NOV/DEC/JAN 2014-15

REUNION DAY
Saturday, Nov. 1st

RING CEREMONY
Sunday, Nov. 2nd

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS
Sunday, Jan. 11th

Scottish Rite - Hilgenberg Childhood Speech and Language Center
Funded By Your Generosity and a Grant from the Jesse & Hertha Adams Charitable Trust
The Clinic Corner
By: Christine Wandishin, M.S., CCC-SLP, Speech-Language Pathologist
Hilgenberg Scottish Rite Childhood Speech and Language Center

HAPPY HOLIDAYS from the Scottish Rite Clinic! Lisa, Eleni, Jamie and I have been very busy in the clinic this fall. Speech and language screenings have been completed at the surrounding private schools including the School of the Cathedral of Mary Our Queen, Garrison Forest, and the Friends School. We are currently in full swing providing therapy at the Cathedral School four mornings a week and at Garrison Forest on Tuesday mornings. Of course, we also continue to provide therapy at the Scottish Rite Clinic Mondays - Thursdays until 6:00 or 6:30 every evening. Please feel free to schedule an appointment during our regular office hours if you wish to see the clinic and/or know of anyone that may need an evaluation or speech-language therapy.

In this issue of The Rite News, we decided to feature the perspectives of the clients and families that we serve here at the Scottish Rite in order to help give the Masons a better idea of what we do and how we help the children of the Baltimore area. In the pages that follow, you will find pictures of our clients in therapy, as well as testimonials from some of the children and their families. We hope you enjoy this special feature!

This year, our annual Scottish Rite Clinic Holiday Party will take place on Thursday, December 11, 2014. This party will be made possible by the efforts of Mr. Ray Lunn and the financial support of the Chesapeake Scottish Rite Club. The children love participating in various holiday crafts and games at the party each year. They also look forward to the clowns, balloon animals, and Santa. Some of the kids have been talking about this event for the past few months!

Brockman Fellow and graduate student Jessie Ufferilge has been working at the clinic under our supervision since September. She was a speech-language pathologist assistant at Ashby Lee Elementary and Stone Spring Elementary before starting her externship at the Scottish Rite Clinic. Her previous experience has made her a tremendous asset to the center and she has done an excellent job working with the children and families of our clinic. She will be completing her placement in the beginning of December and we will greatly miss her. Good luck Jessie!

We are also pleased to announce that a former graduate student, Miriam Balsam, has been hired by the Hearing and Speech Agency as a full time clinical fellow. She started working at the agency in September 2014. We are hoping to have her help cover the Cathedral contract once a week and some evening times at the Scottish Rite Center. Miriam is thrilled about working for our organization again and recently stated in an email to the Scottish Rite Staff, “At this exciting time, I find myself thinking about you – the fabulous supervisors who helped me become the SLP that I am. I was fortunate to witness your outstanding professionalism and talent which continue to inspire me today. I am grateful for all that you taught me and for your confidence in me.

Finally, we are very happy to announce to the Scottish Rite community that another one of our speech-language pathologists will be welcoming a new addition to her family. Lisa McGrain is expecting her first child somewhere around January 25, 2015. We are very excited for Lisa and her husband Ken and can’t wait to meet the new baby boy or girl just in time for the New Year! In closing, we’d like to thank the Scottish Rite community for their continued dedication and support and best wishes for the New Year ahead.

As a parent, working with the Scottish Rite Clinic was an enjoyable experience. Jamie and Chrissy were always professional. They were helpful with scheduling appointments and/or answering questions, especially in a way that was easily understood. We loved being able to watch our children during sessions. This was extremely helpful when working with our children at home (we could see how Ms. Chrissy taught them to say something correctly). Both Asher and Douglas made tremendous growth over a year’s time! They were able to apply the skills learned in speech to everyday conversation. Thank you!”

—Asher and Jennifer C.

“Ms. Chrissy was able to engage both children.”

Marquis shows off his latest speech creation.

“The iPad apps help Douglas practice the “L” sound while having fun.”

“Chrissy has worked with both Asher and Douglas due to difficulties with their articulation. Both children presented with similar articulation difficulties but required completely different approaches! Ms. Chrissy was able to engage both children, who have significantly different personalities— one is very outgoing and talkative, while the other is quiet and shy, with a variety of activities and games. Asher enjoyed attending speech because he “liked learning how to say things.” Both Asher and Douglas said they loved working with Ms. Chrissy because she makes “learning how to say things” fun and she’s nice. Their favorite activity at speech is working on the iPad!”

(No surprise there) Regardless of the activity, both boys were always engaged, learning, and having fun!
“At the age of 2, our son, Devin, began to have learning differences. Neither of our families had ever experienced such events. We were lost. We had no idea what to do. We knew we had to do something to help our son. Our son’s pediatrician told my aunt about Scottish Rite and I’ve been here ever since. I have made honor role 3 times and graduated 5th grade with honors. My therapist, Ms. Lisa, is awesome. She teaches me different strategies to help me remember. She always encourages me to ask questions and not be afraid to ask a million times if you need to. Ms. Lisa has helped me to understand what I am reading and retain what I have learned. I still have some ways to go but I am confident that Ms. Lisa will continue to help me along the way. Thanks Ms. Lisa.”

—Heather and Darrick F.

“Braxton began therapy at Scottish Rite about three years ago. He had little to no means of communication. Now, at age 6, he has made very slow but steady progression in a positive direction. He is using the iPad and a couple of simple signs. We love Miss Chrissy and Miss Eleni. They are truly in tune with their patients and customize each program to fit each child. They always have Braxton’s best interest at heart and we love how they get just as excited as we do when Braxton does something new and great. Thank you for all that you do!”

—Allison R.

“My name is Michael Rhodes and I have ‘Auditory Processing Disorder.’ It’s a fancy way of saying that I have difficulty remembering things, especially in school. Going to school was hard for me because nothing made sense. I would do great one day and poorly the next. My grades were D’s no matter how hard I tried. My aunt would come up with strategies to help me but it wasn’t enough. My teacher Ms. Gallagher told my aunt about Scottish Rite and I’ve been here ever since. I have made honor role 3 times and graduated 5th grade with honors. My therapist, Ms. Lisa, is awesome. She teaches me different strategies to help me remember. She always encourages me to ask questions and not be afraid to ask a million times if you need to. Ms. Lisa has helped me to understand what I am reading and retain what I have learned. I still have some ways to go but I am confident that Ms. Lisa will continue to help me along the way. Thanks Ms. Lisa.”

—Michael R.