Special anniversary newsletter

60 Years of Service

1957 SFA Conference

Stuttering Foundation founder Malcolm Fraser

2005 Workshop for Specialists in Stuttering

1947-2007

THE STUTTERING FOUNDATION®
The 400 shares of Genuine Parts Company stock donated by Malcolm Fraser in 1949 were placed — and are still held — in a safe deposit box. They have since grown to 82,000 shares through stock splits, are now worth over $3,800,000, and have generated $3.5 million in dividends. His gifts continued every year until his death in 1994.
60 Years: Foundation Celebrates Milestone

When Malcolm Fraser went to his Memphis bank in late December 1947 and made an initial deposit of $2,500 into a new account for a fledgling nonprofit foundation, few would have given his dream much chance of success.

President Truman was launching the Marshall Plan. Ronald Colman and Loretta Young were winning Oscars. Groucho Marx's You Bet Your Life premiered on radio. And the Yanks had just won the World Series.

But Malcolm Fraser, a self-made business success by the age of 40, had other interests that year. He stuttered. And he was determined to explore and evaluate ways of helping others who are affected by this speech disorder that today includes some three million Americans.

Sixty years later in 2007, Fraser’s dream long since has become a reality and the cornerstone of programs in the past six decades that are, indeed, Malcolm Fraser’s proudest achievement.

The Foundation:

- publishes and distributes more than 800,000 books and brochures on stuttering therapy each year, including to readers in all 50 states and some 101 nations;
- responds annually to more than 50,000 e-mails and telephone calls to its toll-free helplines from those who stutter, their families, and speech-language pathologists;
- has placed videotapes/DVDs and books in over 8,500 public libraries that provide help to adults, teens, and children who stutter and their parents on how to make effective changes in their speech;
- generates over a million dollars in print and TV public service advertisements on stuttering and how people can find help.

This prodigious work has been led by the Fraser family and, in recent years, by Malcolm’s daughter, Jane. Today, the Foundation continues to expand its universe of education, research and self-help. From one of its earliest volumes—written by the founder and still an excellent introduction for all those who stutter and hope to become more fluent in their speech—the Foundation has expanded. It publishes books, DVDs, videotapes, and brochures that are sold below cost and contain the observations and suggestions of some of the world’s leading authorities on stuttering. “There has been a remarkable explosion in demand for information on stuttering,” notes Jane Fraser. “Especially when one considers that my mother was still personally shipping all the Foundation’s books as recently as 1968.”

The Foundation’s Web sites, www.stutteringhelp.org and www.tartamudez.org, receive more than 1.5 million hits per month!

And yes, that initial $2,500 deposit in the Memphis bank by Malcolm Fraser has grown. Generous contributions in all sizes attest to its continuing public support.

Sixty years later, his nonprofit Foundation has expenditures of over $1,250,000 annually. It provides yearly awards to journalists and broadcasters who provide outstanding stories on the causes and treatment of stuttering. The SFA provides support to exciting new research in genetic and neurological research that will help those who stutter in the future.

And, for the first time, 1997 saw the first annual award given to an outstanding individual in the field of stuttering therapy. Fittingly, it is known to professionals everywhere as the Malcolm Fraser Award.
The Early Years—SFA Founder Malcolm Fraser

Malcolm Fraser in 1903.

Seat on his mother's lap about 1906.

Seated below with brothers Carlyle and Russell and sister Ethel in about 1913. Russell also stuttered.

Fraser at left. Public School No. 2, Clinton at Hester Street, New York City, circa 1917.

With infant daughter Jane.

Fraser receives American Legion Award for his efforts on behalf of disabled workers, 1948.

“We are dedicated to improving the lives of those who stutter.”

—Malcolm Fraser

The first and second bank deposits for the Foundation totaling $5,000.

In 1947, a new Ford cost $1,000. A new house was $3,000.
The early days at the Standard Parts Company, the Memphis NAPA warehouse. Malcolm Fraser is at far right. Seated to the left of cake is Gene White who shipped SFA books for many years.

Malcolm and Charlotte Fraser on their wedding day, June 28, 1936.

The Motor Parts Company, Charlotte, North Carolina, about 1933. Malcolm Fraser who was manager of this store, is third from the right.

Annual Christmas party at Standard Parts in about 1941. Malcolm Fraser kneeling at left. At right is Sally Archer who pinch hit for SFA when extra help was needed.

Below: Fraser congratulating Gene White, who for many years, refused all compensation for his work on behalf of the Foundation.

