



FLA NEWS



Volume 8 Issue 2

Florida Laryngectomee Association

www.f-l-a.org

Member IAL

June 2007

PROPOSED BYLAW CHANGES

ARTICLE II PURPOSES Delete all, including subparagraphs and add the following;

Article II Goals

1. Promote complete rehabilitation of the laryngectomee. Provide measures and programs for laryngectomees and their families for improving quality of life with voice being a high consideration.
2. Maintain continuing laryngectomee outreach educational and assistance programs through such measures as newsletters, website, local support clubs, periodic meetings or structured training sessions for professionals/students and or laryngectomees. A designated Director of Education will be selected by the Executive committee.
3. Encourage and facilitate the formation and growth of local laryngectomee support groups within the state of Florida.
4. Cooperate with the American Cancer Society-Florida Division, its units and affiliates and all recognized societies and organizations whose objectives are to combat cancer.

Article V Officers – Add to the end:.....These positions may require knowledge and use of state of the art communication methods with a need to have basic computer skills and own or have access to adequate computer equipment. Fax capability is highly desirable.

Article VI Executive Committee

A. Membership

First sentence, second line delete:,,,,, Medical Advisor,,,,,,,,.

MEETINGS

Add between penultimate and last sentence: To maximize efficiency and minimize expenses the Executive Committee may elect to conduct some business by conference call or Email. Add the following to the last sentence at it's end: ,whether in person, by conference call or by electronic mail.

Add new **Article VII Medical Advisor**

The Medical Advisor will provide professional guidance to the membership on policy matters relating to medical issues. The Medical Advisor will be appointed by the Executive Committee and will serve at their pleasure or until said Medical Advisor resigns. The position will normally be filled by an otolaryngologist or other medical professional familiar with laryngectomy and the needs of laryngectomees

ARTICLES VII COMMITTEES Change to **ARTICLES VIII COMMITTEES** and,

Change the 3 rd sentence as follows,,,,, Nominations shall be submitted to the organization through the FLA Newsletter or presented on the FLA Website.

ARTICLE VIII change to ARTICLE IX; ARTICLE IX change to ARTICLE X; ARTICLE X change to ARTICLE XI

(Note: Existing bylaws may be viewed on our website www.f-l-a.org or contact Charles Blair, President/Editor for a hard copy. Contact information shown on page 2.)

FLA 2007 ANNUAL MEETING– Sept. 14 - 16, 2007
SHERATON STUDIO CITY HOTEL – ORLANDO (Rate: \$85 + 12.5% Tax)

FREE SPEECH EVALUATIONS — (Financial Grants Available)

Come to the FLA Annual Meeting (AM) for speech evaluation by FLA staff; licensed and certified Speech-Language Pathologists. Don't miss this opportunity for free evaluations included in your registration fee. The FLA is sponsoring financial grants up to \$450 for those who request speech evaluations and need financial assistance in order to attend.

To 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 on the registration form.

Priority will be given to laryngectomees who are 5 years or less from date of surgery or longer if having significant problems. Grants are limited and awarded on a first come basis and determination of need. Grant recipients will be provided a host hotel room (Sheraton) for 3 nights (value \$255), registration fee (\$15), banquet ticket (\$30), meals in the hotel dining room (allowance of \$80). Additional expenses may be approved in advance up to the \$450 limit and may include the registration fee and banquet for accompanying caregiver. Advance travel fuel expenses may be provided (within the max \$450 limit) including appropriate advances. Our policy is to eliminate the need to pay out-of-pocket prior to reimbursement. Another option is a lump sum \$450 payment at end of the Annual Meeting, provided all qualifying factors listed above are met. .

Procedure for applying for financial aid:

Complete all appropriate sections of registration form. The FLA President may contact you later by phone or email if more detailed information is needed.

We intend for this process to be relatively simple. This financial aid is possible by a grant from the American Cancer Society, Florida Division and is limited.

We know you to be honest when applying and will normally accept your statement. We hope to be able to approve all legitimate applications for aid. Speech evaluations will only be conducted by qualified professionals with graduate student observation for instructional purposes, and in a separate room.

