In the Loop

- New Board Members
- 2015 Board Roles
- Board News
- Request from Members
- Upcoming Events

Keeping Members Informed
New Board Members!

The ABFFD has three new members!

We welcome Sandi Rabin and Charlie Hughes, who were elected to serve a four-year term on the board. In addition, welcome Joan Butterworth! Joan agreed to serve on the ABFFD in January of 2015 and will participate in our official election in December of 2015.

Sandí Rabin, M.S. CCC-SLP, BCS-F will be our new Secretary. Sandi Rabin is a member of the initial cadre of Board Recognized Specialists in Fluency and Fluency Disorders. She has provided services for children and adults with fluency disorders in her private practice for the past twenty-four years. Early in her career, Sandi spent seven years as a school speech pathologist; and, for the past 5 years she has returned to work in the public school setting in a part time capacity, while maintaining her private practice dedicated to fluency disorders. As such, Sandi maintains a dual role as a Board Certified Specialist in Fluency in private practice as well as in the public schools. Sandi’s work in the public schools affords her insight as to the unique challenges related to school-based service delivery for children with fluency disorders, and the need to improve those services within the regulations of the school setting. Sandi previously served as the secretary for the Illinois Fluency Interest Group and as a group facilitator for various fluency conferences; and, she was an appointed guest Clinical Lecturer in Speech and Language Pathology for the Northwestern University School of Speech from 1994-1996.

Sandi shares the following commentary: “I am very proud of the specialty certification I have maintained since I was inaugurated into the Initial Cadre of Fluency Specialists in 2000 and the work that I have done in this area. As a member of the American Board of Fluency and Fluency Disorders, I will strive to uphold and strengthen the competency and integrity that my predecessors have established as a standard for clinicians who hold specialty certification. Without question, there is clearly a need for a reliable resource for consumers who seek help for themselves and others who are affected by fluency disorders. By working closely with speech-language pathologists and consumers, the American Board of Fluency and Fluency Disorders has become this valuable and necessary resource. It is my honor to serve on this Board.”

Charlie Hughes, Ph.D, CCC-SLP, BCS-F will be the new Social Media Director. Charlie Hughes, Ph.D., CCC-SLP, BCS-F, is an Associate Professor in the School of Clinical Educator Preparation at Eastern Kentucky University (EKU). At EKU, he teaches courses in the field of communication disorders as well as courses in
fluency disorders at the undergraduate and graduate level. Charlie also directs an intensive summer program for school-age children and adolescents who stutter at EKU. He provides clinical supervision in the area of fluency disorders and other speech and language disorders. Charlie was a co-chapter leader of the National Stuttering Association for adult chapters in Bowling Green, Ohio and Lexington, Kentucky.

Charlie notes, “It is an honor to be nominated and elected to serve on the American Board of Fluency and Fluency Disorders. As a Board member I am here to serve you. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions and thoughts you may have. I look forward to hearing from you.

Joan Butterworth M.A. CCC-SLP, BCS-F is the Co-Coordinator of the CE Program. Joan Lada Butterworth has been a clinical instructor in the Communication Sciences and Disorders Department at the Worcester State University since 2008. Prior to that she had a private practice in which she worked exclusively with children and adults with fluency disorders and also worked in school and hospital settings. Joan received her master’s degree from Purdue University in 1979 and was among the initial cadre of board recognized fluency specialists. She is excited to serve as a member of the American Board of Fluency and Fluency Disorders.

2015 Board Roles

New Board Role

This year a new role (Social Media Director) has been added to the ABFFD. The purpose of this role is to assist the ABFFD with the website, Facebook page, and information shared across multiple social media outlets regarding fluency disorders.

Roles

Co-Chair-Kristin Chmela
Co-Chair-Lynne Shields
CE Coordinators-Ken Melnick and Joan Butterworth
BC (Board Certification) Coordinator-Julie Gasway
Treasurer-June Campbell
Marketing-PR Director-Suzi Meyers Fosnot
Social Media Director-Charlie Hughes
Secretary-Sandi Rabin
Consumer Representative-Jim McClure
Note: Board members are elected each December and serve 4-year terms. All service is performed on a volunteer basis. Please contact either of the ABFFD’s co-chairs if you have any questions, concerns, or suggestions regarding how we can better serve you as our member.

Volunteer Opportunities

If you would like to assist the ABFFD with one of our current projects please contact us on our website.

ABFFD News

Website Happenings

- Please check the website as we are continuing to make improvements, and take advantage of the opportunity to develop a detailed profile to market your certification! Feel free to contact us with any questions or suggestions regarding the website at info@stutteringspecialists.org.

