



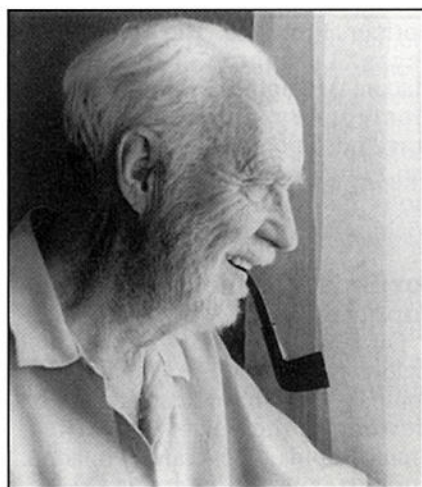
**IN THIS ISSUE...**

- The Winter 1994-95 Issue of SFA Newsletter is dedicated to Dr. Charles Van Riper.

A Non-Profit Organization Since 1947... Helping Those Who Stutter

Volume IV, Number 1

## The Joyous Pathfinder: Charles Van Riper 1905 – 1994



Few persons are thought of as "legends in their own time" but Charles Van Riper, who passed away peacefully at his home in Kalamazoo, Michigan, on September 25, 1994, at the age of 88, was such a man.

Born in 1905 in Champion, a small town in Michigan's upper peninsula, the first quarter-century of his life was plagued by profoundly severe stuttering, an impairment which eventually, however, led him to become a pioneering founder of the new profession of speech pathology and the widely-recognized world authority on stuttering. As with many outstanding people, he learned how to use sad circumstances in a creative way and with great impact.

Dr. Van Riper was a prodigious author, with over 200 publications spanning eight decades to his credit. His *Speech Correction: Principles and Methods* (Prentice-Hall) first appearing in 1939, has been the most popular text in the field, and is now

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## Major Networks Help Stuttering Foundation

The Stuttering Foundation's public-service announcements for television feature Chicago Bulls legend Bob Love, CBS Sports commentator Ken Venturi, and vintage footage of Winston Churchill and Marilyn Monroe. They have been aired by an ever-growing number of stations and networks across the country in 1994, thereby increasing the public's awareness of stuttering.

### ABC Television Network and ABC Stations

In New York, WABC Channel 7 continues to air our PSA several times a week. This invaluable support throughout 1994 has enabled us to reach tens of thousands of viewers in the New York area. We are grateful for the strong support of the ABC Television Network.

In Philadelphia, WPVI Channel 6 has kept us in their rotation all year long.

In Los Angeles, KABC Channel 7 has had us in their rotation several times a month all year, resulting in hundreds of calls from their viewers at each airing.

In Cleveland, WEWS Channel 5 has been airing our PSA all year long, and especially during back-to-school days and National Stuttering Awareness Week.



SFA Spokesperson  
Ken Venturi



SFA Spokesperson  
Bob Love

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## Specialty Recognition Approved

A program for specialty recognition of speech-language pathologists was approved by the Legislative Council of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association at its recent meeting in New Orleans. Seventy-five percent of the votes of Council members were in favor of the report from the Association's Ad-hoc Committee on Specialty Recognition.

Approval of the report provides an opportunity for ASHA's Fluency and Fluency Disorders Division to move forward to establish and monitor a program of recognition of specialists in stuttering.

A Clinical Specialty Board will be established by ASHA to receive petitions from various groups that desire to arrange specialty recognition. Since the Fluency Division met in April, 1994, to outline its proposed pro-

gram, it will be ready to petition for recognition in 1995.

Specialty recognition will require the individual SLP to develop competencies in a particular area of study such as stuttering beyond that required for professional certification. Continuing education requirements will also be part of the process. A follow-up meeting of the Fluency Division to further refine the program is planned for April, 1995.

Specialty recognition has long been supported by the Stuttering Foundation and was an early goal of its founder, Malcolm Fraser. Notwithstanding its support of specialty recognition, SFA will continue to expend much of its efforts to providing all SLP's with up to date information, publications and videos so that all will be able to increase their competency in stuttering treatment. □

## SFA Celebrates Record Year for Public Service Ads in Magazines



## Major Networks

*Continued from page 1*

In San Francisco, KGO-TV aired our PSA for four months, resulting in hundreds of calls from their viewers.

