To: ISA Family

From: Michael Sugarman, MBA

Date: March 1, 2011

Regarding: March 2011 e newsflash

## **Message from the Chair**

I look forward to meeting with you at the membership meeting in Buenos Aires, Argentina. The membership meeting will begin at 10:00 AM until 4:15 PM. A sample agenda follows:

10 to 11:15 AM Meeting call to order: Mind full exercise; Welcome and Introductions of ISA Board of Directors and Advisory Board Members. Welcome and Introductions by members of the ISA family. Motion to accept minutes from Croatia '07 membership meeting.

11:15 to 11:45 Discussion on "Self Help---What it means to People who Stutter"

12:00 - 1:30 Lunch

1:30 – 2:00 Discussion on ISA by Chair & Treasurer

2:15-3:00 Discussion and presentation by ISA member organizations who want to Host World Congress in 2013. Vote on who will host the next Congress in 2013.

3:15 – 4:00 Election of new ISA Board of Directors

4:00 - 4:15 Closing

5:15- Meet for dinner

## **Candidates for ISA Board of Directors**

ISA is seeking Board of Director candidates. Please be aware that the ISA board needs PWS who have access to the internet, willing to work on important issues that confront this organization.

Please submit by email your organization's support and your abilities and qualifications.

## **Financial Report**

(March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2011), the bank accounts show 10300 € and 11000 Danish kroner.

## News about "The King's Speech"

Norbert Lieckfeldt, British Stammering Association

Tonight, Channel 4 will show a documentary called The Rea King's Speech about George VI and his struggle to speak in public. You can see details on this on the BSA site at

http://www.stammering.org/events\_realkingsspeechhtml.html, or can watch the documentary on-line at Channel 4 On Demand

The Channel 4 website for the documentary features a copy of Richard Oerton's memories of his own therapy with Lionel Logue and also an interview with speech and language therapist Dr Rosemarie Hayhow.

BBC Radio 5 live will feature Richard Oerton in a feature about stammering in the Drive Time slot sometime between 4pm and 7pm this evening – more detailed timings should be available later on the <u>BSA</u> <u>Facebook profile</u> which is available for everyone to view, whether or not you have a Facebook profile yourself.

And on Saturday morning there will be a documentary on an intensive course at the Michael Palin Centre for Children on CBBC – for details, see <u>this page</u> on the BSA home page.

Our important on-line questionnaire on how people manage their own stammering is entering its final furlong before it closes at the end of tomorrow— if you haven't had a look yet, are someone who stammers and are over 18, please go to the <u>website</u>. The more information we have from you, the better the information we can give out to people who are looking for help.

And finally, for those of you based in Scotland, a member of the Scottish Parliament has lodged a Parliamentary motion in support of the work of the British Stammering Association Scotland. If you do live in Scotland, please, please contact your MSP and ask them to sign it – all it takes is a brief email saying you're aware this motion has been lodged by Robert Brown MSP and as a person who stammers/parent of a stammering child/speech and language therapist you'd be very grateful if s/he would feel able to support it. You can find your MSP's email on this website. Share this with family and friends. If you do email it would be helpful if you could copy in our Scottish office on bsascotland@stammering.org. And put March 19<sup>th</sup> in your diary for the Edinburgh Open Day!

Keep an eye out for the <u>BSA Facebook</u> site as this will always have the latest information about media activities (and much more) – we expect a lot more interest next week, especially with the Oscar Ceremony taking place this weekend. The site has now reached over 1,400 subscribers but you can read everything that's on it even if you're not a subscriber.

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UwuJklTw-Yw

Check out the article from New York Times:

NSA list serve Brent Baker:

The King's Speech movie prompted a Saturday New York Times article about the causes of stuttering, a story I only know about because Northern Virginia chapter leader Matt Zenkowich sent to his e-mail list, and the paper also had a story about the producers of The King's Speech and some background on how they got the film made.

