

2008

Helping voices be heard for more than 59 years



VOICES

inside...



Charlene Shirk **3**
and Mark Myers at
Sounds of Laughter
Special Event



Our Gold Star **4**
Board Member is...

CSX Medical Director Comes to JSHC for Hearing Help



Dr. Tom Neilson and Dr. Liz Pearson, Audiologist.

Dr. Tom Neilson, Medical Director of the CSX Corporation, has a hearing loss, but unlike many other hearing-impaired executives, he's not afraid to admit it. At first, he was fitted with a hearing aid from the Mayo Clinic. Recently, the hearing in his ear began to change and he thought he might need a stronger hearing aid. In the meantime, he learned from one of his Vice Presidents, Beverly Jackson Davis, that the Jacksonville Speech and Hearing Center is much more conveniently located to his downtown office and provided excellent service. (Of course, Beverly is a little biased as Chair of the Board of Directors of JSHC.) Dr. Neilson came to our Center and had his hearing aid fit by Dr. Liz Pearson, Audiologist.

Dr. Neilson stated that one of the main attractions to receiving services through our Center is the fact that any monies earned go directly back to helping less fortunate individuals in need of speech or audiological services. "The fact that your Center is a non-profit organization was very appealing to me," stated Dr. Neilson. If he can help others even in an indirect way, he will choose that road first. In addition, he says "I am quite impressed with the professional, excellent, and caring service given by the entire staff."

Dr. Neilson must attend many meetings with his own profession and was beginning to notice greater difficulties in those situations. "Being able to hear in my meetings has helped tremendously in my ability to carry out my duties. I am doing so well that most people do not even know that I am wearing a hearing aid." At the same time, Dr. Neilson is not afraid to tell people that he does wear a hearing aid; "if by sharing my experience with the hearing aid will help raise awareness and encourage others to seek help, then quality of life can be improved for them too."



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The Jacksonville Speech & Hearing Center is a 501(c)3 charitable organization.

Good Things Happening at JSHC

As you will see as you read through our newsletter, we have had many benefactors supporting us in many ways over the past year. From huge in-kind donations to volunteer efforts of our exceptional board, to financial contributions of individuals, companies, foundations and other organizations, we have been extremely fortunate. Our services are in greater need than ever before, but the economic situation of the times is making it more and more difficult for all nonprofits to find the resources we need. We are extremely happy to acknowledge the continued support of so many people who make it possible to see that those with communication disorders, young and old, with or without resources, can get the highest quality professional services available in the community.



It is also a time to reflect on the 60 years of service our Center has provided to the community. In 1949, founded as the Children's Speech Clinic by Sarah Barrett, along with the help of the Junior League of Jacksonville, our Center began helping youngsters with communication disorders. Our mission has expanded and the Center has evolved, and we look forward to continuing to fulfill our mission with the help of our friends, regardless of the challenges we face. We want to stress our commitment to all those in NE Florida who need our help and look forward to new opportunities down the road.

Robert J. Nozza, PhD,
CEO and Clinical Director

duPont Fund Challenges JSHC in Fundraising Effort

Reductions in private and public support for nonprofits such as ours have not only made it difficult to start new programs, but present a threat for existing operations as well. With the help of Jim Penrod, PhD, a consultant in organizational assessment, our Board has committed to developing a fundraising plan that will help compensate for lost funding. Dr. Penrod's work, funded through a grant by the Jessie Ball duPont Fund, has been instrumental in helping us develop a process by which we can address the challenges that face us. Knowing what our needs are and what we would like to do to address them, we went to the Jessie Ball duPont Fund to seek support for implementing our plan. We have received a grant of \$150,000 over a two-year period in the form of a match. Jessie Ball duPont Fund will contribute one dollar for every dollar we raise over the two-year period. The plan is to use the \$300,000 to increase awareness of our programs, improve our programs, increase training and education of our staff, and make major improvements to our facilities. To help interest donors in giving to us, besides the fact that their dollars are leveraged by the duPont Fund grant, we are providing the opportunity for donors to have the naming rights to our Board Room and to an audiological suite, both of which will receive significant upgrades. Our sincere thanks to the Jessie Ball duPont Fund for their continuing confidence in our service and to our mission.

MISSION STATEMENT

The Jacksonville Speech & Hearing Center is committed to providing the highest quality professional and compassionate care to all individuals with hearing, speech and/or language disorders in our community.

