“We have a voice. We have been heard.”
David Seidler, while accepting his Oscar for The King’s Speech

The Stuttering Foundation featured on Times Square.

An Eloquently Golden Ride on the Red Carpet

For more than five months, The Stuttering Foundation has been raising awareness of stuttering through supportive interviews about the acclaimed movie The King’s Speech. From its opening in November through awards season in Hollywood this winter to its golden coronation at the Oscars at the end of February, we have trumpeted the movie’s message of hope to thousands of media outlets around the world, including CNN, Time, PEOPLE, the Los Angeles Times, Agence France Presse and The Washington Post.

Equally as exciting is the announcement that our 60-second Public Service Announcement is included on The King’s Speech DVD, which was released on April 19. We hope everyone in the stuttering community will purchase their own copy to view and treasure this tremendously heroic story for years to come.

Because of the enormously positive impact The King’s Speech has had on our mission, The Stuttering Foundation honored the movie, its cast and crew at a gala in New York City in April.

At the gala, Foundation president Jane Fraser

Continued on page 12
A Third Generation View of the King

By Jean Gruss

Editor’s Note: Jean Gruss, the author of this article, is the grandson of Stuttering Foundation founder Malcolm Fraser and Mark Logue is the grandson of Lionel Logue.

For decades, Lionel Logue’s name was an obscure footnote in biographies of British King George VI.

But thanks to his grandson and a blockbuster movie, he’s quickly become the most famous speech therapist in history.

Mark Logue, with the help of journalist Peter Conradi, tells the story of how his grandfather improved the monarch’s fluency in a recently published book, The King’s Speech.

Tom Hooper and David Seidler, the director and writer of the award-winning movie by the same name, consulted with Mark Logue.

“Tom Hooper was incredibly diligent in getting as much of the facts as possible into the film,” says Logue.

As is usually the case, the movie takes a few liberties with the facts in the book, though Logue, 45, says he doesn’t mind. For example, the first encounter between the Duchess of York and Logue didn’t happen like it did in the movie. “The film isn’t a documentary,” Logue says. “I don’t know that it detracts from anything. It was brilliant and rewarding.”

Lionel Logue was the king’s speech therapist and he protected his client’s privacy even after the monarch’s death, deferring to Queen Elizabeth’s wishes that the story of his stuttering not be told in her lifetime.

The king and Lionel Logue passed away decades ago, but the Logue family continued to abide by the Queen Mother’s wishes until she died in 2002 at age 101.

Mark Logue started reading his grandfather’s letters when he inherited them from his father in 2001, but he was busy running a successful production company and raising a family. “I promptly put it back in the box and forgot about it,” he recalls.

But in 2007, Logue started reading through his grandfather’s papers again with the idea of writing a biography. “It’s pretty difficult to go through it because it’s scrappy handwriting in pencil on fading paper,” Logue says.

Logue began work on the book in earnest after meeting Seidler and Hooper to discuss the movie in the summer of 2009. Iain Canning, one of the film’s producers, found Mark Logue through Australian speech therapist Caroline Bowen, who had published a paper about Lionel Logue in 2002.

But it was only in April 2010 that Logue found Conradi to help him write the book. The pressure became intense because the publisher needed the manuscript by July in order to have a book in print by the movie’s release in November.

Complicating matters, in late July a Logue cousin discovered a trove of new and insightful material. “Everything had to be rewritten,” Logue says. “We extended the deadline four weeks.”

Working from transcripts of the documents, Logue and Conradi communicated via the Internet to produce the 242-page account. “We wrote the book entirely by email correspondence,” says Logue, who logged more than 1,000 emails to Conradi.

Logue took time off from work to meet the tight deadline. “He’d send me chapters as he wrote them.”

The book’s success has been a surprise, Logue acknowledges. “I never dreamed it would get the attention it was given,” he says. “I had no idea it would be as big as it got.”

Logue routinely does three interviews a day, including every radio station in his grandfather’s native Australia. “I’ve lost count,” Logue says.

The book has been republished in several different languages, including Hungarian, German and Russian. “It’s been published in two dialects of Chinese,” Logue says.
Screenwriter Seidler Triumphed Over His Own Stutter

By David Germain, AP

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. — Telling the story of the stammering king, George VI, has been a lifetime ambition for David Seidler, ever since he subdued his own stutter nearly 60 years ago.

Born seven months after George took the British throne in 1936, screenwriter Seidler grew up paralyzed by the same impediment he depicts the monarch struggling to overcome in The King’s Speech, the best-picture favourite at the Academy Awards.

From just before his third birthday to age 16, Seidler stumbled and sputtered over his syllables so badly that he lived in terror of speaking in class, talking to girls, even answering the phone.

“I had huge trouble with the ‘H’ sound, so when the telephone rang, I would break into a cold sweat, because I couldn’t say hello,” Seidler, 73, said in an interview.

