I. Call to Order
At 8:10 a.m., President Helen Grathwohl called the meeting to order.

II. Roll Call
Vice President Kyd Dieterich called the roll of clubs that had registered and the names for the delegates. Of the 24 registered delegates 24 were present at the meeting. This constituted a quorum.

III. Minutes of Annual Meeting of Club Delegates
A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes as printed. The motion carried.

IV. Officer’s Reports

A. Presidents Report:

When I went to Orlando, FL last year I was not expecting to leave there as the president of the International Association of Laryngectomees. I thank you for your confidence in my assuming the post.

Following the meeting, when I returned home, I did write a personal “thank you” note to each of our vendors. We would not be able to hold our AM/VI without their support and I feel we need to let them know they are appreciated.

The first thing I had to work on was a site for the 2019 conference. One of our attendees suggested San Diego, CA and all were in agreement. After getting hotel rates, it just did not seem the right place for us to go, due to the higher priced rooms. I looked at the map and thought, “well Phoenix is not that far away.” I emailed the Phoenix tourist and information department and gave them the information concerning our conference and asked for hotel proposals and also learned that our new board member, David Kinkead lived in the area. I sent David copies of the hotel proposals and he was very helpful in visiting these sites and narrowing down our choices. He took several things into account, the foremost was what would be best for our members. He and his wife looked at what was available in the area, taking into account the surrounding area including shops and restaurants, ease and cost of parking and the hotel itself including friendliness of the staff. They narrowed the list down to three. Following this I made a trip to Phoenix and we chose the Double Tree Inn by Hilton. They offered an $89.00 per night room rate and a great discount on the buffet breakfast. The hotel had recently been redone and was very neat and clean. I signed the contract and the rest is history.
I cannot begin to thank David for all he has done to make this conference a success. From getting a DJ, a reduced price for our outing, buses set up, centerpieces for our banquet, and working with the hotel. He has been a committee of one. Thank you David.

I did have the opportunity to visit the support group at the Mayo Clinic here in Phoenix. This group is run by a great SLP, Lisa Crujido and it was a wonderful meeting. I got to speak to the group and tell them my story while they shared their stories. It was a very enjoyable afternoon and I have looked forward to seeing several of the attendees here at our Annual Meeting and Voice Institute. Lisa Crujido will be teaching some of the Voice Institute classes and has worked with our VI Director, Caryn Melvin. Please be sure to say hello and welcome her.

In late October 2018 I learned of the passing of our beloved secretary, Barb Nitschneider. She had just lost her husband Bob and I had been sure to keep in touch with her regularly. Barb was a strong person and was getting along fine. It was a real shock to learn of her passing. I did have the honor of attending her Memorial Service on December 1st in her home town near Chicago. Her service was also attended by Marianne Kooijman, Jack Henslee and Jim Lauder. We were given the honor of speaking at her Memorial and it was a pleasure to do so. There were several people who spoke of her ability to teach second grad students following her surgery, using esophageal speech. Barb was a truly amazing person in more ways than one.

In January I learned that there had been nothing done for our February newsletter. I called Candy Moltz and asked if she would please step in and help, and as usual, she graciously agreed. Between the two of us we finally got the articles and then got the newsletter off to the printer. Many thanks to Candy for always being ready and willing to help.

I put out a plea for help, as I was now wearing several hats and the load was getting very heavy. I was referred to Johan Masson who graciously agreed to be our Newsletter Editor. He had volunteered years ago and was turned down because he was working for one of our vendors but I was only too happy to pass the job on to him. There was a question about his past vendor involvement but that was while he was working in that capacity. I surely welcome Johan, and I must say he did a very nice job of our April Newsletter. Thank you John and we look forward to working with you in the future.

In February we lost another long time conference fixture, helper of many, and devoted advocate for all laryngectomées, with the passing of Richard Dale Crum. I was unable to attend his funeral but did send a memorial to his family. We are so thankful to Richard’s family when they requested donations in his memory be made to the IAL. We have received over $2,000.00 in donations in Richard’s Memory. May he once again be speaking while at rest in eternal peace.

On March 21, I was notified that past IAL President, Wade Hampton had passed away. I did attend his funeral in Norwood, NC along with past president, Tom Cleveland. Wade was beautifully honored by the “Patriot Guard” a group of motorcyclists, who stood at attention, with flags flying, outside of the funeral home. Wade was given full military honors and it was an honor to be able to attend his service.

We just recently learned of the passing of Gary Miner from North Carolina in July 2018.
This year the Board Members have been asked to join in on a monthly conference call. Kyd Dieterich has set up the calls and they have been very well received. It is certainly a good way to keep in touch each month and to stay abreast of conference plans and progress. We will be making the most of these calls in the future.

We have not accomplished as much as I was hoping for this past year. Being new to the Board, and stepping in as president, I have been a bit overwhelmed. I have tried to do the best I could and I hope I have not fallen too short. I appreciate your confidence in me and I hope to achieve more in this next year.

