

Publication of the
Canadian Hard of
Hearing Association
(CHHA)

**NORTH SHORE
BRANCH**

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MOUNTAIN EAR is a publication of the Canadian Hard of Hearing Association North Shore Branch. It is Published 5 times a year on the 15th of March, May, August, October and December.

Your submissions are always welcome. Please contact the Editor:

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President's Message.

It only seems like yesterday when 10 years ago the North Shore Branch was meeting in homes and the basement of a church. This month we were privileged to celebrate 10 years of difficult but rewarding work in developing the Branch to what it is today. Back then, the members could be counted on both hands, while today we have over 50 members and our membership role is still growing. We now have a permanent address at the Capilano Community Services Society (CCSS).

I want to acknowledge the many Board members and volunteers who have served over the years. Without their untiring commitment and dedication we could not have achieved what we have to date. In another part of this newsletter you will read about our 10th Anniversary Celebrations and the awards given for various services to the Branch and the Hard of Hearing in our communities. This is the tip of the iceberg.

The North Shore Branch of CHHA is now a very visible organization in our North Shore communities. We have produced brochures which are on display in Audiologists' and Doctors' offices, as well as, other community locations. Volunteers have taken the time

to go out into the community to speak on hard of hearing issues at Service Clubs, Hospitals, and Seniors' Organizations. We sit on various committees and advocate for the needs of the Hard of Hearing wherever we feel we can make a difference.

To keep an organization like ours alive and active requires hard work. Hard work shared by many hands makes light work. I would like to thank all who have

served over the last 10 years as Board members and volunteers. Without your help the organization would not be what it is today.

I would also like to remind our members that we are still looking for more volunteers. The Board recently went over the job descriptions for each executive job, as well as, the many volunteer jobs and broke these down into more manageable positions.

Many of these require only a few hours of work 3 or 4 times a year. Two special positions we would like to fill are that of:

(1) Office Coordinator. This position requires someone to organize our new office at CCSS and to setup and maintain our filing system. It would entail picking up and distributing mail on a weekly basis and filing documents, as necessary. The person would also be responsible for relaying telephone messages received at CCSS and attending Board meetings.



(2) Meeting Coordinator. This position requires someone to oversee the setting up of 3 members meetings per year. This would entail booking the rooms with the church for the year in advance. Confirming the booking with the church about a week before the meeting and picking up the key or arranging for the pickup of the key by a volunteer the day of the meeting. Maintaining liaison with: (a) Person providing refreshments, (b) Phoning committee, (c) Person installing the loop system, (d) Chairs and tables setup person, (e) President or person setting agenda for the meeting. Arrange with the church for booking of TV, Video machine, overhead projector, etc., if needed for the meeting. Arranging for volunteers to take down the loop system, put away chairs and tables and see that the hall and kitchen are left clean and tidy. Take responsibility to see that all necessary actions for a successful meeting take place. Attend Board meetings.

If either of these two important positions appeal to you, I would like to hear from you. Please call me at: 980-6671 or FAX: 980-6695. Erica Barrett.

WIRED FOR SOUND: A JOURNEY INTO HEARING

VANCOUVER PRESENTATION

BY

BEVERLEY BIDERMAN

Thursday, October 21st, 4-6 pm.

B.C. Cancer Research Lecture Theatre,
601- West 10th Avenue, Vancouver.

Open to the public

Following the presentation and discussion, the author will autograph copies of her book. Books may be purchased at the lecture theatre.

Beverley Biderman was either born hearing impaired or became so shortly after birth. Her hearing loss was progressive, and profound by the time she was in her early teens. Her hearing loss is hereditary, her father and half of his family were all deaf.

A graduate of York University, Beverley has been employed as a computing systems professional for over twenty years. Recently she was instrumental in the establishment of York University's Adaptive Technology Resource Centre to make computing technology available to people with disabilities. She is presently adaptive technology consultant and planning analyst at the University of Toronto.

In 1993 Beverley received a cochlear implant and embarked on a life-changing experience that she wrote of in **WIRED FOR SOUND; A JOURNEY**

INTO HEARING The book has been very favourably received, been optioned for a film treatment and resulted in national radio and television interviews for the author.

Beverley is a compelling speaker who provides insight into the experience of understanding and accepting deafness as well as learning to hear again.

FM listening system, Real-time Captioning and ASL Interpreting will be provided.

