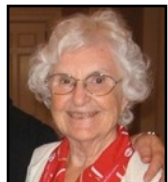


Hear Ye, Hear Ye

Joan Andrews 2013 Convention Scholarship Award

The Hearing Loss Association of Florida announces its third *Joan Andrews Convention Scholarship Award*. The late



Joan Andrews

Joan Andrews, who passed away November 23, 2011, was the former president of the Florida Association of Self Help for Hard of Hearing People, now known as the Hearing Loss Association of Florida. She worked tirelessly to

improve the quality of life for individuals with hearing loss. This award is offered once again through the generosity of her daughters, Judy Waldrop, Punta Gorda; Sara Long, Inverness; and Jane Smith, St. Petersburg.



Continued on page 8, see Joan Andrews

Welcome to the new Florida Co-Coordinator

That ball of fire from Sarasota, known as Ed Ogiba, will be joining me as one of the two Florida State Chapter Coordinators. As you know, we are charged with establishing new chapters, shoring up faltering ones and keeping the lines open between chapters and the national office. In addition, increasing membership in HLAA is essential as well as working on the hearing loop initiative. It's a mind-boggling job given the size of the state but Ed and I will not be limited by geographical boundaries. We will be working together throughout Florida to make the best use of our respective talents. There is not doubt that Ed has an abundance of skill to be a leader, innovator and motivator. I am excited to have him as a partner.

Regardless of where you live in Florida, whether you're in a chapter or not, feel free to contact either one of us. The information is on page two of this issue.

—Judy G. Martin, Jacksonville

Dr. Patricia Kricos retires from HLA-FL Board

Dr. Patricia Kricos, one of the Professional Advisors for our Board, has been so dedicated to people with hearing loss for years, not only through her career as a Professor at the University of Florida, but in her volunteer activities as well. It would take this whole newsletter to list all the good things she has done for the Hearing Loss Association of America and more especially for HLA-Florida. However, we'll just leave it by saying we are more grateful than she knows, for her knowledge and the ability to impart it, her compassion and her passion. I feel so fortunate to have had her at the Board's side during the three years I served at president. Her advice, thoughtful remarks and remarkable insight were Pat's legacy to all of us. We thank her deeply.

Lynn Rousseau, past president of the board, is the one who asked Pat to join us and so it was vastly appropriate for

Continued on page 7, see Pat Kricos



Dr. Patricia Kricos

Also in this issue:

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- Ask the Audiologist, page 5**
- HLA-FL Meeting 2/2/13, page 6**
- President's Message, page 8**
- HLA-Florida Cruise, page 10 - 12**
- Our Chapters Speak, pages 13 - 20**

SAVE THE DATE
HLA-FL Chapter Collaboration
Workshop II :
May 4, 2013 - Sarasota

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The opinions in this issue are those of the authors and not of HLA. Inclusion of a product does not mean HLA endorsement nor does exclusion of a product mean disapproval.

Attention Florida Residents

Join HLA Now

We hope you agree that there is nowhere else where people with hearing loss can benefit from a national advocacy presence, a website with reliable, organized, and archived answers to questions about hearing loss and assistive technology, the Hearing Loss Magazine, with credible, current information, over 200 local support chapters and 14 state organizations, discounts to annual national conventions and many regional conferences.

UPCOMING BOARD MEETINGS

Saturday, February 2 - Longwood
Saturday, June 1 - TBA



If you are a member of Facebook, check us out. You can add news and photos of your chapter, send announcements of events or share hearing loss news of general interest. You can follow us on Twitter or join our Yahoo group.

www.facebook.com/HLA.Florida
twitter.com/hlaflorida
health.groups.yahoo.com/group/HLA-FL/

All issues of *Hear Ye, Hear Ye* will be posted on our [website](#) only. If you are on our mailing list, you will receive an email when it is available. If you want to subscribe, unsubscribe or are getting duplicate notices, please use this link to tell us:

HearYeHearYe2006@gmail.com

You Can Help

We publish six electronic newsletters (November, January, March, May, July and September). Circulation is 800. All editions are posted to the website and remain there.

Advertising rates for the e-newsletter are \$150 for a

full page, \$85 for a half page and \$50 for a quarter page. Chapter leaders, please forward the link for this newsletter to your members or you may send us their e-mail addresses.

Subscribe (or unsubscribe) to our electronic edition by sending an email to

HearYeHearYe2006@gmail.com

Are your hearing aids no longer enough?

Learn how implantable hearing solutions are covered by Medicare, most insurance plans, and may be covered by Medicaid.



DENISE P. – Cochlear implant user

There are alternative hearing solutions that may be able to activate your hearing and your life!

If you have certain types of hearing loss and are currently struggling with hearing aids, an implantable hearing solution may be able to help. These advanced treatment options, including a cochlear implant or bone conduction system, are easy to use and are designed to help you hear better in all settings, from quiet conversations to noisy places like restaurants and even on the phone.

Attend a **FREE Hearing Health Seminar** to find **YOUR** solution.



Saturday, January 19, 2013 • 8:30am – 11:30am ET

The Ear Research Foundation

The Silverstein Institute, 1901 Floyd Street, 2nd Floor, Sarasota, FL 34239

Meet cochlear implant and bone conduction system users, doctors and audiologists, and try the bone conduction system for free

Register at HearingHealthSeminar.com

or call **1.877.432.7844**. Find us on  

You should talk to your physician about who is a candidate for implantation with a cochlear implant or bone conduction system and the associated risks and benefits of the procedure.

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FUN1591 ISS1 APR12 366938_10



Ear Research Foundation



Hear now. And always

Cochlear™

Have you visited the HLAA Message Board?

If not, you are missing some interesting and helpful conversations. Here are some questions being asked on our Hearing Loss Association of America message board. You can register at www.hear4life.org. A good number of people respond, saying they have the same problems, or describe how they reached a solution. The message board is a good example of people helping people, and in this case, it's all folks with hearing loss just like you and me.

Take a look. Do you see yourself here?

Do you tell employers about your hearing loss?

We all need to ask ourselves when looking for a new job if telling an employer, "I have a hearing loss," is good or bad. On one hand, they get tax credits for hiring disabled people. On the other hand, if the job description includes "answering phones" or "scheduling" (which is talking to customers in person), your hearing loss might scare off an employer concerned you can't do the job. What do you do? When and how do you mention your hearing loss? Do you try to keep it a secret during the interview so you can get hired and then let the boss know about it? I know this is impossible for people who sign, but most of us do not.



