



A PUBLICATION OF THE ADULT LOSS OF HEARING ASSOCIATION

# Hear & Now

May 2010

## May is National Speech and Hearing Month

### "Living Well With Hearing Loss" Workshops Resume in the Fall

There will be two workshops in the fall. You can give ALOHA your contact information now, and then you will be notified about the dates, times and locations.

The first workshop will address hearing technology (hearing aids: what they can do for you and what not to expect), assistive devices including inductive looping. Attendees will get a chance to try out a few things and ask questions.

The second workshop will deal with medical/surgical issues related to hearing loss, i.e., tinnitus, Meniere's disease, other medically-based adult onset deafness, and implantable devices—cochlear and Baha.

To Reserve space now, call 795-9887

E-mail: [info@alohaaz.org](mailto:info@alohaaz.org)

The workshops are funded in part by a grant from the Arizona Community Foundation, and are a collaborative effort of ALOHA and the UA Speech, Language & Hearing Sciences Department.

### Living Well with Hearing Loss Workshops a huge Success!

73 people attended the workshop at the U of A department of Speech, Language and Hearing Sciences. They were very satisfied with the information that was provided. Another workshop was held at the La Posada Campus in Green Valley. Two more workshops will be held in the fall of 2010. RSVP now for the fall workshops. (see column on left)



LIVING WELL WITH HEARING LOSS WORKSHOP



Workshop Presenters, pictured above: Fran Harris, Amy Marin, Tom Muller, Kasey Hope, Cynthia Amerman, Lou Touchette, Pam Wood, Kim Dale.

Jim and Dyan Pignatelli are pictured on page 4.

**CLASSES, ETC.**  
Beginning & Intermediate Sign Language Classes and Speech Reading Class:

\$50 Member  
\$75 non-Member

**Taking Requests  
795-9887**

**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**

**Changed your Email?**

Please let us know.

## **MEETINGS**

Desert Cochlear Connections Group  
**At ALOHA 4001 E. Fort Lowell**

Taking a break for the summer! Meetings will resume in September. Lalita Doughman from Advanced Bionics — September 18th 11:00 – 1:00. If you need information about cochlear implant, DVD's, etc. can be borrowed from ALOHA .

Contact ALOHA: info@alohaaz.org. or phone 795-9887. You can also leave your contact information to be notified about upcoming meetings.

### **Tuesday Support Group**

If you have been to these meetings, you know how important they are for learning how to cope with hearing loss. Valuable information is shared around the table in an informal setting. If you have never been to a support meeting, we invite you to give it a try. The meetings are open to the public **every Tuesday at 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.** Amplification via inductive loop is provided.

Special THANKS to volunteer Beth Appleton for providing open captions for these meetings. Beth will be leaving to attend classes at UA. If you or someone you know can volunteer to type at these meetings, please let us know — 795-9887

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

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### *Hearing Aid Bank Needs Donations*

The Hearing Aid Bank provides refurbished hearing aids to low-income people whose income is less than \$712 per month. Used hearing aids can be donated at ALOHA, or by calling U of A Speech and Hearing Clinic at 621-7070

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

On summer sojourn, and will resume in the fall. Contact Mary Simmie 648-1266 or Ben Cleveland 399-2219 if you need help with hearing issues in the interim.

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### *No-Bluff Pledge*

**In my life, I will not bluff!  
I will not pretend to understand  
When I do not.  
Instead, I will do, all that it takes  
To engage, interact and communi-  
cate!**

**(by Gale Hannan 2009)**

### **ALOHA Recycles Hearing Aid Batteries**

There is a green can on top of the sign-in lectern at ALOHA. Instead of throwing your used hearing aid batteries in the trash, bring them to ALOHA.

**ARTICLE:** Members were interviewed for an article appearing in the May issue of Desert Leaf. We thank Jan Henrikson for a fine report on ALOHA's services.

Board member, Don Poore, appeared on KVOA Channel 4 at 4 April 27th. He talked about ALOHA services, the Let's Loop Tucson project, and asked for volunteers.

**In Memory of:** Condolences to the family of Julius Barthoff. Julius was a past member of ALOHA until he moved to Massachusetts. He was a great advocate for hard of hearing people. He received The Oticon Focus on People Award last year. He was 100 years-old. A contribution to ALOHA was made by Eliza-

## Charitable Giving by Will

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

This article is the third in our series describing the variety of legal devices that individuals can use for making donations to help charities of their choice. In this article we focus on wills as they can be used for charitable gifting.

A will is a “testamentary instrument,” meaning that it is a legal document that becomes effective upon the death of the person making the will, called a “testator.”

