National Survey Reveals Parents’ Reactions to Children Who Stutter

Slow down and relax!
A new survey shows that is what most adults tell children who stutter, but leading experts say that strategy can aggravate the problem.

A national survey of 1,000 adults by The Stuttering Foundation found that nearly 90 percent said “slow down and relax” is exactly what they would tell a child who begins to stutter. Yet such simplistic advice won’t help stop stuttering, and may actually frustrate a child who stutters.

As many as 20 percent of all children have disfluencies severe enough to concern their parents. As the new year begins, the need is clear for better awareness on how to respond.

“The survey results indicate that it is more important than ever for us to focus our efforts on educating parents of young children about stuttering,” said Jane Fraser, president of The Stuttering Foundation, a 56-year-old nonprofit organization dedicated to the prevention and treatment of stuttering. “With early detection and intervention, stuttering in young children can almost always be overcome. It is crucial that parents become informed.”

Survey responses indicate there is a general lack of knowledge about this complex disorder that affects 3 million Americans.

Thirty-three percent of those surveyed said they would correct a child who is stuttering or that they would finish the child’s sentences.

Parents may inadvertently aggravate the problem. Allowing the child to complete his thoughts without interruptions or corrections is very important. Patience, attentive listening is critical.

“Parents should realize that the way they react to stuttering plays an important role in the child’s speech development,” said Lisa Scott Trautman, Ph.D., assistant professor of speech-language

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Research Holds Hope for Better Treatment

- Genetic research holds the promise of revealing some of the underlying causes of stuttering. Dennis Drayna is a geneticist at the National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders. His study of the Joseph Lankong family in Cameroon, Africa was the subject of an article in the Fall 2002 SFA newsletter.

- “A member of the Speak Clear Association of Cameroon saw The Stuttering Foundation newsletter and came forward to tell us that he too comes from a large family with a remarkable cluster of many individuals who stutter. If we were to find two such families in Cameroon, it would suggest an unusual genetic form of stuttering might exist in this part of the world,” said Dr. Drayna, who is returning to Cameroon within the next few months.

- Brain research should provide information to develop targeted behavioral and pharmacological interventions, and may lead to earlier detection of individuals at risk for developmental stuttering, according to Anne Foundas, M.D., Tulane University Health Sciences Center, New Orleans.

Dr. Foundas is conducting a study into the handedness and footedness of people who stutter. Dr. Foundas notes that this is a long-term project, but the response rate has already been excellent to an extensive survey sent out in June by the Foundation.

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Experts Agree That Churchill Did Stutter
Stuttering “no myth” say speech experts regarding famous orator

Editor’s Note: The following is a press release sent by The Foundation in response to an article by Diana Sugg. The famous dead yield only murky diagnoses, that ran Nov. 17, 2002 in The Baltimore Sun. The article was later picked up by other newspapers through wire services. The Foundation and numerous clinicians also wrote letters to the editor in response to John Mather’s statements.

Recent news reports that quote Dr. John Mather, a Washington physician, as saying that Churchill’s stutter “is a lie” brought adamant critical response from specialists in the field of stuttering and fluency disorders.

Yet, seeking to “remove [Winston] Churchill’s stutter by second guessing the diagnosis” indicates neither a truthful retelling of history nor an informed opinion about a complex speech disorder, say experts in the field of speech-language pathology.

“One need not consult numerous historians or contemporary or family records to verify this: a well-circulated medical education film on stuttering that we use in our clinical teaching each semester shows excerpts from his famous ‘Iron Curtain’ speech that clearly evidence classic stuttering behaviors,” said Nan Bernstein Ratner, Ed.D., and Vivian Siskin, M.A., of the Department of Hearing and Speech Sciences at the University of Maryland.

“That Churchill was not seen to stutter in some records is in fact a classic and frustrating feature of stuttering.”

“Perhaps Dr. Mather believes that Churchill never stuttered because he heard him give so many speeches fluently. But remember that many people who stutter, such as James Earl Jones, John Stossel, and Bruce Willis, are often fluent when they speak before an audience. All three have overcome significant stuttering problems,” said Barry Guitar, Ph.D., Professor of Communication Sciences at the University of Vermont.

Guitar is a world-renowned expert on the topic. More than half of college courses on stuttering currently use his textbook. In the training videotape featuring Churchill, The Doctor Is In, produced by Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center, Guitar, himself a stutterer, notes several instances of Churchill’s stuttering and, specifically, his use of “a classic maneuver that those who stutter often use.”

