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May 2015

MAY Calendar

Tuesday, May 5th

11:00 am - Refreshments/Social Time
11:30 am – Announcements/Business Meeting
12 Noon – 1 pm – Program Speaker

7:00 pm – Refreshments/Social Time
7:30 pm – Announcements/Business Meeting
8:00 pm – 9 pm – Program Speaker

Sunday, May 3rd – Walk4Hearing

Tues., May 12th – Board of Directors
7:00-9pm, 1st floor CR, Al Sigl Center

Tues., May 19th - “CI Group” – 5:00 – 6:30pm
Vestry Room, St. Paul’s church (see page 5)

Sat., May 30th - Ed Ogiba Workshop (see page 8)

SAVE THESE FUTURE DATES

Tues., June 9th – Board of Directors
7:00 – 9pm, 1st floor CR, Al Sigl Center

Tues., June 16th - Annual Dinner, 6:00-9pm,
Cobblestone Creek Country Club (see page 11)

Tues., July 7th - Program Planning meetings
(see page 6)

Hospitality Duties for May:

Daytime Meeting – Janet McKenna, Sue Miller
Evening Meeting – Carol Loftus, Sue Miller
Board of Directors – Laura Chaba, Art Maurer

Please sign up to help when the “Refreshment Sheet” goes around!

WALK4HEARING

SUNDAY MAY 3rd, 2015

PERINTON PARK
ROUTE 31F
FAIRPORT, NY

8:30 A.M. - REGISTRATION, SOCIAL TIME
10:00 A.M. - WALKERS START

OLD FRIENDS, NEW FRIENDS
FOOD, ENTERTAINMENT
SILENT AUCTION
CLOWNS
GUEST CELEBRITIES
SUNSHINE (WITH LUCK)
SUPERVISED CHILDRENS PLAY AREA

JOIN US TO SUPPORT A GREAT CAUSE.

YOU CAN PARTICIPATE BY:

WALKING
TAPPING YOUR FEET TO SOME GREAT LIVE MUSIC
RUNNING
ADMIRING THE BEAUTIFUL SPRING FLOWERS
SITTING
BIDDING IN THE SILENT AUCTION
CHEERLEADING
EATING BAGELS
SOAKING IN THE WARM SPRING SUN
OR, BY JUST BEING THERE

WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT!

HELP US MEET OUR GOAL OF 500 PEOPLE!

SEE YOU SUNDAY, MAY 3rd !

MAY PROGRAMS

(At St. Paul's Church, East Ave. & Westminster Rd.)

Tuesday, May 5, Daytime Meeting—11:00am Speaker begins at noon

COCHLEAR IMPLANT SURGERY -

Paul O. Dutcher, MD

Otolaryngologist and Associate professor, UR Medical Center, Dept. of Otolaryngology

This program is recommended for anyone whose severe/profound hearing loss might make them a candidate for a Cochlear Implant. The dean of Rochester Cochlear Implant surgeons, Dr. Dutcher will explore the Cochlear Implant surgical experience.

Cochlear Implants can be prescribed for children or adults with severe to profound hearing loss. Most of the 20 plus Rochester-HLAA members with Cochlear Implants have been Dr. Dutcher's patients.

Cochlear Implants do not restore “normal” hearing. