



Interaction of Both Sides of the Brain in Adults Who Stutter

By Martin Sommer, M.D.
University of Göttingen

Fluent speech primarily involves the left half of the brain, also called the left hemisphere (Brown et al., 2005; Fox et al., 1996). Ever since the 1920s, disturbed lateralization of brain function, i.e. an abnormal involvement of the right hemisphere, has been regarded as a possible



Martin Sommer, M.D.

cause of stuttering (Travis, 1978). In support of this, studies in the 1960s suggested that hearing is not as left lateralized in adults who stutter as it is in fluent speaking individuals (Curry and Gregory, 1969). In the last 15 years, brain imaging studies have further supported this assumption by showing that in stuttering, the left and right brain hemispheres do not share the burden of speaking properly. These imaging studies indicate a shift of speech related brain activity to the right hemisphere in adults who stutter (Brown et al., 2005; Fox et al., 1996).

In trying to better understand what is behind this abnormal lateralization of brain functions in adults who stutter and how it contributes to stuttering, we recently performed a study on interhemispheric inhibition (IHI). This is a measure of how one hemisphere's motor cortex influences and inhibits the activity in

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The King's Speech Features Stuttering Foundation PSA

While the Oscar-winning movie *The King's Speech* is universally treasured by the stuttering community, there is a hidden gem on the DVD and Blu-ray editions released in mid-April.

A 60-second public service announcement (PSA) created by the Stuttering Foundation is included in the "Special Features" section of the DVD and Blu-ray release. The PSA features children who stutter sharing their own experiences with stuttering and treatment, and offers assistance through the Foundation's website and toll-free hotline.

"We've been stunned by the

tremendous response to the public service announcement from viewers across the country looking for help with stuttering," said Jane Fraser, president of the Stuttering Foundation.

"Inclusion of our PSA on the DVD is so marvelous for our cause."

"We hope a copy of *The King's Speech* DVD, including our video, will end up in

the home of every person who stutters, every speech therapist's office, every school counselor's desk and every university speech-language course professor's briefcase," Fraser said. "It is a story worth seeing over and over again for years to come."



Two Meaningful Bequests

Gifts totaling more than \$92,000 were received this year from the estates of two exceptional donors, **Charles A. Wunder** and **Louise Cook Holmes**.

Mr. Wunder, age 77, had been a faithful donor since 1996. A lifelong resident of Baltimore and avid supporter of the city's

arts institutions, he was a retired life insurance salesman. He grew up in a West Baltimore row house on Grantley Street with his family. One friend had this to say, "Charlie was erudite, well-informed, and funny." Another added, "May you always have quail to hunt,

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Stuttering and the Big Cats is an Inspirational Story

Editor's Note: The new DVD Stuttering and the Big Cats featuring Alan Rabinowitz was unveiled during the New York gala.

A new film titled *Stuttering and the Big Cats* featuring renowned American zoologist, conservationist, and field biologist Dr. Alan Rabinowitz is now available on DVD from the Stuttering Foundation.

In *Stuttering and the Big Cats*, Dr. Rabinowitz, president and CEO of New York-based Panthera, shares his life-long struggle to overcome stuttering through his work protecting the world's largest and most imperiled cats. The film captures his address to young people who stutter at the annual convention of *Friends*, a national support group for kids.

Rabinowitz was honored at a gala event in New York City to introduce the film internationally.

"Alan's courage is particularly inspiring to young people whose career paths have yet to be decided and for whom stuttering often seems an insur-

mountable obstacle. Through hard work, perseverance and dedication to his true passions, Alan never let stuttering hold him back from his quest to help endangered animals,"

able and hope that every young person who stutters has an opportunity to hear Alan's story."

"I recall vividly as a child staring at a jaguar as he paced in his cage at the zoo," said Rabinowitz. "He was trapped, seeking a way out of a dark world, something I related to strongly at the time. And I knew then that when I found my voice, I would use it for him, for saving big cats around the world. My love for wildlife and the urgency needed to save the big cats helped me overcome stuttering. This life-long quest has resulted in Panthera – which is now my platform for speaking loudly for, and working to save, some of the planet's greatest species."

The availability of *Stuttering and the Big Cats* is an example of the Stuttering Foundation's "Converting Awareness into Action" effort, which builds upon the overwhelmingly positive attention stuttering has gained through the release of *The King's Speech*.



Alan Rabinowitz speaks during the New York gala.

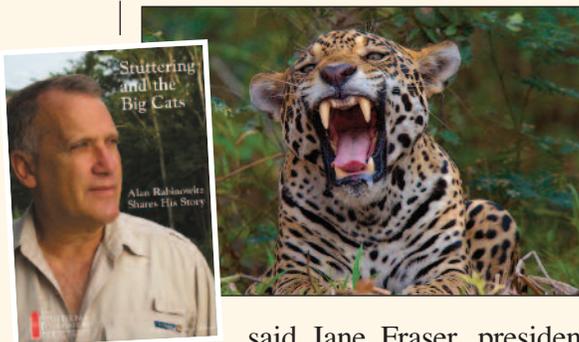


Photo by Steve Winter

said Jane Fraser, president of the Stuttering Foundation. "We are proud to make this video avail-



Alan Rabinowitz was recently featured on *60 Minutes*. For the latest news on Dr. Rabinowitz, visit www.panthera.org.

"My love for wildlife and the urgency needed to save the big cats helped me overcome stuttering."

Scenes from the new DVD *Stuttering and the Big Cats*...





Jane Fraser, president of the Stuttering Foundation



Frances Cook of the Michael Palin Centre for Stammering Children



Alan Rabinowitz, president and CEO of Panthera.



Joe Fulcher, vice president of the Stuttering Foundation

Stuttering Foundation and Michael Palin Centre Laud *The King's Speech*



Actor Colin Firth speaks with Jane Fraser.

The following remarks were given by Jane Fraser at the Stuttering Foundation's first-ever New York City Gala.

Colin Firth have truly turned our world upside down. So tonight, we honor this exceptional film that has brought so much help to so many.

Excellence is the name of the game. This film included the most extraordinary acting we have ever seen wrapped up in one movie.

Colin Firth brought a new understanding of stuttering and its paralyzing fear;

Tom Hooper brought us excellence in directing — everything and everybody in perfect sync;

David Seidler spoke for all who stutter when he said “we

This incredible movie and its superb portrayal of King George VI by

Michael Palin Centre Co-Hosts Gala

“Our Co-Host is Frances Cook, who heads the Michael Palin Centre for Stammering Children, which is staffed by 11 remarkable therapists,” said Jane Fraser. “Since 2006, the Stuttering Foundation has partnered with the Centre, which offers some of the best therapy in the world. Fran will share how they are converting awareness into action!!!”

“Also, I want to recognize Michael Palin who gave us such tremendous support during the past 6 months. Without Michael’s help, I would never have had my 25 minutes of fame with Colin!”

have a voice, we will be heard”;

Geoffrey Rush was amazing — a therapist who showed us what the term “therapeutic alliance” is all about.

The entire *King's Speech* team won endless Oscars/Golden Globes and resounding and well-deserved praise from all over the world!

So we want to thank The Weinstein Company for their unparalleled support! Thanks also go out to Anchor Bay Entertainment and Blu-ray.

Working together, these friends have included our

public service announcement on every single copy of the DVD that launches tomorrow — giving everyone who has a copy a nonprofit source of help.

This is truly an incredible lasting legacy for generations to come.



Frances Cook, Steffi Schopick, Lee Caggiano and Tom Caggiano hold a poster of the Michael Palin Centre's new building opening September 2011.



Actors Colin Firth and Michael Palin.



Sterling Publishing Donates Books



“We are happy to have the new book, *The King’s Speech*, and the Sterling Publishing team here with us tonight,” Jane Fraser said.

Publisher Jason Prince, Joshua Mrvos, Nathaniel Maraunas, and Caroline Mann graciously shipped in a copy of this excellent book for everyone at the gala.

It was written by Peter Conradi of *The Sunday Times* and Mark Logue, Lionel’s grandson who uncovered so many marvelous old photos and anecdotes that are included in the book and in the movie!

Lionel Logue Reaches America



Joe Fulcher and Peter Greenhalgh, grandson of J. Stanley Smith, Esq.

“We’ve come full circle – our founder, my father Malcolm Fraser, was inspired by King George VI. But thanks again to *The King’s Speech*, I have just discovered that he too was helped by Lionel Logue!” said Jane Fraser.

In 1926, Malcolm Fraser was personal secretary to a prominent Philadelphia lawyer named J. Stanley Smith. Fraser handled Smith’s correspondence when he was in England and France.

“At that time my father was struggling terribly with his stuttering and J. Stanley Smith offered a safe haven,” Fraser explained. “He was a man who stuttered, who was successful, and who offered my father a job and also a therapy program through his own support group which he named after Charles Kingsley.”

“Just months ago, I was contacted by J. Stanley Smith’s grandson, Peter Greenhalgh, who let me know that not only did his grandfather dine with the Prince of York, future George VI, but also with Lionel Logue.

“He had frequent meetings with Logue to learn more about his therapy approach!!! J. Stanley Smith brought Logue’s ideas back to Philadelphia where my father and others who stuttered profited from them. ...Full circle!”



TIME 40 YEARS OF SUPPORT



Doyle Newmyer, Robyn Mathews and Amani Vance.

Robyn Mathews placed our very first public service ad in *TIME* back in 1972! Since then *TIME* has donated millions of dollars worth of public service space to the Foundation. Robyn’s encouragement also helped us reach out to many other magazines where our public service campaign is thriving.



2011 Journalism Award Winners

The Stuttering Foundation announces its 2011 Awards for Excellence in Journalism.

“Thanks to *The King’s Speech*, the sheer volume of articles and interviews on stuttering made this year’s choice very difficult,” said Jane Fraser, president of the Foundation. “This film has raised awareness of stuttering beyond any level we could ever have imagined and, in turn, was the force behind all other entries.”



Category: Motion Picture
First Place: *The King’s Speech*

Category: Radio

First Place (tie):

The Emily Rooney Show, WGBH in Boston, Dec. 22, 2010.



Emily Rooney

About Our Kids, Doctor Radio Sirius XM, Feb. 11, 2011, Jess Shatkin, MD & Lori Evans, PhD, Program Hosts; Melanie Kron, Producer; Emily Anton, Sound Engineer; and Maurice Tunick, Senior Director Talk Programming.



Jess Shatkin



Lori Evans

Category: Wire Services

First Place: Lindsey Tanner of the Associated



Lindsey Tanner

Press, Feb. 4, 2011, “*King’s Speech* earns praise from kids who stutter.”

Second Place: Victoria



Victoria Ahern

Ahern of the Canadian Press, Dec. 9, 2010, article titled “Experts on Stuttering Praise *The King’s Speech* for Highlighting

Condition”

Category: Editorial

First Place: Commercial Appeal, Memphis, Tenn., for an editorial on Dec. 28, 2010, titled



“A Clear Message.” *The Commercial Appeal* also gave exceptional coverage to the Stuttering Foundation during the year with outstanding articles by Lesley Young and Toby Sells, whose article ran on the paper’s front page.

Category: National Daily Newspaper Article

First Place: Mary Brophy Marcus of *USA Today* for her Nov. 28, 2010, article



“Stuttering: A Constant Struggle to Get the Words Out.”

Category: Daily Newspaper Article

First Place:

Lindy Washburn of *The Record* for her Dec. 2, 2010, article “Therapists praise new movie for raising awareness of stuttering.”



Lindy Washburn

Second

Place: Jim Fussell of the



Jim Fussell

Kansas City Star for his Dec. 23, 2010, article, “*The King’s Speech* puts stuttering in the spotlight.”

Category: Magazine Articles

First Place: Tim Appelo of the *Hollywood Reporter* for his Jan. 25, 2011, article titled “*King’s Speech* Wins 13th Honor: Stuttering Foundation Gives It ‘A Hero’s Welcome.’”



Tim Appelo



Lynn Allison

Second Place: Lynn Allison for “Six Ways to Help Kids Stop Stuttering” in the March 28, 2011, issue of *Globe Magazine*.

Category: Syndicated Columnists

First Place: Dr. Peter Gott for his national column on April 10, 2011.



Peter Gott

Category:

Local Television News

First Place (tie):

Ali Gorman of WPVI TV, Philadelphia, Pa., for a Dec. 13, 2010, interview with Joe Donaher of the Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia.

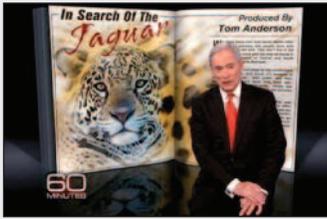


Ali Gorman



Alex Coleman and Marybeth Conley of WREG TV, Memphis, Tenn., interview with Jane Fraser on Feb. 9, 2011.

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Category: National Television News

First Place: *60 Minutes* of CBS News for an interview with wildlife conservationist Alan Rabinowitz.

Category: Internet Blog

First Place: Elizabeth



Elizabeth Landau

Landau of CNN for her Feb. 28, 2011 article, "The King's Speech" a victory for stutterers."

Second

Place: Ian Thornton of

shows.ctv.ca for his Feb. 28, 2011, post "George Slays His Dragon."

Third

Place:

Kenneth J. Staub for his posting on ASHA's



Ian Thornton



Kenneth Staub

blog.asha.org). His blogs focused on raising stuttering awareness through a review of *The King's Speech*.

Category: Website

First Place: **Ninette Sosa** of CNN aired an interview with Jane Fraser during numerous radio broadcasts.



Ninette Sosa

"Each entry successfully enhanced the public's understanding of stuttering," said Fraser.

Unexpected Gifts in Haiti



My name is Glenn Weybright. I am a speech-language pathologist in Portland, Oregon, and a person who stutters. In late April, 2011, I spent 8 days with a medical team helping treat Haitian children and adults in a primary care medical clinic in the village of Gramothe, Haiti, about 15 miles south of Port Au Prince.

I was invited by a pediatrician friend and wound up working under close medical supervision as

a pharmacy assistant. I felt called to go but secretly was praying for a chance to use my speech-language pathology skills. That seemed doubtful. I mean, speech therapy is very

low on the list of needs of people who walk up to 12 hours to get to the doctor, right? And, even if there was a need, I don't speak Haitian Creole, right? Well....

