



FLA NEWS

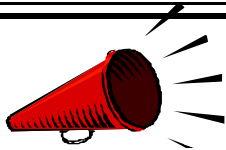


Volume 2 Issue 4

Florida Laryngectomee Association

Member IAL

September 2001



THE PRESIDENT'S VOICE

Charles E. Blair

Well, the summer's almost over, so that means (a) still lots more hot weather for Florida, (b) maybe one last hurricane, or (c) the FLA Convention is just around the corner! Of course, all of the above are true. Good news/bad news on the FLA convention! The deadline for making Holiday Inn room reservations has passed, but they have assured us that the conference rates will be honored so long as rooms are available. At that time of year I don't perceive a problem so long as you just go ahead and make your reservations as soon as possible. Remember, you may cancel later without penalty by calling at least 72 hours in advance of 3 pm on your stated day of arrival. Penalties would be waived for legitimate last minute medical emergencies. More good Convention news is the large number of Vendors planning to attend! Free repairs and tune ups of Servox AL's and chargers will again be available.

Kudos to our 1st VP, Judy Ramboldt, on being elected to the IAL Board of Directors. Earl Mogk, FLA Past President, was elected last year, so that makes two Floridians now on the IAL Board! Congratulations to both! For an entertaining and informative summary of the recent IAL Annual Meeting, see Judy's article on page 2.

WHAT'S WITH THE VOICE INSTITUTE?

We may have been a little lax in fully advising all our members the precise status of the FLA's Voice Institute. So, here goes a full explanation.

The Voice Institute was formally and officially dissolved by a Nov. 1, 2000 resolution of its Planning Committee and subsequent FLA Executive Committee resolution on Nov. 5, 2000. It had been a long time permanent standing committee of the Florida Laryngectomee Association and was governed by the Voice Institute's "Planning Committee" under its own Bylaws. Its primary goal (paraphrasing a bit) was to essentially train a cadre of SLP's (and Laryngectomee trainees) to ensure all Laryngectomees had full access to competent and qualified professionals/trainees in the learning and teaching of alternate methods of communication.

In the FLA Executive Committee meeting of Nov. 5, '00, a resolution was passed to designate the former FLAVI's "Planning Committee" members as a temporary FLA committee to determine the best way to fulfill and continue the FLA Goal, ARTICLE II, PURPOSES. 2. "To encourage and maintain an exchange of ideas and methods for the learning and

teaching of laryngeal methods of communication." In other words, a resurrected VI but perhaps in a totally new format. This FLA committee is now called the **OUTREACH COMMITTEE** and its members are,
 Dr. Ed Stone- Dir. of Education
 Lisa Proper-Co Director
 Nancy Blair-Co-Director
 Bruce Pearson, MD-Medical Dir.
 Charles Blair- FLA Pres.
 Earl Mogk- FLA Past Pres.
 Lenny Weinstein- FLA Treasurer
 Anne Staley-Related Professional
 Chuck Waldren-Member at Large
 Robert King, MD- Founder
 Also included are a non-voting recording secretary (Amy Jo Kiger) and the other Founder, Jeanetta Jones, who is temporarily inactive.



The Outreach Committee will present a preliminary report at the FLA Convention, Saturday October 27 at 3:30.

(As I am finishing this article, it is 10 am on Tues the 11th and I turn on the TV. At first, I can't comprehend what I am seeing!!)



RAMBLINGS ABOUT THE IAL CONVENTION FROM YOU KNOW WHO

Judith Ramboldt, First VP

Bill and I left for the trip to Myrtle Beach on August 14 (my birthday if anyone is interested), after delivering our boxer, Athena, at CAMP (kennel for the un-enlightened). She loves to go there because everyone fawns over her.

This was going to be a great trip for us because we had never traveled up the East Coast. Since we are originally from the Midwest, we never ventured over the coast except when we go to Daytona Beach. We were planning to stop at Savannah on the way up and spend a few hours. But...it was raining Southern cats and dogs and we missed the turnoff. Okay...let's stop at Charleston. We did that on Wednesday morning - had a great time. Friends of ours had brought me a small "Sweetgrass Basket" when they had visited Charleston. I bought a lovely basket from a woman who sits with her back to a building on one of the main streets. Then we walked through the Market Area - a combination of flea market and brand new things.

Onward to Myrtle Beach. Found the hotel, went to register and found out that we were in "tower 1" - a short walk to the convention center. Room was great with lots of room. Went to the convention

area and signed in. Got my delegate's badge stapled to my name tag. We each received a plastic bag full of goodies from the Myrtle Beach Club. Before, I forget, the club must have worked their tails off because everything was great - except the air conditioning. But about that later.

