



A PUBLICATION OF THE ADULT LOSS OF HEARING ASSOCIATION

Hear & Now

January 2011



YOUNG ADULT GROUP

SAVE THE DATE !!

What: Closed captioned movie screening

Where: Gallagher Theater, Student Union, UA

When: Saturday, January 29th, from 12 noon to 5:00 (movie times 12:00 & 2:30)

For titles, use e-mail contact below.

FREE SNACKS !

This is a group for young adults with hearing loss. Although no one will be turned away regardless of age. The group is headed by Patrick Holkins who is currently attending the University of AZ. The goals of the group are:

- Meet others who share your experience
- Explore Tucson
- Have FUN!

For more information contact:

HearatTucson@gmail.com

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

January of each year is the official time for ALOHA membership renewal, and to sign up and welcome new members.

ALOHA services are sustained by your membership dues, and by donations.

If you have hearing loss, or people you know or serve have hearing loss, you know how important hearing help is.

Please make ALOHA your choice for a giving opportunity!

Some Changes on the membership form: At the Annual Meeting in November, members voted to change the dues to \$25 for individuals. Also, they added another category for giving—a **Platinum** category for anyone donating \$1,000 or more. The donor names will be displayed prominently on a plaque at ALOHA.



LIVING WELL WITH HEARING LOSS

GROUPS: The University of Arizona Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences offers 3-week classes on hearing loss, coping, etc. For scheduling call 520-621-7070. Information available at www.lwhl.arizona.edu www.slhs.arizona.edu (Also, ALOHA has the brochures in office)

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.

NEW! Inductive Loop Class: Free. Contact ALOHA to be placed on list for future class.

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

February 26th, 11:00 am to 1:00 pm

Program: Heidi Lervik from Cochlear Corp. will discuss Nucleus 5 & its technological advantages over the older speech processor models. New coding strategies for new & old speech processors. Also, question & answer session.

Jim Sipchen is the new facilitator at these meetings.

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

If you know of a funder to pay for CART transcription, please let us know!

MARCH 12, 2011

MIDTOWN SERTOMA RUN/WALK

Calling all walkers, joggers and runners for a fun event. We also need volunteers to sit at the ALOHA table. Proceeds benefit selected Non-Profits including ALOHA.

Contact ALOHA 795-9887 info@alohaaz.org

Visit our Tuesday Support Group

You are invited to come to a peer support meeting . The meetings are open to the public **every Tuesday at 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.**

Free!

You will be surprised how much you learn!

Hearing Aid Bank Needs Donations:

Bring used hearing aids to ALOHA, or call UA Speech and Hearing Clinic at 621-7070. The aids are refurbished and given to low-income seniors in Pima County.

GREEN VALLEY ALOHA SUPPORT GROUP:

Contact Ben Cleveland 399-2219 if you need help with hearing issues in the Green Valley area. All meetings are held at La Posada.

Green Valley Meeting Dates —10 am

February 7th —Guest speaker Joy Newman, a member of the ALOHA Board and “Governor of Midtown Sertoma of Tucson”, will speak on Sertoma Club’s mission of “Service to Mankind”. The Primary focus is assisting the more than 50 million people with hearing health issues and educating the public on them.

March 7th — Guest speaker will be Pamela Wood, Audiologist from Southwest Hearing Care in Tucson.

The Programs for April and May will be announced in the March newsletter.

Hearing Matters: Janis Gasch, Au.D. of Arizona Hearing Specialists hosts this continuing weekly segment every Sunday from 2:00 to 3:00 pm on radio station 1030 on AM dial. Call in your questions during the show: 790-2040. Hear Patrick Holkins January 23rd re: young adults group.

Additional Thanks for Golf Sponsors (inadvertantly left out in the November newsletter)

Hole Sponsors: Rick Kennedy, Sharon Hildebrand, Steve Juhan, Bruce Irby
Prize Sponsors: Sertoma of Arizona, Joy Newman, Midtown Sertoma Club, Bill Swain, Roger Cohn.

