

	<p style="text-align: center;">HEAR THIS ! (It's Personal)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">PROGRAMS</p>
<p>President's Corner – Marilyn Weinhouse</p>  <p>Happy New Year! We have an exciting schedule of speakers lined up this year and are planning some fun social activities. If you have an idea for a group outing, please let me know.</p> <p>I'd also appreciate your suggestions for future speakers.</p> <p>I'm looking forward to today's presentation from Med-El and getting to meet "Rico" (and Stacy and Camille, too, of course!). We will learn about all the latest developments in implantable hearing devices.</p> <p>If you live a stress-free life, please tell me your secret. If not, come to our February meeting. Dr. Sven Schild, a clinical psychologist, will talk to us about stress management. I will be sitting in the front row!</p> <p>We are so sorry to learn that Rhod and Evelyne Rosella will be moving back to the Los Angeles area. In the short time they have been here, Rhod and Evelyne have become valued members of our HLAA family and they will be greatly missed! Rhod has done a superb job as our treasurer and I appreciate his time and dedication to HLAA-SD.</p> <p>HLAA-SD Steering Committee Officers: President: Marilyn Weinhouse Vice President: Char Sivertson Treasurer: Rhod Resella Secretary: Larry Sivertson *****</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. Larry can supply or accept membership forms. OR you can mail them to :</p> <p>HLAA-SD 5663 Balboa Ave #357 San Diego, CA 92111 *****</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:</p>  <p>Larry Sivertson 1. Tell us about yourself. <i>I was trained as an electrical engineer, and got into software engineering early in my career. I worked in that field for about 30 years, but was ready for a change. I began a website called Hearing Loss Web, and was involved in the establishment of a local non-profit called Hearing Loss Network. Between them they keep me pretty busy. I also enjoy working out and playing the guitar.</i></p> <p>2. Tell us about your hearing loss. <i>I had fairly normal hearing most of my life. I first became aware of my hearing loss when a friend commented that I couldn't hear her when we were talking in a noisy room. I had a hearing test, and sure enough, I had a severe high frequency hearing loss. I don't wear hearing aids yet, but the day can't be far off. It's interesting noticing my declining hearing while wife Char's is improving with her cochlear implant. She recently called me to come and listen to the crickets, which she hadn't been able to hear for many years. Try as I might, I couldn't hear any crickets! Frankly, I think Char kind of enjoys my being hard of hearing, on top of a lifetime of being hard of listening.</i></p> <p>3. How has hearing loss affected your life. <i>My hearing loss isn't enough of an issue yet to have had a big effect on my life. But Char's certainly has! It led me to become deeply involved in hearing loss about 15 years ago. It soon became an avocation that has continued up to the present.</i></p> <p>4. How did you become involved in HLAA? <i>Char and I found the local chapter of the Association of Late Deafened Adults (ALDA) back in 1996 after her hearing had taken a big drop. We got so much support and learned so much. A couple of years ago, our chapter switched our affiliation to the Hearing Loss Association of America (HLAA) to take advantage of some of the chapter support they offered. We've been to the State and National HLAA conventions, and strongly encourage people to attend!</i></p>	<p>HLAA San Diego 2012 Meetings (subject to change):</p> <p>Check for updates at www.hearinglosssandiego.org</p> <p>January 21 – Stacy Rogers, Camille Jenkins, and "Rico" from Med-El.</p> <p>Stacy is an audiologist and outreach specialist for MED-EL Corporation. She will be talking about the Med-El cochlear implant (Maestro) and middle ear implant (Vibrant Soundbridge) as well as giving us practical tips for aural rehabilitation practice during conversational speech, on the phone and music appreciation.</p> <p>Camille Jenkins is a Patient Support Team member and MED-EL CI recipient. She will share her knowledge and experiences with us and will be accompanied by Rico, her hearing dog.</p> <p><i>We also will vote for officers and steering committee meeting members.</i></p> <p>February 18– Dr. Sven Schild – Clinical Psychologist</p> <p>March 17 – SDSU Audiology Students</p> <p>April 21– Jamie Machotka, WCI Outreach Supervisor</p> <p>May 19 – Alec Graham, West Coast Audiology</p> <p>June 16 – Pam Chapman – Executive Director, Tierra Santa Village</p> <p>July 21 - TBA</p> <p>August 18 - Karen Wilson – National Center for Deaf Advocacy</p> <p>September 15 – Jennifer Raulie – Advanced Bionics</p> <p>October 20 – HLAA 2012 Convention Highlights</p> <p>November 17 – Thanksgiving Potluck</p> <p>December 15 – White Elephant Gift Exchange and Holiday Songs</p>

