



Telephone: (585) 266-7890
 Email: hlaa.rochester@yahoo.com
 Website: <https://www.hearinglossrochester.org>

Volume 33, Number 12 - published monthly --SPECIAL AUGUST EDITION-- Rochester NY Chapter August 2020

AUGUST Calendar

ALL MEETINGS CANCELLED DUE TO SHUT DOWN FOR 'CORONAVIRUS'

Tuesday,

~~10:00 am HOPE Session Vestry Room, St. Paul's
 "Hearing Other People's Experiences"~~

~~Daytime Chapter meeting:~~

~~11:00 am Refreshments/Social Time Parish Hall~~

~~11:30 am Announcements~~

~~12 Noon - 1 pm Program Speaker~~

~~Evening Chapter meeting:~~

~~7:00 pm Refreshments/Social Time Parish Hall~~

~~7:30 pm Announcements~~

~~8:00 pm - 9 pm Program Speaker~~

TENTATIVELY -- SAVE THESE DATES

Tues., Aug. 11th - BOD - 7-9pm -via ZOOM, members will be notified by email.

Tues., Sept. 22nd - BOD - 7-9pm ?

Tues., Oct. 6th - "CI Group" 1:30-2:30pm ??

Tues., Oct. 13th - BOD - 7-9pm ?

Tues., Oct. 20th - PAC - 7-9pm ?

Watch our Newsletters and Website for updates.

Hospitality Duties for August:

Daytime Meeting -
Evening Meeting -
Board of Directors -

AUGUST PROGRAMS

At St. Paul's Church, East Ave. & Westminster Rd. 14607
 (Enter only through the Westminster Road door.)

MEETINGS CANCELLED DUE TO SHUT DOWN FOR 'CORONAVIRUS'

LEADERS COLUMN

By Suzanne Johnston, President



As I write this, I am conscious that all of us are still living with the implications of the Covid-19 pandemic. But

throughout this time I have also been very aware of the many gifts and gestures of outreach that have been extended by so many of our members as we work together to weather this wave of unexpected change. This special edition newsletter - to keep us all connected during this time of social distancing - is just one example of our members' work for the 'greater good'.

To say that my time as President has taken surprising twists and turns this past year would be an understatement. So much has happened that has been unexpected and could not have been predicted. We are living in a world now which is not only different today, but forever changed in terms of how we think and carry out our daily lives.

But some elements of life do not change, and that is how we, as a community, continue to work to support the needs of those with hearing loss

(continued on page 2)

LEADERS COLUMN (continued)

around us. As a group with similar interests in serving those with hearing loss, we are strong enough to weather these changes and find ways to meet others where they are in their journey.

I am SO proud to have led and worked with so many who I know will continue to support, educate and advocate for persons with hearing loss in the midst of challenge and change. These challenging times provide to us opportunities to grow and find new ways of ‘doing business’. I look forward to the next time when we can all gather in person, whenever and wherever that may be, to thank you in person for your gifts, time, perseverance, energy and commitment. Until then, Fare-Thee-Well!

Suzanne

from Art Maurer, Vice President

Suzanne has done such an exceptional job we will sincerely miss her as President. Her enthusiasm, attention to detail, broad perspective and inquisitive mind, coupled with high moral values and ‘straight arrow’ integrity makes her both effective and pleasant to work with. She leaves footprints very hard to fill. We are sincerely thankful for all her hard work.

Our Current Status

When canoeing from the mouth of the Genesee River toward the Lower Falls, the river narrows with stronger currents. Although paddling faster, less and less progress is made until coming to a standstill along the shore. It’s time to back around and go with the flow. At HLAA, Covid-19 leads us into a similar dilemma.

At our March Board meeting realizing some sort of pandemic was upon us we made the painful decision to cancel all group meetings in April and May including the Featured Speaker Program and Annual Dinner. We hoped to be able to restore gatherings in June and certainly hold the picnic in August. But we soon came to realize even that would not be feasible. With so many of our members in the

wisdom, age and grace time of life, our first priority is to Stay Safe!

As the months wear on, we sorely miss socializing together. But social distancing limits any gathering to only a few participants, and face masks make communication very difficult.

Please understand - we do miss being together. Such a very, very frustrating time!

