



# IFHOH JOURNAL

*November 2015*

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*The International Federation of Hard of Hearing People (IFHOH) is an international non-governmental organization representing the interests of more than 300 million hard of people worldwide.*

*IFHOH is registered as a charitable organization at Vereinsregister Amtsgericht, Hamburg, Germany  
- Nr. 69 VR 10 527.*

*IFHOH Journal includes information about IFHOH activities, world news related to hearing loss, articles written by IFHOH members, and much more. It is published four times a year and posted on IFHOH's website, [www.ifhoh.org](http://www.ifhoh.org). The Editor can be reached at [journal@ifhoh.org](mailto:journal@ifhoh.org).*

*All the views expressed in IFHOH Journal are those of the individual writers, and do not necessarily reflect the views of IFHOH.*

# From the Editor's Desk

## From the Editor's Desk



**Carole Willans, Editor**

Dear IFHOH friends,

I recently had the opportunity to revisit Winnipeg (Canada). My previous trip to this city took place several years ago, so I had promised myself that I would visit its new Canadian Museum for Human Rights. Housed in a beautiful building, the museum explores the subject of human rights, with special but not exclusive reference to Canada, in order to enhance the public's understanding of human rights. Creating inspiring encounters with human rights, the exhibits, many interactive, engage visitors in an immersive experience that offers both inspiration and tools to make a difference in the lives of others.

The Canadian Hard of Hearing Association, a member organization of IFHOH, was consulted several years ago on the museum's design, along with other national disability groups. I was pleased to see that our voices had been heard, both in exhibits on the history of the Canadian disability rights movement, and in the use of captioning in English and in French (Canada's two official languages) throughout the museum. The overarching message of the museum is an invitation to Canadians and international visitors to be partners on a journey to erase barriers and create meaningful, lasting change. For more information on the museum and its offerings: <https://humanrights.ca/>

You can send me email at [journal@ifhoh.org](mailto:journal@ifhoh.org) or follow me personally on Twitter @CaroleWillans.

### **IFHOH MEMBER ORGANIZATIONAL DELEGATES AND FRIENDS**

*Plan your travel to ensure attendance at the 20<sup>th</sup> IFHOH Biennial General Meeting!*

**Wednesday, June 22, 2016**

Washington Hilton Hotel  
Washington, DC, USA

# IFHOH President's Message



Ruth P. Warick, IFHOH President

## Keeping in Touch

Instant forms of communication mean that we can keep in constant touch, almost 24-7, even during the summer which has traditionally been viewed as downtime. Not anymore. Not the case for IFHOH and numerous other organizations. Meetings are held through Skype and email exchanges take place constantly. The plus of this approach is that we can keep on top of matters year-round and provide more timely communication. The downside? Well, perhaps we should not go there and should just embrace this new reality!

Planning over the summer has taken place for a number of major events happening this and next year. Our 10th World Congress and 20th Biennial General Meeting (BGM) will be held June 22-26, 2016 in Washington, D.C. The deadline for the Call for Proposals is December 4, 2015; for more information on the Call for Papers, please go to <http://www.hearingloss.org/content/call-papers>. Registration is also open; please book in the HLAA member category which will entitle you to the same rate as HLAA members - a great deal! You will need to book your hotel separately.

Also, ensure that you plan for your flights to arrive in time for the BGM which will be held Wednesday, June 22. And it is not too soon for members of IFHOH to consider motions that your organization would like to put forward for the BGM and for candidates for nomination to the IFHOH Board of Directors. A notice about the Call for Nominations is

being issued separately by Eija Iskasson of Finland, Chair of the Nominations Committee. Please see page 7 of this issue for more complete information on the Call for Nominations.

