

S U M M E R / F A L L 2 0 1 4

SMCSLHA

San Mateo County Speech-Language and Hearing Association

SMCSLHA Membership

As we begin another year, it is time once again to renew your SMCSLHA membership. Unlike ASHA or CSHA whose membership begins in January, SMCSLHA's membership runs from September through August. As we have upcoming workshops, it is important that your membership is current with us if you wish to attend our first workshop this September at the member price. Please take a moment to fill out the membership form included with this newsletter and mail it back to us as soon as possible. *If you should have any questions regarding your membership status, please contact Robin Silk via email at msslavin@pacbell.net.*



What's Going On?

Amidst all the vacationing and family visits, the SMCSLHA board has been busy at work scheduling speakers for the upcoming year. Our first workshop will take place at the San Mateo County Office of Education. Please mark your calendars for **September 26, 2014**, when SMCSLHA welcomes The Speech Pathology Group (SPG) who will present on two topics:



“Report Writing and the Art of Scoring: A Comprehensive Review of CA ED Code, Eligibility Criteria and Legally Defensible Reporting”

AND

“Navigating Your Way Through the Assessment & Eligibility Process for Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CLD) Students”

Details for our remaining workshops are being finalized and information will be available shortly. We are also planning our annual luncheon in May 2015 with specifics to follow.

SMCSLHA was so happy to be able to bring back its annual luncheon this past May, where Ann England spoke to a full house on Common Core State Standards. It was very well received and participants left with some fun items.

Please let us know if you, or another SMCSLHA member is planning to retire in 2015. SMCSLHA would love to invite those retiring to be our guest(s) at our annual spring luncheon. It will give us an opportunity to honor and show our appreciation for all the hard work and dedication you have put forth in the field of speech pathology and audiology.

Like to become a member of SMCSLHA or renew your membership? Find out more about our workshops? Need to contact any of SMCSLHA board members? Please visit our website at www.smcslha.org.

The Five-Minute Favor

Adam Grant, Professor at the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania, recently shared some career advice in *Money Magazine's* December 2013 issue. In his own research and that of others he found that the people who are the most giving of their time, who do things like make introductions, share their expertise and mentor, all with no strings attached, are more successful.

Grant explains "Givers are recognized for using their skills and talents to promote the interests of the organization." In Grant's book *Give and Take* he states, "When you've helped the people around you become more productive, you feel more motivated." Grant says starting doesn't mean going overboard. Start with what he calls a "Five Minute Favor". He says that you can start by tweeting about a colleague's new project, or make a quick professional introduction.

We need to take Grant's lead and begin by building people and projects up rather than by tearing them down. Give back some of your professional time. How can you initiate your Five-Minute Favor in the next 30 days?

Need to Contact Us?

Below is contact information for each of our Board Members.

Grace Medina-Chow, Co-President	650-592-9605
Workshop suggestions, newsletter article submissions, general info.	wchowworld@aol.com
Julie Oeser, Co-President	650-592-9766
Newsletter advertisements, student teaching opportunities, general info.	taxio@comcast.net
Robin Silk, Co-Secretary	650-454-0729
Membership, directory, newsletter, workshop/luncheon registration	mslapin@pacbell.net
Jessica Olive, Co-Secretary	805-704-2761
Speaker information, website	jessica.l.olive@gmail.com
Patti Low, Treasurer	650-572-0145
Receipts for workshops, membership dues, & refunds	spow5@yahoo.com
Marie Pacquet, Product Manager	650-349-0332
Resource materials	mbpacquet@gmail.com

Who Knew?

In an article entitled "Common Genes Implicated in Autism Study" by Robert Preidt, HealthDay News, "Genetics plays a major role in the development of autism compared to environmental risk factors." According to this new study it was found that most of the genetics risk for autism "appears to come from common gene variants rather than spontaneous gene mutation."

There's a FREE App For That!

Let's Name Things Fun Deck by Super Duper Publications

This is a free app you can use on your iPhone, iPad, or iPod touch. This app targets naming while allowing students to practice vocabulary, categorizing, and thinking skills. It contains 52 flashcards, built-in audio and the ability to track data. Prompts include statements like, "Let's name... things that live in the ocean." and "Let's name... things you'd take on a trip."

There are a number of other Super Duper products available at the iTunes store. Some are free, and the cost for others ranges from \$1.99 to \$5.99.

Upcoming Conference & Event Information

- **September 26, 2014 – SMCSLHA Workshop** — *Report Writing and the Art of Scoring: A Comprehensive Review of CA ED Code, Eligibility Criteria and Legally Defensible Reporting* and *“Navigating Your Way Through the Assessment & Eligibility Process for Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CLD) Students”* – Presented by the Speech Pathology Group - San Mateo County Office of Education, Redwood City, CA. For more information, contact Robin Silk at 650-454-0729 or msslavin@pacbell.net.
- **May 2015 – Annual SMCSLHA Luncheon** – Details to follow.

For information about workshops sponsored by The Morgan Center, visit their website at www.morgancenter.org.

For information about conferences/workshops sponsored by the San Mateo County Office of Education, please visit their website at www.smcoe.k12.ca.us.