PUBLIC PLACES THAT HAVE INDUCTIVE LOOPING

TUCSON

Adult Loss of Hearing Association, Inc. (ALOHA), 4001 E. Ft. Lowell Rd.
Community Outreach Program for the Deaf, 268 W. Adams St.
Pima Council on Aging, 8467 E. Broadway
St. Philip's in the Hills Episcopal Church, 4440 N. Campbell Ave.
St. Mark's United Methodist Church, 1431 W. Magee Rd.
St. Mark's Presbyterian Church, 3809 E. 3rd St.
St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, 750 W. Chapala Dr.
Saguaro Christian Church, 8302 E. Broadway
Ascension Lutheran Church, 1120 W. Magee Rd.
Church of the Apostles, 12111 N. La Cholla Blvd.
Mt. Zion Lutheran Church, 4520 W. Ajo Way
Tanque Verde Lutheran Church, 8625 E. Tanque Verde
Mission Valley Church of Christ, 3022 W. Bilby Rd.
Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church, 9799 N. Northern Ave.
St. Paul's United Methodist Church, 8051 E. Broadway
First Assembly of God, 1749 E. Broadway
El Camino Baptist Church, 7777 E. Speedway
Holy Cross Anglican Church, 3265 N. Country Club
Our Mother of Sorrows Catholic Church, 1800 S. Kolb Rd.
St. Francis in the Foothills United Methodist Church, 4625 E. River Rd.
Handi-Dogs, Inc., 75 S. Montego Dr.
Arizona Hearing Specialists, 7574 N. La Cholla Blvd
El Dorado Audiologist, 1200 N. El Dorado #D415
Hearing Tech, Inc., 7225 N. Oracle Rd. #111
Southwest Hearing Care, 1661 N. Swan Rd. #220
Tucson Ear, Nose & Throat, 6565 E. Carondelet #300 and 6320 N. La Cholla #300
SoundPoint Audiology & Hearing Services, 310 N. Wilmot Rd, #210
SoundPoint Audiology & Hearing Services, 12470 N. Rancho Vistoso Blvd. #120
Sears Hearing Aid Center—Park Place Mall, Lower level, 5950 E. Broadway
Sears Hearing Aid Center—Tucson Mall, 4570 N. Oracle Rd.
University Of Arizona Speech & Hearing Clinic, 1131 E. 2nd St.
Handmaker Jewish Services for the Aging, 2221 N. Rosemont
Tucson Estates, 5900 W. Western Way Circle
Vistoso Village, 13401 N. Rancho Vistoso Blvd.
DesertView Performing Arts Center (Saddlebrook) 38759 S. Mountain View Blvd.
Raytheon Company (private business) Auditorium looped
Tucson Electric Power Company (private business) Board rm & conference rm looped

SAHUARITA

Valley Christian Church, 18140 S. La Canada
The Good Shepherd United Church of Christ, 17750 S. La Canada

Green Valley

Desert Hills Social Center, 2980 S. Camino del Sol
Green Valley Recreation Center, 1070 Calle de Las Casitas
Recreation Village at Santa Rita Springs 921 W. Rio Fuerte
Las Companies Social Centre
Canoa Hills Recreation Center
Temple Beth Shalom Center, 1751 N. Rio Mayo
Episcopal Church of St. Francis of the Valley, 600 S. La Canada Dr.
Valley Presbyterian Church, 2800 S. Camino del Sol
Our Lady of the Valley Catholic Church, 505 N. La Canada Dr.
Risen Savior Lutheran Church, 555 S. La Canada Dr.
Joyner-Green Valley Library, 601 N. La Canada Dr.

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PLACES LOOPED, CONTINUED

Green Valley (cont.)

La Posada Retirement at Park Center, 350 E. Morningside Rd.

Casa de Esperanza Senior Center, 780 S. Park Centre Ave.

Green Valley Performing Arts Center, 1250 W. Continental Rd.

Giraffe Hearing, Inc. 267 W. Duval Mine Rd.