“I don’t know if school still works this way, but in those days you had set places, and the teacher worked up and down the rows. If I could see her working toward me and she was just going to miss me that day, I would fake sick the next day so I didn’t have to go to school, because it was so terrifying to be called upon. There came a period when I was actually excused from responding in class. I didn’t have to speak in class. It was that bad.”

Born in Britain, Seidler developed a stammer in 1940 on a boat to the United States, where his family moved during World War II. Seidler, who had an uncle with a boyhood stammer, figures his own began from the trauma of German bombs, the sea voyage and abrupt separation from his beloved nanny.

As George VI rallied his country, the young Seidler heard the king valiantly struggling through his radio addresses and hoped he might one day master his own speech troubles.

He eventually did, in his mid-teens, not long after George VI died in 1952 and the crown passed to his daughter, Queen Elizabeth II. Soon after that, the desire to one day chronicle the king’s tale came to Seidler, who had decided he wanted to be a writer while still afflicted with his stutter.

“If you’re born with two conflicting traits — in my case, I was a born ham, but I was a stutterer — and if you want to be the centre of attention but you can’t talk, you find another channel, and that’s writing,” Seidler said.

After college, Seidler tried playwriting, then worked in advertising, Australian television and journalism. He came to Hollywood at age 40, “which, of course, is when any writer with any common sense is leaving Los Angeles,” Seidler said.

His credits include Francis Ford Coppola’s Tucker: The Man and His Dream, the animated feature Quest for Camelot and Elizabeth Taylor’s TV movie Malice in Wonderland.

It was not until a bout with throat cancer in 2005 that Seidler finally started on the story of George VI, known as Bertie to his family. Seidler had wanted to begin the project in the early 1980s, but Bertie’s widow, Elizabeth, the queen mother, politely asked him in a letter, “Please, Mr. Seidler, not during my lifetime,” he said.

Elizabeth was in her 80s then, so Seidler figured he would have to wait no more than a few years. But she lived to be 101, dying in 2002.

The film is built around the unlikely friendship between Bertie and unconventional speech therapist Lionel Logue. Helena Bonham Carter plays Bertie’s wife.

Though he had researched Bertie’s life for decades, Seidler also drew on his own experiences in speech therapy. He underwent

Continued on page 12

Continued on page 12
Stuttering Foundation Makes Headlines Around the World

We thought you would enjoy seeing the astounding media coverage we received on stuttering! It is making a real difference in the lives of people around the world.
Tom Hooper nominated for Best Director

Colin Firth nominated for Best Actor

Helena Bonham Carter nominated for Best Supporting Actress

Geoffrey Rush nominated for Best Supporting Actor

David Seidler nominated for Original Screenplay

Nominated for Sound Mixing

Nominated for Costume Design

Nominated for Film Editing

Nominated for Art Direction

Nominated for Best Picture

Nominated for Original Score

Nominated for Cinematography

The Race

‘King’s Speech’ Wins 13th Honor: Stuttering Foundation Gives It ‘A Hero’s Welcome’

The Stuttering Foundation marks the 13th time it nominated the King’s Speech for outstanding cinematic stutters above — and screenwriter David Seidler explains how it took him 30 years to turn his own pain into art.

The Stuttering Foundation gives a hero’s welcome to The King’s Speech, says spokesperson Jane Fraser, vp of London’s Association for Research into Stuttering in Childhood, Michael Palin Centre. (Palin’s super character in a film called Words was inspired by his father, who suffered from stuttering, as did Winston Churchill, James Earl Jones, Rowan Atkinson and Jonathan Miller.) “There are a few, if any, more accurate portrayals of the anguish held by people who stutter, or of the hardship it places on family and friends, than in this movie. Stuttering is most often the province of comic relief, and never of the hero.”

Oscar-nominated screenwriter Seidler, who’s overcome stuttering, waited 30 years to make the picture because King Bertie’s mother asked him to, but it wasn’t just her painful memories he was saving. “I don’t know if I could’ve written it as well 30 years ago,” says Seidler. “I don’t know if I would’ve been able to go back into the pain. It’s like going to the dentist — once it doesn’t hurt anymore, once you get over it, the relief is so profound that the last thing you want to do is dwell on it.” But the 30-year wait made the film better? “‘Finally do think it did.’

Seidler also credits his former writing partner Jacqueline Feather: “She said I was too cinematic, that I needed a photographic exercise try writing it as a play? If you get the terminology, the rhythm of the two men, right, then you can hang the rest of the story on it like Christmas tree ornaments.” What had to go was the “cinematic” character based on Seidler himself. “There was this whole b-plot of a little boy who stuttered. ‘The ghost of himself?’ ‘Oh, absolutely. It didn’t really belong in this movie. It was Colin Firth’s movie. It wasn’t David Seidler’s movie.’ There will be a David Seidler play, too. “It will be a stage play in all probability in the West End in London, in all probability next fall.”

