

THE HANDICAP NO ONE SEES

We are a remarkable and unique group of people!

We are all ages, sizes, genders and colors.

We are not deaf, but cannot hear as we were once able.

We have challenged the fear and isolation that has held us back from being integrated into today's society.

We have not and will not give into the burden of unhappiness, desolation, or the tears of despair. We take pride in having the courage to accept ourselves as we are and strive to be the best we can be.

We are a support group vitally interested in others who are hard of hearing and to assist them in finding solutions to their needs.

No factor, such as age, has any relation in recognizing the variety of problems that exist and we seek to bring people together for their mutual benefit.

We work outside the group to increase understanding, awareness, acceptance and complete integration in the home, workplace and throughout the community.

We find sources, if possible, for aid and support in all fields of endeavor.

We need and require basic rights in relation to our condition.

We take upon ourselves to see that we are not denied the rights to which we are entitled.

We therefore not only need but insist upon support, patience and understanding.

We are your family, your friends, your neighbors, your co-workers, your customers and your patients.

We are not disabled - We are hearing challenged. Over twenty four million of us, two million of which are the totally deaf. Twenty two million people of all ages who have a "disability" you cannot see, and most times you are not aware.

We are constantly under a great deal of stress while attempting to cope with daily living. We deal with fear, depression, anger, and frustration.

These are some of the situations we deal with every day.

Dorothy B. Shipman, Pres.

May 1, 1993

Self Help for the Hard of Hearing People
Western Idaho Chapter

Sound

Sound is the promise that fills the heart
Small sound, large sound, great sound.
The silence of the soul is
sadness all around.
Though sound we cannot hear
We lose but ask no favors.

Dawn 1

Dawn is a promise that fills the heart
A new beginning to each day
The mind that thinks of the future
The eye that reads the past
The ears that hear no whisper.

Dorothy B, Shipman '97

The Silent Breeze

The silent breeze	There is no sound
There is no sound	A love is told
The rustle of the leaves	There is no sound
There is no sound	A soul cries out
The rasp of weeds rubbing	There is no sound
There is no sound	
A baby cries the face distorted	

No Sound Is Heard

Softly as a silent breeze

No sound is heard

Leaves blowing on the ground

No sound is heard

Trees bending with the wind

No sound is heard

Birds chirp, a rooster crows

No sound is heard

The sun slides up from the horizon

and never a sound is heard

LISTENING

I listen for the wind, the leaves move, I feel the wind but there is silence

A voice speaks, I hear a noise and it becomes just sound flung my way in confidence

There is music that I know, it's not the same, the notes are different

A song floats free, the mind plays tricks and there is conflict my ears resent