

	<p align="center">HEAR THIS ! <i>(It's Personal)</i></p>	<p align="center">PROGRAMS</p>
<p>President's Corner – Marilyn Weinhouse</p>  <p>Hi Everyone, Good to be back! This has been a busy summer for me with the HLAA Convention in June, a trip to Hawaii in July, and I just returned from my family reunion in Colorado.</p> <p>The HLAA Convention seems so long ago! It was really fabulous and I encourage anyone who is interested to go next year. There were 1,800 people attending – quite a unique experience! Many of the presentations are online on the HLAA website and at this link: http://tinyurl.com/3p9osqe. I am also writing in my blog about a few workshops at www.heargear.wordpress.com.</p> <p>I'm glad I could be here today to hear Toni Barrient speak about the new CaptionCall telephone. Toni recently installed my CaptionCall phone and I'm sure I'll learn about even more of its great features.</p> <p>Next month on September 17th, our speaker will be David Landsberger from the House Ear Institute in Los Angeles. He will be talking to us about the latest research on cochlear implants and give us some ideas about future developments.</p> <p>HLAA-SD Steering Committee Officers: President: Marilyn Weinhouse Vice President: Char Sivertson Treasurer: Rhod Resella Secretary: Larry Sivertson Committee: Dolli Cutler, Joan Padilla *****</p> <p>If you are not an HLAA member, you can sign up any time. Membership is good for one year from date you join.</p> <p>How much does membership cost? Yearly dues are \$35 individual or \$45 couple. Make checks out to "Hearing Loss Association of America" and notate on the check *for San Diego Chapter.* Checks will be collected and we will send them to National, which will then send us \$10 back for each membership. *****</p> <p>HLAA Web Sites: http://hearinglosssandiego.org/home http://www.hearingloss.org/ Facebook: http://tinyurl.com/34x87dg *****</p> <p>Please send your newsletter news to: Char Sivertson csivertson@juno.com</p>	 <p>Member Spotlight Since one of the great things about this group is knowing each other, we showcase members in our newsletter. This month it is: Dianne Laviolette</p>  <p>1. Tell us about yourself. <i>Spending the first 23 years of my life in the cold winters of Minnesota soon led me to the much warmer climate of San Diego. Two years later, I met the love of my life, Len, and we raised two daughters, one who have given us a grandson, Julian. I continued with my schooling in child development and was awarded my associate degree, which was a very proud moment for me. After teaching for several years, I switched careers to work at Sharp Hospital in medical records. Retiring two years ago finds me busy with gardening, volunteering at the local food pantry, and caring for my 2 1/2 year old grandson.</i></p> <p>2. Tell us about your hearing loss. <i>My hearing loss started when I was 10 years old, probably hereditary. I was fitted with my first hearing aid in the right ear at age 23. The left ear was fitted many years later. In June of last year, the hearing in the right ear decreased substantially and that allowed me to become a candidate for a cochlear implant. Surgery took place in December and the implant was activated in January of this year. So, I am a new recipient. Retraining my brain to hear the many new sounds has been both frustrating and exhilarating. Kudos to my husband for his utmost patience in identifying all my "What's that sound?" questions.</i></p> <p>3. How has hearing loss affected your life. <i>School was difficult, but the workplace was extremely frustrating for me. Social situations were very uncomfortable and certainly put limitations on what I was willing to do. Shying away from noisy restaurants and large group gatherings crimped my social life.</i></p> <p>4. How did you become involved in HLAA. <i>Pre-CI implant, my audiologist mentioned HLAA. That led my husband and me to our first meeting where we spoke with several implant wearers about how their lives were changed by this technology. To be able to hear new and forgotten sounds like those described by the people at the meeting certainly confirmed that a cochlear implant was the right choice for me. Now, as I continue my hearing journey, each day is filled with exciting sounds. Sharing stories with HLAA members and knowing that I'm not alone in my hearing journey is extremely important to me.</i></p>	<p>HLAA San Diego 2011 Meetings (subject to change):</p> <p>January 15. Larry Sivertson talks about speech reading. Fun and games!</p> <p>February 19. Roberta Smith from Deaf & Disabled Telecommunications Program (DDTP) will be talking about all the great phones available through the California Telecommunications Access Program (CTAP), which provides phones at no cost to Californians with hearing loss.</p> <p>March 19. Audiologist Linda Oliver will be discussing the latest in hearing aid technologies, what we can expect in the near future, and how to get the most out of your hearing aids.</p> <p>April 16. Dawna Mills from the House Ear Institute will discuss the latest in Cochlear Implant technology, who is a CI candidate, and what to expect as you go through the process.</p> <p>May 21. Our own Marilyn Weinhouse presents on assistive technology, a field changing so fast it's hard to keep up!</p> <p>June 18. Joe Pelatt, Awareness Network Manager for Cochlear in the Southwest, will be presenting to our group on June 18, 2011. Don't miss this; it's going to be fantastic. Joe suffered sudden unexplained deafness in both ears, 22 years apart. He was implanted in April 1998. Read about Joe's story here: http://www.cochlearcommunity.com/JoePelatt Joe is located in Phoenix and will be coming to San Diego just for us.</p> <p>July 16. Ice cream social. This is a great opportunity to chat with folks and get to know each other a little better.</p> <p>August 20. Learn about the CaptionCall telephone. Toni Barrient presenting.</p> <p>September 17. David Landsberger from the House Ear Institute in Los Angeles will be talking to us about the latest research on cochlear implants and future developments.</p> <p>October 15. Jennifer Raulie, a Bionic Ear Association Manager, will tell us about the Advanced Bionic device as well as the new 'Clear Voice' technology.</p> <p>November 19. We'll have a discussion of how people with hearing loss and their families can cope with the holidays.</p> <p>December 17. Holiday Brunch and White Elephant Gift Exchange! Our holiday brunch is always amazing.</p>