“We stand on very firm ground concerning Churchill and his stammer,” says Jane Fraser, president of The Stuttering Foundation. “There was no doubt among his contemporaries that he stuttered. The diary of Lord Moran, Churchill’s personal physician, who presumably knew him better than John Mather, describes Churchill’s early stammer. Churchill’s son, Sir Randolph Churchill, discusses it in his biography as does William Manchester in his outstanding 1983 biography, The Last Lion, describing Churchill as ‘speaking with a lisp and a slight stutter.’”

The SFA’s public service advertisements featuring Churchill have been called “a misrepresentation” by Mather, who says he believes that Churchill had only a slight lisp.

“Stuttering can manifest in many forms,” explained Lisa Scott Trautman, Ph.D., of The Florida State University. “It is also important to note that current research indicates that 30 percent of those who stutter have a concomitant articulation disorder, such as a lisp.

“We now know that stuttering is a neurologically-based condition that does not emerge from or reflect psychological maladjustment, although this is still a popular public misperception of the disorder,” added Dr. Ratner.

“Although evidence clearly shows that Churchill stuttered, the important point here is that he overcame the problem to become a stirring and eloquent speaker,” concluded Dr. Guitar. “He gave us some of the most memorable words in history. The fact that he sometimes stuttered when he said them was—and is—nothing to be ashamed of.”

“Straight Talk for Teachers” Video the Talk of the Airwaves

The Stuttering Foundation’s new video, Stuttering: Straight Talk for Teachers, has been a hit ever since it came out this past summer, not only with its primary audience of speech-language pathologists and classroom teachers, but also with the media.

Dr. Frank Field, producer at TV superstation UPN 9, focused on school-age children who stutter by featuring the video and SLP Dr. Phillip Schneider during back-to-school days this fall.

The segment, which aired September 21, included portions of the new video as well as outstanding footage of Dr. Schneider and some of the children with whom he works. Schneider’s comments complemented the video’s content, emphasizing that improving teachers’ knowledge about stuttering can make a real difference for children who stutter in their classroom.

Another major media hit featuring Stuttering: Straight Talk for Teachers was the October 30 segment on National Public Radio’s The Parent’s Journal.

Host Bobbi Conner covered the following points in an interview with Stuttering Foundation President Jane Fraser:

- How to respond to the child who stutters in the classroom
- How to handle teasing in the classroom
- How to deal with oral presentations in the classroom
- Quick tips on how parents (and teachers) can get appropriate help for their child.

The Parent’s Journal reaches millions of listeners every week, and is aired on local NPR affiliate stations. Programs are also archived on the web site at www.parentsjournal.com.
New Study on Stuttering
Continued from page 1

pathology at The Florida State University.
"If a child senses frustration and impatience when he speaks, his concerns about talking will increase."

So what are parents to do?
■ Remain calm if you hear your child stutter.
■ Give the child your attention and listen carefully, allowing the child to complete his sentence without interruption.
■ Talk in a slow, relaxed way yourself; this will be more effective than any criticism or advice to 'try it again slowly.'
■ Convey to the child that you are listening to what your child says, not how he says it. This will build confidence and likely increase fluency.

On a positive note, 84 percent of those surveyed said they would seek professional help if their child developed a stuttering problem.

For many young children, positive attitudes and reactions of parents and other family members are an effective way to encourage normal fluency. However, even if stuttering lasts longer than six months, seems fairly severe, or worsens, an evaluation by a speech therapist is recommended. The success rate is very high when children begin therapy between the ages of two and five years old.

Parents' best opportunity to help their child is to learn more about stuttering and appropriate methods of handling it.

Survey findings indicate that there is still a general lack of knowledge about this complex speech disorder that affects three million Americans.

The Stuttering Foundation can provide a list of local resources for free by calling 1-800-992-9392, or visit the Web site, www.stutteringhelp.org. On the home page, click on “Resources,” then select “Referral Lists.”

The Foundation also provides the latest research information, a worldwide resource list, and self-help materials compiled by the leading authorities in the field of speech pathology. A copy of the new 2003 brochure, If You Think Your Child Is Stuttering: 7 Tips for Helping Your Child, may be found on the Web site and is free to anyone calling 1-800-992-9392. Also on the “Resources” page, readers will find the list of more than 5,500 libraries which shelve Foundation books and videotapes.