Music with Hearing Aids

Back in the 60's I wore hearing a hearing aid as a child, and I'm sure that technology has quite advanced since that time. I will be going to my audiologist this coming Monday for what I believe is more hearing loss (I've never had trouble with talking to people, hearing birds, my dogs barking outside, my children in another room cry as babies, listening to music, etc) and I have tinnit

s
a g a i n , Type to enter text
which I've

had every once in a while in my life. With that background done, One of the most important questions I need to ask is with today's hearing aids which I more than likely need unless he finds something else wrong, is will I be able to listen to my music CDs, or listen to music on the television or radio, or for that matter listening to the birds, or hearing my beloved dog or cat bark, meow? I know this is a little premature since I haven't gone to the audiologist but I need to know (another thing occurred to me listening on a cell phone.) Thanks for reading this.

How to tell others what hearing loss is like.



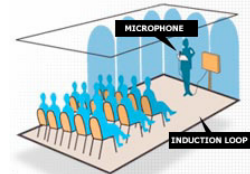
FLORIDA HEARING LOOP SYSTEMS

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Hear better in:

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- senior facilities
- houses of worship
- civic centers
- museums
- performing arts centers
- library meeting rooms
- tour buses, airports and more



An induction loop system transmits magnetic energy to telecoil-equipped hearing aids through a wire that surrounds an audience.

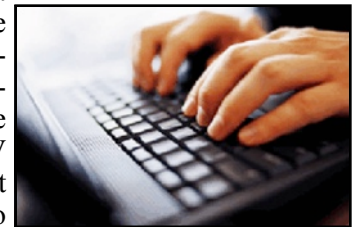
Call **(305) 423-9950** (1-888-728-9950)
for more information or email

Joe@FloridaHearingLoopSystems.com

Visit us at:

www.FloridaHearingLoopSystems.com

Hello, I am new to the forum and hoping someone out there can help a little. I am in my mid forties and have had hearing loss since I was a child. I have no hearing in one ear and wear a hearing aid in the other. I have been married for about 4 years. My wife has perfect hearing. She becomes extremely frustrated with my hearing loss and will often complain that my hearing aid doesn't work because I didn't hear her. She doesn't understand no matter how much I try explaining that hearing loss, and hearing for that matter isn't static - it changes in different situations. I feel that she thinks I should hear everything since I wear a hearing aid. I've gotten to the point wear I watch TV without hearing much of it because I don't want to turn it up loud enough so I can hear it because she says its too loud. She also gets frustrated and sometimes even makes fun of the fact when I mishear something. This leads to me being very cautious about joining into conversations which in turn creates more conflict because then she doesn't think I



HLAA Message Board

Continued on page 5

Ask the Audiologist

Can I damage my hearing and/or make it worse by listening to an i-Pod or a similar device with ear-phones for hours on end daily even if keeping the sound low or normal?
 –Wondering and Worried

A: Hearing damage from loud sound is a combination of the amount of sound (sound pressure level) and the length of time (dosage). Personal music players certainly can be played loud enough to cause damage and even a “normal” level for more than eight hours a day can do the same.



Dr. Brad Ingrao

So here are a few tips to allow you to rock without your hearing thresholds rolling off the chart.

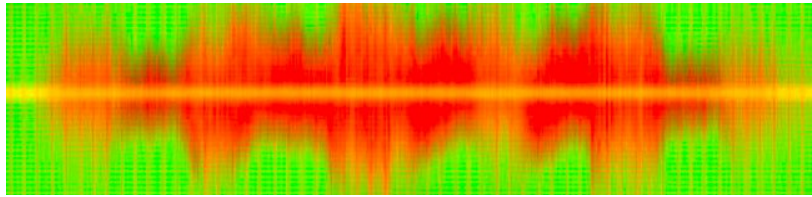
1. Trade your standard issue *ear buds* for better-fitting insert earphones. These cut out more background noise and allow you to hear the music better at lower levels

2. Find the middle point of the volume range of the device and never play it above that. Also, if you can't hear a person talking to you at a distance of three feet, turn it down until you can

3. Take a break of 15 minutes or so for every hour of listening

Have a comprehensive audiological evaluation by a licensed audiologist that includes Otoacoustic Emissions, the most sensitive test for early hearing damage from noise.

If you have a question about hearing, balance, hearing aids, cochlear implants or assistive technology, email Dr. Ingrao at HearYeHearYe2006@gmail.com Your question and the answer will be published in a future issue, anonymously, if you wish.



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HLAA Message Board

Continued from page 4

am paying attention. This is a new and frustrating experience for me because I was single for about 8 years after my first wife and I divorced, and because my first wife also had a hearing loss. I have been looking for a way to actually show my current wife what its like to have a hearing loss, but haven't found anything out there. Does anyone have any suggestions? Thanks for any help you can offer.

Confusion about hearing aids

I recently had a hearing test at ****, and learned I have moderate to severe hearing loss. Their price is about two thousand dollars apiece for 2 hearing aids, which is way beyond my means, and I don't want to incur that kind of debt. I've found a few companies online that offer cheaper hearing aids, many different kinds, some that you program yourself, I think via computer. I am totally confused and have no idea about what kind



to get, if the cheaper ones would be satisfactory, should they be individually fitted like eyeglasses or if ordering them over the internet is OK., and if so, which companies are trustworthy, if I'd need additional gadgets for phone, TV, etc. I'd really appreciate any help or suggestions. Thanks!

Take time to go to the Hearing Loss Association of America's Message Board to read more. You won't be sorry. Perhaps you can help someone or maybe someone can help you.



Hearing Loss Association of Florida

CaptionMatch

Where Captioners Meet Customers

A new service for captioning users

[CaptionMatch](#) was launched at the end of 2012 in order to support [CCAC](#) captioning advocacy activities and its hundreds of members globally. The mission of the CCAC is to advocate for inclusion of quality captioning universally, not only for millions of people with hearing loss or deafness, but also - and vitally - for millions of others who need or use captioning for literacy and language learning, for translations, for reaching online search engines, and more.

CaptionMatch, a service of the CCAC, aims to make it easier for you to ask for captioning, whether it's for a short video, a museum lecture, or an appointment at a doctor's office. If you don't have a specific request right now, you can add to the [wishlist](#) on the site so that others can see and think about where captioning is needed. There are already several providers willing to respond quickly to a request, sometimes within minutes of it being posted.

When a match is made between you and a provider, you move forward in the usual ways: agree on terms, pay the provider his or her usual fee, and/or work together to get another organization (e.g., a museum) to pay the provider. You select the provider from among those who reply to your request.

[Registration](#) is free. Give it a try soon.

The founder of the CCAC and of the Caption-Match service, Lauren E. Storck, is a deafened adult with broad professional experience working with people, creating new ventures harnessing the energy of group dynamics online, and consulting internationally to start-ups and multinationals.

**Advocate for Quality Captioning
Inclusion Universally
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HLA-Florida Board of Directors Meeting, Longwood

Saturday, February 2, 2013 - 9 a.m.

The meeting location is at Village on the Green, a private retirement community is at 500 Village Place, Longwood, FL 32779. www.villageonthegreenrc.com We will have directions from the hotel or you can use your GPS or Googlemaps if you won't be staying at the hotel.

