The first joint CSAP-ASHA meeting was held May 14-15, 2010 in San Antonio, Texas. More than 60 attendees enjoyed both the stormy and sunny weather, and the festive atmosphere of this beautiful city. Programming was exceptional this year, and the social activity-dinner in the Alamo-was a big treat, even for this native San Antonian.

There was a fun gathering on Thursday night, hosted by Dr. Arlene Pietranton and Dr. Tommie L. Robinson, Jr., and ASHA. Friday night, we enjoyed a cocktail party sponsored by EBS, while we bid on auction items to support CSAP. On Saturday night, there was a pre-dinner party hosted by the Texas Speech-Language-Hearing Association.

The collaboration between CSAP and ASHA over the two days provided very productive results. I heard many new ideas to present to my state association. There was also a very strong emphasis on leadership, including discussions on recruiting and involving student members. This year was very special because we had some alumni attend. Kathy Coufal, Past President of the Nebraska Association and Past President of CSAP, presented a short history of the council along with alumni Ellayne Ganzfried, former president of the New York State Speech-Language-Hearing Association and past president of CSAP; and Arlene Pietranton and Tommie Robinson, both former presidents of the District of Columbia Speech-Language-Hearing Association.

We were treated to some entertaining moments. There were lots of door prizes and, of course, the 50/50 raffle. The auction was better than ever as state associations brought some fantastic items this year! I was the lucky bidder on the wonderful donated piece of artwork from Eileen Crowe, ASHA Director, State Association Relations. The best part was the laughing and camaraderie while we all tried to purchase a prized item.

If you missed this year’s meeting, just remember that next year we will be in beautiful Charleston, South Carolina!!! Make your plans now. The spring meeting is such a good time to network because we have a little more time! It was great seeing all of you who came to Texas!!! Thanks to all of you for your support of CSAP. Your executive board is now working to plan the November meeting which I think will be very interesting! Have a great summer!

Judith (Judi) P. Keller
CSAP President
The Nancy McKinley Leadership Award is bestowed on individuals who have made exemplary contributions to the fields of speech-language pathology and/or audiology. They must also have shown leadership in the development of a program initiative to address a need identified within their speech and hearing association. This year, there were two recipients, one in the area of Speech-Language Pathology and the other in Audiology.

Cherry Wright is a retired SLP from Texas. She has dedicated her life to working with children in the public schools. Cherry has worked in a self-contained classroom on a Navajo Indian Reservation, and has been a principal, director of special services, and assistant superintendent. She was also an instructor, supervisor and assistant professor at Texas Tech University. Cherry served on ASHA’s Legislative Council, and she has been a president of the Texas Speech-Language-Hearing Association (TSHA). She currently serves on the Expert Cadre on Personnel Shortages in Educational Settings for ASHA.

Cherry’s greatest challenge now is solving the shortage of SLPs in the Texas public schools. Among other efforts, Cherry has brought special education directors from throughout Texas to meet with SLP members of TSHA, and she has met with the Governor’s Workforce Committee and with policy makers regarding loan forgiveness.

Donna Fisher Smiley, Ph.D., CCC-A

Donna has served as President on the Arkansas Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ArkSHA). She has also been an ASHA Legislative Councilor, an ArkSHA Convention Committee Chair/member and ex-officio to the ArkSHA Board of Directors.

Donna collaborated on an ongoing basis with the Arkansas Dept. of Education Special Education Office on issues and initiatives surrounding the design, availability and implementation of quality services for children and youth with hearing impairment/deafness, specifically in regard to educational audiology services. As a result of her efforts and leadership, the Educational Audiology Resource Services (EARS) Project was created. This is an outreach program of Arkansas Children’s Hospital (ACH). It is designed to provide educational Audiology for school districts, educational cooperatives, preschool programs, and other educational settings in order to meet the requirements of IDEA.

Donna has assisted with developing a course of study within the fields of audiology/hearing science, coordinates hearing screenings at the state capitol during the legislative sessions, and has coordinated screenings with members of Hands and Voices.

Both Donna Fisher Smiley and Cherry Wright epitomize the leadership qualities for which Nancy McKinley was so well-known.

Congratulations to our 2010 CSAP 50/50 raffle winner!

Linda Wortman Lowe

Mark your Calendars!

CSAP FALL MEETING
Nov. 17, 2010
Philadelphia, PA
The Mission of CSAP is to:

Provide leadership training for State Speech-Language-Hearing Association Presidents;

Be a forum for collaboration and networking among these leaders;

Promote communication of professional matters between State Speech-Language-Hearing Associations, ASHA and other related national professional organizations.