2012 Slate of Candidate Officers:

President - Marilyn Weinhouse

Vice President - Char Sivertson

Treasurer - Dianne Laviolette

Secretary - Larry Sivertson

Steering Committee

Dolli Cutler

Dale Laney

Joan Padilla

Iris Platnik

UPcoming Events and News (share with friends and families!)

National and State HLAA Conventions !

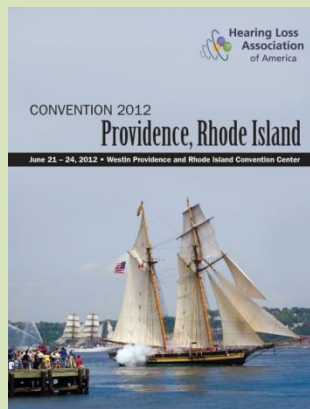


It's not too early to think about attending the

2012 HLAA Convention **June 21-24** in

Providence, Rhode Island. For more info:

<http://www.hearingloss.org/content/convention>



State Conference

Feb. 17 – 18, 2012

Oakland Airport Hilton Hotel

More info:

<http://hearinglossca.org/state-conference>

Final Notes



Register at Ralphs. HLAA-SD is now registered with the Ralphs Community Contributions program. Our number is #93313. Use your Ralphs REWARDS card and register at www.Ralphs.com (click on link to go directly to sign up page). Actually the online sign up is a bit complicated. You might just try asking Ralphs to sign you up the next time you go there. Ralphs will donate to us with no cost to you.

Today, Joan Padilla, Diane Laviolette, and Susan Almond are “manning” an HLAA booth at the Cochlear Hearing Health Seminar at the Marriot in Del Mar. Thank you Joan, Diane, and Susan!

HLAA Webinars. HLAA hosts very interesting and informative webinars about once/month. A webinar is a live, online lecture. You can see and hear the speaker, read the captions and type your questions. It's fun to watch them live, but if you miss one, you can watch past webinars on the HLAA website under “online community”. Dr. Brad Ingrao gave an excellent presentation last week on factors that decrease your hearing device effectiveness and how to overcome them. Dr. Ingrao also wrote a great article on assisted listening devices for the Hearing Loss Magazine last month. We have copies available if you did not see it.

Next webinar: February 16, 2012, 4pm (PST) - Technology in the Workplace (Esther Kelly). Do you use walkie-talkies or two-way radios at work or answer multi-line telephones? Learn “outside of the box” solutions to these and many other workplace difficulties for people with hearing loss.

Broadway San Diego A group of our members enjoyed a special captioned, fundraiser presentation of CATS at the Broadway San Diego Theater last weekend. **We raised \$330 from tickets sold via the Broadway San Diego special groups link. We get \$10 for every ticket purchased through our link.** You can support HLAA-SD by purchasing your tickets on the theater website <http://www.broadwaysd.com>. Go to “Groups” – “Specialty and Corporate Groups”. Click on the HLAA-SD logo and you will see what shows are available. The next will be “Rock of Ages” from March 27-April 1.

Facebook We have 80 Facebook friends! Join us and stay informed about upcoming HLAA-SD activities and related events. [Find us on Facebook!](#)

Please send your newsletter news to: Char Sivertson csivertson@juno.com

*If you are looking for past news, these newsletters and events are always found on our HLAA SD website.

HLAA San Diego:

<http://hearinglosssandiego.org>

HLAA National:

<http://www.hearingloss.org>

Facebook:

<http://tinyurl.com/34x87dg>