

Hearing Solutions

A computer club SIG

Agenda

- SIG History
- Hearing Aid Pricing Basics
- The importance of sharing experience
- New Leadership

SIG History

- Formed by Jim Wooll in 2009
 - High cost of Aids
 - Potential for sharing experiences
 - Much to learn about hearing loss
- Why the computer club
 - Hearing aids are programmed by computer
 - Meeting room
 - T coil
- You should join the Computer Club \$8 or \$12 per household

History

- Presentations from:

Providers

Regulators

U of Texas

VA

Doctors

- Our members on their Experience
- A wealth of material in Notes and the Forum

Hearing Aid Pricing

- Aids \$800 - \$3000
- 50" HDTV \$500-\$800
- iPhone \$650 - \$850
- Blue tooth head set \$30-\$170
- With Hearing Aids you get the hardware and a BUNDLE

The Bundle

- Exam
- Setup
- Follow-up visits
- Defect insurance (2 year warranty)
- Loss insurance
- All added to the price of the Hearing Aid Hardware
- Typical markup 117% (Consumers Reports)

Breaking the Bundle

- Many want and need the extras
- Many would prefer to pay only for required services and self insure
- Internet sales of Aids is beginning
- Local “for fee” Service of aids purchased elsewhere is starting
- It’s important to have pioneers to try this and share their experiences

New Leadership

- Gary has had to go on to other things
- I not available
 - I am really not well suited for a regular meeting
- The Jobs
 - Leader – contact speakers and set an agenda for the meetings
 - Secretary – take meeting minutes and send out meeting announcements
 - Webmaster – See that meeting materials get on the Computer Club Website
 - Sign in host – assist with getting people into the room

Who will step up?