First, "A Star Turn for Stuttering, On-Screen and in Research," on page A-3 of the national edition, which began:

In the Oscar-nominated movie "The King's Speech," King George VI begins stuttering at age 4 and struggles with it throughout his life. But he rarely talks like the stereotypical stutterer, Porky Pig, rapidly repeating letter sounds; usually the king has trouble getting sounds out from the get-go, blocked by sputtering pauses.

His stutter is aggravated by stressful situations, like confronting his brother or addressing the public. He speaks better when playing with his daughters. It also helps when he sings his words or inserts profanity, or when music blaring in his ears keeps him from hearing himself.

These are complicated symptoms, but experts say these details, devised by a screenwriter who stuttered, mirror many aspects of actual stuttering.

In that complexity are clues to this often devastating disorder's cause, say scientists who are starting to untangle the underpinnings of stuttering in hopes of finding better treatment.

Dispelling longstanding misconceptions that the underlying causes of stuttering are language problems or psychological problems like anxiety or trauma, researchers say stuttering is really a speech-production problem: a snag in the cascade of steps that our brains and bodies undertake to move the proper muscles to produce words...

Entire article: <a href="http://www.nytimes.com/2011/02/26/us/26stutter.html">http://www.nytimes.com/2011/02/26/us/26stutter.html</a>

Suzana Jelcic-Jaksic, Croatia

I am busy here these days promoting the King's Speech and stuttering. The Croatian premiere was on Tuesday, Feb 1st.

We had our association's logo on the British Embassy invitations to the premiere, on the film posters, flyers about stuttering that we printed, our representative Vladislav Hinst gave a speech at the premiere, our national football team coach Slaven Bilic and famous pop musician Gibonni, both PWS, were our guest there and had talked to many journalists, the British ambassador mentioned us in his speech at the premiere, we are talking about stuttering on the national and local TV and radio stations, magazines, daily newspapers ... I am rather proud of work we've done so far... The best result of all, however, is that one of our members, an almost graduated SLT and PWS, Ivana Cohan, has got a job as a school-based SLT after participating in two TV programs for the first time, thanks to the King's Speech!

Please link to the Croatian Association with information and articles on The King's Speech and our activities related:

http://www.udruga-hinkofreund.hr/

Benny Ravid, Israel

The film "King's Speech" came to Israel. It started to be screened on January 20. Short after the start a journalist (Aviva Lori) from Haaretz newspaper (one of the biggest and most important newspapers in Israel) interview me about stuttering in general and AMBI in particular. She pointed out that the idea to write this article came from the "King's Speech". During the interview Aviva asked lot of questions she also asked for some more names of people to be interviewed. I gave her few names including my parents who are parents of a child who stutter (me). Last Friday we saw the article in the weekend addition of Haaretz.

The article is huge. It is 4 newspaper pages long. In her preparation Aviva made a great job. She interviewed PWS, SLP's, and many others including my parents. This is the biggest and most comprehensive article about stuttering published in the Israeli press so far. Here is the link to the Internet version of the article

http://www.haaretz.co.il/hasite/spages/1214673.html (it is in Hebrew)

In addition to this article the stuttering was covered in few TV and Radio programs.

Mark Irwin, Australia

Stefan kindly asked me how the film has been received here in Australia. ..... Front page news. In Adelaide (my home town) we are even claiming some ownership! Apparently Lionel Logue came from Adelaide before moving to Perth and then to London, and Tom Hooper's mother lives in Adelaide. (I guess you all know how some Adelaide people like to think outside the square:-)

It has created many public awareness opportunities. Only last night there was a sympathetic segment on stuttering on the prime time 7.30 Report on ABC TV.

My review of the film is at <a href="http://stutteredspeechsyndrome.com/2010/12/20/review-of-the-kings-speech-as-it-relates-to-stuttering/">http://stutteredspeechsyndrome.com/2010/12/20/review-of-the-kings-speech-as-it-relates-to-stuttering/</a>

Warmly,

Michael Sugarman, MBA Chair