Caption Call, FTRI, HLA, and a looping service company will have informational displays outside the meeting room for residents and guests to visit.

A block of rooms have been reserved at the Hilton Altamonte Springs, 350 North Lake Blvd Altamonte Springs, FL 32701-5297 www.AltamonteHilton.com under the Hearing Loss Association of Florida. For reservations call 407-830-1985. Several ADA rooms are available. The rate is \$95.00 per room and includes a hot breakfast. Reservations must be made by January 25 to receive that rate.



**Portland, Oregon is the host city for Convention 2013, June 27 – 30.
Convention 2013 Registration is NOW Open!**

Enjoy registration discounts by registering as an 'early-bird', now through January 31. Start by clicking [Registration](#) on the menu to the left.

Portland, the pioneer of "green" initiatives and sustainability, has so much to offer our Convention 2013 attendees. There are loads of parks, gardens, museums, theaters, **tax-free** shopping, wineries ... the list is endless. So start planning now by visiting our "[micro-site](#)" created by TravelPortland – it is chock-full of information about the area as well as day-trips to Mount Hood (via the Columbia River Gorge), and the Oregon Coast (just an hour and a half away). TravelPortland now has a mobile app - visit the micro-site for more information.

Pat Kricos Cont'd from front page

Lynn to present her with a gift that we hope will always remind her of us and our delightful pre-meeting dinners – cut crystal wine cooler. We will not have to be reminded of her wonderful dedication to HLA-Florida for so many years attending our meetings all over the state even with her own full schedule of teaching, traveling and volunteer work in other areas. Lynn tells us Pat was surprised and very grateful for our thoughtful and pretty gift. Lynn told her that we will miss her very much.

Dr. Kricos retired recently and hit the ground running and is serving on the national board of HLAA, on the Advisory Councils of the Better Hearing Institute in Washington, DC and the Ida Institute in Denmark. She also plans to write a book. Retired? We think not.

Good luck and Godspeed from all the members of the Hearing Loss Association of Florida.



Read more here about Dr. Kricos:

<http://hearingloss.org/board-members/patricia-kricos-phd>
http://idainstitute.com/about_ida/#/about_ida/advisory_board/?type=1337

Joan Andrews Cont'd from front page

The Scholarship will be given to an individual who has not previously attended a national convention and who demonstrates in writing (by completion of the application process), a sincere educational interest in and commitment to sharing the mission of the Hearing Loss Association with others affected by hearing loss. The Scholarship Committee will give priority consideration to an applicant who meets all the criteria as set forth in the application process AND who cannot afford to attend the HLAA convention without the assistance of this scholarship.

SCHOLARSHIP DESCRIPTION: The scholarship will entitle the winner to a registration to the Hearing Loss Association of America convention in Portland, OR from June 27 - 30, 2013. The scholarship will also include a room at the convention hotel for three nights and round trip airfare between Florida and Portland, OR. *The recipient of the scholarship is responsible to pay his or her expenses. Reimbursement will be made to the applicant within 5 business days of receipt of the approved receipts. **If this is not possible, alternative financial arrangements can be made in consultation with the Committee.** Food and miscellaneous expenses are not covered by the award.*

ELIGIBILITY: An applicant must be a Florida resident and member in good standing of the Hearing Loss Association of America.

Current and past members of the HLA-FL Board of Trustees are not eligible. The winner

President's Message

As the new year begins and we take on new goals, resolutions and initiatives for the coming months, the Hearing Loss Association of Florida (HLA-FL) Board of Trustees would like you to consider joining its team!

In September of each year, HLA-FL conducts elections for chosen candidates who wish to bring their talents, time, and enthusiasm to the board. All of us have experiences, skills, and interests in areas important to us. If, after a lifetime of work in a specific field, you would like to share your talents in a new, challenging, and different area of interest please know that HLA-FL would welcome you.

Also, if you are a new resident of the state of Florida or have recently begun a new chapter in your life by way of retirement or if you are facing the challenges of your hearing loss head on, then HLA-FL is definitely for you.

Our current Board of Trustees looks for talent, personality, energy, and experience in many areas. There is available room in our Committees seeking more members who are equipped to aid them.

If you have a desire to share your time, talents, and experience in improving the lives of people with hearing loss, I ask you to contact Richard Herring, Chair of our Nomination Committee for more information. Richard may be reached at: rhmann@tampabay.rr.com.

Bob Astle, President, HLA-FL



Nov. 17, 2012, Wyndham Hotel, Tampa, FL Communication Access INC's Communication Access & Technology Expo. *(pictured: L: Richard Herring, Don Shaffer, Ed Ogiba, seated Bob Astle, Dr. Terri Schnieder)

will be required to submit a written essay describing their experience for the *Hear Ye, Hear Ye* newsletter and if possible, attend a board meeting to share their experience in person. The deadline for receipt by the Committee of the completed application is **March**

15, 2013.

A link to the application may be found on our website home page, www.hla-fl.org For more information, please contact Lynn Rousseau, Committee Chair, HLAFLORIDA@aol.com



FTRI Update: New Year, New Phones

FTRI has kicked off the New Year with exciting news. Two new phones have been added to our distribution inventory to meet specific hearing and speech needs of Florida residents. The new equipment includes: The CSC500 amplifies incoming sound up to 40 dB and is ideal for someone with mild to moderate hearing loss. This phone is line powered and does not require electricity.



The HD40S is ideal for individuals that need more outgoing speech amplification. Incoming sound is amplified up to 18 dB. Outgoing speech is amplified up to 40 dB.



Both phones feature bright visual ringers, large key pads and speed dial buttons with space to insert a picture. If you have any questions about the new phones or any FTRI phones, contact FTRI at 800-222-3448.

Please note: current FTRI clients may only exchange an existing phone if it is not working properly or if hearing needs have changed. Current clients should contact Customer Care with any questions: 1-888-554-1151.

Customer Care: "How Can I Help You?"

In June, FTRI launched a major expansion of the Customer Care program. Email surveys are now sent to all new clients who provide an email address. The first survey queries customer service and training when the phone was received. The second survey is sent 30 days

later and asks client's satisfaction with phone volume and clarity. The average respondent's age is 75; the oldest respondent to-date: 100 years.

The surveys allow FTRI staff to quickly resolve any problems clients may encounter and possibly eliminate the need to revisit their local distribution center. Common issues easily resolved include:

- Make sure the phone is on the Tone and not Pulse setting
- Fully charge a new cordless phone (12 hours)
- Use a filter (provided by FTRI) to reduce static, especially on digital lines (phone service through a cable provider)
- Make sure the AC power is plugged in (for phones with AC power.)

FTRI clients with questions are encouraged to call the Customer Care line at 888-554-1151 or email at customercare@ftri.org. The results so far are significant: sixty-five percent of all calls are resolved through Customer Care troubleshooting.