SoundPoint Audiology & Hearing Services, 1151 S. La Canada Dr, #103

Arizona Hearing Specialists, 512 E. Whitehouse Canyon Rd. #196



SELF-ADVOCACY: So.....You want amplification systems at places you go to such as church, place of worship, conference rooms for meetings or lectures, etc.?

You need to ask!

Talk to the pastor or manager or send a letter saying you cannot attend events because you cannot hear without a listening system.

Of the 3 types of amplification — FM, Infra-red and inductive loop systems — the loop systems seem to work best, and could be less expensive to install and maintain. If people have telecoils in their hearing aids, they don't need to borrow headphones or ear buds, the sound goes directly to their hearing aids, wirelessly. A 4th type of amplification would be a PA system, but reverberation prevents clear sound.

Never tried an inductive loop system? Come to ALOHA for a demo, or go to one of the places listed on pages 3 & 4. We will also give you brochures and other information on inductive looping that you can give to the manager at a place where you had a problem hearing. **Or**, call or e-mail ALOHA with an address of a facility, and we will send the information for you.

**We are REALLY serious about accommodation and accessibility for people with hearing loss !
Please help it come to pass.**



ALDA Sues Cinemark

The Association of Late Deafened Adults (ALDA) and two additional plaintiffs, ALDA members Linda Drattell and Rick Rutherford, filed a lawsuit in December, 2010 against Cinemark USA, Inc. in California's Alameda Superior Court for Cinemark's failure to provide accessibility through captioned movies. The suit alleges violations of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and California's Unruh Civil Rights Act and Disabled Persons Act.

"We just want the opportunity to go to the movies with our friends and family like everybody else," explained Rick Rutherford who lives in El Cerrito. "By failing to screen captioned films, movie theaters like Cinemark are denying me an experience I thoroughly enjoyed before the onset of hearing loss."

"The theaters' unwillingness to screen captioned films is short-sighted, particularly as the hearing loss community continues to grow," noted Kevin Knestrick, an attorney representing the Plaintiffs. "The technology is readily available, and financially it is a drop in the bucket for theater chains like Cinemark to provide this service for men, women, and children with hearing loss."

Editor: Most of the movie complexes in Tucson are operated by Cinemark and don't provide captioning. In a letter to ALOHA from Cinemark dated January 4th (after ALOHA members sent complaints) it states essentially that they are working on providing captioned movies or rear-window captioning in their theaters. We thank ALOHA members for making their needs known.....That's Self-Advocacy at its best!

Opticon Focus on People Awards honor Lou Touchette of ALOHA.



Louis Touchette of Green Valley is among the outstanding people with hearing loss honored by the 2010 Oticon Focus on People Awards, a national competition that recognizes individuals who are helping to eliminate negative stereotypes of what it means to have a hearing loss. Touchette's selection as a winner in the Advocacy Category was announced at the thirteenth annual Oticon Focus on People Awards Ceremony at the Oticon Human Link Conference in Stevenson, Oregon. The Awards ceremony was attended by more than 200 leading hearing care professionals from across the country.

Touchette, who is hearing impaired, works tirelessly to raise awareness of the importance of accommodation for people with hearing loss. Known affectionately throughout the Tucson and Green Valley community as "looping Lou", Touchette promotes the use of Inductive Looping, an Assistive listening technology that enables people with hearing loss to link into for better sound quality - at banks, pharmacies, churches, theaters and in patients' homes. The loop system allows for clear and direct listening in large public forums as well as home settings. To date,

Touchette has made contact with close to 350 churches in the community. He volunteers to set up demonstration loops and advise organizations on installing looping equipment. As a member of the Board of Directors of the Adult Loss of Hearing Association (ALOHA), Touchette has been instrumental in establishing a joint workshop series on Living Well with Hearing Loss with the Speech Language and Hearing Sciences Department of the University of Arizona.

Lou will attend the International Loop Conference to be held in Washington DC in June of 2011



It's A Sad State When...by Lou Touchette

It's a sad state when elderly are placed in nursing homes because they are thought to be having onset dementia or Alzheimers when in reality they are struggling with hearing loss.