Follow THR’s The Race blog @timeappec:

Feedback, breaking, shameless lobbying to: TimeAppealo@the:en
Stuttering: A constant struggle to get the words out

By Mary Brophy Marcos, USA TODAY

"Mom, my m-n-n-n-in-name is his..."

One little consonant vowel. When you stutter, that's what it all comes down to. These days, though, getting it right can be a luxury. And the pain never ends.

Wednesday, Dec. 22 New Film Shines A Light On Speech Impediments

"The King's Speech" inspires stutter

By Emily Wolf

Fremont native is one of few Americans possessing a condition called Stuttering, or Stutter. It's a speech disorder that affects up to 3 percent of the population. Many people are unable to get past this aspect of their lives.

"This movie has done it," says Jim Fraser, father in 1947.

"It's great," said Jim Tu, an assistant professor in Peterson University. ...
“I do believe the film has taken some of the mystique away from stuttering and hopefully will make life easier for people who stutter.”  
-Maryland

“This film improves the social and occupational image of speech therapists, especially those who are engaged in stuttering therapy. The improvement is thanks to the unconventional therapist who does not have an adequate education. But what he has is an ability of noticing and understanding a real problem of a man who is expecting help. He concentrated on a person and not on his/her disfluency.”  
-Poland

“This Oscar goes to all the people that believe that stuttering can change ...and we’re gonna prove it!!!”  
-Spain

“There has been a spike in awareness that coincides with the movie... Even amongst parents of younger children seeking to rule out possible stuttering v. normal dysfluency.”  
-Washington

“I can’t tell you how much of a positive impact the movie has had on me. Of course, I’ve read every article I could get about the movie and the feedback of individuals who stutter. I had no idea how many young professionals feel exactly as my son does concerning their speech.”  
-Rhode Island

“I stutter and am also an SLP. Family, friends, students and acquaintances have all asked if I felt the portrayal of "the King who stuttered and his therapist" was an accurate portrayal of both stuttering and intervention. I am always so pleased to have a conversation about stuttering and intervention and this amazing movie allows those conversations to more frequently take place!!”  
-Washington

“As I watched The King’s Speech, tears ran a marathon down my face because many scenes brought back memories of being teased & laughed at by my peers, and it reminded me of that gnawing fear I developed as a child of reading aloud in class. By contrast, other scenes resulted in tears of celebration as I watched the main character grow as a speaker and develop a friendship/mentor relationship with his speech therapist.”  
-California

“The film brought back memories of therapy. I laughed and even cried. They did a great job of showing the emotions behind the problem.”  
-Alabama

“They did a great job of showing the emotions behind the problem.”

“Summer 2011 Newsletter”

“Comments Come In From Across the Globe”

“I have been deeply moved by this great movie which has given me new opportunities to share and discuss with others this often misunderstood disorder. I work as a speech therapist in the public schools, and I have found teachers and other staff addressing me with questions and bringing genuine interest to know more about stuttering and how they can better help students. I think the movie has brought to all of us revival energy to keep working hard to improve the life of people who stutter.”  
-Massachusetts

“This excellent story of both individuals, the one who stutters and the therapist as well as their families, accurately portrays the frustration, hope and realm of emotion surrounding both the condition and the treatment; the highs and the lows of the hard work of everyone involved. And ultimately the sense of success and accomplishment that is also felt by both the person who stutter and their therapist as progress is made and gains sustained.”  
-Washington

“This movie, by bringing the problem of stuttering into public spotlight, will add to the understanding of this most misunderstood of human afflictions.”  
-India

“As a lifelong stutterer, I think it really opened up the severity and emotions a stutterer faces on a daily basis. Coming from someone who has been laughed at, teased, misunderstood, etc., I came to realize that there are an abundance of people who just don’t know about stuttering. This movie has changed that and definitely given light to a situation most people don’t encounter.”  
-California

“Bravo to the film makers and the skilled actors in bringing this story to the public forum and allowing those of us in the field of Communication Sciences and Disorders to highlight the hard work done by both those who stutter and those who provide thoughtful, well-researched and personalized intervention!”  
-Washington

“My grandson has a stuttering problem. The movie helped him realize that many people including very prominent people have this problem with speaking.”  
-North Carolina

“Awareness of stuttering is so important. Hopefully, the message of the movie will be conveyed to people who meet stutterers and have no idea how to deal with it (or, even worse, choose not to deal with it) and to help them understand that those with this disability can carry out their responsibilities in superior fashion.”  
-Rhode Island

“This film has been one of the best gifts we could have had!!! People are now thinking twice about stuttering. My family and friends understand ”a bit” more my work.”  
-Spain

“I teach fluency coursework for graduate students. This year I started with a discussion of The King’s Speech. We had a rich and enjoyable 30-minute discussion that ranged from historical “remedies” to the importance of the client-clinician alliance. Students were enthusiastic about this area of practice and excited about learning more in the course. A real bonus for me!”  
-Canada

“A poster advertising The King’s Speech in Argentina.”
Worldwide movie audiences have been presented with a most interesting and unusual movie release with *The King’s Speech*, starring Colin Firth as King George VI and Helena Bonham Carter as his wife Elizabeth.

