



A letter from the Chair...

Deborah Hayes, Ph.D.,
Kelley Family/Schlessman Family
Scottish Rite Masons
Chair in Childhood Language
Disorders; Audiology, Speech
Pathology and Learning Services The
Children's Hospital-Denver

As this issue of the RiteView attests, summer is a busy season for our RiteCare Programs. Thanks to all the Program Directors who submitted articles describing innovative, exciting summer programs and events such as "Space Camp" (University of Colorado – Boulder), "Talking and Listening with Preschoolers," and "Speaking and Signing Stories," (University of Northern Colorado), "Augmentative Camp," (Montrose Memorial Hospital), and intensive summer group programs (Children's Speech and Reading Center – Fort Collins and Memorial Hospital – Colorado Springs).

Other special summer events included a trip to Colorado Springs to attend a traditional Masonic Cornerstone Ceremony laying the cornerstone for the Memorial Hospital for Children. Vern Ingraham, Valerie Hernandez and I were impressed with the interest and enthusiasm of the community for this meaningful observance which replicates the ceremony presided over by Mason and President George Washington for the laying of the cornerstone of the Capitol in Washington, D.C., on September 18, 1793. If you have the opportunity to attend a cornerstone ceremony, don't pass it up! The ceremony elucidates the Masonic values and encourages observers to reflect upon the demonstration of these values in their everyday life.

Nine Colorado RiteCare participants attended the Biennial RiteCare Conference in Washington D.C. August 28 – 30. This ever popular conference brings together RiteCare clinicians, Masonic Board members, and program administrators from more than 170 RiteCare clinics in the Southern Jurisdiction of Scottish Rite Freemasonry.

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The program held "something for everyone" including tracts on "Administration," "Literacy," and "Speech-Language Pathology." A highlight of the conference was the tour of the "House of the Temple," home of The Supreme Council, 33°, Ancient & Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, Southern Jurisdiction, Washington D.C., U.S.A. This magnificent building, occupying a full city block in Washington D.C., is rich in Masonic symbolism and artifacts. The Philanthropy Room reminds us that Masons contribute extraordinary time and money in helping their fellow man through RiteCare clinics and other worthy causes.

In July, the Board of Trustees approved a major fundraising program to enhance our work in all corners of the state. The "Architects of Care Campaign" is envisioned to raise \$2.0 million from Masons, other philanthropies, and interested parties, and will help us help more children throughout the state. I hope that you will be an "interested party" and contribute to this worthwhile campaign!



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A note from the desk of Vern ...



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Scottish Rite Masonic Center
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Denver, CO 80203-2347

Four graduate scholarships in speech-language pathology were awarded this past summer. Two scholarships were awarded by the Scottish Rite Foundation of Colorado and two scholarships were awarded by the Colorado Masons' Benevolent Fund Association – the main philanthropic arm of the Grand Lodge of Masons of Colorado.

The *Dwight A. Hamilton/Scottish Rite Foundation of Colorado Graduate Student Scholarship in Speech-Language Pathology* was presented to Jennifer Leggette and Laura Jordan by Tiz Hamilton, the wife of Dwight Hamilton. Dwight passed away in 2005 and served as President of the Scottish Rite Foundation of Colorado from 1995 to 2005.

Jennifer Leggette (right) attends the University of Colorado at Boulder. Jen became interested in the field of speech therapy while studying English in undergraduate school. She has worked as a toddler teacher and substitute teacher at elementary schools in Leadville, Colorado. Upon graduation Jen plans on working with bilingual children in elementary schools in Leadville or other Colorado mountain communities where, as she says, “the kids really need extra support.”



Laura Jordan (left) attends the University of Northern Colorado through its online graduate program. Laura became interested in speech-language pathology three years ago when her youngest son was diagnosed with a language disorder. Working now as a speech-language pathologist assistant in a Grand Junction school district, she states, “With deep ties to my hometown community and with a shortage of speech-language pathologists in my school district, I am committed to remain in Colorado and to continue treating children with language disorders.”



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The Colorado Masons' Benevolent Fund Association Graduate Student Scholarship in Speech-Language Pathology was presented to Jennifer Wiedmeier and Sara Robinson by Tom Cox, Past Grand Master of Masons in Colorado and secretary of the Association.



