



FLA NEWS



Volume 5 Issue 2

Florida Laryngectomee Association

www.f-l-a.org

Member IAL

September, 2004

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

We would like you to attend the Annual Meeting (AM) of the Florida Laryngectomee Association (FLA) in Daytona Beach on October 29th and 30th, 2004. Read on.

Top 10 Reasons for Attending the Annual Meeting

10. If you are having problems learning to speak, the experts will be there to help you.
9. You will realize how "normal" you really are.
8. You will be able to drop names like Ed Stone, Nancy Blair, Lisa Proper, Annette Miller, Jim Lauder and Matt Griffin, etc.
7. You will have a new definition for the word "handicapped".
6. You will be able to impress your friends with such acronyms as TEP, ES, EL, HME, SLP, and AM.
5. You will rethink your ideas about swimming, whistling, singing, lifting, smelling, blowing up balloons, etc.
Who says we can't.
4. When dining with fellow attendees in Daytona, it will be the waitress who will have to adapt, not you.
3. You will learn how not to talk like Donald Duck.
2. You will be so proud of your accomplishments that you will want to burst.
1. For one two day period, you will be in the majority, not the minority. —It is all about you!!

Ed. Note: These reasons were plagiarized from the IAL with modifications, apologies and thanks.

CLUB TALK

The summer hiatus is over for our few regional clubs that take a break for the core summer months. The Chatterbox club of Hillsboro County and the Suncoast New Voices of Pinellas County resumed in early Sept. and reported small turnouts but beneficial meetings. Blame Ivan. While mid and south Fla. have been spared at least from Ivan, our hearts and prayers go out to all the Gulf Coast victims and our own panhandle. Please, no more!!

Send your interesting and important club news and happenings to our co-editors Charlie and Nancy Blair or President, Carl Kilmer. We have mentioned this before but as a friendly reminder, don't forget to bring or send your clubs' raffle contribution to the AM this October 29, 30. It adds significantly to the excitement of our raffles held during the Saturday evening banquet and to the financial well being of the FLA. We are proud of our regional clubs for their continued support of FLA.

ACS GENEROSITY

The American Cancer Society, Florida Division, is continuing to support the FLA by funding our newsletter expenses for another full year and maintaining a \$2000 annual grant to subsidize individual speech evaluations and scholarships.

JERRY HOUGH CONTRIBUTING AUTHOR

Jerry Hough is a past-president of the FLA, a past-president of the IAL and past-president of the Sun Coast New Voice Club (currently the secretary and editor of the Suncoast New Voice Club). Jerry is not only one of the finest presidents we have ever had, but is also one of the finest writers in FLA history. We are happy to announce that Jerry has agreed to become a contributing writer on these pages. "Jerry's Journal" debuts on page two of this issue. Please be sure to read it.

REGISTRATION NUMBERS INCREASING!!!

Registration for the Annual Meeting at Daytona Beach is running ahead of last year, and we have still to hear from several of our clubs. See page three for a brief agenda and a registration form. **Advance registration is required, and your hotel reservation must be made no later than October 3rd.** See you in Daytona Beach.

Jerry's Journal

By Jerry Hough

Let me say hello to all of our Florida Laryngectomee Association friends and others that may accidentally indulge themselves in the *FLA News*. I'm a member of the laryngectomee class of 1982 and have been involved in support and rehabilitation of others for a long time. With some health concerns, not related to cancer of the larynx, I have re-kindled my interest in the world around us with issues that are both serious and some we can poke fun at. The "powers to be" have offered me space to chat about a subject that certainly may bring Florida into worldly focus again on November 2, Election Day. On your mark, get set...

Recalling the election mess of 2000 with the much criticized punch-card voting system, elusive chads and endless recounts, followed by the demand for a new system, our elected officials dug deep into our collective pockets for electronic voting gear. It seems that the favorite device is touch-screen voting. All that is required is to touch a computer or TV size screen, point your finger and press. It's a piece of cake if you are nimble fingered and can read the instructions. That could be somewhat tricky for some considering electronic screens are intimidating when your eyes have dimmed and fingers fail to touch the exact spot.

The election board notes it will have people available to guide the unsure voters in the mechanics of voting on touch-screen ma-

chines. Assistance is a good strategy if the helpers have been screened by the FBI, CIA and the Dept. of Homeland Security.

To get ready for the big day and casting your vote on a touch-screen contraption you will need some practice. You can do this by touching your TV picture (particularly when the Jerry Springer show is on) or your computer monitor. Keep in mind that when you have completed your home training and voted for your candidates on November 2nd you will receive a Windex wipe for performing your constitutional duty and removing the smudges from your home practice screens.

This message was not approved by any candidate and hopefully that commercial tag line will soon fade. Bear up, fellow citizens this too shall pass!

FREE* EVALUATIONS & THERAPY

Come to the **FLA Annual Meeting (AM)** for speech evaluation by FLA staff **licensed and certified Speech-Language Pathologists**. **NEW** this year, follow-up therapy sessions as needed. **DON'T MISS THIS OPPORTUNITY! FREE! INCLUDED IN REGISTRATION FEE.** The **FLA** is sponsoring **FINANCIAL GRANTS** up to **\$250** for those who request speech evaluations and need financial assistance. **Do you qualify for a grant?**

*Must be a Florida resident.

*Must pre-register for the convention and attend all Annual Meeting instructional sessions and the banquet.

*Must lodge in the meeting hotel.

*Must pre-register for speech evaluations (see bottom reg. form).

