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Montana Speech-Language & Hearing
Association
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MSHA on Facebook

Improving communication for life...

Executive Board Members

Title	Name	Contact Information
President	Al Yonovitz	al.yonovitz@umontana.edu
Past President	Diane Simpson	speechpath@3rivers.net
President Elect	Jennifer Closson	jennifer.closson@mso.umt.edu
Secretary	Elaina Tande	tande@victor.k12.mt.us
Treasurer	Sharlene Schmidt	sharlene.schmidt@fmdh.org
Audiology member at large	Lisa Cannon	lcannon@msdb.mt.gov
Speech Pathology member at large	Valeria Schmauch	vasmtalk35@yahoo.com
UM—CSD Chair	Lucy Hart-Paulson	Lucy.HartPaulson@mso.umt.edu
UM—CSD Student Liaison	Dani Perry	dani.perry@umontana.edu

How many MSHA members do we have currently?

- 14 Audiologists
- 4 Dual (Speech Pathologist/Audiologist)
- 76 Speech Pathologists
- 48 Students
- 2 Speech aides

144

If you have ideas for topics in the Communicator please email sharlene.schmidt@fmdh.org and share your requests.....



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Glasgow, MT

February 2013 Communicator

Presidents Message

MSHA
www.mshaonline.org
Email: msha@fmdh.org

As the founding Chair of the new Department of Communicative Sciences and Disorders there are few among us who appreciate more the efforts of MSHA. I truly believe that without the efforts of our organization the CSD program would not have been realized. With a steady stream of graduates, we hope that the generativity passed by our faculty, external supervisors, and CFY experiences from our membership will ensure the growth of our profession and the sustaining of quality services to our clients.

I believe it is now time to work at the personal level. I hope MSHA will engage with an agenda that seeks to aid in reaching each member's own professional goals and aspirations.

Members of MSHA may be asking, "What does MSHA do for me?" Here are some examples of how MSHA will help: 1) since, October, 2012 we have taken on the challenge of a telepractice bill for Montana. After a poll from our membership, and a resolution from the MSHA and the Licensure Board, the telepractice bill LC 0570 was born. This Bill will not only change the way speech-language and hearing services are delivered, but it will also allow many new private-practices to flourish, ultimately providing intervention in our state to many that would otherwise not be served; 2) we have begun discussing at the last board meeting a determined effort to make "Better Hearing and Speech Month" not only a public awareness campaign, but also an opportunity to initiate services for many including a marketing package for public and private clinicians.

We know as SLP and AUD professionals in Montana we have our own experiences that have provided a personally rewarding career. It is that sense of dedication that comes to us through the benefits of speech-language pathology and audiology services. I hope your professional life is exciting and that MSHA can be factor in enhancing your career experiences.

We are off to a new year with a very dynamic board. We will follow the high standard set by Diane Simpson and take on new challenges that will well serve all of our membership. Thank you for your trust in me as your president.

Warm Regards,
Al Yonovitz

Special points of interest:

- *Dr. Boehmler award recipient*
- *MSHA on Facebook*
- *Telepractice Bill LC 0570*
- *Membership*
- *Fall Convention Summary & Honors*
- *HB 133*
- *ASHA ACE State Members Recognized*
- *Joke*
- *Committee Reports*
- *Generous donation to Community Outreach*

We Need Your Help!

The MSHA Executive Board is working on a list of MSHA award recipients. We are missing the 2009 (Billings) awards and the specific award members from the cleft palate team in 2010. If you have information, please contact Past President Diane Simpson. Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

ACE Award Recipients from ASHA

MSHA received notification from ASHA that there are some professionals in our state who earned an Award for Continuing Education (ACE). They earned 7.0 ASHA CEUs (70 contact hours) within a 36 month period. Please join MSHA in congratulating the following individuals from Montana who were recognized. These listed individuals are also members of our state MSHA organization.