SPONSORS:

Canadian Hard of Hearing Association - BC Chapter
Audiology Department, Vancouver Health Department
UBC Special Education Programs for Teachers of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

Western Institute for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing.

For more information, contact WIDHH 736-7391 voice, 736-2527 tty, email poonja-jiwany@widhh.com

Next Members' Meeting

The next members' meeting will be held on February 21, 2000. The program and agenda will be announced in the December issue of Mountain Ear.

The November members' meeting has been cancelled.



Board of Directors 1999/2000

From left to right: Bill Tivy, Flo Spratt, Alfred Kobbeltvedt, Hugh Hetherington, Alice Keating, Audrey Kirkpatrick, and Erica Barret.

Municipal Community Grants

The North Shore Branch of CHHA gratefully acknowledges the receipt of a \$300.00 Community Grant from the Corporation of the District of West Vancouver.

**CHHA - BC CHAPTER AGM and
Conference Friday and Saturday
October 29-30, 1999**

Sheraton Hotel, Surrey

CHHA North Shore Branch AGM and Social Evening

To celebrate going into its 10th year, the North Shore Branch members and guests attended a 10th Anniversary Celebration evening of fun and socializing. The evening of fun which followed the Branch's Annual General Meeting was attended by 24 regular members and 9 guests. Among the guests, the North Shore Branch was pleased to welcome special guests: Dr. Marilyn Dahl, Executive Director of the Western Institute for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing; Lloyd Dahl, President of CHHA - B.C. Chapter; Linda Tobias, President of the Vancouver League of the Hard of Hearing; and Dr. Charles Laszlo, a member of the CHHA National Board, and Professor Emeritus at the University of B.C.



Honoured Guest Lloyd Dahl cuts the 10th Anniversary Cake

Colin Cantlie, the National President of CHHA was unable to attend the gathering, but sent the following message of congratulations which was read out at the meeting:

"Thank you for your very kind invitation. Regretfully, I must decline as I am unable to attend this gala celebration. Please relay to your members the following comments:"

"The Canadian Hard of Hearing Association congratulates the CHHA North Shore Branch for the successes over the last 10 years and wishes, one and all, continued success in the future. Your willingness to support each other is exemplary as you work together providing support and access to and within the community. Happy 10th Anniversary". From Colin Cantlie, President, Canadian hard of Hearing Association.

"Erica, my visit last year to the North Shore Branch was so memorable and so enjoyable thanks to the kindness and warm hospitality by you and the membership. It was so very appreciated. Often, I think back to that memorable meeting".

"Best regards to you and the Branch, and congratulations on winning the National Award". Colin.

The evening began with the Branch's Annual General Meeting, where the members present adopted the President's and Treasurer's Annual Report. This was

followed by the election of a new Board of Directors for the 1999/2000 year. The officers elected for the coming year were: Erica Barrett, President; Hugh Hetherington, Vice President; Alfred Kobbeltvedt, Treasurer; and three Members-At-Large, Audrey Kirkpatrick, William Tivy and Flo Spratt. Flo Spratt is the only officer who has not previously served on the Board and the Board offers her a most cordial welcome and looks forward to serving with her in the coming year. The Board would also like to add a special thank you to our new member, Kirsten McCorquodale who kindly volunteered to take the minutes for this year's AGM.

Following the AGM, Alfred Kobbeltvedt took over as Master of Ceremonies for the evening and introduced a program of fun, awards, prizes and refreshments. The first order of the evening was awards.

Dr. Charles Laszlo, founding member of CHHA and its first president in 1982 was on hand to present the North Shore Branch with the Charles Laszlo Award of Technical Excellence. This award, which is given by the CHHA National Office, was awarded to the North Shore Branch at the CHHA Conference in Moncton, NB. The award plaque reads: *Charles Laszlo Award of Technical Excellence June 12, 1999 Awarded to CHHA - North Shore Branch For The Provision Of Exceptional Access For Its Members Through The Use of Modern Technology and Community Contribution.* As there was no one from the Branch to receive the award in Moncton, we were very fortunate to have Dr. Laszlo with us on this occasion to receive the award. Hugh Hetherington accepted the award on behalf of the Branch.