*Must provide justification for Option B to Carl Kilmer, President. (954-472-0865, carlkilmer@bellsouth.net)

Priority will be given to laryngectomees who are 5 years or less from date of surgery. (or having significant problems) and to those unable to attend without financial aid.

. Grants are limited and awarded on a first come basis. Specific amount may vary. **Option A** is a lump sum payment at end of the Annual Meeting. **Option B** is partial actual cost with early payment subject to pre-approval & details to be developed. It is designed to end the need to pay out-of-pocket and then be reimbursed later.

FLA AUXILIARY WE'RE BACK THIS YEAR! Craft Sale

Needed: All Crafts, Handmade Items, Used Books, Preserves, and Pickles etc.

When: Oct. 29-30, 2004

Where: FLA Annual Meeting

How: Bring to the Meeting Fri morning.

Why: Proceeds Donated to FLA

If you need help to get your items to the convention, **Call:**

Dottie Kilmer - Plantation 954-472-0865

Nancy Blair - Largo 727 -391-3473

Winnie Mogk - Dania Beach 954 -929-0136

Ellie Nail - Palm City 561-223-1743

Annette Miller - Pensacola 850-494-6144

**CONDENSED PROGRAM
FLA ANNUAL MEETING
October 29-30, 2004**

Friday, Oct. 29, 2004

9:00am - Vendor Set up
Craft Sale
SIGN-IN Table
10:30am Refreshments
1:00 pm Pres. Welcome
1:15 pm Self Improvement In
Speaking
2:15 pm Refreshments
2:30 pm TEP
3:30 pm Speech Evals
(free time for others)
6-7 pm Reception

Saturday, Oct. 30, 2004

8:00 am Advances in Laser
Surgery
8:30 am Questions Afraid to Ask
your Surgeon
9:00 am Pulmonary Function
10:00 am Refreshments
10:45 am AL Trouble Shooting and
Repair
11:45 pm Free lunch and Business
Meeting
2:00 pm Dealing with Grief, An-
ger, Depression
3:00 pm Rap Sessions
4:00 pm Speech rehab (free
time for others)
6:30 pm - Banquet, Raffles



**FEATURED
SPEAKERS/FACILITATORS**

Nancy Blair, MS, CCC-SLP
Mark Finrock, Kapitex
Dennis Fuller, PhD
Jim Lauder, Lauder Enterprises, Inc
Caryn Melvin, PhD
Annette Miller, BS, CCC-SLP
Lisa Proper, MS, CCC-SLP
Dr. John Salassa, MD
R.E. "Ed" Stone, PhD., CCC-SLP

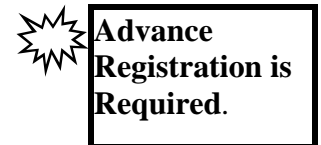
**FLA ANNUAL CONVENTION REGISTRATION FORM
COMPLETE AND RETURN BY OCTOBER 1, 2004**

Event	Fee (Advance)	#	Amount
General Registration, includes all sessions & exhibition	\$10	_____	_____
Luncheon/Business Mtg. Saturday midday	Free	_____	<u>Free</u>
Banquet Saturday evening	\$25	_____	_____
Circle dinner choice chicken pork loin			
TOTAL ENCLOSED			_____

Name for **EACH** registrant as it will appear on the name tag:

Address: _____ City: _____ State ____ Zip _____
Home Phone () _____ Club _____

Make Check Payable to: Florida Laryngectomee Association
Mail to: Carl Kilmer, President
114 Wimbledon Lake Drive
Plantation, FL 33324



Hotel Reservations must be made directly with the Plaza Ocean Club Hotel, 640 N. Atlantic Ave, Daytona Beach. Rates are \$77 plus \$5 parking, based on availability. Rates are based on single/double occupancy. Local taxes 12.5%. Reservations required by Oct. 3, 2004. Call 1-800-874-7420 www.plazaoceanclub.com

Complete the following: (circle appropriate choices in each line)

- * I want an individual speech evaluation during the convention **Yes No**
- * First time attendee **Yes No**
- * I am requesting financial assistance **Yes No** Option **A B** (must include phone # if circling **Yes**)
(Option B requires pre-approval by Carl Kilmer, 954-472-0865 or email: carlkilmer@bellsouth.net)

VENDORS' SUPPORT

There are 11 companies planning to attend the Annual Meeting in October. Each has paid \$250 registration and many have sponsored various events. Below is an alphabetical list of the vendors and their support for this year's meeting:

ATOS Medical-providing the main speaker and all his expenses, coffee break and 3 dinner tickets.

Bruce Medical-Neck Breather alert pins for each laryngectomy.

connections unlimited--sponsoring refreshments for the Executive Board Meeting

Eagle Medical Supply

Florida Telecommunications Relay Incorporated (FTRI)

Griffin Laboratories-covering expenses for SLPs who do speech evaluations, coffee break

InHealth Technologies-sharing the cost of the luncheon and the meet and greet.

Kapitex-wine for the banquet

Lauder Enterprises-sharing the cost of the luncheon and meet and greet

Luminaud Incorporated-coffee break and 2 dinner tickets

Mountain Precision MFG

FLA OFFICERS

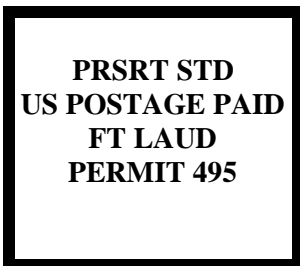
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