

2003 PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS
by Melanie Anderson

“This is a story about four people named Everybody, Somebody, Anybody, and Nobody. There was an important job to do, and Everybody was sure that Somebody would do it. Anybody could have done it, but Nobody did it. Somebody got angry about that because it was Everybody’s job. Everybody thought Anybody could do it, but Nobody realized Everybody wouldn’t do it. It ended up that Everybody blamed Somebody when Nobody did what Anybody could have done”.

Anonymous

Think about this story as you consider the following charge of the SCSHA Mission Statement. “The purpose of SCSHA is to serve as an advocate for persons with communication and hearing disorders and those professionals who provide them services. This association also serves as a resource for its members and the community by providing information on current trends, therapeutic interventions and technologies in the fields of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology.”

As we celebrate the forty-fifth anniversary of our association, I would like to challenge every member to ask himself/herself the following questions:

Who is going to serve as an advocate for persons with communication and hearing disorders? Somebody? Nobody? Anybody?

Who is going to going to serve as an advocate for the professionals who provide speech-language pathology and audiology services? Somebody? Nobody? Anybody?

Who is going to serve as a resource for its members and the community? Somebody? Nobody? Anybody?

I love the story about the four people named Everybody, Somebody, Anybody, and Nobody because of the valuable lesson that it offers to members of any professional organization. Our organization is no exception. We have a job to do. The Executive Board recently adopted a nine page strategic plan with specific goals to help us accomplish the tasks outlined in our mission statement. Are we going to assume that Somebody will do the job? Are we going to leave the job for Nobody? The lesson of the story tells us that we need **EVERYBODY** to do the job! If you are not already an **ACTIVE** member of SCSHA, please consider volunteering to serve on a committee. SCSHA needs **YOU!**

Happy Anniversary!