

# Hear Ye, Hear Ye

## People in the news

### Joan Haber wins 2010 Rocky Stone Humanitarian Award



—photo by Lynn Elkes

Joan Haber, of Sarasota, long-time HLAA member and Trustee of both the national and state organizations, has been honored by the national board as this year's Rocky Stone Humanitarian. Joan is also chair of the Florida Coordinating Council for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing. The award will be presented on June 19 at the HLAA Convention in Milwaukee.

Many of Joan's fellow members and friends will be there to cheer her on and recognize how much she has done for people with hearing loss in Florida and beyond.

The Howard E. "Rocky" Stone Humanitarian Award was established 1990. The recipient of this prestigious award is elected by the Hearing Loss Association of America Board of Trustees to honor an outgoing or past trustee for his or her extraordinary contributions toward the furtherance of the objectives and personal exemplification of the philosophy envisioned by Howard E. Stone, founder of this organization formerly known as SHHH (Self Help for the Hard of Hearing).

Congratulations, Joan.

### Shifra Shaulson, winner of HLA-Florida's Joan Andrews Scholarship

In November 2009, HLA-FL announced the second annual Joan Andrews Scholarship. Joan Andrews, former president of the Florida Association of Self Help for Hard of Hearing People (now the Hearing Loss Association of Florida), worked tirelessly to improve the quality of life for individuals with hearing loss. The Selection Committee – Joan Haber, Kay Shaffer, Nancy Day and Barbara Emmons – awarded the scholarship to Miami Beach resident, Shifra Shaulson.



Shifra recently joined HLAA and wants to become active with both the national and state organizations. She is 29 and has had a hearing loss since the age of 2. She has recently returned to school to complete a degree in Diagnostic Medical Sonography. She is looking

## Do we look smaller?

Don't rub your eyes. It's true. We've reduced the number of pages from eight to four. Because of financial restraints we have streamlined and gone **green**. For the time being, we are publishing three print editions (Jan., May, and Sept.) and three electronic editions (Mar., Jul., and Nov.) The former continues to be mailed postally.

You can find the hefty March 2010 edition on our website. It was emailed to all HLAA members in Florida for whom we have an address. If you would like to be included in this list, please notify us at [judy40@bellsouth.net](mailto:judy40@bellsouth.net)

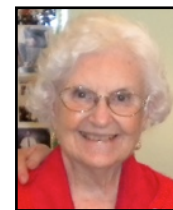
Our *print* edition is mailed to all HLAA members, licensed audiologists (850) and hearing instrument providers (950) in Florida. We are working on a system to have the electronic edition mailed to the latter.

Please continue to mail your articles, photos and listings of events. Certain editions will have space considerations, but others will have the sky as their limit.

As always, donations are welcomed. Please call for advertising rates

—Judy G. Martin, Editor

forward to attending her first HLAA Convention and is interested in finding additional ways to accommodate her hearing loss and learn more about assistive devices and better sound clarity in the classroom setting.



Joan Andrews

### BLOGGING YOUR WAY THROUGH HLAA AND OTHER GOOD THINGS

<http://hlaachapternews.blogspot.com/>

<http://hlaa-advocacy.blogspot.com/>

<http://brendabattat.blogspot.com/>

<http://hlaaconvention.blogspot.com/>

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

<http://health.groups.yahoo.com/group/HLA-FL/>



Judy G. Martin, Editor  
Kay Shaffer, Proofreader

You may submit news items and/or photos to: Judy40@bellsouth.net

Deadline for the July electronic edition of *Hear Ye, Hear Ye* is June 15.

We are a 501(c)3 non-profit organization. Your donations are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

Checks may be mailed to 8019 Leafcrest Drive, Jacksonville, FL 32244.