IFHOH also invites applications for a grant from the Marcia Dugan Memorial Fund for the 2016 HLAA/IFHOH Congress. The grant is named in honour of a former IFHOH president who worked tirelessly for us in her lifetime. As stated in the announcement (see the link below), any hard of hearing person, regardless of age, who demonstrates an interest in working with hard of hearing people and who is currently involved with hearing loss issues is eligible to apply for this grant. Preference will be given to individuals from IFHOH member countries as well as to an individual from a developing country. Please go to this site for the application form and the announcement: <http://www.ifhoh.org/ifhoh-papers/> . The deadline to apply is January 5, 2016.

A human rights workshop will take place on June 21, 2016 (just before the Congress), and by early in the coming year we will issue a call for applications. Meanwhile, three workshops will be held in the coming months, two of them toward the end of October, 2015 with our European counterparts, and one in January, 2016 at the same time that the IFHOH Board holds its meetings in New Zealand.

Another major activity will be International Ear Care Day on March 3. On this date we will join the World Health Organization and its partners and friends in focusing worldwide attention on an aspect that is key to our community. This year's theme is *Childhood Hearing Loss: Act Now, Here Is How!* Materials will be produced by WHO and press releases will be issued. I invite you to consider organizing activities to mark this day. By joining together to celebrate World Hearing Day we can increase awareness about our hearing loss issues.

Please note that in 2012 a motion was presented by the Irish Association during the IFHOH BGM in Bergen, Norway to celebrate such a day together and we are very pleased that we now have a day that we can shine the spotlight on our issues with the considerable influence of WHO.

September 26, 2015 was a historic day for the disability community and IFHOH was part of it. The United Nations Summit in New York officially adopted *Transforming Our World: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development* (now more popularly known as the 'Global Goals'). Developed in partnership with representatives of the disability community, the Global Goals emphasize the inclusion and participation of persons with disabilities as essential to building a sustainable world without poverty and discrimination.

I was personally involved in speaking to a meeting of the UN's EOSOC and to ambassadors as part of the lead-up work to include people with disabilities in this important blueprint for the next 15 years. It is part of our mandate to be fully involved in cross-disability advances and not to be left behind as we were in the past.



L. to r.: At UN Summit with Anna Gilmore Hall (HLAA Executive Director) and with H.E. Mr. Hiroshi Minami (Ambassador, Deputy Permanent Representative of Japan to the UN) and Vladimir Cruk (IDA Executive Director)

It is also part of our mandate to co-operate where possible with the World Federation of the Deaf. I was pleased to have the opportunity to attend their World Congress and Assembly in Istanbul, Turkey last July, where I had the opportunity to address the more than 1,000 delegates. I also presented a workshop on event speech-to-text/captioning and was pleased with the reception and interest by delegates in having speech-to-text more easily available. I am also pleased that our joint project with WFD is progressing and we will soon be distributing a survey to our member organizations to complete. Please watch for this document to be distributed by early December, 2015.



L. to r.: At WFD World Congress 2015 with Colin Allen (WFD President) and Mladen Versac (Slovenia)

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for all of your work on behalf of hard of hearing and deafened persons - for your commitment and support. I also want to thank my hard working colleagues on the IFHOH Board and our colleagues within EFHOH as well as our partners in other networks. If you would like to reach me to discuss an issue or to introduce yourself, please do so.

With best regards,  
 Ruth Warick, IFHOH President  
 Email: [president@ifhoh.org](mailto:president@ifhoh.org)

# IFHOH Nominations 2016-2018

Nominations for the Board of the International Federation of Hard of Hearing People (IFHOH) may be submitted up to **February 29, 2016**. Positions open for nomination are:

President  
Vice-President  
Treasurer  
General Secretary  
Board Member-at-large

Candidates will serve a term for two years and will take office immediately following the IFHOH BGM which is taking place June 22, 2016 in Washington, D.C. Candidates must be nominated by a member organization of IFHOH.

