
We are so excited to share with you our latest newsletter written by our members with support from our volunteers at The Adler Aphasia Center in Maywood, NJ.

No Barriers Summit 2019

By Art M. and Alyson B.

We had both been to the No Barriers Summit three times. We have gone with many friends who also have aphasia and their family members. On June 13-15, 2019, we embarked on our 3rd No Barriers Summit which this year was on Lake Tahoe. To say that we had an amazing time would have been an understatement.

The No Barriers Summit was formed to help people with disabilities, their families and friends celebrate their differences and realize that they have the potential to participate in many activities that those without disabilities can do. One of their goals is to encourage a diverse, innovative and accepting community for people with and without disabilities.

Some of the electives that we took were Archery, Intro to Falconry, Swimming, Kayak, and Meditation. Opening ceremonies and the closing ceremonies were inspiring.

A saying we learned at all three Summits, "What's within you is stronger than what's in your way." always stuck with us.

It was nice to catch up with friends and have meals with them. Breakfast, lunch and dinner were filled with laughter and cheer. We even got to see a friend and speech-language pathologist who came to the Summit for the first time this year.

We all had a wonderful No Barriers Summit excursion! Meet us in San Francisco for the next year's No Barrier Summit!



Art M.



Alyson B.

Gala Speech

By Mike H.

At the Adler Aphasias Center Gala this year on June 11th, Alyson B. and I were asked to speak. We were presented the Silver Star Award to Avi Golden for his work on spreading the word to people about aphasia.

The Gala was moved to the Seasons for the second year because it had gotten so big, the Adler's main room couldn't fit any more. And man, it was packed. Dozens of tables were filled with people ready to eat food and honor all those who made a difference. The buffet tables were put in another room because it was so crowded.

Everyone was delighted with Crystal's "Man in the Street" video. Dr. Audrey Holland was honored for her help in building up the program we have today. Dr. Holland is a leader in the field of Aphasia and has been instrumental in creating life participation centers around the US and the world for people with aphasia. Then, it was our turn.

We began by reading some quotes from other members of the Advocacy Group, which talk to doctors and nurses about living with aphasia once they leave the hospital. This rolled into Avi's role as an "aphasia advocate", talking throughout the US and the world to educate about the impact of aphasia to anyone who would listen. Alyson commented on his resemblance to Brad Pitt, and I was proud to be the "Michael" he was always talking about.

Avi was humble and, for once, didn't speak as much about his huge accomplishments. The other people in the room, however, gave him a standing ovation that was well worth it. Thanks again, Avi!



Mike H.

Spare Time

By Crystal B.

People with aphasia lead normal lives. I asked some of the Adler Aphasia Center members what they like to do in their spare time. Here are their responses including mine.

Ken: On Friday's, I visit the Jewish Home in Rockleigh, New Jersey where we sell jewelry made at the aphasia center. I enjoy attending the Unitarian Church, going to the movies and watching movies at home.

Lisa: Shop! Shop! Shop! I also, really enjoy having a mani/pedi with my cousin Sonia and then going to lunch with her.

Art: I LOVE to sing. On Monday evenings, I am a part of Measure by Measure , a choral group for people with aphasia run by Mt. Sinai Hospital (Downtown Branch) and on Saturday's, I spend the day at the Columbia Teachers College participating in free classes for people with aphasia.

Crystal: I like to sit in front of the cafe in front of my building a while watching the fountain sprays and the view of the Hudson River. Nursing a glass of 1800 tequila and socializing with my neighbors make it even better.

In spite of our aphasia, we have full lives.



Crystal B.

My Favorite Aunt and Uncle

By George F.

I've always admired my aunt and uncle. Right after they got married my uncle entered the army and was stationed in Germany. My aunt went along with him. When my uncle was discharged, luck was with them. They were late getting to their ship - The SS Andrea Doria. They took another ship the next day. The SS Andrea Doria was an ocean liner and in 1956, it sunk. Forty six people were killed. I was 8 years old at the time.

After the army my uncle bought a 17 foot boat. They kept it at the house in Englewood and every day they took it down to the boat basin for fun. One day we took the boat to Coney Island. After two years my uncle decided to get rid of it because my aunt didn't like it.

My uncle worked as an engineer for IT&T and retired many years later. He and my aunt were the most ambitious people I know. Even though he had kidney failure and needed dialysis three days a week he never stopped going. He did the dialysis at home and his wife helped him.