- Course Offerings: We have affordable CE opportunities for both specialists and non-specialists! Please share this information with colleagues and at presentations or conferences. Revenue from our CE program directly supports fluency certification. Our newest course, presented by Nancy Ribbler, M.A. CCC-SLP, BCS-F, is entitled Advocating for Students Who Stutter: RTI and Other Challenges in the School Setting.

- Flier available for members to download and bring to presentations/conferences. Please help spread the word about the importance of becoming a BCS-F!

- BCS-F Retired Member Status standards and application may be found on our website.

- Grievances pertaining to a professional holding BCS-F certification should be filed directly through ASHA at ethics@ASHA.org.
Five-Year Report

The ABFFD recently submitted their Five Year Report to the Council for Clinical Certification. The report highlighted past and future goals of the ABFFD, accomplishments, financials, and trends. This report, along with our monthly meeting agendas, may be accessed through our website.

Initial Phase of Practice Analysis Completed

The ABFFD recently participated in a practice analysis, spearheaded by ASHA in collaboration with KNAPP. Thank you for completing the survey in December! Detailed information regarding this process, results, and next steps will be shared in April’s In the Loop newsletter.

Request from Members

Call for Testimonials

The ABFFD is asking members to submit short testimonials from clients, consultations, and presentations. We would like to include some of these on the website. Please follow these guidelines for submission:

1) Request testimonial referring to the positive experience of obtaining services from a BCS-F.

2) The statement should refer to you as the BCS-F or Board Certified Fluency Specialist, rather by name

3) The statement should be signed by the individual’s first name only

4) Please send responses to: suzifosnot@aol.com

Apprenticeship Opportunities

The ABFFD is requesting members who provide structured apprenticeship opportunities for speech-language pathologists interested in advancing their skills in the area of fluency disorders to please contact Suzi Meyers-Fosnot at suzifosnot@aol.com. While the ABFFD does not directly endorse particular programs, we wish to provide a separate link easily accessible for professionals seeking this type
of learning opportunity. Once your email is received, a form will be sent to you for completion regarding details of your offering.

**Facebook Page**

The ABFFD has reinstated its’ Facebook Page. Please send Charlie Hughes (charles.hughes@eku.edu) information regarding upcoming presentations, publications, or other events or accomplishments so we can keep our members informed!

**Upcoming Events**

The 2015 NSA Research Symposium has been announced for June 30th-July 1st in Chicago. This year’s conference, entitled, The Heart, Soul, & Science of Stuttering features Bruce Wampold, Scott D. Miller, and Anne Smith, and Christine Weber-Fox. This symposium is followed by the summer 2015 NSA Convention. Please see www.westutter.org for more information regarding this and other CE offerings.

IFA’s world congress on cluttering, stuttering and other fluency disorders will be held in Lisbon, Portugal from July 6th-8th 2015. This event will be an exciting collaboration between the International Fluency Association (IFA) and the International Cluttering Association (ICA). Self-help organizations and individuals with fluency disorders will also be actively involved. The congress aims to maintain a focus on research, while creating opportunities for researchers, speech scientists, clinicians and people with different fluency disorders to meet, listen, discuss, debate and learn from one another. Key Note speakers include: Ken St. Louis, Ward/Watkins, and Per Alm. For more information please contact ifa2015program@theifa.org.

The Stuttering Foundation will hold two intensive five-day workshops this year. The Western Workshop, Diagnosis and Treatment of Children and Adolescents Who Stutter: Practical Strategies, will be held June 9-13, 2015. The Eastern Workshop, Using Cognitive Approaches with People Who Stutter, will be held June 26-26, 2015. See www.stutteringhelp.org for more information and for additional CE offerings.

ASHA Schools Conference is being held July 10-12, 2015, in Phoenix, Arizona. Dr. Scott Yaruss will be presenting School-Age Stuttering Therapy: A Practical Approach. See www.asha.org for more information.
Camp Shout Out offers a seven-day hands-on intensive training experience in August for both speech-language pathologists and graduate students in an overnight recreational camp environment. This non-profit program provides a therapy opportunity for children with fluency disorders ages eight through eighteen. See www.campshoutout.org for more information.

The American Institute for Stuttering provides a training opportunity for speech-language pathologists during their adult intensive treatment program in May of 2015. See www.stutteringtreatment.org for more information regarding this non-profit program.

Friends: The National Association of Young People Who Stutter convention will be held in Raleigh, North Carolina July 16th-18th. See www.friendswhostutter.org or more information and other available CE opportunities.