



Program Meetings:

Saturday, Mar 9, 2013 10AM - 12PM
Saturday, Apr 13, 2013 10AM - 12PM

Committee Meetings:

TBD

All are welcome to attend our Committee meetings. Please contact Claudia or Bonnie for more information and specific meeting dates.

Steering Committee:

Co-Leaders: Bonnie Adams, Claudia Herczog

Treasurer: Carol M. Smith

Recording Secretary: Claire Sanford

Corresponding Secretary: Nan Cisney

Public Relations: Mary Kohler

Committees:

Hospitality: Pat Porter

Newsletter: Cherie Alvarez

Facebook & Electronics: Jazmin Kildare

Directions to Wood Glen Hall 3010 Foothill Road

- From 101 take the Mission Street exit and drive east toward the mountains.
- Travel four blocks, and turn left onto State Street.
- Drive about ¾ of a mile to the first light at Alamar Avenue.
- Turn right and drive about ½ mile to Foothill Road. Go through the traffic light, Wood Glen is the first building on the right.
- See below parking tips..

Parking Tips

- Come early to give yourself time to park and get comfortable.
- Think green & carpool if you can.
- Call Easy Lift at 681-1181 in advance for transportation. Rides cost about \$7 round-trip.
- Parking in the parking lot is reserved for disabled only. Please park in disabled or visitor parking spots.
- Parking on the street has no time limits.

HLASB Chapter Meeting Saturday, March 9

Hearing Health and Self-Advocacy

10AM - 12PM at Wood Glen Hall Library

3010 Foothill Road, Santa Barbara

We are very pleased to have Marilee Potthoff, Director, Community Education Outreach at the House Research Institute (HRI) and Charlotte Schamadan, Board Member of the House Research Institute (HRI) joining for our March meeting.

Marilee will talk about general hearing health, common forms of hearing loss and current treatments available. She will also tell us HRI's mission and current work.

Marilee was the 2012 camp director for the House Ear Family Camp. An annual weekend fun event for children with hearing loss and their families. The event has been running for 27 years, with 2012's June 1 to 3 Malibu event being their largest attended event yet.

Charlotte will be talking about the importance of self-advocacy. Charlotte grew up with a hearing loss and we'll hear some of her personal hard-of-hear stories. She is an excellent public speaker and we can ex-

pect to hear some entertaining, thought provoking stories.

Charlotte is an active member and treasurer of TAG- Training and Advocacy Group- a Los Angeles area non-profit organization started in 2005 that supports and provides socialization skills and advocacy training to pre-teens and teenagers who are deaf and hard-of-hearing. All TAG services are provided free of charge to participating children's families.

You will not want to miss this very informative and entertaining meeting by two remarkable women.

Our meeting are always free. Coffee and light snacks will be available.

Captioning will be provided and our meeting room is Hearing Looped for those with t-coil equipment hearing devices.



See you on March 9



February's Meeting Recap

If you were able to attend our February meeting "Hearing Loops: From Loss to Listening, I'm sure you agree this meeting was a HUGE success!! We had a remarkable community turnout, in addition to four local Audiologists – Donna Gilmartin of Santa Barbara Hearing Care, David Dodero of Dodero Hearing Center; and Jeff and Tate Danhauer of Hearing Consultants of California - and two Hearing Aid Dispensers - Chuck Sasala of IPC Hearing Aid Center and Kim Danhauer of Hearing Consultants of California.

Before beginning the presentation, Juli-

ette, with the help of Otojoy personnel, insured everyone was set up to hear through the Hearing Loop. She provided portable hearing devices for those that did not have a t-coiled hearing devices or so they could experience the Loop System.

Juliette is an incredible speaker and her presentation was engaging and educational. She touched on the history of Hearing Loops and their use and growth in other countries, like Europe. She explained how Hearing Loops work, where they work the best, and why we hear better with them. *(continue on page 2)*

Join HLAA

Membership of our national organization is \$35 annually for an individual (\$95 for three years and \$140 for five years). You will receive 6 issues of Hearing Loss Magazine, Information, support, & access to a network of many other hard of hearing (HOH) individuals. Please remember you are not alone. <http://www.hearingloss.org/content/join>

Literature Table

Please take notice of our available literature. We have a tip sheet for the HOH with a detailed list of ways to help with communication. Look for another helpful item titled Five Cool Things Your Cell Phone Can Do ask us if there is any special information you are looking for.