Jennifer Wiedmeier (left) attends the University of Northern Colorado. Jennifer decided to continue her education after five years of working in Colorado as a special education teacher for children with multiple disabilities. Upon completing her Master's Degree, Jennifer plans to return to Colorado schools and as she says, "be a positive influence for change in the way that children with severe disabilities are educated and taught to communicate."



Sara Robinson (right) attends the University of Northern Colorado. Sara's special interest is early intervention and working with deaf or hard-of-hearing children. She plans to pursue a career working with young children in Colorado. Having a mild hearing loss herself, Sara identifies with the challenges confronted by children with mild to moderate hearing loss. She states that "an increased understanding of the challenges faced by children with such a hearing loss can lead to early intervention efforts and help prevent future difficulties in this population."



All four recipients attended a banquet dinner and special program held at the Denver Consistory on Monday, September 15, 2008. Each one of them had the opportunity to personally thank the Scottish Rite Foundation, Tiz Hamilton and the Colorado Masons for their generous support of the speech-language pathology graduate students by providing scholarships to assist and ensure the future of the profession.

Visit the Scottish Rite Foundation website: www.scottishritefoundation.org



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Care by The Children's Hospital – Pueblo



The Children's Hospital

6th ANNUAL SCOTTISH RITE MASON SPONSORED PICNIC! Summer Celebration Held on:

Date: Sunday, September 14, 2008
Place: Pueblo Zoo in City Park
Time: noon - 4:00 p.m.

Families who are enrolled in the speech-language program at Care by The Children's Hospital – Pueblo are invited to an annual event at the Pueblo Zoo each year! This is a great opportunity for the Scottish Rite Masons and their families to meet and share a fun-filled day with the children and families in the program.



Care by The Children's Hospital – Pueblo is happy to announce that Jaclyn Mutz has joined their team of speech-language pathologists. Jaclyn is a Pueblo native who has returned to Pueblo with her husband Nathan. Jaclyn received her Bachelor of Science in Speech Communication Disorders from the University of Southern Colorado in 2003 and her Masters of Arts in Communication Disorders: Speech-Language Pathology from the University of Northern Colorado in 2005.

Jaclyn worked for Banner Health Systems at North Colorado Medical Center: Outpatient Pediatric Clinic and Banner Homecare in Greeley for three years. She comes to us with experience working with bilingual families, autism, AAC devices and feeding disorders.

Here are some comments from the staff:

Kathryn: "Jaclyn hit the ground running and jumped right in."

Phyllis: "She always has a smile on her face. Kids just love her."

Valerie: "Jaclyn has come in and embraced her position. She fits right in."

Submitted by: Martha Drake, Manager of Care by The Children's Hospital – Pueblo

Bill Daniels Center for Children's Hearing, The Children's Hospital, offers a wide-range of clinical outreach programs for professionals serving deaf and hard-of-hearing children and families. For more information about an outreach opportunity in your community, please contact **Marcia Taber, manager of deaf and hard-of-hearing services at 720-777-6531.**



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A Masonic Tradition - Memorial Hospital for Children hosts Cornerstone Ceremony's

Summer, 2008 - Memorial Hospital was honored to host a traditional Cornerstone Ceremony at two new locations in the community. Two beautiful cornerstones were placed, one at Memorial Hospital North and one at Memorial Hospital for Children. The ceremony at Memorial Hospital for Children was complemented by guests Lionel Rivera, Mayor of Colorado Springs, June Chan, Administrator for Memorial Hospital for Children, and Larry McEvoy, M.D., CEO of Memorial Hospital for Children.

Speech - Language Therapy Summer Group



June 9, 2008 - August 2, 2008

Providing fun, interactive activities to encourage your child's language development throughout the summer. If your child is currently undergoing speech-language therapy, extend your child's learning experience by enrolling them in Memorial's Speech - Language Therapy Summer Group.

Groups are:

- Available to children ages pre-school to 5-years
- 8 weeks in length
- A great way for your child to meet new friends

Scholarship assistance is available through the Scottish Rite Foundation, regardless of income level, for those interested in taking advantage of this opportunity.



Memorial's Speech - Language Therapy Summer Group

For more information or to register, call Judy Cahoon at Memorial Health System Rehabilitation Services at 365-6648.

