

Hear & Now

March 2010

Happy 26th Birthday, ALOHA !

HAPPY BIRTHDAY ALOHA !

Thanks to the support of members and others in the community, ALOHA is able to continue services for hard of hearing people.

Recent articles in the Arizona Daily Star and Green Valley News about our services brought many new people through ALOHA's door. They called for information and came in for demonstrations of assistive listening products.

ALOHA's story will again be profiled in the May edition of *Desert Leaf*.

Every year we remember to thank **Gloria and Jerry Baral** for starting the ALOHA organization in 1984. Thousands of people have benefited from their foresight of the need for special services for adults who lose hearing. Jerry passed away last year, and Gloria resides in Los Angeles near their children.

We receive many happy testimonials from people who have used ALOHA services and were greatly helped with the support group, classes in sign language and speech reading, and by outfitting themselves with assistive technology to help them function better in the mainstream of life.

LEARN HOW TO LOOP YOUR HOME!

When: March 24th (Wednesday) 2:00 pm

Where: At ALOHA, 4001 E. Fort Lowell Rd.

This free workshop is designed for people who would like to install a loop in their home. Also, it is for anyone interested in installing loops as a part-time job. The workshop will be conducted by Lou Touchette, also known as "Loopin' Lou".

Please RSVP 795-9887 or info@alohaaz.org



ALOHA provides loop demonstrations. We will come to your location and give a presentation and loop demonstration upon request.

LIVING WELL WITH HEARING LOSS—A FREE WORKSHOP

When: April 10 (Saturday) 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 a.m.

Where: U of A Department of Speech, Language & Hearing Sciences, 1131 E. 2nd Street, Tucson 85711 (map available at ALOHA)

The Adult Loss of Hearing Association (ALOHA) and The University of Arizona present: "*Living Well With Hearing Loss*" a free public workshop for anyone who has trouble communicating because of personal hearing loss. Attendees are encouraged to bring their family members and friends. Personal testimonials will be presented and professional audiologists will answer questions. For more information contact Pat Clinch at info@alohaaz.org or call ALOHA (520)795-9887

RSVP is a must for this workshop!

CLASSES, ETC.

Beginning & Intermediate Sign Language Classes and Speech Reading Class:
Taking Requests

Assistive Device Demos: **by appointment only.**

Listening and signaling devices demonstrated. None for sale, but a vendor list is available. Also, loop demos.

Peer Support Meetings: Weekly, on Tuesdays, 1 to 2 PM. Loop amplification. Friendly discussions and info shared about hearing aids, assistive devices, inductive looping, etc.

Office Hours: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tue, Wed & Thur

MEETINGS

Desert Cochlear Connections Group
At ALOHA 4001 E. Fort Lowell

March 20 11:00 am to 1:00 pm

The central topic for discussion is accessibility for those who are hard of hearing in the Tucson area. Come prepared to share your experiences at local movie theatres, etc. We hope to compile a list of accessibility businesses to share with other hard of hearing groups.

Call or E-mail for the future dates
795-9887 info@alohaaz.org

Cochlear implant information, DVD's, etc. can be borrowed.

New: Cochlear Americas donated a practice program of sounds, words, sentences, music. It is installed on two ALOHA computers. Call ahead and come in to try it!

Cart Transcription: donated by :
Ike Eisenbraun. **Thank You!**

NOTE Donations needed to continue to provide CART transcription for Cochlear meetings. \$150 per 2-hour session, but any amount appreciated!

Tuesday Support Group

Every Tuesday at 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. hard of hearing folks convene in ALOHA's looped conference room for private discussion. As mentioned in the next column about Green Valley's meetings, "we let it all hang out". Discussions usually center on hearing aids, purchases of them, telecoils, assistive devices, and coping remedies.

Join us, learn a lot, and join in the fun!

GREEN VALLEY **ALOHA SUPPORT** **GROUP:**

Meeting: April 5 10:00am to noon
at La Posada

Our speaker will be Andrea Hardy, MA, CCC-A. Her topic will be "Hearing Loss" along with a general discussion about amplification. Mrs. Hardy is the clinic manager at SoundPoint Audiology in Green Valley. Mrs. Hardy's favorite part about being a dispensing audiologist is educating her patients on hearing loss, and how hearing instruments can improve their lives.

February 1 meeting—Green Valley
We set a record of sorts in Green Valley. Our February monthly meeting had a turnout of over 110 people, almost more than the room could hold! This was no doubt a result of the wonderful editorial which was published in *The Green Valley News* Wed, January 27, 2010. Ellen Sussman, a reporter from the paper, attended our Feb. 1 meeting. The subject of the meeting was "Let it all hang out" a sharing of our hearing loss experiences. Participation was outstanding as we discussed hearing aids, types, likes and dislikes; hearing aid dispensers good and bad; and a free exchange of thoughts and ideas on how to improve our journey through the world with our disability and what we can do to improve our lives overall. Dr. John Cobb, audiologist from Arizona Hearing Specialists in Green Valley was in attendance to answer technical questions.

To find out about future meetings, you may call Mary 648-1266 or call Louis (Lou) 625-9536

They meet at La Posada in Green Valley, usually on the 1st Monday of the month. Loop amplification is provided.

Charitable Donation By Gift

By Sally Hart, J.D., M.B.T.

In the January issue of Hear & Now we began a series of articles designed to educate our members about the numerous ways in which people can support their favorite charities.

