

### The Scottish Rite Learning Center of West Texas

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## We Are Thankful

Recently as I was reading past issues of the SRLCWT newsletter, the 1992 Fall Newsletter caught my attention. An article entitled "We Gather Together" written by Jan Morris, Director Emeritus, seemed especially meaningful for this season. In her article, Jan eloquently penned reasons as to why "we gather together to give thanks." While today we are limited in our "gatherings", we continue to give thanks for our many blessings.

We are thankful for our students. They are one integral mission of the Center. "To teach a child is to touch a life forever," rings true to us. How excited we are for a student with dyslexia when he learns to read, write, and spell and gains confidence as he does so. Recently, I received a text from a mother whose sons graduated from the Center. She "just wanted to give an update and say thank you for giving them all the tools they needed to succeed!" I believe she expresses the sentiments of many of our parents.

We are thankful for our families, schools, and communities who support our students at the Center and go the extra mile. While most of our families are committed to bringing their children to the Center four days a week for an hour for two to two and a half years, others rely on their child's school to provide transportation. Parents wait patiently in the parking lot, reading, studying, or visiting with other parents. Some even rearrange their work schedules to be able to bring their child to class.

We are thankful for the teachers in our Amarillo and Lubbock Dyslexia Therapist Training Courses. They are the other important mission of the Center. This amazing group of fifty-eight dedicated educators from West Texas, the Panhandle, and Eastern New Mexico have committed two years of their lives to our demanding Dyslexia Therapist Training Course. We are so proud of all our trainees who strive to become Certified Academic Language Therapists. Presently our trainees from both campuses are teaching approximately 130 classes and approximately 471 students. Our trainees and graduates as well as all teachers have resilient spirits and are truly heroes in today's world.

We are thankful for the Lubbock and Amarillo Learning Centers and the Lubbock Scottish Rite Masons who provide the beautiful buildings and the *Take Flight* curriculum for the students free of charge. For forty-five years the SRLCWT has grown and prospered through the past leadership of the Masons who had a vision to establish a Center designed to teach students with dyslexia and to train teachers to become Certified Academic Language Therapists. The staff is especially thankful for our current Chairman of the Learning Center Board of Trustees, Mr. Doug Maxey, and the Scottish Rite Personal Representative of the Lubbock Valley, Mr. Steve Cross. These gentlemen, along with the Masonic body, have taken the Learning Center to new heights.

Finally, we are thankful for you and we look forward to the day when we can all safely gather again at the Center. As you gather with your family and friends this Thanksgiving season, may you be blessed with peace, happiness, and good health.

Olive Hester







## !!CONGRATULATIONS!!



Mrs. Carol Trent completed all the requirements and received her certification for Qualified Instructor (QI).



Laura Lowe passed the Alliance Exam and is now a Certified Academic Language Therapist (CALT). Because Laura has her Master's Degree, she applied and was approved to be a Licensed Dyslexia Therapist (LDT).



## New Students - Lubbock



Luke Altman



Caden Dyess





Nathan Tuttle

# A New Library in the Amarillo Learning Center



Last summer The Scottish Rite Learning Center of West Texas Amarillo Center

received a \$3,200.00 grant from the Pantex Plant in Amarillo. The grant will enable the Center to begin building its professional and student libraries. The Dyslexia Therapist Training Course trainees will be able to access the materials in the library to help them meet the required reading assignments of the course. Parents of students with dyslexia will have the opportunity to check out books that offer the latest

published research on dyslexia and related learning disabilities. The student library has been stocked with a wide range of high interest books needed for the connected text portion of curriculum. We are very grateful for the generous grant the Pantex Plant has awarded our Learning Center.





## New Student - Amazillo

This is Adaline Duncan, a new student at the Amarillo Center. She is homeschooled and in second grade. She has a younger brother and sister. Her mom and dad are Lottie and Ty Duncan. Adaline is very active in her church and has taken up learning how to play tennis.



