

 <b>Hearing Loss Association</b> of America San Diego Chapter	<b>HEAR THIS !</b> <b>(It's Personal)</b>	<b>PROGRAMS</b>
 <p><b>President's Corner – Marilyn Weinhouse</b>                      If you are a member of HLAA, you will receive the Hearing Loss Magazine every other month. I always look forward to receiving mine and find it contains many inspirational and informative articles. I enjoyed the article in the July/August issue, "Dances with Sounds," by Laurie Pullins. Laurie has bilateral cochlear implants and joined HLAA in 2005. She said that HLAA was "a lifeline" for her and she "would not be where I am in my life if it wasn't for their encouragement, advocacy, information and support."</p> <p>I know many of you feel the same way about HLAA. We need to spread the word about our chapter. In my work, I meet many hard-of-hearing people who have never heard of HLAA. So, I am asking you all to help us reach others by giving out our flyers, bringing your friends to our meetings, and helping us publicize our activities. A great way to make others aware of our organization is to interact with our Facebook page. If you "like" something posted there, your friends will see that. Better yet, make comments or post messages. Facebook has over 955 million users, so get online and create a buzz!!</p> <p>*****</p> <p><b>HLAA-SD Steering Committee Officers:</b></p> <p><i>President: Marilyn Weinhouse</i>  <i>Vice President: Char Sivertson</i>  <i>Treasurer: Dianne Laviolette</i>  <i>Secretary: Larry Sivertson</i>  <i>Steering Committee: Dollie Cutler, Dale Laney, Joan Padilla, Iris Platnik</i></p> <p>*****</p> <p><b>Join HLAA!</b></p> <p><b>New Members</b> - Please <a href="#">download this membership form</a> (also available on our website), fill it out, and mail it along with your check to: HLAA-SD, 5663 Balboa Ave #357, San Diego, CA 92111. By passing your <b>first</b> application through us, you ensure our chapter receives \$10 of your membership cost!</p>	<p><b>Member Spotlight</b></p>  <p>Since one of the great things about this group is knowing each other, we showcase members in our newsletter. This month it is <b>Michael Conley</b>.</p> <p><b>1. Tell us about yourself.</b>                      I am a stunningly handsome guy with blond hair, blue eyes and sparkling wit, whose effervescent charm has warmed the multitudes. Alas, all that faded some years back. Fortunately, friends tell me I can still carry on a decent conversation.                      I was born in Kansas and attended college in New York City. My partner, Jim, and I moved out to San Diego 20 years ago. I am Membership Director at the Reuben H. Fleet Science Center in Balboa Park.</p> <p><b>2. Tell us about your hearing loss.</b>                      I lost my hearing at the age of three months, the side effect of an untried drug. I've worn hearing aids since I was six.</p> <p><b>3. How has hearing loss affected your life?</b>                      In addition to the usual challenges that everyone with a hearing loss faces – school, job options, day-to-day communication – there is another, more personal, impact for me: I always said the defining experience of my life was being gay. But as I get older, I realize that being deaf has had far more impact. Ten years ago, I wrote "Reading Lips" (<a href="http://www.readinglips.com">www.readinglips.com</a>), a full length play. At the end, the main character concludes that he is "a deaf gay man" (as opposed to "a gay man who just happens to be deaf").</p> <p><b>4. How did you become involved in HLAA?</b>                      Three years ago, what hearing I still had began dropping like a rock. My ASL teacher introduced me to Char and Larry Sivertson. When I came to HLAA, all of you were supportive of my decision to get a cochlear implant. The first year after surgery was more difficult for me than for most people because my hearing loss has been life-long. But I'm beginning to catch up.                      Being a member of HLAA has enriched my life. I encourage those of you who are not yet members to continue attending our meetings and to consider joining.</p>	<p><b>HLAA San Diego 2012 Meetings</b>                      (subject to change): Check for updates at <a href="http://www.hearinglossandiego.org">www.hearinglossandiego.org</a></p> <p><b>January 21</b> – Stacy Rogers from Med-El – Hearing Implant Devices</p> <p><b>February 18</b> – Dr. Sven Schild, Clinical Psychologist – Managing Stress</p> <p><b>March 17</b> – SDSU Audiology Students – the Audiology Training Program.</p> <p><b>April 21</b>– Erick Young from WCI – Assisted listening devices and CapTel.</p> <p><b>May 19</b> – Alec Graham, audiologist and owner of West Coast Audiology</p> <p><b>June 16</b> – Pam Chapman, Executive Director, Tierra Santa Senior Village – The Senior Village Concept and Time Banking.</p> <p><b>July 21</b> – Dr. Art Pammenter, Clinical Psychologist – Living with Tinnitus. Learn coping strategies to reduce stress that accompanies this disorder.</p> <p><b>August 18</b> – Karen Wilson, National Center for Deaf Advocacy and Cindi Cassady, Deaf Community Services – Local Resources for deaf and hard-of-hearing</p> <p><b>September 15</b> – Jennifer Raulie, MA, CCC-A Advanced Bionics – Cochlear Implants. Learn about the world's first swimmable sound processor, as well as a new breakthrough sound processing algorithm, ClearVoice™, designed to improve speech understanding in noise.                      Also, Gianna Heaviland, discussing the support group she created for Deaf and HOH teens: PACE – Positive Alternatives through Challenge and Experience</p> <p><b>October 20</b> – Debbie Lousberg, Hearing Loss Support Specialist and Career Coach – Improving Communication in the Workplace. Also, Jonah Kohn, discussing his science project using vibration to enhance music for individuals with hearing loss</p> <p><b>November 17</b> – Thanksgiving Potluck</p> <p><b>December 15</b> – White Elephant Gift Exchange and Holiday Songs</p>