To present a nomination, please communicate by e-mail at this time to the Chair of the Nominating Committee and include:

- Biographical summary (100-200 words)
- Statement of reason for support of the nomination (100 to 200 words)
- Contact information for the candidate: (full name, address, phone, fax, e-mail, etc.)
- Contact information for the organization presenting the nomination (full name, address, phone, fax, e-mail, etc.):
- Verification that the nomination is supported by both the host IFHOH member country and by the candidate.

Please send this information to the following e-mail address: [eiya.isaksson@kuuloliitto.fi](mailto:eiya.isaksson@kuuloliitto.fi)

Thank you,  
Eija Isaksson (Finland)  
Chair of the Nominations Committee

# Congress 2016 - Call for Papers

*Hearing Loss Association of America (HLAA) Hosts the  
HLAA Convention 2016 and the  
International Federation of Hard of Hearing People (IFHOH) Congress 2016*



**June 23 - 26**

Washington Hilton, Washington, D.C., USA

## **Call for Papers**

The HLAA, in conjunction with IFHOH, is soliciting workshop proposals for Congress 2016 to be held June 23 - 26 at the Washington Hilton, Washington, D.C. Workshops will be scheduled for June 23, 24 and 25. Presenters should be prepared to present on any of these dates. Workshops will be one hour in duration. The proposal **deadline is Friday, December 4, 2015**. Please go to <http://www.hearingloss.org/content/call-papers>.

The educational tracks for which we are seeking proposals are:

- Advocacy Issues
- Assistive & Other Technology
- Large Area Listening: Now and In the Future
- Employment
- Hearing Aids & Cochlear Implants
- Dating & Relationships

**Host Hotel** - all sessions and workshops will take place at the Washington Hilton located just three city blocks north of the DuPont Circle area at 1919 Connecticut Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. (see map at <https://goo.gl/maps/3cTfO>).

**Stay Up to Date** - sign up for free bi-weekly *e-News*.

**Info** - Questions may be directed to Nancy Macklin, Director of Events and Marketing, at 301-657-2248 Ext. 106, or email [nmacklin@hearingloss.org](mailto:nmacklin@hearingloss.org).



**JUNE 23-26, 2016 –  
IFHOH WORLD  
CONGRESS  
LOCATION:  
WASHINGTON, D.C.  
(U.S.A.)**

**The Congress will be held in conjunction with the annual conference of the Hearing Loss Association of America (HLAA). IFHOH’s Biennial General Meeting (BGM) will be held June 22, 2016.**

Venue: [Washington Hilton](#), located in the neighborhood of DC known as Dupont Circle. Enjoy walking to some of the top restaurants, shopping and nightlife. The Washington Hilton is the perfect home base for sight-seeing, located only four blocks from the Dupont Circle Metro, so plan to stay a few extra days!

HLAA’s contact for the Congress is Nancy Macklin, Director of Events and Marketing, 301.657.2248, extension 106, [nmacklin@hearingloss.org](mailto:nmacklin@hearingloss.org). Further information will be available following HLAA Convention 2015. For more information about HLAA, visit [www.hearingloss.org](http://www.hearingloss.org). For more information about IFHOH, visit [www.ifhoh.org](http://www.ifhoh.org).

The program will include:

- outstanding educational workshops
- a trade show with state-of-the-art hearing technology
- fun social events for all ages
- research symposium (see below)

Frank R. Lin, M.D., Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Otolaryngology-Head & Neck Surgery, Geriatric Medicine, Mental Health, and Epidemiology at John Hopkins, will moderate and present during the Research Symposium on Friday, June 24, 2016. Dr. Lin’s research focuses on how hearing loss impacts on older adults and the role of different treatment modalities (hearing aids, cochlear implants in mitigating these effects.

# Marcia Dugan Memorial Fund



The late Marcia Dugan

IFHOH has re-launched the **Marcia Dugan Memorial Fund** in time for the IFHOH World Congress and BGM 2016. The IFHOH Board is now accepting applications for a grant to be awarded to one hard of hearing person to fund his/her attendance at the 2016 IFHOH World Congress in Washington, D.C., USA, taking place June 23-25, 2016. The amount of the fellowship (award) is up to a maximum of 1,500 Euros. Any expenses exceeding this amount is the responsibility of the individual.