Members of HLAA automatically receive a copy of the printed newsletter. Anyone may receive a copy of the electronic version by sending their e-mail address to judy40@bellsouth.net

**We are on Facebook!**  
If you are a member of Facebook, check us out. You can add news and photos of your chapter, send announcements of events or share hearing loss news of general interest.  
[facebook.com/HLA.Florida](http://facebook.com/HLA.Florida)

**Webinars Schedule**  
*May 20, 5 p.m. EDT*  
**Topic:** Help for Tinnitus  
**Guest Speaker:** Michael D. Seidman, MD., FACS  
**How to join the Chat:**  
A link is posted below, so all you need to do is click on it about 5 minutes before the scheduled Webinar.  
**Test your connection:**  
If you have never attended a Connect Pro meeting before, [test your connection here.](#)  
Get a quick overview:  
[http://www.adobe.com/go/connectpro\\_overview](http://www.adobe.com/go/connectpro_overview)

**Cruise to the Caribbean & help your chapter too!**

RCCL FREEDOM OF THE SEAS sailing October 17, 2010

Sun	Port Canaveral		Depart 4:30 p.m.
Mon	At Sea		
Tues	Labadee, Haiti	Arrive 8 a.m.	Depart 5 p.m.
Wed	Ocho Rios, Haiti	Arrive 10 a.m.	Depart 6 p.m.
Thu	Georgetown, Cayman Islands	Arrive 8 a.m.	Depart 4 p.m.
Fri	Cozumel, Mexico	Arrive 10 a.m.	Depart 7 p.m.
Sat	At Sea		
Sun	Port Canaveral	Arrive 7 a.m.	



FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, SEE OUR FLYER AT [HLA-FL.COM](http://HLA-FL.COM)

**WIN A CRUISE FOR TWO RAFFLE DONATION \$10.00**  
CONTEST DATES: JANUARY 1, 2010 - JULY 1, 2010  
CONTACT YOUR CHAPTER LEADER OR LYNN ROUSSEAU AT [HLAFLORIDA@AOL.COM](mailto:HLAFLORIDA@AOL.COM)

**Have you ever visited the HLAA message board?**

It's a wonderful place to get help and to help others.

[www.hear4life.org/index.html](http://www.hear4life.org/index.html)

Here's a typical comment/question:

Hi, My name is -- I am a 43-year-old wife and mother. I am so thankful that I found this forum!

I have been hard of hearing for almost three years. It's been very frustrating and I feel like I've been floundering.

When I lost the hearing in my left ear three years ago, the doctors were not very helpful. They basically told me "yes, you are losing your hearing" but not much else.

They did suggest trying a hearing aid, but it didn't work. They never mentioned there were other types of aids or alternatives.

It wasn't until two months ago that my neurologist mentioned that I need to learn lip reading. I never realized there were resources to teach you how to do this. I just thought deaf persons learned it on their own.

As I've done more internet searches, I have gradually found more information. I didn't realize there were so many resources out there. My best "resource" has been my wonderful husband helping me and a cell phone with texting.

I apologize that my first post sounds so negative, but I have been so frustrated and have felt so alone. I feel so fortunate to have found this board. :)

**Two FREE Seminars for Persons with Hearing Loss and the businesses & organizations serving them**  
Sponsored by the Florida Coordinating Council for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing as part of its May Quarterly Meeting.

<b>Interpreting, C-Print, CART &amp; TypeWell What Works Best For You?</b> 1:30 PM to 3:00 PM Mike Cano Alternative Communication Services	<b>Hurricane / Emergency Preparedness</b>  3:30 PM to 4:45 PM Steven Detwiler Orange County Emergency Management

COMING SOON: MAY 13, 2010  
Crowne Plaza Orlando  
Airport Hotel  
5555 Hazeltine National Drive  
Orlando, FL 32812  
877-859-5095

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION OR ASSISTANCE  
CONTACT STAFF ASSISTANT: Mary Grace Tavel  
[info@fccdh.org](mailto:info@fccdh.org)  
[MaryGrace\\_Tavel@doh.state.fl.us](mailto:MaryGrace_Tavel@doh.state.fl.us)  
Phone: 850.245.4913  
TTY: 850.245.4914  
Toll-free TTY: 866.602.3276

## When captioning is needed for a movie, many do not realize how much support is available.

By Edward F. Ogiba, President, HLA-Sarasota

In a just-completed survey among HLAA chapter members, it was no surprise to learn that 94% of the respondents said they needed captioning to enjoy a movie. 47% went on to say they never watch a movie unless captioning is available.