The 1991 SFA Board meeting. Left to right standing: James Garrison, Donald Edwards, Donald Lineback, Mary Ottensmeyer, James Spurlock, Joe R.G. Fulcher, Joseph Walker. Seated: Malcolm Fraser, Jane Fraser, Hubert McBride.
60 Years of Helping Those Who Stutter: A

1947

The Speech Foundation of America is born, funded by a single gift of $2,500 from founder Malcolm Fraser. The “headquarters” is Fraser’s home at 2246 Henry Street in Memphis, Tennessee. The “office” consists of Malcolm’s wife, Charlotte Fraser, armed with a manual typewriter. There are no expenditures.

1978

The Foundation has published 9 books on stuttering: To the Stutterer just published. Books are selling for 25 cents. Expenditures now total $25,000.

1997

The Stuttering Foundation of America, having undergone one name change and huge growth, is 50 years old! The office occupies 2000 square feet at 3100 Walnut Grove, Suite 603. A staff of 7 run 9 computers, 3 modems, 3 fax machines, 7 phone lines and 3 toll-free numbers, plus shipping books, videos and press releases.

2001

The Foundation celebrates 55 years of helping those who stutter, now with a budget of over $1 million, support for research projects, expanded workshops and conferences and a Web site, www.stutteringhelp.org

2004

The Foundation developed the DVD Stuttering: For Kids, By Kids featuring the animated character Swish, which was created by students at Purdue University.
**A Timeline**

1954

Symposium at Northwestern University.

1957

1957 Conference, bringing together some of the leading authorities in the field of stuttering: Back row: Henry Freund, M.D., Harold Luper, Ph.D., Wendell Johnson, Ph.D., Joseph Sheehan, Ph.D., Charles Van Riper, Ph.D.; Front row: Dean Williams, Ph.D., Malcolm Fraser, Stanley Ainsworth, Ph.D. and Robert West, Ph.D.

1972

“The writer (Malcolm Fraser) requests permission to buy an electric typewriter for use in my home, which serves as the office of the Foundation, preferably an IBM executive type.”

— from the 1968 SFA annual report.

1985

First “Workshop for Specialists” co-sponsored with Northwestern University.

1990—The office is now at 3100 Walnut Grove Road, Suite 605; 450 square feet of space. Equipment consists of 1 computer, a 286, running “First Choice” software. Two employees ship books, Anne Edwards and Jo Bradshaw.

2005

The Foundation’s Web site was redesigned. It now features streaming video, an online store, and free, downloadable resources. The Web site gets more than 1,500,000 hits per month.
The Early Conferences


1961-1962 Conference. Malcolm Fraser, Dr. Wendell Johnson, Dr. Henry Freund.

1967-68 Conference. Dr. Hugo H. Gregory and Dr. Charles Van Riper.

1973-1974 Conference. Left to right: Drs. Albert Murphy, Woodruff Starkweather, Malcolm Fraser, Stanley Ainsworth, Harold Luper, Jane Fraser, Dean Williams, Harold Starbuck, David Prins, Charles Van Riper.

“We must understand and evaluate children as whole persons.”
At the very first conference in 1957 and at later ones, SFA Founder Malcolm Fraser was often heard saying “Gentlemen, let’s be practical.”
A Dynamic Past ...

Drs. Dean Williams and Harold Starbuck
Malcolm Fraser, Wendell Johnson, and Henry Freund

June and Allen Campbell at the American Academy of Pediatrics Conference

Charles and Katy Van Riper

Early Northwestern Conference

Early catalogs

Leaders at Philadelphia conference

Early public service ad

Anne Edwards at the SFA office

Early publication

Eastern Workshop

Bette and Dean Williams at the American Academy of Pediatrics Convention

An early conference

Hugo Gregory and Charles Van Riper

Frances Cook, Barry Guitar, Jane Fraser, Carrol Guitar, Peter Ramig, Lisa Scott and Patricia Zebrowski
... an Exciting Future

Educational Conferences & Workshops

The Foundation holds conferences and workshops around the country to train speech-language pathologists from the U.S. and other countries.

Basic Research

The SFA is turning its attention more and more to various facets of basic research, including neurology and genetics. The Foundation is actively involved in several new projects.

Publications and DVDs

The 29 books, 41 videotapes and DVDs and over 20 brochures produced by the Foundation are distributed throughout the world.

Technology

Using the latest Internet technology, the Foundation continuously updates its Web sites with free downloadable publications, video streaming, research articles, and other valuable information on stuttering. The Web sites — www.stutteringhelp.org and www.tartamudez.org — receive more than 1.5 million hits per month as we go to press.

