



# AHTF NEWSLETTER

September 2014

## AMERICAN HAND THERAPY FOUNDATION PAYS TRIBUTE TO JUDITH BELL KROTOSKI

MARCH 30, 1945 – OCTOBER 20, 2013

By William W. Walsh, MBA, MHA, OTR/L, CHT  
Chairman, American Hand Therapy Foundation



Our beloved Judy passed quietly into new life on October 20, 2013 in Baton Rouge, LA following a long illness. It is not an easy task to fully comprehend or adequately share the enormity of our loss and scope of Judy's career and contributions. She was a founding member and president of ASHT, chairman of the American Hand Therapy Foundation and served as a member of the Editorial board for the Journal of Hand Therapy for many years. Mentor, colleague, and historian, Judy actively encouraged professional collaboration across disciplines, nationalities and organizations.

Friend to hand therapists worldwide, Judy gave of herself because of her driving passion and dedication to the hand therapy.

Rising to the rank of Captain during her distinguished career in the United States Public Health Service, she was present at, promoted and witnessed many of the formative moments and milestones within our profession. Fortunately for us, she also loved to archive those events because she valued how history provides perspective and insight.

Scientist, researcher, and inventor, Judy loved the investigative process. A pioneer in the pursuit of knowledge regarding sensibility testing and the use and refinement of monofilament testing, Judy's scope was international and her mission global. She sought to identify universal truth and understanding based on fact and analysis. Tenacious and steadfast, she unselfishly shared her work with the international community and presented and hosted numerous conferences. Of utmost importance to Judy was the pivotal relationship with our surgical colleagues and friends who encouraged our scientific inquiry.

As each of us reflects upon the magnitude of Judy's career and contributions, it is revealing to witness how many varying roles she fulfilled. Both personally and professionally, Judy touched many of our lives in various ways and to differing extents; however, her vision, personal caring and integrity magnetized us to her and to each other. Together we have united and accomplished her dream of greater purpose. By encouraging each of us to contribute our own unique talents, Judy helped bring to fruition the specialty of hand therapy for which we will forever be grateful.

### MISSION:

The mission of the American Hand Therapy Foundation (AHTF) is to fund clinical and scientific research and education in order to advance the practice of hand therapy and quality of patient care throughout the world.

### VISION:

Our vision is for all evaluation and treatment methods in hand therapy to have well-documented, evidence based outcomes in the literature.

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[www.ahtf.org](http://www.ahtf.org)

## CHAIRMAN'S UPDATE



### **William W. Walsh, MBA, MHA, OTR/L, CHT, FAOTA** Chairman, American Hand Therapy Foundation

For the American Hand Therapy Foundation, 2014 has been a year of reflection, change and transition. With remorse and sadness, in the fall of last year, we sustained a loss of one of our own, Judy Bell-Krotoski. A past chairman, Judy was a steadfast steward of the Foundation's mission, vision and guiding principles. Her contributions and legacy will be acknowledged during the September annual meeting of the American Society of Hand Therapists. The 2014 annual conference is an exceptionally appropriate setting to acknowledge Judy, as it is a meeting in conjunction with the American Society for Surgery of the Hand. As a founder of ASHT, Judy understood the importance of the support from and collaboration with hand surgeons. Her insight, diligence and historical perspective has provided us with a foundation upon which we can build and transition into the future.

A year of change, in 2014 we have welcomed two new board members, Jeanine Beasley, EdD, OTR, CHT, FAOTA and Gary Solomon MBA, MS, OTR/L, CHT. Read about their professional careers and contributions in new member highlights. Both of these new members are also on the Board of Directors of the American Society of Hand Therapists which will facilitate coordination and continuing collaboration between our two hand therapy organizations.

As part of our transition, AHTF rendered an unprecedented decision to suspend awarding our grants in 2014. The decision was made in an effort to critically evaluate the scope, intent, amount and impact of our endeavors to promote and foster meaningful research. The suspension did not include the ASHT Founders Grant or the Mary Kasch Hand Therapy Certification Scholarship, which were awarded. As part of our review process, we surveyed past award recipients asking for their feedback about the application process, implementation procedures, funding amounts and reporting expectations. We received invaluable feedback which will be incorporated into our deliberations as we reconfigure our grants and the processes we use to fund research.

