



Have you Heard?

HLAA-SBC.org

HLASB Chapter Meeting Saturday, November 9

Independent Living Resource Center

10AM - 12PM at Wood Glen Hall Library

3010 Foothill Road, Santa Barbara

Jo Black, Executive Director of the Independent Living Resource Center (ILRC) will be our November speaker. Jo will first give us an overview of the services offered at ILRC, then she'll talk about Advocacy and its function, and then wrap up her discussion with an update on the California Communication Access Foundation (CCAF) grant she is working on for the "Let's Loop Santa Barbara" campaign.

As you know, the ILRC obtained a CCAF grant earlier this year entitled "Hearing Technology Education and Outreach". From this grant, the "Let's Loop Santa Barbara" campaign was started and Kase Martis was obtained to lead this awesome program. Jo is working on another grant to keep the campaign going.

CCAF is a non-profit corporation that specializes in improving access to telecommunications ser-

vices for people with disabilities and other traditionally underserved populations.

The ILRC promotes independent living and full access for individuals with disabilities through advocacy, education and action in our communities.

Light refreshments will be served. Our meeting will be captioned and our room is Hearing Looped.

See you on Saturday, November 9.

October Meeting Recap

Our October meeting with Denise Filotas from Cottage Hospital was very good. I think those that attended learned a lot about the challenges hospitals face in providing for the needs of their patients, in addition to their medical needs. And I believe Denise picked up some very useful feedback from us. Thank you to all that were able to attend.

Training of hospital staff is extremely important so that caregivers understands the needs of the hard-of-hearing, to have assistant listening devices available when needed, and to have an effective process in place

to communicate to others staff members our hearing loss status and needs. Effective communication is an essential part of the quality of care we receive.

At the same time, hard-of-hearing patients have responsibilities too. We must state our needs or at least that we are hard of hearing, to not bluff, to advocate for yourself, and to be patient. We may need to state our needs multiple times.

My biggest take away from our meeting was that Cottage Hospital really does care about all their patients.

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Our Chapter Says Good-Bye to a Friend

Mary Faye Babcock
6/23/1926—9/30/2013

Mary was born on her family's sheep farm in Australia. Her family moved to London when she was very young. She survived the bombings when she was in her teens. Her life changed in a big way when she met her future husband, Ralph, at a USO dance. They married and came to America and settled in Brentwood and

Santa Monica. Mary had become a hairdresser while in England and became a stylist for both television and the motion picture studios after her arrival in the States.

Mary and Ralph moved to Carpinteria in 1980 where they invested in property and built a home above Foothill Road.

Mary is survived by her three sons, Bret (Karen), Wayne, Bill

and five grandchildren. She attended our meetings for some time and served on the hospitality committee, until her health no longer enabled her to do so.

We fondly remember her as an anonymous supporter of our chapter. It was her generous donation that made it possible for us to generate the monies we needed to have our meeting room looped. She will be missed by many.

The basic difference between being assertive and being aggressive is how our words and behavior affect the rights and well being of others

Sharon Anthony Bower

Chapter Meetings –A Look Ahead

Here's a look at the first half of our 2013-14 program year.

December 14– Family Therapy Institute of Santa Barbara.

Debra Manchester, Executive Director will talk about how hearing loss impacts family as well as what her non-profit organization has to offer to families in need of assistance in coping with their hearing loss. Along with our holiday, pot-luck social afterwards, this will be a true family event.

January 11– Sam Simon Foundation. Janelle Hackman will tell us about Sam Simon's Hearing

Dogs and we'll get to meet and see one of their hearing dogs in action.

February 8– HLAA Our chapter will be leading this month's meeting on HLAA. We will talk briefly about the history of HLAA, how HLAA helps all of us, chapter structures, and membership benefits. We will have HLAA membership applications on hand.

March 8– Let's Loop Santa Barbara. We will recap our first year of looping efforts in Santa Barbara and discuss our path forward.

Directions to Wood Glen Hall

3010 Foothill Road, Santa Barbara

- From the 101, take the Mission Street exit and drive east toward the mountains.
- Travel four blocks, and turn left onto State Street.
- Drive about $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile to the first light at Alamar Avenue.
- Turn right and drive about $\frac{1}{2}$ mile to Foothill Road. Go through the traffic light, Wood Glen is the first building on the right.