## News from Marilyn's Blog:



### [Evelyn Glennie – Master Percussionist](#)

Scottish drummer Evelyn Glennie led the drumming during the Olympic opening ceremonies.....oh, and by the way, she is deaf. Evelyn doesn't like to focus on the fact that she is deaf. Her "[Hearing Essay](#)" explains how she hears music as vibrations and describes her attitude toward her hearing loss and her music. Read about her amazing accomplishments in this bio: [Bio of Evelyn Glennie](#) on <http://www.musicianguide.com/>



### [HLAA National Updates:](#)

#### ***Hearing Loss Association of America's Executive Director Announces Retirement in 2013***

Fri, 07/27/2012

**Bethesda, MD:** The HLA Board of Trustees has accepted, with reluctance, Executive Director Brenda Battat's announcement of her retirement from the organization effective **August 31, 2013**. The timing of the announcement provides more than a year for the Board to conduct a national search for a strong and effective leader to continue the momentum and direction that the Board and Brenda have set forth in the recently-approved *Statement of Strategic Intent*.

Brenda has been with HLA since 1989 serving in several roles including director of public policy and deputy executive director. She became executive director in March 2008. Throughout her tenure, she has successfully worked to execute the policies set forth by the Board and to fulfill the mission of HLA: "To open the world of communication to people with hearing loss through information, education, advocacy and support."

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

- **New Meniere's Disease Support Group:** [www.sdmenieresgroup.blogspot.com](http://www.sdmenieresgroup.blogspot.com)  
Next meeting will be Saturday, August 25<sup>th</sup>. For more info: [markwwhite12@gmail.com](mailto:markwwhite12@gmail.com)
- **Hearing Loss On-line Chat Group** Every Wednesday, 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. PST. For more info: [senthil@DeafandHoh.com](mailto:senthil@DeafandHoh.com)  
[www.OpenChatNight.com](http://www.OpenChatNight.com)  
[Discuss in the forum](#)
- **HLA-SD – Lunch and Game Day** Saturday, Aug 25<sup>th</sup>, 12:00 – 2:30 LiveWell Center, 4425 Bannock Ave.  
Come and enjoy a relaxing afternoon with friends. We will provide lunch, beverages, and games. If you have a favorite game, please bring it to share. RSVP to Marilyn at [hlaasd@gmail.com](mailto:hlaasd@gmail.com) or (619) 316-1817.
- **For those who use sign language**, the Museum of Photographic Arts (Balboa Park) offers a sign language interpreted tour, Sat Sept 13, 1-2 pm
- **Char** has tried the new Sony captioning glasses in movie theaters and says "Not bad!" Regal Theaters use them. In San Diego, the Edwards Mira Mesa Stadium 18 has them available for every theater! You can watch a short clip about these captioning glasses at <http://heargear.wordpress.com/2012/06/25/sonys-new-entertainment-access-glasses/>

Visit **HLA San Diego for ongoing events**. If you are looking for past news, these newsletters and events are always found on our HLA SD website. Send your news to Char Sivertson at [csivertson@juno.com](mailto:csivertson@juno.com)

HLA San Diego:

<http://hearinglosssandiego.org>

HLA National:

<http://www.hearingloss.org>

Facebook:

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

The mission of Hearing Loss Association of America is to open the world of communication to people with hearing loss by providing information, education, advocacy and support.