

CHAPTER CALENDAR

**Chapter and Board meetings held at:
Weingart Center, 5220 Oliva Ave, Lakewood 90712**

February 12 - Chapter Meeting, Weingart Center
6:30 - 8:00pm
Camille Jenkins and Rico, the Hearing Dog

**Refreshments provided by Gordon Langsam,
Katie Wright, and Marie O'Brien
Thank you!**

February 23 – HAT Demo –10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m
Weingart, Craft Room.

February 25 – HLAA Chapter Board Meeting 12:30 pm
Weingart

March 2 – HAT Committee Meeting, Coco's, 12:30 pm

Lip Reading Class –Wednesdays at Weingart,
9:30–11:30 am.

Lip Reading Practice – Mondays at Weingart,
10 am-noon. .

INFORMER SUBSCRIPTIONS

There are approximately 70 people who receive the Informer through the U.S. Post Office each month. Each copy of the newsletter costs \$2 to produce and mail. In an effort to save money, the Board has decided to ask everyone who wants a paper copy of the Informer to send their \$10 to Walt Lowrie at 5072 Fanwood Ave., Lakewood, CA 90713. If we don't hear from you, we will assume you're not interested in receiving the newsletter and your last paper issue will be March 2015.

The subscription period will be for the calendar year 2015. To accommodate those of you who paid mid-year 2014, if you paid for a subscription in July or later, you are considered "paid" for 2015.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Bill Busch at 310-540-6322 or email him at billbusch@ieec.org.

Email copies of the Informer are free. If you are not already receiving an electronic copy, please send your email address to informer.hlaa@gmail.com.

COME WALK WITH US!



It's that time of year again! Long Beach Walk4Hearing will take place on Saturday June 6, 2015 at the Long Beach Marina.

The Long Beach/Lakewood Chapter team is the Beach Bums and our team captain again this year will be 6-year-old Connor Waterman. Spread the word! It's our job to raise awareness about the Walk, encourage our friends, family and co-workers to register and RAISE MONEY!

Since its inception in 2006, the Walk4Hearing has raised more than \$6 million and has become the nation's largest and fastest growing hearing loss fundraising and public awareness Walk in the country. The Long Beach Walk4Hearing is one of 23 events happening across the nation this year. In addition to raising awareness, Walk4Hearing raises funds that are used in local communities – to support communication access with CART, to underwrite scholarships for people with hearing loss, to attend educational programs at our Convention, to support student scholarships for college, to enhance outreach efforts, and to remove the stigma of hearing loss through education, information, support and advocacy.

We have a National fundraising goal this year of \$1.4 million and we **NEED** your help to reach it. Our Long Beach goal is \$60,000.

Why do we walk?

- 36 million Americans have some degree of hearing loss
- Hearing loss is a public health issue that is third in line only to heart disease and arthritis
- One in five teens has hearing loss
- 58,000 veterans of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan return with hearing loss
- Among seniors, hearing loss is the third most prevalent, but treatable, condition after arthritis and hypertension
- Baby boomers who reach retirement age in 2010 are pushing the number even higher and are predicted to double it by 2030 30 school-aged children per 1,000 have a hearing loss

Registration begins 9 a.m. and the Walk starts at 10 a.m.

If you are interested in volunteering or becoming more involved with the our team or have questions, please contact Maxine Barton-Bauman (bartbaum@verizon.net).

Come Walk With Us!



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Dr. Bill Busch

FUN AT THE MOVIES (EVEN WITH HEARING LOSS)

This is a great time of the year to go to the movies. With the Oscars coming up many of the year's best films are in the theaters now. Years ago my wife and I stopped going to the movies due to my poor hearing and the low quality of the audio devices available for people with hearing loss. We switched to getting videos at home and watching them on the TV with captions. Now with the great new Sony captioning glasses available at the Regal Cinema chain of theaters we have ventured back and seen some wonderful movies that are much better seen on the big screen.

If you have been putting it off, now is a great time to give it a try. Katie Wright wants to get a group together to go to the movies so if you are interested, send her an e-mail at katiewri@gmail.com or give her a call at (562) 861-7993. For starters, a group of about 6 people would be good. She has experience with the glasses and can easily show you the adjustments available. The nose piece shape can be adjusted for comfort and the tilt/height of the lenses to change the location of the captions. The brightness and the apparent depth of the captions (far, mid and near) can be adjusted from the controller box.

