



# FLA NEWS



---

Volume 12 Issue 1

Florida Laryngectomee Association

[www.flavoice.org](http://www.flavoice.org)

Member IAL

April, 2011

---

The **FLA Annual Meeting and Vic Baird Graduate Student Program** will meet September 30 to October 2, 2011 at the Four Points by Sheraton Studio City Hotel on I Drive in Orlando, Florida. ([www.sheraton.com/studiocity](http://www.sheraton.com/studiocity)). Room rate is \$85, for single to quad occupancy, plus a room tax of 12.5%. Under normal circumstances, the hotel will honor the rate, 3 days prior and 3 days after the AM. Registration is required by September 17, 2011. Call the hotel Reservations at 1-800-327-1366 and then you are with the “**FLA Annual Meeting**”. Check-in and late onsite reservations will be in the Prefunction Universal Area at a time to be announced later.

The AM sessions will include an option to monitor a portion of the Student Grad Program beginning Saturday morning. Included are **FREE** individual speech evaluations and therapy with more speech sessions. These will be observed by the graduate students as training aids. Our faculty and staff will consist of veteran Speech Pathologists at PhD and Masters level with over 100 years of combined experience serving laryngectomees. We continue soliciting first timers offering free therapy and providing access to limited financial assistance to **Florida** residents. Included in the registration fee is admittance to all the AM sessions, the vendors exhibition room, the Friday evening “Meet and Greet” reception by the pool, mid morning and afternoon refreshments with snack and a complementary light box lunch., all complements of the FLA and our wonderful vendors. Our Saturday evening banquet will feature our usual donated raffle prizes, an excellent buffet dinner, which includes a carving station.

**The Student Grad Program is limited to the first 60 students. The registration fee is \$50.** Included in the registration fee is admittance to the exhibition room and the Friday evening “Meet and Greet” reception by the pool, mid morning and afternoon refreshments with snacks. The 2011 programs were developed to be new, fresh, exciting and beneficial to all. The cost for the Saturday night banquet is \$35.

**Annual Meeting contact is Kenneth Taylor, President FLA @ PH—813-715-4560, or E-mail: [taylor02s@aol.com](mailto:taylor02s@aol.com).**

---

The **FLA** is proud to welcome a new laryngectomee support group at the **MD Anderson Cancer Center, Orlando, FL**. The group is interested in bringing together all laryngectomees from the greater Orlando area. The group meets the 4th Wednesday of the month, except for the months of June, July and August., at 4:00—5:30 pm. For information, contact **Linda Stachowiak** at **321-841-8726**.

---

**Kansas City Here We Come!** Mark your calendars now and plan on attending the International Association of Laryngectomees 2011 60th Annual Meeting and 51st Voice Institute. The dates for the Annual Meeting are June 16-18 and June 15-18 for the Voice Institute. Go to their WEB SITE, **[www.The IAL.com](http://www.The IAL.com)**, for complete details and registration forms.

---

## 2011 AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY ADVOCACY DAY IN TALLAHASSEE FLORIDA

**BY Charlie Nail**

The first evening Earl Mogk, Bob Smiley and myself and the other volunteers from the ACS had a strategy meeting for our planned meeting the next day with our State Senators and Representatives. We arrived at the State Capitol the next morning and got our instructions and schedules from Ryan Reed and Bobbie McKee as to who we were to see. It was well organized and we had little trouble making our appointments. We also had a big rally in front of the Old Capitol with keynote speaker Frank Brogan, the Chancellor of Florida Universities. We were able to meet most of our appointments. Our 1st priority was the Mary Brogan Breast Cancer and Colonoscopy screenings for \$1.2m for people who cannot afford them. Our 2nd priority was funding for the Dr King Cancer Research program for \$22.2 m and the Bankhead-Coley Research for \$20m. Our 3rd priority was the Tobacco Prevention and Education Program for \$62.2m which is a constitutional program.