Note to Readers: The national survey was sponsored by The Stuttering Foundation in conjunction with Withlin Worldwide.

Specialist in Stuttering Workshop Resumes Under New Leadership

After a year's hiatus, the Specialist in Stuttering Workshop will return under new leadership as many know, last year was Hugo Gregory's final year as the director of the Workshop for Specialists. He and his wife, Carolyn are enjoying retirement, busy with new projects.

However, the Workshop will be back this coming summer, cosponsored by The Stuttering Foundation and the University of Iowa under the direction of Patricia Zebrowski, Ph.D., with Toni Cilek, M.A.

"We recognize the tremendous effort that Hugo, Carolyn, Diane Hill, and June Campbell have put in over the years," said Jane Fraser, president, The Stuttering Foundation. "Under their leadership, the Workshop for Specialists was a smooth running machine."

The Workshop has gained international recognition for its excellence in the post-graduate study of stuttering. It has also provided an excellent resource for networking.

"We're thrilled that Dr. Zebrowski has accepted the responsibility of organizing and running the Stuttering Therapy: Workshop for Specialists 2003," Fraser continued. "Tricia is highly respected in the field, both in clinical practice and in research, and The University of Iowa is home to a medical center with wonderful facilities and an excellent library."

The Workshop for Specialists will be held June 23-July 3, 2003, at The University of Iowa in Iowa City. In addition to Zebrowski and Cilek, principle instructors will be Rosalyn Shenker, Ph.D., Montreal Fluency Centre, and Bill Murphy, M.A., Purdue University. The Workshop will again bring together 20 speech pathologists from all over the world with a special interest in stuttering for an intensive two weeks to hone skills.

Tricia has been at the University of Iowa since 1988, when she was appointed to the faculty position in stuttering following Dean Williams' retirement. She teaches both undergraduate and graduate students, and retains active research lab. She is presently involved in a NICHD multi-site research project designed to examine subtypes of stuttering and risk factors for the development of stuttering in young children. The other sites include the University of Illinois, Northern Illinois University, and the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

Besides teaching and research interests, Tricia is active in the clinic, working primarily with children and adults who stutter and their families. During the summer, she offers a week-long residential therapy program for children who stutter at the University of Iowa.

For conference information, contact The Stuttering Foundation at 1-800-992-9392 or write Dr. Zebrowski, c/o SFA, 3100 Walnut Grove Road, Suite 603, Memphis, TN, 38111. An application may also be downloaded from the Web site, www.stutteringhelp.org.

PSAs Reaching Bilingual, Spanish Readers

The message in Stuttering Foundation public service advertisements (PSA) resonates across cultures. The Spanish-language press this year began to pick up on the free ads that inform their readers about the help available to those who stutter.

This PSA of actor and Foundation spokesman Nick Brendan ran in the November/December issue of La Latina magazine, which has a circulation of over 175,000. A Spanish press release about Brendan serving as spokesman for National Stuttering Awareness Week ran in La Voz, a Houston, TX newspaper.

Thanks to the media for their support on behalf of those who stutter.

¡Sus problemas de tartamudez no le prohibirán actuar en televisión!

1-800-992-9392
www.stutteringhelp.org

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1-800-992-9392
www.stutteringhelp.org
SFA Booth Sizzles at ASHA 2002
Booth, reunion bring together workshoppers

It was a record-breaking year for The Stuttering Foundation at the 2002 American Speech-Language Hearing Association convention in Atlanta.

Although attendance at the November convention was slightly lower than in years past, “sales of SFA materials were up about 20 percent over our highest year,” said SFA president Jane Fraser. “Items flew off the tables, with many quickly selling out. The recently revised books for preschool parents of children who stutter and Advice to Those Who Stutter were especially popular, as were all of our Spanish materials. This was also the first year we had two new videos out at once, Stuttering: Straight Talk for Teachers and Counseling: Listening To and Talking With Parents of Children Who Stutter.”

With 40 feet of display space to manage, volunteers in the booth, who numbered up to 10 people at times, were kept busy all three days. Some finally resorted to taking orders for materials to be shipped later when even the “display only” copies of items—including the Counseling demo videotape—were sold.