State Board of Trustees – Call for Candidates

By Jim Montgomery, President, Hearing Loss Association of California

The Hearing Loss Association of California is losing 3 trustees next February when their 3-year terms end. At least one of those three trustees has chosen not to seek reelection. Another is undecided. Have you ever considered running for the board of trustees? I am targeting two groups, the professionals who receive this newsletter, and the HLAA members who have benefited over the years from your membership in HLAA.

Professionals: you receive this newsletter due to some relationship with hearing loss, and how HLAA can benefit you or your clients or patients. Why not take this opportunity to submit your application to run for the state Board of Trustees? We are a 501(c) 3 non-profit incorporated in the State of California. The benefits you will gain from this experience will far outweigh your efforts and exceed your expectations. You will gain exposure to advocacy opportunities that you would not have had access to as an individual. The information you can gather from the HLAA membership as a board member will astonish you, and both you and your patients will benefit.

HLAA members in California: How long have you been benefiting from your HLAA membership? Has HLAA made a difference in your life? Would you like to see that continue, and at the same time, enhance the presence of HLAA in the state? Being so far away from the national headquarters creates a definite distance factor that prevents the national office from participating in local issues. We have a chance to make a difference in the lives of about 1 in 10 residents of California, or about 4,000,000 people in the state.

What does the state Board of Trustees do?

- We represent ALL of the people with hearing loss in Sacramento when advocacy for those 4 million residents of California are needed.
- We sponsor leadership training for local chapters so they can grow and remain strong.
- We publish an award winning state newsletter, which contains the most comprehensive and complete list of resources I know of, in easy to use format.
- We participate in the Walk4Hearing events statewide, to help raise awareness of the organization and help bring hearing loss out in the open
- We sponsor periodic state educational events, some for public, some for chapters, but all to increase the mission of HLAA: Information, Advocacy, Education and Support.
- We exhibit at health fairs, from local community events to regional events
- We hold a state conference every two years for HLAA members but also open to the general public, providing educational workshops, an exhibit hall containing the latest in technology, and an opportunity to learn, share and establish friendships with hard of hearing members from all over the state.

For an application, go to www.hearinglossca.org and download the application form or email Ellen Mastman at emastman@hearinglossca.org and ask for an application. We NEED you! The deadline for applications is September 30, 2011. Instructions for submissions are on the website. Take a look now.

Member News: *Christy Stolzer*



Valued HLAA San Diego member Christy Stolzer has moved to Seattle. Christy, who is a pharmacist, found a research position with Seattle Generics. Her husband Tom (who continues to work at South Coast Winery in Temecula where we had our wonderful wine tasting and tour) and children, Becca and Andrew, remain in San Diego for the time being.

“Things fell into place rather quickly and I found a very nice 3BR 2BA condo. I didn't really need the third bedroom but it was much nicer and not much more than the 2 BR apartments we saw. I will have plenty of room for visitors. The complex has a pool, fitness and even a racquet ball court. I played racquet ball in high school and college and I am looking forward to hitting the ball around. The area

where I am living is awesome-so many trees. It's amazing. I'm only 10-15 minutes from work and I don't even have to get on the freeway.

“My first week of work was great! I like the people. There are close to 500 employees and they have processes, documentation and the infrastructure in place, unlike my last company. I already have my training curriculum and it is comprehensive. This is the right size company for me. It reminds me very much of my early (happy) days at Amylin. It feels right.

“Although I am away from the family I feel fortunate to have a job and a fabulous living situation just around the corner. It was very difficult leaving the family behind. We will certainly treasure the times we are together for (our monthly) visits.”

Last Note: Many of us received a postcard from the California Telephone Access Program (CTAP). They provide free phones for people with hearing loss. They have moved. The new address is 1455 Frazee Road, Suite 406, San Diego, CA 92108. Parking costs \$1 hr or \$5 max.