



HEAR THIS !
(It's Personal)

PROGRAMS

President's Corner – Marilyn Weinhouse



Hi Everyone,
We are so fortunate to have two Cochlear Implant researchers with us today: Dr. David Landsberger from the House Research Institute in Los Angeles AND his friend, Dr. Katrien Vermiere, all the way from Belgium! Welcome!

In October, our speaker will be Dr. Don Weinhouse, Professor Emeritus, Colorado State University. (Yeah, he's my husband.) He will be leading an interactive workshop on "Communicating with Family and Friends – Tips that Work." This is a great opportunity to bring your spouse, family member or friend to work together on communication issues.

This month, our "Member Spotlight" is focused on Hayleigh Scott, a 12 year-old girl I met at the HLAA Convention. Hayleigh started her own business making charms for hearing aids to help kids feel proud of their hearing aids. She had her own booth and was selling her beautiful and unique creations. I was so impressed with her, I asked if I could interview her for our newsletter. You can buy your own "Cherished Charms" at her website: www.hayleighscherishedcharms.com

HLAA-SD Steering Committee Officers:

- President: Marilyn Weinhouse
- Vice President: Char Sivertson
- Treasurer: Rhod Resella
- Secretary: Larry Sivertson
- Committee:** Dolly Cutler, Joan Padilla, Dale Laney

If you are not an HLAA member, you can sign up any time. Membership is good for one year from date you join.

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.

HLAA Web Sites:

- <http://hearinglosssandiego.org/home>
- <http://www.hearingloss.org/>
- Facebook: <http://tinyurl.com/34x87dg>



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:

Hayleigh Scott

1. Tell us about yourself.

My name is Hayleigh Scott, I am from Hollis, NH. I am a student in the 7th grade. I live with my parents, my identical twin sister who is hearing, a 9 year old sister, and a baby brother who is 1 ½. I love to make jewelry, play with my sisters and brother, read, and perform in musicals.



Hayleigh (far right) with her siblings.

2. Tell us about your hearing loss.

I was born with a congenital diaphragmatic hernia. The doctors gave me a less than 20% chance of surviving before I was born. When I was delivered, the doctors gave my parents the news that they didn't think I would survive the night because I was born with less than 1 ½ functional lung space. After surgeries, 2 ½ months in the NICU, and lots of prayers, I came home. My parents figured out that I was hearing impaired when an airplane flew overhead and I didn't look to see it and my twin sister did. I am severe to profoundly hearing impaired and wear BTE hearing aids.

3. How has hearing loss affected your life.



Being hard of hearing has brought a whole new community, culture, and dimension to me and my family. It has brought many new adventures: an online business

www.HayleighsCherishedCharms.com, winning the Oticon Focus on People Student Award, traveling to conferences, and having an opportunity to help others who are deaf or hard of hearing.

HLAA San Diego 2011 Meetings (subject to change):

January 15. Our own Larry Sivertson talks about speech reading, formerly known as lipreading. Fun and games!

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.

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.

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.

May 21. Our own Marilyn Weinhouse presents on assistive technology, a field changing so fast it's hard to keep up!

June 18. Joe Pelatt, Awareness Network Manager for Cochlear in the Southwest. 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.

July 16. We'll have an ice cream social at our July meeting. This is a great opportunity to chat with folks and get to know each other a little better.

August 20. Learn about the CaptionCall telephone. Toni Barrient presenting.

September 17. Dr. David Landsberger from the House Research Institute brings us up to speed on cochlear implant research.

October 15. Dr. Don Weinhouse, Professor Emeritus, Colorado State University leads an interactive workshop on "Communicating with Family and Friends – Tips that Work."

November 19. We'll have a discussion of how people with hearing loss and their families can cope with the holidays.

December 17. Holiday Brunch and White Elephant Gift Exchange! Our holiday brunch is always amazing.

Member Spotlight – continued

Hayleigh Scott

If I had not been hearing impaired, I most likely would not have started my business and be where I am today. Most importantly, I wouldn't be the same person, the person that I am today. Being hard of hearing has given me confidence and has challenged me to define myself and not allow the world to give ME a definition. I want to define myself and I want to look at others the way that I want to be seen –from the inside out.

4. How did you become involved in HLAA?

When I was 5, I was drawing pictures at my grandmother's kitchen table in Texas with my sisters. My mom walked in and asked what we were drawing. I told her we were drawing charms for hearing aids. My mom really liked the idea but didn't really understand the drawings until a few years later. Once she understood what I was trying to do, we had to figure out how to get started. We began making charms and tube twists in our home and applied for a provisional and then full patent from the US Patent Attorney's office. Since then, I have applied for another patent for my Cochlear Implant designs and am constantly creating new things to help men and women, boys and girls in the hard of hearing and deaf community feel confident about their hearing equipment. It makes me feel really good about myself to know that I am doing something good for other people..

Special Fundraiser Performances (tell your friends and families!)



Save money with discounted tickets at the Broadway Civic Theater AND help earn money for HLAA-SD

Here's How:

1. Go to the Broadway San Diego website: www.broadwaysd.com
2. Click on "Groups" in the menu bar.
3. In the drop down menu, click on "Corporate and Specialty groups – Book Now!"
4. Scroll down to our HLAA-SD icon. Click on it and purchase your tickets!
5. You will need to know our "special offer code." It is "hlaasd"
(Or this link will take you directly to our page: <http://groups.broadwaysd.com/x-hlaasd.html>)

Visit our website <http://hearinglosssandiego.org> for
[Information on captioned performances at the Civic Theater](#)

Broadway San Diego
1100 3rd Avenue
San Diego, CA 92101
(619) 570-1100
www.broadwaysd.com

The theater will donate a portion of the ticket price to HLAA-SD!

The shows available for this fundraiser are:



November 8 - 13, 2011



January 10-15, 2012



March 27 - April 1, 2012

Be sure to have our special offer code with you to purchase the tickets: hlaasd

If you have any further questions please call 619-564-3001 or email groups@broadwaysd.com

Final Notes

Be Prepared! Did you ever think about what would happen if you had to go to the hospital? How can you be sure you will be able to understand critical communication from your doctor and nurses? The solution is to be prepared ahead of time! We have purchased a few Hospital Communication Kits and are selling them for \$5.00 each. If there is interest, we will buy more. You can also buy them from The Center for Hearing Loss Help – www.hearinglosshelp.com.

New Website If you haven't visited the HLAA website in a while, check it out. It has had a complete make-over and it is full of good information about hearing loss. www.hearingloss.org.

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