



The Newsletter of the Speech Language and Hearing Association of the Hudson Valley  
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### Letter from the President

**Ahh the buzz of the bees, the mud, the flowers beginning to bloom... after a long, cold winter in the beautiful Hudson Valley, Spring has finally arrived and along with it our annual celebration of May is Better Speech and Hearing Month! SHAHV has been busy organizing a variety of celebrations, kicked off by our well attended Spring Conference and ending with a story hour event headed up by our very own Shannon Ashcroft to raise awareness and funds for the Ulster Literacy Association at the Kingston Barnes and Noble. A special Thank You to all who helped make our second annual Breakfast with a Professional Event in partnership with the students at SUNY New Paltz a HUGE success! Over 10 practicing SLPs representing a variety of employment settings gave up a chilly Saturday morning in April to speak passionately about the field of Speech-Language Pathology with over 30 undergraduate and graduate students. The students have already requested a repeat in the Fall.**

**It takes many hands to make our events come alive. If you have an hour a week or even a few minutes here and there to spare, we would love for you to join us! Looking forward to seeing many of you at our annual dinner celebration in June! Here's to 30 more fantastic years of providing resources to speech-language pathology and audiology professionals in the Hudson Valley to facilitate optimal evaluation and treatment of individuals with communication challenges.**

**Andrea Abramovich, President**

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## ***Secondary Schools Special Interest Group...***

Are you an SLP working with adolescent students in the schools? Would you be interested in forming an interest group specific to older language disordered students?

If you are interested in brainstorming, sharing therapeutic ideas or learning more about the older language disordered population in the schools and our role in helping them succeed....

Congratulations to Kelly Ferrara and Sheila Kellehen– the lucky winners of the NYSSLHA FUNDAZ Cards, which were raffled off at the SHAHV Spring Conference!

NYSSLHA FUNDAZ Cards are \$25 dollar Savings Cards which get you discounts at over 250,000 merchants nationwide, such as Dunkin Donuts, Michaels, Pizza Hut, TGI Fridays, Six Flags, Nine West, and much more! The proceeds to purchase this card will be used to support the NYSSLHA Political Action Committee. You can order you card and view all of the discounts online at:

[www.NYSSLHACard.org](http://www.NYSSLHACard.org)

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

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Summer Institute in Literacy and  
Communication Disorders

July 24-25, 2010

College of St. Rose

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2010ASHA Convention

November 18-20, 2010

Philadelphia, PA

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SHAHV Fall Conference

TBA

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## ***SHAHV Fun Fact***

On this 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of SHAHV's birth, it seemed appropriate to honor those members who have been loyal to SHAHV for many years. Below is a list of professionals who have been members for 10 years or more (as of 3/31/2010 membership records). Thank you to all SHAHV members and we hope to keep adding to this list as each year passes.

### **10 Years**

Gretchen Brassard  
Carol Giangrasso \*  
Joanna Nadoolman \*  
Cecelia Pitman  
Jenny Thayer \*

### **11 Years**

Denise Frisenda  
Phyllis Gallo  
Nancy Laviano

### **12 Years**

Pat DeCicco \*  
Deborah Mannello \*  
Rosemary Sloan  
Helen Mozes-Steckman  
Mary VanDemark \*

### **14 Years**

Eileen Fletcher  
Nancy Uttendorfer \*

### **16 Years**

Jennifer Petruski \*  
Mary Roosa \*

### **17 Years**

Rose Kelly  
Harriett Miller

### **18 Years**

Theresa Massimi \*

### **22 Years**

Deborah Wilcox \*

\* Past and/or present SHAHV Executive Council members.

## Surf on over to the SHAHV website!

SHAHV has provided you with a comprehensive website full of professional resources. It is updated weekly.

[www.shahv.org](http://www.shahv.org)

Here's what you can find on SHAHV's main website:

- Membership information including a membership form.
- Helpful links to other not-for-profit websites.
- May is Better Hearing and Speech Month activities.
- Legislative updates including a link to NYSSLHA's legislative page.
- Recent SHAHV news.
- Job openings as they become available.
- Lists of local, regional and national conferences.
- A list of the Ruth Miller Memorial Lending Library items.
- Scholarship information.
- SHAHV awards.



A comprehensive consumer section – share with your clients and families!

Here's what you find on the [member's only site](#) (username – language; password – Speech30). The username and password are case sensitive. Remember that it is SHAHV's 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary. That may help remember the password.