I am very concerned about our attendance at this conference. It certainly has not been as well attended as I had hoped. We finally made it to the western part of the country and we are holding it earlier than usual. This was suggested to increase attendance and add to our Voice Institute. It remains to be seen if that has been accomplished.

I had contacted one of our board members, Dan Konz and asked if he was going to run for a second term on the board. He told me yes, he was, but then decided not to and sent me an email, resigning from the board as of May 1, 2019. I have also been informed that Lori Simpson will be leaving the board at the end of her first year. She has had to contend with the serious illness of her father and has been helping care for him. She is a bit overwhelmed and thought it would be best for all concerned is she stepped away for now and leave the door open for her eventual return. Thanks to both of them for their service.

We do have new candidates running for office. Anne Rinaldi Ammenti volunteered for secretary and a woman from my club, Jennifer Malkiewicz volunteered to take treasurer. I feel both of these ladies will do a great job. We also have another person, Karen White for a board member and also Susan Bruemmer as a second, SLP. We still need one more for the board but this will put us in a good position. Thanks to these people for stepping up to fill these open positions.

Caryn has been instrumental in getting a club in South Carolina to agree to help host a conference. They are the only club that has expressed an interest so it looks like we will be headed somewhere in the Charlotte, NC or Columbia, SC area for 2020. They are not very far apart, Caryn knows a lot of excellent medical people in the area so getting the VI set up will be much easier. Getting into the area is easy and there is a lot to do and see in that area. Much of the decision will be based on room rates, and hotel availability. There will be more information forthcoming in the near future.

I want to thank everyone for their support this past year and I will do my every best for the IAL in the coming year.

Respectfully Submitted,
Helen Grathwohl, IAL President

B. Financial Report:
I want to begin this report by thanking our Administrative Manager, Susan Reeves for not turning in a bill for her employees time during this past year. I know this has been a big expense for her and I must say we are very grateful. Susan continues to work diligently for the IAL and has been a huge help for me this past year.

The newsletter continues to pay for itself but we currently have only three advertisers. We need to seek ads from other sources as well, such as companies providing medical equipment like wheelchairs, walkers, nebulizers and suction machines. Any and all help with this would be greatly appreciated. The cost of mailing the newsletters continues to rise and I am going to make a plea for people to send in a donation to cover the cost of postage, in our next newsletter.

We have talked about this several times and we are in a real need to find other sources of income. The number of vendors is dwindling and we do lean heavily on all of our vendors for support. Without them we could not exist right now. Grants have been mentioned several times in the past and I have done a bit of research but have not had the time to try to figure out exactly what some of them are looking for. Hopefully, we can start out this year with a full slate of Officers, allowing me the time I need to apply.

We need to encourage students to attend the VI. The cost of putting on the Voice Institute is not cheap and we have to, at some point, determine if the cost is worth all the effort and money. How long can we continue on the same path we have taken for many years for only a few to attend?

I sincerely want to thank the family of Richard Dale Crum. We have received over $2,000.00 in donations in Memory of Richard. Thank you to all that have sent in memorials. All donations were acknowledged with a thank you card and a card notifying Richard’s family the gift that was received by us. Many thanks to Susan and her staff for taking care of this.

There is a breakdown of debits and credits for 2018 and for the first four months of 2019 in your delegate package. I hope you have all had a chance to check it over. I will be happy to answer any questions you may have.

I Respectfully Submit this Report,
Helen Grathwohl, IAL President

C. Annual Meeting Report:

Location: Helen Grathwohl contacted me in early September 2018 and gave me the names of three hotels to check out in Phoenix. I visited all three and also one I found in downtown Phoenix. I narrowed it down to two for various reasons such as age of the property, access to restaurants and cost. Helen came to Phoenix on September 18, 2018 to visit the two properties with me. While we liked the one in downtown Phoenix, the cost was too high. We both liked the layout, proximity to restaurants, and the price at the DoubleTree by Hilton, Phoenix North. On the 19th of September Helen signed the contract and we were set to begin planning the conference.
Friday Outing: I checked into three places to have our Friday outing. My first choice was the Musical Instruments Museum, which is rated the number one attraction in Phoenix. After negotiating with them the lowest price I could get was $20 per person. I was also checking into the Desert Botanical Garden but was worried that it would be too hot to be outside in Phoenix. So I next contacted the Heard Museum in downtown Phoenix. I was able to negotiate a price of $10 per person, down from $18. They will also give us a docent for tours for every 20 people. Our group will have run of the museum on Friday afternoon for three hours. After contacting several transportation companies, I decided on Arizona Limo. The cost is normally around $800 for the buses. We have two 40 passenger buses reserved and can get more if the room is needed. I think this outing will give attendees a good taste of Arizona.

DJ: I contacted several DJ companies and after interviews with three of them I decided to go with Vox DJ's. They will play from 8:30 to 11:30 p.m. I negotiated a price of $500 for the three hours. They showed me some videos and I think we will have fun with them.

