

To: Member Associations, Advisory & ISA Board Members

From: Michael Sugarman, MBA (Chair,ISA)

Date: August 1, 2010

Re: August '10 e-newsflash

**INFORMATION ABOUT International Stuttering Awareness Day “People who Stutter, Inspire!” 2010**

People who stutter represent a diverse group of individuals with different occupations, diverse cultural identities, personal experiences and accomplishments. Although over 60 million people stutter, most people actually know very little about stuttering. This lack of awareness is how come people who stutter may face discrimination, prejudice and at times social isolation.

International Stuttering Awareness Day (ISAD) occurs on October 22nd and is designed to raise awareness about the challenges that people who stutter experience. ISAD is a joint endeavor by persons who stutter and their families and professionals (educators, researchers and clinicians) interested in stuttering. ISAD provides a framework for building a more humane, just and compassionate world for millions of people who stutter

ISAD is co-sponsored and recognized by major international stuttering organizations such as International Stuttering Association; the International Fluency Association; European League of Stuttering Associations and American Speech-Hearing Association Division on Fluency and Fluency Disorders as well as national organizations which you can find on the International Stuttering Association website ([www.stutterisa.org](http://www.stutterisa.org)).

This year's events include the thirteenth annual online conference October 1–22nd found by going to The Stuttering Home Page ([www.stutteringhomepage.com](http://www.stutteringhomepage.com)) where participants can read papers by consumers and professionals from around the world and interact with the presenters during the three weeks the conference is “live.” Papers remain available online and all past conferences are archived. Other ISAD activities in the past have included people who stutter and professionals hosting an open house, advocating for a proclamation marking ISAD October 22nd or students talking in their class about stuttering.

2010 presents many challenges that face people who stutter such as economic recession, job loss or anxiety about employment or personal fulfilment. It is vital to create a society, in which people who stutter can develop talents, become advocates for better understanding and become active participants in their future. This year in particular there are many conferences or workshops held around the world.

It is an opportunity to take personal steps in changing: you can go to [www.stutterisa.org](http://www.stutterisa.org) for a listing of conferences or workshops in your area you can attend. Also, I am encouraging member associations to use their websites and listserv as forums to have people who stutter of all ages to talk or write about...”What does it mean to inspired” or “to be inspired.”

A phrase inspires me. 'Feel the fear but do it anyway'. This phrase is used by people everywhere. People with disabilities; people with no disability except a lack of confidence. It can be used by us to challenge ourselves, whoever we are, to step outside our comfort zones and feel fear, but not let it stop us doing what we have not done before. There is another phrase, 'go out into the world and multiply'. To PWS I say, 'go out into the world and talk'. Keith Boss

### **Women who Stutter: Our Stories**

Make Room for The Stuttering is a blog written by a woman who stutters. The blog details the journey and every day experiences of a woman who was very covert and now embraces stuttering and how it makes her unique. The blog also features periodic guest writers who share their experiences. The blog also has an audio podcast, featuring women who stutter having honest dialogue about how stuttering impacts their lives. Find "Women Who Stutter: Our Stories" by directly accessing the blog at <http://www.stutterrockstar.wordpress.com>. The podcast, titled "Women Who Stutter: Our Stories" is also available as a free download on iTunes.

Please encourage women to listen and leave feedback or questions for the featured women on the blog. Anyone can contact Pam @ [Pamela.Mertz@gmail.com](mailto:Pamela.Mertz@gmail.com) if they would like to share their story as well.

### **Argentina as a destination for the World Congress in 2011**

Claudia and Beatriz invite you to join them for **9th Congress for People Who Stutter ISA** and **2nd Latin American Congress on Stuttering AAT**, to be held in the Aula Magna of the Faculty of Medicine, University of Buenos Aires (UBA), Argentina on **18, 19, 20 and May 21, 2011**.

It will be a unique opportunity to integrate and share the contributions of specialists in stuttering and testimonies and experiences of people who stutter with representatives from around the world interested and committed to stuttering.

All this in the context of a country like **Argentina**, so versatile and changing, such as stuttering, but very stable in the warmth of its people, its landscapes and the great flavors that will delight the crowd. Also, visit our webpage: [www.citargentina2011.com.ar](http://www.citargentina2011.com.ar)

### **One Voice Editor**

It is with regret that Michael accepted the resignation of Albert Zhang, our Chinese Editor of One Voice. Jianliang Zhang started the job of Editor in November 2004 with One Voice 18. He attended the 7th World Congress for People Who Stutter and has not looked back. He has worked with Mark Irwin, Benny Ravid and our current Chair Michael. During this time Warren Brown from New Zealand and myself have both helped find articles and proof read them before sending them to Jianliang who prepared them in the OV PDF we all know.

I had the pleasure to meet Jianliang at a NSA Conference and I have been very happy in our partnership since 2007. He has worked very hard to produce the last 11 versions of One Voice and

his future contribution to this 'communication' aspect of the ISA will be missed. I will ask Jianliang if he will write an article for us about his role of Editor for our next OV 29 at the turn of the Year.

Jianliang, thank you on behalf of the ISA for all you have done and I look forward to hearing your comments / advice on what we do in the ISA for many years to come.

Your friend and colleague, Keith

## **One Voice Editor**

I am extremely happy to announce that Josh Denault from the National Stuttering Association (East Bay Chapter-USA)) will be assisting Keith organizing future One Voice issues. Welcome 😊

## **Board Discussions**

Motion # 43

The ISA board will select how to proceed with Membership Association's who do not pay dues by deciding on the following

1. The Membership Association's who do not pay dues have neither right send a representative to run for the board nor vote in board elections
2. Membership Association's who do not pay dues don't have the right to send a representative to run for the board but has the right to vote in board elections
3. Membership Association's who do not pay dues has the right to send a representative to run for the board but does not have the right to vote in board elections OR
4. Membership Association's who do not pay dues have the right to send a representative to run for the board and the right to vote in board elections.

The vote is tied between #2 & #4.

Motion # 44

## **Maintaining Board Membership**

1. When a board member loses his or her support from MA, he or she should step down immediately or stay until his or her term is completed?
2. When there is conflict between board members---chair will issue up to three attempts to resolve a conflict between members and then ask for a decision to be voted on by board members.

Board member can stay until their term is completed  
and # 2 yes

Motion # 45

Procedures to follow in selecting candidates for board membership:

# 1 In the Chair's e newsflash six months before the Membership Meeting an announcement will be written to solicit candidates for board elections---

- 1. Receive a candidate's resume or profile and a support email from his or her MA
- 2. Check with Treasurer to assure that the MA is in good standing by paying dues
- 3. depending on the outcome of motion #43 checking MA representative eligibility to vote at MM.

# 2 Procedures to recruit new board member when board member steps down or dismissed only if the ISA board is less than 5 board members:

In the Chair's e newsflash

- 1. Seek board membership from dues paying MA's and vote by the board on the candidate
- 2. Seek candidates from all MA's
- 3. The ISA board appoints a suitable candidate or
- 4. Allow the MA of the resigned or dismissed board member to appoint a new board member.

# 1 everyone voted yes

#2 majority voted for # 2

Kindly,  
Michael, Chair