



HEAR THIS ! (It's Personal)

Send YOUR story to csivertson@juno.com

PROGRAMS



President's Corner – Marilyn Weinhouse

Happy New Year! I'm so sorry I can't be here today, but I am looking forward to a

great 2013 at HLAA-SD. As you can see from our list of programs, we have some interesting speakers lined up. I'd also like to plan some fun social activities, so send me your ideas.

We have decided to offer a sign language class and I hope you will give it a try. Did you know that American Sign Language is estimated to be the fourth most commonly used language in the U.S.? Don't worry if you can't come to every class. There will be hand-outs to study and internet resources to help you practice. We are fortunate to have Todd Elsner to teach the class. Todd teaches ASL at UCSD and our members, Jan Jensen and Donna Duarte, have volunteered to help with the class. So, warm up your fingers and come check it out!

Join HLAA! New Members - Please [download this membership form](#) (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 first application through us, you ensure our chapter receives \$10 of your membership cost! But as always, membership is NOT required to attend our meetings.

HLAA-SD Steering Committee Officers:

*President: Marilyn Weinhouse
Vice President: Char Sivertson
Treasurer: Dianne Laviolette
Secretary: Larry Sivertson
Steering Committee: Dolli Cutler, Dale Laney, Joan Padilla, Iris Platnik*



Spotlight

Below is an excerpt from a recent FEMA story demonstrating awareness of people with disabilities.



FEMA Provides ALDs for People with Hearing Loss

At New York disaster recovery centers, survivors who are deaf or hard of hearing are offered enhanced listening devices, iPad 3s with real-time-video remote sign language interpreting apps, and captioned phones to get disaster recovery information accessible to them.

These five assistive technology tools are part of a kit that costs FEMA less than \$4,000. For price comparison, a single sign-language interpreter at one disaster recovery center can cost more than \$400-a-day. On-site interpreters are available upon request, but for immediate access, interpreters are provided via on-line Wi-Fi and cellular connections, similar to the use of Skype. The five new tools at each disaster recovery center are:

- iPad 3 - this device has many apps to provide enlarged text for people with low vision, picture symbols for people with low literacy or communication disabilities, immediate access to sign language interpreters for people who are deaf and many other tools for immediate communication access
- Magnifying Readers - Enlarges text for people with low vision
- Enhanced Listening Devices - improves the clarity of sound for people who are hard of hearing, especially helpful for older adults in noisy settings like a Disaster Recovery Center.
- Live Video Interpreting - provides immediate access to sign language interpreters standing by at a remote location to provide access to people who are deaf.
- Captioned Phones

HLAA San Diego 2013 Meetings

(subject to change): Check for updates at www.hearinglosssandiego.org

January 19. Meghan Spriggs, AuD, Clinical Applications Specialist for Cochlear Americas, She offers a comprehensive overview of the latest in both cochlear implant and bone anchored (Baha) implant technology, as well as how to determine who is a candidate for this technology.

February 16. Sara Mattson, AuD., from the Hearing & Balance Center, will discuss Tinnitus Treatments.

March 16. Griselda Delgadillo from Disability Rights California will discuss ADA Accommodations.

April 20. Gina Heaviland and Jonah Kohn (and Yariv Kohn) - Talented Teens Making a Difference

May 18. Rick Prickett, ACS – Alternative Communication Services, Remote Captioning

June 15. Dr. Evelyn Smith, AuD. Newport Audiology Centers – “Hearing Better in Challenging Environments”

July 20. Marilyn Weinhouse - “Traveling with a Hearing Loss”

August 17. Stacy Rodgers, Med-EI – Implants and ALDs

September 21. TBD

October 19. Melissa Puleo – SD Charger Cheerleader – “Sixth Time’s a Charm”

November 16. Thanksgiving Potluck

December 21. White Elephant Gift Exchange and Holiday Songs

News from Marilyn's Blog

I went to see a movie at AMC Fashion Valley 18 (in San Diego) yesterday and was really looking forward to trying out their new captioning system. They have a new digital system called [Doremi Captiview](#). Well, maybe we're making progress.....but we have a long way to go!



First I had to wait about 10 minutes at the customer service desk for someone to bring the device. The woman who brought the device assured me it was programmed for Auditorium 12 and ready to go. I had trouble fitting it into the cup holder (my husband was able to push it in far enough to stay in position) – but, then the big letdown: IT DIDN'T WORK!!!! I tried pushing some of the buttons and saw how to set it for Auditorium 12, but it was unable to “connect” with the server. Obviously, it had not been programmed correctly.

They definitely need to train their staff better. When I returned the device, a different woman was working at the customer service desk. She said, “Who gave you that? We don't have captions”!!! LOL!!

I called the theater to speak to the manager and she said they were not very familiar with the system yet. I am going to another movie today and told her which movie and what time I will be there. Let's see if they are able to get it going.

(Note from Marilyn: The captions didn't work the next day either!!)

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

American Sign Language Class



Offered by the Hearing Loss Association of America – San Diego Chapter (HLAA-SD) Saturdays at 9:00 a.m. at LiveWell Center in the “Friendship Room” (large room next door to our regular meeting room)

First 6-week session will be offered for **free**: January 19th – February 23rd

[LiveWell Center](#), 4425 Bannock Ave, San Diego, CA 92117

To register or for more information, contact Marilyn Weinhouse hlaasd@gmail.com or 619 316-1817

Walk for Hearing

Save the Date!

Long Beach on Sunday, June 9th



We will be joining “Team Carleigh” again this year to raise money for HLAA and our San Diego Chapter.

Spread the word and “Like” [Team Carleigh](#) on Facebook and support HLAA-SD!

More information at the [Walk4Hearing website](#).

HLAA Convention



The HLAA Convention 2013 will be held June 27-30th in Portland, Oregon.

Registration is now open: <http://www.hearingloss.org/content/registration>

Deaf Education and Families Project is holding a free community night on Wednesday, January 23rd at Lafayette Elementary School from 6:00pm - 8:00pm. HLAA-SD will have a booth there and everyone is welcome! Over 21 booths of various local and national resources, live entertainment, food, and door prizes. . Jan Jensen, Dianne Laviolette and Marilyn will be “manning” the booth. If anyone else is interested in helping, please contact Marilyn.

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

Send your news to Char Sivertson at csivertson@juno.com

HLAA San Diego:

<http://hearinglosssandiego.org>

HLAA 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.