Name	Award Presented	City, State
Meggan Chartier	June 2012	Bozeman, MT
Marylou Coutts	May 2012	Deer Lodge, MT
Carol Ecke	May 2012	Great Falls, MT
Sheryl Jones	April 2012	Manhattan, MT
Vida Landa	May 2012	Miles City, MT
Martha Reeves	May 2012	Great Falls, MT

**Thank you all for your obvious dedication to this profession.
Thank you also for your dedication to MSHA**

More Legislative Details

MT HB 133

This bill was introduced by Representative Tom Berry (R) on December 17, 2012. The bill changes the structure of the Board of Hearing Aid Dispensing to include: 3 licensed hearing aid dispensers, 1 member who is either an otolaryngologist or audiologist or a person who regularly uses a hearing aid, and 1 member of the public. Currently, there is not an Otolaryngologist on the Board of Hearing Aid Dispensing. The measure was introduced by the request of the Department of Labor & Industry and has been assigned to the House Business & Labor committee for consideration, of which Rep. Berry is the Chair. To view the full text of this bill, please visit <http://data.opi.mt.gov/bills/2013/billpdf/HB0133.pdf>.

I have reviewed HB 133 as introduced by Rep. Berry and have some major concerns. I was the last ENT to serve on this Board, and realize how hard it is to find an MD or DO to serve. If there is not an ENT or audiologist on board, then you would have 3 dispensers and 2 members of the public. This would give the dispensers complete control without any professional peer review by a competent, more highly educated person with knowledge of the field. Most of the disciplinary issues that come before that Board involve dispensers, and they would thereby be in charge of their own court. I would thus suggest that after the three dispensers, you must have an audiologist or an ENT and the public member must be hearing impaired and an aid user. I hope my comments are considered.

Thanks,
Stephen A. Kramer, M.D.

Fall Convention Summary

Income:

Registration Income	\$18,250.16
Community Outreach Inc.	\$1,558.00
Donation Income	\$1,000.00
Vendor Income	\$ 600.00
Public Relations Income	\$ 462.90

Expenses:

Supplies	\$1162.13
Registration Refunds	\$350.00
Speaker Fees and Expenses	\$4666.41
Hotel Fees and Catering	\$9355.64

Total Profit: \$6,336.88

Please thank **Leah Jacobsen** for her great work in organizing this successful event for the benefit of MSHA and its members.

Type in "Montana Speech-Language Hearing Association" in the Facebook search bar, check out our page, and click the "Like" button! Visit the webpage and ask questions, share resources, look at event photos, and find out more about

Facebook News

Deanne Reported: "On our Facebook page we are now up to 66 "likes" and have been recognized and "liked" by the ASHA Advocacy group."

Attendance at Fall Convention: We had 58 speech language pathologists, 13 audiologists, 2 speech aids, 3 dually certified, and 51 students... Total attendance was 126. *Please thank everyone you know that helped out with this convention from working registration tables, deciding on speakers, and dealing with all the infinite details this is a lot of work. Thanks to everyone who made this a success.....*

CSPD Report

- Jennifer Closson attended the meeting on 1/11/13 as the MSHA Liaison. Highlights:
- MCEC is in Missoula this year starting Feb 6th. They have requested approval from the state board for license renewal units. Didn't look into ASHA CEUs until just recently (too late).
- Montana Comprehensive Literacy Plan
- http://www.opi.mt.gov/pdf/Instructional_Innovations/MSRP/12NovMtLiteracyPlan.pdf
- Paraprofessional Portal (resources)
 - We could add stuff for speech aides on this page if we would like
 - Good resource to share with school SLPs with Aides.
- <https://sites.google.com/site/paraorientation/home>
- CSPD would like to do more collaboration with other agencies. One possibility is if we are interested in running our summer institute with them. (They had to cancel theirs last year due to poor attendance – too many conflicting things – our summer institute being one of them).
- August (7), 8, 9
- Booked the Education Building at UM (1/2 block from CSD department where summer institute was held last year)
- Topics: Common Core and Technology (target – school based and pediatric SLPs)

Respectfully submitted 1/19/13 by Jennifer Closson, MSHA President Elect

How to pick up a Speech Therapist.....
Excuse me, are you Broca's Aphasia?
Because you are leaving me speechless!

**JOKE
FOR YOU!**

Need to Update Your Membership? If your information has changed please email msha@fmdh.org so those changes can be made in the database....