For information about CSHA’s calendar of upcoming events, visit their website at http://csha.org/calendar_of_events/calendar_of_events.htm.

RAFT Registration

RAFT (Resource Area for Teaching) offers innovative project ideas, hands-on learning materials, professional development and teaching support to pre-K-12 classroom and after school group teachers, childcare providers and non-profit community service groups. Here are some of the benefits available to members: hands-on learning workshops and Idea Sheets, computer classes to help teachers integrate technology into their lesson plans and activities, a “green room” work area with equipment for members to use including over 900 Ellison Dies. Members can shop for unique and affordable teacher supplies and classroom items. In addition, there are over 200 professional development workshops are offered per year.

RAFT has two locations. Redwood City (101 Twin Dolphin Drive, Redwood City, CA 94065), and San Jose (1355 Ridder Park Drive, San Jose, CA 95131).

SMCSLHA members have been offered a group-discounted rate of \$20 per person. (Regular membership for individuals is \$40.) All membership forms need to be submitted at the same time to take advantage of the group discount, and we must have a minimum of 10 applications by October 10 to submit as a group. Checks will be returned if we do not receive enough interest.

You can download the membership application by visiting <https://www.raftbayarea.org/member-renewal-form>. Please send your check and completed application to: Patti Low, 840 Viewridge Drive, San Mateo, CA 94403.



If You Had It To Do All Over Again Would You Go Into The Same Field?

by Grace Medina-Chow

Recently, I asked myself this same question. And after 27 years as an SLP, I really had to think about that. While my job as an SLP has had its high points, it has had its share of low points as well. Knowing this, would I still choose it over other possibilities?

My initial reaction to this question was, “NO WAY,” followed by some colorful language detailing the rough times I have been through in this field. But after giving the question some careful thought, I came to the conclusion that being a speech pathologist is who I am. I realized as with anything in life, nothing is a guarantee. You choose to make it what you want.

Further food for thought came at my son’s recent college orientation when the speaker asked the audience, “What’s the difference between involvement and engagement?” After I listened to the response I thought, “Am I merely involved? Or am I also engaged?” By becoming involved as one of the co-presidents in SMCLSHA, starting up a group to support SLPs in the field, being connected with CSHA, and by serving as a chair on a SMCOE group representing SLPs, I have become fully engaged. Doing so has satisfied a desire in me to help others, and has made my career in speech language pathology that much more fulfilling and rewarding.

My hope for the new generation of speech language pathologists and audiologists is that they are and will remain passionate about the field. While they are involved in the day-to-day of their jobs, I hope that they can somehow become engaged within their community in such a way that they can share their skills with other professionals and also be a support to colleagues, clients and their families. This is a fantastic field to be a part of. It is even more rewarding when you share yourself with a community that values your input.

Now getting back to that original question...If I had the choice to start over and choose another field would I? Without a doubt, I would choose to become a speech pathologist! I do this knowing there is a wealth of fantastic support from outstanding professionals in our community who are willing to become engaged in the world around them.

SMCSLHA continues its commitment to making community connections through its events that educate and support members, through its donations to local organizations that benefit the community, and through its encouragement and support of students and professionals in the field.

Take a moment and think about how you currently are, or can become engaged in the community -- whether it is by joining CSHA or SMCSLHA, increasing your knowledge base through workshop and discussion group attendance, or becoming a mentor and sharing your talents with someone just entering the field. Stepping up and making a difference in your community matters and the rewards are endless. Engaging in your community will bring you to new heights both personally and professionally. Let’s encourage the new generation of speech pathologists and audiologists to become involved *and* engaged.

Calling All Members...It's Renewal Time

It is time once again to renew your SMCSLHA membership. Membership dues are \$35 for 1 year (\$20 for current students). With membership you will receive a copy of our Membership directory (available in January 2015), newsletters and workshop flyers, not to mention great prices on our workshops and annual luncheon. **Please note that your membership must be current in order for you to attend workshops at the member price.**

We are working hard to increase our membership this year. We wish to do this so that we can ensure that we are able to continue to offer high quality workshops and speakers as well as to provide current resource materials for members to borrow (videos/books). So, please encourage your friends and colleagues to join SMCSLHA.

Please renew your membership by October 31, 2014, to ensure that you will be listed in our Membership Directory and continue to receive our newsletters and workshop flyers.

SMCSLHA
Membership Form
September 2014 – August 2015

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip Code _____

Home Phone _____ Email _____

Workplace _____ Work Phone _____

Membership Type (check one)

- () \$35 Regular Member
() \$20 Full-time Student

Newsletter Option

- () I prefer to receive SMCLSHA newsletters and workshop flyers by email. (Make sure email address is provided.)

Please detach form and return with a check to:

***SMCSLHA c/o Robin Silk
108 Arundel Road, San Carlos, CA 94070***

****Membership must be current to attend SMCSLHA workshops at the member price.**

Help Wanted

If you have a job opening that you would like posted in the next SMCSLHA newsletter, or are interested in running a ½ page or full-page ad in our next issue, contact Julie Oeser at taxio@comcast.net for pricing or more information.



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