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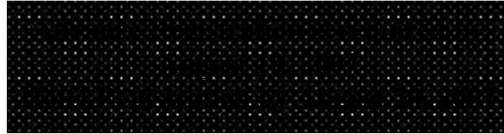
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Note: for a full size copy of the FLA 2007 Annual Meeting agenda or a copy of the Bylaws call, write or email the President/Editor as listed above. **Newsflash!** The reconstructed FLA website is now online with all outdated and inaccurate items corrected. The full agenda as well as the current bylaws may be viewed and downloaded on www.f-l-a.org for those of you having internet access. The Florida Laryngectomee Association Annual Meeting is open to anyone wishing to register to attend. All are welcome! **Club Presidents: send me a list of recently deceased club members for special banquet memorial.**

ACS VOLUNTEERS STILL NEEDED

The FLA and most of our local Clubs receive valuable support from the ACS State divisional and/or regional offices. We anticipate continuation of our strong anti-tobacco advocacy and participation in Relay for Life events but there are other ACS programs that **direly need our support**. Contact President/Editor for more info.

Florida Laryngectomee Association (FLA)
ANNUAL MEETING PROGRAM
 Sheraton Studio City Hotel, Orlando, FL
 September, 14 - 16, 2007
 REGISTRATION FORM



Event	Fee (Advance)	# guests	Amount
General Registration, includes all sessions & exhibit	\$15	_____	_____
Luncheon/Business Mtg. Sunday *	complementary	_____	<u>XXXXXX</u>
Banquet Saturday evening	\$30	_____	_____
* (Please list total number planning to attend. Sunday luncheon)			
Circle Dinner Choice:	Chicken Marsala	Tilapia Dish with lemon sauce	
TOTAL ENCLOSED			_____

Name for **each registrant and guest** as it will appear on the name tag:

Address: _____ City: _____ State ____ Zip _____

Home Phone () _____ Club or Affiliation _____

Make check payable to: Florida Laryngectomee **Association**
 Mail to: Charles Blair, President
 8745 Maplewood Road
 Largo, FL 33777

**A.M. Advance
 Registration is
 Required by Aug. 10.**

**If lodging is desired or required , reservations must be made directly with the Sheraton Studio City Hotel, Orlando, FL. Rates are \$85, based on single/double occupancy. Local taxes 12.5%
 Hotel Reservations required by August 20, 2007. This is a critical deadline.
 Call 1-800-327-1366 www.sheratonstudiocity.com**

Complete the following: **(circle appropriate choices in each line)**
 I want a speech evaluation during the convention **Yes No** (If **Yes** list ph. # above & primary concern below)
 First time attendee **Yes No**
 If requesting financial aid complete all below;
 I am requesting financial assistance **Yes No** (must be requesting speech eval and include phone # if **Yes**)
 Would you be able to attend without financial assistance? **Yes No**
 Do you wish lump sum payment at convention end or actual? **Lump sum Actual**
 Present method of speech: None -Writing tablet - Artificial Larynx - Esophageal – TEP
 Date of laryngectomy_____

Speech Problem_____

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

What about that "Rogue" registration form in the last newsletter??? Not enough space here for an explanation— just excuses and more excuses. Best left behind with a pledge for *no more!*

On a more positive note, the FLA reconstructed website is up and running online and by the time you read this, free of the initial bugs. We have expanded the Annual Meeting agenda to tentatively add an insurance panel on Sunday and thanks to our VP add The Bob Smiley Jr. Open Golf Tournament On Friday morning. More information on both in our next newsletter in August. The Annual Meeting now ends at 2 pm with the "Business Meeting With Complementary Light Lunch".

. We will welcome non-resident participation in our Annual Meeting. All attendees are welcome. Y'all come!

NOW! The surprise banquet program you have been waiting for,,,,, From our Suncoast talented member, Carol Kanjian, comes this announcement : *"Get ready to make some memories. The FLA is going to have "THE NEXT BEST THING". You've seen the TV show. Just wait `till you see the line up we have. Word has it that we will be honored with a special performance by Miss Barbra Streisand. You know how rare her appearances are, but she knows how many special "PEOPLE" will be in attendance at our convention and has agreed to provide us with a memorable interlude. We've also heard from reliable sources that Miss Liza Minnelli will also shake up the stage with a few songs that will surely enthrall those with New York roots. There will be music for dancing and maybe a few more surprises. Don't miss the dinner and show. You Just Have To Be There!!"* WOW! That sounds like fun; and dancing, and raffles, and good food, and good fellowship, and just \$30 – how can you beat that! See you there.

We also intend to have a somber and reflective moment during the banquet in memory of our recently departed members. Clubs; please send me a list of your recent departed members.

Charlie Blair



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