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Guide to the Helen Hulick Beebe Papers, 1927-1998

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Descriptive Summary

Creator: Beebe, Helen H. (Helen Hulick), 1909-1989

Title: Helen Hulick Beebe Papers, 1927-1998

Manuscript group number: 324

Extent: 7 cubic feet

Provenance: Helen Beebe Speech and Hearing Center

Repository: Pennsylvania State University, University Libraries, Special Collections Library

Administrative Information

Access

Restricted access to personnel files, noted at the folder level.

Preferred Citation

Helen Hulick Beebe Papers, 1927-1998, Penn State University Archives, Special Collections Library, University Libraries, Pennsylvania State University.

Arrangement

The collection is organized into six series: 1. Helen Beebe Speech and Hearing Center; 2. Publications/Articles/Journals; 3. Audio-Visual; 4. Emil Froeschels; 5. Speech and Hearing Organizations; 6. Helen Beebe Personal Files.

Biographical Note

Helen Hulick Beebe was one of the pioneers of the Unisensory Approach, now known as the Auditory-Verbal Approach, to training the hearing-impaired. Through this method, children diagnosed as profoundly deaf were trained to acquire spoken language and natural intonation. Max Goldstein originally put forward the principle that powerful

hearing amplification, in the form of binaural hearing aids, could help even a profoundly deaf child to develop and use whatever small amount of residual hearing he or she might possess. By covering her mouth while speaking, Beebe forced the student to process spoken language through the ears, rather than lip-reading, and use his or her hearing aids to the fullest extent.

Beebe was taught by the eminent Viennese physician and speech pathologist, Dr. Emil Froeschels, whom she later assisted at Mount Sinai Hospital for a span of twenty-five years. She once stated that one of the most impressive things she learned from Froeschels was his application of the Chewing Approach to voice problems, such as stuttering. Beebe modified this method for her deaf students, helping them to attain natural-sounding speech. Although she never observed a clinical case during her studies, Froeschels taught her the theory of his teacher, Victor Urbantschitsch, that intensive stimulation of small remnants of residual hearing could result in spontaneous speech development. Beebe later found that experimentation with this theory proved it to be true among her own students.

One such student was Marjorie (Mardee) Crannell. A neighbor in Easton, PA consulted Beebe about her 15-month-old daughter, who was suspected of being deaf. If the application of Froeschels' teachings did not succeed, the Crannell family's only other alternative was to send Mardee to an institution away from home at the age of four. The only evidence of residual hearing was determined by Froeschels' direct tone introduction test using the Urbantschitsch whistles. At the time, hearing aids had just barely become wearable and consisted of a very powerful aid with a microphone in the front pocket of a jacket and the batteries in the back pocket. To introduce Mardee to sound via her ears before the hearing aid was worn regularly, her mother was given a speaking tube devised by attaching a kitchen funnel at one end of a piece of rubber tubing and an ear olive at the other; speech (babbled phonemes) was delivered through the tube all day long. In addition to this, Mardee's mother was given home instruction and Beebe made regular house visits.

At the age of three, Mardee began coming to Beebe's office 3 times per week for 45-minute therapy sessions. During these sessions, Beebe combined what she had known about teaching language in oral schools with what she had learned from Froeschels about delayed speech development. Mardee's vocalizations were modulated by using vocalized chewing, an extension of the Chewing Approach Beebe had learned from Froeschels. Mardee's first spontaneous meaningful utterance was the greeting, "Hi" with natural intonation (natural melody was always encouraged). Beebe stressed that she should associate with her hearing peers and eventually enter a hearing school; Mardee's parents enrolled her at a private nursery school, where Beebe instructed the teacher in the Chewing Approach. This was Beebe's first successful case and led to her renown and eventually many more cases.

To allow more clients to be trained at the clinic, the Larry Jarret House was started, thanks to the work of the parents of a former patient, Edmond and Susan Jarret. The house allowed people from afar to come and learn about the unisensory approach, even though many of them did not have trained therapists at home to carry on the therapy when they returned. Its purpose was to "promote the Helen Beebe philosophy of

unisensory training and to make this training available to all hearing-impaired children." Despite the numbers of outside people she could help as a result of the Larry Jarret House, Beebe recognized the need for more therapists of the Unisensory Approach and helped spread its reputation by teaching graduate students from Penn State University and Temple University and training approximately 75 students through internships at the center.