---

### “ EDITORS NOTES”

If you know of anyone receiving this newsletter who changed their address or no longer wants' to receive it, please let me know. Anyone who has ideas for information to be published in the newsletter, let me know at my e-mail-[smiley\\_robert@bellsouth.net](mailto:smiley_robert@bellsouth.net). I have received the tentative agenda for the Annual Meeting. If you would like a copy of either program, let me know and I will e-mail them to you.

---

**FLA 2011 ANNUAL MEETING – Sept 30-Oct 2**  
**Four Points by Sheraton Orlando Studio City Hotel (Rate: \$85 + 12.5% Tax)**

---

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The FLA Annual Meeting is in Orlando from September 30th to October 2nd. The agenda is being prepared by Jeff Searl and myself. This being my first time as President of the Annual Meeting, I would like to thank the Executive Committee for their assistance. This Annual Meeting is **"YOURS"** and any ideas or comments you have, would be greatly appreciated. A motion was made at the spring Executive Committee meeting to limit the number of graduate students to 60 on a first come basis. Those over 60 will be put on a waiting list. I will also have a limited number of financial aid grants available. Please contact me for information. Being that we get help from the ACS we need to help them with their "Road to Recovery program. Volunteer drivers are needed to drive cancer patients to and from their chemotherapy and/or radiations treatments. Drivers use their own vehicles. The schedule for volunteers is flexible. Contact your local ACS office. Cancer patients seeking more info about The Road to Recovery program should call 800-227-2345.

## FINANCIAL AID 2011

We have a limited number of financial aid grants for those seeking speech therapy during the Annual Meeting but unable to attend without financial aid. These grants are limited to Florida residents up to a max of \$350 based on actual cost. Little out of pocket expenses is required. Recipients will be given necessary nights (normally 2) in the meeting hotel, full registration fees including banquet and if necessary a nominal advance for onsite meals and vehicle gas expenses. If a traveling caregiver is necessary a portion of their expenses may be eligible up to the *combined* total maximum of \$350. To be eligible just complete the bottom portion of the registration form and return to Kenneth Taylor early to ensure availability. Recipients will be required to attend all sessions (Business Meeting optional).

## ACS SUPPORT

The American Cancer Society-Florida Division Office has been very good to FLA with substantial annual grants to support our newsletter and our ability to provide speech evaluations/therapy during the AM. Most importantly, it provides funds to allow financial aid to laryngectomees to receive speech evils and attend the AM program. We sincerely thank them for their excellent support which also allows us to provide one of the finest faculties of professionals in any similar organization. Now is the ideal time to return that support by volunteering to assist in one of their critical programs. ACS representative Valerie Anderson will be discussing their **Road to Recovery Program** and the need for volunteer drivers across the state. This Program transports cancer patients to treatment centers. You only need a dependable vehicle, basic insurance and valid drivers license. This is a rewarding, satisfying volunteer position.. You undergo a very brief telecommunications training session and have the opportunity to not only ask questions but to specify your available days of the week to drive and your geographical area limits. Come to the 2011 Annual Meeting and let Valerie give you more details and answer all your questions as well as hopefully sign you up as a volunteer driver. Support your local **RELAY FOR LIFE**.

## FLA OFFICERS & Executive Committee Members

**President**– Kenneth Taylor  
3917 Buttercup Drive  
Zephyrhills, FL 33541  
813-715-4560  
taylor02s@aol.com

**1st VP**– OPEN

**2nd VP**– Robert Smiley  
See Below

**Ssecretary** -  
Annette Miller, BS, CCC-SLP  
392 Man O War Circle  
Cantonment, FL 32533  
850-479-1623  
[amiller110@hotmail.com](mailto:amiller110@hotmail.com)