Please remember to tell your friends and colleagues about our program. If your civic or church group would like a presentation and distribution of the FTRI amplified phones, please contact the FTRI Outreach Secretary: orsecretary@ftri.org.

Florida Telecommunications Relay, Inc. (FTRI) is a statewide nonprofit 501(c)3 organization that administers the Specialized Telecommunications Equipment Distribution Program for citizens of Florida who are Deaf, Hard of Hearing, Deaf/Blind and Speech Impaired. FTRI is also responsible for the education and promotion of the Florida Relay Service. For more information, visit www.ftri.org

Emergency preparedness workshop in Gainesville

Telecommunications for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, Inc. (TDI) <http://www.tdi-online.org/> will be presenting an all-day workshop on emergency preparedness in the Gainesville, FL area (Alachua County) from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Thursday, January 17. This workshop is for two groups of people: consumers who are deaf or hard of hearing; and first responders or government officials who are in a

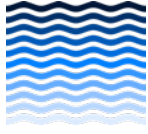
position to support the deaf and hard of hearing with some resources and services in the event of a natural or man-made disaster in or around Alachua County.

Registration for the workshop is free, and the deadline for registration is January 15. Sign language interpreting and CART services will be provided in the workshop. If any are deaf-blind and need tactile support, advance notice will be appre-

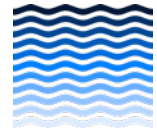
ciated.

For those interested in participating, notify David Donnelly by January 15 at 352.264.6500 or to alw@alachuacounty.us. The workshop will be limited to the first 25 individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing, or deaf-blind

If you have any questions or need more information, feel free to contact me anytime. My email address is: cstout@tdiforaccess.org Claude Stout, Exec. Dir., TDI



2013 HLA-Florida Cruise



The Hearing Loss Association of Florida's Royal Caribbean Cruise aboard the Independence of The Seas was filled with eight days of sunshine, smooth seas and fun people. The ships' port was out of Port Everglades in Ft. Lauderdale. While many waited in a unusually long line to check in (first time that has ever happened) , we all finally made it on board.

Cabins were clean and ready for us and we met our cabin stewards that afternoon. Dinner at six was not missed and we all introduced ourselves. Karla Martin , our CART provider met with us and asked what shows we wanted for her to provide CART. All of them we said !!

On our second day at sea, we met at the Viking Crown Lounge in a private room aptly named "Cloud 9." It had a beautiful view of the ship and sea as we were treated to cocktails of our choice. Again, we all met for dinner in the dining room to further get to know each other more.

Show -time was special as we were treated to reserved seating in the theater! It was near the CART screen so we had a close up view of the stage and the CART TV screen. Others who were hard of hearing or deaf soon joined us and enjoyed the special accommodations .

For those in our group who wished to be in front to see the CART screen yet unable to get down the stairs in the orchestra section, accommodations were made to go down a lift back stage. It was the same after the show. The lift is usually used for hauling equipment,

but they accommodated us by letting us use it for a heavy power chair!

Stops in St. Kitts, St. Marten, San Juan were fun as we each did our own thing. Several went on bus tours of the islands and some went scuba diving. Some did nothing but relax on ship.

We did have a rescue at sea! A small fishing boat had overturned with several men clinging to the hull. Our ship came to a complete stop, backed up and picked them up. The coast guard and police boat came to pick them up. It was a sight to see as the left our huge ship in the fancy white robes usually found in our cabins. All were safe and sound.

Labadee, our private island hosted a BBQ and offered rafts, lounge chairs and tiki huts. It also had a zip-line ride from one end of the island to the other. Fun to watch! The weather was perfect for the day's outing, until about 5 p.m. when just a few rain drops fell.

Our waiter was most understanding of our need to read lips to hear. By the end of the cruise, he enjoyed serving our table as much as we enjoyed his service. Our table had the most spirit of all the dining room!

Our last evening at dinner, we raised our glasses to wish good cheer to all and a safe trip home. There were many things to see and do – and I believe we took advantage of them all!

I hope more will join us next time for some fun at sea!

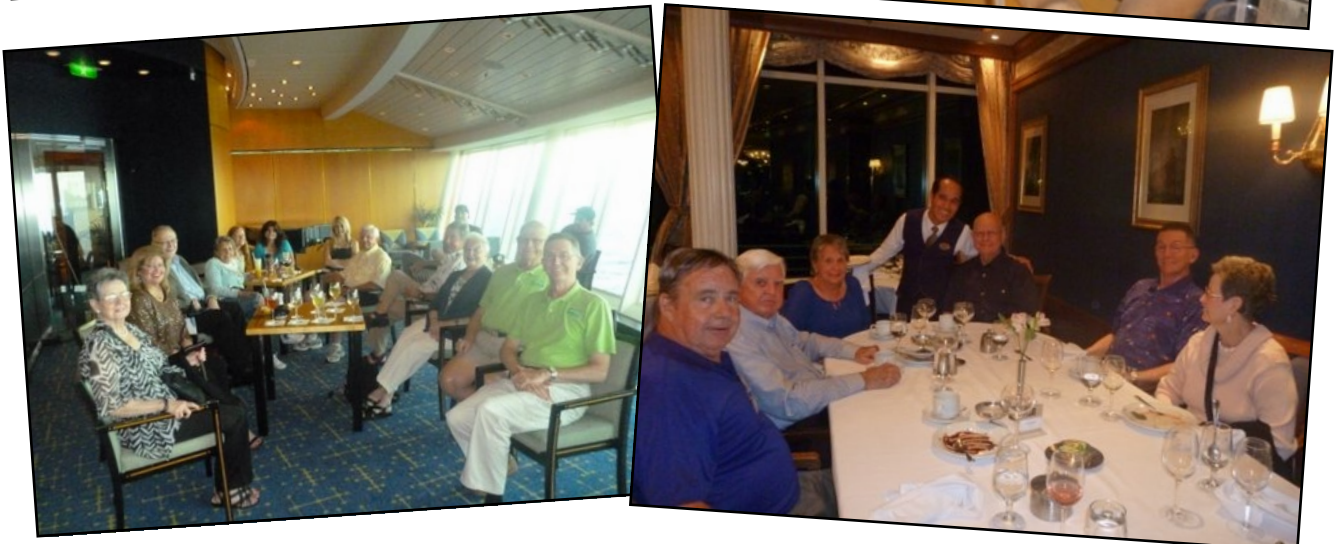
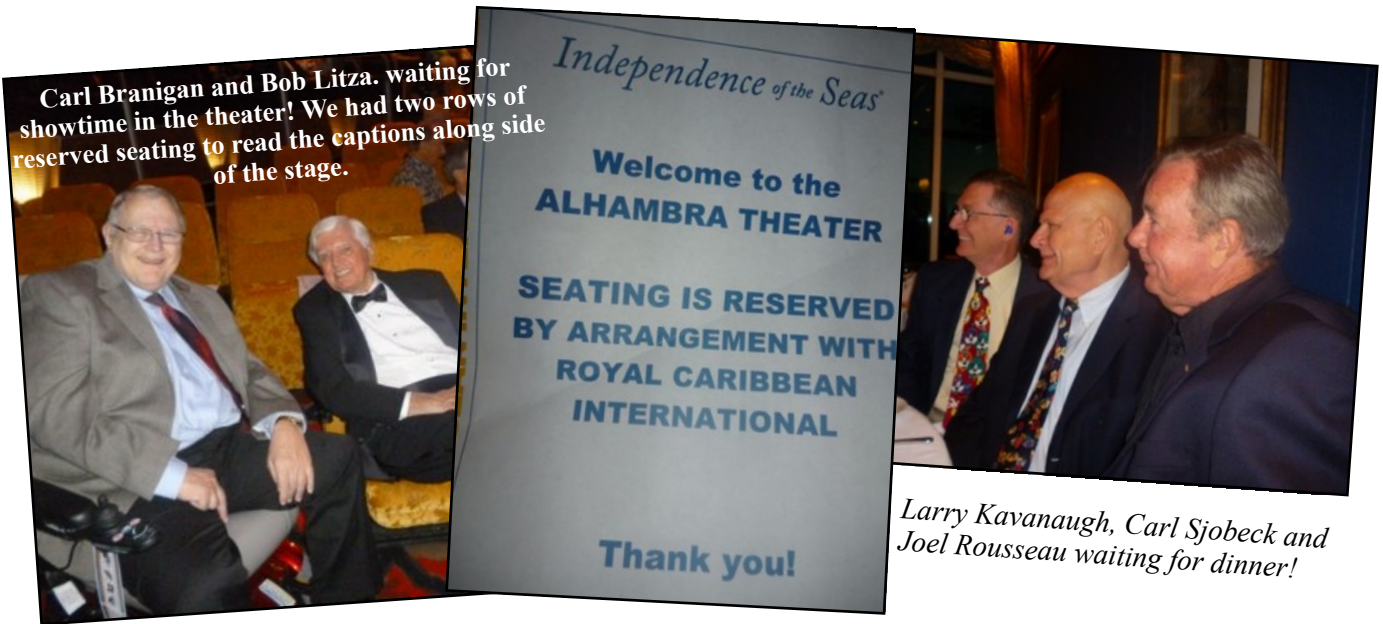
–Lynn Rousseau