The Stuttering Foundation’s booth was a hot spot to seek advice from top professionals in the field on effective therapy strategies, not to mention a gathering spot for old friends.

The Foundation’s annual workshop reunion also brought together colleagues from all over, including London and Australia.

Volunteers Sheryl Gottwald and Nancy Ribbler.

Bill Murphy, Peter Ramig and Lee Caggiano, director of Friends, The Association for Young People Who Stutter.

Liz Brown, June Haerle Campbell and Vianne Bjornberg.

Rosalie Shenker, SFA President Jane Fraser, Joe Fulcher, Mark Onslow and Lisa Scott Trautman.

Above, Joe, Kevin Eldridge and Tom Garris at the reunion.
Left, Lisa and Joe Donaher helped unpack and stow 1,200 pounds of videos and books to set up the booth.

Tim Macksey, Susan Hamilton and Liz Blake help shoppers at the SFA booth.
New materials and lots of repeat customers led to record sales this year.

Maureen Tardelli, Jean Babin and Susan Iwan.
Right, Hugo and Carolyn Gregory.

Stacks of materials disappeared quickly after the first day.
Mailout Reaches Record Number of Libraries

On November 8, 2002, the Foundation sent 5,500 letters to libraries already shelving its materials and another 4,247 letters to libraries which do not yet have its videotapes and books.

Libraries have called in by the hundreds since the mailout, flooding the Memphis office with requests not only for the new videos, but also for the “classics” for adults, teens, and children of all ages. The tenth edition of *Self-Therapy for the Stutterer* has also been in great demand by libraries who attest to its popularity.

The Stuttering Foundation reports that its videotapes are now available in over 5,500 libraries nationwide—a number which is growing daily.

A listing of libraries shelving the Foundation’s materials can be found at the Web site, www.stutteringhelp.org. Just click on Resources, then Libraries, and then on the appropriate state.

Said Foundation Board member Jean Gross, “Using the Web to pinpoint which library has these videotapes on stuttering will save people a lot of time and effort.”

Some recent comments from librarians indicate that the need for these materials is great and that there is a demand for them from library patrons.

“I want to thank you for offering your materials free of charge to our library.”

writes Marilyn Walden, director of the Arcanum Public Library in Ohio. The information will be beneficial to those personally affected and their families, as well as others in contact with them, and students preparing reports. These materials are a welcome addition to our collection.”

“Thank you for your recent gift of the titles: *Self-Therapy for the Stutterer, Stuttering: Straight Talk for Teachers,* and *La Tumantez y Su Niño: una guía para la famil-

Represents: writes Charlene Lenzen of the Muskego Public Library in Wisconsin. “We are grateful for the interest you have in the library and for your help in better serving our patrons.”

For the past eight years, The Stuttering Foundation has sent its videotapes free to public libraries as part of its outreach and awareness program. Once the library has shelved the tapes, the Foundation sends a press release to local newspapers to let readers know about their availability.

If your local public library has any of these tapes and they are not listed at our Web site, please notify the Foundation so that these libraries can be added to the database. Or, if your library doesn’t yet have the materials, ask the librarian to call or write The Stuttering Foundation directly at 800-992-9392.

Video Demonstrates How to Counsel Parents

Parents play a key role in the treatment of children who stutter. Helping them recognize and cope with their own feelings is critical to the success of their child’s therapy. The Stuttering Foundation’s newest video demonstrates and discusses proven strategies for doing just that.

The instant demand for Counseling: *Listening To and Talking With Parents of Children Who Stutter* since its release this past fall attests to the need for expert techniques in working with parents at all stages in the parent-clinician relationship.

The 30-minute video features renowned speech-language pathologists Barry Guitar, Ph.D.; Diane Hill, M.A.; Peter Ramig, Ph.D.; and Patricia Zebrowski, Ph.D. Actual footage of counseling sessions shows how to respond during the first contact, working with parents in groups and individually, and helping parents separate their own feelings about stuttering from the child’s. Film clips are followed by expert advice from the clinicians on alternative techniques or ways to respond in similar situations.

Although intended primarily for use by professionals or as a classroom training tool, the video is proving effective when used directly by parents as well.

“The counseling tape is a powerful tool to help families work on their own with the child’s stuttering,” Guitar said. “I ask them to view it and then, after we’ve discussed it, I have them spend some one-on-one time—and about 15 minutes—with their child every day, interacting in ways that...”
Young Clients, Parents Highlight the Western Workshop

Children who stutter and their parents were among the “star teachers” at the SFA Western Workshop this past June at the University of Washington in Seattle.

