

# Hear Ye, Hear Ye

## You are invited to the FLAA Convention

Greetings from the Florida Academy of Audiology! It has been one year now since the inception of the partnership between HLAFL and FLAA. Last year when I was president, HLA-FL and FLAA member Lisa Tanner presented during the business meeting luncheon and got the FLAA membership fired up about HLA-Florida, its goals and its incredible members. She gave us firmly grounded suggestions as to how we audiologists could be better tuned into the needs of people with hearing loss whom we serve. She certainly got us thinking. We also enjoyed the company and the wisdom of those "manning" the HLA-FL table by the exhibit hall. And this year at our 2011 convention in August in Clearwater Beach, we are very excited to welcome Judy Martin to the podium. Our partnership continues!

FLAA has listened to consumers and to you, our partners. We wanted our convention to be more consumer-friendly for people who use amplification, implants and other assistive devices. We wanted to share some of that knowledge more directly, not in a lecture format, but rather as an avenue for hearing de-

vice users to hear from and talk directly to the folks whose products they use.

FLAA is pleased to announce the first open forum for the public to meet the manufacturers, discover what's new in technology, give suggestions, ask questions and enjoy our exhibitors. This is a two-part Public Community Awareness Class. The first hour, from 8:30 -9:30 am, will be an informational class given by major manufacturer representatives. The second part, from 9:30-10:30 am, will be to meet the manufacturers in the Exhibit Hall. This takes place on Friday, August 26, at the Sheraton Sand Key Resort in Clearwater Beach in the Exhibit Hall, site of the FLAA Annual Convention. Currently over 21 exhibitors have confirmed and we are still recruiting more. This is a free event and you are invited! We invite you to attend and take advantage of this unique opportunity.

See you there!

–Debra Shimon, Au.D.  
2011 FLAA Past-President

**HLAA Convention  
photos inside!  
Were you there?**

### The Numbers Are In! Drum Roll, Please...

*More than 1,800 people attended Convention 2011 and the 2nd International Hearing Loop Conference. Thank you again to attendees, sponsors, presenters, CART reporters, ALDs technicians, and volunteers who participated to make this the largest event in HLAA's history!*



**Please note that, because of escalating printing costs, 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 would like to subscribe or unsubscribe, please use this link:**

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 352-331-9808

Don M. Shaffer, Plant City  
[advocman4hl@yahoo.com](mailto:advocman4hl@yahoo.com)  
 813-719-3074

Katherine Shaffer, Plant City  
[shafferm@msn.com](mailto:shafferm@msn.com)  
 813-719-3074

Lisa Tanner, Plant City  
[lisananneraud@adhs-brandon.com](mailto:lisananneraud@adhs-brandon.com)  
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**PROFESSIONAL ADVISORS**

James Forstall, Tallahassee  
[jforstall@ftri.org](mailto:jforstall@ftri.org)  
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[pkricos@ufl.edu](mailto:pkricos@ufl.edu)  
 352-273-3723

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**UPCOMING BOARD MEETINGS**

Sat., Oct. 1, 2011 - Delray Beach  
 Sat., March 24, 2012 - Sarasota

**HLAA BLOGS FOR YOU!**

[Brenda Battat's Blog](#)  
[Nancy Macklin's Convention Blog](#)

[Lise Hamlin's Public Policy and Advocacy Blog](#)

[Elizabeth LeBarron's Chapter and State Development Blog](#)

**We are on Facebook!**

**We are on Twitter!**

**We are on Yahoo!**

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.

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**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.

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**Register for HLA Webinars**

**Register Today**

July 21, 2011, 7 p.m. EDT

Guest Speakers: Chris Hasson and Bobbi Scheinin, Au.D

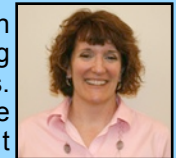
**Topic: The Baha® System: An Introduction**

Chris Hasson is a three-year Baha® recipient and has been working with Cochlear Americas for the past year.



Prior to coming to Cochlear, Mr. Hasson worked in political advertising for the past five years and in hardware/home center sales and marketing for over 20 years before that. Chris is married, has three children and resides in Hartford, CT.

Bobbi Scheinin has her doctorate of audiology and has worked with diagnostics, rehabilitation, hearing solutions, and newborn hearing screening for over 20 years. Dr. Scheinin is the Group Product Manager for Cochlear Americas and leads the Marketing department for Baha® and Vistafix product lines. Bobbi is married, has two beautiful daughters and resides in the Denver area.



**Topic Summary**

The presenters of this webinar will discuss the Baha System, who is an appropriate candidate, the latest in implantable and programmable technology, as well as real-world experiences from a Baha user.

Editor: [Judy G. Martin](#)

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## Searching for members of Port Charlotte and Fort Myers

Do you know anyone who was a member of the deceased chapters in either Port Charlotte or Fort Myers? If so, we would appreciate their names and e-mail addresses, so we can invite them to the state meeting and festivities of March 24, 2012 and other upcoming events. Please send any contact information you may have for these individuals to Judy Martin at [judygmartin@bellsouth.net](mailto:judygmartin@bellsouth.net).



## Worth Repeating

*Forgive me when you see me draw back when I would have gladly mingled with you. My misfortune is doubly painful to me because I am bound to be misunderstood; for me there can be no relaxation with my fellow men, no refined conversations, no mutual exchange of ideas. I must live almost alone, like one who has been banished; I can mix with society only as much as true necessity demands. If I approach near to people a hot terror seizes upon me, and I fear being exposed to the danger that my condition might be noticed.*

—Ludwig van Beethoven, whose hearing began to deteriorate in his late twenties, leading to near deafness

## Attention Members of HLAA in Florida

Don't forget to check out the **special offer on page 3** by CaptionCall. You must be a current member to receive and have installed a free phone.

