

# SHAHV<sup>er</sup>sation

The Newsletter of the Speech Language and Hearing Association of the Hudson Valley  
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## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Letter from President  
Articles  
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Dear SHAHV members and cherished colleagues,

Happy Better Speech and Hearing Month!

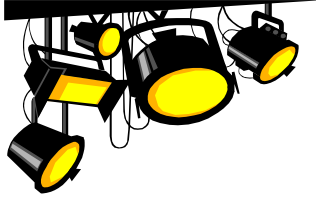
I hope that you have all been enjoying the wonderful newsletters created by member [and recent graduate] Katja, designed to make sharing our profession just a little bit easier as we celebrate one of the "best jobs for saving the world" [according to Money magazine].

Spring has been a busy season for SHAHV including advertising our annual scholarship to one undergraduate and one graduate student and holding our well-received conference featuring David Hammer. Please join us in celebrating SHAHV at this year's annual dinner to be held on June 14th at the Beekman Arms in Rhinebeck, NY from 6-8. We look forward to sharing a wonderful meal with you, awarding two very well deserving recipients for their service to our organization and to the community and to taking a breather from the busy season to catch up.

As always, we welcome your input and involvement in making this upcoming year the best one yet!

Your President,  
Andrea Abramovich





**SHAHV SPOTLIGHT**  
With  
**NANCY UTTENDORFER, MS CCC-SLP**  
Communication Department Head  
Center for Spectrum Services

When I was a teenager I read about Helen Keller and her magnificent teacher Anne Sullivan, The Miracle Worker. At that time, I decided that I wanted to become a teacher and work with children with disabilities. When I moved up to the Catskills in 1980, I chose the field of Communication Disorders after visiting the SUNY New Paltz program.

After obtaining my TSHH certification in 1984, I interviewed for a number of jobs, including school districts, agencies serving adults with disabilities, and The Children's Annex, a school which primarily served children on the autism spectrum. I was immediately drawn to the children I met during my visit to "The Annex", as well as the warm and welcoming feeling at this school. Despite the significantly lower pay scale, I chose this school as a "stepping stone" to start my career.

Twenty-eight years later, I continue to work at this school, now called the Center for Spectrum Services. The amazing children I work with and their families continue to motivate and inspire me. In addition to my caseload, I supervise the Communication Department, and am awed by the dedication and talent of the special group of Speech-Language Pathologists that I supervise.

I have countless memories and precious moments in working with these kids. They have made me laugh, brought me to tears, the whole gamut of emotions. One of the most touching was, when after years of hard work with a darling 8 year old girl who had been non-verbal until around age 6, her father shared with me that she told him "I love you" while he was tucking her into bed. Another was when I was working with a 3 year old boy and his mother right before going away for Thanksgiving, and he said his first word, "bubbles", making it a very happy Thanksgiving for his family and for me. I have accumulated so many rewarding experiences over the years, thanks to these special kids

My hobbies include music, reading, boating with my husband Dan and watching my sons Ryan, 20 and Jesse 17 play baseball. I love vacations on the water in Old Lyme, CT, Lake George, NY and Anna Maria Island, FL.

My job is both gratifying and challenging.

If I could give my colleagues one piece of advice, it would be: Build and maintain a trusting relationship with your children. Keep connected with them and have fun together as you help them to develop communication skills!

How I celebrate BHSM: At the Center for Spectrum Services, the Communication Department engages teams of staff in a month's worth of activities which include: hearing screenings, participation in formal test administration, guessing fun facts about the SLPs, barrier games, telephone games, trivia questions about the field of SLP, posters with acrostic poems related to the field, etc. We end it with a great party with yummy food to announce the winning teams, who earn prizes for participation. It has been a great, fun way to educate our staff!

## UPCOMING EVENTS

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Understanding and Promoting Executive  
Functioning Skills in with Autism  
May 31, 2012 4-7pm  
Center For Spectrum Services,  
Kingston, NY

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### SHAHV ANNUAL DINNER

June 14th 6-8pm  
Beekman Arms, Rhinebeck, NY

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IntensiveVoice Treatment for Pediatric  
Motor Speech Disorders  
And

Swallowing and Parkinson's Disease  
July 26th 4:30-8:15  
3 West Club Grand Salon  
New York, NY  
info@lsvtglobal.com

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2012 ASHA Convention  
November 19-21, 2010  
Atlanta, Georgia

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2013 NYSSLHA Convention  
April 11-13  
Saratoga Springs, NY

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Congratulations to  
**Rosemary Sloan**  
and  
**Joanna Nadoolman**  
who were the raffle  
winners at the  
SHAHV Spring  
Conference!  
They each won free  
2013 SHAHV  
membership!