At the airport in Port Au Prince I was singled out to have my luggage searched. From out of nowhere appeared a Haitian woman who reassured me in English that she would stay with me.

With her help, I made it though the inspection and discovered she was the director of the orphanage

associated with the organization I was going to help (Mountain Top Ministries). She discovered I was an SLP and, stopping dead in her tracks, told me she had a 26-year-old son who stuttered and that he would be at the clinic all week working with the medical teams as an English interpreter and that he really wanted to work on his speech. Amazing. So, every lunch hour for five days this young man and I gobbled our Haitian rice

and beans and worked on his speech.

There is no cure for stuttering; the treatment approach I use is to teach tools for managing the stuttering so that communication can

be enhanced. This young man was ravenous to learn. He practiced thirty minutes or more each night and showed significant improvement at the end of the week. He needs to practice daily to help make his tools more automatic. I will stay in e-mail touch with him and have asked the Stuttering Foundation to send him materials. At the end of our week together, he said to me, "You came from out of nowhere. You must be from God." I could have said the same to him.



Glenn Weybright with Jean.



You can designate a gift to the Stuttering Foundation through the United Way.

You Ain't Seen Nothin' Yet Named Greatest Stuttering Song

The Stuttering Foundation has recognized the song *You Ain't Seen Nothing Yet*, a 1974 number one hit by Bachman-Turner Overdrive, as being the most unique of the many rock songs featuring stuttering vocals.

Jane Fraser, president of the Stuttering Foundation, said recently, "Not only was *You Ain't Seen Nothing Yet* the first song with stuttering vocals to reach number one, but more importantly it was the first such song that was actually about a real person who stutters and therefore has a human connection to the struggles faced by someone who stutters."

There have been numerous songs in the rock era that display stuttering vocals. Among them have been *Too Much Time on My Hands* by Styx, *My Sharona* by The Knack, *Changes* by David Bowie, *My Generation* by The Who, *Benny and the Jets* by Elton John, and many more.

Bachman-Turner Overdrive consisted of the Bachman brothers Randy, Robbie, and Tim, along with Fred Turner. The band's first manager was Gary Bachman, another Bachman brother, who stuttered. After Gary stepped down from his job as manager, Randy sang their new song with stuttering vocals as an inside joke with the intention that only Gary would

hear the tape. After recording their new album *Not Fragile*, their record company, Mercury Records, asked if the band had a spare song to include. Randy played them *You Ain't Seen Nothing Yet* and explained it was an inside joke and agreed to include the song on the album if the band could re-record it. The record company hated the new "serious"

version of the song and demanded the version with the stuttering vocals for the album. The rest is history, as the song climbed to number one, giving

BTO their only chart-topper.

Gary Bachman would overcome his stuttering through speech therapy and go on to become one of the most successful real estate agents in Winnipeg and own his own agency for almost 30 years.

Said Fraser, "I know people think that these rock songs with stuttering vocals are cute or humorous, but it is a shame that whenever *You Ain't Seen Nothing Yet* is played that people do not know the true story behind it. If more DJ's mentioned the song's history, it would do a lot to spread a message about stuttering, not to mention the fact that the audience would find it most interesting."

Editor's note: Music Web sites PopDust.com and AllAboutJazz.com featured this article.



James Earl Jones holding the Monte Cristo Award.

James Earl Jones Honored

Jane Fraser, president of the Stuttering Foundation, represented the stuttering community May 9 at the prestigious Monte Cristo Awards dinner honoring legendary actor James Earl Jones.

"James Earl Jones has been an inspiration to the stuttering community for decades," Fraser said. "He has courageously shared his own personal experiences with stuttering for the benefit of all. When we think of eloquence and fluency of speech, we think of Mr. Jones as the ultimate role model."

The Eugene O'Neill Theater Center presented its annual Monte Cristo Award to legendary Broadway and screen actor James Earl Jones, in recognition of his monumental achievements and contributions to the American and international theater community.



James Earl Jones with Jane Fraser.



David Seidler: We Have A Voice

The Stuttering Foundation has released a DVD featuring Oscar-winning writer David Seidler, who wrote *The King's Speech*. The DVD, *David Seidler: We Have a Voice*, is available at www.StutteringHelp.org or call 800-992-9392.

Eastern Workshop Gets Top Marks



Top row, left to right: Charlotta Wising, Carla Monteleone, Gabrielle Hodes, Maryann Kaminsky, Stephanie Schwartz, Debora Freud, Holly Lomheim, Voon Keong Pang, Catarina Piscioti, Kevin Johnson, Heidi Chew, Martina Boltuži, Jessica Mason, Sarah Henry, Ellen Kelly and Diane Parris. Bottom row: Grace Ademola, Mara Luque, Laura Buckley, Willie Botterill, Elaine Kelman, Marie Chan, Sandra Garzón, Sandy Hostler and Kavita Kaul.



Comments from workshopers...

“...learning to accept and trust in what a difference small changes can make.”



“...working with the whole person is important.”



By Diane Parris

The first ever two-week Eastern Workshop was held in Boston from June 13-24. Co-sponsored by the Stuttering Foundation and Boston University, the workshop attracted speech pathologists from six states and nine nations for the opportunity to learn from Willie Botterill and Elaine Kelman of the Michael Palin Centre for Stammering Children. During the two weeks, participants focused on cognitive approaches to working with children who stutter and their families. Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, Solution Focused Brief Therapy, Parent Child Interaction Therapy, and Family Communication Skills training were presented by these two master clinicians.



Case study demonstrations and interactive exercises enlivened the learning process. Routinely throughout the program, participants were asked to share what they would take away from the day's learning. “Working with the whole person,” “focusing on communication as the ultimate goal, stuttering or not,” “listening more to parents,” “learning to accept and trust in what a difference small changes can make,” and “going deeply into perceptions, attitudes, and feelings with children who stutter in order to help them manage issues in their lives” were just a few of the comments made by participants.

The background and experience of the participants was as diverse as the nations from which they came: Argentina, Canada, Croatia, Israel, Italy, New Zealand, Nigeria, Sweden, and the United States. Participation in “jelling” exercises and sharing dorm rooms gave attendees ample opportunity to get to know each other. As a result, the classroom experience was enriched by informal discussions of therapy programs, work settings, and cultural differences over pasta dinners and strolls along the Charles River.

A network of colleagues and friends from around the globe enthusiastically left Boston, tired yet invigorated, with new outlooks on client and family centered fluency therapy.



Back row: Lynne Hebert-Remson, Bo-Kyung Lee, Marc Wall, Katarzyna Wesierska, Jennifer Thomas, Carol Moody, Amanda Roche, Ashley Powers, Ann Douvier, Amy Johnson. Middle row: Melissa Kokaly, Pam France, Sharon Hutner, Valerie Yielding, Nelly Unjan, Cecilia Boulin, Surleen Singh. Seated: Jane Fraser, Jennifer Watson, Susan Hamilton, Yvonne Honanie. Front row: Bill Drudge and Enrique Gonzalez.

Western Workshop Goes International



*A Limerick About the Western Workshop
By Ann Douvier*

Comments from workshopppers...