Not a Member? It's easy to join. Just click on this link.

[\*\*Join HLAA 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.

## HLA-FLORIDA CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

The Hearing Loss Association of Florida (HLA-FL) is seeking qualified individuals to serve on the HLA-FL Board of Trustees for a three-year term beginning October 1, 2011.

### Who is Eligible?

All members of Hearing Loss Association of America (HLAA) who are Florida residents are eligible. HLA-FL is committed to assembling a board comprised of individuals with a diversity of skills, backgrounds, hearing loss, and ages. Hearing applicants with sensitivity to the needs of people with hearing loss will be considered. Ability to work with others is essential. Positive thinkers with the desire to improve the quality of life for hard of hearing Florida residents are encouraged to apply. HLA-FL members can nominate themselves for board membership or nominate another Florida HLAA member (with permission).

### What is Required?

The board meets at least three times a year in locations that vary to provide equitable geographic access. Members are encouraged to attend all meetings. Costs of travel are the members' responsibility. Members are asked to take active roles on standing and ad hoc committees. Meetings are presently held on Saturdays to accommodate employed members. Major committee work occurs between board meetings and is most often transacted by e-mail or chat room, and thus, Board members are required to have e-mail access. Reimbursements of previously approved expenses on behalf of HLA-FL are available to trustees upon request.

### How to Apply for the HLA-FL Board:

Application forms are available by contacting Lisa Tanner, Au.D, Chair, Nominating Committee Chair, 522 Oakfield Drive, Brandon, FL 33511 813-315-9850 [lisananneraud@adhs-brandon.com](mailto:lisananneraud@adhs-brandon.com)

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**Special Statewide Meeting for Chapters**  
**Save the Date! Saturday, March 24, 2012**

Brenda Battat, the Executive Director of the Hearing Loss Association of America (HLAA), is coming to Florida to highlight the ‘State of the Union’ in a special statewide chapter meeting. Mark your calendar for Saturday, March 24, 2012.



She will speak about on *How HLAA is addressing YOUR hearing needs, access and rights*. The extraordinary session will also feature other speakers, including Pat Kricos, President of the American Academy of Audiology. She will provide an update on *Getting in the Loop*, the national initiative to promote hearing loop systems, which her organization is collaborating with HLAA.

This noteworthy gathering is free and will also

include social time to meet with Brenda, Pat and HLA-FL leaders. It will be held on a Saturday, from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. in Sarasota.

Several chapters are expected to make a day trip to participate in this session. Others may wish to stay longer and join two other unique events planned for that same day (see below). Speak to your chapter leaders, as well as other members in your chapter, about car-pooling or other transportation options.



Anyone planning to attend this event should forward their name and the names of any guests to Judy Martin at [judygmartin@bellsouth.net](mailto:judygmartin@bellsouth.net). Your response will be needed to ensure a proper venue is selected for the expected audience.

Dr. Pat Kricos

# Hearing Loss Affects Everyone

## ... including Businesses

The evening of March 24, 2012 will feature a festive wine and cheese reception to network with other HLAA leaders and members. Brenda Battat, Pat Kricos and other speakers will spotlight how

hearing loop systems are transforming communities around the country. The event entitled, *Hearing Loss Affects Everyone . . . including Businesses*, will have some of the newer hearing loop devices being used by theaters, restaurants, pharmacies, banks and many other forums on display for those in attendance to try.

The attendees are expected to include many business and government leaders, as well as doctors and audiologists. More details will follow in the weeks ahead.

**The Florida Coordinating Council for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (FCCDHH) has been effectively silenced by the Governor’s veto as of June 30, 2011. So much work on behalf of the deaf, the hard of hearing, the late-deafened, and the deaf-blind has been done by members of the Council that no price can ever be put on it. As one who has participated in the Council as well as having benefitted from it, I’m disappointed that the three million Floridians with hearing loss will no longer have representation which is focused exclusively on their needs.**

**– Judy G. Martin**



**William J. Lopez II, Au.D.**  
*Doctor of Audiology*

1445 S. Osprey Avenue, Suite 2  
 Sarasota, FL 34239  
 Phone: 941-316-0406  
 Fax: 941-316-9317

## FTRI Connects with Florida Veterans

FTRI had a wonderful opportunity recently to showcase the amplified phone program and promote the Florida Relay service at the American Legion Department of Florida convention in Orlando, June 24-25. More than 2,500 veterans representing Legion Posts from around the state attended this annual event.



A. J. Sondossi

Florida has the third largest population of veterans in the nation with more than 1.6 million, behind California and Texas. According to the US Department of Veteran's Affairs, more than 672,000 veterans receive compensation for hearing loss, making it the second most common disability (behind tinnitus) for veterans receiving compensation.

We knew this convention was an excellent way to connect with our state's veterans. FTRI amplified phones were displayed and connected to simulators so that anyone could test the individual phone features. A separate room was setup for training and phone distribution. Many of the Legion attendees were not familiar with the FTRI program and were overwhelmingly positive once they learned more.

Excited vets who received a phone brought their friends to the exhibit table saying, "You *need* this phone!" A total of 60 phones were distributed. Requests for presentations at Posts around the state poured in.

As part of our strong relationship with HLA-Florida, FTRI distributed the free HLAA membership

application for veterans. The value of HLA as a resource was explained and we encouraged everyone to complete the form. More than 100 HLA-Florida applications were distributed with our packets. We hope HLA sees a boost in membership as a result.