## Who is eligible?

Any hard of hearing person is eligible, regardless of age, providing that: he/she is from a developing country, demonstrates an interest in working with hard of hearing people, is currently involved in hearing loss issues, and provides proof of eligibility to obtain a VISA for travel. Preference will be given to individuals from IFHOH member countries. In addition, the applicant must explain how a grant would enable his/her attendance at the IFHOH Congress and BGM. The successful candidate is expected to write an article about his/her experience at the Congress and BGM (which may be published on the IFHOH website and in *IFHOH Journal*). Willingness to have his/her name publicized as having received the award is a condition. The successful candidate will be introduced during the Congress. IFHOH reserves the right to freely publish the name and photograph of the grant winner.

## Important dates

Nominations must be emailed to [general.secretary@ifhoh.org](mailto:general.secretary@ifhoh.org) by January 5, 2016. The selection of the fellowship recipient will be announced by mid-February, 2016.

## Application form

[Marcia Dugan Memorial Application Form \(DOC\)](#)

For more information, contact Ms. Hanh Duong Phuong, IFHOH General Secretary.  
You can reach her by email at: [general.secretary@ifhoh.org](mailto:general.secretary@ifhoh.org).

# EFHOH News



Marcel Bobeldijk, President (Netherlands), Lidia Best, Vice President (United Kingdom), Aïda Regel Poulsen, General Secretary (Denmark), Richard Dabéra, Treasurer (France), and Jaana Linna, Board Member (Finland)

Dear EFHOH friends,

Here is some information on what is happening at the European level.

### **Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD)**

The UN CRPD 14<sup>th</sup> meeting - the final dialogue between the European Union and the UN CRPD Committee concerning how the European Union implements the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities - was held in Geneva August 17, 2015. EFHOH was represented by Marcel Bobeldijk and Lidia Best. The European Disability Forum (EDF) had also organised a side event where the EDF and some of its members presented situations relevant to different disability groups in the EU.



At UN CRDP Meeting with Donata Vivanti, EDF Vice-President

### **Hearing Awareness Workshop**

EFHOH and the Greek Organisation of Deaf People jointly prepared a hearing awareness workshop in Athens on September 25. Its aim was to provide information to hard of hearing people in attendance on different hearing loss topics. Alper Coskun, IFHOHYP

Vice-President, was one of the presenters. Following the workshop, the EFHOH Board of Directors held its Board meeting in Athens.



At the Hearing Awareness Workshop in Athens, Greece

### **Some news from the EFHOH Board**

One of our Board members, Jaana Linna, has informed us that she will not be a candidate for re-election to the Board. At the EFHOH AGM 2016 in Paris, we will have to thank Jaana and say goodbye... Nominations will be sought by our Nomination Committee.

### **IFHOH European CRPD workshop**

Two sessions of the IFHOH Human Rights *Train the Trainers* training took place in mid-October in Copenhagen. Thanks go to the organizers, especially Louise Carroll, IFHOH Board Member and Human Rights Officer.



At the IFHOH European CRPD Workshop

### **EFHOH AGM 2016**

Information is now available about the EFHOH Annual General Meeting (AGM) 2016 in Paris, France. It will be hosted by Bucodes SurdiFrance, which is a federation of most of the French associations of hard of hearing people. Most events will take place in the *Résidence internationale de Paris* at the Porte de Bagnolet, in the eastern part of Paris. The EFHOH AGM will be held on Friday April 1 (afternoon) and the Conference will take place on Saturday April 2. See page 15 of this issue for more information and keep up to date by checking our website at: <http://www.efhoh.org/> Remember... you can follow EFHOH via Facebook and Twitter. The addresses are:

|                  |             |
|------------------|-------------|
| EFHOH            | @efhoh      |
| Marcel Bobeldijk | @marbob32   |
| Lidia Best       | @best_lidia |

# Asia-Pacific News



Greetings from the Asia Pacific

Federation of the Hard of Hearing and Deafened (APFHD)!

