



2004 ANNUAL MEETING EDITION



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Judy Ramboldt resigned as President of the Florida Laryngectomee Association for personal reasons on March 24, 2004. The Executive Committee praised her hard work. Judy organized a very successful Annual Meeting in 2003 and did much of the work for the 2004 Annual Meeting. As Vice President I will take over Judy's duties until the 2004 Annual Meeting. At that time an election will be held to determine the new officers.

We expect to have a wonderful and rewarding Annual Meeting on October 29-30, 2004. The Executive Committee has offered full support. Charlie and Nancy Blair have agreed to be co-chairpersons for the Annual Meeting. Nancy will be in charge of Vendor relations and Charlie will coordinate our speaker assignments. Judy has already done a yeoman job with the hotel. Our Annual Meeting is a great opportunity to renew old and make new friendships. Visiting our vendors and viewing products first hand sure beats reading a catalog. Speech Evaluations can revolutionize our ability to communicate with others. Sometimes simple suggestions can make a world of difference.

We are continuing our practice of offering scholarships for those requesting individual speech evaluations but require financial aid in order to attend. (Some new wrinkles for this year) More specific information regarding scholarships is discussed below. **Carl Kilmer**

TO APPLY FOR A SCHOLARSHIP

A **limited** number of Scholarships (**maximum value of \$250**) are available to those requesting individual speech evaluations and would not be able to attend without financial assistance. Just complete the registration form and indicate that aid is requested by checking yes at the bottom of the form. The FLA will utilize two methods of payment, **Option A - Lump Sum**, which is payment of \$250 by check at the banquet or **Option B- Actual Cost**. This latter method is new to us and details are being worked out as this is being written. You must call or email Carl Kilmer, President for pre-approval for this option. Our goal is to offer aid to those needing speech evaluations and unable to attend otherwise. These funds are limited so we hope to limit aid to those in real need. See page 2 for more specific information. Scholarships are courtesy of a grant from the American Cancer Society, Florida Division, which allow us to include speech evaluations in our Program and grant financial aid. A sincere thank you to ACS!

FLA ELECTIONS

The FLA has historically chosen to be officially governed by its members with an Executive Committee operating as a Board of Directors between its Annual Meetings. This Executive Committee is composed of the officers: President, 1st and 2nd Vice Presidents, Secretary and Treasurer. Also included are our Medical Advisor, Director of Education and up to 4 Members at Large. Secretary and Treasurer may serve for a 6 year term. While there are no term limits on Members at Large., they are required to be re-elected each official election. Each Vice President serves a 2 year term and moves up on each election in order to gain experience for ultimately becoming President. The President may normally only serve a 2 year consecutive term. Nominations are selected by an appointed subcommittee and if approved will be presented to members at our official elections. If accepted and there are no further nominations from the floor the nominations are voted into their positions. Nominations;

President

Carl Kilmer - Plantation

First Vice President

Charles Blair- Largo

Secretary

Amy Jo Kiger- Port Orange

Treasurer

Earl Mogk -Dania Beach

Members at Large;

Jerry Hough- Palm Harbor

Charlie Nail - Palm City

Lisa Proper - Switzerland



**SPEECH EVALUATIONS
AND THERAPY DURING
THE
ANNUAL MEETING**

New laryngectomees, or others wishing to improve their speech or to try another method, can come to the **FLA Annual Meeting (AM)** for speech evaluation by FLA staff **licensed and certified Speech-Language Pathologists**. A well-rounded program is being presented that is geared specifically to the Laryngectomee. The meeting will be held at a new location, the Plaza Ocean Club Resort, Daytona Beach. **NEW** this year, follow-up therapy sessions for those found in need during speech evals. **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 in order to attend.

Do you qualify for a grant?

Criteria for the FLA grants:

- *Must be a Florida resident.
- *Must pre-register for the convention and attend all Annual Meeting instructional sessions as well as the banquet.
- *Must lodge in the meeting hotel.
- *Must pre-register for speech evaluations (see bottom of registration form).

*Must provide specific justification for Option B by phone or email to Carl Kilmer, President. (see rt column, pg 4 for contact info)

Priority for a grant will be given to laryngectomees who are 5 years or less from date of surgery. (or having significant problems)– explain on registration form.

Grants are limited and awarded on a first come basis. Specific amount may vary. Priority given to those unable to attend without financial aid.