Unfortunately, history may have forgotten the courageous and inspiring story of Prince Albert who stuttered badly and never dreamed that he would ever be king when his older brother, King Edward VIII, abruptly abdicated the throne in 1936 to marry Wallis Simpson, an American divorcee.

In an interview after the completion of the filming of *The King’s Speech*, producer Iain Canning said, “His brother was famously charming and Bertie was considered the dull-witted one with little charisma.” When Prince Albert, who was known as Bertie, ascended to the throne to become King George VI, it is an understatement to say that his life changed drastically.

The film deals solely with George VI’s stuttering and his relationship with Lionel Logue, an Australian speech therapist retained by the Prince to help him overcome his stuttering in the years before, during and after the 1936 abdication by his older brother. While countless other movies have had characters who stutter, this is the first one to focus on the lead character’s stuttering and speech therapy.

Like many people who stutter, Prince Albert had met with failure in several speech programs. When Lionel Logue, played by Geoffrey Rush in the movie, saw the Prince give a speech in public, he turned to his son and said, “He’s too old for me to manage a complete cure. But I could very nearly do it. I’m sure of that.”

In his 1982 biography *King George VI*, Denis Judd writes, “Lionel Logue’s methods were neither extravagant nor particularly controversial. However Logue’s approach was not purely psychological and many of his patients had been reassured that their difficulties could be partly caused by incorrect breathing.

He required his patients to undertake daily breathing exercises which he had devised, to gargle regularly with warm water, and to stand by an open window intoning the vowels in a fairly loud voice, each sound to last fifteen seconds.” Logue’s practice began in Australia treating shell-shocked World War I veterans experiencing speech difficulties and he moved his family to London to continue his practice there.

Logue was able to meet with the Prince and soon they began speech therapy sessions. From all accounts, Logue inspired his famous patient mentally by assuring him that his stammering could be cured and that there was nothing psychologically wrong with him.

Logue’s constant positive reassurances contrasted the Prince’s hurt over past speech therapy failures. King George’s official biographer, Wheeler-Bennett, tactfully explained this negative attitude of the Prince: “…..the disillusionment caused by the failures of previous specialists to affect a cure had begun to breed within him the inconsolable despair of the chronic stammerer and the secret dread that the hidden root of the affliction lay in the mind rather than the body.”

The sessions with Logue greatly improved the Prince’s confidence as well as his actual speech. The two enjoyed a friendship as well. When, to the surprise of the world, Prince Albert abruptly became King George VI, the new king’s stuttering was heavy on his mind from the beginning as he knew that regular radio broadcasts and many more public appearances would put him and his speech in the
Colin Firth recently assessed the situation by saying, “His only job was to speak for the nation on live radio – I mean, how cruel was that? …there is no recording yet, there is no editing for radio… this is live to the Empire.”

King George VI, who reigned from 1937 until his death in 1952, has been depicted among the prominent people on the Foundation’s list of famous people who stutter. Now with the upcoming release of The King’s Speech, the world will be reminded of the king whose live broadcasts of hope and inspiration kept the spirits of the British people alive during the dark days of World War II. Younger generations should know about this gentle and courageous man.

After decades of characters who stutter being portrayed negatively in movies, it is thrilling for people who stutter to revisit the story of King George VI; without a doubt, they will be the first in line to buy tickets for The King’s Speech!

King George VI, whose live broadcasts of hope and inspiration kept the spirits of the British people alive during the dark days of World War II, met the challenge of stuttering with courage.

If you stutter, you should know about this gentle and courageous man, dramatized in The King’s Speech. For more information on how you can meet your challenge, contact us.

www.StutteringHelp.org
www.tartamudez.org

800-992-9392
Tireless SFA Ambassador Woos Oprah

By Joan Warner

Like David Seidler said in his Oscar acceptance speech for The King’s Speech - “We have a voice. We have been heard”- Stuttering Foundation friend, patron, and unofficial Public Library Ambassador Leon ‘Jigger’ Sirois has been espousing that sentiment for years. Tirelessly working with his late in-life found fluency on behalf of the Stuttering Foundation and all people who stutter, he too says we can be heard.

And if there is one thing Jigger does not know the meaning of, it is this: dreaming small. Jigger has set his heart on winning Oprah’s heart in her final 25th season of The Oprah Show. Now, he isn’t unrealistic, and never self-serving, so the aim is not to appear on Oprah himself. All he hopes for is a mention of this Foundation’s website and 800 helpline during one of her final shows. The Oprah Show has a worldwide audience just waiting to hear that we can provide help.