Montana Speech - Language - Hearing Association

PO BOX 1065
Glasgow, MT 59230

MEMBERSHIP

...Improving communication for life

**Mail this form and payment to:
MSHA; PO Box 1065; Glasgow, MT 59230**

Full Membership (licensed or equivalent) - \$75.00

Aide/Assistant—\$25.00

Student Membership—\$25.00

Membership dues include January 1 through December 31 of each year

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Current email: _____

EMPLOYER INFORMATION

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Current email: _____

**Please circle all that apply: SLP AUD DUAL AIDE/ASSISTANT STUDENT
HOSPITAL SCHOOL PRIVATE PRACTICE**

The information may be published in the directory **yes / no** on the website **yes / no** (please circle yes or no on each)
_____ (signature). Year you first became a MSHA member: _____

Would you like to volunteer to work on a committee **yes / no** or be nominated for an office **yes / no**. If so, which one(s)?: _____

Contribution to Community Outreach
Community Outreach is a MSHA program that provides modest grants to clients of speech pathologists and audiologists for funding materials or equipment necessary for our clients to reach their potential.

Dues (Full Membership \$75.00))	\$
Dues (Aide/Assistant or Student \$25.00)	\$
Contribution to Community Outreach	\$
TOTAL	\$

Continuing Education Information

Mary Callahan is the Continuing Education Administrator for both MSHA sponsored and ASHA sponsored CEUs

State licensure requires 40 hours of continuing education every odd year, and ASHA certification requires 30 hours during each 3-year certification maintenance interval. MSHA sponsored CEUs follow the same standard set by ASHA. Anyone interested in organizing workshops and wish to provide documented attendance and offer CEUs, contact Mary at sti4211@blackfoot.net and she will send you the necessary forms for documentation.

Feel free to contact Mary if you have any questions related to CEUs.

Congratulations Dr. Boehmler

A reception celebrating Dr. Richard Boehmler's receipt of The University of Montana's Professor Emeritus award.

The reception will be held:

Friday, February 22nd, 2013 ~ 4:00-5:30 pm

in the

Phyllis J. Washington College of Education and Human Sciences

Room 241

Please join us

<https://pjwtcehs.kimbia.com/rsvp>

for snacks, drinks, and reminiscing of Dr. Boehmler's life and career.

Please RSVP no later than February 1, 2013

If you are not able to attend, but would like to make a donation in Dr. Boehmler's honor, please use the RSVP link listed above

This can also be found on the MSHA website

It is with great sadness that we let our members know that Sib Clack passed away on October 8, 2012. She will be deeply missed and always remembered.

Pictures taken during the 2012 Fall Convention in Great Falls can be found on the website. See if you recognize some of your fellow peers if you weren't able to attend!

William F. Schramm has made a donation of \$5,000.00 for the MSHA Community Outreach for sound systems in elementary classrooms in the Nye, Fishtail, Absarokee and Columbus schools. He requested that we mention his deceased wife's name; Sigrid Schramm as well. Thank you Mr. Schramm for this generous donation which will benefit many elementary students.

MSHA's fall convention will be held in Bozeman this year. Our chairperson for the Bozeman site is a UM Communicative Sciences student, Jenny Fowler. Jenny has secured the Holiday Inn for our convention. We really need people from the Bozeman area to help Jenny with planning the social, obtaining items for the silent auction, running the registration tables etc. If you can help, please contact a member of the board presidency (Al Yonovitz, Jennifer Closson or Diane Simpson). A special thank you to Jenny for stepping up to help organize this event.

MSHA Honors at Fall Convention 2012 in Great Falls

MSHA distributed seven recognitions at the Fall 2012 MSHA conference in Great Falls. The following were recognized:

HONORS

- MSHA Unsung Hero Award** – remembering **Jana Paulauskis** as a valued member of our professional community Thank-you for your part in “improving communication for life.”
- MSHA Achievement Award** – recognizing **Darrell Micken** for his work to have SB132 passed. We appreciate your time and incredible effort!
- MSHA Organization Award** - recognizing **SCHWA-MT** for their philanthropic work, ceaseless enthusiasm, and ongoing support in the field of Communicative Sciences and Disorders.
- MSHA Service Award** - recognizing **Beverly Pickett** for her excellence in the role of Fall Convention Chairperson. We appreciate all your hard work!
- MSHA Service Award** - recognizing **Mary Callahan** for her excellence in the role of Continuing Education Administrator We appreciate all your hard work!
- MSHA Service Award** – recognizing **Laura Jo McKamey** for her excellence in the role of Summer Institute Coordinator We appreciate all your hard work!
- MSHA Service Award** – recognizing **Leah Jacobsen** for her excellence in the role of Fall Convention Planner. We appreciate all your hard work!

