the board, or to serve

on one of its many committees, such as the convention committee or membership committee. You are the key to growing ArkSHA's membership and knowledge database.

The annual convention is right around the corner and we have been working hard in hopes of making it bigger and better than any other year. I may still be in the learning curve for ArkSHA, but I'm well briefed on the ins-and-outs of meeting planning. With my experience in planning and the ArkSHA board members historical experience, we should have an incredible 3 day convention! So put on your cowboy boots and "Saddle Up With ArkSHA" October 12-14!

Thank you all for giving me time and understanding during this time of transition for ArkSHA. I have enjoyed learning about the association and its members, and I look forward to meeting all of you at the convention!

Marilyn Porterfield
Account Executive



Arkansas Speech-Language-Hearing Association 2011 Scholarship Application and Guidelines

Scholarship Guidelines and Eligibility

- 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 available upon request from the ArkSHA office or at 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 October 1st to allow committee members ample time for consideration.
- 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.

Scholarship Application

Full Name: _____

Major Field of Study: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Age: _____

Place of Employment: _____

Marital Status: Single Married

Present Address: _____

Number and ages of dependents, if any: _____

Permanent Address: _____

Number of years as a member of :

Home Phone: _____

ArkSHA _____ NSSLHA _____ AAA _____

Work Phone: _____

Email: _____

Undergraduate University: _____

University you plan to attend in the Fall of 2011: _____

Fall 2011 Semester Hours: _____

**Please mail all required application materials
To arrive before October 1, 2011 to:**

**ArkSHA Scholarship Committee
P.O. Box 24103
Little Rock, AR 72221**

**Questions? - Contact Jeff Adams
jadams@uca.edu**

Signature of Applicant: _____ Date: _____

Signature of Faculty Advisor/Dept. Director: _____ Date: _____