Chas Johnstone and **Dan Brooks** introduced us to Zoom and guided us through a few small group online meetings. Then we successfully used it for Board of Directors meetings. **Joe Kozelsky** has facilitated a couple of well-attended HOPE sessions using Zoom. And recently **Nancy and Doug Meyer** creatively hosted an interactive Scholarship Winner Celebration. Plus the June Professional Advisory Committee was chaired by **Mary Chuzik** on Zoom.

We’d hoped to resume gathering in-person for our September Program meeting. But recent advice is that social distancing and masks will be necessary until the end of the year. Given the NYS Guidelines, we cannot use any of our venues for over 28-30 people ... and only with cumbersome distancing.

So, we’re working to become virtual for the balance of 2020. Our goal is to have three large group sessions on Zoom each month starting in September. A one-hour **Workshop** with plenty of Q&A; continue **HOPE** sessions; and **Demo Center** advice on assistive listening devices – all on-line and interactive.

We’re convinced that although we can’t socialize as in the past, we can continue to learn from one another. And, using Zoom, we may even be able to attract participants distant from Rochester who normally cannot be with us in-person.

Specifics on dates and times will be available by late August in our September Newsletter, on our website and through email. Please bear with us and participate as we feel our way through this confusing time. As always, we’re open to suggestions. amaurer40@frontier.com

HOPE SESSION OF JUNE 2nd

By Joe Kozelsky



This was another well attended session and there were many great comments and questions. One of the comments that stuck with me had to do with follow up. Someone mentioned so often it seems that some or many users despair of their hearing aids, commenting that they just don't work and then they wind up not using them. The point was made that often the problems are really quite simple and easily resolvable; but of course, new users don't realize this-- thinking that's the way they are. Everybody knows hearing aids don't work!

He pointed out that his provider (the VA) has users come back every three months for quick follow up visits to ensure that hearing aids are working and there are no current issues with their use. It was his feeling that if routine follow-up programs such as this were routinely implemented, then hearing aid users would have much more positive experiences with their hearing aids.

This point was demonstrated to me shortly after this session when at a small family gathering someone was very upset that his new hearing aids weren't working. "We paid all that money for them and they don't work." It turned out that it was a simple matter of a dead battery and wax in the earpiece, both of which were easily resolved. But of course, he didn't know. All he knew was that he paid a lot of money for something that doesn't work.

When I asked why he didn't visit his provider he said he bought them in Florida, not realizing that he could go to virtually any non-franchise facility for warranty follow up, preferably one that handles his brand.

This experience clearly points to the necessity of frequent and close active follow up by both the provider and the user. Never let a problem with a hearing aid stand in the way of using them. Usually, the problems are simple and inexpensive to resolve. Especially with new hearing aids and more often than not, even with older devices as well.

The next **HOPE Zoom session will be in September**. We are taking a summer break with no HOPE session planned for August. You will be contacted by me.... jkozelsky@gmail.com

ASSISTIVE LISTENING DEVICE DEMO CENTER

By Chas Johnstone



Our Virtual Demo Center is available online 24 hours per day, 7 days per week, thanks to the tireless devotion of **Lorin Gallistel**. Please visit the VDC to see

the full range of devices in the Demo Center and submit any questions there that you might have. The link is: https://sites.google.com/view/vdc-1-21-2020/home_1

The device center usually is open the 3rd Thursday of each month (except July and August). The next demo session at Lifespan, 1900 S. Clinton Ave. (Tops plaza) 14618 is **TENTATIVELY** planned for Sept 17th, from 10am to 2pm. Free. Welcome! Check our September Newsletter and Website.

EAR WAX

*(excerpt from Dr. Paul Donohue, D&C;
Confirmed by Sarah Klimasewski, M.S., Au.D)*

Dear Dr. – I am 71 and need to watch what I spend. I have trouble with earwax build-up. I've tried using both oil and warm water in my ear without much success. What is a good, ongoing practice?

Answer – Don't try any of this if you have a hole in your eardrum or have had ear surgery. Do not use a cotton-tipped swab, a bobby pin or a straightened paper clip to remove earwax.

You can buy earwax softeners in a drugstore. Two popular ones are Debrox and Murine Earwax Removal. Follow the instructions. As you have tried--you can make your own softener by warming mineral oil or vegetable oil and putting a few drops in your ear. Don't let the oil get hot. Wait 15 minutes; flush with warm water.