Advisory Council Request

Advisory council members—Janis Hayes-Strom and Suzanne Bender—have begun making arrangements for the yearly trip to Washington, DC to meet with our congressmen. They are asking for input from MSHA / members on items of most important to Montana MSHA members. MSHA input would be most gratefully received.”

Please contact Suzanne at speechy1@msn.com or Janis at janadian3@yahoo.com

Please note that the SLP Advisory Council position will soon be vacant.

Contact Suzanne if you want to learn more about what this position entails!

University of Montana Communicative Sciences Department Update

At Fall Convention Lucy Hart-Paulson shared some information about the Communicative Sciences Department. She proudly stated “Our graduates have a 100% pass rate on the praxis examination. Our graduates have a 100% employment rate with 85% staying in Montana. Sixty-two students are members of the student organization SCHWA. Our students donated several items to the silent auction.” Lucy is rightly very proud of the Communicative Sciences Department Program and its students...

SEAL Report

Laura Jo McKamey shared with members that the Super Committee failed to pass a budget and they may go into sequestration which requires a 7.8%

budget cut. Medicaid for schools would be first on the chopping block. Laura Jo encouraged everyone to contact our Senators and share your stories regarding cutting Medicaid billing in schools.

SMAC/STARS Committee: Carol Morse provided a very thorough report and it was so lengthy that we have listed it on the MSHA website. Please review this valuable information when you get a chance and if you have questions Carol can be reached at: mumsey05@bresnan.net

Telepractice Bill (LC 0570) before the Montana Legislature

Senator Wanzenried (D-49th District) is currently the sponsor of this bill. Senator Taylor (R-6th District) may co-sponsor the bill with Senator Wanzenried. Resolutions by the MSHA Board and the Montana Board of Speech-Language Pathologists regarding this proposed bill were approved. The bill provides direction for the Montana Board of Speech-Language Pathologists for providing telepractice services. The Bill will allow speech-language pathology and audiology services to be provided remotely within Montana as well as interstate providing that the clinician is licensed in Montana.

We have a well-informed lobbyist, Abigail St Lawrence (Lawyer, Helena). Ms. St Lawrence presented at the MSHA Board meeting on January 19, 2013. If you would like a copy of the bill, please contact Al Yonovitz (406 241 2364) or al.yonovitz@umontana.edu.

Our lobbyist urges individual members who are concerned about the bill to e-mail or call the committee members directly as well.

If you are available, and would like to provide testimony during a committee hearing, please contact Al Yonovitz as well.

Track Bill LC 0570

Here is the link that you can use to track the bill’s progress through the legislature The link is:

[http://laws.leg.mt.gov/legprd/law0203w\\$.startup?P_SESS=20131](http://laws.leg.mt.gov/legprd/law0203w$.startup?P_SESS=20131).

At the top of the page under Bill Draft Number (LC#):

(example: LC0064), you can enter "LC0570" to find the bill. That number will be good for tracking the bill even when it is assigned an SB (senate bill) number.

Board of Hearing Aid Dispensers: HB 133

HB 133 was introduced by Representative Berry. The Bill would change the composition of the Montana Board of Hearing Aid Dispensers. The new Bill would have three dispensers and two members of the public on the dispensing board, with no audiologic or medical representation. “This would give the dispensers complete control without any professional peer review by a competent, more highly educated person with knowledge of the field. Most of the disciplinary issues that come before that Board involve dispensers, and they would thereby be in charge of their own court” (S. Kramer, ENT).

The first hearing for this bill was on January 23, 2013, and the bill was tabled in committee on the same day. There is not a date for further action. According to our MSHA lobbyist, Abigail St. Lawrence, “While the bill is not officially dead (it can come off the table at any time before transmittal, although that very rarely happens), the committee did not pass it along to the full House.”

Jack Kane is the administrator of the business standards division at the Department of Labor and Industry. He has submitted to Representative Berry amendments to HB 133, which will remove from the bill any changes to the Board of Hearing Aid Dispensers. One comment Mr. Kane did make is that it would be helpful to have MSHA identify audiologists who are willing to serve on the board and attend the meetings, as the impetus for the proposed change was a problem in the past of getting an audiologist to become a member of the board and attend the meetings.

The MSHA Board will consider a resolution in non-support of this Bill.