Space is limited so please register by May 30, 2008.

Memorial Pediatric Rehabilitation Services
175 South Union, Suite 255
Colorado Springs, CO 80910



A signed poster from the children at Pediatric Rehabilitation Services to Vernon Ingraham, Scottish Rite Foundation of Colorado, Executive Secretary, and Deborah Hayes, Ph.D., Scottish Rite Program Chair. Presenting to our special guests is June Chan, Administrator for Memorial Hospital for Children.

Memorial Hospital Pediatric Rehabilitation Services continues to provide summer group therapy services!

Children that are in a therapy services during the school year can benefit from a summer program offered at Memorial Hospital Pediatric Rehabilitation Services. This summer, children who

participated in an 8-week therapy program were able to benefit from assistance through the Scottish Rite Foundation. The summer groups are designed to address needs for non-verbal children, pre-school speech and language as well as phonology. A big thank you to Jennifer Cupples, Moni Dewan, Cara Hofeldt, Suzanne Maestas, Laura Moody, Amy Mulligan, Kristine Strayer and Erica Wehmuller for running the speech and language *Summer Group Programs!*

Submitted by: Debra Blythe and Cara Hofeldt, Scottish Rite Foundation Program Co-Directors, Memorial Hospital Pediatric Rehabilitation Services



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University of Northern Colorado RiteCare Program

Summer 2008 was a busy time for our university-based RiteCare clinic. The Talking and Listening with Preschoolers (TALP) program ran for 8 weeks and 8 children participated. The Speaking and Signing Stories program ran for 6 weeks with 4 families participating. Our Language and Literacy group for school-age students with hearing losses also ran for 6 weeks and 2 students attended. Many of the families in these programs benefited from support from the Scottish Rite Foundation.



We are also pleased to announce that the publication *Northern Colorado Vision* (Winter, 2008) Special Section Report on Giving, acknowledges the Scottish Rite Foundation of Colorado as a Gold Member.

The first publication of the College of Natural and Health Sciences at UNC includes a description of our Talking and Listening with Preschoolers program through the support of the Scottish Rite Foundation, Daniels Fund and the Wells Fargo Foundation.

Three of UNC master's students in speech-language pathology received \$5,000 scholarships from both the *Dwight A. Hamilton Graduate Student Scholarships in Speech-Language Pathology* and the *Colorado Masons' Benevolent Fund* in 2008.

Congratulations to Sara Robinson, Jennifer Wiedmeier, and Laura Jordon!

**Submitted by: Kathleen Fahey, Scottish Rite Program Director
University of Northern Colorado**



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Montrose Memorial Hospital – Updates

Whoosh......where did the summer go? Hopefully everyone got at least a short vacation this summer. We at Montrose Memorial Hospital had a fun, busy time. We changed the look of our “Augmentative Camp” to an eight-week program. Six school-aged children, who all have augmentative communication devices, had the opportunity to meet once a week for a two-hour session. Outings into the community included bowling and fishing. We hope the students learned and enjoyed this at least half as much as the staff did!

The gentlemen of our wonderful Appraisal Committee sponsored two cook-outs in the park for our families and community Masonic members. Tom Cox, Jack Ward, Paul McCabe and Otsie Stowell did a marvelous job. A special thanks to Jack and Linda Davis. The children enjoyed playing in the park while the adults had time to chat informally. Our parents are becoming more aware of some of the “faces” that enable their children to receive the extraordinary gift that the RiteCare grant affords. We look forward to many more opportunities of this type.

As school starts and the weather cools, we put away our swim things and look forward to our annual fall activities of coloring leaves, going to the pumpkin patch, *Lunch and Learn* and Directors meetings. Ahhh....There is some comfort in routine.

We all appreciate the time, effort and support that the Scottish Rite Masons contribute to helping us make our programs successful. My wish for you would be that each program in this state would have an appraisal committee with members as dedicated, concerned and active as we do at Montrose Memorial Hospital. We can not thank you enough for all you do for our families.

**Respectfully submitted by Patti Anderson, CCC-SLP, CO-Director
MMH RiteCare Program**

Another Great Summer at CSRC!

