



# 'Hear Ye, Here Ye'

BETTER HEARING CENTER of San Leandro Newsletter

S U M M E R 2 0 1 2 N E W S L E T T E R

## GREG'S CORNER

*(Newsy notes from your half-deaf hearing aid guy)*



### TOP 5 THINGS THAT I TELL PATIENTS:

**1** "Put your hearing aids in a case when not wearing them"

I have NEVER had a patient lose a hearing aid if it made it to a case. Ever. And at least one loss a month is reported. So keep a case handy if you think you might be going somewhere that might necessitate the removal of your aids.

**2** "Tinny might be just what you need."

Many new hearing aid wearers complain that their aided hearing does not sound "normal", or that it is tinny. It is important to understand that since the most common type of hearing loss is high frequency loss, that a little bit of tinniness is exactly what you need to correct your hearing. The brain has become accustomed to the muted muffled signals being sent from the impaired ear. It can be quite a shock to hear the sharper treble sounds that you have forgotten about. The point here is that we have to be careful to address the comfort issues of the patient, while at the same time challenging the patient to get used to a little tinniness in their sound in order to understand speech better than before.

**3** "It's not a problem with your battery."

If you've tried more than one battery, try something else! Often a patient will tell me, "But I tried 8 batteries and it still doesn't work." In most cases, the culprit was actually

wax blocking the sound. The battery was fine. So save your batteries and look for a blockage instead.

**4** "It's just moisture."

Many hearing aids are brought to me with the complaint that they are cutting in and out. If you wear the standard behind the ear aids, 90% of the time the problem is just moisture build up. Little drops of moisture in the tube will often gather and block sound completely. Then when taking the aid out to inspect it, that moisture is jiggled around enough so the aid starts working again. So if your aid is going off and on, blow out the tube, and most of the time this will fix your problem.

**5** "You will never hear your friends and family from the other room with their back turned to you."

Seriously, if we made the hearing aids do that, everyone close to you would sound like they are yelling at you. Friends and family need to learn to meet you half way. Your half was spending your hard earned money on hearing aids. Their half? They need to come in to your room and actually talk TO you! You are welcome to bring any friends and family in to me for counseling in this regard.

*Your partner in better hearing,*  
Greg

## We Are Changing Our Name

Our new name will be...drum roll please... **FUTURE HEARING of San Leandro!** As you know, we had a change in ownership in February of last year, and are now a separate company from the other Better Hearing Centers. The same staff and service that you have come to enjoy will still be here. In fact, nothing is really changing at all except for the name. It will take a number of months to gradually make the change. So for the foreseeable future don't be surprised to see both names in use in various places.

## Free Phone!

If you are hearing impaired you can get a free amplified phone from the State of California. All you need to do is to have us sign a form for you attesting that we have fit you with hearing aids and have your records on file. You then either mail the form in or take it to a CTAP Service Center and pick out your phone. If you have not yet taken advantage of this, just let us know and we will sign a form for you.

## Dr. Adam Marvin

Many of our patients are unaware that we have one of the Bay Area's preeminent Ear, Nose, and Throat specialists sharing our office on Tuesdays and Thursdays. If you have any ear issues that might require a specialist, Dr. Marvin is a fabulous doctor and will give you excellent care. Their practice is separate from ours. You can make an appointment with them at (510) 483-3565 and visit our website to learn more about Dr. Marvin.

## Go Green!

Due to increased mailing costs as well as the desire to save a tree here and there, we are switching over to emailing our newsletter wherever possible. If you have not yet signed up to receive our newsletter by email and would like to, please call Emily at our office. If you are not an email user, it is perfectly fine to continue to receive our newsletters via the post office.

*This newsletter is also available on our website:*

[www.betterhearingsanleandro.com](http://www.betterhearingsanleandro.com)

## July Is Battery Sale Month!

Just in case you missed the memo, we have our hearing aid batteries on sale every January and July. The sale price is 2 packs for the price of 1. Yes, that's 50% off! We get them fresh from the factory, and find that we have no battery issues with patients if they get their batteries here. Just drop by the office any time in July to pick up your batteries. If you have mobility issues, call Emily at the office to have them mailed to you. You can also email her at [emily@betterhearingsanleandro.com](mailto:emily@betterhearingsanleandro.com).

## Phone Us or Visit Online

**(510) 483-5422**

[www.betterhearingsanleandro.com](http://www.betterhearingsanleandro.com)

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