Editor
Bob Nozza

Designer
Merril Klucha

FALL 2008
Helping voices be heard for more than 59 years
voices

Sounds of Laughter

TAKE 2

In May, 2008, we held our second annual special event called Sounds of Laughter. Unlike the first one in 2007, in which we had a Silent Movie theme, this year we had a Casino Night. Along with music provided by the Arthur Anderson High School Jazz Ensemble, an open wine and martini bar, hors d'oeuvres by Biscotti's and silent auction, the Casino provided by PRI, Inc. was a huge success. It was a great time for all, as the gaming tables were very busy with groups of guests playing just for the fun of it and a chance at a drawing prize. The event helped raise about \$30,000 for the Center while at the same time providing a wonderful evening for our 150 guests. We are very grateful to Woody and Ellen Mills for being our Event Chairs, Charlene Shirk for being our great Mistress of Ceremonies and Michael Ward, CEO of CSX, for being the Honorary Chair. We took the opportunity also to acknowledge the contributions of some very special donors, Mike Bagdonas of ARCON Architecture & Construction Co., Inc., Merrill Lynch, Beaches SERTOMA Club, and Tracey Westbrook—The David Stein Foundation, Inc.



Mike Bagdonas (4th from right), board member and major contributor (see article on Renovations), seen here at the Sounds of Laughter event with many members of the crew who helped him renovate the lobby and bathrooms.



Left to right, Jon May, Kimmie Palusak, and Event Chairs Ellen and Woody Mills.

Enhanced Services for Infants Supported by Grant from Lucy Gooding Foundation - Liz Pearson, AuD, CCC-A, Clinic Manager and Clinical Audiologist

Due to the generosity of a grant from The Lucy Gooding Foundation, Jacksonville Speech and Hearing Center, Inc., now has improved capabilities for assessing hearing in infants. Through the grant, we acquired a new instrument that enables us to measure auditory evoked potentials (AEP), which are brain electrical responses that occur in response to sound stimulation.

This type of testing is utilized to

evaluate newborns, infants, toddlers and others who may be difficult to test with traditional/conventional methods so that diagnosis and intervention can be done in a timely way. AEP testing is reliable, objective, noninvasive, and painless, and does not require voluntary behavioral responses from the person being tested. With infants, it is typically done during natural sleep. AEP testing will mostly be used at our facility as a screening procedure for

newborns at risk for hearing loss and as a diagnostic tool to identify infants and small children with a hearing loss. In addition, there are other uses for AEP testing that we can now add to our test battery.

We are very grateful to The Lucy Gooding Foundation for the grant to our Center for this equipment. As a result of their generosity and kindness, we are now better able to serve the Jacksonville community.

GOLD STAR BOARD MEMBER Mattie Fraser

Mattie Fraser is the longest standing current board member at JSHC. She has worked tirelessly for the last 6 years to help the Center fulfill its mission. Mattie is a retired executive who worked for many years at WJCT. But don't be fooled by the fact she is

"retired"—she is constantly on the go, contributing her time, energy, insights and good spirits not only to JSHC but to several other nonprofits in the community. We are pretty certain that she is working more now than she ever did before--to get on her calendar, you need about three weeks advance notice.



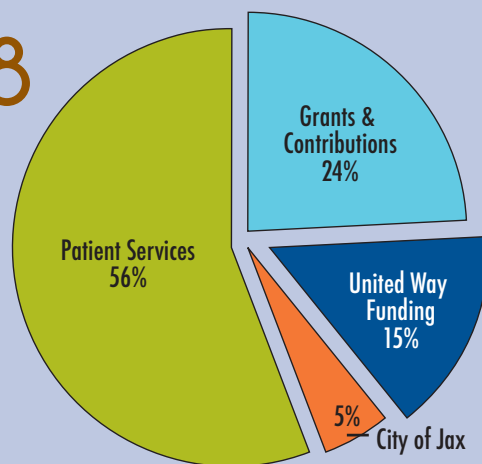
Gold Star Board Member Mattie Fraser with her husband Stewart at the Sounds of Laughter.

Besides serving on our board, as a member, an officer and committee chair over these past six years, Mattie is currently President of Pace Center for Girls and is a leader in the Uptown Civitan Club. Her willingness to give so much of herself to local nonprofit service agencies and her extraordinary efforts to see that these agencies are successful are greatly appreciated by all with whom she works. Beverly J. Davis, Board Chair, says Mattie "is historian to the organization and our guide. Because of her interest in the welfare of the citizens of northeast Florida who have hearing and speech-language deficits, and her ability to motivate others to serve, she is invaluable to our mission and the JSHC." Mattie is this year's GOLD STAR Board Member because of all she does.