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 Friday 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

VENDORS

One of the many highlights of our Annual Meetings has been the exhibition room with nationally known suppliers of laryngectomee products and equipment. The registration process for our vendors is currently in process but early returns indicate that we will have our usual participation of 10-12 nationally known vendors. Talk face to face with your preferred supplier of laryngectomee goods and equipment, discover what's new, how to file Medicare insurance claims, or other questions you always wanted to ask. In addition, tips and pointers on use of your AL and maybe get it adjusted/repaired free of charge. A great opportunity for the laryngectomee and a true highlight of our AM!

**NEW MEDICAL
DIRECTOR**



Dr. John R. Salassa is the current chair of The Department of Otolaryngology Head and Neck Surgery at Mayo Clinic Jacksonville. He is certified by the American Board of Otolaryngology. A native of Rochester, Minnesota, he received his undergraduate degree from the University of Michigan and medical degree from Mayo College of Medicine. He completed his internship in General Surgery at the University of Hawaii and his residency training in Otolaryngology-Head & Neck surgery at Mayo College of Medicine in Rochester, MN. He practiced at Scott and White clinic in Temple, TX for 4 years before joining Mayo Clinic Jacksonville when its doors opened in 1986. Special interests are swallowing disorders and minimally invasive trans oral laser surgery for head/neck cancers.

**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-rehab announced later.

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, Anger, Depression
3:00 pm Rap Sessions
4:00 pm Medications
5:00 pm Free Time
6:30 pm - Banquet, Raffles



FEATURED

SPEAKERS/FACILITATORS

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

Cut and Detach →



← Cut and Detach

**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



**Advance
Registration is
Required.**

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.plazaclub.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)

BROCHURE



The FLA is printing a brochure which describes and promotes both the FLA and the statewide system of regional support groups. We are hopeful that this brochure will encourage the new laryngectomees to begin attendance at both local and state support groups. In validating the club data, we discovered that significant changes have been made to club meeting and contact data. These changes will be submitted to both the FLA's and the IAL's Webmasters for appropriate club revisions. Two clubs have disbanded, the Dr Nathaniel M. Levin Memorial in Miami and the Emerald Coast Lost Chord Club in Fort Walton Beach. Some copies will be given to each active Club. Hopefully we can use the brochures in the ENT surgeons' offices to attract new laryngectomees into your clubs.

MEMBERSHIP DUES ?

Just what are the FLA dues? Actually nothing! You must be either a laryngectomee, cancer survivor, club member, spouse/caregiver, health professional or anyone interested in the rehabilitation of cancer survivors. How do we make our money- well we don't make much- just enough to get by. A lot of credit belongs to our dedicated vendors who have continued to support us for many years. The ACS donates a grant for speech evals. **Most importantly the local statewide clubs have been a tremendous help by donating raffle prizes for our banquet raffle extravaganza.** Common donations have been \$25 gift certificates from Publix. or other common Florida commercial establishments, or cash and/or gifts. Makes for a fun Saturday night! The FLA thanks you!

OFFICERS



President

Carl Kilmer
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Plantation, FL 33324
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carlkilmer@bellsouth.net

Vice President

Charles E. Blair
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**Second Vice President
open**

Treasurer

Earl C. Mogk
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Secretary

Amy Jo Kiger
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Port Orange FL 32119
<ajk531@aol.com>

Editor

Open



MEETINGS



IAL Voice Institute and Annual Meeting, July 6-10, '04, Anaheim Sheraton, Anaheim, CA May register online www.larynxlink.com Not online? Registration forms for either the VI, July 6-10 or the AM, July 8-10 may be found in the May, 2004 edition of the IAL News. A great opportunity for laryngectomees and caregivers. Revolutionary and exciting new products to be introduced. Hotel reservations by June 2 for conference rate of \$95, call 1-800-325-3535.

SUMMER BREAK

A lot of our Florida regional support groups are beginning their summer hiatus. Most resume meetings in September. Call before you go to a meeting.

CLUB DATA INFO

Just a reminder to keep your website club meeting data current. When your meeting times/places and contacts change let your FLA and IAL Website webmasters know of the appropriate changes. We will advise the FLA Webmaster of recent changes and will attempt to notify IAL. However, IAL may require the official club contacts to make such changes.

GOODBY Dr PEARSON

Our longtime Medical Advisor, Dr Bruce Pearson, recently submitted his resignation as FLA Medical Advisor due in part to a "...slowing down of his practice"...His Mayo Clinic colleague has agreed to continue in that role See last article on page 2. Our sincere thanks to our friend Dr. Pearson and wish him well in his future endeavors..