Historically, a vital part of our fund raising efforts has included our annual Silent Auction. For 2014, we have added a new twist for our savvy shoppers. We will be using an online bidding web site! As usual, all items will be on display in the exhibit hall during the two hour live auction and available for inspection. All bidding will be done online using personal mobile devices even during the live auction. In order to bid, you must register as a bidder. Just click on the red Silent Auction button at [www.ahtf.org](http://www.ahtf.org) and follow the bidder instructions.

Each year our Board of Directors strives to identify, promote and fund new methodology to enhance hand therapy research and education. This year, the Foundation is proud to announce the initiation of an AHTF sponsored instructional course held during the ASHT annual conference in Boston. The course is dedicated to the promotion of hand therapy education in research. We hope you will attend our inaugural instructional course entitled "The Savvy Evidence-Based Clinician's Use of PICO and CAT" which will be presented the morning of Friday, September 19th.

Guiding hand therapy research and education cannot be accomplished without the efforts of many dedicated, knowledgeable and talented individuals. It is with gratitude that I extend my personal appreciation for the efforts of our entire Board of Directors. Through their dedication, insight and service, each Board member has helped move the Foundation forward and taken us to the next level. I would especially like to thank Caroline Stegink Jansen, PT, PhD, CHT for her dedicated service as Chair of our Grant review committee for the past five years. Her diligence, collegiality and oversight has assured both our applicants and our Board of a competent grant review program reflecting the highest standards and integrity.

In 2014, AHTF continues to set precedents that acknowledge our roots and nurture a blueprint for the future. This year, following our annual Silent Auction, we will sponsor a Founder's Reception to honor not only Judy Bell Krotoski but all the founding members of ASHT. In addition, we are very excited to announce a new award in cooperation with the American Foundation for Surgery of the Hand. The focus of the award is not only to inspire research but also to foster collaboration. The inaugural 2014 Hand Surgeon-Hand Therapist Collaborative Research Award will be presented in Boston! The timing of this award could not be more appropriate as we salute Judy and all of the ASHT founders as role models of collaboration with our surgical colleagues.



# NEWS FROM THE AHTF GRANT REVIEW COMMITTEE: CHANGE IS IN THE AIR

By **Caroline W. Jansen, PT, PhD, CHT**

The AHTF offers three grants aiming to foster evidence based practice and share knowledge and bringing cultures of hand therapy together, two awards to conduct scientific inquiry and one travel grant aimed at education and cultural exchange.

The purpose of the **“Burkhalter Young Investigator Grant”** – honoring Dr. William Burkhalter (1928-1992), a long time advocate and promoter of hand therapy - is to support scientific clinical research in the field of hand and upper limb rehabilitation. The award is intended for novice occupational and/or physical therapists investigators, regardless of their age!

The **“Grab the Evidence Grant”** was established in response to the growing need to fund basic research science and evidence based studies in hand and upper limb rehabilitation. The purpose of the award is designed to serve as a stepping stone for a skilled researcher and/or research team to develop a line of research with the potential to generate larger external funding.

The purpose of the **“Evelyn Mackin Grant for Education by a Traveling Hand Therapist”** is to foster the visibility and quality of hand and upper limb rehabilitation all over the world through education and communication by funding traveling by a practicing occupational or physical therapist and share the “pearls” of hand rehabilitation learned from mutual experience. In the past year, a recess from funding was taken to start a process of internal rejuvenation.

In addition to the AHTF grants, the AHTF also administers the “ASHT Founders Grant” funded by the ASHT. Please, visit the AHTF booth at the upcoming ASHT annual meeting for a listing of publications that were the direct or subsequent result of funding by the AHTF and visit the AHTF website at [www.ahtf.org](http://www.ahtf.org) for the most up-to-date information on availability and application procedures.

Changes are currently underway to make the application process easier and state-of-the-art. Keep your eyes on the website, and never hesitate to contact our new Grant Review Chair. Jane Bear-Lehman, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA ([jb1285@nyu.edu](mailto:jb1285@nyu.edu)) has taken over the reins of the Grant Review Committee. Change is festive, and you can have confidence that the future of the Grant Review Committee will have solid stewardship.

After having served as Grant Review Chair from 2009-2014, I want to thank all who have made my years of serving such a pleasure!