Another ABC station which aired our public-service announcement numerous times during 1994 was KTRK Channel 13 in Houston.

### CBS Keeps SFA in Rotation

Support from CBS, Inc. has been outstanding all during 1994. We have heard from hundreds of CBS viewers in the following cities in response to the regular airing of our PSA: Austin, Boston, Chattanooga, Chicago, Cincinnati, Corpus Christi, Detroit, Dothan, Florence, Harlingen, Las Vegas, Lexington, Little Rock, Macon, Memphis, Miami, Monroe, Montgomery, Orlando, Phoenix, Portland, Richmond, Sacramento, San Francisco, Scottsbluff, Seattle, Sioux Falls, Tallahassee, Wausau, Wichita Falls, and Wilmington.

### Fox Broadcasting Co. Supports SFA

Our PSA is also in the national rotation of PSA's at Fox Broadcasting Company. We have heard from Fox viewers in the following cities: Grand Rapids, Cleveland, Houston, Rochester, Chicago, Ozark, Washington, and Flint.

### NBC Network and Affiliates

SFA was included in the national rotation of public-service announcements at NBC again this year. Each airing, often during prime time, resulted in many hundreds of calls from NBC viewers all over the country.

The support of these stations and networks throughout 1994 have enabled us to reach hundreds of thousands of viewers whose lives have been affected by stuttering. Their public-service programs are to be applauded. □

This year's National Stuttering Awareness Week got off to a wonderful start with generous public service ads featuring Bob Love and Ken Venturi placed by *Business Week*, *TIME*, *U.S. News & World Report*, *People Weekly*, and *Golf*.

McGraw-Hill Healthcare publications, *The Physician and Sportsmedicine* and *Postgraduate Medicine*, also featured Mr. Love and Mr. Venturi as did the American Medical Association publications, *Journal of the AMA* and the *Archives of Internal Medicine*.

Both *Money Magazine* and *Forbes Magazine* have helped our awareness campaign this month with generous one-sixth page public service ads again showing Bob Love as did *Woman's Day* and *Town & Country*.

*Chicago Magazine*, in Bob Love's home town, has again given us a generous PSA in their May issue.

The excellent support of so many magazines has brought the total of donated space in 1994 to a record \$820,000.00! The Stuttering Foundation extends its heartfelt thanks to all the magazines which have been so very generous to us this year, many of whose names are listed here.

*TIME*, *Business Week*, *People Weekly*, *Money*, *Forbes*, *Woman's*

*Day*, *Golf*, *Sports Illustrated*, *Black Enterprise*, *Prevention*, *U.S. News & World Report*, *New York Magazine*, *United Airlines Hemispheres*, *Medical Economics*, *Money Maker's Monthly*, *The Carlson Voyager*, *TN Small Business Review*, *Utne Reader*, *Los Angeles Magazine*, *Science and Children*, *Mid-Atlantic Country*, *Orange County Living*, *America West Airlines*, *Infectious Diseases in Children*, *American Pharmacy*, *Easyriders*, *Memphis Magazine*, *Twin Cities Business Monthly*, *Communications Briefings*, *Annals of Internal Medicine*, *Journal of the American Medical Association*, *Archives of Internal Medicine*, *Minneapolis-St.Paul*, *South Florida Parenting*, *The Atlantic Monthly*, *The Science Teacher*, *Northwest Airlines World Traveler*, *Instructor*, *In Pittsburgh*, *Physical Therapy*, *Dragon*, *Archives of General Psychiatry*, *Kansas City Business Journal*, *Resident & Staff Physician*, *Surgical Rounds*, *Resident & Staff Physician*, *Contemporary Surgery*, *Christian Parenting Today*, *Cincinnati Magazine*, *Long Term Care Journal*, *OMNI*, *St. Louis Business Journal*, *Salt Lake City Magazine*, *Business & Health*, *Young Children*, *Northwest Baby & Child*, *Golf Digest*, and many, many more. □

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.

## Stuttering Foundation Announces Third Annual Awards Competition for Reporting Excellence

The Stuttering Foundation of America announced today that it will recognize journalists for the third consecutive year for excellence in reporting that furthers the understanding of this complex disorder.