It's comfortable at home, but it feels good to get out and enjoy the movies on the big screen. Barbara and I recently saw "The Theory of Everything," "Wild" and "Imitation Game." We thoroughly enjoyed all three but some might find offensive nudity and depictions of drugs and sex in some flashbacks in Wild. We haven't seen Selma but it has gotten great reviews.

Here are a few tips based on my experience:

- Arrive a little early so you can go to customer service and request captioning glasses.
- They go over your regular glasses like the ones used for 3D movies. If the movie is in 3D, customer service will attach a thin film over the captioning glasses.
- Ask how to adjust the glasses.
- The green light on the top of the controller should be solid green. If it is red or flashing green/red, there is a problem. Return to customer service for a new set.
- The captions will probably not be on during the ads and previews. They start with the Regal Cinemas' train approaching the station.
- Experiment with different locations for the captions by adjusting the glasses or slightly adjusting the tilt of your head.

- If you are a senior, ask if there is a special senior rate on certain days or times. We discovered at our local theater on Tuesdays the senior rate is only \$5 which is almost half the usual senior rate.
- Above all be patient. Any new technology takes some time to get used to, but the more you do it, the better it will be. Herb, Maxine, Katie and I all like the glasses.

If you try the glasses, let me know how you like them. I hope the experience is great for you!

Contact Bill Busch by E-mail: billbusch@ieee.org or phone: 310-540-6322.

Local Movie Theaters with Sony Captioning Glasses:

Regal Cinemas in Long Beach near Carson Blvd. and Towne Center Dr., (562) 429-3321

Edwards Southgate Stadium 20 near Garfield Blvd. and Firestone Pl., (562) 927-4432

Regal Promenade Stadium 13 in Palos Verdes on Deep Valley Dr. between Drybank Dr. and Crossfield Dr. (310) 544-3456

Regal La Habra on Imperial Hwy. between Town and Country Ctr. and Market Pl. (562) 690-7469

JANUARY MEETING SUMMARY



Gail Morrison and Maeve Brown

The speaker at our January meeting was Maeve Brown from Cochlear Americas, talking about what's new in implantable technology. Maeve is the area manager with over 15 years experience for Cochlear Americas. She covers Greater Los Angeles and Hawaii in a number of capacities for the company. She explained hybrid cochlear technology has been in existence for 15 years and

just recently arrived in U.S. Recently approved by the US Food and Drug Administration, the Nucleus Hybrid Cochlear Implant System works by combining a cochlear implant and a hearing aid, using acoustic amplification to improve low-frequency hearing and cochlear implant technology to improve high-frequency hearing.

Cochlear Americas also offers bone conduction implants, the Baha Systems. Typically, people who use bone conduction implants have less severe hearing loss than those who use cochlear implants.

TRAVEL AND LOST HEARING AIDS

David J DeKriek, Au.D.

Professional Advisor, HLAA Long Beach/Lakewood Chapter

We all have habits and routines that we use throughout our day. Many of them are automatic and things just seem to happen without requiring any thought. For some of us, we have developed a routine for managing our hearing aids. We put them in our ears every morning, put them in their box at bedtime and change the battery once a week. We know where our hearing aids are because we always put them in the same place.

But what happens when our routine is broken? What happens when we travel and we are forced to do something different?

In my office, I sometimes have to replace lost hearing aids and I see some similarities among the loss and damage claims. Many of the hearing aids that are lost end up that way when people are on vacation and they can't rely on their routine for protecting their hearing aids. That familiar spot where we put our hearing aids on the dresser is not available.

I had one gentleman leave his hearing aids in an airport when he took them out of his ears while waiting for his flight. He set them on his luggage and didn't think about them again until he was in the air. I also remember a man who lost his hearing aids when he took them out at the lake and left them on the dock.