“I will listen to the fears and concerns of the child ... I now have the framework I’ve been looking for!”



“I vow to be a more reflective listener, provide more rationale...”

Out west went twenty SLPs
To learn to treat dysfluencies.
Drawn from four nations
By the Stuttering Foundation
To make more effective, our therapies.

We’ve all worked with children who stutter
Who’ve been told, “Slow down and don’t mutter!”
By listening, reflecting,
Exploring, detecting
We’ll help them succeed with the speech they utter.

Dr. Watson brought facts, not conjectures
Ms. Hamilton deep-dialogue, fun lectures
Evidence relayed
Solutions role-played
The two were responsive, engaging presenters.

Jane Fraser flew out from Tennessee
With books, DVDs, an inspired history.
Ellen Reuler, on site
Met our needs, day and night
Making meaningful each activity.

Thanks PSU and Stuttering Foundation
For the gift of workshop participation.
Insightful, retooled,
And passions refueled,
We’re back to work with inspired dedication!

“This was the best conference ever, and I will be saying that 10 years from now.”



“This was an extraordinary experience for me!”

Famous Brothers Didn't Let Stuttering Stop Them

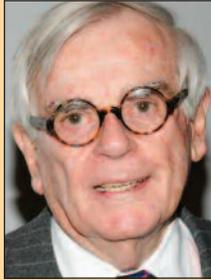
Brothers Dominick and John Gregory Dunne, who died in 2009 and 2004 respectively, are well known as having been famous writers and literary giants.

What the public at large does not realize is that both Dominick Dunne and his younger brother John Gregory not only struggled with stuttering but also were quite open about it.

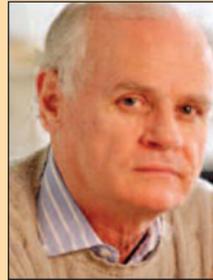
With the breakthrough in February 2010 of the discovery of some stuttering genes, family members who stuttered were a major part of the studies that led to the exciting identification of these genes. Dominick and John Gregory also had a younger brother, Stephen, who stuttered. The stuttering of these three Dunne brothers is a compelling testament to the genetic links in stuttering.

The Dunne brothers were two of the six children of Richard Dunne, a prominent surgeon in Hartford, CT, and his wife Dorothy, whose Irish immigrant father was the first millionaire businessman in Hartford's Irish community. They grew up in the fashionable suburb of West Hartford. Both went to elite Catholic boarding schools, after which Dominick went to Williams College, and John Gregory to Princeton University.

After serving as a private in the Army following graduation from Princeton, John Gregory earned his first job as the London correspondent for *Time* magazine by totally fabricating his resume and using phantom references which were never checked.



Dominick
Dunne



John Gregory
Dunne

He would go on to have a prolific career as a novelist, screenwriter and journalist.

His novels include *Vegas*, *True Confessions*, *Dutch Shea, Jr.*, *The Studio*, *Playland* and *Monster*. With his wife, writer Joan Didion, he co-wrote many screenplays such as *A Star is Born*, *True Confessions*, *Play It as It Lays*, *Panic in Needle Park*,

and *Up Close and Personal*. He also published many books of nonfiction.

In a May 3, 1982 profile in the *New York Times* titled "How John Gregory Dunne puts himself in his books," John Gregory Dunne's childhood stuttering was listed as the catalyst for his becoming a writer. Mr. Dunne became a writer, he says, because he stuttered as a child. "Terrified that he would be called on in class, he learned to express himself on paper and to listen to the way that other people talked, becoming in the process an accomplished mimic – a skill that has served him well in writing dialogue."

In his 1989 memoir *Harp*, John Gregory Dunne wrote extensively how he was affected by the suicide of his younger brother Stephen, a graphic artist who died tragically at age 43. Stephen had not achieved the same level of fluency as had his older brothers Dominick and John Gregory. He wrote about his relationship with Stephen, "We both had a tendency to stammer, and whenever we met, all too rarely the last 15 years of his life, we would discuss stratagems to avoid the minefields of speech. I used to say "howdy" because I would stumble on "hello", and he would say "wee" because he would falter on "little", and when we compared tactics we would dissolve in laughter, a laughter that only another stammerer could understand."

Dominick Dunne began his career in Hollywood producing television shows and live TV movies for *Playhouse 90* on CBS. He would go on to



produce motion pictures and become an executive producer at 20th Century Fox. Two of the movies he produced were *The Boys in the Band* and *Ash Wednesday*, a 1973 film starring Elizabeth Taylor and Henry Fonda. After a painful divorce, Dominick Dunne's out-of-control

azine's most prolific writer.

Many of his articles were about crimes committed by the rich and famous; he covered many trials, such as those of Claus von Bulow, the Menendez brothers, O.J. Simpson, Robert Blake, Phil Spector and many more. He became a regular guest on news shows during these trials and a well-known advocate for victims rights. In 1985 he struck gold with the novel *The Two Mrs. Grenvilles* and many other best-sellers followed, such as *People Like Us*, *An Inconvenient Woman*, *A Season in Purgatory*, *Another City*, *Not My Own*, and *Too Much Money*.

Eight months prior to the release of *The Two Mrs. Grenvilles*, which was a massive best-seller and catapulted him to fame as an author, Dominick Dunne was profiled in his

er at 20th Century Fox, his success failed to mesh with his childhood as a child who stuttered, "That image of the stuttering pathetic kid carried through even though it was not an image presented to the world."

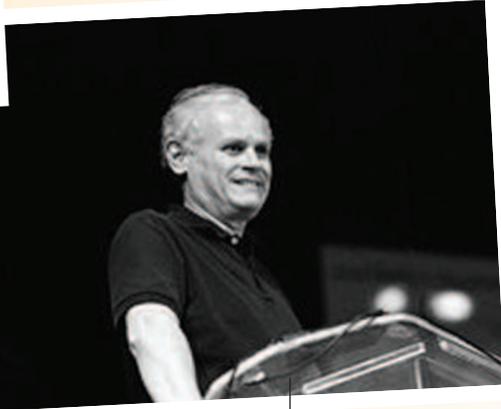
In an article titled "A Death in the Family," Dominick Dunne addressed the common stuttering bond shared between him and his younger brother John Gregory in *Vanity Fair* in March 2004 about the death of John Gregory and their often difficult relationship. He wrote, "John and I had another thing in common: we both stuttered."

While working at Twentieth Century Fox, Dominick Dunne was friendly with their top actress at the time, Marilyn Monroe, who is also on the Stuttering Foundation list of Famous People Who Stutter. More than once the two discussed their past stuttering and how it had shaped them as adults as well as their occasional fears that the stuttering would return someday.

Though the famous Dunne brothers have departed this world, their combined legacy is nothing short of amazing. Their names will be invoked for decades to come in both literary and media circles, but surely no one will allude to the fact that both brothers stuttered.

That three children – Dominick,

John Gregory and Stephen – stuttered out of a family of six children indicates the role that genetics of stuttering plays. While the two brothers will continue to inspire the literary world for years to come, they would no doubt also inspire countless people who stutter to persevere and not let their stuttering be a roadblock to success.



