

HEAR THIS ! (It's Personal)

Send YOUR story to csivertson@juno.com

PROGRAMS



President's Corner – Char Sivertson.

Well, here we are in the first month of 2015. Father Time marches on and so do we. Let's celebrate past president Marilyn Weinhouse today, as she is soon off on a grand adventure. We will miss her leadership; it has helped HLAA SD grow and prosper. You can't avoid change, it's mandatory; progress, however, is optional. So we all need to work at keeping HLAA fresh and vibrant in 2015.

A word from Marilyn:



As most of you know, Don and I will be moving to Denver later this year. I am very sad to be leaving all my friends and this

beautiful city, but we want to be close to our daughter and son-in-law. We have decided to do some traveling before settling in Denver. Feb. and March we will be in Asia and May and June in Europe. I am NOT saying good-bye as I will be here in April, but I do want to let all my HLAA-SD family know how much I will miss you and how much I have gained from knowing you. Please keep in touch by "liking" my Hear Gear Facebook page and following my Hear Gear Blog. Corinne Brown is working with me to keep my website open while I am traveling. So if you need any products, you can place your order at www.heargear.net.

Thanks and hope to see you in April!



Spotlight: Joe Henchy

Thanks to Joe for sharing his creativity and this poem while planning for his cochlear implant. Good Luck, Joe!

I Hear the Sounds A-Coming

After years of saying what,
you're still getting further away.
If you really love me, dear,
come closer to my ear.

Is this the end of the hearing road?
No, just go to the science store.
If you can wait long enough,
they have something for everyone.
I'm going to get two cochlear implants.

They will by-pass my damaged inner ears
and send electronic signals to my brain.
What lost sounds do I want to hear again?
Not crickets or the breeze rustling the leaves.

I want to hear your mind.
When we talk
with words our only currency.
We have a duolog.
That is two monologs.

My mind should not have to build your words.
It wants to reach in and find your mind.
I want to feel the passion of your position.
I want to sense the excitement building in you.
That's what I'll remember. Not your vocabulary.

It's said hearing loss is a painless affliction.
Not so, the pain of hearing loss is loneliness,
Each morning, the day is a little quieter.
Our response is always the same, Withdraw.

When there is nothing left to withdraw from,
we realize where the source of the pain is.
We are people, who need daily nourishment.
Something only we can give each other.

That's why, when the sounds of science come,
I'll come looking for you.
To hear the happy sounds of being.

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

January 17 - Stacy Rodgers, Au.D, CCC-A, Med-El Account Manager

February 21 - Colleen Rose, CapTel Phone Outreach. The CapTel phone is free, installed for you and improved!

March 21 – Tap Fever Studios. Did you know there was a non-profit dance studio for people with hearing loss?

April 18 - TBD

May 16 - TBD

June 20 - TBD

July 18 - TBD

August 15 - TBD

September 19 - TBD

October 17 - TBD

November 21 - Thanksgiving Pot Luck

December 19 - Holiday Celebration

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, 3284 E. Fox Run Way, 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:
Dolli Cutler, Joan Padilla, Iris Platnik, Duke Argabright, Karen Miller, Debra Rogers

This newsletter is available online at
www.hearinginglossandiego.org

In Memoriam



We want to honor Albert Padilla, who passed away unexpectedly November 10, 2014. Joan, HLAA SD past president, was joined by her husband at the June 2014 Walk for Hearing in Long Beach. We are grateful that Albert was part of Team San Diego! Condolences to Joan and her family as they continue their life journeys.

In the News:

Colorado jazz singer hits the right notes, even though she can't hear them

This is an amazing story from the LA Times. To read it all do a Google search for: LA Times deaf singer. This young woman has perfect pitch!! It is truly amazing that the talent of some deaf musicians overrides their disability. In this article the possibility of getting a cochlear implant is not mentioned for some reason.



The Saturday night crowd at Dazzle is overflowing and noisy. The pretty young woman, who looks barely out of her teens, takes the stage at the local jazz hot spot and begins to sing. That's when the magic happens..

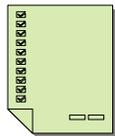
From the first note, Mandy Harvey tames her audience into stunned appreciation as she glides pitch-perfect from breathy jazz standard to growling blues. She is never still, clapping and twirling, keeping time while the saxophonist, the bass player, the pianist lay down their solo improvisations. When it is her turn she jumps in seamlessly, never missing a beat or note.

At show's end the audience is on its feet. Some know the secret. Harvey has not heard any of it — not the applause, not the talent of the musicians who shared the stage, not her own incredible voice.

At 27, this rising star in the jazz world is completely deaf.

"I understand that my story opens doors and gives people hope, but for me it's still a wound that I am working to heal. I don't want to be known for my disability."

HLAA Legal Documents



Did you know that our chapter has to file two documents with the state and one with the federal government each year? One of the state documents is the RRF-1. It's a hard-copy (paper) document that gets sent to Registry of Charitable Trusts. It asks a number of questions about our activities for the past year, to be sure that we're complying with the applicable laws. The other state document is a 199N. It's filed electronically online, and asks just a few questions, most of which are also asked in the RRF-1. (Right now you're probably asking yourself why the state can't combine the two documents into one, rather than requiring us to fill out both. I know I wonder that every year when I fill them out.) The document for the federal government is called a 990N. It's similar to the 199N and is also filed electronically.

Larry Sivertson, HLAA SD Secretary

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.