I'd like to remind everyone who wears hearing aids to bring their hearing aid case along with them when they travel. Try to stick to your care routine as much as possible when you are away from home. If you always put your hearing aids in a safe location then they will always be where they should be when you need them. I might also recommend putting your contact information on your hearing aid box when you travel. I have a label maker at my office and I would be happy to print a label for anyone who needs one as a courtesy. If you need a new box for your hearing aids, please let me know. I have extra boxes that I would be happy to provide at no charge, regardless of where you bought your hearing aids.

CONVENTION
Hearing Loss
Association
of America **2015**

June 25 - 28

**St. Louis Union Station Hotel
St. Louis, Missouri**

Meet Us in St. Louis

You're invited to join us for our 30th annual Convention in St. Louis! It's a big year for HLAA as we turned 35 this past November and kicked off a year of commemorative activities, including a special banquet in St. Louis. Stay tuned for details!

See the [registration page](#) for all the details.

HAT DEMO AND LIP READING CLASSES PUBLICITY

Our HAT Demo and Lip Reading Classes are now listed in the City of Lakewood Recreation and Community Services Catalog. This catalog is sent out twice a year to every home in the city of Lakewood. When the catalog came out at the beginning of January, the Weingart Center immediately began receiving calls inquiring about the HAT meetings. Both the HAT Demo and the Lip Reading Classes reported new visitors during January! This is a major breakthrough in assisting us in our mission of Education, Advocacy and Self-Help. Sabrina Junkin, the director of the Center, was instrumental in getting the listings in the catalog. We owe her great thanks for her support of our HLAA Chapter.

FREE H.A.T. DEMONSTRATION Hearing Assistive Technology

Do you have trouble hearing on the phone and have trouble hearing conversations in restaurants? Can't hear the doorbell ring? Come to the next HAT DEMO on **Friday, February 20**, between 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. We look forward to introducing you to the latest Hearing Assistive Technology, which might just help you overcome some of your particular hearing challenges.

Please join us. It's free and ***no reservations*** are needed.

No hearing aids will be at this event. This HLAA chapter does not sell any of the devices itself, nor does it otherwise profit from this demonstration service. The Weingart Center and the HLAA Long Beach/Lakewood Chapter make no warranties, presentations or claims concerning the quality, quantity or availability of services or products herein.

\$\$\$\$ TIME TO PAY YOUR DUES \$\$\$\$

It's time to pay your Chapter dues for the 2015 calendar year. Walt Lowrie will be accepting your \$1.00 cash at the next few meetings. You can also mail it to him at Walt Lowrie 5072 Fanwood Ave., Lakewood, CA 90713.

HLAA, CALIFORNIA CHAPTER BOARD OF TRUSTEES ELECTION

Our own Gail Morrison has been re-elected to the HLAA-CA Board of Trustees. This will be her second three-year term. Another member of our Long Beach/Lakewood Chapter, Ram Kakkar, is also a Trustee. It's great to have these two voices on the California Board of Trustees.

FEBRUARY MEETING PROGRAM CAMILLE JENKINS AND HER HEARING DOG, RICO

On February 12, we will have a demonstration from Camille Jenkins and her hearing dog, Rico. Jenkins received Rico from the Sam Simon Foundation, a rescue dog training program for people with hearing loss. Rico will show the audience how he helps Jenkins to “hear” the door bell ringing, phone ringing, tea kettle boiling and much more.

Camille Jenkins grew up with normal hearing, but lived in a hearing impaired world as her mother, an aunt and an uncle were severely hearing impaired and wore hearing aids. They all had children who had normal hearing. A year after graduate school Camille's hearing began to drop. She began wearing one hearing aid at age 28 and two at 35. She was a very successful hearing aid user for 20+ years working in sales and corporate recruiting.

In 2007, Camille and her husband's beloved dog, Molly, died at the age of 15 ½. Later that year they began to consider having another dog. Camille had heard of “hearing dogs” so she started exploring the option of having a dog that could help her. Her search led to The Sam Simon Foundation in Malibu who rescues dogs from shelters and trains them for people with hearing loss, traumatic brain injury, moderate physical limitations due to injury, or veterans diagnosed with PTSD.

