I am Kathleen DeLapp-Cohn and I am honored to hold the position of President for 2019! What a busy year it has already been- active legislation, a new website in the making, a new format for the conference, Regional Reps preparing for regional “get togethers”, and a list of 5 planned webinars! Our mission as an association is clear: we are here to empower Montana’s audiologists, speech-language pathologists, students, and aids to provide the very best services to those in need.

MSHA continues to have a strong public policy agenda and works positively to influence legislation and regulatory issues in ways that benefit the professions and those we serve. Our members are the best advocates and MSHA is here to assist you with your efforts to let everyone know that speech-language pathologists and audiologists are making positive changes across Montana. Executive council members held a luncheon in the Capitol rotunda for over 200 state at the beginning of February with brochures and handouts given to educate all on what SLPs and AUDs do for our state and consumers! What a great day it was!

The MSHA convention is gearing up and lining up speakers! Plan now to attend the 2019 Annual Convention in Billings, October 18-19 at the Big Horn Resort!. The Convention is also a great time to network and catch up with friends.

**Remember, members receive a reduced rate on convention registration!**

Stay tuned for more information! We will have a social night and have a trolley take us to Montana Avenue to enjoy the pubs, and restaurants- some of the finest in the state. As we continue the positive theme of taking care of ourselves, we will have empowerment sessions of yoga and chair massages addition to our speakers.

Continued on Page 2...
A Word from the State Licensing Board Executive Officer

~ Lucy Richards ~

The 2019 legislative session is one-third finished. The Board of Speech-Language Pathologists and Audiologists did not propose any legislation for the 2019 Session. It did support HB 270 which was proposed by MSHA and would have licensed speech-language and audiology assistants while repealing the "registration" process.

However, HB 270 was tabled in the House Business and Labor Committee on 2/8. Based on my communication with MSHA's lobbyist, Abby St. Lawrence, it is my understanding that MSHA is not planning to try get the bill off the table which means it will officially die in process in the next few weeks. MSHA plans to work more with the licensing board and the University of Montana between now and the next session.

What does this mean for licensed speech-language pathologists and audiologists who supervise aides? Assistants will not become licensed after this session and the registration process for unlicensed aides will continue as it has the past several years. Aide registration will open on September 1, 2019, and end on October 31, 2019. Any licensee supervising an aide(s) during that time period must register the aide(s) by no later than October 31, 2019. This also means that the board's most recent updates to its aide supervision rules will remain as they were last updated on 11/17/18. Those updates include the ability for supervisors to "telesupervise" aides using asynchronous and synchronous methods (see ARM Title 24, chapter 222, subchapter 7 for rules pertaining to aides).

Please contact me at dlibsdslp@mt.gov or 406-841-2394 if you have any questions. I have been very busy this session and have recently taken over a fourth licensing board. So please be patient with me if I do not get back to you right away. I am currently triaging all my calls and e-mails and hope to be back to my normal response time after the session ends.

HB270, the MSHA-sponsored bill to provide licensing standards for speech and audiology assistants, was recently tabled in committee. Passage of the assistants bill will be delayed until the 2021 session, when the ASHA certification examination will be available.

Submitted By: Jessica Reynolds
Fall Convention Recognition… It has come to my attention that I inadvertently forgot to include Christina Hansen’s name in the list of presenters during MSHA Fall Convention. Thanks Christina Salazar for finding this omission and getting Christina Hansen the credit she deserves. Thank you for your part in making MSHA Fall Convention a success. Sorry :(

ASHA Promotes the CCC’s Campaign

In 2015 the American Speech Language Hearing Association began a campaign to promote the Certificate of Clinical Competency in honor of sixty years with the CCC’s. This campaign is a wonderful opportunity to advocate for our profession by explaining the value of hiring SLP’s and Audiologists who hold this certificate. I encourage our members to promote the CCC's during May is Better Speech and Hearing Month. Ideas include:

1) Create a poster
2) Send an informational letter to an employer, supervisor administrator etc, explaining the importance of the certificate and the value it brings to patients, clients and our communities.
3) Write an article in the school newsletter introducing parents to certificate of competency SLP's and Audiologists serving their schools and communities.
4) Provide brochures to display in doctor waiting rooms.
5) Consider becoming a CFY supervisor. Enclosed is a link for more information to get you started. https://ashacertified.org/

Diane Simpson, Prevention Committee Chair

This photo of Amy Glaspey was taken at ASHA as part of the CCC campaign. Thank you Amy for sharing this :)

OPTIMIST
SAVE the DATE!

