

SHAHVersation

The Newsletter of the Speech Language and Hearing Association of the Hudson Valley
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Executive Council 2011

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INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Letter from President
Articles
Upcoming Events

Letter From the President

The flowers are blooming, the days are getting longer, the smell of barbeque is in the air and the celebration of May is Better Speech and Hearing Month is in full swing. Spring has arrived in all its glory and SHAHV has had a very busy past few months. The SHAHV executive board has been busy meeting every month putting the finishing touches on events like the Spring Conference on March 19th which featured Dr. Bob Owens presenting on his research in child language development, disorders and language sampling. The conference was an overwhelming success with great learning, great food, networking, and even the chance to win one of several therapy tools raffled. In April, SHAHV, in conjunction with the student speech language association of SUNY New Paltz, co-hosted the third annual Breakfast with a Professional event on the SUNY New Paltz campus. The event, held on a Saturday morning, which drew over 50 students, featured two rooms of panels. The first included a line up of six Speech Language Pathologists, many of whom are SHAHV members, who shared their wealth of experience regarding having a career in Speech Language Pathology and Audiology with the future generations of the profession. The second panel included three recent graduates who are currently in their Clinical Fellowship Year. These new clinicians discussed a variety of topics including how to survive graduate school, how to select a CF site and supervisor, and the ins and outs of their first year of professional employment. The students supplied a delicious home made breakfast and a wonderful time of sharing and networking was had by all. Please join us for the next one!

May is Better Speech and Hearing month has been marked with celebration throughout the Valley. We hope that you have enjoyed receiving the e-mails on ways to mark the occasion and share the valuable insights that SLPs and Audiologists can bring regarding enhancing communication with your colleagues and friends. SHAHV is pleased to announce that we will be donating several children's books to local libraries in culmination of our BSHM celebration for 2011. A big thank you to all you have suggested books and libraries. We will let you know of the titles selected and donation sites in an upcoming newsletter. Each book will feature a book plate stating that it is a donation from the Speech and Hearing Association of the Hudson Valley and will be enjoyed by hundreds of children [and adults] throughout the Hudson Valley for years to come.

Last but not least, we welcome you to join us as we celebrate our accomplishments our wonderfully vibrant organization, and each other at our annual membership dinner to be held on June 2nd, 2011 at Cosimos Trattoria in Poughkeepsie, NY from 6-8 pm. Reservations are required so be sure to make yours soon with Pat at shahvicepres@gmail.com.

Looking forward to seeing you in June!
Andrea Abramovich, SHAHV President

SHAHV'S ANNUAL DINNER

COME JOIN US!

DATE? Thursday, June 2, 2011

**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 registered 2011 SHAHV members Invited

WHY? To celebrate...To support...
To acknowledge...To honor...

COST: \$10. (includes salad, dinner, soda, coffee/dessert)
(The money collected will be used for books donated for BSHM)

RSVP by May 30!!

QUESTIONS: Call Pat at 895- 1924
or email: shahvvicepres@gmail.com



Yes, I would like to attend this fun filled evening!!

NAME _____

Contact # _____

Make \$10 check out to SHAHV

Mail to: Pat DeCicco 5 Hampton Court Wallkill NY 12589



SHAHV SPOTLIGHT

FEATURING

Lauri-Ann Devine, MS, CCC-SLP
BA, SUNY New Paltz May 2007
MS, SUNY New Paltz December 2008
TSSLD September 2007
ASHA CCC May 2010
NYS Licensed SLP May 2010

Over the years, I have been a bartender, an apprentice carpenter, a florist, a clerical unit supervisor, a restaurant owner, a nursing assistant, and a development writer... with many moves over three states – California, Washington, and, finally, New York. All along, however, my true desire was to go back to school to become a special education teacher. I'd taken some classes along the way, then, at last, in 1999 (at the age of 44) I left my job at the Culinary Institute to return to school full-time. While studying at Dutchess Community College, I worked as an administrative assistant at Astor Early Childhood Programs in Poughkeepsie.

At Astor I was surrounded by administrative and teaching staff, including the Education and Special Education Services Coordinators, all of whom were very supportive of me reaching my goal. However, as I expressed an interest in working individually or with small groups of children, the education and services coordinators suggested I explore the field of Speech Language Pathology. I spoke with and observed one of the SLPs who worked in the building and I was hooked. I didn't really have personal experience with special education children or communication disorders. (Looking back, though, it would have been interesting to know why my one of my sons called the "speed limit" the "speed lemon" and his best friend, Nicholas, "Gicholas" and Santa Claus, "Canas Slaus" J.) Still, I was, and continue to be very intrigued by the science, theory, research and findings that are the foundation of our field, as well as the opportunity and need for creativity in every day practice. Additionally, I love children and dislike seeing any child mistreated, unhappy and/or struggling. Therefore, having the knowledge and skills to help these children improve their communication, thereby lessening their struggle was the most rewarding work I could imagine.

As I began my career, I spent three years with the Center for Spectrum Services, beginning as a TSSLD and, upon completion of my graduate studies, continuing as a clinical fellow. Everyone at the Center was very supportive and I'm grateful for all I learned there. I also spent a few months in an adult placement, which was great experience – especially in the area of feeding and swallowing.