And his plan to woo Oprah is not whimsical. For more than six months Jigger has concentrated his efforts on donating – in Oprah’s honor – Foundation resources, books and DVDs, to public libraries across the country in communities he hopes will capture her attention and her heart.

With Oprah’s journey a public record, one doesn’t have to do much digging to know her hometown, high school, first job, progress to Chicago and beyond. Therefore, appealing to her personal interest in communities she has connections to and harbors fondness for is the goal. Since November 2010, Jigger and his wife, Juanita, have donated nearly 600 books and DVDs valued at almost $4,000 in support of the work the Stuttering Foundation does. But more importantly, these resources are now accessible to the public in diverse communities while simultaneously continuing to vitalize our treasured and irreplaceable public libraries.

Oprah, are you listening? Jigger sounds like a man with the type of character you would find room to embrace. On his behalf, we hope you can honor his dream, as he tries to honor ours.

For additional information on how Jigger has never dreamt small, read about our irrepressible Ambassador in our Summer 2007 Newsletter and our Winter 2008 Newsletter (www.StutteringHelp.org and click ‘Newsletter’ link). From professional car racing to conquering his life-long stuttering to advocating for early intervention for children who stutter, to leading Toastmasters with numerous awards, this gentleman cannot bother with “not likely to happen.” He always dreams big and envisions success!

The comments from libraries give gracious accolades! “Jigger is delightful…” “...we are so pleased…” “…it is our honor to provide these resources…” “…how fortunate we are to receive updated materials…”

A special thanks to all public libraries across the country for supporting National Stuttering Awareness Week May 9-15, this year. We appreciate all libraries for reaching out to patrons. Our selected resources are free of any charge to any public library by calling 800-992-9392. Special Library Ambassador Jigger simply likes to make this his way of supporting the Foundation while honoring people and benefiting the libraries.

Race Car Driver Still Revving to be Heard

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Over the last several years, the Stuttering Foundation has kept accurate data on the calls it has received from concerned parents of 13,184 preschool children who are reported to be stuttering. The number of enquiries rises sharply at 3 years of age and then lessens for children aged 4 and then further reduces for children aged 5 years.

Across all ages, we receive more enquiries from parents of boys than we do of girls, reflecting what we know - that more boys stutter than girls (Bloodstein, 1995; Yairi, 2005). When we look at the proportion of those children who are male and female, it is interesting to see that the ratio of females:males differs across the ages, with proportionally fewer calls from parents of 5-year old girls compared to 2 year olds.

Research has found that girls are more likely to recover from stuttering than boys (Yairi, 2005). Our data would seem to lend further support to this. Dr. Soo-Eun Chang’s ongoing research with preschool children at Michigan State University may shed more light on neurological development during these crucial preschool years. (see SFA Newsletter Winter 2011)

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13,184 children

The Stuttering Foundation financial reports for 2010 was recently completed by the accounting firm of Cannon and Company, Certified Public Accountants, Memphis, Tenn. Following is a recap of funds and expenditures for the year.

The 3.5% of expenditures for administration and general expenses and the 7/10 of 1% for fund raising are very low, and since we are fortunate to have an endowment which more than covers our overhead expenses, donors can be assured that their gifts will go directly to support our program services.

The Foundation is a 501(c)(3) private operating foundation which expends its funds on its own programs and operations and does not make grants to other institutions.
honored the movie for raising awareness of stuttering “beyond any level we could ever imagine.” She also thanked the actors for their “accurate portrayals of the anguish faced by people who stutter” and for “opening up honest dialogue about stuttering and its treatment.” Finally, she thanked the director and screenwriter “for giving us a hero and a movie we can look to for inspiration, much as my father looked to King George VI more than six decades ago.”

She also announced Academy Award-winning actor Colin Firth has been named honorary chairman of National Stuttering Foundation.

Seidler shared another experience in his youth that Bertie undergoes in the film — when the king unleashes a torrent of cuss words in a burst of anger that momentarily frees him from his stammer.

At age 16, Seidler experienced his own F-bomb cure.

“Adolescence had hit, hormones were raging. I couldn’t ask girls out for a date, and even if I could and even if they said yes, what was the point? I couldn’t talk to them on a date. This was the ’50s. You did talk on dates,” Seidler said.

Fury over his condition grew to the point that he was jumping up and down on his bed, bellowing profanity. He found it empowering.

“If I am stuck with this stutter,” Seidler recalls saying to himself, “you all are stuck with listening to me. I am a human being, and I’m going to talk, and you’re going to have to F-word listen.”