Children’s Speech & Reading Center just wrapped up another exciting summer, continuing their individual therapy sessions and their work on the autism grant, while also providing small groups for Preschool Speech and Language Skills, Kindergarten Readiness, and Preparing for 1st grade. The Center also conducted an intensive eight-week literacy intervention curriculum, utilizing approaches from the LiPS and Wilson programs. Surveys completed at the end of the program indicated that parents noticed an improvement in their child’s attitude toward reading, feel better equipped to help their child with reading, spelling, and comprehension, and feel better equipped to communicate with their child’s teachers about their child’s needs. CSRC plans to continue this model as funding allows.

We are looking forward to a busy fall. Two new speech-language pathologists will be joining our staff in September: Jessica Davis, a recent graduate of Indiana University, and LeAnn Sipple, who has 10 years of experience in pediatric speech-language pathology. In addition to her caseload at the center, Jessica will be running the early literacy program at Thompson Valley Preschool. Elise Kormas, Director, will be running the program at United Day Care, where a head start class will be seen in addition to the class that we already see. LeAnn hopes to add pediatric feeding and swallowing clients to her caseload. Karen, Monica, and Nicole will continue to focus on literacy, developmental speech and language disorders, apraxia, and autism.

Submitted by: Elise Kormas, Director



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More News from the University of Colorado Speech Language and Hearing Center RiteCare Partnership Summer Programs

“Space Camp” is an inclusive group intervention designed to support peer interaction and social communication among children ages 6 to 9 with Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD) and their typical peers. This is the second summer that Space Camp has been held at the Speech Language Sciences Center at CU Boulder, and we are thrilled to announce that this summer the children with needs received scholarships to attend provided through the generosity of the Scottish Rite Foundation.



Children often share a common interest in the area of space exploration, and many of our children with high-functioning Autism or Asperger’s Syndrome demonstrate a particular interest and extensive knowledge in this area. In Space Camp we capitalize on this common interest to heighten the children’s motivation to work cooperatively with peers during “Team Missions.” Supported by a graduate clinician in the Master’s Program in Speech-Language Pathology, a child with ASD and his or her typical peer create a project together, such as a “light scope,” or play a game, such as “catch the planet.” During these projects and games the graduate clinicians facilitate the children’s joint attention skills, skills that are the foundation of social communication and peer interaction.

Beyond the intensive “Team Mission” peer interaction, children are supported to engage in joint attention with their peers and to build pragmatic language skills during outside physical play, large group “Astronaut’s Meeting,” indoor dramatic play related to space, and one-on-one “show and tell” with a less familiar peer. Generalization of social communication and peer interaction skills is supported through field trips to the Fiske Planetarium and the Sommers-Bausch Observatory on the CU campus. For further information, please contact Amy Thrasher, MA, CCC-SLP at amy.thrasher@colorado.edu. *Thank you, Scottish Rite Foundation!*

Let’s Listen was a group for one and two year old children with hearing loss. It met twice weekly for seven weeks during the summer of 2008. All children in the group used hearing aids or cochlear implants to help support their audition. Therapy was incorporated into a meaningful play-based environment. The focus of intervention for the children in the group was functional auditory skill development, though speech development, language development (both signed and spoken), and social skills were also targeted. To increase auditory training, an adapted Speech Perception Instructional Curriculum and Evaluation (SPICE) were used. This curriculum focuses on developing listening skills for children with cochlear implants and hearing aids. Each of the children in the group had goals created based on their current abilities and the Functional Auditory Performance Indicator (FAPI) was used to monitor and assess their auditory skills.

S U M M E R G R O U P S

El Grupo del Sol was a group for four and five year old children with identified speech and language delays who are monolingual Spanish-speakers or bilingual Spanish and English-speakers. The group met four days per week for two weeks during the summer with a focus on kindergarten readiness and speech/language skills. Goals were created for each child in their identified areas. Therapy was incorporated into free play, storybook reading, and snack. The clinicians used modeling, mirroring (repetition), expansion (repeating and adding onto what the child said), self-talk (talking about what the clinician is doing), and reflecting (talking about what the child is doing) to help facilitate the use and development of language. Language development was targeted in three languages, Spanish, English, and ASL, depending upon the student and their needs. Early literacy skills were also addressed with a focus on repeated exposure to books, print referencing, and development of phonological



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Colorado RiteCare Programs

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Colorado RiteCare Programs

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