During her lifetime, Beebe was awarded the Commendation of the Senate of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania (1974), the Key to the City of Easton (1974), the Sertoma Club of Easton's "Service to Mankind" award (1980), the Allegheny Regional Sertoma award (1980), the Eastern Pennsylvania-New Jersey District Sertoma award (1980), the Sales and Marketing Executives of Easton Area Distinguished Citizen Award (1983), the New York League for the Hard of Hearing's Nitchie Award in Human Communications (1983), the Delaware Valley Mensa Achievement Award (1985) and the Alexander Graham Bell Association Honors of the Association (1987). She was also listed in *Pennsylvania Women in History* (AAUW publication) (1983) and recognized as one of the Distinguished Daughters of Pennsylvania (1986). She was the annual Easton Area High School Day honoree and Honor Alumnus (1982) and was given an honorary doctorate by Lafayette College (1985).

Beebe was life member of the American Speech and Hearing Association; member of the Pennsylvania Speech and Hearing Association, the Northeast Pennsylvania Speech and Hearing Association, the Alexander Graham Bell Association for the Deaf, and the International Association of Logopaedics and Phoniatics; she served on the honorary board of the Auditory Educational Clinic and on the advisory board of the Foundation for Children's Hearing, Education and Research; and was one of the founders of the International Committee on Auditory Verbal Communication and Auditory-Verbal International.

The 1986 book by David Colley, *Sound Waves*, featured the story of one of Beebe's students and her path to speech through training by the Auditory-Verbal method. It includes some further biographical information on Beebe.

Biographical Chronology

1909	Born in Hellertown, Pennsylvania to Charles E. and Helen Chidsey Hulick on December 27, one of 5 children: Charles E. Hulick, James Hulick, Mary Hulick Eliassen and Emily Hulick.
1922-1925	Attended Easton High School, Easton, Pennsylvania.
1927	Attended Miss Choate's School in Brookline, Massachusetts.
1927-1929	Attended Wellesley College in Wellesley, Massachusetts.
1929-1930	Took a teacher-training class at Clarke School for the Deaf in

- Northampton, Massachusetts, where she learned to teach deaf children to talk and lip-read.
- 1930-1932 Taught at Clarke School.
- 1932-1933 Taught at Oregon State School for the Deaf.
- 1933-1934 Taught at a small day school in Sacramento, California, where she noticed that children living at home with normal daily activities acquired language, albeit via lip-reading, more easily.
- 1934-1937 Taught at California State School for the Deaf in Berkeley, California, an oral school.
- 1936 Married Ken Beebe.
- 1942 Divorced.
- 1942 Began to search for a career not necessarily as a teacher of the deaf; consulted Paul Moses, M.D., with whom she was taking a course in Voice Analysis; he referred her to Emil Froeschels, M.D., a celebrated Austrian speech pathologist, in New York City.
- 1942 Froeschels offered to train her as a speech/voice logoped (therapist), which she accepted.
- 1942 Took courses at Columbia in speech pathology, but learned little, except to recognize Froeschels as a "genius of a teacher and a diagnostician and therapist."
- 1944 Started own private practice in speech and voice therapy in her home in Easton, Pennsylvania.
- 1944-1970 Continued to attend Mt. Sinai clinic one day a week as Froeschels' clinical assistant.
- 1944 Started therapy with Marjorie (Mardee) Crannell.
- 1950 Presented the philosophy, along with a recording of Marjorie (Mardee) Crannell at the International Association of Logopaedics and Phoniatics meeting in Amsterdam. At same meeting, Doreen Pollack and Henk Huizing presented the same philosophy, given the label, "Unisensory."
- 1953 Beebe published a book describing her work.
- 1955 As practice grew, Beebe moved to Cattel Street in Easton.

- 1959 Visited Doreen Pollack in Denver, Colorado, who did not believe profoundly deaf children should be fitted with binaural hearing aids.
- 1964-1965 Rubella epidemic brought the clinic many more cases, as did its increasing reputation; the case load became largely hearing-impaired children.
- 1965 Beebe presented a sound film in Vienna at the International Association of Logopaedics and Phoniatics Congress.
- 1972 Emil Froeschels' death and end of Beebe's assistantship with him.
- 1975 Larry Jarret House was started.
- 1975 Held a seminar on Auditory-Verbal Approach.
- 1975 Held a seminar on Unisensory Approach.
- 1978 Beebe donated her private practice, including the building, to the Larry Jarret Memorial Foundation; they joined forces as a non-profit organization called the Helen Beebe Speech and Hearing Center.
- 1980 To express their appreciation for her dedicated service, Beebe's students and their parents donated the ear exhibit for the new Weller Center for Health Education in her honor.
- 1983 Became president of Auditory-Verbal International.
- 1984 Held a seminar, *The Hearing-Impaired Child: Listening, Learning, Living*.
- 1985 *Sound Waves* by David Colley was published by St. Martin's Press, describing one family's experience with Beebe.
- 1987 Held a seminar, *Hearing Impairment: Meeting the Challenge*.
- 1989 Beebe continued to serve as therapist, teacher and advisor until her death on March 18.