Five Fascinating Facts About the Cochlea

(excerpt from Wisconsin Newsletter)

1. The cochlea turns “Sound” into “Hearing”
2. It is the size of a pea
3. There are over 20,000 nerve cells in the average cochlea
4. Different nerve cells cause different sounds to be heard
5. Fluid inside the cochlea makes waves

For Your Donation to HLA:



- Phyllis & J. Stuart MacDonald Estate
- Dr. Ruth P. Oakley Estate
- Rochester Area Community Foundation
- Mary Tuckley Estate
- Target Corporation (3 anonymous)

Special Donation to Scholarship Fund

Elaine VanderBrook

For Your Donation

Bridget M. Coletta

In Memory of Ginny Koenig

Janet McKenna

Donation Above Membership

Carol Christensen
Lorin and Judy Gallistell
Ann B. Owen

GRATEFUL THANKS TO ALL CONTRIBUTORS!

Please consider a donation when you renew your membership.

SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT...

“One ought, every day at least, to hear a little song, read a good poem, see a fine picture, and, if it were possible, to speak a few reasonable words.”

Johann Wolfgang von Goethe – RD 11/19

DID YOU KNOW....

In 1944, the U.S. Navy began accepting black women into WAVES (Women Accepted for Volunteer Emergency Service). (D&C 10-13-19)

This award-winning Newsletter of the Rochester Chapter of HLA is published monthly except for July and August. (Special Edition July & August 2020)

Editor and Publisher.....Ginger Graham
Computer Consultant,
Webmaster, and Writer.....Michelle Gross
News Releases, and Writer.....Janet McKenna
Photographers.....Art Maurer, Al Suffredini

ROCHESTER CHAPTER SUMMER PICNIC

By Dan Brooks

“Cancelled” –August 9th

It is with deep sorrow that the Summer Picnic Committee, consisting of **Barb Law, Carol Loftus, Sue Miller, and Dan Brooks** as the chair, announce our recommendation to cancel the summer picnic. There were many reasons why we decided to do this. Maintaining social distancing is hard to do with a large group in a small area. We also may still be recommended to wear a mask which will hamper our understanding of others because the covered face prevents us from being able to lip-read. The Rochester Board of Directors regretfully accepted our recommendation because it was the right thing to do to keep our membership safe.

On the flip side we would like you all to stay tuned to possible other options we may be able to consider that would be fun for us to do later in the year. We would like to hear any suggestions you may have and feel free to email those ideas to me at: dbrooks.hlaa.roc@gmail.com.

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PICNIC CANCELLED (continued)

Also please check the chapter's Website, Newsletter and/or Facebook page to see if there are any plans for the Award ceremony portion of the picnic. Our committee is hopeful this portion of the picnic will go **VIRTUAL!**

IF YOU MOVE, or are a "SNOWBIRD!"

Please don't forget to notify **Henry J. Adler, Ph.D.**, Univ. of Buffalo, 137-L Cary Hall, 3435 Main St., Buffalo NY 14214; or – hjadler@aol.com, even if your change of address is a temporary one.

HLAA is charged for each piece of returned mail, which the Post Office will not forward. When you return, we will resume sending to your local address.

**DONATING HEARING AIDS TO THE LIONS CLUB**

By Michelle Gross

If you have used hearing aids to donate, please address the package to:

John McNamara, Au.D., Ontario Hearing
2210 Monroe Ave.. Rochester, NY 14618

Put on the lower left corner of the package:
"Finger Lakes Region Lions Club"

(Cleaning tools, cases, most accessories, etc. have virtually no value and are discarded.) Aids that are usable are cleaned and checked and made ready for sending to the Lions Club for qualified recipients.

You can obtain a receipt for your donation (for tax purposes) but you must request it. And, thanks for considering donating your used aids.

**CONDOLENCES**

Our sincere sympathy is extended to **Bob Menchel** at this time of loss of his dear wife, Carol, July 8th.

**CANCELLED/POSTPONED****"PLANNING THE PROGRAMS FOR YOUR UPCOMING CHAPTER MEETINGS"**

Barb and Sue are expecting these meetings will be rescheduled. Hopefully, in-person; maybe via Zoom.