**Treasurer**–Earl C. Mogk  
141 Eleuthera Drive  
Dania Beach, FL 33004  
(954) 929-0136  
earlmogk@wmconnect.com

**Director of Education**  
Jeff Searl, PhD  
11709 W. 99 Place  
Overland Park, KS 66214  
jsearl@kumc.edu

**Members At Large**  
Charlie Nail; Palm City, FL  
Honory Charles Blair, Seminole, FL

**Auxiliary President**  
OPEN

**Past President/Editor**  
Robert Smiley  
6405 Dallas Ave  
Port St John, FL 32927

Florida Laryngectomee Association ( FLA ) - Annual Meeting
Four Points by Sheraton Orlando Studio City Hotel – September 30-October 2, 2011
REGISTRATION FORM

Advance Registration is required by September 17, 2011 for early discount. Late fees apply after this date. Completed registration forms must be received by Sept. 17, 2011. On site registration required after Sept.17, 2011.

Table with 5 columns: Event, Fee- (by 9-17), (on site), # guests, Amount. Rows include Registration, Banquet, Exhibits only, Conference Special, and TOTAL ENCLOSED.

Note: Registration includes all sessions, exhibitions, Friday reception, all breaks, Sunday box lunch at Business Meeting. Banquet includes buffet with carving station and all the trimmings (vegetarian menu available), short program, raffles & auction.

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

\_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Club or Affiliation \_\_\_\_\_

Make check payable to: Florida Laryngectomee Association

Mail to: Kenneth Taylor, President
3917 Buttercup Drive
Zephyrhills, FL 33541

Hotel reservations must be made directly with the Four Points by Sheraton Orlando Studio City Hotel. Rates are \$85, based on single to quad occupancy. Local taxes 12.5% Hotel Reservations required by September 17, 2011 Subject to availability later.

Call 1-800-327-1366 for reservations Website: www.fourpoints.com/studiocity

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

I will attend the Friday reception Yes No I will attend the Sunday luncheon Yes No

I want a speech evaluation during the convention Yes No (If Yes list 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

Present method of speech ( circle one): Writing tablet - Electrolarynx - Esophageal – TEP with prosthesis

Date of laryngectomy \_\_\_\_\_ Speech Problem \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



Robert Smiley, Editor  
6405 Dallas Ave  
Port St John, FL 32927

NON PROFIT ORG  
US POSTAGE PAID  
COCOA, FL  
PERMIT NO. 423

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**



**2011 FLA Advocacy Day Attendees  
(See Inside Article)**



### NEWS BITS

- Web Whispers online support group continues to grow and remains very informative. I don't have specific numbers but to me they appeared to set an attendance record at the 2010 IAL Annual Meeting and had their largest number of members at the Web Whispers dinner during the IAL AM. They just keep growing and getting ever better. Laryngectomees and their caregivers are 'missing the boat' if not taking advantage of this website.. There is no cost to join (just a nominal \$5 donation if you wish to be a voting member) and you have access to a wealth of knowledge. Check them out and sign up by going to their website at **www.webwhispers.org**.
- Florida Telecommunications Relay , Inc. (FTRI ) distributes the Teli-Talk phone for Florida laryngectomees free of charge. Check it out at **www.ftri.org**. FTRI has been a real friend to FLA and now requests we print the link to their periodic newsletter. Just enter the link below in your browser (apparent spaces are underlines \_ )  
[http://www.ftri.org/files/1/File/florida-link-newsletter/FTRI Newsletter 2010 Winter.pdf](http://www.ftri.org/files/1/File/florida-link-newsletter/FTRI_Newsletter_2010_Winter.pdf)

### FLA AUXALIRY INFO

Once again this year at the AM the auxiliary will be conducting the basket raffle & auction. We need the support of all clubs to donate a basket of items worth \$25 or more. We will also accept gift certificates and other items for the raffle and auction. Get your ideas together, all clubs have shown great creativity with our past endeavors. If you need help with ideas, please contact :

**Ken Taylor at [taylor02s@aol.com](mailto:taylor02s@aol.com) or phone him at 813-715-4560.**