The January article was an overview of the various devices for charitable giving, including immediate gifts, wills, trusts, beneficiary designations in life insurance, IRAs, joint tenancy designations, and such sophisticated legal vehicles as charitable remainder trusts. Here we take up the subject of gifts, the most direct and immediate way of offering financial support.

A gift to a charitable organization is understood by all as a present delivery of value that can provide immediate help to an organization in serving its community. The donor receives not only the satisfaction of knowing that he or she has helped, but also a deduction from income tax for the value of the property in the year of the gift. The most obvious type of gift is, of course, cash.

Less known are a variety of other things that can be gifted to charity, and the special advantages of some of these gifts. For example, a donor can give personal property such as art, equipment, and office supplies that can be used by the charity, and take a tax deduction for the market value of the personal property. Another type of gift that is advantageous to all is stocks, bonds, and even real estate that has appreciated in value since acquired. When property that has increased in value is donated to a charity, the donor can take a tax deduction for the full, current market value of the property, and at the same time avoid capital gains taxes on the increase in value. Another good choice is an IRA, which allows the donor to take a deduction in the amount of the IRA's current full value while cancelling income taxes that would otherwise be due on IRA distributions.

Gifts can be made in the name of others whom a donor wishes to honor, such as family members and individuals whose contributions the donor wishes to recognize.

Please contact Loretta Butler at ALOHA (795-9887) if you are interested in information about charitable giving that is directed to your personal situation. We can also refer you to an attorney who is knowledgeable in this area of practice.

Thank you for the Donations!

Norene Temple
Clifton Wilson
Melody Weber
Jeanne Bishop
Don & Barbara Poore
Robert Maddox
William Schink
John & Laura Hoelzel
Dal "Ike" Eisenbraun

Jerome Holder
Jean Lui
Donor thru Network For Good
Donor thru Tucson ECAP- M. Bailey
Raytheon Charitable Giving
Cavel Bair
Wilson Kaser
John & Nancy Mahoney

Let's Loop America!

In Southern Arizona it has been said that ALOHA is the go-to place to learn about inductive loop technology. Between the Tucson and Green Valley areas, over 70 facilities have loops installed, plus countless home installations. Across America, advocates, including audiologists, have started loop projects in their communities.

A Collaborative Effort! The Hearing Loss Association of America (**HLAA**), the American Academy of Audiology (**AAA**), and Hearing Charities of America (**Sertoma**) have announced an effort to collaborate on a national education campaign called ***“Get in the Hearing Loop”***

In her press release, Brenda Battat, executive director at HLAA states, “A new application of existing technology is gaining popularity in houses of worship, auditoriums, home TV rooms and retail stores, which is good news for the 36 million Americans who live with hearing loss.

“We believe that hearing loop technology when coupled with telecoils is a seamless, low-cost, unobtrusive, and effective way to improve the quality of life for people with hearing loss.”

Editor: Read the newest article by Prof. David Myers, in The Hearing Review, at www.hearingloop.org. Also, see it on ALOHA's website under “Let's Loop Tucson”

Welcome to New Members ! (since July 2009)

Sally Christensen
Carlos Mello
Stephen Rathman
Douglas Cain
Henry R. Garcia
Stokes Tolbert
Frances Harris
George (Bill) Logsdon
AZ Hearing Specialists, Janis Gasch 742-2845
Bernice Vertner
Betty Morse
Donald & Jane Cowell
Ray & Ro Hollingsworth
Howard Bruno
Gail Cohen
Clarity Hearing Aid Ctr., Jill Klein 219-1151

Michael Whitehead
Thomas L. Brick
Peggy & Carrie SooHoo
Robert & Kathleen Maddox
Sue & Larry Tretter
Jack Rabin
Kathryn Pensinger
Rachel Van Oosbree
Michel Dravigny
Ellen Yudes
Peter Ribotto
Jan Stephenson & John Rourke
Alice Forster
Oro Valley Audiology renewal
Judy Huch, Aud 825-4770

Welcome to Two New ALOHA Volunteers: **Beth Appleton**, a hearing sciences student, does transcription for support group on Tuesdays. **Jan Stephenson** works in the office, and also is co-editor of the Hear&Now newsletter.

ALOHA Office Room for Rent: This room is ideal for a small type business. It is 135 sq. foot. Inquire at 795-9887.

Adult Loss Of Hearing Association
(ALOHA)
4001 E. Fort Lowell Road
Tucson, AZ 85712-1011

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ALOHA Board 2010:

- Bruce Stewart, President
- Pamela Wood, Vice President
- Don Poore, Treasurer
- Louis Touchette
- Dede Wilpizeski
- Dale Henson
- Patricia Clinch
- Kimberly Dale
- Sally Hart
- Joy Newman
- Cynthia Amerman

- Loretta Butler, Office Director

Office Hours: 10 AM to 5 PM, Tues. - Thurs.

**Please call in advance to confirm hours.
Thanks!**

Combined Fed. Campaign #68532

You can reach us at:

Telephone (Voice) - (520) 795-9887

TTY - (520) 795-9585

FAX - (520) 795-9585

E-Mail - info@alohaaz.org

ALOHA's Internet Site: <http://www.alohaaz.org>

Non-profit Tax ID# 86-0554154

ALOHA's Office Location:

4001 E. Fort Lowell Road (East of Alvernon)

Tucson, AZ 85712-1011



Let's Loop Tucson & Arizona!