

HAPPY TALK

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Believe it or not we have 4 more years before we have to hear any more campaign Ads. Until then let me remind you of some "oldies but goodies"

Tippecanoe and Tyler, too. (Harrison-Tyler campaign, 1840)

We Polked you in '44, We Shall Pierce you in '52
(Pierce campaign, 1852)

Don't Swap Horses in the Middle of a Stream (Lincoln campaign, 1864)

Four more Years of the full Dinner Pail (McKinley campaign, 1900)

All the Way With LBJ (Johnson campaign, 1964)

Gritz and Fritz, (*My Man Jimmy*: Carter-Mondale campaign, 1976)

*We must adjust to changing times
and still hold to unchanging principles
--- Jimmy Carter*

Did you know, when Teddy Roosevelt ran against Taft, Roosevelt was shot in the shoulder while en-rout to make a speech? He accepted to be seen by a doctor when some one in the audience noticed a blood stain on his jacket. And, YES, president Taft did get stuck in the bathtub while residing in the White House.

We had a large turn out at our last meeting, 10-14-04. We were SO happy to see Charlie Ruppe and his son Ron Ruppe. Judy Ruppe was recovering from knee surgery and unable to join us. We hope Judy feels much better and is able to join us soon. My boy friend, Jarrell Yates, FINALLY

decided to come join us. It was great to get one of his hugs. Our newly weds, Kim and Dan Gordon, arrived looking stunning as ever. Everyone's favorite Speech Pathologist, Alma Owens, came and joined in with all the fun. Wendy she was looking for you.

I gave my presentation until I started to bore myself, and then we had a group discussion regarding future speakers and topics. Dan Gordon agreed to speak to our group at our November meeting, on November 11, 2004. Janice agreed to speak to us about Buying/Selling a house, Buying a car 101 will be presented by Conrad Kerwath and Alma Owens will come speak to us at the January or February meeting. If you or any one you know, has the gumption to come speak to our group please let us know. We are always looking for some one that is willing to teach and/or entertain us.

Our next meeting will be held, at the same place and same time, November 11th at 7:30, if you need directions please see the map included with the news letter. Dan Gordon will give us some pointers on Investments. We will then have an open forum, to ask Dan questions.

Conrad came up with another great idea. People in the group will seek sponsors to help fund our operating budget. Sponsors will receive our newsletter each month; will be invited to our Christmas Dinner and summer picnic, and all the other amenities we are privy to. We would be thrilled for our sponsors to come join us each month and help make our meetings enjoyable and memorable. The member who signs up 5 or more sponsors will win a dinner at the Stony River Restaurant.

Shirley Olson and Jewell Fuller are already in the lead. Shirley gave us a check at the meeting, and Jewell already has four sponsors. Our thanks go out to Jewell's patrons: Intero Systems, Inc., Joe & Lois Rutherford, Jonny & Terri Hull, Outsourcing Systems, Inc., and to Jewell and Jack Fuller. Jewell told me that she is expecting 2 more

Our appreciation also goes out to Norman Allum for his generous donation towards the News Letter.

Our 50/50 drawing has been a huge success for Voice Masters. At our meeting in September Shirley won and, graciously donated her winnings of \$35.00 back to the club.

At the October meeting Conrad won and he, too, donated his winnings of \$42.00 back to the club.

Depend on the rabbit's foot if you will, but remember it didn't work for the rabbit.

-----R.E. Shay

Alma shared with us that Dr. Blom would be facilitating a workshop in Atlanta. Dr. Blom, co-creator of the Blom-Singer prosthesis, will be looking for laryngectomy participants. Alma will keep us up-dated.

Several people have asked about Deirdre Duncan. Deidre had a reoccurrence and has just ended radiation and chemo treatments, and she happily reports the tumor seems to be gone. She also shared a wonderful story with me, and she gave me permission to pass it along.

This narrative has been approved by Deirdre Duncan:

I live on a farm and just when I'd accepted the fact that I had absolutely no hair on my body from effects of chemo, along came a skunk to make life interesting.