Rico came to his “forever home” with Camille on May 1, 2008. You can see/hear/read captioned video about Camille and Rico at www.samsimonfoundation.com. Navigate to the hearing dog section, video part 2. Rico is specially trained to alert Camille to sounds such as door knocks, telephones, alarms, etc. As a Certified Hearing Dog, Rico goes almost everywhere with Camille. Rico has traveled to 17 states including Hawaii. He is a big hit wherever he goes. TSA and flight attendants love him.

LINKS

Hearing Loss Association of America

<http://www.hearingloss.org/>

Hearing Loss Association of America, California State Association

<http://www.hearinglossca.org/>

Hearing Loss Association of America, Long Beach/Lakewood Chapter

<http://www.hlalongbeachlakewood.org/>

HAAA Convention Registration

<http://www.hearingloss.org/content/registration>

Sam Simon Foundation Hearing Dog Program

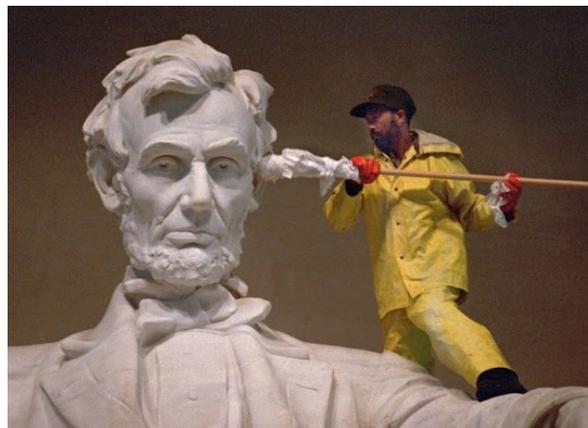
<http://www.samsimonfoundation.com/hearingDogs.asp>

HEARING LOOP INSTALLED AT THE OSHER LIFELONG LEARNING INSTITUTE AT CSULB

A hearing loop has been installed in the main lecture room of the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Cal State Long Beach. Designed for seniors, classes are \$10.00 plus a small yearly OLLI membership fee of \$40.00 for the entire year. For a list of classes currently being offered, go to <http://www.csulb.edu/colleges/chhs/centers/olli/classes/index.htm>.

Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) at California State University Long Beach (CSULB) is sponsored by the College of Health and Human Services. With the exception of the Executive Director and Office Administrator, OLLI at CSULB is operated totally by volunteers, from instructors to committees and clerical work. There are four eight-week sessions each year. Classes are typically ninety minute periods and meet one day a week. Classes are held Monday through Friday from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM.

In honor of Abraham Lincoln's birthday this month:



COCHLEAR IMPLANT STUDY

Subjects are being sought for a study underway to examine the expansion of Medicare criteria for cochlear implants in adults age 65 and older. For additional information and to check on your eligibility to receive a cochlear implant as part of the study, please contact Donna Sorkin, dsorkin@acialliance.org or visit <https://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/>

“In three words I can sum up everything
I've learned about life: it goes on.”
— Robert Frost

OPEN – CAPTIONED THEATER EVENTS

Ahmanson Theater	213-628-2772 or
Open-Captioned Performances	213-680-4017
2:00pm	(TTY)
http://www.centertheatregroup.org/tickets/Project-DATE/	
DAME EDNA'S GLORIOUS GOOD-BYE – THE FAREWELL TOUR	3/14/15
CINDERELLA	4/25/15
MATILDA, THE MUSICAL	6/27/15

Segerstrom Center for the Arts	714-556-2787
Open-Captioned Performances	
2:00pm	
www.scfta.org/access	
Tickets in the open captioned section can be purchased online or by contacting the ticketing services department at 714-556-2787 Seats are available at every price level (while available).	
NICE WORK IF YOU CAN GET IT	3/21
GUYS AND DOLLS	4/18
ANNIE	5/23
MOTOWN THE MUSICAL	6/27
THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA	8/15
Assistive Listening Devices	
Patrons with hearing impairments are encouraged to use Segerstrom Center's Sennheiser System for performances in Segerstrom Hall. Devices are available at no cost.	
Induction Neckloops: If you have a hearing aid that is equipped with a t-coil, we have induction neckloops available that can interface with your hearing aid. Just ask the usher working the podium.	
You may bring your own headphones/earbuds to use in place of our headphones for Segerstrom Hall shows. It just needs to have a 3.5mm audio jack.	

