

# OAA Hearing News

Winter 2002

Lawrence Thomas, MD  
Stuart Thomas, MD

James Harrington, MD  
P. Mark Brown, MD

## Special points of interest:

- Are my newly purchased hearing aids tax deductible?
- How do I get a free amplified telephone?
- I have "nerve deafness." Will hearing aids help?
- Leslie Nielsen
- Hot Chocolate Recipe

## Inside this issue:

Ask the Audiologists	2
Tips for Better Hearing	3
Someone Famous	3
Recipe Corner	3
Internet Spotlight	4

## What's new in hearing aid technology?

### Supero by Phonak

*Supero* is designed for power.



*Supero* is the only digital line specifically designed for power applications.

Dedication to the special needs of people with severe or profound hearing loss is the driving force behind these innovative digital hearing computers.

Phonak's **commitment** to design dedicated to power has its foundations in three key areas of unrivalled expertise - the development and production of high-gain instruments, the application of innovative digital solution and highly effective wireless communication. Know-how in these

areas has been gathered over several decades, during which Phonak has established itself as a pioneer and leader in power applications. This unique combination of knowledge has enabled Phonak to develop a product line proving that hearing solutions for these wearers can reach far beyond increased gain and output.

The *Supero* **innovation spectrum** focuses on four strong, complementary elements. Technological innovation and vast experience have joined forces to set new standards in

**Power Design, Power Signal Processing, Power Fitting and Power Communication.**

*Courtesy of Phonak*

## Dry & Store®

Hearing Aid Conditioning System

Dry & Store is a conditioning system for all types of hearing instruments, recommended for in-home use every night. While you sleep, it removes moisture, dries earwax, kills germs, and deodorizes your hearing instruments.



## Ask the Audiologists



**Kristin Robbins, MS, CCC/A**

- Texas licensed to practice audiology and fit and dispense hearing aids
- Certified by American Speech Language and Hearing Association
- Fellow of the American Academy of Audiology



**Lisa B. Fell, MS, CCC/A**

- Texas licensed to practice audiology and fit and dispense hearing aids
- Certified by American Speech Language and Hearing Association
- Fellow of the American Academy of Audiology



**Holly Blocker, MS, CFY/A**

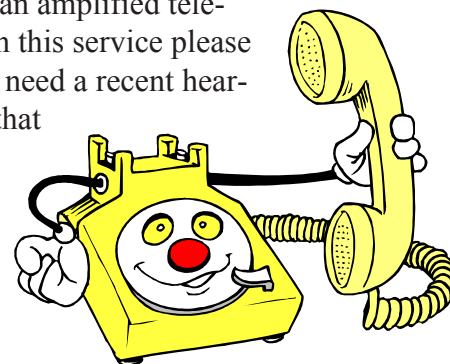
- Texas licensed to practice as an intern in audiology and dispense hearing aids
- Candidate Member of American Academy of Audiology
- Completing her Clinical Fellowship Year in Audiology

### Are my newly purchased hearing aids tax deductible?

Hearing aids are considered a medical expense; therefore, they are considered tax deductible. Consult with your tax professional to determine whether you are eligible for the deduction. It may depend on your income verses percentage of medical expenses for the year.

### How do I get a free amplified telephone?

If you are a Texas resident with a proven hearing loss, then you can apply for a voucher that can be exchanged for an amplified telephone for FREE! If you are interested in this service please let our audiology department know. We need a recent hearing test so that we can complete a form that you send in with a copy of your driver's license. After a few months, a voucher will be mailed to you that can be exchanged for the telephone at our office by appointment. It is a great service, please take advantage of it!



**817-784-6673 ext. 7**

### I have "nerve deafness" and have been told that hearing aids will not help me. Is this true?

"Nerve deafness" is a term used by many people to describe a sensorineural type hearing loss. Sensorineural hearing loss may be a result of damage to the inner ear hair cells, atrophy of the hearing nerve, and aging. This type of hearing loss is the most common and hearing aids are frequently recommended. There are very few cases in which hearing aids are not appropriate for a hearing loss of this kind. We recommend you have a diagnostic hearing evaluation by an audiologist to determine whether or not you are a candidate for amplification.

## TIPS FOR BETTER HEARING

### Things you should avoid doing with your hearing aids:

- Do not get caught in the rain without an umbrella or hat to protect your hearing aids.
- Do not wear your hearing aids to the barber shop. Your barber may mistake a CIC removal cord for a hair or the aid might get sprayed with water and hairspray.
- Do not leave your hearing aids on the car dashboard. Extreme weather temperatures can negatively affect your hearing aid's appropriate function.
- Do not store your hearing aids in the bathroom because it is a warm, moist environment.
- Do not put hearing aids in your pocket because they might fall out.
- Do not wrap hearing aids in tissue/kleenex for "safekeeping" because they can easily be thrown away.
- Do not leave hearing aids where a pet (or small child for that matter!) can get to them. Hearing aids remind your pet of you and they love to chew and hide them.

**Someone Famous**

**Leslie Nielsen**

*Actor and Comedian*

Leslie Nielsen, actor and comedian, has worn hearing aids for approximately 15 years. He has been an advocate for hearing health for many years. He speaks publicly about his hearing and use of hearing aids because it is important to him to be active in the process of being able to hear as best as he can. He says it is difficult to be an actor with hearing loss because people depend on you to say the right line, at the right time. He has said, "my hearing aids are a life saver, and they allow me to practice my craft."

### *Recipe Corner*



### Large Batch of Hot Chocolate

8 qt. box of Carnation  
powdered milk  
1 lb. box of Nestle Quik  
1 11 oz. jar of Original  
Carnation Coffeemate  
powder

Mix well and store in a  
container with lid. The mix  
will last all winter, or half if  
you really like it! Use 1/2 c.  
of mix with 1 mug of hot  
water.

This is a recipe that has been in Kristin's family for many years.

**Physicians' Hearing Aid Center at  
Otolaryngology Associates of Arlington**

3300 Matlock Road  
Arlington, Texas 76015

Phone: 817-784-6673  
Fax: 817-784-6880

PRE-SORT  
STANDARD  
U. S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
Arlington, TX 76010  
PERMIT #255

We now have a home on  
the world wide web!  
[www.TXhearing.com](http://www.TXhearing.com)

*“Blindness separates us from objects but  
deafness separates us from people.”*

*-Helen Keller*

## **INTERNET SPOTLIGHT**

If you have internet access, you should check out this web site...

**[www.nidcd.nih.gov](http://www.nidcd.nih.gov)**

The National Institute on Deafness and other Communication Disorders (NIDCD) is an affiliate of the National Institutes of Health (NIH). You may access articles about hearing loss, hearing aids, noise exposure and more. You can also find general information brochures and areas of current research projects. Happy Surfing!