A few more facts about our state's veterans from the Florida Department of Veteran's Affairs 2009-2010 Annual Report:

- There are more than 190,000 military retirees and 28,000 survivors living in Florida.
- Florida has the third largest population of disabled veterans in the nation, with more than 235,000.
- More than 192,000 Operation Enduring Freedom/Operation Iraqi Freedom/Operation New Dawn service members and veterans claim Florida as their home of record.

Florida has the largest number of World War II veterans in the nation, with more than 189,000. There are more than 743,000 veterans in Florida over the age of 65.

Eighty percent of the equipment distributed by FTRI in 2009-2010 was amplified phones to persons 70 years of age or older. FTRI will continue to target our large population of veterans – and continue to promote the HLA-Florida offer of free membership.

–Colleen Schuster, FTRI Outreach Manager



Erin Lewis



Connecting People to People



## No ordinary person

I want to share with you about a ordinary person who is extraordinary, who is so caring, whose instinct is to put someone else's needs ahead of her own. She doesn't have a degree or a Ph.D, she hasn't written any books or given any lectures, but she has the very special gift of connecting with people. She is always there to listen, helping others find the answers within themselves. She encourages others to see that, although a situation cannot always be changed, they can how they think and respond to it. She has the gift of being able to see and bring out the good in every person or situation.

Although I had seen her use this very special talent over the years, I became a recipient when I suddenly lost all of my hearing and went from the hearing world to one of silence. Being the person she is, she met the challenge. She did not walk in front of me to rescue me, nor did she walk behind me to catch me if I fell, but she walked beside me held my hand and supported me seeking out everything available to make a positive out of a negative. Through her efforts, I now have a cochlear implant and can hear again.

*By now you have guessed that I am talking about my wife, Bev.*

Bev continues to support and share with others what we have learned together from our experiences:

- She was the recipient of the Family Involvement Award from the national organization Self Help for Hard of Hearing People (SHHH) – now known as Hearing Loss Association of America (HLAA) – recognizing her as a role model for family support of a hard of hearing member.

- She and I helped develop and

conducted a six-week workshop Living With Hearing Loss for the hard of hearing person along with a family member or friend.

- Helped start a support group in Orlando – HLAA Orlando – in which we meet for dinner once a month to fellowship and share with others who are on the same journey of dealing with the issues of hearing loss.



*Merv and Bev Daniels*

Here's what some of her friends say: "Bev has been a pillar of the local HLA community for over 10 years. She has organized the gatherings of our meeting many times over. At each meeting she facilitates topics and assists with conversations for the group in challenging listening environments. Often she assists people on a one-to-one basis with to learn new ways to cope with hearing loss." – Jim D.

"I have seen Bev stand out as an inspirational advocate for those with hearing loss. She is always promoting and sharing hearing-related in-

formation with those who need assistance. She is quite a motivator and an inspiration to everyone" –Art M.

"My husband and I are new to the support group and Bev really helped us to feel better about my husband's cochlear implant operation, which he had on May 2. He is healing well and on May 27, he will be able to hear in the left ear for the first time in 60 yrs. Thank you, Bev, for all your help you have given us. You really help to feel better. *Your caring words really help.*" Debra K.

"Bev has always been a beautiful woman in my eyes, both inside and out. I remember as Bev was counseling a woman who was distraught over the impact of her hearing loss on her job and in her relationships with family members, she was so wonderful in giving the woman hope and encouragement through both practical ideas [i.e. ALD's] and with relational/emotional support. It brought tears to my eyes to watch Bev *in action.*" –Virgi

"Bev is a unique and very special person who has made a difference in my life. I was struggling to adjust to my hearing loss and was frightened because it seemed to be deteriorating at a rapid rate. I saw a notice of a support group that was meeting at Disney, at the time, and my husband and I attended. Bev greeted us in her warm and friendly manner which made us feel comfortable in the group. I will always remember her interest, understanding and kindness to me. Her support was one of the things that helped me accept my hearing loss a little better. I saw how graciously she interacted with everyone and admire her very much. Even though the two behind-the-ear aids that I wear are still adequate, I know there is the possibility of having a cochlear implant in the

*–Continued on next page*

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future.” –Eileen

One evening, Bev received a phone call from a person in south Florida who related that they had a very dear friend who was incarcerated in an Orlando Detention Center for drug abuse, and was in rehabilitation treatment. In order to be transferred to a half-way house, the final step was to participate in group therapy and share; however, because of her inability to hear, she was unable to take part. The friend was hoping that Bev could help her. Bev responded, “Let me call and see if I can get in to see her. I’m sure

that there is something I can do.” Bev made the call and was permitted to see her. After talking with the woman, Bev let her try an assistive listening device which she had brought along. It worked very well and the young lady was able to take part in the group and proceed to the half-way house. In order to move on with her life and leave the half-way house, she needed to find a job. Again her hearing loss would hold her back because she needed a hearing aid. Bev made some calls and a member of our group relayed this information to his hearing aid specialist. The provider said he

would test her and fit her with an aid. Next, Bev got permission to take her to the specialist who did as he promised. Everyone should have been able to see her face when the aid was turned on. The young woman went on to be a productive member of society.

– Merv Daniels  
(Proud Husband)

Channel 6 in Orlando wanted to do a segment on people who make a difference. Of course, Merv Daniels responded with a letter his wife and the TV station contacted them. The segment will be shown at a later date.

Researchers tell us that only about 25 percent of what is said can be understood by lipreading.

For example:

*Suppose a woman says:*

"This place is a mess! C'mon,  
You and I need to clean this place up,  
Your stuff is lying all over on the floor  
and you'll have no clothes to wear tomorrow unless we do the laundry right now!"