CTAP

California Telephone Access Program (CTAP) Field Office is at the Independent Living Resource Center at 423 West Victoria on the 2nd & 4th Wednesday of every month between 9-12 and 1-3. (805) 963-0595. No appointment needed. Visit CTAP website for an application [http://ddtp.cpuc.ca.gov/uploadedFiles/New_Navigation_Structure/Applications/EnglishCertForm\(1\).pdf](http://ddtp.cpuc.ca.gov/uploadedFiles/New_Navigation_Structure/Applications/EnglishCertForm(1).pdf) or you can pick one up at our monthly chapter meeting.

Help Wanted

If you are interested in helping our chapter with the sign-in table, social events, helping new members, suggesting and/or arranging for a speaker or interesting program or helping with various outreach events, please contact any board or committee member.

Donate Your Old Hearing Aids

Bring your old hearing aids to our monthly meetings. We will see they get to the Lion's club for reuse. See Claudia Herczog for more information.

HLA/SB Fundraising Programs

www.iGive.com: Join iGive and turn your shopping & searching into donations for Hearing Loss Association of Santa Barbara. It's free to join.

Ink Cartridge Recycle Program:

Bring your used ink cartridges to our monthly meetings and Bonnie Adams will recycle them at Staples for \$2 store credit to help buy needed chapter supplies.

February Meeting Recap (continued)

Juliette talked directly to the Audiologist and Hearing Aid Dispensers about the importance of their role in spreading the word about Hearing Loops to their patients, including looping their waiting rooms so their patients could experience the Hearing Loops. Juliette said she felt that Audiologists were the missing link in driving Hearing Loops education and success in this county. Once the Hard of Hearing community is more aware of what Hearing Loops are and how great they are, then we will help drive this effort forward by demanding that more places install them, like churches, meeting halls, concert hall, lecture rooms, theatres, ticket booths, etc.

The benefit and impact of Hearing Loops on those with a hearing loss is unbelievable. We witnessed this at our meeting; the amazement and excitement people felt about being able to hear so clearly and so easily throughout the meeting. Everyone was fully engaged. If anyone left this meeting not believing that Hearing Loops are the absolutely best way to hear, I would be very surprised. We were all hooked on Juliette's passion and drive and absolutely convinced that we need to get more Santa Barbara area businesses and churches to Loop their facilities.

After Juliette's presentation, Otojoy founder Tom Kaufmann spoke a little about his business and the costs of Hearing Loops.

As you know, Tom installed our Hearing Loop at Wood Glen Hall. To loop a facility this size costs about \$2,000-\$3,000. To loop your home TV room costs about \$400.00. Yes, you can loop your TV.

Tom is very enthusiastic about Looping Santa Barbara and it shows. He cares very much about the Hard-of-Hearing community and wants to help loop as many facilities as possible. To help Tom further the Hearing Loop cause, it would be greatly appreciate that those of you that attended the February meeting and used the Hearing Loop, to complete an online survey of your experience. The survey takes about five minutes. The information obtained is invaluable to Otojoy and will help them better understand and serve our community, as well as help the drive to Loop Santa Barbara. Please click go to www.otojoy.com/survey.

Thank you Juliette and Otojoy for an absolutely awesome meeting. Thank you to Claudia Herczog for all her work in making this meeting happen. And thank you to the Audiologist and Hearing Aid Dispensers who joined us to learn more about Hearing Loops. They're attendance reinforced that if we work together, we can impact our community in a very positive way for those of us living with a hearing loss. It will take some time, but we will get there, together!



HLAA National, State and Local News

HLAA Convention is just four months away on June 27-30 in Portland, Oregon. The full activity registration fee is \$329 for first-time members attending the convention and \$359 if you've attended before, up to May 31, 2013.

So far, we have four member attending.

The convention schedule is broken into the following categories with discussions running just about all day long, in addition

to vendor exhibits.