Five school-age clients from workshop leader Susan Hamilton’s private practice, ages 8-13, worked with four workshop participants at a time.

“The clients helped participants learn about the speech machine. They taught the participants how to replicate their stuttering moments and describe what they do with the speech machine during them,” Hamilton explained. “They also modeled management tools and evaluated the workshop participants’ productions. The participants also had a chance to interview the parents regarding their child’s progress through speech therapy.”

“It is an amazing experience to be taught by some of the finest speech pathologists in the field of fluency management.”

Russell Boyce, SLP

The hands-on therapy practice and the parent panel were just some highlights of an exceptional week of learning strategies for working with children and adults who stutter, said SLPs who attended.

Hamilton, on the University faculty and in private practice; Canadian SLP Marilyn Langevin, now pursuing a doctorate in Australia, shared responsibility for teaching all aspects of treatment this year. Participants were given exposure to both of their approaches to working with preschool and school-age children. Dr. David Prins gave an historical perspective on the development of therapies.

“It was an amazing experience to be taught by some of the finest speech pathologists in the field of fluency management,” said Russell Boyce of Florida.

“Without doubt, those five days at the SFA Western Workshop were the best workshop days in my almost 30-year career as a speech-language pathologist,” echoed Glenn Weybright of Oregon.

Lighter moments could be found during the intensive training. Weybright led the participants in a skit and chant about ideas learned from the workshop. And the traditional wine and cheese reception was held with great success at the home of SFA’s Deborah Squires in Discovery Park, Seattle.

The 2003 Western Workshop will be held June 25-29, led by Susan Hamilton, Ph.D., and Jennifer Watson, Ph.D. Call The Stuttering Foundation at 1-800-992-3929 for application information.

Southern Workshop Beckons World to Tallahassee

Yes, it was hot, the hottest week of the summer for the Southern Workshop, formerly the Midwestern Workshop. July 2002 was the first time The Florida State University hosted a Stuttering Foundation conference.

The weather wasn’t all that was hot. So were the workshop evaluations by the 20 SLPs who attended from as far away as Jamaica and Thailand.

Speech-language pathologist Jeannaj Jeeraumporn traveled all the way to Tallahassee from Thailand and Tracey Neil came from Kingston, Jamaica, to participate in the five days of training in practical strategies for treating stuttering.

“This was the best planned and executed course I have ever experienced, and so fun! And I have attended plenty in 16 years,” enthused a participant. “Thank you very much!”

The primary goals of the workshop were to increase participants’ skills and confidence in communicating effectively with children, diagnosing the extent and severity of the communication disorder, developing appropriate treatment plans, designing meaningful therapy activities, and modeling both fluency shaping and stuttering modification tools.

The workshop moved to Tallahassee as a result of co-director Lisa Scott Trautman’s relocation. Also new this year, co-instructor Kristin Chmela incorporated information on the socioemotional development of children that was especially helpful in understanding those aspects of childhood stuttering.

“Lisa is a breath of fresh air. She was able to communicate information to us in a ‘real world’ way. Lisa’s ability to come up with analogies always put things in a contextual light,” wrote another SLP.

Continued on page 7
Constantly Evolving, Eastern Workshop Stays Fresh

The Eastern Workshop is the oldest of The Stuttering Foundation's regional five-day workshops on practical strategies for the treatment of stuttering. But there's nothing stodgy about this "senior." Constant updating and incorporating innovative practices keeps the Eastern Workshop fresh, say co-directors Susan Dietrich, Ph.D., and Sheryl Gottwald, M.A. The workshop was held for the eighth year this past June in Boston.

Participants were given more time to practice specific techniques of treating school-age children who stutter.

Constant updating and the incorporation of innovative practices keeps the Eastern Workshop fresh.

"We plan to increase that time even more this coming June with role playing with colleagues prior to the practice therapist's working with local children," said Dietrich, who also introduced a new technique in the assessment of disfluency.

"The workshop participants found it easy to perform and were reliable across the group of participants. Group consensus was that this way of counting and grouping disfluencies 'made more sense' than the traditional 'percent syllables stuttered' measurement," Dietrich added.