Lynn Rousseau and Larry Kavanaugh



Bob and Pat Litza

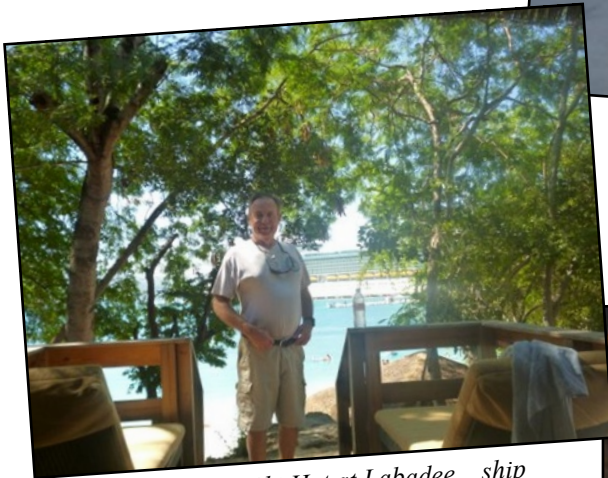




*After dinner , outside the dining room.
Yes, they did do other things besides eat!*



*Lynn Rousseau, back to the ship after a day
of sunshine and the Caribbean sea!*



*Joel Rousseau in a Tiki Hut at Labadee ...ship
in background.*



Eating again. Cheers!

OUR CHAPTERS SPEAK . . .**MEETING SCHEDULE, September to May****Saint Lucie County:**

First Thursday of Month, 6 p.m.
 Grace Lutheran Church
 555 SW Cashmere Blvd.
 Port St. Lucie, FL 34986

Indian River County:

Third Saturday of Month, 10:30 a.m.
 Indian River County Main Library
 1600 21st Street
 Vero Beach, FL 32960

HLA-Treasure Coast has a newsletter called *Sound Waves of the Treasure Coast*. Don't forget to subscribe by writing to tcfhla@live.com

Chapter email: tcfhla@live.com

Chapter Website: www.treasurehearing.org

Chapter Motto: "Save Tomorrow's Hearing Today"

The Hearing Loss Association of America is the "Nation's Voice for People with Hearing Loss"



Richard Herring, President of HLA-SCC, announces forthcoming chapter meetings in Sun City Center:

February 6, 2013

Psychological and Mental Health Issues
 Related to Hearing Loss

Karen Goldberg, M.D.

Assistant Professor of Psychiatry
 Dept. Of Psychiatry & Neurosciences, USF

All HLA-SCC meetings are captioned by Tess Crowder, Communication Access, Inc. (CAI). The meeting room is equipped with an induction loop to benefit people who have t-coils in their hearing aids or cochlear implants.

St. Andrew Presbyterian Church, Fellowship Hall, 1239 Del Webb Blvd., W. Sun City Center, FL.
 Meetings start at 9:30 a.m.

For more information about HLA-SCC,
www.hla-scc.com

**Meets Second Monday**

A.D. Barnes Park. Leisure Access Center
 2301 SW 72 Ave.

www.hla-gm.org/

January 14th: Arlene Romoff, Past President, Hearing Loss Association of New Jersey and Author of two books: *Listening Closely: A Journey to Bilateral Hearing and Hear Again - Back to Life with a Cochlear Implant*. Arlene will discuss her efforts in caption advocacy and her books on bilateral cochlear implants. Visit her website at www.arleneromoff.com.

February 11 - Ron Dreyfus of CapTel

March 11 - Ed Ogiba of HLA - Sarasota Chapter

Signs are posted to show the way.

Refreshments will be provided.

**OPEN CAPTIONING THEATRE
 SEASON 2012 – 2013**

Agatha Christie's BBC Murder – Parker Playhouse – 1/26/13
 Mary Poppins – Kravis Center – 2/2/13
 Wicked – Broward Center – 2/9/13
 Love of Three Oranges – Miami Theatre Center 2/17/13
 Les Miserables – Arsht Center - 3/3/13
 Billy Elliot – Kravis Center 3/9/13
 Flashdance – Broward Center – 3/16/13
 Fela – Arsht Center – 3/24/13
 Jekyll & Hyde – Kravis Center – 3/31/13
 Addams Family – Broward Center – 4/20/13
 Priscilla, Queen of the Desert – Arsht Center – 4/7/13
 Priscilla, Queen of the Desert – Kravis Center – 4/27/13
 Memphis – Arsht Center – 5/12/13
 War Horse – Broward Center – 5/18/13
 Inanna – Miami Theatre Center – 5/19/13
 Peter Pan – Kravis Center – 8/3/13

HLA-Clearwater elects new board officers

The Hearing Loss Association of Clearwater met the day after New Year's Day and elected new officers. All the nominees were voted in. They are: President, Debbe Hagner; Vice- President, Tess Crowder; Secretary/Treasurer Paul Morris; and Member-at-Large, Marjie Anderson. Congratulations to all.