Let me recite a story: In 2000 my folks were spending winters in Yuma. Occasionally a group of seniors would take a bus up to Bullhead City or Laughlin. On one trip my mother fell as she was getting off the bus in Bullhead City and broke her hip. In Bullhead City is a small 2-bed facility (hospital?). Mom was placed in a bed and administered pain medication during the hip replacement. The staff were concerned that she had suffered a consusion when she fell because she was not responding to spoken words.

While talking to my dad on the phone he mentioned this to me. My first thought was "Has anyone checked to see if her hearing aid batteries are ok." After getting off the phone I called the Bullhead City hospital and asked the head nurse. She was embarrassed to admit that no, they hadn't checked (Mom wore two ITE aids). One of the nurses removed her hearing aids and took them to a pharmacy where new batteries were installed. Immediately my mom responded when spoken to. She had been half doped up on pain meds so wasn't able to analyze the problem.

Back to the first paragraph. I wonder how many folks are placed in nursing homes incorrectly when it may be that they just do not hear?



November, 2010 ALOHA Annual Meeting of Members

ALOHA Members and the ALOHA Board of Directors met November 16, 2010 at 6:15 pm at the ALOHA building for the Annual Meeting and Election of Board.

Nominations were approved and they were voted into office to serve on the board of directors for 3 years. Newly elected board members are: Kathryn (Kasey) Hope, Patrick Holkins, Emily Pollack, and Ben Cleveland.

Discussion followed the elections. The new group for *Young Adults with Hearing Loss* was announced by facilitator Patrick Holkins, and he will post events for the group.

A member asked president Bruce Stewart about the status of ALOHA. Comments by Bruce and other board members indicated the financial status could be better. The overall economic downturn affected the result of the 2010 Annual Golf Event, and thus income for operations expenses were less than expected.

Fundraising ideas were discussed. Because costs increased for printing and sending the newsletter, and other in-house copying, members suggested increasing individual membership by \$5 (from \$20 to \$25). It was also suggested to add a Platinum category to the membership form, to encourage community giving. A plaque will be installed in the center room to record names of donors that give \$1,000 or more. The board approved these changes.

The board was asked to seek and implement other fundraising ways to keep ALOHA solvent and operating.

The board of directors will meet January 19th at 6:00 pm in the ALOHA conference room.

Welcome to New Members ! (Since November)

Joan Davidson	Paul Gralian	Bob Wieder	Lamar Michaels
Karl Hallsten	Stan Atherton	Sara Jean Byers	John & Suki Bishop

Thank You for the Donations ! (since November, 2010)

Lenore Pille	Rosalie Ballard	Maggie Carmichael	Cynthia Amerman
Mary Davenport	Network for Good	Gwynda Downing	Mary Simmie
Stokes Tolbert	Marjorie Margulies	Dixie Nixon	Ann Alden
Harmsen Charitable Foundation	Patricia Clinch	Angel & Laura Sepulveda	

REMINDER: Annual membership dues are very important. Some members sent their renewals early. We hope everyone can renew promptly. This saves time for staff, and the extra expense of sending a letter.

Work Shop Results: Six workshops were conducted from April of 2010 to January 2011. These were funded by a grant from the Arizona Community Foundation, and were a collaborative effort with the U of A Speech, Language and Hearing Department. The topics included Living Well with Hearing Loss, Beyond Hearing Aids (assistive technology), Medical and Surgical Approach to hearing loss, plus tinnitus. All workshops had at least 60 attendees for both the UA and the Green Valley locations. We thank all who volunteered at these events to make them a great success, and also thank donors who provided refreshments.

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

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ALOHA Board 2011:

- Bruce Stewart, President
 - Pamela Wood, Vice President
 - Don Poore, Treasurer
 - Patricia Clinch, Secretary
 - Dede Wilpizeski
 - Dale Henson
 - Kathryn (Kasey) Hope
 - Sally Hart
 - Joy Newman
 - Cynthia Amerman
 - Emily Pollack
 - Patrick Holkins
 - Ben Cleveland
-
- 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!