At top: Dominick Dunne and Elizabeth Taylor.
Above: Dominick Dunne, his son Griffin Dunne, John Gregory Dunne and Joan Didion.
At right: John Gregory Dunne.

partying led to his being banished from Hollywood.

On the brink of poverty and after much soul-searching, he wrote his first novel, *The Winners*, which though not successful, was reviewed in the *New York Times*. The horrific 1982 murder of his daughter Dominique at the hands of her boyfriend upset his life terribly. As a result, he wrote an account of the murder and trial for *Vanity Fair* magazine, which in turn hired him to write an article every month; he became the mag-

hometown paper, the *Hartford Courant*, in an October 21, 1984, article entitled "Success and Tragedy Rework Him."

In the article Dominick Dunne described himself as having been a "stuttering pathetic kid"; later in the article he stated that despite having been a successful television producer and later a produc-

Meet Board Member Joe Walker

This is the second in a series of articles featuring Stuttering Foundation board members. This article and photo are used with permission from The Memphis Daily News.

By Mark Sullivan

Memphis lawyer Joe Walker has always loved accounting, tax, trust and estate planning. He sees his chosen career as a science and an art form. While that fact may be unusual to some, Walker realized early in life that helping others by drafting wills and having a hands-on approach was his calling.

“You must have the technical background to be successful, but the No. 1 key to success is being able to relate to and build relationships with people,” Walker said. “The trust and estate business is all about trust, open communications and listening. I work very hard making sure that is my reputation.”

“In my world, I am taking care of someone’s most important possessions,” Walker added.

“We in many ways are in the business of caring for our clients’ children, family members, other loved ones and their hopes and dreams of life. To do that effectively, we bring expertise and experience to the table and blend that with information we have gained from clients to facilitate their goals. These skill sets are far different from those used in litigation.”

Walker, a partner with Adams and Reese LLP, was recently named among “Lawyers of the Year” in Trusts and Estates Law by *Best Lawyers* magazine, the oldest and most respected peer-review publication in the legal profession.

Only one lawyer in each specialty area in each community is honored, and the award is based on more than 3.1 million detailed evaluations of lawyers by others in the field.

“To have my peers recognize me for this honor is extremely humbling,” Walker said.

“Memphis is blessed with an outstanding legal profession – men and women who exhibit the highest degree of professionalism and integrity and

tax planning, including matters relating to obtaining and maintaining tax-exempt status for 501(c)3 charitable organizations, tax matters, fiduciary compliance, asset protection, and trust and probate estate matters.

“One key to my success has been the mentors in my life,” Walker said. “People like John Doggett and Hubert McBride* put light on the path ahead of me and showed me the ropes.

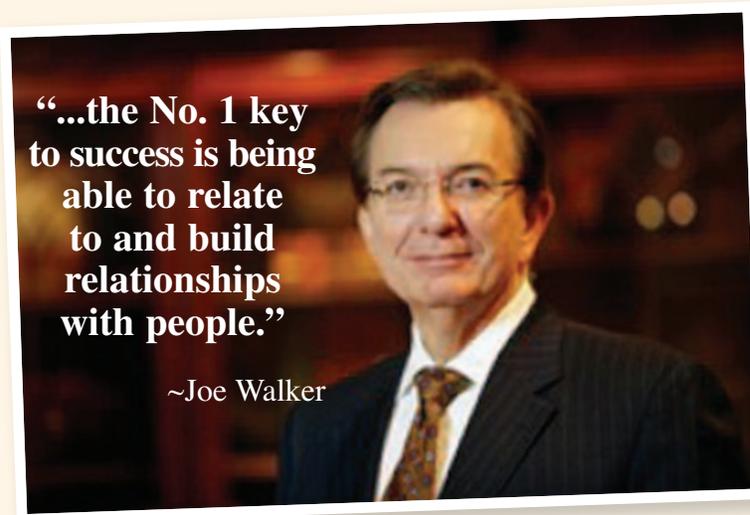
Mentoring is very important to me in giving back to others. We need more men and women of all walks of life to lend a helping hand to others through being a mentor, coach or role model.”

Walker and his wife of 42 years, Barbara, are actively involved in the Stuttering Foundation of America. The organization, founded by Malcolm Fraser of Memphis more than

six decades ago, provides adults and teenagers who stutter and teachers, clinicians, doctors and other leaders with the most up-to-date information in prevention and treatment of stuttering.

“I have been an officer and director of the Stuttering Foundation for more than 20 years,” said Walker. **“It is one way to give back to the community.** Everywhere I travel, I am an advocate of Memphis and Shelby County. It is a fascinating place to live and raise a family. Since we live here, it is our responsibility to pass on the good news about our home.”

**Hubert McBride was an original Stuttering Foundation Board Member in 1947.*



are dedicated to helping others.”

Walker calls himself a “Mississippi Transplant” having relocated to Memphis from McComb, Miss., a small town about five hours from the Bluff City.

Walker joined Adams and Reese in 2006 when the firm expanded its regional footprint into the Mid-South. He became the partner in charge of the Memphis office and held that position from 2006 to 2009. Walker also serves on the intellectual property and technology and tax teams.

He also practices law in the area of information technology/software licensing and contracting and is one of the few lawyers in the firm, and the only partner in Memphis, with extensive experience in sophisticated estate and

National Student Speech Language Hearing Association

NSSLHA Loves the SFA

2010-2011 Campaign



Students from Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville raised funds during a silent auction and banquet.



William Paterson University students raised money with a bowl-a-thon.



**NSSLHA chapters' record-breaking gifts to the Stuttering Foundation.
Thank you for your amazing support!**

- UC NSSLHA Chapter - \$100.00
- Northwestern University NSSLHA Chapter - \$300
- Nova Southeastern Univ. NSSLHA Chapter - \$500
- UNC-Chapel Hill, NSSLHA Chapter - \$75
- University of Nebraska NSSLHA Chapter - \$100
- Truman State University NSSLHA Chapter - \$250
- University of South Dakota NSSLHA Chapter - \$500
- Minnesota State University NSSLHA Chapter - \$100
- Edinboro Univ. of PA NSSLHA Chapter - \$50
- SUNY Cortland Speech & Hearing Club - \$267.50
- Lehman College - CUNY NSSLHA Chapter - \$500
- Utah State University - \$20
- Misericordia University NSSLHA Chapter - \$500
- Southeastern LA University NSSLHA Chapter - \$100
- University of Illinois - Urbana NSSLHA Chapter - \$250
- Marywood University - NSSLHA Chapter - \$130
- Fontbonne University - NSSLHA Chapter - \$269.19
- University of Arizona - NSSLHA Chapter - \$400
- Bowling Green State Univ. - NSSLHA Chapter - \$150
- Clarion University - NSSLHA Chapter - \$150
- San Diego State University - NSSLHA Chapter - \$250