Marjie Anderson, Paul (hidden), Tess Crowder, Debbe Hagner

Clearwater will continue to meet on Wednesdays with no change. The CART schedule was worked out to enable the meeting day to remain the same. After two months of remote captioning the chapter once again has CART in house. It was


good, though, for our members to learn about remote captioning, how it works and all the possibilities.

Mary Ann DeMeo loops again. Mary Ann DeMeo, a member of the Clearwater Florida Chapter



Clearwater Chapter, out to lunch

HLAA was instrumental in installing a loop in her church and now she is the sole advocate with her employer, Safety Harbor Library, in the installation of a loop in the meeting room of the library, where her chapter holds its monthly meeting. Mary Ann announced at the chapter meeting that the loop would be installed in November. Way to go Mary Ann!



Meetings are located at

Piccadilly Cafeteria
11810 Dale Mabry Hwy
Tampa FL. 33618
First Tuesdays of the Month

Arrive 5:30 p.m. for dinner followed by a speaker or rap session in a private, quiet room at 6:30 or 7. Come join us. Mike Cano is our volunteer and angel CART provider. Come join us.



Third Friday, September through May • 10 a.m to noon
 The South County Civic Center"
 16700 Jog Road, Delray Beach
 Come at 9:45 for coffee & donuts

We now have "full service" at our monthly meetings- captions and a functional loop system. For our hearing aid wearers, please check if you have T-coils in your aids and if they are working so you can use them at meetings.

A diverse group of professionals who deal with hearing loss problems present our programs. New ideas; new techniques; new appliances.

Educational seminars on hearing loss are scheduled in many public libraries from Palm Beach County and Pompano Beach.

We are preparing a display of **assistive listening devices** for our meetings where members can see demonstrations of a variety of devices designed to help in those situations where an aid is not enough.

Oscar Segal trip3584@comcast.net
<http://hlapbc.org/>



A favorite speaker came to visit HLA-Jacksonville at its last meeting – Dr. David Hawkins,



Dr. David Hawkins

Professor Emeritus, Mayo Clinic. This was an informal session called, “Ask the Audiologist.” Vice-President Melissa

Trauthwein ran the meeting and acted as moderator. (According to informed sources, she did a yeoman’s job! Thanks, Melissa.)

Dr. Hawkins told the group he’d just retired after forty years and hadn’t forgotten everything he knew, and was ready to answer questions about hearing loss or even golf, which has improved since does not go to business every day. Audience members asked varied questions about the extent of a hearing person’s knowledge regarding hearing loss (clueless), and that there was a little more awareness than 30 or 40 years ago, but not much. Hearing people just sit back and passively listen but a person with hearing loss, even with the best hearing aids or cochlear implants, does not get a perfectly clear signal and so the brain is constantly working filling in the gaps, making interpretations and guesses. It takes enormous mental

energy which is why many with hearing loss are very tired at the end of the day. Dr. Hawkins broached many interesting subjects keeping the members of the chapter fascinated and perfectly willing to listen for hours. Thank you Dr. Hawkins, for sharing your knowledge and for all the work you’ve done over the years on behalf of us.

At the business meeting, increasing membership was a topic. Having a more centralized location was one solution, perhaps alternating with the library. A conference room is available at

Nemours Children’s Clinic and it will be checked out. Walt Ivey, our 2nd Vice President also investigated a potential venue but the dates needed were not available.

Melissa reminded everyone that there is going to be a statewide chapters meeting on May 4 in Sarasota. She also announced that the chapter has a new mini-newsletter called *The Communicator*. It is mailed electronically and also posted on the website www.hla-jax.org Melissa complimented Aimee Ivey, our webmaster, on the appearance of the website and how current it is kept. The HLA-Florida Twitter feeds into the website as does the latest information from the national office www.hearingloss.org. The chap-

The Broward County Chapter (Fort Lauderdale area) wishes all a *Happy New Year*. A collaborative effort is underway with speakers from the Nova Southeastern University Audiology Department as well as the Speech, Language and Communication Clinic scheduled to address topics including tinnitus, new hearing aid developments, assistive listening devices and aural rehabilitation programs at meetings held this spring.

We are looking forward to meeting some of the 65 doctoral program students who will be attending to share information and also learn about our concerns as hard of hearing consumers. Meetings are held at the Northwest Regional Library, 3151 University Drive, Coral Springs, FL 33065 in room 223, 10:15-noon. FM assistive listening devices are available.

All are welcome. The dates are **Feb. 13, Mar. 13, Apr. 10, May 8**
 Andrea Wilson
 HLA Broward Chapter Leader
Awilson4@comcast.net



HLA-Jax new publication, *The Communicator*

ter’s [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/hla.florida) page is also available.

There was no meeting in December. On January 15, Caption-Call, represented by Elizabeth Janovsky, will tell about this amazing captioned telephone.

On February 19, we will welcome Lisa Sheek, *Lend An Ear Outreach, Inc.* This is a program to refit and refurbish hearings aids and was formed to give all people with limited means the ability to obtain a hearing aid after diagnosis of need by a medical professional. We will meet at Nemours Children’s Clinic, 4th Floor, 807 Children’s Way, Jax 32207.



Our November meeting with Scott Rinehart, Cochlear America's rep, was via SKYPE! We are not up to some of the latest in technology so we are thankful for others who know how to connect all that needs connecting. It went well. The necessary information and questions were presented to Scott and those attending. Would recommend it if it has to be--better than nothing.

Lori Timson, Executive Director, of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Center was one of our speakers in December. Did you catch the name change? It was announced at our meeting. Sometimes we are observant and sometimes not but the decal at the entrance is loud and clear--DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING CENTER. Lori explained many of the services of the Center. Wee Hands (baby sign class) is new this month. They say this is a wonderful way for little ones to start communicating--with hands/fingers instead of words. Have you checked out their website www.dsc.us? The first Friday of each month is the Silent Dinners at Edison Mall Food Court from 6 to 9. Dianna Druding, FTRI Program Coordinator, showed latest phones available to FL residents.

In December we welcomed the members of the Naples Chapter. Their leader, Walter Renner, passed away last August and no one came forward to take over. One of their members with the Chapter the longest just wanted out so he approached us about merging. As always everyone is welcome to our meetings so we said to come aboard. It is possible that when snowbirds return this month, someone will come forward. We had four from Naples at the December meeting and one in January. We know it is a long ride but the countryside is always changing and you see new things and new roads.