*Her lipreading husband will get:*

blah, blah, blah, blah, **C'MON**  
**YOU AND I** blah, blah, blah, blah,blah,  
blah, blah, blah, **ON THE FLOOR**  
blah, blah, **NO CLOTHES** blah, blah,  
blah, blah, blah, blah, **RIGHT NOW!**

**According to the National Institute on Deafness and Communication Disorders (NIDCD), 18 percent of American adults 45-64 years of age report hearing loss. Thirty percent (30%) of adults 65-74 old report hearing loss. Forty seven (47%) percent of adults 70 years of age or older report hearing loss.**

**The years between 19 and 44 are the years when hearing loss most often gets reported, although 10% of hearing loss is first reported in the years between 6-18.**

**Graph of age at which hearing loss begins can be accessed at:**

**<http://www.nidcd.nih.gov/health/statistics/begins.htm>**

**–Contributed by Valerie Stafford-Mallis**

## Tips for Campers Who are Deaf/Hard of Hearing

It's about time: summer is finally here! The sun is out, school is done and the festivities are about to begin. For many t(w)eens, summer means CAMP. (A.K.A Escape to a heavily wooded enclave with lots of s'mores where parents do not exist.) And that does not exclude those who are deaf/hard of hearing, like myself.

My first memory of camp is the movie *The Parent Trap*. It was during this film after watching one of the two protagonists (both played by a young Lindsay Lohan) set up a gigantic prank involving rope, honey and mischief that I knew I wanted to go to sleep away camp. So, when I finally left home for the first time at the age of 9 for a small camp situated in the woods of Maine, I was more than excited. I was anxious to meet my new "sister" (A.K.A. the one that my parents hid from me à la *Parent Trap*.) and play lots of pranks on the counselors. Well, camp didn't go quite like that. Obviously, I didn't meet my fake twin—though I am inclined to believe that my camp BFF and I are "sisters in spirit." But what really differentiated my camp experience from *The Parent Trap's* Annie and Hallie's was my hearing loss.



Prior to arriving, I had neglected to recognize the impact of my hearing loss on my summer. Though I had the best time ever, my hearing loss played a large role in my friendships, my activities and my sleeping schedule.

But, it loss did not define my summer rather it restricted it. I had to follow some basic guidelines; these were regulations that other campers (non-deaf/hard of hearing) did not have to. Some were set in stone from the beginning of my camp career. Others were determined after mishaps—both large and small. So, whether this is your first year at a day camp or your umpteenth year at a sleep away camp, here are some of the tips I learned during my ten years of being a camper with a hearing loss.

1) Not to sound like a mom, but don't forget to apply sunscreen—especially on your ears! After a few hours sunbathing for the perfect tan, it is extremely painful to wear hearing aids when your ears are burned and peeling. Trust me, I know...

2) Choose the bottom bunk bed! One year at camp, I

wrongly chose the top bunk. (I thought it would be like sleeping in a cool loft—FALSE!) Then I slept through a fire drill because I could not hear the fire alarm. I realized that if it had been a real fire I would be dead. It is better to choose the bottom bunk bed because it takes less time to run outside than when having to climb down from the top bunk. P.S. Make sure that you can hear the fire alarm...or at least see it.



*Arielle Schacter*

3) Don't forget to pack your travel dehumidifier, instead of an electric-powered dehumidifier. This way you can set it up right next to your bed. Why should you have to walk a long distance at night to the nearest electric outlet to grab your hearing aids when everyone else is having fun at the slumber party? Also, don't put your aids away until at least 11:30! This way you can join in the nighttime whispers.

4) Every camp requires at least one swimming session. Hopefully, you know not to wear your hearing aids into the pool or the gross lake. Instead give them to a responsible counselor ... you should note that not all counselors who are 17 years old are responsible. Make sure to determine whether you trust this counselor before handing over your hearing aids. Also, a side note about water and hearing aids: sailing is NOT fun without your hearing aids.

5) When your camp takes you to an amusement park, take out your hearing aids *before* riding the rollercoaster! When your hearing aid falls out mid-ride, it is NOT fun explaining to your parents how you lost it. Trust me ...

6) S'mores at a bonfire are delicious. But, they're not as fun when you touch your hearing aids (...or hair) after eating one. Remember, the marshmallow is sticky. So, your fingers are sticky. So, when you touch your hearing aid, it becomes ... so gross that you don't want to know.

7) Pack EXTRA hearing aid batteries ...

I hope you have the best possible camp experience this summer, no matter what you do! Not to sound like an old-fashion cliché, but my last rule is: Have fun!!!!!!

—Arielle Schacter

*Arielle is a young New Yorker who has a moderate-to-severe hearing loss. Check out her website: [bf4life-hearing.weebly.com/about-arielle-schacter.html](http://bf4life-hearing.weebly.com/about-arielle-schacter.html)*

## Christopher Artinian, Convention Keynote Speaker

By Cheryl Heppner, <http://www.nvrc.org/>

The hot topic at this convention on Thursday evening and Friday morning was Christopher Artinian's powerful keynote address at the Opening Session. It was intensely moving and resonated with so many of us. I'd always wanted to know "the rest of the story" after seeing a film about this family a decade ago, and I got my wish with cherries on top.

Barbara Kelley, HLAA Deputy Executive Director, introduced Chris Artinian. He is the head of the largest group of upscale restaurants as President and CEO of Morton's Restaurant Group, Inc. In the audience with him were a large contingent of Morton employees.

The saga of how Chris came to be the keynote speaker started with a baseball game. Barbara's son was on a team and she got to chatting with a Morton employee named Mike whose son also was playing. He saw brochures of the Walk4Hearing that she'd placed on a table and got to talking of his family experiences with hearing loss. Later he sent her contact information for Chris.