"We are happy to take this important step to further public awareness of stuttering," said Jane Fraser, president of the 47 year old non-profit organization. "Media coverage has grown substantially in volume and sensitivity in recent years. We want to continue recognizing outstanding reporters."

The third annual Stuttering Foundation of America Awards will be given to journalists in two categories: print and electronic media. They will recognize news stories over the last year that:

- Advanced the public's understanding of stuttering;
- Introduced information on stuttering to a significant new audience.

Print and electronic journalists are invited to submit copies or videocassettes of their news items to the Stuttering Foundation of America, P.O. Box 11749, Memphis, TN 38111-0749. All entries must have been published or aired between January 1, 1994 and March 15, 1995.

In addition to a public announcement on the SFA Award recipients, each honoree will receive a cash award of \$ 250.00 from the Foundation.

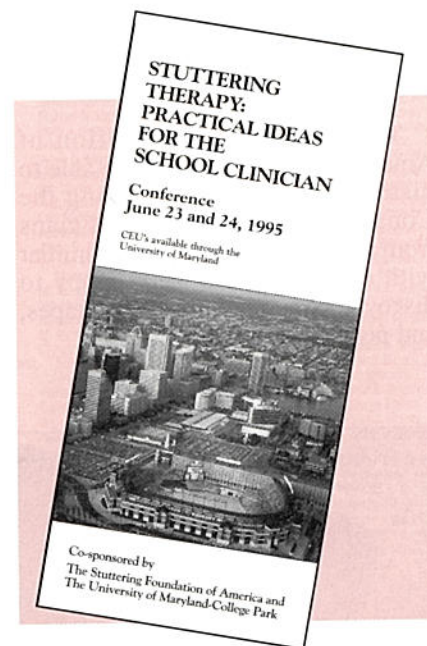
"Many people who stutter have made important contributions to society," noted Fraser. "Unfortunately, they often have to confront difficulties in the classroom or workplace that result from misinformation. Outstanding journalists have begun to educate the public about stuttering, and we will consistently acknowledge and honor their efforts." □

## "Stuttering Therapy: Practical Ideas for School Clinicians" Conference Planned for Summer 1995

A two-day conference to focus on the work of school clinicians with children who stutter is planned for the summer of 1995. It is co-sponsored by the Stuttering Foundation of America and the University of Maryland-College Park.

It will be held at the Holiday Inn, Baltimore-Inner Harbor in Baltimore, Maryland, on June 23rd and 24th, 1995. This beautiful location should be convenient not only for school clinicians living in Maryland but also in the surrounding states of Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Virginia, the District of Columbia, and Delaware.

The format of the conference calls for presentations followed by extensive discussion in small discussion groups. Featured speakers are Peter Ramig, Ph.D. of the University of Colorado, Barry Guitar, Ph. D. of the University of Vermont, and Edward G. Conture, Ph.D. of Syracuse University. Dr. Nan B. Ratner is conference coordinator.



The program and application form for this conference have been printed and are available to anyone writing the Stuttering Foundation of America at P.O. Box 11749, Memphis, TN 38111-0749, or calling toll-free 1-800-992-9392. □

## Stuttering Awareness Week Posters and Brochure Available

National Stuttering Awareness Week is May 8 - 14, 1995! Order your color posters now. They feature U.S. Open champion golfer Ken Venturi, and legendary Chicago Bulls star Bob Love.

The posters are a colorful addition to your office, classroom or home. Also back by popular request is our black and white poster of Winston Churchill.

National Stuttering Awareness Week brochures featuring 10 famous men and women who stutter are also available.

For more information on the three posters and the brochure, call SFA toll-free at 1-800-992-9392. □



# First World Congress on Fluency Disorders

The First World Congress on Fluency Disorders took place on August 8-12, 1994, at the University of Munich, Germany. The congress program covered a large number of presentations by the world's leaders in all areas of stuttering.

The Stuttering Foundation of America was privileged to be able to distribute its materials during the Congress. Many speech clinicians from around the world were familiar with our books and were happy to discover new brochures, videotapes, and posters now available. □



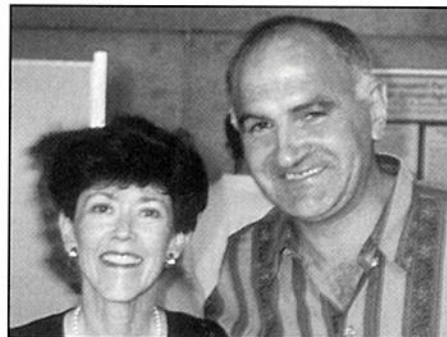
All of these Congress attendees are graduates of the "Stuttering Therapy: Workshop for Specialists" co-sponsored by SFA and Northwestern University.