APFHD is a very young networking self-help organization that was founded in 2012 by hard of hearing and deafened representatives from 10 Asian countries. It was established to work towards achieving a vision for an inclusive society where the rights and interests of persons who are hard of hearing and deafened in Asia and the Pacific are ensured.

Many of its members are from developing Asian countries still in the initial stages of establishing an association or group in their respective countries. APFHD members currently are from Bangladesh, Cambodia, Indonesia, Japan, Laos, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, New Zealand, Pakistan, Philippines and Vietnam.



Only the active self-help association of hard of hearing people in these countries are members of APFHD. These organizations serve as the best advocates of self-help for hard of hearing and deafened people in their countries.

Our greatest achievement to date has been the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the International Federation of the Hard of Hearing People (IFHOH) in 2013.



IFHOH President Ruth Warick and IFHOH General Secretary Hanh Duong Phuong holding the 2013 MOU

Since then, two Skype meetings have been held between the representatives of IFHOH and APFHD. The MOU is to ensure open and mutually supportive working relationship between

APFHD and IFHOH for the purpose of improving the quality of life of hard of hearing adults and young people, deafened people, cochlear implant (CI) users, persons who have some hearing disorder and who use speech as means of communication, persons who suffer from Tinnitus or Menière, and so on, (as well as their families) regardless of the language, the communication system or the assistive technologies they use (hearing aids or CIs). The objective is to integrate the UN CRPD and the IFHOH accessibility guidelines as regards to participation in society.

Every two years, APFHD organizes a Biennial General Meeting (BGM) in a member country. Our first BGM was held in 2012 in Bangkok and resulted in the adoption of the Bangkok Declaration. The second BGM in 2014 was also held in Bangkok and welcomed full participation; the leaders from each member country elected a dynamic Executive Board. The next BGM will be held in November, 2016.

In addition to BGMs, each of member organization is continuously meeting with different government authorities in their respective countries to help advance the hard of hearing agenda.

We dream of a barrier free society in Asia and Pacific region where all hard of hearing and deafened people will be able to enjoy a participatory life, students will learn as other children, young people will participate every area of daily life. For this, APFHD plans to introduce captioning facilities, especially in schools, considering that education is a very important need of hard of hearing people. The APFHD seeks to establish more schools or introduce hard of hearing students to friendly class rooms in mainstream education. The APFHD is also looking for solutions regarding the availability of hearing aids and cochlear implantation. As these are so expensive, the APFHD is trying very hard to find solutions.

Asia Pacific Federation of the Hard of Hearing and Deafened (APFHD)

*New feature: Some news links on the Asia Pacific Region and Hard of Hearing People:*

- <http://tribune.com.pk/story/980840/orchestrating-a-master-class/>

## International Ear Care Day 2016

International Ear Care Day is an annual advocacy event held every March 3. On this day, activities are carried out by the World Health Organization (WHO) and its partners, for the purpose of raising awareness and promoting ear and hearing care across the world. In 2014, the theme was *Ear Care Can Avoid Hearing Loss*. In 2015, it was *Make Listening Safe*. This year's theme is *Childhood Hearing Loss: Act Now, Here Is How!* Materials and press releases will be produced by WHO.



All IFHOH member organizations are invited to consider organizing events and activities to mark this special day. By joining together to celebrate International Ear Care Day 2016, we can increase awareness about hearing loss issues.

# Calendar of Events

## Calendar of Events

### April 1-3, 2016 – EFHOH AGM 2016 and Conference

Location: Paris, France

Registration: [http://ifhoh.org/data/documents/Registration\\_form\\_12.pdf](http://ifhoh.org/data/documents/Registration_form_12.pdf)



The EFHOH Annual General Meeting will take place on April 1. The following day, April 2, will be the conference day, during which workshops, debates and other activities will focus on the challenges faced by hard of hearing people, and the solutions to these challenges. April 3 will be a sightseeing day around Paris.