We Welcome All Donations

Please make your check payable to: HLAA-Rochester
HLAA is a 501©(3) organization.

Mail to: Doug & Nancy Meyer
5275 Rosebrugh Road
Geneseo, NY 14454

Be sure to designate:

This donation is: In Memory of; or, In Honor of,
or, Birthday congratulations. And who to send the
Acknowledgment to.

With sincere thanks for donating to our Chapter!

WEBSITES OF INTEREST

Our award-winning Chapter website is:

<https://www.hearinglossrochester.org>, and

Michelle Gross is our Web Master.

HLAA National website is www.hearingloss.org.

NO CAPTIONING ON TV RE COVID-19

By Janet McKenna, aka Deaphyduck

Several "town hall" meetings appeared on television at the height of the COVID19 crisis.

They did not seem to include captions for people with hearing loss. Was this viewer, Deaphyduck, the only one who noticed the omission?

Deaphyduck understands better with captioned videos.

She wrote to Rep. Joe Morelle, her Congressman, pointing out the captioning blank. No response from his team to Deaphy's email yet. What with major elections forthcoming, total accessibility should be there for us. Don't you think so?

'LIKE US' ON FACEBOOK!

We currently have 435 friends and want more!

Find us at: **Hlaa Rochester Ny.**

THINGS YOU MAY NOT KNOW ABOUT HEARING LOSS

(excerpt from Fox Valley Chapter, 3-1-20)

Scientists have discovered that the left and right ears process sound differently. The right ear responds more to speech and logic while the left ear is more tuned in to music, emotion and intuition. Scientists believe it's because speech is processed primarily in the left hemisphere of the brain, while music (and other creative functions) are processed in the right hemisphere. This may explain why those with greater hearing loss in the left ear may have trouble understanding friends and family's emotional issues while those who have greater hearing loss in the right ear seem to lose some of their ability to sort things out.

If you find you're tiring more easily than you used to, it may not be your age—it might be hearing loss. People with hearing loss have to concentrate harder to understand what they're hearing. A study by the Better Hearing Institute estimates that untreated hearing loss costs the United States \$56 billion each year in lost productivity at work, much of which can be blamed on hearing loss fatigue.

A survey by the Danish Institute for Social Research found that as many as one in five people with hearing loss stop working altogether. Of those who do work, 15 percent are too tired at the end of the day to pursue leisure activities. Fortunately, properly fitted hearing aids and technology that goes beyond hearing aids can significantly help reduce hearing loss fatigue. *(Condensed from Healthy Hearing 12/10/2019)*

MEMBERSHIP REMINDER

By Dan Brooks

A reminder--our membership year is July 1st to June 30th. And if it is past July 1st and you haven't paid yet, you may not be a current paid-up member with the Rochester Chapter. Please pay your dues now!

Can I Get My Hearing Tested Online?

*By Rebecca M. Lewis, Au.D., Ph.D., CCC-A
(from Hearing Health Foundation magazine)*

Online hearing tests, or tests you take yourself using a computer or smartphone, are becoming more prevalent and popular, especially alongside the market for "hearables" (smart wireless ear buds or headphones). The current COVID-19 pandemic has also underscored the need for telehealth options across a range of medical specialties, as clinic hours are reduced for less urgent medical needs. And with over-the-counter hearing aids set to become available, these at-home tests will likely keep growing in popularity, too. Given their convenience and availability, but keeping in mind their variability, here is what to consider if you use an online hearing self-test.

Comparing hearing status between two different people: Let's say that I'm interested in learning about my dad's hearing status. As an audiologist, I know what my current thresholds are and my dad can take the same online test to compare our results. If I have typical hearing thresholds and I see that my dad's results from the online test are similar to mine, then I can conclude that his hearing is also typical. If I have typical hearing thresholds and my dad's results are poorer than mine, then I can conclude that he has decreased hearing abilities and would want to schedule a full in-person exam.