Global Outreach

In 2006, SFA books and DVDs reached people who stutter in 101 countries. In addition to participating in world conferences, the Foundation has gone global by joining forces with the Michael Palin Centre for Stammering Children in 2006.

Our People

The dedicated staff in Memphis, Tenn., and other locations is responsible for answering the Foundation’s helpline and distributing more than 800,000 publications worldwide each year.

SFA Board members

Front row (from left): Lisa Scott, Jane Fraser, and Susie Hall; Back row: Joan Warner, Roberta Brugge, Pat Hamm, Lisa Hinton, and Anne Edwards. Not pictured are John Bell, Carol Ecke, Don Edwards, Joe Fulcher, Patty Reed, and Scot Squires.

Public Awareness

To spread the word about stuttering, the Foundation sends more than 2,500 press releases to media outlets around the country several times a year. Plus, major publications donate space for public service ads, and radio stations around the country air public service announcements.
...a sampling of major media coverage

**The New York Times**

**To Fight Stuttering, Doctors Look at the Brain**

Andrew Pollack

*The New York Times* listed the SFA as “the older and more established” group to help those who stutter.

**Those Who Stutter Find Hope**

Robert Davis

*USA Today* included the Foundation in an article discussing stuttering and treatments for this devastating disorder.

**The Washington Post**

**Another Side To Stuttering**

Sandra G. Boobman

*The Washington Post* highlighted a study suggesting an emotional component to speech disorders may offer clues to treatment. This article, along with a sidebar, offered many suggestions from the Foundation on how to help kids who stutter.

**DAILY NEWS**

**Speaking of Damon**

Anthony McCarron

How New York Yankees’ outfielder Johnny Damon dealt with stuttering was the topic of a *Daily News* article.

**CNN**

**Actor Gets Word Out on Stuttering**

Actor Nicholas Brendon, as spokesperson for the Stuttering Foundation, was interviewed by CNN’s Kat Carney. John Stossel of *20/20*, has also been interviewed by CNN while serving as the Foundation’s spokesperson.

**Jet Magazine**

**Communicating Courteously with Someone Who Stutters**

Dana Slagle

*Jet Magazine* included the SFA’s recommendations for employers on how to handle stuttering in the workplace.

**NPR**

**Talking About Stuttering**

*The Parent’s Journal* host Bobbi Conner has interviewed SFA President Jane Fraser twice in recent years.

**Woman’s Day**

**Help for Those Who Stutter**

Marcy Sugar and Kathy Mitchell, the authors of *Annie’s Mailbox*, listed the SFA as a source of help and information on International Stuttering Awareness Day in 2003 and 2005. They included the Foundation’s toll-free helpline and Web site.

**Today Show**

TV stations around the nation aired health segments about stuttering during their local newscasts. The broadcasts featured speech-language pathologist Dr. Tricia Zebrowski of the University of Iowa working with a 7-year-old boy who stutters.

**U.S. News and World Report**

**Secrets of the Stutter**

*U.S. News and World Report* focused national attention on stuttering by making it a cover story.
The Malcolm Fraser Award was created by the Stuttering Foundation as a way to recognize an individual who achieved professional excellence in the field of stuttering.

The first award in 1997 went to Dr. Hugo H. Gregory of Northwestern University in recognition of his life-time achievements of helping those affected by stuttering.

In 1998, the husband and wife team of Drs. Glyndon and Jeanna Riley of Laguna Beach, Calif., was presented the prestigious award. The Rileys are most widely known for their work in developing instruments to assess the nature and severity of stuttering and predicting which disfluent children are more at risk for continuing to stutter.

Dr. Oliver Bloodstein of Brooklyn College of the City University of New York received the award in 1999. His best-known contribution to the field was *A Handbook of Stuttering*, first published in 1969 and considered a landmark text.

Dr. Barry Guitar received the first award of the new century. In 2000, he was honored for his extensive basic and applied research and his work to improve treatment for those who stutter.

Dr. Gene B. Cooper was honored in 2001 for decades of profound influence in the field of fluency disorders and his work within ASHA.

In 2002, Dr. Richard Curlee was recognized for his life’s work as clinician, researcher, educator, editor, author, advocate, and mentor.

Dr. Edward G. Conture of Vanderbilt University was recognized in 2003 for authoring more than 100 journal articles, books, book chapters, monographs, and videos dealing with stuttering, especially in early childhood.

In 2005, Dr. Ehud Yairi of the University of Illinois was recognized for his more than 30 years of extensive research on childhood stuttering. His work has focused on the onset, development and genetics of stuttering.