Mrs. Peggy Walhaus of South Africa points out challenges and problems during her poster session.



Jane Fraser and Peter Cartwright of the Association for Stammerers in London at the poster session.



Jane Fraser of SFA and Peter Tonev of Bulgaria at poster session.

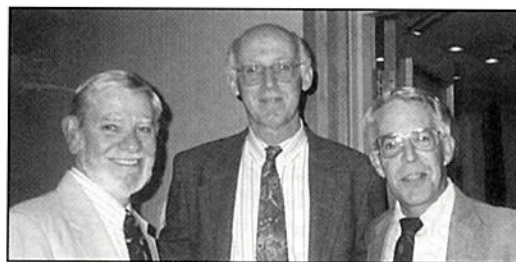


Dr. Herman F.M. Peters, Congress President, gives his closing remarks.

## American Speech-Language-Hearing Association Convention Gives SFA Opportunity to Reach Speech-Language Pathologists from All Over the World.



Ellen Bennett and Susan Cochrane did a fantastic job at the SFA booth in New Orleans. Dr. Phil Schneider joins them here. Help was also provided by Janice Westbrook and Krisan Fluckey.

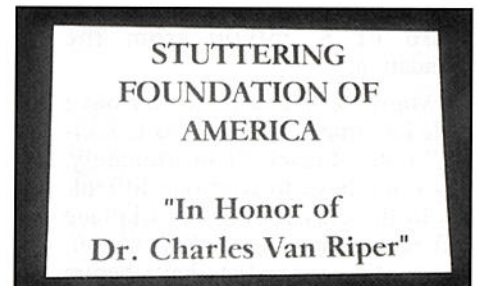


Above, Dr. Hal Luper, Bill Murphy, Dr. Steve Hood.

Below, Dr. Mick Hanley, Dr. Dick Boehmler, and Dr. Pete Ramig.



Krisan Fluckey, Joe Fulcher, Susan Cochrane



An evening in honor of the late Dr. Charles Van Riper brought together his followers and longtime associates from all over the world.

## In Remembrance

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in its 10th edition. Among other books are: *The Nature of Stuttering; The Treatment of Stuttering: Your Child's Speech Problems; Voice and Articulation: Teaching Your Child to Talk; Speech in the Elementary Classroom; and American Phonetics.*



Dr. Charles Van Riper with SFA founder Malcolm Fraser, 1972.

He was also the Editor of the 14-volume *Foundations of Speech Pathology Series* (Prentice-Hall) and editor and contributor to many conferences on stuttering sponsored and published by the Stuttering Foundation of America. His basic textbook has been translated into seven languages and there is even a braille version.

His writing facility surfaced while an undergraduate at Northern Michigan College. In an Honors Class the resident poet, Robert Frost, awarded him first prize for his poetry, which was not only published, but was accompanied by a \$25.00 prize which his classmate, John Voelker (Robert Traver, author of *Anatomy of a Murder*) and he used for a spirited celebratory feast.

For his Master's Degree at the University of Michigan, he specialized in Olde English Literature and Elizabethan Ballads, completing a thesis on Burke's *Essay on the Sublime and Beautiful*.

Such a background, buttressed, of course, by a brilliant and forceful intelligence, resulted in a prose of vigorous clarity. His was a chiseled style, plain but elegant, based on known facts which he knew intimately and which set his mind free for the imaginative use of them. Though he stuttered throughout his life, in his writing he seemed incapable of a graceless phrase. Through his early years were often bitter ones filled

with stuttering and silence, he at last got the audience he deserved and he never let go, nor they him.

He received his Doctorate Degree in Clinical Psychology at the University of Iowa, and in 1936 established one of the nation's first speech clinics which he directed until forced by a heart attack in 1967 to relinquish the post. That year he was appointed Distinguished University Professor, a position he held until his retirement in 1976.