\*\*\*\*\*

### June 15-17, 2016 – 3<sup>rd</sup> International Congress on Family-Centered Early Intervention (FCEI) for Children who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing

Location: Bad Ischl, Austria

Website: [www.fcei.at](http://www.fcei.at)

Contact: [elisabeth.wild@bblinz.at](mailto:elisabeth.wild@bblinz.at)

*For Every Child and Every Family* is the theme for the 2016 FCEI conference. Thanks to the sponsorship of MedEI, FCEI 2016 has a limited number of scholarships available for parents; the online application for financial aid is at: [http://www.fcei.at/2016/en/information/congr\\_scholarship.php](http://www.fcei.at/2016/en/information/congr_scholarship.php).

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### June 23-26, 2016 – IFHOH World Congress

Location: Washington, D.C. (U.S.A.)

The Congress will be held in conjunction with the annual conference of the Hearing Loss Association of America (HLAA). HLAA's contact for the Congress is Nancy Macklin,

Director of Events and Marketing,  
301.657.2248, extension 106,  
[nmacklin@hearingloss.org](mailto:nmacklin@hearingloss.org). See page 9 of this issue for more info on the conference.



The IFHOH BGM will be held Wednesday, **June 22**, just before the Congress. IFHOH will provide more info about the BGM in the months preceding it. For more info about IFHOH, visit [www.ifhoh.org](http://www.ifhoh.org) and **CHECK OUT OUR FACEBOOK PAGE!**  
[WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/GROUPS/IFHOH/](http://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/GROUPS/IFHOH/)

# News Bytes

## News Bytes

### WORLD REPORT ON AGEING AND HEALTH

The World Health Organization (WHO) celebrated the International Day of Older Persons on September 30, 2015 with the launch of the *World Report on Ageing and Health*.



The report outlines a framework for action to foster healthy ageing built around the new concept of functional ability. Making these investments will have valuable social and economic returns, both in terms of health and wellbeing of older people and in enabling their on-going participation in society.

- [Read the report](#)
- [WHO news release: Number of people over 60 years set to double by 2050; major societal changes required](#)

IFHOH President Ruth Warick was involved in a consultative meeting last spring. This the first WHO report on ageing and health, which includes references to hearing loss and the importance of hearing aids and assistive technology:

- "Worldwide, more than 180 million people older than 65 years have hearing loss that interferes with understanding normal conversational speech."
- "Untreated hearing loss affects communication and can contribute to social isolation and loss of autonomy, with associated anxiety, depression and cognitive decline."
- "Assistive technologies, such as listening devices and refractive lenses, are also widely used and effective. These need not be expensive. Even high-quality hearing aids can now be fitted at an affordable cost."

### HEARING HEALTH AND TECHNOLOGY MATTERS



Founded four years ago by a group of internationally recognized audiologists and hearing industry professionals, Hearing Health and Technology Matters ([HHTM](#)) is a leading online source of information on all topics related to hearing, having exceeded 70,000 Internet page views per month (60,000+ unique visitors). This does not include views accessed on popular social media pages (Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter, and others). The HHTM site is currently read in over 200 countries. One section provides information in Spanish or French. To be placed on the HHTM e-mail list, simply click on [HHTM Weekly](#). No user name or password is required to log onto the site, making accessing the site quite easy.