# ONLINE INFO

## 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.
- 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](#)

**New User name is: language**

**New Password is: Speech30**

(Remember, the password is 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.

## FACEBOOK

SHAHV has a Facebook group page– when Facebook reconfigured, the group remained, however– **all members were deleted!** So PLEASE– search for SHAHV on Facebook, request an invitation (we are a closed group). Once part of the group, invite SLP friends from your Facebook Friends list. Stay up to date with the latest information!

## PINTEREST

One of the newest online social media sites! Create and browse pin boards full of information and ideas! There is a wealth of information and therapy ideas. See what other therapists are doing and get new ideas for articulation, language, fluency, AAC, and voice therapies for all age groups! Just put "speech" into the search box.

# SHAHV'S ANNUAL DINNER

COME JOIN US!

DATE? **Thursday, June 14, 2012**

WHERE? The Tavern at the Beekman Arms

The Wayfarer Room  
6387 Mill Street  
Rhinebeck, NY 12572

Parking is at the back of the building.  
The only entrance is the front door of the Beekman Arms.

WHEN? 6:00 – 8:00 pm

WHO? All registered 2012 SHAHV members invited

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

COST: \$15. (includes bread and salad, dinner, soda, coffee/dessert)  
(The money collected will be used for books donated for BSHM)

**RSVP by May 30!!** QUESTIONS: email Kristen: shahvmembership@gmail.com

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

**Mail to: SHAHV  
P.O. Box 593  
Lake Katrine, NY 12449**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ Contact # \_\_\_\_\_

Make \$15 check out to SHAHV

My entrée choice is:

\_\_\_\_\_ Grilled Fillet of Salmon  
A Chablis Beurre Blanc Sauce  
Wild Rice & Fresh Seasonal Vegetable

\_\_\_\_\_ Grilled Half of a Free Range Chicken  
With a Charred Rosemary Pesto  
Whipped Potatoes & Fresh Seasonal Vegetables

\_\_\_\_\_ Boneless Coffee Braised Beef Short Ribs  
Whipped Potatoes & Fresh Seasonal Vegetable

\_\_\_\_\_ Pasta Primavera  
With Grilled and Roasted Vegetables  
Extra Virgin Spanish Olive Oil and  
Shaved Parmesan Cheese

May is typically known for Mother's Day and Memorial Day. But to us, May is near and dear to our hearts– it's Better Speech and Hearing Month. While speech, language and hearing disorders are a year round concern for those with whom we work, May is set aside to bring public awareness to others of these disorders.

Here are some ideas of to promote our profession:

Have artistic students make and distribute posters dealing with problems in speech and hearing and their cures.

Ask that a librarian prepare a special corner displaying books dealing with speech and hearing issues. These can be highlighted with posters.

Have a listening contest. Play a couple of sounds over the PA system in the morning and have the classes work together to guess the sounds.

Have children receiving speech-language services make gifts for the teachers and administrators and attach some information about communication disorders and speech-language pathologists and audiologists.

Have children help create bulletin boards in the hallways about communication. How many ways can you communicate?

Have contests in the classroom where the kids try to communicate when presented with certain barriers.

Have a contest for students or coworkers (e.g., guess how loud certain environmental sounds are, guess the list of acronyms used in the profession) and the prize could be a BHSM pen.

Have a scavenger hunt with items that pertain to speech-language pathology and audiology and use them as teaching tools in explaining communication disorders.

Provide an in-service to school administrators about what you do. The in-service should discuss what communication disorders are, who SLPs and audiologists are, and, with appropriate consent, tell the story of a child or family with whom you have worked.

Talk with hospitals, police, and fire fighter groups about communicating with people who have hearing loss.

S.H.A.H.V.  
The Speech, Language, and Hearing  
Association of the Hudson Valley  
P.O. Box 593  
Lake Katrine, NY 12449



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