Monitoring one person's hearing status over time: Let's say that I want to keep tabs on my own hearing. I could use an online hearing test to determine a baseline and compare my own results to that baseline over time to guide me in whether I want to seek a full professional exam. Extra credit for this one would be to get a full evaluation first and conduct your own online hearing test that same day to compare results and monitor your hearing over time. Changes to the method of the online hearing test can affect results. Because of this variability, it's recommended to keep the conditions the same as much as possible. But remember: Besides telling

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MY STORY –A Personal History of Hearing Loss

By Stuart Loewenstein



My hearing loss began with a BANG! about 20 years ago.

I was walking from the Democrat and Chronicle, where I worked as a music critic, to my favorite lunchtime restaurant. Huddled near its entrance were three workmen. As I hurried past, one of them slammed a jackhammer into the walkway, touching off an explosive burst of sound.

I yelled at him and found I couldn't hear my own voice – or anything else. I was gripped by a sense of panic. For my entire life, I had relied on my sharp ears. Growing up in a musical family in Danvers, Mass., I learned violin and piano. But after playing violin in college orchestras, I decided that I'd rather write about music than earn my living as a musician. I became a reviewer and reporter for the Baltimore Sun and the Democrat and Chronicle, dashing off articles about classical music, theater and museums.

Now here I was, dazed on South Fitzhugh Street, fearful that my career was over. A few hours later, my hearing returned – temporarily. Over the next two decades, I developed a moderate-to-severe hearing loss and faint tinnitus that sounds like air seeping from a punctured tire.

Oddly enough, my ability to enjoy music never was affected. But I had significant problems with speech discrimination at newspaper interviews. Worst of all, I was in stubborn denial about my hearing loss. I didn't tell my family or friends, and I seldom wore the high-tech hearing aids that my audiologist so patiently adjusted.

Fortunately, I was married to a mover and shaker in Rochester's deaf community: **Meredith Low**, a psychiatric social worker with a profound hearing loss and a jubilant spirit. "Stuart, you have a hearing loss!" she'd say. "Accept it."

Through Meredith (who died suddenly in 2013, way too soon), I came to meet dozens of deaf and hard-of-hearing people whose hearing loss didn't impede their careers. Some were HLAA chapter members that I encountered at Sue Miller's lively summer gatherings at her lakeside house. They shared with me coping mechanisms that helped them succeed in workplaces and social gatherings, and the latest research into causes of hearing loss.

In 2018, I began writing the Meeting Summaries for the chapter's Board – a hard-working, highly congenial group. My other retirement activities include the Rochester Piano Club, whose members play recitals in each other's homes.

And did I mention that I remarried in 2015? My wife Claudia O'Hara, a well-known florist, was Meredith's best friend. I have become her direction-impaired delivery boy and math-challenged business manager. Someday, the coronavirus permitting, we will finally take our long-delayed honeymoon in Italy, where I'll test my hearing by whispering sweet nothings in her ear.



HLAA NATIONAL...IS MOVING!

Effective August 1st, our national office is moving from Bethesda, MD to:

**6116 Executive Blvd., Suite 320
Rockville, MD 20852**

We wish them good health and enjoyment and prosperity in their new 'home.'

HEARING LOOP TECHNOLOGY CHANGES LIVES FOR HEARING IMPAIRED

By Joseph Dalton, *Times Union*
(submitted by Don Bataille)

<https://www.timesunion.com/entertainment/article/Hearing-loop-technology-changes-lives-for-impaired-15308413.php>

CLEAR FACE MASKS

*By Dr. Anne McIntosh, President
Safe'N'Clear (submitted by Mary Chizuk, RN)*

There is a company called CLEAR MASK, LLC that has a faceshield; not FDA approved, so we need to be careful when we say “Clear Mask” as that is another product with another company.

Safe'N'Clear has the FDA approved Communicator Surgical Facemask with a Clear Window. We do get shipments; we do take orders (until we get too backlogged); then we stop taking orders to work on the back orders; and then we take more orders Right now, we have probably 700 on our WAIT LIST. The way people can get on the WAIT LIST is to email support@safenclear.com and on subject line put, “WAIT LIST To Purchase.” We are limiting orders so we can serve as many customers as possible and to also prevent hoarding at this time.

We are working hard to serve our hospital customers; deaf and hard of hearing medical providers who need protection from COVID-19; and our deaf and hard of hearing patients. We consider ASL interpreters on the front line, too.