The goal of the MSHA Fall Convention is to provide a networking and educational opportunity for Speech-Language Pathologists and Audiologists in Montana and surrounding states. Convention dates are **October 17–18, 2019 and will be located at Big Horn Resort**: 1801 Majestic Ln, Billings, MT 59102. Reservations may be made by calling (406) 839-9300.

The Big Horn Resort is known for business and leisure. They offer 108 sleeping rooms including executive and Jacuzzi suites as well as 13,400 square feet of meeting space with high speed and wireless Internet access. All sleeping rooms include free hot breakfast buffet, discounted fee to their indoor water park, free in room high speed Internet access, cable TV with movie channels, refrigerator, microwave, coffee maker, iron, hair dryer, 24-hour business center and fitness room. They have complimentary cookies in the lobby every evening. They also offer complimentary shuttle service 24-hours a day to the airport, downtown, and shopping areas. The resort is conveniently located only 20 minutes from the Billings International Airport, with easy Interstate 90 access.

REGISTRATION: Our NEW & APPROVED registration system will open in July! Please check back for more information.

CONTINUING EDUCATION: The conference will apply for ASHA CEUs (Intermediate level, Professional area). Hours will be posted upon approval.

Submitted By: Kathleen DeLapp-Cohn, MS, CCC-SLP

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Montana Audiology Guild (MAG) Details

Montana Audiology Guild spring meeting at Chico Hot Springs will be on Friday and Saturday, May 3-4, 2019. On Friday we will have presentations by Erica Ray, AuD who is a trainer with Resound. She will be presenting on the newest Resound product, LiNX Quattro, the "Basics" of directionality, and Resound's approach to tinnitus management. On Saturday we'll have our semi annual MAG business meeting.

Please contact Chico Hot Springs by March 25 to reserve your room at a special price by mentioning Montana Audiology Guild.

If you would like to be included in the Friday Dinner reservation, please let Kristy Foss know (kristyfoss100@gmail.com) by April 19. (That deadline is pretty firm this year!). I hope to see many of the audiologists from the state participate in this years meeting. I'm sure that you'll find the meeting well worth your time in terms of networking, obtaining CEUs and of course, just the pure pleasure of hanging out with audiologists at Chico! This meeting never fails to be a great segway into the beautiful Montana summer! If you have any questions, please contact Kristy at the email address above.

Submitted by: Kristy Foss
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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Award Presented</th>
<th>City, State</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alex Kosanda</td>
<td>July 2018</td>
<td>Great Falls, MT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mary (Eve) Tolbert</td>
<td>July 2018</td>
<td>St. Ignatius, MT</td>
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</table>

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

Eastern region is planning a get-together some time in March at the Tongue River Winery. We are excited to learn more about our “kind-of nearby” associates!
Submitted By: Marilyn Thaden

Region #1
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

Full Membership (licensed or equivalent) - $75.00
Aide/Assistant - $25.00
Student Membership - $25.00
If you are Retired - Lifetime Membership for $125.00
Membership dues include January 1 through December 31 of each year

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Name: ___________________________ Phone: ___________________

Address: __________________________________________________________

City: _______________ State: _____ Zip: _________

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)?: __________________________________________________________

Consider a Financial Contribution to one or both the Community Outreach Program or the Scholarship Program. These are great ways to help students and clients needing MSHA support.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dues (Full Membership $75.00) or $125.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dues (Aide/Assistant or Student $25.00)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contribution to Scholarship Fund</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contribution to Community Outreach</td>
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How many MSHA members do we have currently?

<table>
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<tr>
<td>17 Audiologists</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Dual (SLP &amp; AUD)</td>
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<tr>
<td>98 Speech Language Pathologists</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Speech Aides</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36 Students</td>
<td>156</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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