

## Chapter Calendar

All chapter and board meetings held at:  
Weingart Senior Center  
5220 Oliva Ave.  
Lakewood 90712

All events at Weingart except as noted \*

**Every Monday:** Lip Reading practice 10 a.m. to 12 noon

**Every Wednesday until May 15:** Lip Reading 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

**March 4:** HAT Committee meeting at Coco's \*

**March 5:** CTAP Event at Weingart: 9:30 a.m. to noon

**March 14:** Chapter meeting presentation by HAT Committee, "HAT's Off to Technology"

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**REFRESHMENTS** - March meeting treats will be provided by: Gordon Langsam, Shirley Brooks, Maxine Barton-Bauman, and Louise Allen. **THANK YOU!**

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**March 15:** Rocky Stone Demonstration at Weingart 10 a.m. - 12

**April 1:** HAT Committee meeting at Coco's \*

**April 11:** Chapter meeting presentation by Dr. Edward Abalos, "Watch Your Balance!"

**Chapter Contact:** Gail Morrison  
562-438-0597 gail7go@gmail.com

## **Lipreading Classes – Contributed by Stephen Fisher**

### **Mondays at 10 AM**

We begin by studying how sounds look. We have been alternating consonants, vowels, and pairs. Next we have a simple story where we take turns reading lines. Each sentence has a word on the board to give us a clue as to what we are talking about. We wrap up each week with something more complex. Lately, it has been quotes from famous or not so famous individuals in alphabetical order. We started with Aristotle and will continue to Zig Ziglar.

### **Wednesdays at 9:30 AM**

After an explanation of basics we are studying a different subject each week. Recently, we have studied the nautilus and quilting.

## **MARCH CHAPTER MEETING**

### **“HATs Off to Technology”**

Five members of the HAT Committee (Hearing Assistive Technology) will speak to the Long Beach/Lakewood Chapter of HLAA on “HATs Off to Technology,” Thursday, March 14, 2013 at 6:30 p.m. at the Weingart Senior Center, 5220 Oliva Avenue, Lakewood, CA 90712.

Gordon Langsam will talk about the Pocketalker (a Williams Sound product), Peg Heglund will relate stories involving the Pocketalker, Herb Balkind, co-chairman, on the Williams Sound Motiva, an updated version of the Williams Sound R31; and George Costello on TV Ears and other headphones for viewing TV which may be purchased at Big Lots and Fry's Electronics. Co-Chairman, Dr. Bill Busch will also be a presenter.

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## **IT'S TIME TO STEP UP**

The Long Beach Walk4Hearing is June 9, 2013, Marina Green Park between Shoreline Village Drive & Linden, Long Beach.

Sign up OR donate now: on the Web, go to Walk4Hearing.org, click Long Beach, click on Donate, click on Beach Bums and enter your amount. That is our Chapter's team and we receive 40% of all money donated for use by our chapter.

You can also make a check out to Walk4Hearing and give it to Walt Lowrie, treasurer at our next meeting or send it to him at 5072 Fanwood, Lakewood, CA 907813.

I urge each and every one of you to step up to the challenge of getting your friends, relatives, doctors, dentists, and family to donate to this worthy cause.

**GO BEACH BUMS!**  
Maxine Barton, Team Captain

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## **WANT TO GO TO THE HLAA CONVENTION IN JUNE?**

Two scholarships (one each for Northern and Southern California) are being offered to interested members to attend the National Convention held in Portland Oregon this year on June 27 – 30. Let your Chapter President know if you are interested. She will give your name to the chapter coordinators and two names will be drawn. Note: You must be an HLAA member (if only costs \$35 to join!) and you must be a first-time attendee.

Make sure your name is in the hat by April 10!

## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

### While You Were Sleeping...



...Maxine and I traveled to Oakland to attend the California HLAA Board of Trustees (BOT) meeting on Saturday, February 16, 2013. We were up very early at 3:00 a.m. to catch our 6:20 a.m. flight from LAX to Oakland. We arrived in Oakland by 7:30 a.m. just in time for a "pre" meeting for the newly formed "Let's Loop

California" Committee. (more on this shortly). Maxine, Lynne Kinsey, Dr. Debbie Clark (Au.D.), Ellen Mastman and myself serve on this committee.