With that psychological turn, Seidler’s stutter largely faded in a few weeks, to the point that he won a small part in a school play, Androcles and the Lion (“I played a Christian being eaten by a lion in the Colosseum, and I didn’t stutter as I died.”). Seidler

Jigger

Continued from page 10

you, to benefit countless children, teens, and adults worldwide.

To date, the resources have been donated to: The Chicago Public Library, Los Angeles Public Library, The Eudora Welty Library in Jackson and Attala County Library in Kosciusko, Mississippi (Oprah’s hometown), The Milwaukee Public Library, and public libraries in Nashville, New York, Detroit, Jacksonville (Fla.), Denver, Albuquerque, the Hennepin County (Minnetonka, Minn.) Library, and the Miami-Dade Public Library, a total of nearly 500 branch locations across the country.

Additional libraries slated to receive resources in honor of Oprah are currently in the works as we go to press.

So, we say bravo to Jigger for dreaming big. And bravo to our public libraries – institutions of learning, keepers of the past, providers of ever-changing resources for the future. Dare we say bravo in advance for Oprah’s support? We hope to be heard!
The Stuttering Foundation is this year’s recipient of the student-led fundraising campaign organized each year by the National Student Speech Language Hearing Association.

NSSHLA Loves Campaign – January through December 2010
- University of Cincinnati NSSHLA Chapter – Cincinnati, OH - $100.00
- Northwestern University NSSHLA Chapter – Evanston, IL - $300.00
- Nova Southeastern University NSSHLA Chapter – Fort Lauderdale, FL - $500.00
- University of Nebraska NSSHLA Chapter – Omaha, NE - $100.00
- Truman State University NSSHLA Chapter – Kirksville, MO - $250.00
- University of South Dakota NSSHLA Chapter – Vermillion, SD - $500.00
- Minnesota State University NSSHLA Chapter – Mankato, MN - $100.00
- Edinboro Univ. of PA NSSHLA Chapter – Edinboro, PA - $50.00
- SUNY Cortland Speech & Hearing Club – Cortland, NY - $267.50
- Lehman College – CUNY NSSHLA Chapter – Bronx, NY - $500.00
- Utah State University – Logan, UT - $20.00

NSSHLA Loves Campaign – January through March 2011
- Misericordia University NSSHLA Chapter – Dallas, PA - $500.00
- Southeastern Louisiana University NSSHLA Chapter – Hammond, LA - $100
- University of Illinois – Urbana NSSHLA Chapter – Champaign, IL - $250.00
- University of Arizona – NSSHLA Chapter – Tucson, AZ - $400.00
- Bowling Green State University – NSSHLA Chapter – Bowling Green, OH - $150.00
- Clarion University NSSHLA Chapter – Clarion, PA - $150.00

These are the NSSHLA chapters that have contributed to the Stuttering Foundation. Thank you for your support!

Carrie Anderson and Ashley Weede, students from the University of South Dakota.

Misericordia University 2010-2011 NSSHLA Chapter organized various fund raising events enabling them to donate $500.00 to the Stuttering Foundation.
Meet Board Member Joe Fulcher

This is the first in a series of articles featuring Stuttering Foundation board members. This article about Joe Fulcher first appeared in Lovelace Respiratory Research Institute’s Breath Magazine.

Joe Fulcher plays a valuable role in the smooth operations and financial excellence of the Stuttering Foundation. Since 1984 he has served in the roles of Vice President, and Assistant Secretary and Treasurer. He also serves on the annual Audit Committee.

His dedication to his work with SFA is an example to the entire board and staff.

Joe had the privilege of working directly with Malcolm Fraser, the founder of SFA, for many years. Malcolm thought highly of Joe’s financial oversight and planning abilities that help SFA provide ongoing help to those who struggle with stuttering.

“The Foundation is fortunate to have someone of Joe’s capabilities be a part of this important work,” said Jane Fraser. “We have him to thank for our success.”

The arc of Joe Fulcher’s career has closely followed Lovelace Respiratory Research Institute’s growth over the years. Fulcher first interacted with the Lovelace Clinic in 1951 when he moved from his home in Texas to Albuquerque as a part of a consulting team charged with reorganizing the clinic’s accounting department. Inspired by the clinic’s work, Fulcher joined the organization to serve as director of finance.

“What they were doing—combining medical services, medical research, and medical education—was really interesting so I was happy to stay on,” explains Fulcher. His involvement with the organization has continued ever since.

Fulcher advanced through the ranks at the organization until 1969 when he decided to enroll in University of New Mexico’s law school.

“I heard a well-known speaker say that a man should be repotted every ten years. I liked that and thought it was time to do something different,” explains Fulcher. While attending law school, he continued to serve as Administrative Vice President and Trustee of the Lovelace Foundation. After earning his juris doctorate in 1973, Fulcher joined Modrall, Sperling, Roehl, Harris and Sisk, a law firm in Albuquerque.

Subsequently, he became general counsel for the Lovelace Foundation and later of Lovelace Medical Center, Inc., the organization set up to combine the medical service operations of the clinic and hospital.