Currently, I've come full circle and I am back working with Astor Early Childhood Programs. It's great to be welcomed back and to be able to provide services for the organization and people who helped me get started. My work with preschool children is at three different sites – Beacon, Mt. Alvernia, and Wingdale. It's a diverse population – fun, challenging and interesting every day. I also work for Dynamic Therapy and Learning, and enjoy spending one day a week at BOCES Salt Point Center. It's really great to develop my skills and resources with older children, as well. There's never a dull moment with these guys – they definitely keep me on my toes!

It took me nine years to complete my education, and almost eleven to complete the "hoops" required for licensing and certification. The work is as rewarding as I imagined, if not more so, and I've never regretted my decision to become an SLP. Of the many "careers" I've had, this is the most fulfilling of them all! When I'm dragging on Monday morning, I just think of those smiling faces getting off the bus and I'm easily out the door. As my skills have developed over the past few years, I've also learned to relax and "play" and, most importantly, to be in the moment and really enjoy the children!

UPCOMING EVENTS

SHAHV Summer CEU's
July 14, 2011
Place: TBA

Summer Institute in Literacy and
Communication Disorders
July 23-24, 2011
College of St. Rose

NYSSLHA Fall Workshops
Joan Mele-McCarthy
Executive Function Workshop

September 17, 2011
Dobbs Ferry— at Mercy College

September 18, 2011
Manhasset—at North Shore University
Hospital

October 1, 2011
Rochester— at Nazareth College

2011 ASHA Convention
November 17-19, 2010
Philadelphia, PA

2012 NYSSLHA Convention
April 26-28, 2012
Saratoga, NY

• **Remember, ASHA will no longer accept your Social Security numbers on CEU forms. You MUST provide your ASHA number. Here are suggestions to help you have your ASHA number when you need it!**

• **Cut the address label off an ASHA Leader and store it in your wallet or purse. It has your ASHA ID number on it.**

○ **Store your ASHA ID number in your cell phone contacts under "ASHA number."**

○ **Write your ASHA ID number inside the cover of a notebook and bring the notebook with you as your note-taking paper for all CE activities.**

○ **Carry your ASHA card with your driver's license in your wallet.**

SAVE THE DATE...

JULY 14, 2011

SHAHV SUMMER CEUs!

Vocabulary Instruction: Evidence for Five Instructional Strategies

On **July 14**, SHAHV will present an ASHA professional development self-study seminar titled **Vocabulary Instruction: Evidence for Five Instructional Strategies** by Karla K. McGregor, CCC-SLP. The self-study will include a two part audio CD, power point session handout, and the twenty five question ASHA CEU test questions. Participants will earn 0.2 ASHA CEUs. To earn CEUs, your test must be postmarked on or before July 10, 2013. Participants will be responsible for sending in their own answer sheet and program evaluation required by ASHA. SHAHV will be charging a fee. Further information will be sent via email regarding time, place and cost.

Seminar Description

Many clients need help to develop their vocabularies, but addressing the problem can be daunting. The number of words to be learned-estimated at 60,000 for the average high-school graduate-is enormous. Moreover, word learning involves not only linking words forms to meanings, but also enriching those meanings over time and linking words with related meanings. This program presents research from education, second language acquisition, psychology, and speech-language pathology on vocabulary instruction, and provides support for five instructional strategies: frequent exposures, spaced exposures, multimodal input, numerous exemplars, and frequent testing (active practice).

Learning Outcomes

You will be able to:

- review symptoms of vocabulary deficits among children with language impairment
- describe current research on word learning problems from multiple disciplines
- relate learning to memory and word usage
- describe types of errors in word usage by children with language impairment
- list five evidence-based, instructional strategies for building vocabulary
- combine evidence from multiple disciplines to inform instructional practices

**Don't forget– SHAHV is on FaceBook!
Check out our discussion board, latest news and photos. Become our friend and invite your SLP friends to our group.**

SURF ON OVER AND CHECK OUT WHAT IS NEW ON 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.

- 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.

This May, a variety of local professionals and students participated in Better Hearing and Speech Month (BHSM). As you are probably already aware, this event in the month of May is dedicated to learning and educating others and ourselves. Nationally, “this annual event provides opportunities to raise awareness about communication disorders and to promote treatment that can improve the quality of life for those who experience problems with speaking, understanding, or hearing” (ASHA, 2011).

Throughout the month of May, Katja Izzard, a SHAHV Graduate Student Member, and the recipient of the SHAHV Scholarship in 2010, has been sending out emails weekly regarding events promoting BHSM and at least one attachment. The attachments have been a variety of items that you could use in your specific professional setting. These included door hangers, parent-friendly audio-grams, and some additional surprises!

Interesting Ideas:

Watch the King's Speech with someone you know, and have a discussion at the conclusion of the movie about people who stutter. Here are some interesting facts: research suggests male stutterers are more common with a 3:1 ratio, stuttering can begin early in life, stuttering doesn't correlate with intelligence!

Quotes for Thought:

- Lymph, v. ::To walk with a lisp. – A *Washington Post* reader submission word contest.

“It's a strange world of language in which skating on thin ice can get you into hot water” - Franklin P. Jones

“At no time is freedom of speech more precious than when a person hits his thumb with a hammer” – Marshall Lumsden

Thank you to Katja and her BHSM committee for providing the membership with activities, events and general information regarding BHSM!!!!

S.H.A.H.V.
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Lake Katrine, NY 12449



We're on the Web!
See us at: www.shahv.org