

THE NEW LARYNGECTOMEE VISITOR TRAINING CLASS

Presented by

**The Laryngectomee Club of Montgomery County
and
The New Voice Club of Northern Virginia
May 6, 2006**

Attendees began arriving at the **American Cancer Society Building** shortly after 9am. The attendees, who came from NJ, DE, and PA as well as MD and VA, began introducing themselves to each other and enjoying coffee and fruit, until the Training Class began at 10am. The following laryngectomees, caregivers and SLPs were in attendance for this class:

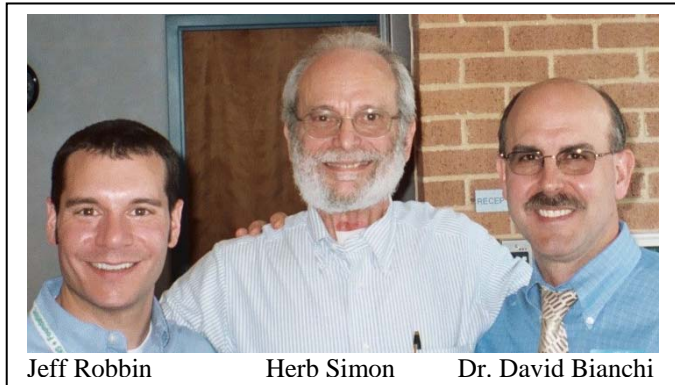
Addie Shaw	EL	Seabrook, MD
Phil LeGrande	TEP	Forestville, MD
Glenn Sylvester	TEP/EL/ES	Union, NJ
Roy & Pat Boyd	EL	Hackettstown, NJ
Bryan Ellison	ES	Old Bridge, NJ
Herb & Sally Simon	EL	Silver Spring, MD
Max & Marge Hoyt	TEP	Lewes, DE (& FL)
George Cocking	ES	Toms River, NJ
Gilbert & Barbara Giles	TEP	Herndon, VA
Howard Eskildson	TEP	Rockville, MD
Mary Speiden	EL	Greenbelt, MD
Michael Duvak	EL	Philadelphia, PA
Paul Collins	EL	Paoli, PA
Robert Griffing	EL/TEP	North Potomac, MD
Lee Robinson	EL	Woodbridge, VA
Amanda Gillespie	SLP	at Walter Reed Army Medical Center
Cheryl Andrews	SLP	Falls Church, VA

Vicki Lewis and Joy Gaziano, the SLPs conducting the presentation, arrived Friday evening, after working their normal schedule, at the H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center in Tampa, FL. The people who attended were probably not aware of it, but Vicki was terribly ill the night before with some type of 'bug' that she picked up from her young son, before leaving FL. She was feeling very weak and tired, after a miserable night of suffering. Joy was also feeling under the weather, having been affected by the same bug. Their illness made this well planned presentation even more remarkable.



Vicki and Joy welcomed everyone and each attendee introduced themselves, describing their experience as a New Laryngectomee Visitor. This was followed by a talk by **Herb Simon**, who has performed over 300 pre-op and new laryngectomee visits in the past decade. Herb told some of his experiences, sharing lots of important information that he picked up over the years. Vicki and Joy followed by discussing the Philosophy and Purpose of a Visitation.

Dr. David Bianchi, ENT and Jeff Robbin, PA, who works closely with the laryngectomees in their practice, arrived shortly before 11am from an earlier speaking engagement at nearby Holy Cross Hospital. A complete and comprehensive Medical Overview followed. Next on the agenda was a wonderful ‘Working Lunch’ prepared by **Sally Simon**, that included potato salad prepared by **Barb Giles**. The afternoon session included a showing of various communication devices, and a segment on each of the following topics: Visitor Program Guidelines and Procedures, Psychosocial Adjustment to Laryngectomy, and Visitor Ethics and Responsibilities. A couple of Case Scenarios to provide examples of issues that may be encountered was next, followed by a Question & Answer Session. The Training Class concluded at 3pm. Many stayed to visit for awhile, before heading home. Here are some pictures from this event:



Jeff Robbin Herb Simon Dr. David Bianchi



Bryan Ellison, Glenn Sylvester, George Cocking, Roy Boyd



Howard Eskildson, MD



Lee Robinson Cheryl Andrews, Barb and Gil Giles – New Voice Club of No. Virginia



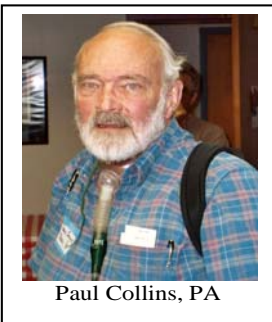
Addie Shaw, MD



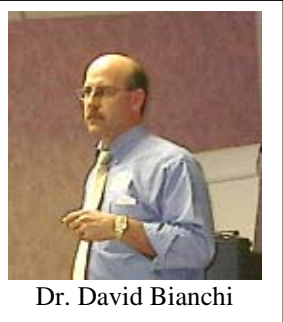
Marge & Max Hoyt Lewes, DE



Mary Speiden, MD



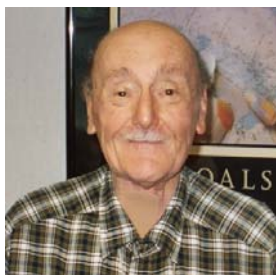
Paul Collins, PA



Dr. David Bianchi



Amanda Gillespie, SLP



Michael Duvak, PA



Robert Griffing, MD



Phil LeGrande, MD