An allocation in the will of some portion of the testator’s assets at the time of death, including cash, real and personal property and other assets, can be made to a charity. This allocation can be a bequest consisting of a specific asset or dollar amount, or it can be a percentage of the individual’s entire estate. The will could also provide that the testamentary gift to charity be made out of the remainder of the estate left after specific bequests have been paid.

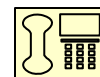
A will is generally prepared by a lawyer who is familiar with all the formal legal requirements for effectiveness, as well as the options for best carrying out the testator’s wishes. The signing, or execution, of the will must be witnessed by two individuals, unless it is a holographic will — one written in the handwriting of the testator. Wills can be amended or replaced by an entirely new will at any time before death.

After death, a will is effectuated through the probate process, in which a court oversees the gathering of assets, the paying of debts, and final distribution of the estate. It is important to note that portions of the estate that are left to charity can reduce estate taxes and/or income taxes.

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.

### Trouble with Amplified Telephones Going on the Fritz!

Comment from Bob MacPherson — bhNews



The old Ma Bell phones were built like a Sherman tank, of all what is known as passive components—no transistors or ICs. Not so with today’s feature-laden phones — loaded with electronics, far more prone to failure.

For most phones, repair is not economically feasible — we stopped doing phone repairs at the shop maybe 20 years ago.

On the more expensive amplified phones, however, repair “might” be worth considering. The general run of thumb in the electronic service industry is when the repair cost approaches 50% of a new product, it’s better to replace than fix.

**How Would You Prefer to Receive the ALOHA Newsletter?** We have received suggestions from members to send the newsletter by e-mail instead of mailbox. If you would prefer to receive it by e-mail, please let us know at [info@alohaaz.org](mailto:info@alohaaz.org) It is said that many organizations and businesses are doing this.

## How to Loop you Home Workshop

Lou Touchette, ALOHA board member and Let's Loop Tucson volunteer, provided two free workshops to teach folks how to install an inductive loop system in their homes. Feedback from the workshops proclaim that these classes are excellent! One class was held at ALOHA, and the other in Green Valley.

Lou is willing to provide another loop workshop. Interested? Call ALOHA 795-9887, or email [info@alohaaz.org](mailto:info@alohaaz.org).

## Midtown Sertoma 5k Run & Walk for Better Hearing

On March 13th this Run/Walk was held at Arizona School for the Deaf & Blind in Tucson. ALOHA participated by having an information table, and several ALOHA members did the walk/run. Jean & Joe Knisley and Melody Weber manned the ALOHA table. Pam Wood, Don Poore, Barbara Palmer, Cheryl McGill, George Ghorpade with hearing dog Rover, and JoAnn Couchman did the walk/run. Don Poore received a medal for coming in first in his age category!

Special thanks to Midtown Sertoma Club for designating ALOHA to receive part of the proceeds from this event!

## Have a Complaint?

Michele Michaels, Hard of Hearing Specialist with Arizona Commission for the Deaf and the Hard of Hearing, reports there is now an easy way to file complaints (even anonymously!) about matters under the Department of Health Services authority in Arizona. Complaints can be filed against audiologists, SLP's and hearing aid dispensers. ACDHH 1-800-352-8181 or websites below.

[http://www.acdhh.org/resources/view\\_article.cfm?ID=84](http://www.acdhh.org/resources/view_article.cfm?ID=84)

[https://app/azdhs.gov/ls/online\\_complaint/AUDComplain.aspx](https://app/azdhs.gov/ls/online_complaint/AUDComplain.aspx)



Pictured on the left is Dyan & Jim Pignatelli giving their part of the "Living Well with Hearing Loss" workshop: *How a couple copes when one spouse has hearing loss.*

## **THANK YOU for the DONATIONS!**

Tucson Rincon Lions Club  
Midtown Sertoma  
Uptown Sertoma  
Ruth Stroud  
Irving Silverman  
Dixie Nixon  
Ruth Gorski  
City of Tucson ECAP (3 donors)  
Raytheon Charitable Giving ( employee)  
United Way of Tucson & So AZ  
Lew Harris  
Helga Small  
Sue Vardon  
Elizabeth Ohm

## **New Business members or business renewals**

Hearing Solutions, Janiece Dickenson, owner  
Arizona Technology Access Program, Northern AZ University, Randy Collins, Director

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

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TUCSON,  
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Return Service Requested



ALOHA Board 2010:

- Bruce Stewart, President
- Pamela Wood, Vice President
- Don Poore, Treasurer
- Patricia Clinch, Secretary
- Louis Touchette
- Dede Wilpizeski
- Dale Henson
- 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](mailto: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!**