The workshop also included elements of Albert Ellis' Rational Emotive Therapy techniques for the modification of the clients' negative self-talk, and managing the self-fulfilling prophecy of stuttering through negative anticipation. Dietrich will present on the integration of these techniques into stuttering therapy at the 4th International Fluency Association World Congress in Montreal this coming August.

This coming summer, the Eastern Workshop will be held June 18-20, 2003 in Boston, M.A., again co-directed by Susan Dietrich and Sheryl Gottwald. For application information, call The Stuttering Foundation at 1-800-992-9392, or you may download an application from the Web site, www.stutteringhelp.org.
Stuttering Foundation Reaches Pediatricians at Annual Convention

The SFA took the message of prevention and treatment of stuttering, particularly the need for early intervention, to pediatricians at their annual convention in Boston, MA.

Once again, it was very well received.

“Overall, this was the best year ever,” said June Haerie Campbell, M.A., SLP, who has represented the Foundation at the American Association of Pediatricians convention for eight years.

More than 6,100 professionals attended the convention this year. With the Foundation’s booth located in a highly visible area with major traffic flow, it was a busy three days.

“Eighty percent of the materials were distributed in the first day,” Campbell said. “I had great visits with the physicians. Again, I’m sure that location had a lot to do with it, but many seemed to want to talk, not just browse. There was a lot of general interest and a desire to have a sampling of literature mailed to them.”

This past year, the Foundation updated The Child Who Stutters: To The Pediatrician, adding a handy, one-page physician’s check list for referral that differentiates between normal disfluencies, mild stuttering and severe stuttering. The 16-page guide is available for $1.00 by calling the Foundation at 1-800-992-9392 or through the on-line store at www.stutteringhelp.org.

Clinician Diane Hill demonstrates counseling both parents of a child who stutters.

Counseling Video

Continued from page 5

the video suggests. I also ask parents to rate their child’s stuttering every day on a 1-10 scale so that we can decide together whether the child is improving. As long as the child is getting progressively more fluent every week, I have them continue this procedure. If the child doesn’t make a steady improvement, I have the parent learn a more direct approach to use with the child and continue charting his progress.”

“The team of professionals on the video is now developing a user’s guide which is meant to be used while watching the tape. This will provide a Continuing Education component for clinicians,” notes Lisa Scott Trautman, Ph.D., editor for the project. The user guide is expected to be published by the summer of 2003.

Counseling: Listening To and Talking With Parents of Children Who Stutter was produced by Dr. Zebrowski, University of Iowa; Dr. Guitar, University of Vermont; and Carroll Guitar, M.L.S., University of Vermont; in collaboration with Diane Hill, Northwestern University; Dr. Ramig, University of Colorado-Boulder; and Jane Fraser, president of The Stuttering Foundation.

For information or for a copy of the video, call The Foundation at 1-800-992-9392, or visit the on-line store at the Web site at www.stutteringhelp.org.

Practice of Offering Quality Professional Training Programs Continues in San Diego

The Stuttering Foundation continued its long-held practice of providing quality continuing education programs for speech-language pathologists with an inservice for the San Diego City Schools led by Peter Ramig, Ph.D., University of Colorado-Boulder.

Ramig’s seminar, Stuttering Therapy: Practical Ideas for the School Clinician, The program provided school-based SLPS in Southern California with key information and techniques to better support children who stutter in the classroom.

“Dr. Ramig inspired 250 public school speech-language pathologists with his practical, humanistic approach to stuttering treatment. His evaluations were outstanding,” said Claudia Dunaway, Lead SLP for San Diego Schools. “Many participants commented on this wealth of experience, sincerity and clarity of presentation. We are hoping to bring him back in the future for more in-depth coaching and mentoring.”

With the help of renowned specialists in stuttering such as Ramig, The SFA provides similar inservices throughout the year across the country. Contact The Stuttering Foundation for more information at 1-800-992-9392.

Research

Continued from page 1

The survey is being completed by people who stutter and by a control group of others who do not stutter. If you did not receive a copy of the survey and wish to participate, please contact The Foundation at 1-800-992-9392 or info@stutteringhelp.org.
Newsworthy

SFA is a “Kid Friendly” Web Site

It was one of those dread “unknown sender” emails that was actually nice to get: “Great web site! Your web site has been added to KinderStart.Com. Your award is attached, Victor Goodman, Founder, KinderStart.Com.” KinderStart.Com is an indexed directory and search engine focused on children newborn to seven. Its mission is to provide parents, grandparents, foster parents and teachers with an organized and easy to use site. Find them at www.kinderstart.com.