## CCAC ANNOUNCES NEW GRANT



Collaborative for Communication Access via Captioning (CCAC) announces a third and new CCAC Grant to advocate and raise awareness about Live Event Captioning globally. This one joins the first two standing grants also open for applications. The new Grant is for CCAC members only. We listened to the wishes of our members for access and inclusion in worthy meetings they wish to attend, even if not created by official non-profits, nor in larger international meetings. This Grant offers up to \$300 to pay for live captioning. For details on all three CCAC Live Captioning Grants: [ccac-sponsorship-for-cart](#). As not all IFHOH readers are CCAC members, you are encouraged to join the CCAC also. If the suggested "donation" is a hardship, you can ask for it to be waived.

CCAC thanks those in IFHOH who ensure that all IFHOH meetings have quality live captioning, and we are grateful for all the good captioning advocacy many of you are doing regularly, not only for live event captioning in your own countries, but also for media of all sorts, including online events vital for everyday life.

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/CCACaptioning> #CaptiontheWorld

FB: <https://www.facebook.com/ccac.captioning>

Website: <http://CCACAPTIONING.ORG>

A recent CCAC blog asks: "Is our hearing loss (or deafness) a cage where the absence of sounds are the bars holding us back?" "The lack of speech comprehension in people with hearing loss befuddles our human interactions." Read the full blog at: [absence-of-captioning-is-a-cage](#)

## WIRELESS TECHNOLOGY COMPATIBILITY WITH HEARING AIDS

In the United States, the Telecommunications Industry Association, the CTIA - The Wireless Association®, the Competitive Carriers Association, the Hearing Loss Association of America (HLAA), Telecommunications for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, and the National Association of the Deaf announced a consensus proposal to enhance benchmarks for wireless hearing aid compatibility (HAC) regulations. The consensus proposal, submitted November 13 in a [letter](#) to the FCC, is the result of months of dialogue and collaboration between the wireless industry and advocates for those with hearing loss. The new proposal outlines a phased approach to increase HAC benchmarks for wireless handset manufacturers and carriers over the next eight years. HLAA is an IFHOH member.

## RAYOVAC's CLEAR SOUND TECHNOLOGY AT EUHA



On October 21, Rayovac revealed its latest innovation to delegates at the 60<sup>th</sup> annual EUHA exhibition, held in Germany. Hearing aids can now have wireless function to allow users to stream direct audio input from televisions, radios and smartphones; these features require more power. The company claims that the new provides device users with improved reliability, performance and consistency across the life of the battery.

## **IFHOH JOURNAL**

The deadline for submissions for the next issue is December 10, 2015.

**Contributions are welcome!**

The preferred length for articles is one page (400 to 500 words). Short and long articles, from 25 to 1,500 words, may also be accepted. News bytes and announcements of coming events are appreciated, including photographs and illustrations. Please send pictures in jpeg format and files as rich text or word documents. Many thanks!

Carole Willans, Editor, *IFHOH Journal*, email: [journal@ifhoh.org](mailto:journal@ifhoh.org)

**Website @ [www.ifhoh.org](http://www.ifhoh.org)**

**Facebook @ [www.facebook.com/groups/IFHOH/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/IFHOH/)**

**The International Federation of Hard of Hearing People (IFHOH)** is an international non-governmental organization representing the interests of more than 300 million hard of hearing people worldwide. IFHOH is registered as a charitable organization at Vereinsregister Amtsgericht Hamburg, Germany (Nr. 69 VR 10 527) and is also an International Non-Governmental Organization having special consultative status with the United Nations' Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC). IFHOH is a member of the International Disability Alliance (IDA) and works closely with the UN system using the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities as a tool for change.



**IFHOH Board:** (front row) Duong Phuong Hanh, Ruth Warick, Avi Blau  
(back row) Louise Carroll, Niklas Wenman (former Treasurer),  
Marcel Bobeldijk

### **IFHOH Board**

President, Ruth Warick (Canada)

Vice-President, Avi Blau (Israel)

General Secretary, Duong Phuong Hanh (Vietnam)

Treasurer, Heikki Niemi (Finland)

EFHOH Representative, Marcel Bobeldijk (The Netherlands)

Member at Large: Louise Carroll (New Zealand)