- Previous newsletters.
- The SHAHV constitution.
- The website advertisement for families. Print the advertisement for the consumer's section of our main site and give to your clients and their families. Include the ad in your center's or school's newsletter.

Membership directory. The email links are already there. Just click and connect with a colleague.

The username and password for the "members only" site changes yearly to ensure only current members can access that information. The new username/password will change each February, so renew your SHAHV membership early to ensure access to this resource. You will be sent an email when the change occurs.

If you have any ideas for the website, please contact me ([jpa1230@verizon.net](mailto:jpa1230@verizon.net)). I look forward to your ideas. Jenn Petruski

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Join us on FaceBook! Did you know SHAHV has a group on FaceBook? Find out about upcoming events and job postings. Write a comment on our wall or start a discussion. Post pictures from SHAHV events. Connect and network using this social-networking site!

# SHAHV'S ANNUAL DINNER

Come join us!!!!

SHAHV is celebrating 30 years!!!!

DATE: June 10, 2010

WHERE: Cosimo Trattoria  
120 Delafield Ave  
Poughkeepsie NY

Directions: From Mid Hudson Bridge , Turn Left onto Rt 9 N.  
Go 1.1 miles. Turn Right onto Delafield Ave.

WHEN: 6:00 – 8:00 pm

WHO: All 2010 SHAHV members invited

WHY: To celebrate...To support...  
To acknowledge...To honor...

COST: free to all members (includes salad, dinner, soda,  
coffee/dessert)

RSVP by June 1<sup>st</sup>

RSVP to [shahvconference@gmail.com](mailto:shahvconference@gmail.com)

**Ever wanted to try out the newest AAC device,  
sensory tool or adapted toy before you buy?  
Try out the TRAIID Program!**

**What is TRAIID?**

Technology Related Assistance for Individuals with Disabilities (TRAIID) is a federally funded program administered by the New York State Commission on Quality of Care and Advocacy for Persons with Disabilities. The project's goal is to increase awareness and appropriate use of assistive technology by individuals with disabilities.

**What is Assistive Technology?**

An assistive technology (AT) device is any item, product or piece of equipment that can be used to maintain or improve the functional abilities of individuals with disabilities . . . simple as a modified toothbrush handle . . . complex as a voice activated computer system. Assistive technology services enable persons to know about, obtain and use devices that meet their needs.

**What can TRAIID provide?**

- | Information and referral services
- | The TRAIID IN equipment exchange service
- | Increased access to assistive technology through Device demonstrations and loans
- | Training on assistive technology

**What is available in my region?**

The TRAIID Program, in collaboration with the Department of Health Early Intervention Program, has twelve Regional TRAIID Centers. These centers provide:

- | Device demonstration and loan
- | Information and referral
- | Public awareness and training
- | Local advocacy services
- | Early intervention AT loan library – and more.

**Who can use these services?**

Services are available to individuals with disabilities of all ages, their family members, service providers, employers, educators and others who are interested in disability issues or assistive technology.

**For more information on TRAIID, contact:**

**Andrea Abramovich**  
**Regional TRAIID Program Coordinator**  
**Covering: Ulster, Dutchess, Orange and Sullivan**  
**Counties 845-336-7235 ext. 129**

**DID YOU KNOW.....**

CNN recently rated the top 25 Best Paying Jobs for Women in the United States and Speech Language Pathology was listed #9!

**May is Better Speech and  
Hearing Month!!!!**

As in the past, SHAHV has been very involved in promoting our profession, a time to raise public awareness, knowledge, and understanding of the various forms of communication impairments during the month of May as part of May is Better Speech and Hearing Month. This year SHAHV supported the Ulster Literacy Association with a Barnes and Noble Bookfair Fundraiser Weekend. In addition, SHAHV hosted a Phonological Awareness and Basic Concepts hour of activities on Saturday the 22nd, at the Barnes and Nobles in Kingston. Thanks to

**Legislative Corner**

During the recent session in April of the NYSUT –representative assembly, the United Federation of Teachers submitted a resolution supporting the recognition of Nationally Certified School Speech Language Pathologists. As a result, Resolution #35 was passed, stating:

RESOLVED, that NYSUT encourages the recognition of nationally certified speech-language pathologists through comparable stipends offered to nationally certified teachers; and be it further

RESOLVED, that NYSUT encourages local school districts through collective bargaining to recognize nationally certified speech-language pathologists.

Go to [nysslha.org](http://nysslha.org) for more information

S.H.A.H.V.  
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**We're on the Web!**  
See us at: [www.shahv.org](http://www.shahv.org)