

CALIFORNIA
EAR
INSTITUTE

Hear For Your
Future!



LET THEM HEAR FOUNDATION

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WE'RE ALL EARS!

LET THEM HEAR FOUNDATION EDITION



MEDICAL/SURGICAL SERVICES



AUDIOLOGY



HEARING DEVICE CENTER



CALIFORNIA EAR INSTITUTE



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HEARING COCHLEAR IMPLANTS: "THE SPEED OF SOUND"

I started road racing rather late in life at the age of 47 in Formula Fords and then Formula Atlantics (looks like an older indy car). After several years in the Atlantic, with 110 dB in the cockpit and no ear plugs (not smart), my hearing started going downhill fast losing most of the high frequencies. I owned a management consulting firm and spent much of my



time in interviews so I got large (BTE) digital hearing aids. Then I had a problem with a specific prescription medication that had a side effect of "loss of hearing". My right ear turned off completely and my left continued to deteriorate. By that time I had tired of traveling and gave up consulting and became the Deputy Superintendent of Schools for a large school district. Things were becoming more difficult due to my hearing and when the Superintendent left and I was appointed the Interim Superintendent they became

worse. At meetings I had to have someone sit next to me and interpret what others were saying. That was when Dr Roberson at CEI came to my rescue and did the first cochlear implant in my dead right ear. Cache Pitt turned it on five weeks after surgery and by the time I left the office I was understanding words. I talked to my wife all the way home for the first time in years. I started plugging the TV into the body processor the next day and have watched TV that way ever since. Everyone sounded like Darth Vader or Mrs Darth Vader but they were all understandable. I was completely functional again. The only challenges were direction and crowds.

After two years my remaining ear was down to hearing sound but little discrimination and fortunately Dr. Roberson was willing to do the second implant. That was done at the end of March this year and we turned it on one week later. The surprise came when it worked immediately. I understood over 80% given full sentences from the start. It is hard to describe what is sounds like to go from what I call a quiet single ear with one implant to a full blown stereo with

two. I can now easily locate where sound is coming from. Crowds are still a little difficult but they are getting better and we are still playing with the settings for different environments. The one place I really have an advantage over others with hearing is in the race car. I use a radio to talk to my crew chief, which is normally hard because the sound is still over 110 dB inside the car. But I can now plug the radio directly into the body processor and connect it directly to the coil without a speaker inline. Therefore, I get clear sound over the radio without having to battle with the in-car



sound. I am still winning races at places like Laguna Seca with my Fiero (custom built race car) that is capable of 180 mph or better and having fun with my 1963 Corvette in historic races. The two implants are great and I will never be able to thank CEI/LTHF enough for giving me my life back. ~Featured patient Terry McHenry

CRUSH THE SILENCE 2005

Hear Ye! Hear Ye! We are very excited to announce that The Let Them Hear Foundation's second annual fundraising event, *Crush The Silence*, will be held this year on **Friday, October 21st** at the Thomas Fogarty Winery in Woodside, California. This evening is sure to prove

spectacular with a gourmet dinner and live and silent auctions. All are welcome to attend. Tickets are \$250/couple. We currently need auction donations for the event. Some examples may be, but are not limited to: private home vacations, travel miles, sporting event tickets, spa gift certificates,

restaurant gift certificates, etc. If you are interested in attending the event, receiving more information, or making an item donation please check our website at www.letthemhear.org or call 650-462-3143.



EDUCATION

COCHLEAR IMPLANTS IN CHILDREN 2005: "EDUCATIONAL CONCEPTS/MAINSTREAM STRATEGIES"

15TH Annual Seminar
November 4 & 5, 2005
Hyatt San Jose



The Let Them HEAR Foundation, California Ear Institute and Children's Hospital and Research Center at Oakland are coordinating this extraordinary event. Our keynote speaker this year will be Richard Fee, Ph.D., CED, Educational Consultant from the Center for Childhood Communication at The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. Plenary sessions will be of interest to parents and professionals -- educators, therapists, audiologists and physicians. (No children, please.) Specialized break-out sessions will be offered both days to cover topics such as IEPs, troubleshooting equipment, FM systems, parenting issues, speech/language therapy treatment plans, cochlear implants for the non-C.I. audiologist, and international medical mission opportunities. CME and ASHA/AAA CEUs pending. Invitations and registration opportunities will be available in September. Watch our website for updates: <http://www.letthemhear.org/cme/cic2005-index.php>. For additional information, please contact **Joy Murdock**, the Conference Coordinator at 650/462-3143 or jmurdock@letthemhear.org