Ed Ogiba gave us an interest-

ing and challenging presentation on looping in January. Members had experienced a looped environment in December as the reception area and large meeting room of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Center have been looped. Looping was met with raves. One person said they heard even with their back turned. We would suggest that all HLAA meeting rooms be looped as most hearing aids and cochlear processors are equipped with a T-coil. However, Ed told us that some T-coils are not activated at time of purchase and so one must make sure they are. If you have a T-coil and in a looped area and cannot hear, make a beeline to your audiologist. Remember too that a FM system is not the same as a looped system. If you have a hearing aid or cochlear processor with a T-coil you would benefit in any area with the loop. We wonder why audiologists and hearing aid dispensers do not promote T-coils. You would think they would suggest anything that would help the hearing impaired. We do not know many venues in SW FL that are looped. If YOU know of any, please let us know. We've been told that the Lee County Library, Lakes Regional in Ft. Myers is looped and now the Center. Marco Presbyterian Church and St. Mark's Episcopal Church on Marco Island are listed on the www.loopamerica.com and www.hearingloop.org websites. Also listed are Moorings Park Retirement Community and Naples United Church of Christ in Naples. We have just been informed that St. William's Catholic Church (near Waterside Shops) is looped but there seems to be no signage; also St. John the Evangelist is in the process of being looped. You could say we are enthused about Get in

the Hearing Loop!J One should look for the logo and the T in the lower right hand corner.

Our February 1 meeting is on TINNITUS regardless of how you pronounce it. It can be such a nuisance. John Hoglund from Hoglund Family Hearing and Audiology will be our speaker. A representative from the TSA (Transportation Security Administration) will be our speaker on March 1. TSA is anxious to share information with



Lori Timson, Director of the Center, is speaking at our December meeting. If one looks close in the lower left corner, a dog in-training is there under the table.

groups such as ours that could benefit from some new initiatives for special populations. Will this make traveling easier? Come and find out.

April 5 and May 3 will be Jam sessions--members will have a chance to really have a say about hearing loss and scheduling programs. We have been very fortunate to have fifteen meetings in a row with speakers -- for that we are very thankful. We probably will not meet every month in the summer. The summer meetings were best attended! Was that the program or the weather! We averaged about eleven a meeting.

First Friday of each month, 10:30 to noon.

CART available.

Deaf and Hard of Hearing Center is looped

*For God, Family and Country,
Jim and Lois Smith*



Holiday party features Thai Chai demonstration and groovy holiday music

The Sarasota chapter celebrated the holidays by having a party that featured the local Taoist Tai Society demonstrating the slow, gentle form of exercise known as Tai Chi. Taoist Society leader, Mickey Hopkins, provided the his-



Doc Ootblock aka Dr. Brad Ingrao

tory of Tai Chi, followed by demonstration that involved all the members in attendance. Tai Chi

has some ties to hearing loss such helping with balance issue and the use of the 3 - 3 - 3 teaching method which is specially designed to communicate routines for the hard-of-hearing in large

class settings. Tai Chi is effective at relieving stress, back pain, arthritis and preventing cognitive disorders. In Asian countries where the exercise is a part of life, there are no cases of arthritis and the word doesn't even exist in their vocabulary.

The chapter was also treated to Doc Ootblock playing a great collection of holiday favorites on his seasonal saxophone with ample dashes of swing and groove. The Doc is actually none other than Dr. Brad Ingrao, who also serves on the HLA-FL Board of Trustees and was elected to the Sarasota Board at the party.



The Tai Chai leaders demonstrated their exercises with the help of two of their star students, HLAS Board Members JoAnne Devries and Joan Haber.

The Doc also used a new special app that creates captions for music by projecting a visual stratoscope pattern of the music to assist one's hearing in following the melody.

Scholarships offered in Sarasota for the 2013 HLA Convention

HLA-Sarasota is offering a scholarship of up to \$1,000 towards expenses for a member to attend the 2013 National Convention in Portland Oregon next June. The scholarship has been modeled after the HLA-FL Scholarship and will focus at supporting a member in need, who has never attended a HLA Convention before. Interested applicants must submit an application before March 14, 2013. For an application or any questions, contact the HLAS Scholarship Chair, Joan Haber joanhaber2012@gmail.com.



The membership, which included visiting HLA-FL State Coordinator Judy Martin and hubby, Tom, all got to try their hands, legs and back in performing the ancient art.



HLAS names new board of 11 professionals to shepherd new strategic vision

The membership of the Hearing Loss Association of Sarasota (HLAS) voted in a new slate of Board of Trustees at its Holiday Meeting on December 19. The eleven members include five hearing care providers featuring three audiologists, plus six active professionals with expertise in politics, marketing, branding and the law.

The new board plans to pursue a new vision that puts greater emphasis on:

1. Generating awareness for Brain Deafness.

Recent studies have shown that untreated hearing loss leads to this state, which significantly increases the risk of dementia, tinnitus, serious falls and isolation. Over 90,000 local people with hearing loss are not seeking any treatment, which could prevent brain deafness and minimize the associated risks.

2. Education. New technologies offer highly advanced hearing aids, cochlear implants and a range of assisted listening devices including more hearing – friendly smart phones. New software advancements have also lead to several easy-to-use-at-home programs to help restore brain functions and improve one’s hearing by 20% or more. HLAS also just announced its first scholarship to the HLAA national convention, considered to be the best educational experience offered for individuals with hearing loss.

3. Hearing Access. HLAS main advocacy project has been to promote Hearing Loop Systems, which are now at 58 local locations, including 18 theatres. Sara-



The elected board includes (left to right): Dr. Susan Fulton, Valerie Stafford-Mallis, Dr. Brad Ingrao, Dr. Lyndsey Nalu, Joan Haber, Steve Boris, Christine Koch, JoAnne DeVries, Alexander Magnus Boakes and Edward F. Ogiba. Not in the picture: Richard N. Williams. Ed Ogiba and Joan Haber were named President and Vice President respectively.

sota has more theatres looped than any city in the US and the HLAS focus now is to get more community centers and churches to recognize the system.

4. Community Interaction. Monthly educational meetings, supported by both captioning and a loop system, have helped to triple HLAS’s membership in the past 18 months. A HLAS theatre club provides discounted and free tickets to looped playhouses for selected monthly performances and a movie club has monthly visits to the Hollywood 20, providing first-timers with a free ticket to try the innovative new Sony Caption Glasses. These programs are the anchors for a planned new social initiative to encourage the 110,000 local people with hearing loss to return to more active community lives.