We are now hearing from k12 schools, colleges/universities as they try to obtain appropriate PPE equipment for their faculty, staff, and students who need to see facial expressions (autism spectrum disorder, hearing loss, etc).

We are working to increase production; however, with mask demand continues to grow, due to continued COVID-19 infection rates, mandatory mask usage in public places, protesting/rioting, and schools trying to gear up for the Fall, we have just not been able to get on top of the demand.

As a company, Safe'N'Clear is running about 2 months behind on orders and the list is growing every day. We have had two increases in production this year alone and still, we cannot keep up. We are hoping to get a third increase but, Communicator mask is more difficult to make (meaning fewer people are well-trained to do so), due to the clear

film, the anti-fogging process, and the intricate welds between the fabric and the clear film. We take pride that Communicator mask is MADE IN USA with quality assurance. Did I mention this is a hot mess? With the “new normal” being that we

may be required to use masks through Wave 2 and Wave 3 of COVID-19, we could be looking at this situation lasting another year.

Minimum purchase requirements; order only what you need. We recommend 1 box (ration those 40 masks) or some institutions get 1 case (400 masks).

I agree; Communicator mask should be STANDARD PRACTICE, rather than a SPECIALTY item... with the support of NAD, HLAA, SWC, and many ardent champions like you, we hope to move the needle on CHANGING THE FACE OF HEALTHCARE.

(from Mary Chizuk, RN)

Masks with clear area over the mouth are not the only possibility for accessible communication. Suggest 2 others

1-- use of Zoom with captioning by a captionist that could be used with a phone (android or i) laptop or large screen so everyone benefits. ZOOM requires an annual subscription

2—LiveTranscribe - an app used on an android phone downloaded at Google Play Store It uses Voice Recognition Software and is highly accurate + free. I used this app at Medical Appointments and yesterday at Target!

The font size can be changed for easy reading as well as change of language. This should have implications for travel to foreign countries. This could also be set up using a phone connected to a laptop. In both cases a recording can be available for future reference

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CLEAR FACE MASKS (continued)

If you have an iPhone an app will be available but no one knows when. If you need to purchase an android phone I recently purchased a Samsung fully featured, same as my old one (\$800) for under \$140 at Costco. We really are “All in this Together.”

(from Pete Fackler, HLAA Board of Trustees)

Rochester Refugee Sewing & Repair is an organization that is dedicated to creating employment for refugees that is useful in the local community.

Their introduction of masks that have clear spaces for showing our mouths with the obvious advantages for HOH folks.



Introducing the Clearsight windowed mask.

Phthalate-free and latex-free, the Clearsight mask will help you make a better connection with the lovely folks around you. After three weeks and tons of prototypes (with help from Kelly Cheatle at airigami.com), we think we've perfected it!

Available in sizes regular and small. Perfect for interpreters, Deaf, and hard-of-hearing individuals as well as those in healthcare, customer service, and sales. Like earloops? or prefer ties? – both available

Reply-To: Michael Kelly
<contact@rochesterrefugee.org>

Mailing address is:
Rochester Refugee Sewing & Repair
393 Lexington Ave
Rochester, NY 14613

Disclaimer – HLAA does not endorse products or services. Mention of goods or services in articles or advertisements does not mean HLAA endorsement, nor should exclusion suggest disapproval.

HEARING TESTED ONLINE? (cont. from page 6)

you how much hearing loss you have, an in-person appointment can include checking eardrum movement, acoustic reflexes, and a number of other procedures that can determine if there's a medical reason for the hearing loss, and if it is medically/surgically treatable. These are things that an online test or smartphone app cannot do. But if you keep the limitations of these self-tests in mind, they can still act as an easily accessible, initial evaluation of your hearing.

(excerpt from Central Oklahoma NL 5/20)

“ARCHIVIST” –A REMINDER!

Good news! We have a Chapter Archivist/Historian! **John Curtis** has offered to take on this task.



John is replacing Janet McKenna and he will clip, affix into scrap books, and caption articles about our Chapter appearing in area print media, as well as other

materials such as programs, invitations, speeches, photos, etc. John will be looking for help from all Chapter members supplying info they've accumulated. This leading HLAA Chapter will now be on its way to retaining its 30+ year history! Contact John at: waypointnorth8@gmail.com.

DID YOU KNOW...