SURGICAL MANAGEMENT OF ATRESIA AND MICROTIA

2nd Annual Conference
October 1, 2005
Sunnyvale, California

Professionals, parents, and children are welcome to attend this conference! (There will activities such as supervised videos and games for kids during the event.) A CME accredited "professional track" will be offered for pediatricians, ENTs, craniofacial surgeons, audiologists and speech-language pathologists who work with Atresia and Microtia patients. A concurrent "parent/patient track" will also be offered. The program for each of these tracks is available on our website at <http://www.letthemhear.org/cme/smam2005-program.php>. On-line registration is available. If you require any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact **Sheri Byrne**, the Conference Coordinator, at 650/462-3143, or sbyrne@letthemhear.org.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR PUBLIC SCHOOL PERSONNEL

A very exciting aspect of our new Foundation Training Center is the opportunity to provide continuing education opportunities for professionals who work with deaf and hard of hearing children in our public schools. We are truly becoming a Clinic without Walls! Under the leadership of Joy Murdock, the coordinator of our Training Center efforts, we are now contracted to **train over 100 education professionals**. Joy has arranged for a number of cochlear implant and hearing loss experts to collaborate, bringing the latest information regarding technological and curricular advances. The trainings will serve teachers of the deaf/hard of hearing, speech-language pathologists, educational audiologists, mainstream educators with cochlear implant students, and others. **If your child's school district could benefit** from a cutting edge professional development day, please contact Joy to see if we can help. She can be reached at 650/462-3119 or jmurdock@letthemhear.org.

If you would like to make a donation to help positively impact the life of a child please send in this coupon or visit www.letthemhear.org. Thank you for your support!

Name:

Address:

State/Zip:..... Phone:

Amount: \$10 \$25 \$50 \$100 \$500 Other

Please make checks payable to "Let Them Hear Foundation"

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LET THEM HEAR FOUNDATION

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WE'VE GROWN...

MEET THE NEWEST MEMBERS OF THE LTHF TEAM



Rob McClelland, became the Executive Director of the Foundation in March. Rob has twenty years of leadership experience in the nonprofit sector. His career has included positions of Vice President of a large organization in Colorado, and Dean of a College on Capitol Hill in Washington DC. Rob has consulted nationally on creating "Vision Events" that enable investors to experience the purpose and joy of knowing their gifts and efforts are making life-changing impact. Professionally, Dr. McClelland is a certified Leadership Coach and Strategic Planner, specializing in entrepreneurial solutions to organizational challenges. He has a Ph.D. in Organizational Leadership.



Joy Murdock also joined the Foundation in March. She is our Training Center Coordinator and Speech-Language Pathologist. Some of her Training Center charges include educational outreach, in-services, and outreach to newborn hearing screening programs. Joy is also here to provide speech therapy, auditory training, and evaluation services. She has coordinated and served on 2 major cochlear implant teams in the state of California, and she previously maintained a private practice. Joy is qualified to work with children and adults who use a variety of communication approaches, including auditory-oral language and total communication.



Sheri Byrne is the new Special Projects Coordinator at the Let Them Hear Foundation, but she is no stranger to the organization! Her 14 year old daughter Patricia has been a patient of Lisa Tonokawa's for over 8 years. Sheri's background includes degrees in both law and computer science, so she is contributing to LTHF's mission in both these areas -- by running the Advocacy Program which does insurance appeals free of cost for hearing impaired individuals who have been turned down for surgery, by writing grant proposals, and by managing changes to the LetThemHear.org web site -- recent updates include new languages and electronic newsletter delivery.



Is that Monica answering the phone at LTH? Yes, **Monica Greene**, our new Office Coordinator, joined the team in April. Monica comes to us from U.C. Davis with a B.S. in Biopsychology. Previously she worked for an optometrist. We think it's great that she's made the switch from eyes to ears! Monica is really enjoying getting to know all of our patients. She is just a phone call or an e-mail away if you need to schedule an appointment, or if you require assistance with basic equipment concerns.

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Let Them Hear Foundation

Lisa Tonokawa
Director of Research
Let Them Hear Foundation

Rebecca Highlander
Director of Advancement
Let Them Hear Foundation

Gino LiBerati
Manager
Billing/Collections/Contracting

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Accounting Manager

Hyacinth Reyes
Office Manager
Palo Alto