I will briefly go over the highlights of the meeting: President Jim Montgomery called the BOT meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. Present were Jeff Chess (Treasurer), Maxine Bartman-Bauman (Secretary), Debbie Clark & Ellen Mastman, Vice-Presidents, Lynne Kinsey, Audrey Maloney, Gail Morrison, Don Senger and Margaret Wallhagen. Absent were Cindy Jagger, Nanci Linke-Ellis and Susan Shaffer. Guests were Bruce Harris and Janet Lyons, co-presidents of East Bay Chapter, Marilyn Finn and Sister Ann Rooney. Two new board members introduced themselves. They are Zina Jawadi, a 17 year-old (dynamo) high school student at Harker School, San Jose, California (and straight A student) and Bonnie Neylan

We enjoy The Hearing Californian newsletter and Grace Tiessen, Editor is working to alleviate a two year loss to produce it. A follow-up will be forthcoming to see if this can become profitable instead of a loss.

**Lynne Kinsey, Co-Chairman of the Looping California committee (with Gail Morrison as co-chair) reported that the committee has narrowed its focus and direction to better serve the objective of Looping California. The focus will be on education dissemination, polling the chapters to see if they have established a looping committee, what the goals of the committee might be, to learn whether their meetings are held in a looped room and to help encourage members in all chapters to build on what is on the web as to dealers, suppliers, and locations looped.**

Two scholarships of \$1500 each were approved from the California BOT HLAA for first time/deserving members to attend National HLAA Convention in Portland, Oregon June 27 to 30. A flyer distributed to chapters states that deadline for submission is April 10 when names will be drawn from a hat and the winners selected. One winner will be from Northern California and the other from Southern California. Chapter Presidents will send in the names.

Walk4Hearing will be held at Shoreline Drive in Long Beach on Sunday, June 9, 2013 starting at 10:00 a.m. "Team California" is set up with monies going to the California BOT. Some members wanted the 40% to go to their individual Chapters. "Beach Bums"

is the Long Beach/Lakewood Team and Maxine Barton-Bauman is the Team Captain. A **Walk4Hearing KICKOFF** is open to all who would like to attend on **Saturday, April 20<sup>th</sup> at McKenna's on the Bay, 190 N. Marina Drive, Long Beach, CA from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.** A wonderful buffet is offered, but you need to RSVP to Ronnie Adler, Walk Chairman at [radler@hearingloss.org](mailto:radler@hearingloss.org).

Zina Jawadi presented her ideas on new projects the State Association can take on:

1. **A series of Youth Events. She is planning such an event on April 6 in Cupertino.**
2. **Federal Insurance Coverage for hearing aids and assistive equipment;**
3. **Spread awareness to the students and faculty of the various schools.**

The **California Academy of Audiology (CAA) Convention** will be held in Sacramento, September 26-28. State will have a table and Dr. Juliette Sterkens was asked to speak. Need of a State Flyer and material from National was discussed such as Capital Action, Camp for Kids and Boomer Conference.

Meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m. These were the main highlights of the meeting.

It was wonderful to see our hearing loss colleagues face-to-face as we hadn't seen some for a year. It was decided that rather than have an online chat, that much more was covered by the face-to-face meeting. We are so fortunate to have such wonderful, professional people working to help us to hear better. I know that I felt very honored to represent our chapter and to be there.

*Warmly,*

*Gail Morrison*



## RECYCLING

**Members:** If you have outdated copies of "Hearing Loss Magazine," please bring them to Chapter meeting. We recycle them in the "Welcome" folders we present to each new visitor.



## SPECIAL HEARING ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY PRESENTATION

By Committee Co-Chair, Bill Busch

On March 14, the HAT COMMITTEE will be making a presentation at our monthly HLA Chapter meeting. We will be talking about some of the various devices we have in our hearing assistive technology (HAT) demonstration. We will discuss and show Pocketalkers and the Motiva 360 FM system (which are personal amplifiers which enable people to hear in a lot of difficult situations; TV systems to enable you to hear your television better at home; Neckloops for different hearing situations to be used with your hearing aid T-Coils (Telephone coil); and special Fire Alarm Alerting Devices (that will help you hear you fire alarm when you are asleep. This will be a special demonstration so please bring your curiosity and questions.