As a laryngectomy I've learned to "smell" quite well. As a lary with no nose hair I didn't realize I'd lost that ability. One night my 2 dogs started going wild outside the back door, barking and whining, really, loudly. I turned on lights and looked for a reason for their out burst, but found nothing. I let them in and decided to investigate in the morning. At 4:30 I woke up to loud shrieking coming from

my chicken pen. I ran out to discover a skunk attacking one of

the hens. I got the shotgun and killed the skunk.

(Remember

I can't smell a thing.) I suddenly realized what I'd done, I stripped, ran back inside, threw the dogs out and jumped in the shower.

Luckily I was only about 10 ft. away so I didn't get sprayed too

badly, but both of my dogs took a direct hit; which, explains their earlier behavior. I didn't realize before, that both of the dogs had been in the house saturating their rugs with skunk essence all night.

My clothes, the rugs, and the skunk all went to the landfill first thing.

I saw my neighbor later in the week and he said he'd been smelling skunk on the dogs and up near my house. I told him what happened and we had a good laugh. Hope you do too!

*HUMOR is the shock absorber of life;
It helps us take the blows.
-----Peggy Noonan*

Janice Hayes has been a busy girl. She went with me to visit a patient at Emory, and saw 3 patients at St. Josephs. Janice also spoke to 400 9th & 10th graders at Lovett School, 350 people at the Marcus Jewish Community Center, 350 6th graders at Renfroe Middle School, 300 5th graders at Daves Creek Elementary and 300 5th graders at Tritt Elementary.

Life itself can't give you joy,
Unless you really will it;
Life just gives you time and space,
It's up to you to fill it.

www.voicemasters.org

(By Boris J.)

October 26th 2004 – Today a domain for the Greater Atlanta Voice Masters has been registered. That was the first step toward us being on the internet.

Go to www.voicemasters.org. At first, you won't find much, but if we all contribute something, we can "meet" even between our monthly meetings.

First text for the website was written by Conrad Kerwath. Thank you very much Conrad.

On the next meeting my son, Srdjan, will be joining us. He will provide technical help concerning the website. He will be talking about what we have to do to have a good website, and then he will listen to us, and write down our ideas. So, Srdjan will be the webmaster and I will be the sponsor, meaning that I will take care of the costs.

Please go to www.voicemasters.org and welcome to a home of hope, friendship and encouragement.

Next issue of Happy Talk will be posted on www.voicemasters.org.

HOW WONDERFUL IS THAT? !!! Thank you Boris and Srdjan.

Visiting

(By Boris J.)

There are people that work in the same job until retirement because they by chance happened to work in that field, and others think that's a kind of work they do best. Others do not chose a profession but a profession chooses them because they are born to do that. I think our Tina is in that second group. Someone who works for a collection agency has to know how to persuade people to do what they don't really want to do. So Tina persuaded me to start writing again after years of not writing anything except private correspondence.

But that's not the only thing. In a minute she persuaded me to visit other laryngectomees in the hospital. Even if I sometimes loathe sitting down and writing a text, I thank Tina for persuading me to visit a total laryngectomy. That is my debt toward Mr. Jarrell Yates, who visited me in March of 2000. Jarrell brought to room E822 at the Emory University Hospital hope and encouragement that there is a group of brave people in Atlanta that are on the winning side of the battle with cancer.

When I went to room E802 to visit Mr. Joe Brown I thought about how to start a conversation and what to talk about. Then I remembered all the questions I wrote on a piece of paper for Jarrell. I did not wait for Joe to ask those same questions. I started to give answers as best as I could. Coming out of the hospital I was satisfied. I had the same feeling as when I planted my first tree.

Thanks Jarrell, Tina and Joe

My ear is always open for appreciation,
but for criticism, you have to make an
appointment.

____Ashleigh

Brilliant

Thank you Deidre and Boris for your wonderful articles...and
your kind words Boris.

Remember if you want to receive your News Letter via E-mail please send me your E-mail address Long2140@bellsout.net or look on our NEW WEBSITE!!!! www.voicemasters.org

Look for information on our Christmas party...December 5th and 3pm ...