July 1775, the US postal system is established with Benjamin Franklin as its first Postmaster General. He set up more efficient colonial routes and standardized delivery costs based on distance and weight. (*GVPS 7-26-19; and History Channel*)

CAPTIONING OF MONTHLY CHAPTER MEETINGS WILL BE CONTINUED !

Great news! Our Daytime and Evening monthly meetings will continue to be **captioned**.

The captioning is done remotely by Alternative Communication Services—it is flawless, plus the people doing the captioning are from all over the country! It's amazing to see the words almost instantly on the screen as soon as they're spoken.

We are extremely pleased that **CaptionCall** has chosen to support our chapter by underwriting this captioning.

We also owe a huge debt of thanks to **Dan Brooks, Lorin Gallistel, Charlie Johnstone, and Bruce Nelson** for overseeing the technical support needed for this service. Without their dedication in attending *all* meetings, this would not happen!

We need your support! Rising costs are making the mailing of Newsletters to non-dues paying members difficult. Please pay your dues! Only \$10. Thanks so much. (Please see form inside back cover.)



MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL LETTER coming to you soon! Please pay your dues to continue receiving this monthly Newsletter! Thank you!

HEARING HEALTH FOUNDATION – WRITE A LEGALLY VALID WILL

(submitted by Fred Alrieth)

HHF has partnered with FreeWill to give all of our supporters the opportunity to write a legally valid will — for free. Over 70% of Americans don't have a will because the process can seem complicated and expensive.

This offer applies only TO ANYONE RECEIVING THE FREE MAGAZINE 4 TIMES A YEAR.

Hearing Health Foundation

363 7th Avenue, 10th Floor, New York, NY 10001

Web: hhf.org

Email: info@hhf.org

YOU CAN BE A WINNER AND SUPPORT NYSA OF HLAA AT THE SAME TIME! (Raffle supports our Chapter and NYSA)

Update on Joss Kendrick, American Girl Doll Raffle. It's not too late! You can still purchase tickets by contacting "The Raffle" (see below). The Drawing Date has been postponed.

Tickets are available by mail USPS.



Tickets cost –
1 /\$2; 2 /\$3; 5/\$5.

Make Checks payable to
HLAA-Rochester Chapter
Please mail request and check to:

Mary C. Chizuk
6152 Patriot Dr
Ontario NY 14519

Questions: Mcchiz6152@gmail.com

NEW OFFICERS (July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021)

President - Art Maurer

Vice-President - TBD

Immediate Past President - Suzanne Johnston

Recording Secretary - Stuart Loewenstein

Corresponding Secretary - Carol Loftus

Treasurer - Tom Corteville

Assistant Treasurers - Nancy and Doug Meyer

Professional Advisory Committee (PAC)

Chairperson for 2020/2021 - Mary Chizuk, RN

With sincere thanks to these folks for stepping up to lead our chapter in the upcoming months!

BIRTHDAYS – 90 YEARS AND OVER...

Everyone: please let me know if you're one of our special Chapter members who will reach the spectacular age of 90 years, or more. If you agree, we'd like to announce it in our Newsletter. It is important to let me know right away as our Newsletters are written a month ahead. Thanks, Ginger
ggraham859@gmail.com; or, (585) 671-2683

SUMMATION OF 2020 SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

By Doug and Nancy Meyer

Sunday, June 14th was a special day for the HLAA Scholarship Committee and for the seven scholarship winners of the class of 2020.

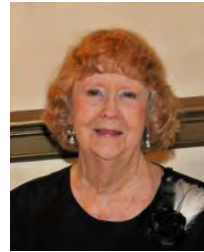
Thanks to our 'tech wizards', **Chas Johnstone, Dan Brooks, and Gaelen McCormick**, we were able to enjoy meeting and talking with our scholars through an internet Zoom meeting. Their skillful planning and technological expertise made it possible to host a celebration event for the scholarship recipients and their families.

The celebration invitation was sent to all HLAA members, as well as PAC members, so that as many as possible could share in this occasion. We hope all who 'tuned in' were pleased with the results of many hours of work and correspondence-- and impressed by the students.