Dr. Van Riper was considered a brilliant clinician and teacher. Because of his preference for starting at the foundations of a subject and at the beginnings of professional careers, undergraduate courses were his favorite settings. Students sensed that his creative teaching flowed from a deep sense of subject undistinguishable from his reverent sense of life. He rarely used notes, but rather worked them into his texts. "My own books I know to the point of nausea," he said, "so I do not duplicate their contents. Also, I find their author surprisingly reasonable."

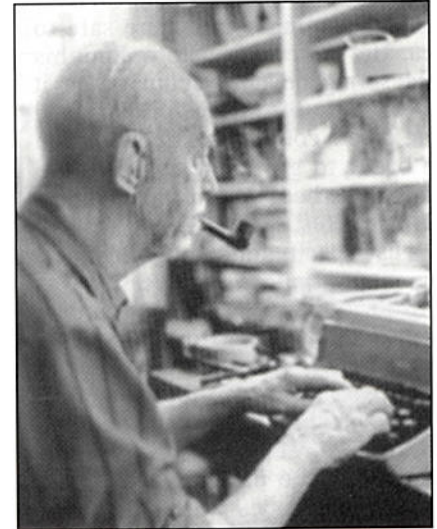
In clinical practice he was broadly eclectic. It bothered him when people referred to "Van Riperian Therapy" for "I've never practiced it". He knew this attitude troubled those who sought "the ultimate word" as he said, "according to St. Van". But it didn't bother him. He knew there was something of value in most approaches.

He inspired and delighted generations of students with his gift for anecdote, his wiry wit and also for his endearing classroom pranks. On a dreary winter's day, he might suddenly leave the building, a piper leading the class outside for what he called "The Dance of the Wild Cucumber" or perhaps, in making angels in the snow. He sometimes wondered why the University didn't fire him.

This trait of playfulness never deserted him. "I want to contribute to a spirit of gaiety in the world. You can be effective in your work without losing any of the fun of living." At 80 he ebulliently rose above Kalamazoo in a hot air balloon. At 88 he was still flying kites.

In his youth, to escape the torments of his stuttering, he fled to the deep woods beyond his village. There he found a world that was good; it delighted his senses; it nur-

tured his dreams; offered him play: hunting, fishing, exploring, the delights of sylvan adventure. Throughout his lifetime, he returned to the northwoods, vacationed for years in an isolated, Thoreau-like cabin, later building a magnificent



log-cabin on a more northerly lake shore — his Shangri-La's

*"How oft —*

*In darkness and amid the many shapes  
Of joyless daylight; when the fretful stir  
Unprofitable, and the fever of the world,  
Have hung upon the beatings of my  
heart—*

*How oft, in spirit, have I turned to thee,  
Oh sylvan Wye! thou wanderer through  
the woods,*

*How oft has my spirit turned to thee!"*

—WALLACE STEVENS

Dr. Van Riper was an active farmer, but he delighted more in the profusion of flowers he cultivated. Throughout their long married life, each morning he would place a flower at the table for his beloved wife Katherine ("Milady Katy"), who died in 1984.

In his lifetime, he planted more than 5,000 trees in the belief we all should leave our little bit of earth a better place. One day, repairing a compost shredder, he sheared off his two left middle fingers. "Looking down at the pile of green shreadings, I saw to my surprise some scarlet there and thought it beautiful until I suddenly realized that the color came from my shredded fingers." The next day he spread the bloody compost in his rose garden. He quipped, "The roses that year were never redder. I

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## In Remembrance

*Continued from page 7*

recycled myself. Not many men have been reincarnated as a rose."

In keeping with his natural philosophy, Dr. Van Riper saw each person as a spring in a deep forest, each a potential small source of a great river of life flowing somewhere safe to sea. He vowed never to pollute his own spring, never to let others dam it up or sully his waters. He wished that others could drink freely of him in order to go to their individual ways refreshed. He took no credit for being a forest spring.

His capacity for courage and merriment in the face of adversity was extraordinary. Once, as an undergraduate, miserable from his stuttering, he tried (not the only time) to commit suicide by jumping into Lake Superior. "I swam back to shore," he recalled, "because the water was too damned cold!" His last three decades were filled with physical woes. He had the first of many heart attacks in 1966; he suffered from diabetic neuropathies, phlebitis and other illnesses. Yet he continued to live fully, writing voluminously, enjoying and giving joy. He made survival a grace rather than a grim necessity. Nothing in his life was lost or wasted. Suffering became an enriching benediction, life itself a shining thing.