Chris, whose son and others in his family accompanied him for the evening, began his address by saying he's not in his element with public speaking and doesn't do it often. He told us the thing that has resonated with him throughout his career is that the restaurant business is all about people, and he said he got seven of them to add to the Chicago Walk4Hearing with his family. This, of course, drew a very hearty round

of applause.

As a hearing child who grew up around deafness, Chris said talking about his journey is an emotional thing at times. His son, Peter, received a cochlear implant at 11 months of age, back at a time when cochlear implants were hotly debated by the Deaf community. There are generations of deaf people in the Artinian family, and they felt betrayed or not respected when he told them he and his wife wanted to have Peter implanted. His story was made famous when it was captured on film, with scenes of the visits to check out option and the heated and painful discussions with his family, for whom communication through American Sign Language was a long and cherished tradition.

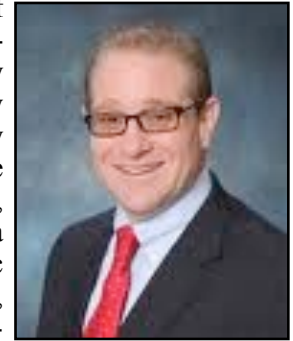
"Even though I'm hearing, I feel I am a product of Deaf culture," Chris said. He has classic values about deafness and said he does not believe deafness is a condition that needs to be fixed. Chris said his son loves his deaf roots as much as Chris cherishes them.

Deaf culture, Chris explained, puts more value on the group than the individual, and it was a group long before Facebook and Twitter which valued its sense of community. Everyone stayed connected and supported each other.

He believes Deaf culture has evolved since Peter was implanted 11 years ago. He used to have strangers stop him or his wife and make angry remarks, treating him as a traitor who had betrayed them. They felt he did not accept his son's deafness and that meant he also did not accept deaf people. Yet he was and still is proud of his history. His first language was sign language, his friends were deaf, and when he visited his brothers in college their friends didn't know he was hearing. He believes the values

he learned from them helped him become successful.

The film about his saga was, he thinks, a microscope of the Deaf community at the time, when cochlear implants were considered to be the death of Deaf culture. They were new technology that came a long, made a dramatic difference, and reshaped education for deaf children.



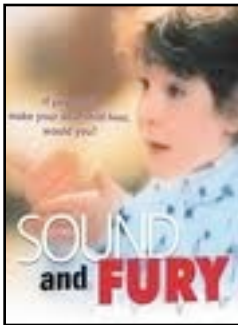
Chris Artinian

"It was the right choice for us," Chris said, "But this doesn't mean it's for everyone." In making the decision about whether to do the implant, he tried to keep his focus on his right to choose and asked deaf people to keep an open mind. The cochlear implant, he told them, was just a tool. It required a lot of work and rehabilitation, and Peter was still deaf.

This approach worked for Chris and his family. He urged us to do what helped them — educate ourselves, keep an open mind, and stay objective. He believes that things have changed during the past 11 years, and that in this environment Deaf culture will continue to evolve and stay strong.

Peter joined Chris onstage to a great round of applause and remained while Chris completed his address.

Peter's choices continue to inspire Chris, who recalled how, after receiving his cochlear implant, Peter listened so intently. Peter was such a workaholic with his strong desire to constantly take in sound that he



asked for a second cochlear implant. On Peter's first day of school, Chris was apprehensive about how he would fare in a class with hearing children. That concern was shared with the teacher. Later she told him that she didn't know why he was so worried, because Peter was the first child to put a hand up when she asked the children who would like to talk about summer experiences. And, she said, Peter told wonderful stories.

"I can't tell you how many birthdays Peter asked for a cake in the shape of a cochlear implant," Chris

said with a laugh. However, he noted that Peter's cochlear implant journey hasn't always been smooth; he had two failures of the implant in the original ear and was reimplanted.

Now Peter's goal is to attend college. He wants to be an airline pilot and has pushed Chris to let him have flying lessons. His other career choice is to become a cochlear implant surgeon.

Chris loves to be able to live in both worlds seamlessly. When he's tired of something he just shuts down his cochlear implants and chills in

full deafness. Grandma and Grandpa Artinian have come around. Initially afraid that he wouldn't accept his deafness, they now say the implant was the right decision and are very proud of him and proud to be with him. Several other grandchildren now have cochlear implants.

"Peter knows he's deaf, but doesn't let it define him," Chris said.

### [See more Convention Reports](#)

For more information about the "Sound and Fury," click [here](#).

## A list of venues looped for sound in Florida

If you know of others, please email the information to [HearYeHearYe2006@gmail.com](mailto:HearYeHearYe2006@gmail.com)

Anna Maria Island - Episcopal Church of the Annunciation  
 Clearwater - Our Lady of Lourdes  
 Clearwater - St. Michael Church  
 Dade City - Church of Christ at Trilacoochee,  
 Dover (underway) - First Baptist Church  
 Dunedin - The Kirk of Dunedin Community Church  
 Dunedin - Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church  
 Gainesville - Grace Presbyterian Church  
 Gainesville - Oak Hammock at University of Florida  
 Largo - City of Largo Public Library  
 Largo - Largo Community Center  
 Marco Island - Marco Presbyterian Church  
 Melbourne - Melbourne 7th Day Adventist Church  
 Merritt Island - Redeemer Lutheran Church  
 Merritt Island - St. Luke's Episcopal Church  
 Miami Shores - Miami Shores Presbyterian Church,  
 Naples - Moorings Park Retirement Community  
 Naples - Naples United Church of Christ  
 St. Petersburg - St. Peter's Episcopal Cathedral  
 St. Petersburg - Westminster Presbyterian Church  
 Sarasota - Alderman Oaks Retirement Community  
 Sarasota - Caragulio's Restaurant  
 Sarasota - North Sarasota Public Library  
 Sarasota - Owen's Fish Camp  
 Sarasota - Whole Foods Market, Cash Register #1  
 Sun City Center - St. Andrew Presbyterian Church (Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall)  
 Tallahassee - Westminster Retirement Communities Foundation  
 Tampa - First Presbyterian Church  
 The Villages - Ashley Wilkes Room, The Savannah Center  
 The Villages - Community Development District Boardroom  
 West Palm Beach - Hope Lutheran Church Parsonage  
 Winter Haven - Village Church of God