Food and Banquet: First off, Helen negotiated the Doubletree’s $14.99 breakfast buffet for $8.99 for all attendees. This is a great savings and looks wonderful. I met the food manager at the hotel on March 1st. We looked at menus for both dinner and breaks. I forwarded these menus to Helen for approval. We also toured the hotel to make sure the rooms we need are available. I think we have picked a great dinner for the banquet. Helen wanted buffet since that worked so well last year. We chose a Mexican buffet again in keeping the Arizona theme going. The centerpieces are being made by my wife and I, and again they will have the same Arizona theme.

We hope everyone enjoys the conference and has a great time. It has been a pleasure to work on this and I sure have enjoyed myself.

Respectfully Submitted,
David Kinkead
IAL Board Member

D. Voice Institute 2018 Report:

The 2018 Voice Institute hosted 56 Voice Institute attendees. 14 SLPs and graduate students and 42 laryngectomees. Local faculty were recruited to assist in reducing the cost of the meeting. Eight of the fourteen faculty members were local. Five of the fourteen faculty members required reimbursement for travel. Eight of the fourteen faculty members stayed at the hotel for a total of 35 nights.

This was the first year that social media was used to reach potential attendees. The Voice Institute set up a Facebook page as well as a Twitter account. Information was posted periodically regarding faculty, agenda and the location of the meeting. Posts were shared to other pages as well including the IAL Facebook page, WebWhispers, and Lary’s Voice.
Throughout the year the Facebook page attracted many new potential attendees and was helpful in answering attendee’s questions and connecting them with scholarships.

Bob Smiley, President of the Florida Laryngectomee Association, sponsored 12 people with a laryngectomee from Florida to attend the VI.

Florida Universities and hospitals were contacted regarding the meeting. Follow up emails were sent 6 weeks prior to the meeting. The meeting was also posted on the Florida Speech Language Hearing Association webpage as well as ASHA’s website. The following is a list of outreach regarding the meeting:

- ASHA Online Digest
- ASHA SIG 2 - Neurogenic Communication Disorders
- ASHA SIG 13 - Swallowing and Swallowing Disorders Dysphagia

Facebook Group Posts
- SLPs for Evidence Base Practice
- Medical SLP Forum
- HNC SLP Group
- SLPs
- Speech Language Pathologist ~ Central Florida
- NSSLHA at FIU
- NSSLHA~USF Chapter
- National Student Speech Language Hearing Association (NSSLHA)
- UCF NSSLHA
- NSSLHA UP

Universities (emails and phone calls)
- Florida Atlantic University
- Florida International University
- Florida State University
- Jacksonville University
- Nova Southeastern University
- University of Central Florida
- Old Dominion University

Respectfully Submitted
Caryn Melvin, PhD, CCC-SLP, CPC
Voice Institute Director 2017-2019
E. Report of By-Laws Committee:

The by-law committee suggested the following change be made:

Page 2 - Section 2. Annual Dues and Annual Meeting Delegates now reads:

Annual dues and number of Delegates assigned to the Annual Meeting for Member Clubs and Regional Organizations shall be as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Membership Range</th>
<th>Annual Dues</th>
<th>Number of Delegates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>01-10 Members</td>
<td>$25.00 Per year</td>
<td>1 Delegate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11-20 Members</td>
<td>$45.00 Per year</td>
<td>2 Delegates</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21-30 Members</td>
<td>$70.00 Per year</td>
<td>3 Delegates</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31-40 Members</td>
<td>$90.00 Per year</td>
<td>4 Delegates</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>41-50 Members</td>
<td>$110.00 Per year</td>
<td>5 Delegates</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>51-60 Members</td>
<td>$130.00 Per year</td>
<td>6 Delegates</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>61+ Members</td>
<td>$175.00 Per year</td>
<td>8 Delegates</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regional Organizations</td>
<td>$175.00 Per year</td>
<td>8 Delegates</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. The number of Delegates is limited to (8) for clubs or Regional Organizations, regardless of size or location.
2. Foreign exchange dues problems shall be negotiated by the Finance Committee on an individual basis, subject to approval by the Board of Director.
3. Annual dues are due January 1 and delinquent April 15. Voting rights shall be suspended until dues are received. Member clubs or organizations shall be dropped from membership if dues are unpaid for one year.
4. In February, the treasurer will notify delinquent clubs or organizations of their status.

The by-law committee suggests dropping items 2, 3, and 4.

The delegates moved to accept this change and the motion was carried.
F. Nominating Committee:

Due to Dan Konz coming off the board, Lori Simpson resigning due to the health of her father, and the passing of Barb Nitschneider we had several openings on the board.

The nominating committee recommend the following slate of officers and board members:

Vice President ~ Kyd Dieterich ~ laryngectomee
Secretary ~ Anne Ammenti ~ non-laryngectomee
Treasurer ~ Jennifer Malkiewicz ~ laryngectomee
Board Member ~ Karen White ~ laryngectomee
Board Member - Susan Bruemmer, SLP ~ non-laryngectomee

The committee also noted that the secretary and treasurer positions can be filled by a non-laryngectomized person. This amendment to the by-laws was passed at the 2018 delegate meeting in Orlando, Florida.

The delegates moved to accept the recommendations of the nominating committee and the motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 10:15 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Helen Grathwohl