- Illinois State University - NSSLHA Chapter - \$200
- Southern Illinois Univ. Edwardsville - NSSLHA Chapter - \$1,676
- Kansas State, KSSSLHA Chapter - \$500
- Eastern Washington Univ. - NSSLHA Chapter - \$135
- Univ. Central Missouri - NSSLHA Chapter - \$500
- University of Virginia - NSSLHA Chapter - \$500.
- Lamar University - NSSLHA Chapter - \$250
- Nicholls State University - NSSLHA Chapter - \$25
- University of Mississippi - NSSLHA Chapter - \$577
- Boston University - NSSLHA Chapter - \$440
- University of Cincinnati - NSSLHA Chapter - \$500
- UW Milwaukee - NSSLHA Chapter - \$160
- Mercy College - NSSLHA Chapter - \$100
- N.Y. Medical College - NSSLHA Chapter - \$250
- Univ. of New Hampshire - NSSLHA Chapter - \$300
- Calif. State Univ., San Marcos - NSSLHA Chapter - \$250
- SUNY Geneseo - NSSLHA Chapter - \$450
- California State University, Northridge - NSSLHA Chapter - \$250
- Chapman University - NSSLHA Chapter - \$500

- Univ. of Central Arkansas - NSSLHA Chapter - \$250
- University of Florida, Graduate Chapter - NSSLHA Chapter - \$250
- University of Louisville Class of 2012 - NSSLHA Chapter - \$105
- Southern Illinois University - Carbondale, NSSLHA Chapter - \$500
- Northern Illinois Univ. - NSSLHA Chapter - \$150
- Cal State Fullerton - NSSLHA Chapter - \$500
- Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania - NSSLHA Chapter - \$500
- Iona College - NSSLHA Chapter - \$250
- Ohio State University - NSSLHA Chapter - \$100
- CUNY Hunter College - NSSLHA Chapter - \$450
- University of Tennessee - NSSLHA Chapter - \$200
- William Paterson Univ. - NSSLHA Chapter - \$1,134
- Rush University - NSSLHA Chapter - \$350
- MGH Institute of Health Professions - NSSLHA Chapter - \$250
- Eastern Illinois University - NSSLHA Chapter - \$500

Dear SFA: Reader Response



Send letters to SFA, P.O. Box 11749, Memphis, TN 38111-0749 or e-mail info@StutteringHelp.org.

Therapy Helps

My name is Graham and I stutter. I try to use my tongue to get my speech out. Many times my words get stuck in my mouth. I also repeat the first syllable over and over again.

I have stuttered for a long time. From what I remember my stuttering started when I was 5, so 4 years out of my 9 years of life. Sometimes I am a little embarrassed to meet other people, even though I want to make new friends. When I get invited to a friend's birthday party, I go but I don't talk that much because of my stuttering.

I know I will stutter because I have thoughts in my head telling me I might. I try to ignore these thoughts and I am brave, but some days I don't raise my hand in class. I just know right before I talk that it will happen because it feels like something gets lodged in my throat. Sometimes I avoid saying some words but other times when I know I'm going to stutter I say my words really fast to get finished. It feels like I am embarrassed when it happens. I get nervous and I talk too fast because I want to get the words out.

I'm going to practice my strategies for stuttering during school with my speech teacher, and I will practice over the summer in Milwaukee. I also practice in the classroom. I think therapy is helping by giving me strategies to use when I have to stutter.

Graham, 10
Kenosha, WI



I am Jhonathan. I am nine years old. I was born in 2001. My speech teacher Mrs. Petersen is reading your book *Sometimes I Just Stutter*. I want to be smoother but I get angry. Sometimes I feel sad because I don't talk good but I am practicing how to be smooth. I have learned how to stop and start again, go slow, and do easy starts.

Jhonathan, Mesa, AZ

I started stuttering when I was eight. I have gotten worse the last two years. When I went to a speech class I was getting better and better. First I was really hard on myself but then as I got older I got calmer and calmer. When I started my first bump I was thinking about what was happening to me but when I got older I started to know what was happening. Sometimes I don't want it anymore and sometimes I do. Thanks for your book *Sometimes I Just Stutter*.

Tyler, Mesa, AZ

I'm a little off with my stuttering. When I am talking I mess up. Can you help me control it? I know you can because of your book *Sometimes I Just Stutter*. Please write back.

Jordan, Mesa, AZ

Editor: We sent helpful resources to these three boys.

Other People Stutter

My name is Tyler. I am 10 years old and I am in the 5th grade. I stutter and I get blocked and cannot say anything but I am working on it. I take a big deep breath then I slow down my rate. My dad stuttered too when he was young. When I stutter, I feel unnormal. I have been stuttering since I was two years old. I have been in speech therapy for a long

time. I get mad when I stutter and I don't like it. When I get mad I punch my pillow and feel a lot better. When I watch other people stutter, I feel more normal and when I stutter I just remember that other famous people and regular people do it so I don't feel mad anymore. Your website helps me feel better about stuttering.

Tyler, 10

Saint Francisville, LA

Letters Make Me Feel Better

My name is Reonna and I am 8 years old and I am in the 2nd grade. I am writing this letter because I read some of the other letters and I realized I am not alone. I used to stutter a lot and it made me stop speaking at school. I don't stutter anymore because I learned some easy ways to speak in therapy. Now I feel better that I don't stutter. Thank you for posting other kids letters because it made me feel better about my speech.

Reonna, 8

Houma, LA

I Am Not Alone

Sometimes I think I should have never stuttered in my whole life. When I am alone, I do not stutter but when I am around people, I do stutter a lot. But it is not a habit. When I stutter, I know that I am not alone. There are a lot of things good about me and it is not all about stuttering.

Melanie, 8

Stoney Creek, Ontario

Poem About Stuttering

Hello, I'm Nick and I am 11 years old and I will be 12 in August. I live in Texas and I made a poem I would like to share with other kids that stutter.

*Sometimes when I stutter people make fun of me,
I tell them I'll be who I want to be.
When I stutter I get mad,
Because when I get made fun of I get sad.*

*But soon I would learn tools to use,
Just like I learned to tie my shoes.*

*When I learn tools they stick to me,
And then I'll always have a secret key.*

*Easy starts is a kind of tool,
Actually its pretty cool.*

Sometimes I look back to when I was sad,

But forget that because now I am glad.

Nick, 12

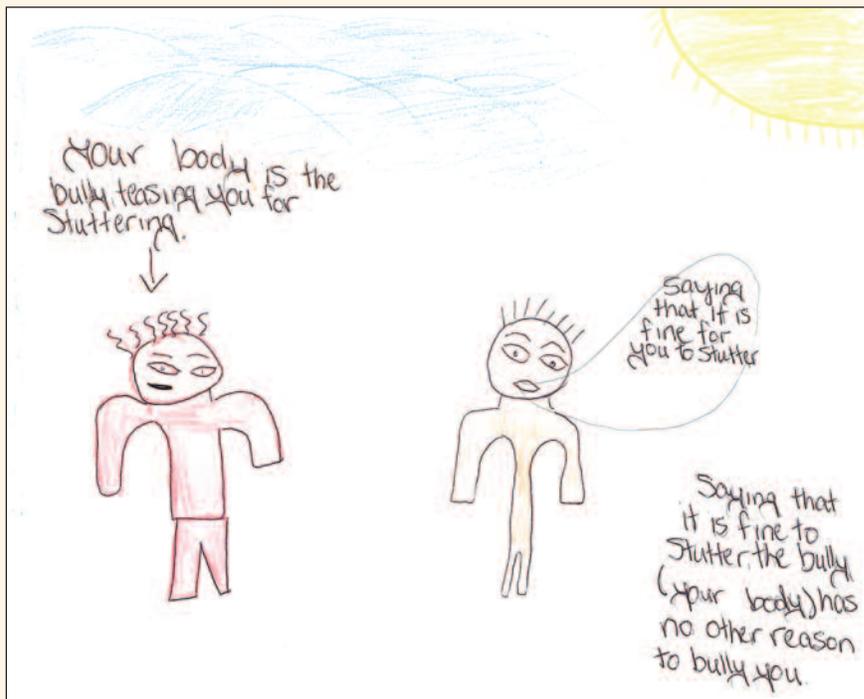
Keller, TX

I Am Determined

I hate stuttering. A lot of time people tell me to "slow down" and "take a deep breath." It makes it hard for me to speak and stutter even more. I am attending the speech program at school. I haven't improved much yet, but I am still determined. If I speak in front of my class, I struggle to even start a sentence without stuttering.