Judy and her *Hearing Dog*

## Lighter moments at the convention

Cindy Dyer was taking photos of people at the convention for the Hearing Loss Magazine. I was watching Rosemary Tuite and Kathy Borzell posing with Janet, Rosemary's hearing dog. The arrangement looked so cute that I said, to no one in particular, "I wish I had a dog." My friend Betty, from Delaware, immediately put up her paws (hands), stuck her tongue out and began panting. We all laughed like crazy. Later, I received a photo from Betty; it was a creation that will certainly remind us of a funny, funny moment.

—Judy G. Martin



## OUR CHAPTERS SPEAK . . .

### Miami in the wings !!!

A new chapter is forming in that area. Joe Dashiell enthusiastically writes that they had an initial meeting to determine interest. Some members from the previous chapter attended, a couple of audiology professionals along with some who are new to HLA.

Nine people agreed to meeting August at the South Florida ENT office. Located centrally, the venue should appeal to those further south. Many grabbed a handful of membership applications to distribute. Another new member is arranging for a speaker and yet another will provide refreshments.

They spent time chatting and getting to know each other and said they had a great time.

You can reach Joe at  
[joe.dashiell@gmail.com](mailto:joe.dashiell@gmail.com) or  
 305.213.4092 (M)

### Hearing Aid/Device Satisfaction

EARtrak is interested in your hearing care experience as a consumer. They would like your opinions about the quality of service, and the performance of your most recently-fitted hearing aid/device(s). To obtain your opinion, they would like you to complete the [EARtrak survey](#). Please be assured that all surveys are confidential, and that your personal information has remained with us unless you choose to have this forwarded to your service provider.




**Hearing Loss Association of Sarasota**



**Seminar Presenter**  
 Ed Ogiba, President  
 Hearing Loss Association of Sarasota  
[www.hlas.org](http://www.hlas.org)

**Join Us at Alderman Oaks to Learn About T-Coil Programs Benefiting Individuals with Hearing Loss Issues**

**Wednesday, August 24**  
**10:30 AM to 12:00 PM**  
 Refreshments Served

**Alderman Oaks is the First and Only Retirement Community in Sarasota to have installed a Hearing Loop System!**

**Other organizations currently offering Looped Systems are ..**

- ~ Caragiulos Restaurant
- ~ North Sarasota Library
- ~ Owen's Fish Camp
- ~ Several Private Homes
- ~ Whole Foods Market

**For more information or to Register for the Seminar, call (941) 955-9099 or go to –**

**AldermanOaks.com**

Alderman Oaks Retirement Residence  
 727 Hudson Ave., Sarasota, FL 34236  
 (AL #8979)




A **Hearing Loop System** is the only system that sends the voice of a seminar or meeting speaker directly from the microphone into a listener's hearing aids or cochlear implant. Most hearing aids come equipped with a tiny wireless receiver called a **Telecoil** or **T-coil** for short, which makes the reception of this clear, superior sound possible. **Hearing Loop Systems**, which have made theatres, lecture halls, and so many other places much more accessible for those with hearing loss in other cities, are now starting to pop up at various venues in Sarasota. Come to this session to learn how to take advantage of this new system and the full power of the **T-coil** in your hearing aids. We recommend consulting your Audiologist concerning the **T-coil** capabilities of your hearing aids.

During the Seminar at Alderman Oaks, you will be able to personally experience improved hearing that results from T-coil technology and Loop Systems. We will also demonstrate the use of similar Loop Systems presently available at other Sarasota locations.



Caragiulos Restaurant in Downtown Sarasota is a proud sponsor of this Seminar. They have a Hearing Loop System in place to serve their patrons with hearing loss challenges.

**Free Gift Certificates for Seminar Attendees**

## Chapter Collaboration Workshop

### March 24



The morning of March 24, 2012 will feature a special workshop for chapter leaders to learn from each other as we explore various ways to improve our chapters and enhance overall member satisfaction. The roundtable discussion will be led by State Coordinator, Judy Martin, with Brenda Battat as a special expert guest. To ensure the session is focused at issues of the most relevance for each chapter, a short questionnaire will soon be sent to all chapter leaders to help focus the agenda and priorities. All chapter officers and chapter board members are encouraged to register for this special, free workshop with Judy Martin at [judygmartin@bellsouth.net](mailto:judygmartin@bellsouth.net).



**Hearing Loss  
Association  
of America**  
Lee County Florida Chapter

The Lee County chapter of HLAA- been inactive for some time. Jim and Lois Smith of Lehigh Acres would like to activate it. They were leaders of the Naples Chapter before moving to Lehigh three years ago. If you are interested in getting the Chapter going again, please contact them at [lojims@embarqmail.com](mailto:lojims@embarqmail.com) with **Lee County HLAA** in the Subject line. Or call Jim at 239-369-7532. They are anxious for you to contact them!