Our next ROCKY STONE HEARING DEVICE EXHIBIT on Friday, March 15, 2013, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon, at the Weingart Senior Center in Lakewood. No reservations are needed for this event.

Our monthly ROCKY STONE HEARING DEVICE EXHIBIT (HAT DEMO) is the place to begin to try out some HEARING ASSISTIVE devices. We have a wide selection of Hearing Assistive Technology, and our committee members will be happy to assist you in finding hearing devices which may just add that additional hearing quality that makes life more enjoyable. Our exhibit is at the Weingart Senior Center in Lakewood.

This HAT DEMO exhibit does not deal with hearing aids. These meetings are sponsored by the Long Beach/Lakewood Chapter of the Hearing Loss Association of America. This HLA chapter does not sell any of the devices itself, nor does it otherwise profit from this demonstration service. The Weingart Senior Center and the Long Beach/Lakewood Chapter of HLA make no warranties, presentations or claims concerning the quality, quantity or availability of services or products herein.

## FEBRUARY CHAPTER SUMMARY

Last month, our Chapter was fortunate in having a presentation by Juliette Sterkens, Au.D., who was appointed by the Hearing Loss Association of America to become its hearing loop advocate as she took a year's leave from her practice.

Accompanying Juliette at last month's Chapter meeting were several professional loop installers who installed a loop on the floor of our meeting room which surrounded the seating area, enabling the audience to experience clear hearing of the spoken word. They also provided answers to questions at the close of her talk.

A hearing loop is a wire that circles an area and transmits sound that

is picked up by the telecoil in a hearing aid or cochlear implant. To use the loop, simply flip the t-switch on your hearing aid or cochlear implant. Consumers report more satisfaction with their hearing aids when using a hearing loop. Today, telecoils are built into two-thirds of hearing aids and all cochlear implants.

It is reported that approximately 17 percent (36 million) of American adults report some degree of hearing loss. Unlike those challenged by mobility or vision loss, people who have hearing loss are often an invisible and forgotten minority. About one in four have hearing aids.

Juliette was inspired by the writings of David Myers, PhD, who described being in the stone sanctuary of an 800-year-old Scottish abbey, struggling to hear the words of a religious service. What he received through his hearing aids was indecipherable noise, as the pastor's amplified voice reverberated in the ancient vaulted space.

As he was about to give up and leave, his wife noticed a blue sign with a white ear, a slash mark, and a "T" in the bottom corner, indicating that the church offered a hearing loop. Common in the United Kingdom, hearing loops directly broadcast amplified sound to hearing aids. Myers pressed a button on his hearing aid and stood amazed as the person's words became instantly clear. From that moment on, Myers, a psychology professor at Hope College in Holland, Michigan, began advocating for hearing loops in the United States.

We learned from Juliette how best to advocate for more loop installations in our own communities. As individuals, we can do much to bring this technology to our own churches, meeting places, even our own homes.

**Editor's Note:** The featured article in the February Informer was written by our own Ram Kakkar, Chairman of our Looping Committee. Ram provided a well-researched, comprehensive explanation of loop systems, credit for which was inadvertently omitted when the issue went to press. Apologies, Ram.

## FEBRUARY MEETING VISITORS

Please come back! We look forward to seeing you again. Current members: bring a guest to our next meeting.

We welcomed the following guests:

**Aurelia Mrvos  
Rahmat Shahidi  
Charlotte Lucas  
Harriet Danufsky**

## SCOREBOARD

	Members	Guests	Total
February 2013	37	4	41
January 2013	38	6	44
December	35	0	35
November	33	2	35
October	30	3	33
September	35	10	45

## FREE HEARING SCREENING & AMAZING PHONES EVENT RETURNS TO LAKEWOOD

The HEARING ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE is proud to announce the return of our special event with the CALIFORNIA TELEPHONE ACCESS PROGRAM (CTAP) Tuesday, March 5, 2013, at the Weingart Senior Center in Lakewood. At our previous CTAP event 23 people had their hearing screened and 18 qualified for a free amplified telephone!