# A New Approach to the Dyslexia Therapist Training Courses in 2020





Along with the rest of the world, the SRLCWT had to quickly adjust to the new method of Virtual Teaching. Our Introductory and Advanced training courses, typically held in the month of June, were postponed a month to provide for additional preparation to gather and disseminate materials, and to transition lectures and practicum requirements to the virtual format. Although the process appeared to be a daunting task, the additional month of preparation proved to be beneficial, as our summer training courses for teachers were quite successful. The Advanced Training course was held from July 1-15, 2020 with 23 in attendance, and the Introductory Training Course was held from July 20–August 7, 2020 with 14 new trainees in attendance. We feel very fortunate and are grateful to have the support and technology provided

by the Masons to continue to provide quality training in such an unprecedented time as this.



Introductory Class

The ladies in the Introductory Class are: Barb Biard, Lubbock ISD, Amber Bozeman, Idalou ISD, Haley Carson, Lubbock ISD, Sheri Dendy, Seminole ISD, Page House, Lubbock ISD, Nicky King, Jayton ISD, Allison Klinke, Lubbock ISD, Kyndra Montgomery, Plainview ISD, Crystal Orum, Seminole ISD, Anita Owings, Eunice, NM ISD, Emily Smyth, Lubbock ISD, Shelli Thompson, Lubbock ISD, Becca Webb, Lubbock ISD and Karen Webb, Lubbock ISD.

The ladies in the Advanced Class are:

Heather Abel, Leigh Ann Flores, Robin Hambright, Meredith Jones, Jennifer King, Mary Ann Lang, Lanau Limmer, Sandy Lopez, Sandi Martinez, Robin McClure, Lori McCullough, Jennifer Mitchell, Krystal Moyers, Lori O'Banion, Amanda Robison, Misty Ross, Donna Rush, Kristie Smith, Debbie Torres, Misty Weddle, Terri Welch, Patty White, and Susan White.



# Amarillo Dyslexia Therapist Training Course

Introductory Class



From left to right: June Hoffman, QI, Melissa Hale, Miami ISD, Brittany Dockery, Tulia ISD, Sammie Jones, Plemmons-Stinnett-Phillips CISD, Roberta Hazen, Plemmons-Stinnett-Phillips CISD, Kathryn Wiggins, Plemmons-Stinnett-Phillips CISD, and Melissa Espino, QI-In-Training, Dumas ISD

Back Row: June Hoffman, Taeler Wilkes, Sierra Laybourn, and Retina Gaillard. Front Row: Nancy Rosales, Laura Bow, Angie Clements and Alicia Smith



Advanced Class

The 2021 C. J. Davidson Memorial Lecture Series: Advances in Literacy has been <u>CANCELLED</u> and rescheduled for 2022 due to COVID-19.



### SAVE-THE-DATE FEBRUARY 25, 2022

Presentation by: Eric Tridas, MD, FAAP

Medical Director of the Tridas Center for Child Development
and President of Developmental and Behavioral

Pediatrics Consultants, Inc.

#### **TOPICS**

• IDA: The Perfect Storm – Inattention, Dyslexia and Anxiety

Dyslexia, ADHD and anxiety often coexist. During this presentation Dr. Tridas will discuss the main contributing factors to the student's problems and how they interact with each other to impair learning. He will review the symptoms of ADHD and anxiety and their impact on executive function and reading.

And

• <u>Imperfect Solutions</u> – The multidisciplinary management of a child with inattention, dyslexia and anxiety.

Dr. Tridas will provide a practical review of medical and non-medical management of ADHD and anxiety for non-medical professionals. In addition, he will discuss different strategies to help address executive functions challenges when instructing students with dyslexia and other literacy problems.

Hosted By: The Scottish Rite Learning Center of West Texas - Lubbock Campus

# November 2020 through July 2021



### First Semester - 2020

November 1st	Daylight Savings Ends	
November 6 <sup>th</sup>	Lubbock Introductory Seminar #2	
November 23 <sup>rd</sup> —27 <sup>th</sup>	Thanksgiving Holiday $-$ Center Closed	
December 4 <sup>th</sup>	Lubbock Advanced Seminar #2 Amarillo Advanced Seminar #6	
December 15 <sup>th</sup>	Lubbock last day of class	
December 16 <sup>th</sup>	Staff Work Day and Mason's Meeting	
December 17 <sup>th</sup>	Staff Work Day	
December 18 <sup>th</sup>	Amarillo Introductory Seminar #2	
Dec.18, 2020 through January 1, 2021 Christmas Holidays — Center Closed		
january 1, 2021	Ciiristiilas fioliuays — Ceiller Closed	