Luke, 10

Nottingham, PA



Mykhal, 6th grade, Glen Allen, Va.

Don't Interrupt Me

Sometimes I stutter when I talk. It usually bothers me when I am talking to kids and they interrupt me. But it doesn't really bother me when someone tries to help me. I go to speech therapy and I am learning how to use my speech tools.

Logan, 7

Collegetown, PA

How Do You Feel?

I want to ask how do you feel when you stutter, because when I stutter sometimes kids laugh at me. I just ignore them.

Jaden

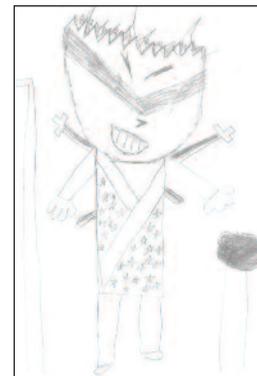
Baton Rouge, LA

Editor: We sent tips about bullying and our Trouble at Recess book.

Speech Tools Help

My name is Henri and I stutter.

Sometimes people make fun of me at school and laugh at me. This makes me feel sad. When this happens I take a deep breath and calm down.



I like to use my speech tools when I'm reading. This helps my words come out smoothly.

Henri, 3rd grade

St. Paul, MN

Continued on page 16



My name is Zofia and my speech therapist showed me your website for the first time. I showed my mom the website too. It's kind of cool how Marilyn Monroe stuttered too! My speech therapist helped me learn to smooth my words. Stuttering really isn't that bad, I think it's just the way I talk. I drew a picture of a horse, because I love horses. Riding a horse is a lot like talking in some ways. You control the horse just like you control your speech parts. You can tell it to slow down, keep moving, or go back and start over.

Zofia, 10, Yorkville, IL

Letters

Continued from page 15

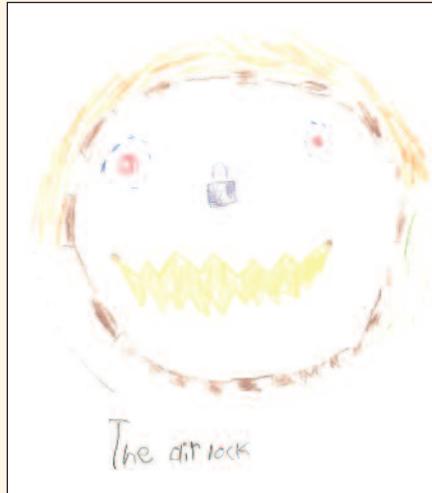
<p>The Stuttering Process By Ryan Hart</p>	 Joe Biden
 James Earl Jones	 Marilyn Monroe
 Tiger Woods	 Darren Sproles
 Nicholas Brendon	 Bill Walton
 King George VI	<p>What Stuttering Feels Like</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Like your vocal cords aren't working the way they're supposed to • Sometimes it hurts • Like your air is getting all clogged up when you try to talk
<p>Strategies That Help Me</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 minute wait time • Counseling • Easy beginnings 	<p>Interesting Facts!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Over 3 million Americans stutter • People who stutter are just like everyone who doesn't stutter • Stuttering is more difficult as a teenager

My name is Ryan and I am 12. Recently I did a presentation on stuttering. I had a great time doing it too. While I was doing it, I learned some great facts like a man did not talk for 10 years straight because his stuttering was so awful. I taught a small group of classmates of mine about stuttering and how you can be like everyone else even if you stutter. They seemed to enjoy it. I talked about famous celebrities that stutter, strategies to do, interesting facts, and how it feels to me. It was a great experience that I will never forget.

Ryan, 12, Lincoln, NE

MORE ONLINE

You can also find letters and drawings on our Website, StutteringHelp.org. Click on "Just for Kids."

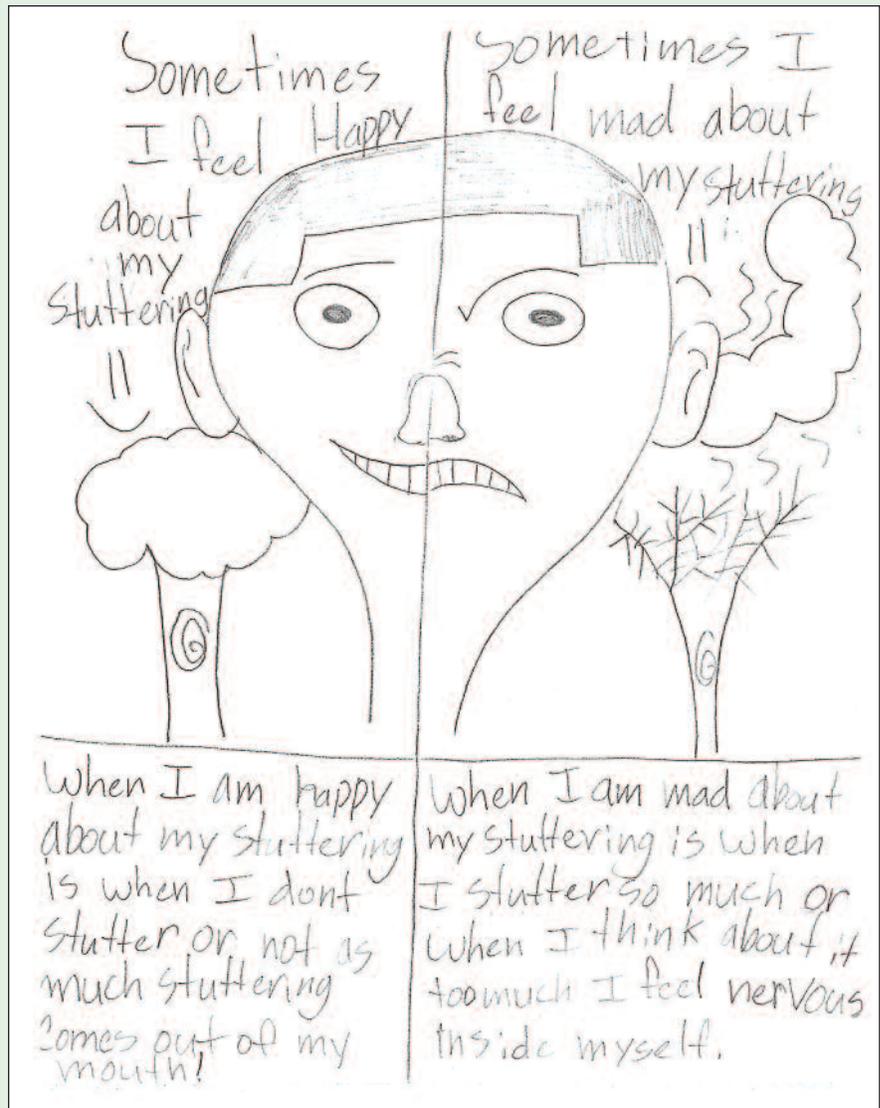


I am Henry. I am eight years old. I used to do a lot of stuttering. But, now I am much better because I go to a speech therapist. When I can't say a word, I pretend there is a wall that is blocking the air in my throat. Then I imagine myself opening a door with a key to let the air through. Then I can get my words out.