Scope and Content

The Helen Hulick Beebe Papers consists of personal and professional papers, articles and newsletters, photographs and videos collected by the speech pathologist and associates of the Helen Beebe Speech and Hearing Center, spanning the years 1927 to

1998. The six series are divided mainly by information pertaining to the Helen Beebe Speech and Hearing Center, Emil Froeschels, other speech and hearing organizations, Helen Beebe's personal files, and by various media.

Of particular interest to the researcher of the Auditory-Verbal Approach are the multiple videos of Helen Beebe's students in training and her vast collection of articles and newsletters on the topic of Auditory-Verbal and Unisensory therapy and theory. For information on the status of the approach throughout the United States during the 1980s, see the applications for membership in the International Committee on Auditory-Verbal Communication, where each applicant has been asked to describe in detail the extent of his/her auditory-verbal practice. In addition, the controversy over the approach can be gleaned from Helen Beebe's correspondence publicizing and defending the method.

Other valuable aspects of the collection are the teaching materials for language and speech development and those on lip-reading, tongue-thrusting and the Chewing Method actually used by Helen Beebe and the therapists at the Helen Beebe Speech and Hearing Center. Although researchers may be more interested in learning of the Chewing Method established by Emil Froeschels, it is rather the files on lip-reading that are the most extensive.

It is important to note that the personal files on Helen Beebe serve more to understand her professional career than her personal life, including such files as biographies and In memoriam writings at the time of her death, describing her career more than her character. However, this may be due to the considerable amount of personal time she devoted to the Helen Beebe Speech and Hearing Center and her clients, rather than a gap in the collection.

In this guide, the Helen Beebe Speech and Hearing Center is abbreviated HBSHC; the International Committee on Auditory-Verbal Communication is abbreviated ICAVC; Auditory-Verbal International is abbreviated AVI.

Index Terms

These materials are indexed under the following headings in the catalog of the Pennsylvania State University. Researchers wishing to find related materials should search the catalog under these index terms.

Personal Subjects

Beebe, Helen H. (Helen Hulick), 1909-1989 -- Archives

Brodnitz, Friedrich S., 1899-

Croft, John

Davis, David

Fellendorf, George W.

Froeschels, Emil, 1884-

Ling, Agnes H.

Ling, Daniel

Martin, Marjorie

Pearson, Helen

Pollack, Doreen

Urbantschitsch, Victor, 1847-1921

Corporate Subjects

Alexander Graham Bell Association for the Deaf

Helen Beebe Speech and Hearing Center

International Committee on Auditory-Verbal Communication

Larry Jarret House

Topical Subjects

Auditory perception in children

Deafness

Deafness in children

Deglutition

Hearing disorders

Lipreading

Speech therapy

Speech therapy for children

Tongue thrust

Word deafness

Word deafness in children

Form/Genre Terms

Audiocassettes

Correspondence

Organization records

Periodicals

Photographs

Video tapes

Container List

Helen Beebe Speech and Hearing Center Series

Helen Beebe Speech and Hearing Center, 1945-1993.

Administration Sub-series

Administration, 1975-1988.

Box 1

Folder 01

Intake forms, Fee schedules, checklists and questionnaires, 1979-1988

Box 1

Folder 02

Requisites, Press Releases, History, Mission Statement, 1975-1986

Personnel Sub-series

Personnel, 1985-1988.

Box 1

Folder 03

Staff questionnaires, Personnel policies, Personnel practices

Restricted.

Board of Directors Sub-series

Board of Directors, 1978-1989.

