



Letter from the President

Happy New Year Everyone! I hope you all enjoyed a safe and happy holiday season and I wish each of you the very best of everything in 2014.

Thank you all so much for electing or approving me as your president of ALDA Suncoast 2014-2015. I look forward to seeing and listening to all of the great things we can do together. I hope I meet everyone's expectations.

As 2013 was about to wrap up, I threw out a comment on the ALDA Suncoast Facebook page thanking Bill for his terms as president. I follow that up here with a huge thanks to all of the past ALDA Suncoast board members. Bill, Tim, Cindy, Marion, and Tess (immediate past board) have done so many things like scheduling speakers, scheduling events, and sharing great ideas to name a few. Big thanks also goes to Jessica and Tony for coming to so many meetings and interpreting for us. Of course, ALDA Suncoast would never be the same without Tess's CART/caption help. Please all of you never stop doing what you do or being who you are.

I think I have already mentioned I am still constantly thinking of many of the things I would like to do as president. I always want ALDA to be an enjoyable, open, place for people to meet and share their experiences about hearing loss and late-deafness. That will always be pretty much top priority. In addition to that, here are several things that come quickly to mind:

1. Enhance the ALDA treasury
2. Promote ALDA Suncoast and encourage new membership
3. Continued expression of gratitude to supporters (service providers and organizations)
4. Elevate our connection to ALDA national
5. Follow meeting delivery protocols and have regular board meetings
6. Continue to work as a group to plan numerous social events (Cindy H. is already the guru at this)
7. Continue to schedule dynamic speakers for our monthly meetings
8. Collaborate with other hearing loss organizations
9. Raise ALDA Suncoast social media presence

As far as promises go, other than an honest effort to do my best for our group, I can't think of any. I will try to write to the group in a letter form or email as often as possible, but I make no promises for how often for that either. We'll take it one step at a time.

Congratulations to all of the new 2014-2015 Board including Tess Crowder (VP), Cindy Dixon (Secretary), Marion Roset (Treasurer), and Bill Reese, Tim Kimball, Cindy Henrion, and Marilyn Tanfield (at-large). Special thanks also to Cindy Shatto for her work on the new <http://www.aldasuncoast.com> Website. I will look to all of you for help, support, and your continued friendship moving forward. As for everyone else, you will have work to do too. Please help spread the word about ALDA Suncoast. Encourage others to join us at meetings and events. Attend and participate at any Board meetings. Everyone is always welcome.

Off we go.

Your Friend, Chris Littlewood