The CALIFORNIA TELEPHONE ACCESS PROGRAM (CTAP) is a free state program, which provides assistive telecommunication equipment. The mission of the program is to provide access to basic telephone service for Californians who have difficulty using the telephone. California residents with existing phone service who complete a certification form are eligible. There is no cost, obligation or income requirement. What this simply means is that if you have an existing land line (regular phone service), Dr. David J. DeKriek, Au.D will administer a hearing test. If he determines that you have some form of hearing loss, you will qualify for a free specialized telephone.

Qualifying for this event is easy. First make an appointment by contacting the Weingart Senior Center before March 5th. Then at your appointment time you will be given a simple application to fill out, with help from staff members if needed. You will then be given a free hearing screening test by Dr. David J. DeKriek, Au.D. He will certify your difficulty with hearing and sign the application. Next a CTAP staff member will take you to another room where they will determine which phone will best help with your particular hearing loss. These specialized telephones and devices may provide some of these features for your needs as follows: Turn up the volume (amplified); Make dialing easier; Allow hands-free operation; Flash incoming calls; Display conversation in text; Remember numbers, and more!

This special event truly makes it that simple, easy and convenient for anyone who has a hearing loss to receive their free CTAP specialized telephone. I call it your ONE STOP SHOPPING EVENT. And it's all FREE.

Once again: this event takes place on March 5th, at the Weingart Senior Center in Lakewood, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. An appointment can only be made by calling the Weingart Center at (562) 630-6141.

If you need further information or clarification about this event, please call me, Herb Balkind, at (562) 425-5651. I will be happy to help you with any questions.

Please note, this event is only for new clients of CTAP. If you have been a CTAP client in the past or already have a free phone from them this event is **not** for you. If you have any questions as a past or current client, you must call CTAP directly at (800) 806-1191. I would like to thank Dr. David J. DeKriek, Au.D., for his participation in this event. He helped make the last CTAP event a great success. He is our very own HLA Chapter's Professional Adviser and we are very fortunate to have his enthusiasm and support for our varied events and programs.

## HLAA - Long Beach / Lakewood Board Chapter Officers

**President** - Gail Morrison;  
**Vice - President** - Bill Busch  
**Treasurer** - Walt Lowrie;  
**Recording Secretary** - Flo McDavid  
**Corresponding Secretary** - Ken Saw

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**Programs** - Gail Morrison  
**Ways and Means** - Stephen Fisher  
**Professional Adviser** - Dr. David DeKriek

### Newsletter

**Publisher** - Lisa Rettino  
**Editor** - Louise Allen  
**Contributor** - Louise Allen  
**Photographs** - Ellen Mathis  
**Distribution** - Chuck & Temple Roath

### Committees

**Educating Parents** - Maxine Barton-Bauman  
**Hearing Assistive Technology** - Herb Balkind / Bill Busch  
**Refreshments** - Joan Schlegel  
**Lip Reading** - Linda DeGuire  
**Looping** - Ram Kakkar

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**Newsletter Subscription is \$10/year; send to Treasurer.**  
**(Attend meetings and get a free subscription)**

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### HLA Websites

**Long Beach/Lakewood:** [www.HLALongBeachLakewood.org](http://www.HLALongBeachLakewood.org)  
**California:** [www.hearinglossCA.org](http://www.hearinglossCA.org)  
**National:** [www.hearingloss.org](http://www.hearingloss.org)

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**CTAP** California Telephone Access Program  
Information, Repair & Exchange

**English Voice** 1-800-806-1191 **Spanish Voice** 1-800-949-5650

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## What Is HLAA?

**Hearing Loss Association of America** was founded in 1979 as Self Help for Hard of Hearing People, Inc. (SHHH). It is a national non-profit, nonsectarian, educational organization devoted to the welfare and interests of those who cannot hear well. Our members are catalysts that make mainstream society more accessible to people who are hard of hearing. We strive to improve the quality of life for hard of hearing people through: education, advocacy, and self-help.

Many of our chapter members have joined national and look forward to its publication, **HEARING LOSS**. An excellent magazine.

To join send \$35/\$45 for individual / family membership to:

Hearing Loss Association of America  
7910 Woodman Avenue, Suite 1200,  
Bethesda, MD 20814.  
phone: (301) 657-2248 Voice;  
(301) 657-2249 TTY

Membership brochures are available at our chapter meetings.