Younger guests admiring the 10th Anniversary Cake

The second award was a North Shore Branch award presented to Hugh Hetherington. This award recognizes the skills, efforts and work that went into the technical development of assistive listening devices for the benefit of people with a hearing loss. Hugh's contribution resulted in the Branch being awarded the Dr. Charles Laszlo Award for Technical Excellence. The award reads: *In Recognition of Hugh Hetherington, Director, CHHA - North Shore Branch for the development of assistive listening devices 1995-1999.* The award was presented to Hugh by Erica Barrett.

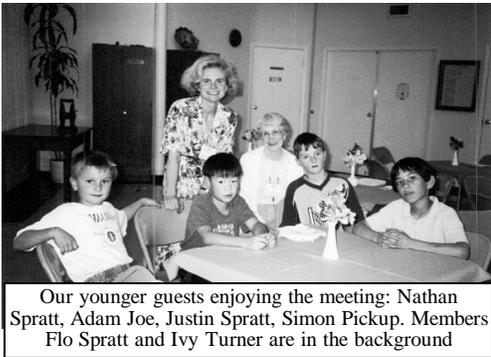
It was with very great pleasure that the North Shore Branch awarded the third award to Lloyd Dahl, President of CHHA B.C. Chapter. Lloyd has helped

the Branch extensively over the last several years. This award was given as a token of appreciation for his work, dedication and service to hard of hearing people. Erica Barret presented the award which reads: *In recognition of Lloyd Dahl, President of CHHA - BC for assistance given to CHHA North Shore Branch 1994-1999.*



Honoured Guests: Dr. Charles Laszlo, Lloyd Dahl and Dr. Marilyn Dahl

The fourth award was a very special Branch Award given to recognize the unselfish and generous efforts given to the North Shore Branch, to its many members, and to the Hard of Hearing community by its most well known member, Erica Barrett. In asking Lloyd Dahl to present this award, Alfred Kobbeltvedt made the following comments: "Erica has given so much devotion, perseverance and enthusiasm in working for the goals and aspirations of the hard of hearing people". He suggested that we read the President's reports of each of the last ten years that Erica has served this North Shore Branch, to see the



Our younger guests enjoying the meeting: Nathan Spratt, Adam Joe, Justin Spratt, Simon Pickup. Members Flo Spratt and Ivy Turner are in the background

amount of personal effort that went into the work. The plaque honouring Erica reads: *In Recognition of Erica Barrett, Director of CHHA North*

Shore Branch 10 Years 1989-1999.

In closing the awards, Alfred Kobbeltvedt unveiled a large commemorative plaque recognizing the members who have served on the Board of the North Shore Branch as volunteers since the founding of the Branch. Once a year, at the AGM, a plaque will be added showing the names of those who served during the year.

Alfred asked us to note that one plaque was devoted

to honour the late Jean M. Taylor, a hearing member, who served as Recording Secretary and was instrumental in assisting the Branch with a great many successful projects, including getting the Branch registered as a B.C. Society. The special plaque will ensure that Jean's efforts for the Branch will not be forgotten. The plaque reads: *1994-1998 In Memory of Jean Taylor who served as a Recording Secretary.*

With the awards presentations completed, it was time to involve the audience. The proceedings were turned over to Board member, Bill Tivy to conduct the 50/50 draw and the draw for numerous door prizes. Bill called upon Nathan Spratt, younger son of Board member Flo Spratt, to draw the winning tickets. The prizes included five \$10.00 gift certificates, provided by the Branch, redeemable at Safeway Stores. We thank Island Acoustics Hearing Services, North Shore Hearing Services, and Pacific Hearing



Presentation to Lloyd Dahl by Erica Barrett

Clinic for their donations of Dry Aid containers and hearing aid battery testers which were also given away as prizes.



Master of Ceremonies Alfred Kobbeltvedt

Following the prize drawings, Alfred Kobbeltvedt turned the meeting over to Hugh Hetherington, who in keeping with our 1998-1999 theme, "Coping with your Hearing Loss" introduced and showed a new video from the North Shore Branch's library, *"How and When to Use Assistive Listening Technology"*. The newly acquired video was produced for the School of Audiology & Speech Sciences, UBC (c) 1998 by Biomedical Communications, UBC.

The remainder of the evening was given over to socializing and the serving of refreshments, which included sandwiches, cookies, beverages and a large 10th Anniversary cake. The Branch would like to thank both Kenneth Pool and Muriel Wessel, the photographers who kindly recorded the event for our scrapbook and history file. Additional photographs were also taken by Hugh Hetherington. Some of the photographs are shown in the newsletter.