Box 1

Folder 04

Manuals, Membership rosters, Correspondence, 1980, 1983

Box 1

Folder 05-06

Meeting Minutes, 1978-1989
Box 1
Folder 07-08
Reports from Clinical Director, 1979-1987

Parents' Group Sub-series

Parents' Group, 1978-1981.
Box 1
Folder 09
Newsletters, Parent Orientation Meetings, 1978-1981

Correspondence Sub-series

Correspondence, 1945-1993.
Box 1
Folder 10
Letters to Members, 1977-1988
Box 1
Folder 11
Letters describing and thanking Beebe
Box 1
Folder 12
Collection of Beebe mementos for scrapbook, 1988-1993
Box 1
Folder 13
Publicizing and Defending Auditory-Verbal Method, 1982-1987
Box 1
Folder 14-20
Letters between and with Beebe, 1950-1985
Box 1
Folder 21-22
Letters with Visitors, 1969-1988
Box 1
Folder 23
Other Letters, 1974-1991

Clients Sub-series

Clients, 1945-1987.
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Folder 24-31
Client Files, 1946-1987

Restricted: Personal information.
Box 1
Folder 32
Basic Information, 1973-1979

Restricted: Personal information.
Box 1
Folder 33
Huber, Mary Ellen, 1965-1969

Restricted: Personal information.
Box 1
Folder 34-38
Gasparetti, Tommy, 1969-1971

Restricted: Personal information.
Box 1
Folder 39-41
Audiograms, 1968-1987

Restricted: Personal information.

Brochures Sub-series

Brochures, 1984-1989.
Box 1
Folder 42-43
HBSHC brochures, 1984-1989

Newspaper Articles Sub-series

Newspaper articles about HBSHC and the children, 1963-1991.
Box 1
Folder 44-46
Brochures and Newspaper Articles 1966-1991

Photographs Sub-series

Photographs, 1945-1991.
Box 2
Folder 01-06
Photographs, 1967-1991
Box 3
Folder 01-08
Photographs, 1945-1989

Larry Jarret House Sub-series

Larry Jarret House, 1975-1992.
Box 3
Folder 09
Client Notes and Therapy Schedules, 1981-1983

Restricted: Personal information.

Box 3

Folder 10-11

Administration, 1975-1992

Box 3

Folder 12

Newspaper Articles, 1972-1979

Seminars/Conferences Sub-series

Seminars/Conferences, 1974-1991.

Box 3

Folder 13

Unisensory Approach, Hearing Impaired Child, 1974-1987

Box 3

Folder 14

Auditory-Verbal Approach, Competencies, 1975-1977

Box 3

Folder 15

Listening is Future, Time is Now, 1991

Visitors/Appointments Sub-series

Visitors/Appointments, 1972-1991.

Box 3

Folder 16

HBSHC list of guests, 1978-1991

Box 3

Folder 17-24

Appointment books, 1972-1991

Legal Sub-series

Legal, 1972-1989.

Box 4

Folder 01

Bylaws, Judicial opinions, Articles of Incorporation, 1972-1988

Box 4

Folder 02

Beebe estate: will and legal correspondence, 1987-1989

Box 4

Folder 03

Agreement for donation of property and bill of sale between Beebe and HBSHC, 1978

Teaching Sub-series

Teaching, 1963-1986.

Box 4

Folder 04-06
Teaching Materials for Language Development
Box 4
Folder 07-10
Teaching Materials for Speech Development
Box 4
Folder 11
Assessment Forms
Box 4
Folder 12
Tongue-Thrusting, Swallowing Therapy
Box 4
Folder 13-17
Lip-Reading, 1970-1986
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Folder 18-19
Teachers of Hearing Impaired

Materials for Parents of Hearing-Impaired Children Sub-series

Materials for Parents of Hearing-Impaired Children, 1974-1985.
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Materials for Parents of Hearing-Impaired Children
Box 4
Folder 22-23
Reading Lists

Publications Series

Publications, 1930-1993.
Box 4
Folder 24-25
Personal Accounts of Hearing-Impaired, 1974-1991
Box 4
Folder 26-28
Newspaper Articles, 1962-1988
Box 4
Folder 29-32
Journal Articles, 1951-1987
Box 4
Folder 33-44
Articles, Poems, Papers, 1945-1993
Box 5
Folder 01-12
Articles, Poems, Papers, 1943-1993

Audio-Visual Series

Audio-Visual, 1965-1991.

Videos

Videos, 1981-1989

Box 5

Folder 13

Videotape Inventories, Scripts

Babies Learning to Listen, Birth to Three

Can Your Baby Hear?