Pantages Theater	323-468-1780
Open-Captioned Performances	
1:00pm	
http://hollywoodpantages.com/accessibility	
WICKED	3/8
NEWSIES	4/12
MOTOWN THE MUSICAL	5/17
THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA	6/28
The Hollywood Pantages Theatre is equipped with an Infrared Listening System and offers 3 different devices. These devices amplify all stage sounds and may be checked out at the Audience Services desk located in the lobby and are available fee-of-charge	

HEARING LOSS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA LONG BEACH / LAKEWOOD CHAPTER

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President - Bill Busch
 Vice - President - Gail Morrison
 Treasurer - Walt Lowrie
 Recording Secretary - Craig Bowlby
 Corresponding Secretary - Ken Saw

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 Newsletter - Katie Wright
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 Refreshments - Marie O'Brien and
 Ways and Means - Stephen Fisher

Support

Newsletter Layout - Lisa Rettino
 Professional Adviser - Dr. David DeKriek, Au.D.

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Bill Busch, 310-540-6322, billbusch@iecc.org.
 Gail Morrison, 562-438-0597, gail7go@gmail.com.



HLAALongBeach.Lakewood

SCOREBOARD

	MEMBERS	GUESTS	TOTAL
Jan. '15	28	0	32
Dec. '14	25	3	28
Nov. '14	38	2	40
Oct. '14	31	6	37

HLAA

Join HLAA now to receive Hearing Loss Magazine and become part of the one organization that represents the interests of 48 million people with hearing loss in the United States. Send \$35 / \$45 for individual/family membership to:

Hearing Loss Association of America
 7910 Woodman Avenue, Suite 1200,
 Bethesda, MD 20814.

If you shop at Amazon.com, we now have a way for you to help our Chapter. AmazonSmile is how it's done! When you shop at smile.amazon.com, Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to your favorite charitable organization. Everything available on Amazon.com is available through AmazonSmile.

To register for AmazonSmile, simply go to smile.amazon.com from your web browser on your computer or mobile device.

On your first visit to AmazonSmile (smile.amazon.com), you need type into the search box:

Hearing Loss Association of America Long Beach/Lakewood

The next page will show **Hearing Loss Association Inc Redondo Beach**. This is the one to **select**.
(The city listed is Redondo Beach because that is where our President lives and files the taxes for the Chapter).

Once you press select, AmazonSmile will remember your selection, and then every eligible purchase you make at smile.amazon.com will result in a donation.

How much of my purchase does Amazon donate?

The AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price from your eligible AmazonSmile purchases. It's not much, but it can add up quickly with many people shopping!

Just be sure that whenever you shop on Amazon from now on, you are on AmazonSmile!

FUTURE PROGRAMS

February 12, 2015 - Camille Jenkins and Rico (Sam Simon Foundation hearing dogs). We will have a demonstration from Camille Jenkins and her hearing dog, Rico. Jenkins received Rico from the Sam Simon Foundation, a rescue dog training program for people with hearing loss. Rico will show the audience how he helps Ms. Jenkins to "hear" the door bell ringing, phone ringing, tea kettle boiling and much more.

March 12, 2015 - "ALDs Can Promote Social Interaction" Dave Cooper, Marriage and Family Counselor in Long Beach, will discuss the psychological aspects of hearing loss and withdrawal from society.

HLAA Long Beach/Lakewood Chapter Meetings are on the second Thursday of each month at 6:30 pm.
We meet at the **Weingart Center, 5220 Oliva Ave, Lakewood 90712**

No reservations are necessary and admission is free.

All meetings are Captioned with CART (Communication Access Realtime Translation), the hearing Induction loop and Williams Sound System. Light refreshments are served.
For more information, please call [562-438-0597](tel:562-438-0597) or visit www.hlalongbeachlakewood.org.



The Hearing Loss Association of America (HLAA) opens the world of communication to people with hearing loss through information, education, support and advocacy. The national support network includes the Washington, D.C., national office, state organizations and local HLAA Chapters.