



Welcome to the Advanced Bionics™ monthly eNewsletter. Our goal is to provide our recipients, professionals, and those new to cochlear implants with an email update on the latest information regarding events, education, products, and services from AB.

Show Your Support and Raise Awareness During “Better Hearing and Speech Month”

May is Better Hearing and Speech Month so help us with our campaign to raise awareness about the effects of hearing loss and the benefits of cochlear implants by joining an HLAA Walk for Hearing. Locate a walk in your area and then join an AB walk team or start your own!



Here's how:

- Reach out to others on HearingJourney.com
- Contact your Regional BEA Manager
- Connect with a local BEA Chapter
- Gather friends and family to form a team
- Contact your center to find others to join your team

You can also raise awareness by educating your pediatrician, health department, early intervention providers, and private practice audiologist about cochlear implants. Contact hear@AdvancedBionics.com for support!

THE LATEST NEWS FROM THE BIONIC EAR ASSOCIATION (BEA)

Meet Recipients who Make a Difference!

Meet JoAnn Amann, a bilateral AB recipient and BEA Mentor from Maryland. Diagnosed with hearing loss at 13 years old, JoAnn says, "Like many others, I'll never forget the feelings of isolation and frustration I had to deal with every day."



It is because of these feelings that JoAnn dedicates so much of her time to mentoring others.

JoAnn first became a mentor in 1989 when she became a member of the Hearing Loss Association of America (HLAA). After receiving her first AB CI in 2002, she volunteered with the Bionic Ear Association to mentor people considering cochlear implants. She explains how her implants work, how they have helped her, and how much they have enriched her life. She helps others understand what they can expect along their journeys to hearing with cochlear implants.

"Mentoring through the BEA and as I go through my day-to-day activities has been very rewarding. I often meet people in stores or on the street who ask about my implants, since I wear my hair very short. Once the conversation gets going, we sometimes end up exchanging email addresses so that I can send them additional information or put them in touch with someone else at the BEA who may be able to assist them in ways that I'm not able to."

JoAnn's latest volunteer endeavor is serving as secretary on the board of directors for Hero Dogs, Inc., www.hero-dogs.org, a Maryland-based, non-profit corporation whose purpose is to train and place service dogs with military veterans who have been injured and/or disabled while serving in the U.S. Armed Forces.

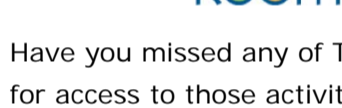
Mentoring others is clearly JoAnn's passion. Whether serving through HLAA, the BEA or Hero Dogs, JoAnn's commitment to helping others Hear and Be Heard is evident in her everyday interactions with others.

Do you enjoy mentoring others and have an experience you'd like to share? Please contact us to let us know how you are making a difference!

[Submit a story, event photo or mentoring experience.](#)

CHECK OUT NEW ACTIVITIES FOR ALL AGES IN THE LISTENING ROOM

Are you looking for activities to support your or your child's journey to better hearing? Then come and explore our new features posted this month in The Listening Room™, our exclusive online listening resource. Adults can learn strategies to improve listening skills, particularly in real-world environments. This month's theme for children's activities is "Fairy Tales." [Enter The Listening Room now!](#)



Have you missed any of The Listening Room activities for kids? Visit **ListeningTree** for access to those activities you missed and more! [View this new site now!](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

ATTEND AN UPCOMING WEBINAR OR WEB CHAT

May 13, 2010

Sequential and Simultaneous Cochlear Implants: Therapy Guidelines and Outcomes

Description: This live webinar will discuss therapy guidelines and outcomes that should be considered when working with a child who received simultaneous cochlear implants at a young age. This course is part of a series of web classes on Early Intervention and Bilateral Cochlear Implants, featuring speaker Don Goldberg, Ph.D., CCC-SLP/A, FAAA, LSLS Cert.

Event Time: 9:00 a.m. Pacific (12:00 p.m. Eastern)

Event Registration: <http://ablearningcenter.acrobat.com/e19377511/event/registration.html>

May 18, 2010

Bilateral Cochlear Implants for Adults: The Natural Approach to Better Hearing

Description: Whether you are considering implants for the first time or have used one implant for years, today's cochlear implant candidates and recipients experience many benefits of hearing with two ears.

Event Time: 6:00 p.m. Pacific (9:00 p.m. Eastern)

Event Registration: <http://ablearningcenter.acrobat.com/e80683177/event/registration.html>

June 10, 2010

Advantages of the Harmony™ System for Seniors

Description: Considering a cochlear implant for yourself or a loved one? Have questions or concerns about your ability to use and benefit from such advanced hearing technology? Enroll in this online seminar to learn about the unique features of the Harmony cochlear implant system, a sound solution for seniors!

Event Time: 6:00 p.m. Pacific (9:00 p.m. Eastern)

Event Registration: <http://ablearningcenter.acrobat.com/e98536270/event/registration.html>

JOIN US AT ONE OF THE FOLLOWING FUN, FREE EVENTS:

May 8, 2010

BEA Chapter Meeting, Northern Virginia

Event Location: Northern Virginia Resource Center

Time: 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Local Time

[Click now to learn more about this event.](#)

May 8, 2010

BEA Chapter Meeting, Alpharetta, Georgia

Event Location: Willis Park, Alpharetta, GA

Time: 4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. Local Time

[Click now to learn more about this event.](#)

May 15, 2010

BEA Chapter Meeting, Central Florida

Event Location: Lakeland Public Library

Time: 1:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. Local Time

[Click now to learn more about this event.](#)

May 15, 2010

BEA Pediatric Chapter Meeting, Chicago, Illinois

Event Location: Children of Peace School

Time: 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Local Time

[Click now to learn more about this event.](#)

May 22, 2010

BEA Chapter Meeting, Baltimore, Maryland

Event Location: Howard County Library

Time: 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Local Time

[Click now to learn more about this event.](#)

May 22, 2010

BEA Chapter Meeting, Nashville, Tennessee

Event Location: Nashville Public Library

Time: 12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. Local Time

[Click now to learn more about this event.](#)

May 23, 2010

BEA Chapter Meeting, San Francisco, California

Event Location: San Jose, CA

Time: 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. Local Time

[Click now to learn more about this event.](#)

Questions? Can't make the event, but want to learn more?

Please feel free to email Linda.Luallen@AdvancedBionics.com, call 866.844.HEAR or visit our website at www.BionicEar.com.

Registration is easy. Join an event today! Visit www.BionicEar.com/calendar for a complete listing of all 2010 events.