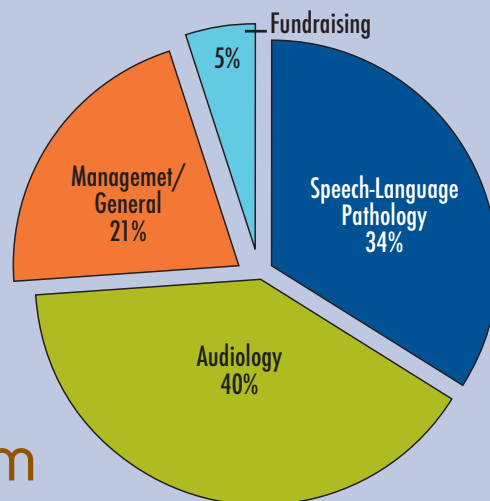
Thanks, Mattie.

FISCAL YEAR '07-'08

TOTAL INCOMING REVENUE ▶



HOW DOLLARS WERE SPENT ▶



Program Highlights

TOTAL NUMBER SERVED—

AUDIOLOGY PROGRAM	2,181
Children 0-10	634
Seniors	1,055

TOTAL NUMBER SERVED—

SPEECH/LANGUAGE PROGRAM	533
Children 0-4	384

TOTAL CLINIC PATIENTS SERVED

2,714

Gertrude Peele Provides Testimony

Gertrude Peele's son Aaron needed speech/language therapy as a youngster. He was evaluated and received therapy here at JSHC. Ms. Peele is convinced that the help Aaron received here from Speech-Language Pathologist Rachel Whorton, MS, CCC-SLP, was instrumental in getting him on the right track in school. He is now 14 and is having a successful

school experience. Ms. Peele offered to come to our event and say a few words about her experience with JSHC and Ms. Whorton, and to remind everyone of the importance of good speech and language to the ability of a young child to be ready to read, ready for school and ready to achieve. Gertrude, we thank you for your support.



Gertrude Peele (center) with speech-language pathologists Rachel Whorton (left) and Sharon Kesler at the Sounds of Laughter Special Event.

In-Kind Work on Facilities gives JSHC a new look



Workers adding and painting crown molding to roof of JSHC.

For those of you who know us well, the home office of JSHC is in need of some updating. The building, originally built in the mid 60's, has had little done to modernize since then. This year, Mike Bagdonas of Arcon Architecture & Construction Co., Inc., and many of his subcontractors, spent several weeks re-doing our lobby/adult waiting room and the two client bathrooms, as well as painting and improving the look of the exterior. From linoleum and paneling to tile and new dry wall, ceiling tiles and lighting, the lobby is finished off with a more modern, professional look. Mike was our Honored Board Member last year for helping us out and continued this year with help above and beyond. Also, Prime Maintenance provided free labor in re-seeding our lawn, repairing our irrigation system and planting new shrubbery. Many thanks to all those involved in these renovation projects.

Junior League has work day to help JSHC

The Junior League of Jacksonville was instrumental in the founding of the Jacksonville Speech and Hearing Center nearly 60 years ago. Last February, volunteers from Junior League came to support the Center once again. The young women worked hard inside and out, helping outside with the landscaping and working inside to paint the children's waiting room. We at JSHC are delighted to have re-established our relationship with the Junior League and appreciate greatly the hard work they put in that day to help us create a more welcoming and professional appearance.



Jacksonville Speech & Hearing Center's

60th Anniversary Celebration Event

May 30, 2009 • San Jose Country Club

We invite you to join us for a wonderful night of celebration, as we recognize our achievements for the past 60 years and recommit ourselves to the future.

- DELECTABLE CUISINE
- MARTINI & WINE BAR
- ENTERTAINMENT THROUGHOUT THE EVENING
- FABULOUS SILENT AUCTION
- EXCITING VACATION DRAWING
- AND MORE!

PROCEEDS FROM THIS CHARITY FUNDRAISER WILL BE USED TO PROVIDE SPEECH AND HEARING SERVICES TO SOCIALLY AND ECONOMICALLY DISADVANTAGED CHILDREN AND SENIORS IN OUR COMMUNITY.

Go to www.shcjax.org for more details.

Thanks to all those who have supported our mission.

FOUNDERS CIRCLE OF GIVING – 2007-2008

PLATINUM BENEFACTORS

(\$5,000+)
City of Jacksonville
David Stein/Tracey Westbrook
Jessie Ball duPont Fund
Lucy Gooding Foundation
United way
Arcon Architecture &
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GOLD BENEFACTORS

(\$1,000-\$4,999)
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Construction
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Wade Weeks
William Dresser Family
Foundation

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Jessie Ball duPont Fund
Matching Grant

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