The class of 2020 scholarship winners are outstanding young people who have let no obstacles stand in the way of their goal of success. All have maintained high GPAs, participation in extracurricular and service activities and part-time jobs. They have high aspirations for their futures, including speech pathology, TV news industry, disability law, biomedical science, dietetics, interior design and business. The class of 2020:

Julia Carboni, Emma Doughty, Bridget Gates, Gianna Leone, William Pietarinen, Chloe Reber, and Meghan Taylor.

Remember their names, because we may hear about them in the future as they pursue their goals and dreams, perhaps gaining notoriety in their careers. Having hearing loss certainly has not deterred them from achieving success in high school and we believe it will not hold them back from a bright future. They have learned at an early age to advocate for themselves and use every means available to enhance their communication skills. We congratulate them and are pleased that our chapter has chosen to support and encourage them with \$1000 scholarships.



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

By Ginger Graham

Thank you for accepting me for 12 years as your Editor and Publisher of our monthly award-winning Newsletters. It all started in Fall of 2008 when we lost our Editor, and I asked **Sue Miller** "what's involved with writing the Newsletter?"

I've enjoyed the commitment these 12 years, and have appreciated your help each month. Thanks for the memories! and love to all our Chapter members,

Ginger

2020 BUFFALO WALK4HEARING

By Carol Loftus

This year's Buffalo Walk4Hearing is scheduled for **Saturday, Sept. 26**, in South Park, near the Botanical Gardens. Once again, I will be a Team Captain. My team is Hear4Tomorrow. I realize this notice comes at a difficult time for our Country. I remain hopeful that the Buffalo Walk will not become a 'virtual walk' as all Spring Walks have become.

A donation to my team, Hear4Tomorrow, would be greatly appreciated. You may do so by an online donation at www.hearingloss.org, & click on Walk. More information in future Newsletters.

VENUES WITH ALS OR CAPTIONING

By Tim Whitcher

Have you seen a movie or a show that has an Assistive Listening System or Captioning system and would like to share your experience with your fellow members? Did your church or synagogue install or upgrade such a system, and you'd like to make that known?

Please contact Tim Whitcher at hlaa.rochester@yahoo.com with the info that you'd like to share. (Please mark your email to Tim's attention.) Likewise, if you have a question regarding such a venue, please contact Tim.



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HLAA Membership Information

Hearing Loss Association (HLAA) Rochester Chapter, Inc., a tax exempt and volunteer group, is a chapter of a national, nonprofit, nonsectarian, educational organization devoted to the welfare and interests of those who cannot hear well. We meet the first Tuesday of the month from October through June at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, East Ave. (September is 2nd Tuesday.) While our primary focus is directed toward people with hearing loss, we welcome everyone to our chapter meetings whatever their hearing ability. For more information, Call **585 266 7890**

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^^

Newsletter

*Newsletter deadline: first day of the month preceding the issue month.
 Ginger Graham, 859 Meadow Ridge Lane
 Webster, NY 14580
 ggraham859@gmail.com*

MEMBERSHIP FORM – HLAA-ROCHESTER CHAPTER

July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021

I want to join as a first-time member I want to renew

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If You're New, This is for You.

More than 48 million people in the US have a hearing loss, which can hinder daily communication. By age 65, one in three Americans has a hearing loss. This invisible condition affects the quality of life of the individuals with hearing loss as well as family, friends, co-workers and everyone with whom they interact. HLAA believes people with hearing loss can participate successfully in today's world.

Founded in 1979, the mission of HLAA is to open the world of communication to people with hearing loss through information, education, support and advocacy.

HLAA is the nation's foremost membership and advocacy organization for people with hearing loss. HLAA publishes a bimonthly magazine, *Hearing Life*, holds annual conventions, a Walk4Hearing, and more. Check out: <http://www.hearinglossrochester.org>.

The Rochester Chapter, started in 1983, is a dynamic group of individuals working together as a team. To join, please see inside back page. HLAA has a support network of organizations—Bethesda, MD; State organizations; and, local Chapters. Welcome!

Meetings are hearing accessible

We meet in St. Paul's Episcopal Church, East Ave. and Westminster Rd., across from the George Eastman Museum. Parking is available at the George Eastman Museum, if needed.

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Entrance to the meeting room is via the Westminster Rd. door, down the corridor to the end, into the large Parish Hall room.

Everyone, with or without a hearing loss, is welcome!