## NEW MEMBER HIGHLIGHTS



### Jeanine Beasley, EdD, OTR/L, CHT, FAOTA

Jeanine Beasley, EdD, OTR, CHT, FAOTA, is an associate professor at Grand Valley State University, in the Occupational Therapy Program. She founded a hand clinic at Mary Free Bed Rehabilitation Hospital in Grand Rapids, Michigan. Jeanine is a frequent guest lecturer, and has spoken in 13 states and internationally. She has authored and co-authored 7 book chapters and 5 journal articles related to arthritis, splinting, and postoperative management of implant arthroplasties. She recently published two chapters in the sixth edition of Rehabilitation of the Hand (Mosby). Awards include: 2012 Fellow of the American Occupational Therapy Association, 1998 ASHT outstanding clinical paper, 1999 Master Clinician from the Michigan Occupational Therapy Association, and in 2001 she was named the Therapist of the Year by the South Kent AMBUCS. She is a member of the advisory board for the West Michigan Region Arthritis Foundation, Michigan Chapter.



### Gary Solomon, MBA, MS, OTR/L, CHT

Gary graduated from the Occupational Therapy program at Washington University in St. Louis in 1993, and became a Certified Hand Therapist in 1999. He also received his MBA in 2010. He has worked at Chicago Metro Hand Therapy alongside the physicians of Hand to Shoulder Associates since 1998, and is Adjunct Faculty at Governors State University. His primary area of clinical interest is the post operative management of traumatic upper extremity injuries. Gary currently serves as Secretary Treasurer for the American Society of Hand Therapists (ASHT), and is the immediate past Education Division Director. He also lectures and teaches continuing education courses throughout the United States.

Visit our updated website  
at [www.AHTF.org](http://www.AHTF.org)!

- Learn about the Foundation's Mission
- Donate on line
- Get information about and apply for grants
- Tons of research resources







## 2014 AHTF SILENT AUCTION

**September 18, 2014 | Hynes Convention Center (Exhibit Hall)**

*Auction will take place from 5:30pm – 7:30pm*

AHTF invites you to participate in the 2014 Silent Auction by contributing items and/or attending the event.

This year, for the first time, the bidding will be conducted on-line through a bidding web site. This will allow a larger audience to view and bid on the items. The bidding will **open on-line** through a bidding web site on **Wednesday, September 10, 2014**, nine days before the annual meeting.

All bidding will continue on-line through the website until **7:15 PM, Thursday, September 18, 2014**, adding excitement to the event.

### DONATION INSTRUCTIONS

**Minimum value per item requirement this year is \$25.00.** Items with a minimum value of \$25 are being required due to space constraints for auction tables. If you have multiple smaller value items, please combine them to meet/exceed this minimum value.

*NOTE: Dollar value assignments of items are the responsibility of those who contribute items. Due to IRS regulations, AHTF does not assign values to items.*

Items need to be **submitted** to the website link by **September 8, 2014**.

If you would like to contribute items, please visit the AHTF website at [www.ahtf.org](http://www.ahtf.org) and click on “**SILENT AUCTION**” and the sub-heading “**Donor Instructions**.” This page contains the easy step-by-step instructions.

We are requiring that all items must be registered on the bidding website. Items not registered will not be accepted.

The web site will ask you for:

- An electronic photo of the item
- Contributor name as you wish it to appear on the bid sheet
- A one sentence description of each item
- Dollar value of each item

Once you complete the donation, go back to [www.ahtf.org](http://www.ahtf.org) to print Shipping Instructions for the items. This avoids having to carry the item with you to Boston and facilitates the on-site registration process.

If you will not be participating in the Silent Auction, but would like to provide a contribution to help support AHTF’s research and educational efforts, just go to the AHTF website at [www.ahtf.org](http://www.ahtf.org) and click on “**GIVING**.”

### EXAMPLES OF DONATIONS:

Donated items can be related to the hand and upper extremity, but it is not required. Contributed items typically include hand-related art, jewelry, clothing items, books, desk items, etc. Autographed items from notable individuals are always a hit, as are airline tickets, theme baskets, gift certificates, CDs, DVDs, course registrations, medical products and more. Be creative and when in doubt, just ask!

2014 AHTF Silent Auction Co-Chairs

- Mayuri Mody, OTR/L, CHT, CEAS, CLT
- Jeanine Beasley, EdD, OTR, CHT, FAOTA

[AuctionAHTF@gmail.com](mailto:AuctionAHTF@gmail.com)



## AN OPPORTUNITY TO GIVE BACK TO THE PROFESSION OF HAND THERAPY

Dear Colleague,

The American Hand Therapy Foundation invites you to participate in its annual appeal for funds to support therapist clinical and scientific research. This is an opportunity for you to help AHTF fund clinical and scientific research, establish standards of practice in hand therapy, and advance the practice of hand therapy.