The study was conducted by the Sarasota Chapter (HLAS) as part of its advocacy to the AMC Theatre to provide better captioning support. AMC management was pleasantly surprised to learn that the study showed the hard-of-hearing and deaf as a group are average moviegoers attending 3.5 movies a year. We are also above average video renters grabbing 9.5 movies a year for home viewing.

Our members reported being very pleased with the available captioning systems. 100% of the triers of Open Captioning (OC) and 75% of those who tried Rear Window Captioning said the systems met most or all of their needs. However, awareness and trial of these caption systems is low. 53% of members have never tried RWC and only 9% have used it more than twice. With OC, 35% have never tried it and less than half (47%) have used it more than twice.

Some key conclusions were:

- Not surprisingly, those who are aware of, and have tried, captions attend 5 or movies a year. But lack of awareness limits attendance, as non-triers attend 2

or less movies a year. 24% of our members did not attend any movies in the past year.

- There is a major opportunity for theaters to market their caption availability. Neither the Regal chain, the leading provider of OC movies, or AMC, which provides RWC, have promoted captions very well either in theater or in their communications.

- Lack of signage in theaters is a special problem with RWC as one could easily attend a RWC movie and never know captions were offered. Unlike OC, which projects captions for all to see, RWC requires a personal captioning device or "reflector." Hopefully, AMC will address our recommendations for more in-theater coverage.



- The best source to find what captioned movies are playing in your area is [www.CaptionFish.com](http://www.CaptionFish.com). CaptionFish provides the daily and weekly listings of all captioned show times in your area. It also has a handy section where you can screen movie previews and trailers with captions.

For more information or a copy of the report, contact Ed Ogiba at [ed@groupefo.com](mailto:ed@groupefo.com)

### Common Questions about FTRI Amplified Phones

—Colleen Schuster, Outreach Manager

Here are a few of the more common questions about phones issued by



Florida Telecommunications Relay, Inc.:

#### I think my phone is broken - what should I do?

If you are having difficulty with your telephone, do not try to repair it. Please return the equipment to the regional distribution center (RDC) in your area for an exchange. Any equipment determined to be broken due to normal use, normal wear and tear, or manufacturer defect, with no obvious abuse, will be exchanged. Please bring all accessories, booklets and original box.

#### I'm moving out of Florida - where do I return my phone?

If you are moving out of the state or if you simply want to return your

equipment for any reason, bring your phone to the nearest RDC or call FTRI and we will arrange UPS pick up of your phone.

#### What if my phone is stolen?

Contact the RDC in your area if your phone is lost, stolen or damaged as result of fire, smoke, water (or flood). Bring documentation of the incident, e.g., police report, or other incident records.

If you have any questions, please contact [outreach@ftri.org](mailto:outreach@ftri.org) or call FTRI's main office at 800-222-3448 (Voice) or 888-447- 5620 (TTY).

*(Colleen has joined FTRI as the new Outreach Manager. She was previously with Kidd Group, one of Tallahassee's largest marketing firms, where she specialized in social marketing and public relations campaigns for health care and non-profit clients. Her many years experience in marketing will be an asset to FTRI. A native of Miami, Colleen is very active in the local Tallahassee community. "FTRI is a wonderful organization and I'm thrilled to be part of such a great team," she said.*

### Hearing Loss Association of Florida calls for board applications

The Hearing Loss Association of Florida (HLA-FL) is seeking qualified individuals to serve on the HLA-FL Board of Trustees for a three-year term beginning October 2, 2010.

Applicants must be members of HLAA. Meetings are held three times a year on Saturdays and e-mail access is required.

For more information or for application forms, contact Katherine M. Shaffer, Chair, Nominating Committee, 2806 Aston Ave., Plant City, FL 33566-9315 or by e-mail at: [shaffer@msn.com](mailto:shaffer@msn.com)

Applications must be returned no later than August 7, 2010.





8019 Leafcrest Drive  
Jacksonville, FL 32244



## May is Better Hearing and Speech Month



### Hearing Loss Association of America Chapters in Florida



#### Big Bend

James Forstall  
850-205-1470 ex 230  
[jforstall@ftfri.org](mailto:jforstall@ftfri.org)  
Carlos Monserrate  
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#### Boca Raton

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#### Broward County

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#### Charlotte Ears Tri-County

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