When I feel angry when I stutter, I think I should calm down and let the air through. That makes me feel much better.

For some people who cry when they stutter, I think it's okay to cry, but first try one of your techniques and then you might not cry.

Henry, 8, Richmond, VA



Cameron, 10, Little Elm, TX

Bequests *Continued from front page*

lakes to sail, concerts to enjoy, bike paths to explore.”

Mrs. Holmes, age 92, who had begun to stutter at age 7 upon the death of her mother, was dedicated to philanthropy, and her dedication continues through a charitable trust established for various regional and national organizations. The Stuttering Foundation was chosen as one organization to receive funding.

She was educated in Nashville, Tenn., attended business school, and then worked for eighteen years for Estes Lumber Company before moving to Madeira Beach, Florida. There she worked as a bookkeeper and land developer until returning to Nashville in 2005. She was preceded in death by her husband, Frank, who was killed in the South Pacific early during World War II.

“These gifts from two people who knew stuttering firsthand play an important role in enabling us to carry out our ongoing work,” said Jane Fraser.

The Stuttering Foundation of America is a tax-exempt organization under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and is classified as a private operating foundation as defined in section 4942(j)(3). Charitable contributions and bequests to the Foundation are tax-deductible, subject to limitations under the Code.

It's easy to include the Stuttering Foundation in your will, and it will do a world of good.

Here is sample wording:

“I give and bequeath to the Stuttering Foundation of America the amount of \$____ (or ____% of my residual estate).” Your legal advisor can help you with the final wording.

Brain *Continued from front page*

the motor cortex of the other hemisphere. Such an inhibition was first observed in the area of the motor cortex where hand movements are generated. Unilateral hand movements, such as in sports or playing piano, require an inhibition of the other hand. This inhibition slowly matures and evolves during childhood. It is fascinating to observe how it takes years for children to learn how to, when manipulating toys or objects with one hand, suppress “mirror” movements of the other hand.

This interaction between the motor cortex of one hemisphere with the motor cortex of the other can be studied in detail and with high time resolution using transcranial magnetic stimulation (TMS). TMS works by stimulating the motor cortex in one hemisphere shortly before stimulating the motor cortex of the other. The result is that the stimulus to the first motor cortex blocks off, or inhibits, the activity usually observed after the second stimulus is presented to the opposite motor cortex. Interestingly, this inhibition of one motor area by the opposite side's motor area develops during childhood (Garvey et al., 2003; Heinen et al., 1998), and has been found to be abnormal in professional musicians who started playing a musical instrument in childhood (Ridding et al., 2000). Given that abnormal right hemispheric brain activity has been shown in functional imaging studies of adults who stutter, it was tempting to conclude that the interaction of motor cortices may be abnormal.

We therefore investigated 15 male subjects who have stuttered since childhood, with a mean age of 28.7 (standard deviation 10.6) years, and 15 matched healthy control subjects with a mean age of

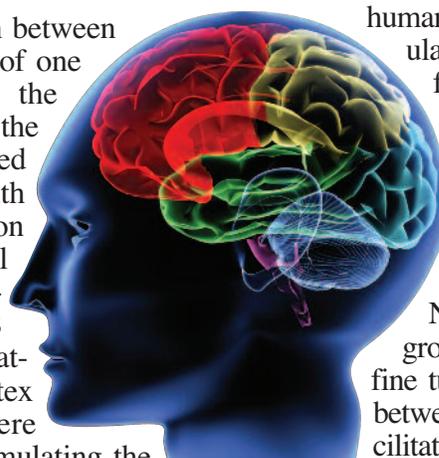
26.7 (standard deviation 4.6) years with no personal or family history of stuttering or cluttering. We found essentially no difference between groups with regard to interhemispheric inhibition (Sommer et al., 2009). This means that the suppression of the ongoing activity in one hemisphere by preceding activation of the opposite side's motor area was perfectly normal in the group of adults who stutter. This indicates that the motor cortex itself is not the core site of the problem.

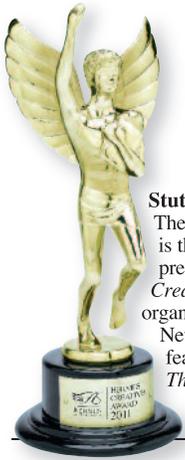
Rather, we believe that the inflows from other brain areas to the human motor cortex modulate its activity in a different fashion and are therefore subject of ongoing studies we are conducting. This view is supported by more recent findings by Nicole Neef from our group. She studied the fine tuning of the balance between inhibition and facilitation within the motor cortex and found an abnormal balance with a reduced facilitation (Neef et al., 2011). This suggests abnormal input to the motor cortex, e.g. from the basal ganglia.

In summary, our data show that the motor cortex itself and the interaction of both hemispheres is intact in adults who stutter, and direct future research to the interconnected areas influencing the activity of the motor areas of the brain.

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Stuttering Foundation Wins Gold

The Stuttering Foundation is the recipient of the prestigious *Gold Hermes' Creative Award* for the organization's 2011 Winter Newsletter, which featured the movie *The King's Speech* on the cover.



www.StutteringHelp.org • 800-992-9392 • www.tartamudez.org

News from Around the World



Laurent Lagarde with copies of his French translation of Advice To Those Who Stutter.



Belmar Rivera Vilá speaks about stuttering to graduate students in Puerto Rico.



Dr. Moussa Dao speaking at the International Stuttering Association Congress in Buenos Aires.



Sajiv and Seema Adlakha present on stuttering to teachers at the Amity International School in Noida, India.

Meet Our Incredible Intern



Susannah Parkin

Susannah Parkin, a psychology major at Hamilton College, interned for the Stuttering Foundation during the summer.

“Susannah is an incredibly bright and talented young

lady,” said Jane Fraser. “As a person who stutters herself, Susannah has been of great help to us in reaching out with positive ideas and suggestions to teens and others who stutter.”

Volume 19, Issue 3

Renee Shepherd Editor
 Scot Squires Designer
 Susannah Parkin Intern
 Special thanks to Joan Warner, Patty Reed, Susie Hall, Pat Hamm, Lisa Hinton, Terri Jones, and Carol Ecke.

This newsletter is published quarterly. Please e-mail address changes and story ideas to info@StutteringHelp.org.