The Foundation was established as a 501(c) 3 Not-For-Profit Organization in 1989, to help make seed grants available to therapists in preparation for them to have increased chances for larger outside grants. First time grants today are even harder to achieve. Self-starting and funding our own professional research makes sense. We face a great challenge especially at this time of increased need for substantiation of practice and changes in health care administration. We need your help!

A monetary contribution at any level provides the opportunity for therapy grants. The greater the funds we receive, the more grants possible, and any contribution is welcomed and appreciated. With these grants we are able to provide an investment in our profession. Your contribution can help move us forward. If you would like to contribute, you can do so through our website: [www.ahtf.org](http://www.ahtf.org) or by completing the contribution form in this newsletter and mailing a check payable to the American Hand Therapy Foundation to American Hand Therapy Foundation P.O. Box 38491 Greensboro, NC 27438

You may also wish to consider applying for one of our grants which are found detailed on our website: [www.ahtf.org](http://www.ahtf.org). Thank you for your consideration of this special request, as well as your ongoing support of the American Hand Therapy Foundation.

Sincerely,

**William W. Walsh, MBA, MHA, OTR/L, CHT**  
Chairman, American Hand Therapy Foundation



# CONTRIBUTION FORM

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
First Last Designations

Business: \_\_\_\_\_  
If applicable

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Street  
\_\_\_\_\_  
City State Zip code

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to contribute \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to the American Hand Therapy Foundation

- Friends of AHTF \$1 – \$99
- Bronze “Thumbs Up” Club \$100 – \$249
- Silver “Hand Shake” Circle \$250 – \$499
- Gold “High Five” League \$500 – 999
- Platinum Contributor \$1,000 – \$4,999
- Diamond “Standing Ovarions” \$5,000 +

I would like to contribute \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to the following designated area:

- ASHT Founder’s Grant
- Mary Kasch Hand Therapy Certification Scholarship

I would like to contribute \$ \_\_\_\_\_ in HONOR/MEMORY of

Thank you for your kind contribution to the American Hand Therapy Foundation!  
AHTF is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization.  
Please keep a copy of your canceled check for tax purposes.

**PLEASE MAIL YOUR CONTRIBUTION TO:  
AMERICAN HAND THERAPY FOUNDATION  
P.O. Box 38491  
GREENSBORO, NC 27438**



# AMERICAN HAND THERAPY FOUNDATION

## 2014 CONTRIBUTIONS (AS OF 9/1/2014)

The AHTF Board of Directors thanks the following individuals and corporations for their generosity.

### PLATINUM CONTRIBUTOR \$1,000 – \$4,999

Hand Care  
Louisiana Chapter, ASHT

### GOLD “HIGH FIVE” LEAGUE \$500 – \$999

Anonymous – *in Memory of Judith Bell Krotoski*

### SILVER “HAND SHAKE” CIRCLE \$250 – \$499

Aaron & Rose Hand Therapy Services, Inc.  
Aaron & Rose Hand Therapy Services, Inc.  
North Coast Medical, Inc.  
North Coast Medical, Inc.

### BRONZE “THUMBS UP” CLUB \$100 – \$249

Caroline Jansen – *in memory of Judith Bell Krotoski*

### FRIENDS OF AHTF \$1 – \$99

Jane Fedorczyk  
David and Sarah Kasch – *Kasch Scholarship Fund*  
John Kasch – *Kasch Scholarship Fund*  
James King  
James King – *in honor of Elaine Fess, MS, OTR/L, FAOTA, CHT*  
Deborah Rider – *in honorable memory of Mary Kasch*  
Angie Tinson  
Lisa Yee – *in memory of Judith Bell Krotoski*





## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The American Hand Therapy Foundation was founded in 1989, the Foundation currently has thirteen members of the Board of Directors including:



**William W. Walsh**  
MBA, MHA, OTR/L, CHT  
Chairman



**Greg Pitts**  
MS, OTR/L, CHT  
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**Kathleen E. Yancosek**  
PhD, OTR/L, CHT  
Secretary



**Elaine Fess**  
MS, OTR, FAOTA, CHT  
Treasurer



**Caroline W. Stegink Jansen**  
PT, PhD, CHT  
Chair, Grant Review Committee

**THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS IS GRATEFUL FOR  
YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS AND SUPPORT.**



## BOARD OF DIRECTORS



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PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA  
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