Around the World in 365 Days

We’re “going postal” and proud of it! Did you know that books, videos and brochures from the Memphis office of The Stuttering Foundation were sent to people in 62 countries throughout the world this past year? Now that’s reaching out!

Send in Your Employer of the Year Applications

The Stuttering Foundation is again soliciting nominations for the Employer of the Year Award. First given in 2001 to the City of Mt. Vernon, IL, the award recognizes employers who go the extra distance on behalf of those who stutter.

“A lot of employers say they need someone to speak fluently,” said stutterer Nathan Pigg, City Building Inspector’s Office, in nominating his employer. “This employer never brought it up.”

To nominate your employer for the award, submit a short essay telling us who you are, who your employer is, and why they should win the award. Send entries to The Stuttering Foundation, 3100 Walnut Grove Road, Suite 603, Memphis, TN 38111-0749 or info@stutteringhelp.org.

NSSLHA Chapter of the College of Saint Rose Donates to SFA

Our warmest thanks go out to the National Student Speech, Language, and Hearing Association chapter at the College of St. Rose.

The Albany, NY college sent a gift to support the SFA’s work in promoting research, creating and distributing materials, maintaining a worldwide resource list, sponsoring training programs for speech-language pathologists, and reaching out to pediatricians, family physicians and other medical professionals.

Elements of Stuttering Available Through SFA

A limited number of copies of the book Elements of Stuttering by Courtney Stromsta, Ph.D., is now available through the Foundation office. To purchase a copy, please send $20.00 to The Stuttering Foundation, 3100 Walnut Grove Road, Suite 603, Memphis, TN 38111-0749.

Meet Kevin

Kevin Terrio is the newest addition to SFA, joining the staff in October. A New Yorker, he is a junior at Rhodes College in Memphis and plans to apply to medical school.

“I wanted to work for The Stuttering Foundation because I am interested in a career dealing with medical research on the neurological aspects of stuttering and I wanted a chance to get some exposure to the field,” said Kevin. “Also, being a stutterer myself, I am a great believer in the importance of the Foundation’s work in raising public awareness of stuttering and making sure that all those who need help know that it is available.”

Kevin helps “make sure that the SFA Web site continues to be one of the top Internet resources for those who need help or information on stuttering.” As someone who stutters, he also has a finely-tuned sense of what people who contact the Foundation for help are experiencing.

Other duties are more mundane—packing orders—as the office staff responds to requests for free materials from the 9,000 libraries contacted this fall.
The Stuttering Foundation Two-day conference for speech-language pathologists working with school-age children with stuttering. For practical ideas for the School Clinician, will be held June 6-7, 2003 in Philadelphia, PA. For an application, contact The Stuttering Foundation at 1-800-992-9392 or download it directly at www.stutteringhelp.org.

The Stuttering Foundation two-week Workshop for Specialists will be held at the University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA, June 23-July 3, 2003, directed by Patricia Zebrowski, Ph.D., with Toni Ciek, M.A. This unique workshop brings together speech-language pathologists from all over the world. For more information, contact The Stuttering Foundation at 1-800-992-9392, or write Dr. Zebrowski, c/o SFA, 3100 Walnut Grove Road, Suite 603, Memphis, TN 38111-0749. Applications may also be downloaded from the Web site.

The Stuttering Foundation Eastern Workshop, Diagnosis and Treatment of Children Who Stutter: Practical Strategies, directed by Dr. Susan Dietrich and Dr. Sherry Gottwald will be held at Western Washington University, June 22-23, 2003. Call 1-800-992-9392 for an application or download it directly at www.stutteringhelp.org.

The Stuttering Foundation Western Workshop, Diagnosis and Treatment of Children Who Stutter: Practical Strategies, directed by Susan Hamilton, M.A., Jennifer Watson, Ph.D., and with David Prins, Ph.D., will be held at the University of Washington, Seattle, June 25-29, 2003. Call 1-800-992-9392 or go to the SFA Web site at www.stutteringhelp.org for an application.

The Stuttering Foundation Southern Workshop, Diagnosis and Treatment of Children Who Stutter: Practical Strategies, directed by Dr. Lisa Scott Trautman and Kristin Chiml, M.A., will be held at the Florida State University, June 2004.

