

# The Listening Post



## Missouri Hearing Society

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## President's Message

MHS is doing well! The Society remains supported by a long line of business associates and by a solid roster of committee members – as well as by a committed general membership – and it continues to sport a strong reason for being.

Clearly we exist to bring solutions for hearing impairment. All of our professional emphasis points to that, and we are involved in “best practice” from that perspective. It means that MHS holds its members to a protocol of excellent training and execution and expects consummate competence. That grants us a part in the push to find solutions and, for that reason, it is necessary. But it is worthy!



*Yon Wibskov  
MHS President*

MHS, in this way, is both an organized professional support entity for its membership – and the bearer of the standard. We mean to carry our weight. To lend to the concerns for freedom to practice conscientiously and profitably. To apply our expertise to the field of hearing impairment and then to take notice of our successes and celebrate the profession we chose.

We recognize that changes are happening faster than before, but also that they are the stuff strength is made of. MHS now represents many franchise holders as well as business owners. Many of us are practitioners in support roles. Many are licensed professionals in top echelon administrative endeavors. We address current market issues head on, along with the challenges both of supporting superior hearing healthcare education and of timely licensing and job placement, and in general we aim to be recognized among the strongest state chapters in the country.

To that end we are already looking ahead. Our 2019 Convention curriculum is being assembled on a basis of current conditions in the market place, that is, of changes and solutions, of new light shed on our familiar ways, and on other added clinical awareness

# MHS 2018-2019 Board of Directors



*The MHS Board members are here to help,  
so reach out to them with your  
suggestions or questions.*

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## MHS 2018-2019 Committees

*This is where “the rubber meets the road.” Our committees go above and beyond to ensure that our membership receives the best values for their dues. If you would like to join this group of dedicated individuals, give Brenda a call at the MHS office (573-636-2822).*

### **CONVENTION COMMITTEE**

David Shepard, Chair  
Lynn Royer  
Paula Rodgers

### **EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

Richelle Kluck, Chair  
Lynn Royer  
Dave Neumann

### **MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE**

Tyler Reuthebeck, Chair  
Bradley Jackson  
John Fischer

### **VENDOR COMMITTEE**

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Charlie Brown  
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### **SILENT AUCTION COMMITTEE**

Sherry Eddy, Chair  
McKayla Wheeler  
Kathy-Jo Facticeau

### **LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE**

Tom Wright, Chair  
Scott George  
Tiffany Davis  
Rebecca Krouse

### **NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE**

Marsha Wade, Chair  
Kathy-Jo Facticeau

### **WEBSITE COMMITTEE**

Rebecca Krouse, Chair  
Richard LeRoux

## ***SAVE THE DATE!***

### **The Missouri Hearing Society Annual Convention and Education Seminar**

**March 7-9, 2019**

*University Plaza Hotel  
& Convention Center  
Springfield, MO*

## **President's Message** *(from page 1)*

that needs to be embraced. And that includes both the latest technology and research and the best honed expectations both by practitioner and by patient.

The MHS Board has decided on our direction for 2018 and you should count on an atmosphere signaling our interest in you and on a promotion of universal benevolence.



**Dear MHS Members,**

It appears we have started to make some headway in starting the process to get our BEHIS Board back up above the required quorum level and, hopefully, to full strength. Scott George was able to personally speak with the Governor, and I have spoken with a member of my local State Senator's staff who is working with the Governor's staff to get this done. What we need to know is who is interested in being on the BEHIS Board and who has already applied to be on the BEHIS Board.

If you can email me ASAP we hope to finally remedy this long standing issue. Please email me at tom@4myears.com, if you have interest in being on the BEHIS

and/or if you have applied.

We need BEHIS above quorum so that it can effectively operate. For the last three plus years, BEHIS has not been able to address consumer complaints or affect any changes for our members, such as our requests to change the cost of our license, etc. The BEHIS issue affects all of us. We need qualified members willing to help to remedy this issue as soon as possible as ALL current members are over their allowable term.

Thank you in advance for your help and I look forward to hearing from you.

Tom Wright, HIS  
 Chairman MHS Legislative Committee  
 Email: tom@4myears.com

**MISSOURI BOARD OF EXAMINERS FOR HEARING INSTRUMENT SPECIALISTS**

We need your expertise. Would you like to be a member of the Board of Examiners for Hearing Instrument Specialists?