–Jim and Lois Smith



**Hearing Loss  
Association  
of Gainesville**

A meeting was held June 2 at The Village, a retirement community in Gainesville. Approximately 20 people attended the event sponsored by Cochlear Americas, the Hearing Loss Association of Gainesville, and The Village. Speakers were Debbie Kroker, The Village; Lynn Rousseau, HLA-Gainesville; and Jim Conner, Cochlear Awareness Volunteer.

Debbie Kroker welcomed all to The Village and provided an overview of the recent Hearing Loss Magazine featuring Lynn Rousseau.

Lynn Rousseau provided an overview of the Hearing Loss Association of Florida and strategies for living with hearing loss.

Jim Conner provided an overview of his cochlear implant, explaining how it worked. The University of Florida was kind to loan a processor and implant so that attendees could see these devices.

Staff from CapTel provided a demonstration of a captioned phone system.

Do you live in the Ocala, Miami-Dade  
or Lee County areas?

A few good people are looking for a few more good people to establish chapters or to build up current ones. Are you one of them?

In Ocala/Marion County, Leigh Ann Watts is hoping to get a group going. She can be reached by email [LALRDW@aol.com](mailto:LALRDW@aol.com).

In Miami-Dade, led Joe Dashiell a group has already met. If you are interested in joining him, his preferred method of contact is email - [joe.dashiell@gmail.com](mailto:joe.dashiell@gmail.com) - or, if you do not have a computer, his cell is 305-213-4092.

In Lee County, Lois Smith, a former member of the Naples chapter, is hoping to encourage more interest in the Lee County chapter or else begin a new chapter. Lois and her husband, Jim, can be reached at [loisjims@embarqmail.com](mailto:loisjims@embarqmail.com)

If you know of other areas where a few good people live, who might be interested in having an HLAA chapter in their neighborhood, please let me know.

Judy Martin,  
Florida State Chapter Coordinator  
[judygmartin@bellsouth.net](mailto:judygmartin@bellsouth.net)

Attendees showed interest in general hearing loss issues and focused on the workings of the cochlear implant; strategies for coping with hearing loss, and the captioned phone system. One cochlear implantee was discouraged with her implant but had not maintained contact with her audiologist. She was mentored about the need for periodic contact with her audiologist so that her problems could be addressed and solved.



**Hearing Loss Seminar  
in Gainesville  
Thurs., July 21, 2 p.m.  
The Village Ballroom**

Debra Shimon - AuD, Assistant Clinical Professor - Audiology Department of Speech, Language and Hearing Sciences UF College of Health Professions Will discuss the importance of diagnostic testing and the latest in hearing instrument technology.

Lynn Rousseau - President, Hearing Loss Association of Gainesville Will speak about the local support group. The HLAA opens the world of communication to people with hearing loss through information, education, advocacy and support.

Debbie Reddish - Florida Trainer, CaptionCall Will present a revolutionary new tool that helps people who have trouble hearing on the phone.

C.A.P.U. (Cochlear Americas Products Users) gathers at the Convention for the second year for a photo op.



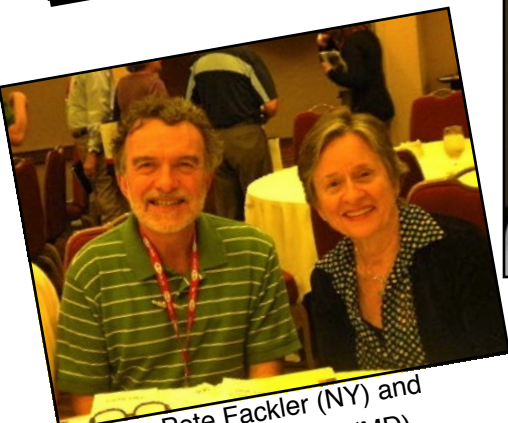
Elizabeth LeBarron and Genevieve (MD)



Richard & Margarita Herring, Judy and Tom Martin



Mike Cano



Pete Fackler (NY) and Brenda Battat (MD)