The 4th World Congress on Fluency Disorders will be held August 1-15, 2003 in Montreal, Quebec, Canada for more information, contact Dr. Rosalie Shenker at mrosal@musica.mcgill.ca or Lisa Avery at averly1@interchange.ubc.ca.

Fluency Division S4D will be held in St. Louis, MO, April 23-27, 2003. For information, check the ASHA Web site at www.asha.org or contact the Action Center at the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association at 800-498-2071.

From Joe Donaher: I have created a LISTSERV* for doctoral students specializing in stuttering. The list serves as an open forum for doctoral students; limited to doctoral students only. To subscribe, send the following to listserv@listserv.temple.edu: subscribe stutterdoc firstname lastname or contact Joe Donaher at torturead@ao.com.

For those interested in joining Toastmasters International as a way to improve fluency, communication or public speaking skills, their address is: Toastmasters International, Inc., Attention: Membership Department, P.O. Box 9052, Mission Viejo, CA 92690, Telephone: (714) 858-8255; Fax: (714) 858-8207.

For those wanting to obtain a copy of Self-Therapy for the Stutterer in Japanese, write to Dr. Shokichi Nakajima, 2-21-1 Oga Ma Chiba-shi, Tokyo 194, Japan, telephonefax: 0427 (96) 5092.

For those looking to obtain a copy of Self-Therapy for the Stutterer in French, write to the Association des Béguins du Canada, 7081 Rue Ste. Claire, Montreal, Quebec, Canada, H1L 1V8.

Please enclose $15.00 Canadian to cover printing, postage, and handling costs.

For those looking to obtain a copy of Stuttering and Your Child: Questions and Answers in Hindi, write to Dr. Satvinder Adaklah, Addlakha Speech and Hearing Clinic, 77 Sant Nagar, East of Laliach, New Delhi-110065, India, or call at 011-91-628-8636; or email addlakhas@hotmail.com. Those interested in joining a fluency and public speaking skills group should also contact Dr. Adaklah.

Books on Stuttering or Related Topics Available from Bookstores:

- Shaping the Journey: Lessons from my Students and Clients with Tangled Tongues by Lon Emerick, Ph.D., available from North Country Publishing, 355 Heidtman Road, Skandia, MI 49893 for $13.95 plus $2.00 postage and handling.
- Stuttering Intervention: A Collaborative Journey to Fluency Freedom by David Allen Shapiro, published by Pro-Ed, Austin, Texas.
- The Bob Love Story: If It’s Gonna Be, It’s Up to Me, by Bob Love with Mel Watkins, available through bookstores or call NTC Contemporary Publishing Group, 1-800-323-4900.
- Paroles de parents by Anne Marie Simon, L’Ortho-Édition, 76, rue Jean Jaures, 62330 Le Crotoy, France.
- Clinical Decision Making in the Diagnosis and Treatment of Fluency Disorders by Walter H. Manning, Ph.D., published by Singular/Thomson Learning.
- Nature and Treatment of Stuttering: New Directions by Richard F. Curlee, Ph.D. and Gerald M. Siegel, Ph.D., published by Allyn and Bacon, Needham Heights, MA.
- Special Children, Challenged Parents, by Robert A. Naseef, Ph.D., published by Carol Publishing Group, Secaucus, NJ, 1-800-447-2665.
- Straight Talk on Stuttering, Information, Encouragement, and Counsel for Stutterers, Caregivers, and Speech-Language Clinicians by Lloyd M. Hulit, Ph.D. The publisher is Charles C. Thomas, Springfield, IL.
- Stuttering: A Search for A Cause and A Cure by Oliver Bloodstein, Ph.D. It is published by Allyn & Bacon, Needham, MA.
- The Telecommunication Relay Service Handbook by Franklin H. Silverman, Ph.D. Aegis Publishing Group, Ltd., Newport, RI.
- Unforgettable Characters I Have Known by Bill Lynde. Published by BookPartners in Wilsonville, OR, 503-882-9821 or 800-885-7233.
- Speak Mandatorily by SLP Elizabeth Haynes. Available through Thelisted Press Ltd., Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada, 306-244-1722 or www.thelisted.co.sk.

We are indebted to all donors whose continuing support enables us to carry out our vital work on behalf of those who stutter.