HLAA-SBC is affiliated with the Hearing Loss Association of America, an international organization dedicated to opening the world of communication to people with hearing loss by providing information, education, support and advocacy. We are a non-profit and non-sectarian.

Our Website

Have you visited HLAASBC.org yet? Our website is a very important communication and outreach tool for our chapter. Two key things— it allows others to find us and to learn about us.

Our newsletter and Facebook are important communication tools too, but for different reasons. Our newsletter keeps us connected and allows our chapter to share important information with you on what is what is happening both locally and nationally with HLAASBC. It also reaches all our members, even those that are not part of the technological world. Its limitation is that it only comes out once a month, so its not always possible to get current information to you this way. Facebook helps to fill

the gap between newsletters, but of course it doesn't reach all our members. Like our website, Facebook has the potential to reach prospective members and helps us drive new visitors to our website.

Our website is still growing and more information is being added and we are keeping our chapter meeting information current. The next important step is to get the word out. We are "advertising" our website through our newsletter, Facebook, our brochure, chapter business cards, and email outreach to various venues in the Santa Barbara area. We also need you, our members, to spread the word. Telling people about our site allows you to share a lot about our chapter without having to say

a whole lot. At our next chapter meeting, please pick up some brochures and/or chapter business cards to share with others. Together, we can make a difference.

Website Highlight

Our Literature committee has created an awesome Lending Library with some great books on Hearing Loss. The full list of books is available on our website under Resources. You can borrow any of the books listed by sending a note to Claudia Herczog at czog16@gmail.com. We have recent publications, including, *Shouting Won't Help: Why I—and 50 Million Other Americans—Can't Hear You* by Katherine Bouton.

Growing Our Chapter

If you've visited our website, the first thing you probably noticed was our chapter motto "*Coping with a hearing loss can be difficult and stressful. We can help!*" I absolutely believe this. I believe it because I've been helped by this chapter. Have you? We have something to offer other hard-of-hearing in our community. People can really benefit from attending our meetings and getting to know you and I.

The key to retaining members is that first visit they make to our chapter meetings. While an engaging presentation is helpful, the most important aspect for any of us, it to be able to connect to our

group. There's two sides to this connection, theirs and ours. All of us play an important role in the first impression our chapter makes on a new member.

While our sign-in table plays a key role to welcoming new visitors and providing a strong, positive first impression, the social time after our presentation is where members really connect. It gives us an opportunity to ask questions and learn more about each other. Our meetings are more than just a presentation, it's a place for us to get help coping with this crazy hearing loss life. A place to feel that we're not alone in this journey. We all share

a common bond and each of us has something unique to offer each other. It is here, at our monthly meetings, that we all help our chapter fulfill its mission.

Our mission is to open the world of communication to people with hearing loss by providing information, education, support and advocacy.

Please never underestimate the power each and every one of you has to make a difference at our meetings. Something as simple as saying hello to a new attendee and welcoming them, could be the difference between that person returning next month or not.

Senior Expo

A special thank you to Claudia Herczog for organizing and leading our chapter booth at the Senior Expo.

Thank you also to Claire Sanford, Helen Caldwell, Donna Gilmartin, Bobbie Faoro and Mary Gillian for their generous time and support at our booth. You make a difference!



Miscellaneous Information

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 pick one up at our monthly chapter meeting.

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>.

HLA/SB Fundraising Programs

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.

Tax Deductible Donation

We are a non profit 501(3)(C) organization and all donations to our chapter are tax deductible. We 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:

HLAA, Santa Barbara Chapter
c/o Mary Kohler
PO Box 91
Carpinteria, CA 93014

Or you can make PayPal donation via our website. HLAA-SBC.org.

Monthly Newsletter

To receive this newsletter by email, provide suggestions or comments, or to submit an article for inclusion, please contact: Cherie Alvarez at CherieA@hlaa-sbc.org.

Facebook

You can find us as **Hearing Loss Association of America, Santa Barbara Chapter** or click here.