Sarasota honors Judy Martin with Key to the Chapter

HLA-FL State Coordinator Judy Martin visited the Sarasota Chapter’s annual holiday party during which chapter president Ed Ogiba presented her with the “*Key To Our Chapter.*” Ed expressed the chapter’s gratitude for Judy’s inspirational leadership and support in serving two terms as HLA-FL President plus her long-standing role as the State’s Chapter Coordinator and the Editor of *Hear Ye, Hear Ye*. He commented, “Judy Martin’s energizing efforts, support and commitment to the HLAA mission has always encouraged our chapter to do more and she has earned our utmost respect, admiration and gratitude.”





Sarasota chapter volunteers recognized for their board service

Six members of the Sarasota Chapter were honored with a *“Declaration of Gratitude”* from an appreciative membership for serving on the Board of Trustees for a combined total of over 20 years. The group included LaVonne Stocco, who served as Treasurer. Kelley Anderson who was the Secretary, Lee Ibsen, who also was the creator of the chapter’s website and long-time webmaster, Don Foulkes, Howard Sabin and Pat Pillot.



From left: Don Foulkes, Lee Ibsen, LaVonne Stocco and Howard Sabin. Not pictured: Kelley Anderson and Pat Pillot.

Movie Club helps to spark Sarasota’s new social initiative In community

Members from the Sarasota meet monthly at their local Regal Hollywood 20 to see a new movie supported by Sony Caption Glasses followed by dinner together. HLA-FL State Coordinator Judy Martin and husband Tom joined the group to see the new movie “Playing For Keeps” at the club’s third monthly outing in December. The club has introduced 30 people to the new captioning system to date by providing them with a free movie ticket and a brief primer in the system beforehand.

The club is having an impact as the theatre recently doubled its’ inventory of glasses from 10 to 20 to meet the steadily increasing demand since the system debuted in late summer.” Joan Haber started the movie club to complement our long-standing theatre club which provides free or highly discounted tickets to playhouse performances each month”, said Ed Ogiba. “Our newly formed social committee is exploring other new ways to encourage more active participation in the community and to leverage the increasing access that this new captioning system and the proliferation of loops are providing.”



TRAFFIC STOP

One day a certain lady was driving on the Highway. She frequently checked her speed gauge to make sure she stayed within the speed limit. However, when she looked into her rear mirror, much to her dismay, she saw a police car not far behind! And, to make matters worse, the police car turned on his flashing lights. She thought to herself, "Uh-oh, what have I done now? I'm not speeding. I'm not drinking. I have my seat belt on! I

have kept up my license fees and everything!" So, she pulled over and the police car pulled over to the side right behind her car. She drove her car slowly to a stop, slowly rolled down the window, and prepared for a ticket when she knew she didn't deserve it.

A policeman walked up to her window, and spoke to her. The lady pointed to her ear and shook her head, meaning she was deaf. The policeman smiled slightly and wrote, "I know. I'm here to tell you that your horn is stuck."

Will brain deafness risks motivate more people with hearing loss to take action?

Your HLAS chapter leaders felt they had a responsibility to make the community aware of the significant risks of brain deafness, plus the relevant support we offer, so we placed a full-page ad in Sarasota Magazine's new publication called Sarasota Health. This annual guide to the medical practitioners in the area, debuted recently.



As have reported in a few

HLAS meetings, John Hopkins warns that untreated hearing loss can lead to Brain Deafness, which increases one's risk of tinnitus, dementia, serious falls and isolation. 93,000 people in our two counties have hearing loss that is not being treated. That estimate is based on the 110,000 locals with a loss and studies that show 85% do not get the treatment or care they need.

The reasons never to wait to treat hearing loss have never been greater.

- Brain Deafness is preventable with treatment, which in most cases means getting hearing aids.
- It is important to highlight that using your hearing aids during all waking hours is the key to prevention.
- Lost brain functions can be restored with auditory training.
- Numerous new options for affordable hearings aids have emerged in the last year.
- Easy-to-use, inexpensive auditory training programs that significantly improve

listening skills are available for home use.

HLAS offers a short presentation on the above subjects that we have given to many community organizations like Kiwanis, Sertoma, CCDHH and many residences like Alderman Oaks.

For more information, contact HLAS at 941-706-4312.

ADVERTISEMENT

UNTREATED HEARING LOSS LEADS TO BRAIN DEAFNESS

THERE ARE APPROXIMATELY 110,000 PEOPLE with hearing loss in Sarasota and Manatee counties. However, more than 80 percent are not getting any treatment that could significantly change their lives for the better. Why? Numerous studies have shown most people will wait an average of seven years before they seek help.


Recent Johns Hopkins studies indicate that waiting can exact a steep price. The brain starts changing with any loss of hearing, as segments begin to shut down, causing "brain deafness." The loudness of sounds can appear normal, but voices can begin to lack clarity and sound muddled. We can hear, but don't fully understand as we start to miss progressively more in conversations with family, friends and co-workers, often without realizing it. But untreated hearing loss continues to affect the brain, increasing the risk of dementia, tinnitus, serious falls and isolation from others.


"The brain starts changing with any loss of hearing, causing 'brain deafness.'"

The good news is you can reverse some of the brain loss. But the longer you wait, the harder it will be.

If this situation applies to you or someone you love, there are lots of options. There has been an amazing array of technological advancements in hearing devices recently. There are simple, innovative ways to retrain your brain to hear, such as aural rehab exercises, which can improve hearing by 20 percent or more. There are also lots of techniques that you can employ to improve communication and listening skills.


The Hearing Loss Association of Sarasota, the local chapter of the Hearing Loss Association of America, invites you take advantage of all the education, advocacy and support we offer at no cost. Discover how much more you can hear and understand.

Hearing Loss Association of Sarasota

 HLAS.ORG
 (941) 706-4312
 P.O. BOX 48643
 SARASOTA, FL 34230



5 REASONS NOT TO WAIT TO TREAT YOUR HEARING LOSS
 UNTREATED HEARING LOSS INCREASES:

- Brain deafness
- Risk of dementia
- Risk of tinnitus
- Risk of a serious fall
- Isolation from family, friends, co-workers



Our meetings teach many techniques, such as aural rehab exercises, which can improve communications and help restore brain hearing functions.

Use this convenient assistive listening device
(ALD) locator to find venues in your area
that offer assistive listening devices for an
enriched listening experience.

www.aldlocator.com

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Other chapters are forming and not yet official. If you are interested in joining them,
please contact the people listed:

Pensacola. Email Susan Herring sherring50@aol.com **Daytona Beach** Email Lynn Sinnott lsinnott@eseals-vf.org

Babson Park meets the 2nd Tuesday. Write to Terry LangVal, 3 Fort Clinch Heights Rd., Frostproof, FL 33843

Big Bend/Tallahassee Alexis Borochoff alexisborochoff@ability1st.info

CAPTIONFISH 
FIND CAPTIONED MOVIES NEAR YOU!

www.captionfish.com