- Advocacy
- Assistive & Other Technology
- More Advocacy & Technology
- Hearing Aids & Cochlear Implants
- Relationships & Communication
- State/Chapter Development Room.

For more information or to register, go to <http://www.hearingloss.org/content/registration>

How to reach us

For further information about our chapter, please contact one of our co leaders:

Claudia: 684-2788 / czog16@gmail.com
Bonnie: adams@silcom.com

Monthly Newsletter

To receive this newsletter by email, provide suggestions or comments, or to submit an article for inclusion, please contact: Cherie Alvarez at chalvarez@cox.net.

Tax Deductible Donation

We are a non profit 501(3)(c) organization and all donations to our chapter are tax deductible. We must rely on the generosity of our Chapter members to provide the kind of support that you all deserve. You can mail donations to our treasurer

HLASB
c/o Carol Smith
9 Solana Court
Santa Barbara, CA 93109-1046

Follow us on Facebook

Like us on Facebook and keep up to date on what is happening in the Hearing Loss world. You can find us as **Hearing Loss Association of Santa Barbara**, or click the link below or copy & paste to your browser.

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Hearing-Loss-Association-of-Santa-Barbara/179522682073745?ref=ts&fref=ts>

Join Our Yahoo Discussion Group

Go to <http://health.groups.yahoo.com/group/HLAA-SB/>

HLAA Convention 2013

June 27-30 2012

Portland, Oregon

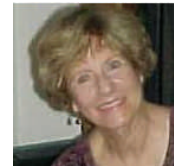
Oregon Convention Center

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



HLASB Member Profile

- Name:** Nan Cisney
- How severe is your hearing loss?** Profound
- What device(s) do you use for hearing?** Hearing Aid and Cochlear Implant
- How long have you had a hearing loss?** 40 years
- What type of hearing loss do you have?** Progressive
- Hearing Loss Cause?** Vestibular aqueduct, which is Hereditary/ Congenital Hearing Loss
- How long have you been a member of the HLAA/HLASB?** Since its inception in 1979
- How did you first get involved with HLASB?** Invited by founding mother Zelda Fields
- What is an advantage of your hearing loss?** Can turn off noise
- What is the most challenging aspect of your hearing loss?** Impaired ability to participate in conversations
- Can you hear on the phones? If not, how do you compensate?** I use a captioned phone and rely mainly on email
- What is your favorite hearing assistant device or gadget?** I don't like gadgets
- What kind of work do you do or did you do (if retired)?** Writing, editing, teaching, etc
- Where did you grow up?** Began the process in New York and continued it to Santa Barbara
- Where is your favorite place to be?** At Hendry's beach, as the sun is going down
- In my spare time?** Dance, read, study Italian, volunteer as a docent at the zoo.
- My hobbies are?** Touring adults as a Docent @ SBMA
- One of my short term goals is?** Learn more Italian
- One of my long term goals is?** Communicating better
- Favorite quote, saying, or motto?** "You can try a man for killing, but you can't kill a man for trying" and "There ain't a horse that can't be rode or a cowboy that can't be thrown"



My Journey to a Cochlear Implant

By Cherie Alvarez

My right Cochlear Implant was activated on February 7. I went back for my second and third activations on February 8 & 21. I return again on March 21. My left CI will be remapped and my right side hearing will be tested.

I am understanding sound, though things are still a little high pitched and distant. I started using the interactive listening rehabilitation program from Cochlear Americas, same as I did with my first implant. This training helps me focus on and develop my right side, which is important, since I'm wearing both CI's during the day and my older CI seems to be dominating the scene.

I'm not quite ready to use the phones on my new CI side yet. Sound is not clear

enough yet. But it will come with time, patience, and practice, practice, practice.

Being bi-lateral has definitely increased overall sound for me and I am hearing better in noisy environment. This was tested after our chapter meeting in February. Boy was it loud in there with all those people socializing. Despite, I was able to hear very well in the conversations I was in. At home, we have been playing music too, something we couldn't do before, as I wasn't able to hear or understand over the music. It doesn't seem to be such a struggle for me now. My girls are loving it. I really like hearing in surround sound; my hearing feels more complete with my two CI's.

So the journey continues.....