



HEAR THIS ! (It's Personal)

Send YOUR story to csivertson@juno.com

PROGRAMS



President's Corner – Char Sivertson.

We are fortunate to have today's

presentation on the Hearing Dog Program. These wonderful dogs and their trainers do so much for the people who need them.

Welcome to **Gloria Frank** who is doing our captioning today! And thanks to **Larry** for working hard to make sure we have someone lined up to do CART for us.

Thank you to **Dianne Laviolette**, our treasurer, who volunteered to solicit members to submit their stories for our "Spotlight" column. This month we spotlight **Duke Argabright**. Duke is a go-to kind of guy. On April 11, he presented a Hearing Loss day for his church, Emmanuel Faith in Escondido. Around sixty people attended. He had three speakers: David Illich, AuD, Robert Smith from CTAP, and Marilyn talking about assisted listening devices and HLAA. Our Vice President – **Corrine** – and her Hearing Dog **Sunni** helped out. Corrine has become quite the go-to gal herself, having blossomed with HLAA and her cochlear implant.



Duke, Marilyn, Corrine and speakers at Emmanuel Faith in Escondido

Thanks to **Marilyn** for all her efforts in organizing the **Team San Diego for Walk4Hearing**. See next page to see how **YOU** can help.



Spotlight:

Duke Argabright

1. Tell us about yourself

I was born and raised in the Midwest, living in Missouri and Central Iowa where I graduated from HS before going to Seattle Pacific University. There I met my wife to be and we were married shortly after graduation. We started married life at China Lake in the Mojave Desert, working for the U. S. Navy in aircraft rocket and weapons development. After 10 years there, we moved to the big city (LA) where I worked in the aerospace industry. My most notable project was developing hardware for the Apollo Project that took our astronauts to the moon and today is still there on the moon. Later, I worked in the offshore drilling industry, travelling all over the world. Great fun! My final career days were as a Real Estate Broker, working as a Buyer's Broker for Commercial/Investment properties as well as residential. My wife and I moved to Oceanside in 1994 after she retired from 27 years of teaching 7th graders! We have 3 children, 9 grandchildren and one great grandson. My hobbies have been mostly camping, hiking and stream fishing, but those days are mostly behind me. Now I spend a lot of time with the computer and reading.

2. Tell us about your hearing loss. I'm sure my hearing loss was initiated by the 10 years working around screaming jet aircraft. Our main project aircraft was a McDonnell F2H Banshee – called that for good reason! The loss finally caught up with me about 25 years ago before I relinquished my vanity and purchased my first aids. My hearing continues to deteriorate and is rated severe. I am now on my fourth set of aids which I've had for four years, so it won't be too long before I start looking for the newest, latest etc, etc. This present set included what was then the latest ALDs (although I had never heard the term) – Phonak's Zoombrowser with the ICom, an FM system.

3. How has hearing loss affected your life?

I believe the main impact has been that I can no longer lead a group where any group discussion is required. Family gatherings are very difficult for me. I can still get along reasonably well in one on one or small groups, but understanding in a noisy group is impossible. I inevitably try every setting I can find in my gadgets, looking for a setting that will work – usually to no avail.

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HLAA San Diego 2014 Meetings (subject to change): Check for updates at www.hearinglosssandiego.org

January 18 - Paul Steussy, Hamilton Relay Outreach Coordinator, Captioning for Smart Phones, Computers, and Captel Phones

February 15 – Erika Zettner, Director of Audiology at UCSD – What to Expect after Receiving a Cochlear Implant.

March 15 – Dawna Mills, Director, Adult Cochlear Implant Program, House Ear Clinic, Los Angeles – Single-sided Deafness

April 19 - Camille Jenkins and Rico, Sam Simon Foundation - Hearing Dog Program

May 17 – Dr. Alison Freeman, Clinical Psychologist – Navigating a Successful Relationship

June 21 – Joe Pelatt, Awareness Network Manager, Cochlear Americas

July 19 – Larry Sivertson – Speech Reading

August 16 - Open Forum – Hearing Assistive Technology

September 20 – Anabel Kuykendall, Aging and Independence Services (AIS)

October 18 - Jacque Georgeson, AuD, SDSU Audiology Clinic Director – What's New in Hearing Aids and How to Select an Audiologist

November 15. Thanksgiving Potluck

December 20. White Elephant Gift Exchange and Holiday Songs

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

President: Char Sivertson
Vice President: Corinne Brown
Treasurer: Dianne Laviolette
Secretary: Larry Sivertson

Steering Committee:
Marilyn Weinhouse, Dolli Cutler, Joan Padilla, Iris Platnik, Duke Argabright, Charlotte Zaino, Karen Miller

Steering Committee Meetings: (held after meeting, open to all and subject to change)
Feb, 15, June, 21, Oct 18

This newsletter is available online at
www.hearinglosssandiego.org

Spotlight – Duke Argabright - continued

4. How did you become involved in HLAA? I picked up a copy of the HLAA journal at the audiologist's office, checked out the website, and joined online. I started getting the monthly journals and exploring online. As I expanded my horizons, I discovered HLAASD – and Marilyn! She introduced me to my first hearing loop. I saw the opportunity to apply for the HAT training in Bethesda last year – and received a scholarship. Very enlightening! I am now looking forward to helping others discover ways to improve their understanding in difficult hearing environments. I really appreciate HLAASD and the variety of programs we have. I love learning about new technology and procedures that can improve our enjoyment of life.

Out and About



Note from Char: On March 13, **Larry, Marilyn, Dianne** and I met with the executive director of HLAA – **Anna Gilmore Hall** – at her hotel while she was presenting at the **Successful Aging Conference** here in San Diego. We were all impressed with her for many reasons. I was hesitant before meeting her because I was disappointed that she did not have a hearing loss. However, her father had a severe hearing loss and it was clear she understood the issues. She is very approachable and she is confident she is the right person at the right time for this job. If you are attending the Walk for Hearing, there will be a Meet and

Greet with Anna. I know you will enjoy meeting her and hearing her perspective about HLAA, now and for the future.

March 25, **Corinne Brown** and **Jocelyn Cowles** at the **Madison High School Transition Fair**. Other members spreading the word about HLAA were **Joan Padilla, Michael Hansen** and **Marilyn Weinhouse**. Very well organized and well-attended event. And fun.



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

Note from Marilyn: Don't forget to register for the **Walk4Hearing** and join our team: **Team San Diego!** Be sure to write down your log in and password as you will need that every time you want to access your personal page. If you have any trouble with the Walk4Hearing website, you can contact Julie Fisher. She will walk you through it. jfisher@hearingloss.org
If you don't want to participate in the Walk or raise money for the walk, please donate. Donating is easy: Click on this link to see our team page. Then click on any member to donate to his/her efforts.
http://hlaa.convio.net/site/TR/Teamraiser/LongBeachWalk?team_id=33499&pg=team&fr_i_d=2208

Hope to see your name in our team roster soon!
Thanks, .Marilyn Weinhouse, Programs and Education Committee



HLAA Convention 2014 Registration Now Open !



June 26 – 29. If you have never gone, it is an experience you will never forget. If you are returning, it will be a reunion with friends!

Register now: <http://www.hearingloss.org/content/registration>

Host Hotel - book your stay now.
Renaissance Austin Hotel
9721 Arboretum Boulevard
Austin, TX 78759-6316
Single/Double - \$154 + tax
Double/Triple - \$169 + tax

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.