Alan Brown



Tom Martin, Scott Rinehart, Kaycee, Judy Martin



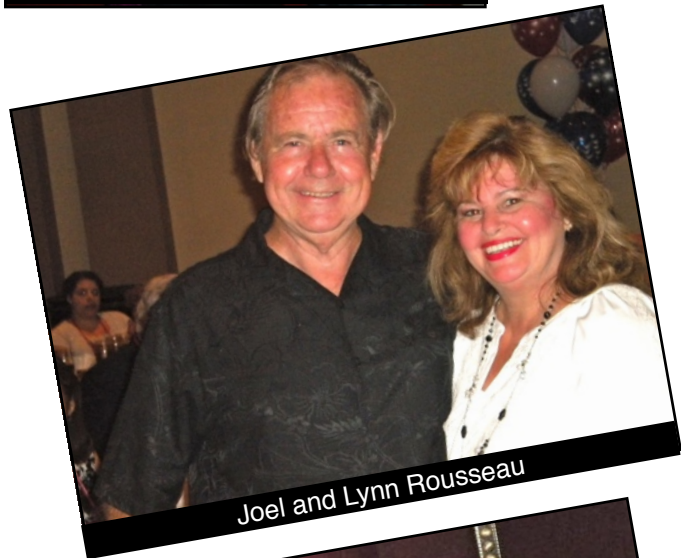
Debbie Mohny (CO) and Jim Diaz



Flo Innes



Judy Martin and Dr. Pat Kricos



Joel and Lynn Rousseau



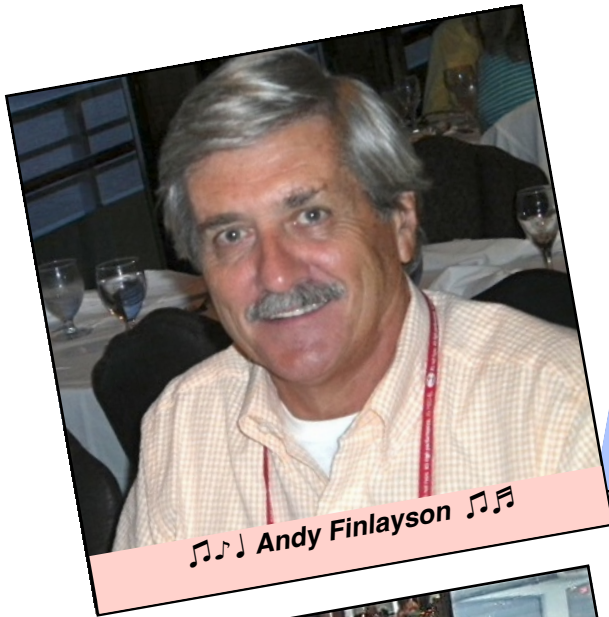
Jim Diaz and Molly Corum



Joan and Steven Haber (center rear) at the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts



Dr. Brad Ingrao



♪♪♪ Andy Finlayson ♪♪



♪♪♪ Joan Haber, Mary & Gary Clark (AZ), and Sister Ann Rooney (CA) ♪♪



♪♪♪ Jim Diaz, Molly Corum and Debbie Mohny (CO) ♪♪



♪♪♪ Joe Dashiell, Joan Haber, Judy and Tom Martin ♪♪

♪♪♪ Cruising down the (Potomac) River on a Sunday Afternoon ♪♪



♪♪♪ Lynn Rousseau and Kathy Borzell ♪♪



♪♪♪ Rosemary Tuite and Flo Innes ♪♪



**Broward County**  
 Karen Frauman  
 954-984-9541 V/TDD  
[kfrauman37@aol.com](mailto:kfrauman37@aol.com)

**Central Florida**  
 Muriel Raine  
 352-751-3464  
[murhlaacntrfl@aol.com](mailto:murhlaacntrfl@aol.com)  
 Jan Sharp  
 352-751-4532  
[fjs4532@embarqmail.com](mailto:fjs4532@embarqmail.com)

**Clearwater**  
 Marjie Anderson  
[marjjea1@gmail.com](mailto:marjjea1@gmail.com)  
 Tess Crowder  
 813-814-7736  
[tmt.tess@verizon.net](mailto:tmt.tess@verizon.net)  
 Janet White  
[jonewhite1@aol.com](mailto:jonewhite1@aol.com)

**Gainesville**  
 Lynn Rousseau  
 352-331-9808  
[HLA Gainesville@aol.com](mailto:HLA Gainesville@aol.com)  
[www.hearinglossassociationofgainesville.com](http://www.hearinglossassociationofgainesville.com)

**Jacksonville**  
 Judy G. Martin  
 904-778-2265  
[judygmartin@bellsouth.net](mailto:judygmartin@bellsouth.net)  
[www.hearinglossassociationofjax.com](http://www.hearinglossassociationofjax.com)

**Lee County**  
 Carl Eason  
 239-573-8120 CapTel  
[cednccfl@aol.com](mailto:cednccfl@aol.com)

**Naples**  
 Walter Renner  
 239-455-6544  
[walcyn@embarqmail.com](mailto:walcyn@embarqmail.com)  
[www.naples.net/presents/naplesears/](http://www.naples.net/presents/naplesears/)

**Orlando**  
 Merv Daniels  
 407-656-9283  
[mmbdaniels@att.net](mailto:mmbdaniels@att.net)  
 Jim Diaz  
 407-366-3024  
[jdiaz@flashhh.org](mailto:jdiaz@flashhh.org)

**Sarasota**  
 Ed Ogiba  
 941-966-8999  
[ed@groupefo.com](mailto:ed@groupefo.com)  
[www.hlas.org](http://www.hlas.org)

**South Palm Beach County**  
 Oscar Segal  
 561-499-9873  
[trip3584@comcast.net](mailto:trip3584@comcast.net)  
[hladelrayboynton.org](http://hladelrayboynton.org)

**Sun City Center**  
 Richard Herring  
 813-642-0558  
[rhmann@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:rhmann@tampabay.rr.com)  
 Shirley Nauman  
 813-634-7280  
[snauman@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:snauman@tampabay.rr.com)  
[www.hla-scc.com/](http://www.hla-scc.com/)

**Tallahassee**  
 James Forstall  
 850-205-1470 ex 230  
[jforstall@ftri.org](mailto:jforstall@ftri.org)  
 Carlos Monserrate  
[Carlos\\_S\\_Monserrate@yahoo.com](mailto:Carlos_S_Monserrate@yahoo.com)

**Tampa**  
 Gail Wachtel-Smith  
 863-815-7179  
[Gailgolf2@aol.com](mailto:Gailgolf2@aol.com)  
 Mike Cano  
[mcano1@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:mcano1@tampabay.rr.com)  
[www.hearinglossstampa.org/](http://www.hearinglossstampa.org/)

**Treasure Coast**  
 Cheryl Nolte  
 772-468-0123  
[noisegone@treasurecoastflhlaa.com](mailto:noisegone@treasurecoastflhlaa.com)  
[www.treasurecoastflhlaa.com](http://www.treasurecoastflhlaa.com)

**Please send corrections for this section to:**  
[HearYeHearYe2006@gmail.com](mailto:HearYeHearYe2006@gmail.com)