The schedule of meetings was brutal. But we learned a lot and met a lot of great people. The Meet and Greet was marvelous with food galore. However, the air conditioning could not keep up with the crowd so a lot of us moved out onto the patio area. Everyone had a great evening.

The Voice Institute had already begun. The only regret I have is that there were so many meetings of the IAL side, I never got to audit any of the training session. I did go to one of the outbreak sessions with Dr. Shirley Salmon who works with electrolarynx speakers. Boy, was I surprised. She nailed me a couple of times for sloppy speech. And I am known as being a very clear speaker. But we must always remember that we need to hone our skills at all times. Thanks, Shirley.

On Friday night, the WebWhisper dinner was held. Again, problems with the AC. But the food was great (thanks Pat Sanders), A great buffet - nothing too spicy. But it was a little hard to take the pulled pork when the poor little oinker was staring at you. (Check photo in latest WebWhisper Newsletter) Great Presentation. When we had finally stuffed our faces until we could not move, the awards ceremony started.

The first award was given to

the WW Webmaster, Dutch Helms. He received a loving cup with his name engraved. Good going, Dutch. Then the achievement awards were given out. Pat Sanders - for her Headlines site, her work on the first cruise, service to her local support group and as VP for Web info.

Bob Hodge - outstanding leadership in creating and distributing the WW brochure and handling the Loan Closet. David Blevins - editorship of WWJ and participation in the design of the WW brochure. Richard Najarian of Bruce Medical Supply for sponsorship of WW dinner cocktail party. Lorentz Gran - the Long Distance Lary Award - he came 4271 miles from Norway to be with us. And I, Judy Ramboldt - for work in local and state associations, tobacco education program and local theater. I was floored - I was at a loss for words. Imagine.

Saturday morning was the delegates meeting. A motion that the Board of Directors be increased from 12 to 18. Motion passed. Then came nominations from the floor. A lot of write-ins. Finally, the people elected were named. They are Murray Allan, Wayne Baker, Libby Fitzgerald, Leonard Librizzi, Ed McDermott, Bob Mehrman, Gary Miner, Janet Ramakers, Judy Ramboldt, and director at large, SLP Elizabeth Durand. Wow, I was happy. Elizabeth was elected to the VP position and Leonard Librizzi was elected to the position of Treasurer. We heard a week later that Howard Moore, who had withdrawn his

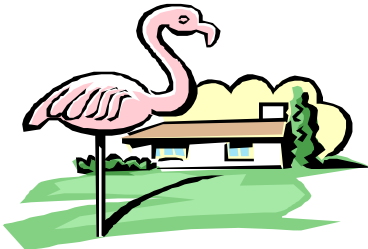
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bid for VP, died after a fierce battle with lung cancer.

The convention ended with a great banquet even though the chicken was a lot too spicy for most people. The AC again made most of us leave the banquet room to go back to our rooms that were cool enough. We forgot one day to turn the thermostat up/down, whatever to get the room a little warmer. When we walked in after the meetings, we could have hung meat in there.

On the way home we stopped at Savannah – Walked on the river walk and had a great meal. Can you imagine, we had spent five days on the Atlantic Coast and I had not had any seafood. Had seafood in Savannah. Than on to home base.

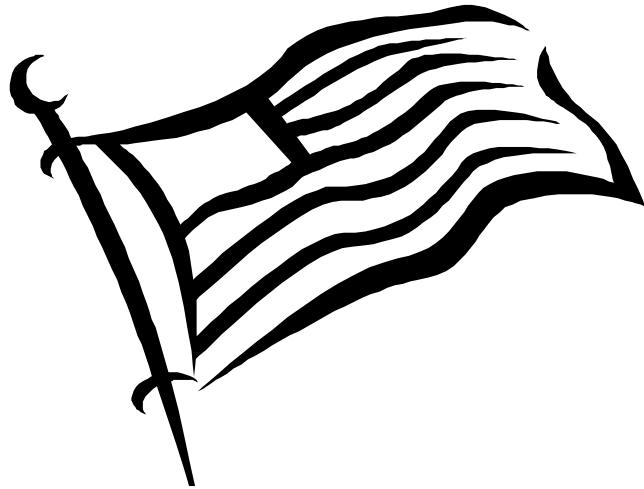


FLA LOGO SHIRTS

Golf Style. White with Red Logo, Poly/Cotton blend
\$20 at the Convention or \$22 by mail.