Upon his University retirement, he launched an entirely new writing career which embraced his love for and knowledge of the Michigan northwoods and its people, especially those of his youth. He subsequently wrote eight volumes (*The Northwoods Reader Series* — Avery Color Studios, Marquette), selecting the pen name Cully Gage. Gage was his middle and his mother's maiden name (one of his forebears was the Revolutionary War General Thomas Gage). As a boy he had been called Cully, the Finnish word for Charles being Kalla.

These volumes of almost theatrical and certainly picturesque quality depict life in the old days with his family and a large cast of local characters — clever rogues, rough woodsmen, adventurers, saints and sinners. Initially penned for his children and grandchildren, friends encouraged him to widen distribution, and the first volume came to light in 1979.

With these charming and sometimes salty recollections, Van Riper

gained a whole new audience of appreciative fans, further adding to the enormous correspondence he gladly maintained.

Though he was bestowed honors in abundance, he typically shrugged them off or avoided them. "Fame is for fruitflies," he would say. "The life of our universe is measured in billions of light years and our little lives wink out like sparks from a campfire. Nuts to honors." Honors were far less important than seeing one of his flowers bloom, horticulturally or academically.

"Dr. Van" was kind, courteous, firmly gentle, eminently civilized, earthy, singularly uninterested in overcoming, in making himself predominant. "The potential in any living thing is immense, but to release that potential someone has to intervene...After a bum beginning, I've had a very rewarding life. Love to see the human flowers bloom, and take no credit except for the weeding and fertilizer."

Even as he was dying, he maintained a soaring spirit and kept writing prodigiously: revising his famous introductory textbook, keeping abreast of his river of correspondence, making extensive journal entries of his illness. He had no fear of death.

He had walked out into many a stormy night and bared his chest like Ajax daring Zeus to hit him with his thunderbolts. He never expected to sit in Heaven enjoying blissful happiness, but he did strive to leave some positive trace of having lived. Certainly he will live on in people's hearts, memories, and gratitude. He once observed, "Man is mortal, but deeds may not be — impossible, but true."

Toward the end he said, "The clay I molded is a far better statue than I ever expected...Now my projects are complete. I did them well. What I need now is peace and serenity. I have lived long enough. Now let me rest and become one with Mother Earth again."

—Albert T. Murphy

*Editor's Note: Several months before his death, Dr. Van Riper asked us to request that Dr. Albert T. Murphy write his obituary for this newsletter. We did so and know you will be moved by his eloquent tribute. □*

## NEWSBRIEFS

■ The XXIII World Congress of The International Association of Logopedics and Phoniatrics will take place in Cairo, Egypt, August 6-10, 1995. For more information, write Professor M. Nasser Kotby, Chairman, 11 El Ansary Street, Manshiet El Bakry, Cairo, ET 11341, Egypt.

■ Next year's SFA conference on the schoolage child who stutters will be held in Baltimore on June 23rd and 24th, 1995. For more information, contact Dr. Nan B. Ratner or SFA at 1-800-992-9392. More details about this exciting conference are found on page three.

■ The tenth annual "Stuttering Therapy: Workshop for Specialists" co-sponsored by the Stuttering Foundation and Northwestern University will be held at Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois, from July 10 through July 21st, 1995. For more information about the workshop, contact the Stuttering Foundation at 1-800-992-9392, or Dr. Hugo Gregory, Stuttering Programs, Northwestern University, 2299 Campus Drive North, Evanston, IL 60208. This unique workshop brings together speech-language pathologists from all over the world.

■ For those interested in joining Toastmasters International as a way to improve fluency, communication or public speaking skills, their address is: Toastmasters International, Inc., Attention: Membership Department, P.O. Box 9052, Mission Viejo, CA 92690, Telephone: (714) 858-8255; Fax: (714) 858-1207.

■ Krister Larsson of the Swedish Stammerers' Association announces the 4th World Congress of People Who Stutter in Linköping, Sweden, July 26 to July 29, 1995. For more information, write to him: Krister Larsson, Norrsvängen 1a, 1tr, S-582 47 Linköping, Sweden.



**STUTTERING  
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