



# Montana Speech - Language - Hearing Association

PO BOX 1065  
Glasgow, MT 59230  
www.mshaonline.org

*...Improving communication for life :*

## MSHA TIDBIT.... NOVEMBER 2015

Hello All,

In this month of gratitude, I am truly grateful to all of you for choosing to live and work as speech-language pathologists and audiologists in Montana. I'm also thankful for all our speech and audiology aides who support our work and I am awed by the amazing students who are already an integral part of our organization.

Here's the news from MSHA....

**Convention-** We were pleased with all the presentations and participation! Thank you, thank you, thank you to everyone who attended, volunteered, and presented! We value this time as a way to learn, share and build the connections in our organization. I attended the presentation by Maryellen Moreau on the Social-Academic connection. I've written a summary along and listed some of the books she recommended. You can find it on our website. <http://www.mshaonline.org/category/msha-board-blog/>  
If you'd like to share what you learned, email it to us and we'll add it to our blog.

Who participated at MSHA 2015  
Fall Convention in Billings?

17 Audiologists  
3 Dually Licensed  
78 Speech Language Pathologists  
8 Speech Aides  
35 Students  
1 State Employee  
Total Participants..... 142

Thank you to Valeria Schmauch for all of her hard work relating to CEU's.

### Some participant Comments regarding Fall Convention.....

"All the courses were informative and organized."

"Wonderful speakers-thank you! Great info."

"Poster session and activities were enjoyable."

"Thank you for organizing a wonderful conference yet again."

"Business meeting was too early in the morning! Go back to the luncheon..."

Next year we will be in Helena at the Great Northern, October 20-22, 2016. We are already working on the speakers and site and would LOVE to have you join us! Thanks to Laurie Slovarp who has already agreed to work on the program for medical SLPs and to Doug Rehder who has found a speaker for E and M codes.

**License Fees-** We continue to work on this issue with the current licensure board. We believe they now have a complete board and we will launch a letter writing campaign prior to their meeting to reiterate our concerns. We are also increasing our involvement with the interim committee in the legislature that is reviewing all license fees in Montana. Our plan for November is to organize and be a presence at the meeting of this committee on December 1 and 2. If you would like to be a part of this process, please let us know ASAP!

At the national level, Jennifer Rindal, president elect completed the necessary paperwork for MSHA to continue to receive ASHA recognition. Jenn Closson, our past president received an Advocacy Grant from ASHA we plan to use this toward our work on the license fee issue.

The MSHA Board will meet once more this year. Minutes from our last meeting and dates for our next meeting can be found on our website. If you have items for the agenda, let us know. We continue to work on our goals of increasing membership and involvement. This seems to work best when people centered around a particular issue such as licensure or telepractice or by a setting such as medical SLPs or students.

'Many hands make light work'. We love seeing yours! Rachel