Chewing Explanation

Cochlear Implant: Susan Abrams

Davis, David Interview

Deaf Children Can Learn to Hear

Deaf Children Can Learn to Hear: Beebe Narration

Deaf Children in the Mainstream

Developing Verbal Language

Dimensions TV Program - Early Intervention Program

Graduates of the Beebe Program, Parts I and II

Learning by Listening, Parts 1-4

Learning to Hear

Manager's Chat

Mardie and Beebe, 1988

Middle Age Kids, 1981

Our Deaf Children Stay in the Hearing World

Patient Update I and II, 1983

Parent Involvement at the Beebe Center

Parent Panels

Parents as Teachers

Parents Meeting, 1989

Sensory Integration Discussion, 1983

Staff Development Meeting, 1989

Story Modeling

Strategies, 1985

Strategies for School-aged Children, 1987

Teaching Parents 1982

Teaching Techniques

Weaver Family Interview: Larry Jarret House, 1986

Workshop, 1985

Films

Films, 1965-1968.

Box 5

Folder 14

Our Deaf Children Stay in Hearing World: information on children in film; introduction to film text; correspondence concerning film, 1965-1968

Slides

Slides, 1985.
Box 5
Folder 15
Slides of Beebe working with children; key to slides' content, 1985

Audio Tapes

Audio Tapes, 1975-1982.
Box 5
Folder 16
Learning by Listening and Voice Disorders Audiotapes
Box 5
Folder 17-18
Fellendorf, George Discussion Audiotapes, 1975
Box 5
Folder 19
Silence Ain't Golden and Other Audiotapes
Box 5
Folder 20
Conference Audiotapes, 1975

Emil Froeschels Series

Emil Froeschels, 1947-1983.

Tools Sub-series

Tools, undated
Box 5
Folder 21-22
Mechanical parts, Whistles

Pupils Sub-series

Pupils, undated
Box 6
Folder 01
Pupil Book

Death Sub-series

Death, 1972.
Box 6
Folder 02
Memorium articles and poems, 1972

Other Sub-series

Other, 1953?

Box 6
Folder 03
Photographs, Aphorisms, Exercises, Newspaper Articles, 1953?

Newspaper Articles Sub-series

Newspaper articles, 1948-1972.

New York Society for Speech and Voice Therapy Sub-series

New York Society for Speech and Voice Therapy, 1947-1971.

Box 6
Folder 04
Correspondence and Administration, 1947-1971
Box 6
Folder 05
Constitution, Bylaws

International Association of Logopaedics and Phoniatics Sub-series

International Association of Logopaedics and Phoniatics, 1950-1983.

Box 6
Folder 06-08
Bylaws, Correspondence, and Congresses, 1950-1983

Speech and Hearing Organizations Series

Speech and Hearing Organizations, 1944-1991

Newsletters Sub-series

Newsletters, 1961-1991.
Box 6
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Newsletters, 1961-1991

Schools/Clinics Sub-series

Schools/Clinics, 1955-1984.
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House Ear Institute, 1981-1982
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Folder 24
Easton Hospital Orthopedic Speech Clinic, 1944-1947
Box 6

Folder 25
Pace College, 1970-1976
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Folder 26-28
Gallaudet College, 1951-1987

Associations Sub-series

Associations, 1964-1990.
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Alexander Graham Bell Association for Deaf (AGBAD), 1980-1986
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AGBAD 27th Biennial Convention, Kansas City, Missouri, 1966
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AGBAD Administration, 1964-1985
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International Committee on Auditory-Verbal Communications (ICAVC), 1981-1988
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Folder 01-04
International Committee on Auditory-Verbal Communication (ICAVC) Meeting Minutes, 1978-1986
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Folder 05-08
ICAVC Applications for Membership, 1981-1986
Box 7
Folder 09-18
ICAVC Correspondence, 1976-1988
Box 7
Folder 19-21
Auditory-Verbal International, 1984-1989
Box 7
Folder 22
American Speech and Hearing Association, 1966
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Folder 23-24
Commission on Education of Deaf, 1986-1989
Box 7
Folder 25
Lehigh Valley Parents Group for Hard of Hearing Children and New York League for Hard of Hearing, 1967
Box 7
Folder 26

International Parents' Organization, Academy of Dispensing Audiologists and
Pennsylvania Speech and Hearing Association, 1971-1988

Helen Beebe Personal Files Series

Helen Beebe Personal Files, 1927-1998.

Box 7

Folder 27

Biography and Publications, 1954, 1982

Box 7

Folder 28-29

Sound Waves, 1982-1986

Box 7

Folder 30

Awards, 1977-1988

Box 7

Folder 31

Newspaper Articles, 1943-1988

Box 7

Folder 32

Death, 1989

Box 7

Folder 33-40

Education: Diplomas, Courses, 1927-1965

Box 7

Folder 41-44

Postcards, 1943-1985