Contact: Nancy Blair
727 391 3473

cblair2@tampabay.rr.com



**TUESDAY
SEPTEMBER 11, 2001**

A DAY WE WILL NOT SOON FORGET

GOD BLESS AMERICA!

FLA AUXILIARY CRAFT SALE

The annual FLA Auxiliary Craft Sale will be held at Daytona Beach at the FLA Annual Convention. Crafts are donated by local clubs. The profit is presented to the FLA. The Sale is October 26 & 27. **The FLA shirts will be on sale - \$20.**

Please bring handmade items. Pickles, jams and baked goods and used paperback books are in big demand. If you have crafts but are unable to bring them to Daytona Beach, call one of the contacts for help:

Evelyn Acosta 954 720-1745
Winnie Mogk 954 929-0136
Nancy Blair 727 391-3473
Carolyn Carter 850 479-2037

LOTS OF SNACKS!!!

All vendors pay a fee to exhibit at the convention. They are our main source of financial support. The following vendors have also chosen to sponsor the events indicated:

Coffee Break Friday morning
KAPITEX

Refreshments Friday afternoon
ALL VENDORS

Meet and Greet Hors D'oeuvres
ATOS MEDICAL

Continental Brkfst Sat. morning
INHEALTH TECHNOLOGIES

Coffee Break Sat. afternoon
LUMINAUD

CLUB TALK



CHATTERBOX CLUB TAMPA

Meetings resume this month after a summer break. New president, James Sullivan, is promoting the establishment of a formal visitation program and anti-smoking speakers for schools. This club meets the second Friday, 2-4 pm, in the Moffitt Cancer Center Cafeteria. We will see Jim at the FLA Convention!

SPACE COAST NEW VOICE CLUB

BREVARD COUNTY

“Go to your customers!”

From new President, Robert Smiley, “We meet the third Sunday of each month alternating between Holmes Medical Center in Melbourne and Cape Canaveral Hospital in Cocoa Beach. Our next meeting is Sept 16th At Cape Canaveral. Each meeting we try to have a speaker or some type of presentation. Also, we have door prizes from a local business or supplier. We are not having a meeting in December but will resume in Jan. ‘02 at Cape Canaveral. Meetings begin at 1:30 pm.

NEW VOICE CLUB OF BROWARD COUNTY

We are saddened to learn of the passing of club member Ralph L. DeGregory

EMERALD COAST LOST CORD CLUB

FORT WALTON BEACH

One of our youngest clubs but very active. It was formed about 6 years ago and currently has about 18 active members. They meet the 3rd Sunday of the month but are off during the summer months. Elladene Hall is President. elladine@aol.com

MESSAGE TO ALL CLUBS

From our editor, “we would like to begin compiling the birth dates (Mo/day only) along with the addresses of our newsletter recipients, as well as email addresses, if available.” All such info is optional, of course. The use of this information, manner of collection of data and the membership’s opinions will be discussed at the convention.

IAL MEMBERSHIP

Florida Clubs are encouraged to join the IAL. The annual fee is nominal and allows your club to send voting delegates to their annual business meeting and also includes a listing of your club in the IAL Website, including contact data and meeting place, dates and time. Currently, 15 of our 20 Florida Clubs are members, having paid IAL dues for 2001. (100% in 2002?)

FALL FANTASY

The theme of the Saturday night banquet will be “Fall Fantasy”. Be prepared to dance the night away while dreaming of cool breezes, early frosts and swirling leaves.



FLA OFFICERS

PRESIDENT

CHARLES E. BLAIR
8745 Maplewood Rd.
Largo Fl. 33777

E-Mail <cblair2@tampabay.rr.com>

FIRST VICE PRESIDENT

JUDITH RAMBOLDT
2640 Derby Dr.
Deltona Fl. 32738

E-Mail <billjudy@n-jcenter.com>

SECOND VICE PRESIDENT

FRED CARTER
833 Maplewoods Cir.
Pensacola Fl. 32534

TREASURER

LENNY WEINSTEIN
1427 E. Hillsboro Blvd.
Deerfield Beach Fl. 33441
E-Mail <lweins6385@cs.com>

SECRETARY

AMY JO KIGER
22 Trotter Ct.
Port Orange Fl. 32119
<ajk531@aol.com>

EDITOR

WILLIAM RAMBOLDT
E-Mail <billjudy@j-jcenter.com>