**Board Member Requirements:** Applicants must be a US Citizen, Resident of MO for 1 year, possess a HIS License, and have 5 years experience.

**Mission:** The Missouri Board of Examiners for Hearing Instrument Specialists protects the public from incompetence, misconduct, gross negligence, fraud, misrepresentation, or dishonesty; licenses only "qualified" professionals by examination and evaluation of minimum competency; enforces standards by implementing legislation and administrative rules; and encourages economic development and partnerships with existing small businesses.

**Function:** The Missouri Board of Examiners for Hearing Instrument Specialists reviews applicants for licensure and makes recommendations to the division on matters of discipline of licenses; reviews and approves other states with equivalent or stricter requirements for reciprocal licenses; approves the examination required for licensure and may administer the practical portion for the examination; reviews and approves courses for continuing education credits required for license renewal.

**Number of Meetings:** 4

**Location of Meetings:** Jefferson City

**Total Members:** 8 appointed members

**Term Length:** 4 years; no member of the Board who has served a full term may be reappointed to the Board until at least one year after the expiration of the member's term of office.

**Compensation:** Members receive a per diem not to exceed \$50 for each day devoted to the affairs of the Board and reimbursement for realized and necessary expenses:

**Board Composition:** 5 members must be hearing instrument specialists; 1 must be an otolaryngologist; 1 must be an audiologist; and 1 must be a public member.

**Political Requirements:** no

**Geographic Requirements:** no

**Senate Consent Required:** yes

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**Register on-line:** [www.governor.mo.gov](http://www.governor.mo.gov)

**Click on:** Get Involved

**Click on:** Board and Commissions

**Click on:** Register

# Ozarks Technical Community College

## MHS Members:

We are seeking feedback from you about whether you have seen a benefit from the Hearing Instrument Science Program at Ozarks Tech and if you would be interested in a shortened certificate option for yourself or your employees. Here is the link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/7SF59ZH>.

It's not a long survey. Completing it would greatly help us gauge our community impact. Please feel free to contact me directly if you have additional comments or input!  
Thank you,

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## Meet Our Professionals

Each year, during our Convention and Education Seminar, we recognize those MHS members who have increased their skills and professionalism by earning Continuing Education Units (CEUs).

For the **Platinum Award**, the honoree must have earned 36 hours of CEUs in the calendar year.

For the **Gold Award**, the honoree must have earned 24 hours of CEUs in the calendar year.

For the **Silver Award**, the honoree must have earned 18 hours of CEUs in the calendar year.

We congratulate each and every award honoree for their dedication to their profession. Check with the MHS office (573-636-2822) to see how you can improve your skills through the offered CEUs!

### PLATINUM AWARD HONOREES

Shelia Cockman  
Kathy-Jo Facteau  
Pamela Lawrence-Cole

### GOLD AWARDS HONOREES

Cynthia Bradley  
Brian George  
Scott George  
Justin Jenkins  
Richard Leroux

### SILVER AWARDS HONOREES

Kimberly Baumhoer  
John J. Fisher  
McKayla Wheeler

[CEU Award Honorees >p4](#)

**PLATNIMUM AWARDS**



↑ **Shelia Cockman**



↑ **Kathy-Jo Facticeau**



↑ **Pamela Lawrence-Cole**

*MHS President Yon Wibskov presented the honorees with their plaques at our Convention and Education Seminar.*

*Brian George is not pictured, but received a Gold Award.*



**SILVER AWARDS**



↑ **Kimberly Baumhoer**

**GOLD AWARDS**



↑ **Cynthia Bradley**



↑ **Scott George**



↑ **John J. Fisher**



↑ **Richard Leroux**



↑ **Justin Jenkins**



↑ **McKayla Wheeler**

# MHS Convention and Education Seminar

*Theme: “The Changing Frontier”*



*Thank You to our Convention Sponsors!*

**We did it again!** Our 2018 Missouri Hearing Society Convention was recently held at the Kansas City Airport Hilton, and it was exactly what we wanted. We put it on with much aspiration and forward thinking, and it delivered on all accounts!

Thank you to all participants, but also to those of you who wanted to come but couldn't! It remains a fact that busy people must live with insufficient time; however, perhaps not with insufficient desire. A great part of the success of our Convention shows in your desire to come, to lend your presence and voice. If you had to skip this year's get-together, I promise we will have another in Springfield in March of 2019!