Fulcher retired from the law firm in the late 1980’s, but continued to serve as general counsel for a few years on a part-time basis. Today, Fulcher is still a member of the LRRI Board of Directors.

While Fulcher has been involved professionally with the organization for 59 years, he’s also been personally satisfied with the medical research. Years ago, when he had heart bypass surgery at Lovelace, he remembered the times when Lovelace scientists and surgeons were conducting early research on an artificial heart pump. “It was gratifying to reflect that I had a small hand in supporting the kind of research that ended up helping so many people—including myself,” he comments.

Throughout his career Fulcher was involved with the evolution of the organization from three separate entities—a hospital, clinic and research institute—to a combination of all three, and finally, with the medical service operations separated, to the organization that it is today. He says it’s been very gratifying to see LRRI change shape over time as its breadth and depth of research expanded.

“Under Bob Rubin’s leadership this has become the leading respiratory research institute in the world...it’s unique. Having watched it all these years, I’m thrilled with LRRI’s outstanding success. I see it as a tribute to the many scientists, physicians, and devoted Board members who are a part of its colorful progeny.”
Dear SFA: Reader Response

Speech Therapy Helps
My name is Josiah and I am 11 years old. I love to play football with my friends. I stutter. When I stutter, I can’t get my words out. Stuttering bothers me. I sometimes feel ashamed because my words get blocked. The good news is that my speech is better. Speech therapy has helped me to talk better and learn new things.
Josiah, 11
Cheltenham, PA

I Like Me for Who I Am
StutteringHelp.org changed my life! It gave me a list of things that would help people who are talking to someone who stutters, which my mom really needed. It also gave me a video of how much I’m not alone, and best of all, it actually gave me a feeling where I don’t care if I stutter anymore. This was my real, meaningful Christmas present and ya’ll helped me through my worst terrible things ever. I like me for who I am and that’s all that really matters. Thank you, thank you, thank you. I want you to know this really helped me more than you can ever think possible.
Madelyn, 12
York, S.C.

I Am an Expert
My name is Brennen. I am 10 years old and in fourth grade. I go to speech because I stutter. My favorite strategies right now are stretching and pausing. Mrs. Lisa, my speech teacher, says I am an expert because I have taught her a lot about stuttering. We just did a presentation to my class on stuttering. We told my classmates lots of important things. We even got them to practice some repetitions. We told them about some famous people who stutter. We also told them about things they can do to help and that it is okay to stutter. We described how our speech helpers work together and did a poster on facts and myths about stuttering. I really enjoyed making our posters. My principal and my mom came to our presentation too. My classmates asked lots of good questions. I was excited to pass out snacks at the end. 
Brennen, 10
Berwick, La.

Bigger than My Stutter
I stuttered a lot when I was younger but then when I met my speech therapist, she helped me be bigger than my stutter. She helped me use talking tools. That’s how I am now... bigger than my stutter.
Mary, 8
Duluth, MN

Stuttering is OK
I don’t mind that I stutter. It doesn’t really bother me. But sometimes it just gets annoying. I try to stop stuttering, but I can’t.
Nathan, 7
Hamilton, Ontario

Techniques Help
My name is Carter. I was 5 when I started stuttering. But as I get older, I kept getting better and better. Now I’m in 4th grade. I feel like I don’t even
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stutter at all. Now I’m 9, so I can understand more and more about stuttering. Even about how bad it can be. In 2nd grade, I didn’t know what to do because I thought my friends would laugh if I used my techniques. Now I’m not scared to use my techniques.

Carter, 9
Richmond, Minn.

Growing In Self-esteem

I started stuttering when I was little, but I only can remember stuttering from grade 3. Right now I go to my therapist every two weeks. Some useful strategies are pausing, starting in an easy relaxed way, and talking slow. My parents, friends, and other people have helped me by paying attention and not asking me way too many questions about why I stutter.

I have a little brother who is 5 and he’s the biggest negative impact on my stuttering because he interrupts a lot and talks fast. When he interrupts me, I get very frustrated.

One more important thing that has helped me is better self-esteem which I got from a conference where I met a lot of people who stutter more than me. Practicing and activities with speech have also helped.

I used to get teased but not because of my stuttering. The real reason I got teased is because I am missing a finger. I don’t get teased anymore because I don’t care about having a missing finger. I feel like I’m a great kid and my stuttering also doesn’t bother me because I have great self-esteem now, and I also use my strategies.

Steven, 12
Richmond Hill, Ontario

Talking Fears

Hi. My name is Peter. I’m 10 years old and I am in 5th grade. I have been stuttering for as long as I can remember. I have a fear of talking or when I have to read something to the class because sometimes I stutter a lot when I am reading. It makes me feel like I slow down the whole class. No one makes fun of me for that but when I do get bullied I can’t get my words out fast enough to defend myself. It’s really frustrating. None of my speech teachers has helped me at school so I am going to another speech teacher outside of school. I think it is going to help me a lot. When I grow up I’m going to be the lead singer in a rock band. I think I’m going to be a really great one!