In 1980 I was admitted to the hospital for dialysis. I had dialysis for 3 months. I was lucky I didn't need it after that.

They bought a store called Broasted Chef in Teaneck. My aunt worked the store while my uncle continued his day job as an engineer. My aunt also had a job at Nabisco.

The store specialized in roasted chicken and ribs. It was very successful. I was too busy playing basketball but my brothers worked in the store.

Then my aunt and uncle bought a four family house in Paterson for the family. They also owned a house in Teaneck. They were very good to us. I thank them for taking such good care of us.



George F.

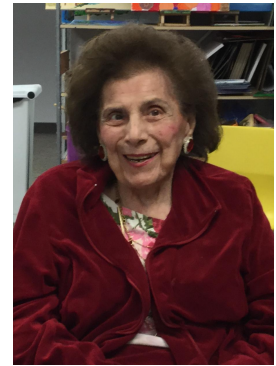
Bogart and Bacall

By Charlotte E.

Two of my favorite actors were Humphrey Bogart and Lauren Bacall. They were both very big stars. They were married to each other. They also starred in some movies together.

They starred in “Dark Passage”, “Key Largo” and “To Have or Have Not”. I really enjoyed “Key Largo” and “To Have or Have Not”.

When my husband Dan and I went to the movies, we would sometimes go to the Fox Theatre or the Paradise Theatre. The theatres were on Fordham Road, which was a beautiful area. I always got dressed up to go to the movies with Dan. Believe it or not, movies theatre prices were about 20-25 cents. It was even 25 cents on the weekends and holidays. There were also double features at the movie theatres sometimes so we got to see two films in one day.



Charlotte E.

Aphasia Communication Groups (ACGs) There are ten ACGs throughout New Jersey!

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MEMBER NEWSLETTER DISCLAIMER:

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Adler Aphasia Center, a non-profit organization with two full service facilities based in Maywood and West Orange, NJ and ten Aphasia Communication Groups located throughout the state, is an innovative post-rehabilitative therapeutic program that addresses the long-term needs of people with aphasia and their families. Aphasia is a communication disorder that impairs the expression and understanding of spoken language, reading and writing. It occurs most often from a stroke or other brain injury. It affects a person's ability to communicate, but not his or her intellect. For more information about our programs and services in Maywood or West Orange, NJ, or for information about our Aphasia Communication Groups in Bridgewater, Haddonfield, Hammonton, Maywood, Monroe, Morristown, North Bergen, Scotch Plains and Toms River, NJ, visit our website at www.adleraphasiacenter.org or call 201.368.8585

Member Spotlight

Meet our members **Generoso D. and Crystal B.**

Hobbies: Painting, Fishing, Hunting, Gardening

Favorite Sports Teams: Napoli Football "Giants" (Soccer), NY Rangers, NY Yankees

Grew up in: Salerno, Italy

Acquired Aphasia: 2005

Favorite Music: Andrea Bocelli, Lucio Battisti

Interesting Facts: Played Semi-Pro Soccer in Italy, Served in the Italian Military, Studied to be a Priest in Italy

Job: Business Owner of Poseiden Marble, Granite & Tile

Family: Married and has 2 Children



Generoso working on a tile art piece

Hobbies: Advocating for Aphasia, Volunteer at Good Samaritan Hospital

Favorite Bands: Lil Kim, Lil Wayne, Madonna, Whitney Houston

Favorite Vacation Spot: Loves any place with a BEACH!

Favorite Food: Chicken

Grew up in: New York City

Job: Public Safety Dispatcher

Acquired Aphasia: 2016

Pets: 2 Cats



Crystal advocating for Aphasia

Highlights from our West Orange, NJ Location Meet our member Paul

My Other Hand

By Paul H.

My name is Paul. Before my stroke, I was a tattoo artist. I still am an artist. I use my other hand now. This is some of my work:



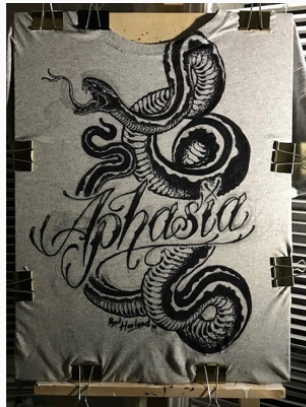
The electric meter was before my stroke. The others are new.



The hat I have on, a couple of months ago.



The sneaker, too.



The aphasia t-shirts, I did two weeks ago. The tiger-head fish, this weekend. With my left hand!