### Second Semester - 2021

January 5 <sup>th</sup>	Lubbock & Amarillo Student Classes Resume
January 15 <sup>th</sup>	Lubbock Introductory Seminar #3
January 18 <sup>th</sup>	${\it Martin \ Luther \ King \ Day - Center \ Closed}$
January 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Amarillo Advanced Seminar #7
February 5 <sup>th</sup>	Amarillo Introductory Seminar #3
February 15 <sup>th</sup>	${\it President's \ Day-Lubbock \ Center \ Closed}$
March 5 <sup>th</sup>	Lubbock Advanced Seminar #3
March 15th $-$ 19 <sup>th</sup>	Spring Break — All Schools

April 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Good Friday — Lubbock Center Closed
April 5 <sup>th</sup>	${\it Easter Monday-Lubbock Center Closed}$
April 9 <sup>th</sup>	Lubbock Introductory Seminar #4 Amarillo — Advance Seminar #8
April 16 <sup>th</sup>	Amarillo Introductory Seminar #4
April 26 <sup>th</sup>	Lubbock — End of Semester
April 29 <sup>th</sup>	Lubbock — Last Day of Classes
May Ist	Amarillo Graduation
May 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Lubbock SRLCWT Graduation @ 2:00 p.m. Trainees & Area Students
	Lubbock ISD Graduation @ 4:00 p.m. LISD Students

May 26 <sup>th</sup> & 27 <sup>th</sup>	Introductory Therapist Training	
May 28th	Center Closed	
May 31st	Memorial Day — Center Closed	
June $I^{st} - I7^{th}$	Lubbock & Amarillo - Introductory Therapist Training	
June $7^{\text{th}}-25^{\text{th}}$	Keyboarding Class	
June $17^{\text{th}}-30^{\text{th}}$	Lubbock - Advanced Therapist Training	
June $21^{st} - 29^{th}$	Amarillo - Advanced Therapist Training	

# Semiannual Visit with Lubbock Christian University

## Clinical Teachers



Each semester we have the pleasure of hosting LCU professor, Annette Mahan, M.Ed. and her clinical teaching students. Unfortunately, the semiannual visit in the spring semester of 2020 was canceled as the City of Lubbock was closed to address the newly discovered Coronavirus. To prevent the spread of Covid 19, SRLCWT and Professor Mahon arranged an alternative to the Fall Semester visit. On October 7, 2020, in leu of a visit to the Center, Toni Parrish, Associate Director of Therapist Training, traveled to Lubbock Christian University to present a two-hour lecture

focusing on the Characteristics of Dyslexia, the Texas State Laws, and the Identification of Students with Dyslexia to Mrs. Mahan's four clinical teaching students. The purpose of Mrs. Parrish's presentation was to comply with the Texas Administrative Code TAC §228.30 and the Texas Education Code TEC §21.044, both of which are state laws requiring a teacher training course to include characteristics, identification, and strategies for teaching students with dyslexia. Such training is required to obtain a teacher education certificate in the state of Texas. It is quite an honor to continue the strong, enduring relationship between SRLCWT and the LCU School of Education that began with Mrs. Mahan's first class visit in 1992.

thank you

Mr. Gary Armstrong

Michael and Sandra Ayers

Mr. and Mrs. Gary Bell

Mr. and Mrs. Don Bingham

Ms. Lynett Brockman

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Mary Wischkaemper

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### **SRLCWT Staff**

- Olive Hester, M.Ed., LDT, CALT-QI Director
- Sue Rodgers, LDT, CALT-QI Associate Director Administration
- Toni Parrish, M.Ed., LDT, CALT-QI Associate Director Therapist Training - Lubbock
- June Hoffman, M.Ed., LDT, CALT-QI Associate Director Amarillo Campus
- Cindy Sallee, M.Ed., LDT, CALT-QI Dyslexia Therapist
- Carol Trent, M.Ed., LDT, CALT-QI Dyslexia Therapist
- Sarah Hair, CALT Dyslexia Therapist
- Heather Jenkins, M.Ed., LDT, CALT Dyslexia Therapist
- Debbi Casteel Administrative Assistant
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