Peter, 10
Homer Glen, Ill.

Stuttering is Confusing

I don’t like to stutter. Sometimes it makes me and other people really confused. It also makes people tease me because it sounds really funny. Sometimes when I talk, it feels like everyone wants me to stop stuttering so they can guess what I am trying to say. When I try not to stutter and get the words straight out, it gets worse and then I repeat the words several times. But when I am calm and talk slowly, it helps me and it makes talking a lot easier then it used to be.

Sophia
Toronto, Ontario

Turtle Talk

My name is Avery. I am 4 years old. I learned “turtle speech” - that means talking slowly. Miss Linda and I pretended we were at the doctor’s office. Some doctors talked

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slowly and some talked fast. Dr. Turtle and Dr. Snail speak slowly and Dr. Kangaroo and Dr. Rabbit speak fast. I know how to talk both ways, but talking slow is good. Avery, 4  Jefferson, Mass.

Please Don’t Interrupt
My name is Benson. I am in the eighth grade and I am 13 years old. My favorite school subject is science. When I grow up I would like to become a doctor. Some fun stuff I like to do is make origami figures. Origami is the art of folding paper into things or figures. Sometimes origami is hard and sometimes it is easy. Origami is relaxing most of the time.

About my stuttering... sometimes I get stuck when I’m talking and I can’t say what I want to say. Also, it would help me if people would not cut me off when I’m talking. I don’t like it when people start talking about what they want to talk about when I haven’t finished and am stuttering a little bit. Thanks for listening! Benson, 13 Torrance, Calif.

Speech Group is Fun
My name is Allen. I’m in 6th grade in Torrance, California. On Fridays, I go to speech at my school with some other guys. My speech teacher is Mrs. D. The guys and I have a lot of fun in speech. One warm day we had a wonderful field trip to the Redondo Beach pier. When we were there, we ate at the most wonderful pizza place called Zeppy’s. There are three boys in my speech group. On the field trip, we gave pamphlets about stuttering to people in the community.

I started stuttering at age 3.

I am 11 years old. I have been in speech for a long time. I work on speech sounds but started stuttering about a year ago. I feel a little bit sad because I stutter. The words don’t come out when I want them to. My speech teacher is helping me talk better. Maybe some day I won’t stutter. Sometimes I cry when I stutter.

Clay Hurricane, Wash.

Stutter Buddies
My name is Roderick and I am 13 years old. I’m in seventh grade in Torrance. My favorite subject is math. I’m good at it. Not only am I a good dancer, but I’m also good at sports. My favorite sports are football and basketball. My favorite team is the Lakers.

Sometimes when I talk, I have trouble and I stutter. It’s embarrassing when other people are looking at you when you’re stuttering. When I stutter, I say it more slowly so I can say it better. My speech group at school has gone on field trips. We gave information about stuttering to people in the community. It is good to be a speech expert in your city. I tell people that it helps me if other people let me say the words I want to say. Interrupting is not good. Stuttering is just part of me. Thanks for listening Stutter Buddies!

Roderick, 13 Torrance, Calif.

A letter from France
Je m’appelle Iman.
J’ai 7 ans.
Je suis en CE1.
Le bégaiement
Dans ma vie, le bégaiement est énervant. Parce que il m’empêche de parler.
Dans ma maison, le bégaiement vient parfois.
Ca me dérange.
A l’école le bégaiement vient parfois. Je parle souvent à la maîtresse en bégayant.
Je ne suis pas contente du tout. Les mots sont bloqués dans ma gorge. Je voudrais chasser le bégaiement de ma gorge.
Parce qu’il m’énerve.
News Briefs

- The Stuttering Foundation’s five-day workshop, *Diagnosis and Treatment of Children Who Stutter*, will be July 11-15, 2011, at Portland State University.
- National Stuttering Association is holding its annual convention in Fort Worth, TX, July 6-10, 2011. For more information, visit www.nsastutter.org.

Books

- *The King’s Speech: How One Man Saved the British Monarchy* by Mark Logue and Peter Conradi. www.amazon.com

Foundation Gets Starring Role on New DVD

The DVD of *The King’s Speech*, which was released in April, includes the Stuttering Foundation’s 60-second Public Service Announcement.

This PSA will let the millions of people who view the movie in the years to come know that the Foundation offers free resources.

Dr. Barbara Moore poses with Mark Vidor of The Art Theatre of Long Beach, Calif. The theatre donated a portion of ticket sales from *The King’s Speech* to the Stuttering Foundation. Before the showing, Dr. Moore made a lively presentation and answered questions about stuttering.