Thank you, also, to our tireless office in Jeff City – to Brenda, Paula, and Randy – for laying so much groundwork and for keeping up with the endless needs through the Convention. And thanks to the Hilton for having us and for treating us so beautifully!

Our Society is off on a solid run. It has a new administration, yet will benefit particularly from retaining seven of its previous Directors. In other words, seven seasoned board members will guarantee a welcome continuity with the seven new faces. And, speaking of continuity: The Missouri Hearing Society continues to rank with the strongest state chapters in the country. We have very much to be proud of and to celebrate, and the sense of strong forward movement is unquestionable.

Thank you all for giving us charge to steer this Society so certainly in the right direction!

*The 2018 MHS Board of Directors and Officers*

*Yon Wibskov, MHS President*

*A Special “Thank You” to our Friday Luncheon Sponsor*  
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Phonak  
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Starkey  
Unitron  
Widex USA, Inc.

**Annual Convention >p4**

# Annual Convention *(from page 3)*



↑ **Kathy-Jo Facteau and Scott George**



↑ **David Meredith, Pam Lawrence-Cole, and Brian George**



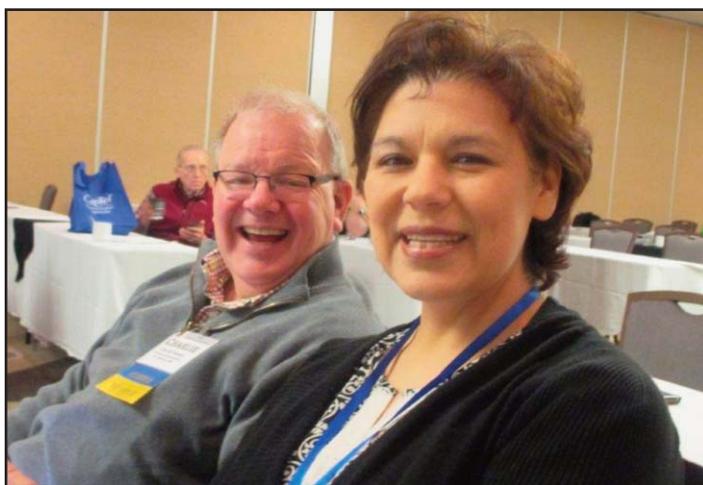
↑ **Jordan McMillen and Larry Brethower**



↑ **Paula Rodgers, Sheila Shelton, and Heather Wright**



↑ **Rebecca Krouse and Kevin Woodruff**



↑ **Charlie Brown and Maria Guillen**



## Come One! Come All!

*A thank you from your auctioneer, Kathy-Jo Facteau, BC-HIS*

The MHS Annual Fun Fundraiser Auction garnered great support from the membership in attendance at the 2018 Convention. With an old time theme, several participated by dressing the part. Judy Steffen-Drake looked ready to step onto a stagecoach and ride off into the sunset, while Scott George was the epitome of a gentleman of the era, to name two. Scott said he was lucky to have a ready-to-wear outfit, thanks to his love for participating in Civil War reenactments.

The warm weather we enjoyed during the Convention had apparently infected donors. Lawn chairs, grills, and coolers (yes! even a Yeti!) were well represented. Gift boxes of food goodies and pampering personal care baskets sparked spirited interest.

Bidding was steady, with many happy to enter into a bidding war, for the sake of the Society. Once again, we had members who won a bid, then turned around and let the item be auctioned again, to increase our coffers. The MHS is fortunate to have a number of dedicated patrons of the auction who give a solid showing each year. We thank you for this support!

Everyone who bid is thanked for their participation. Everyone who stayed for the whole

event and helped to make it an evening of camaraderie is thanked. Those who came up after to donate (without purchase) are thanked. Those who donated items for auction are acknowledged and thanked heartily, for you are as vital to our success as those who join in the bidding fun.

A special thanks goes out to Nancy Frazier who found out we were shy of our \$10,000 goal and wrote a check to top it off.

Was our fun fundraiser fun? Yes! Was it successful? You bet it was! Why? Because of the support of you, our members and our patrons. Each year, there are activities we must fund to help secure and shape our future as hearing healthcare professionals. The auction is vital for the funding of these activities.

Next year's auction may seem far away, but we are already planning to make it better and more engaging than this year's success. As you move through the coming months, if you discover something ridiculously on sale, please keep the MHS auction in mind and pick it up for a donation to the auction.

Again, thank you! And see you in 2019!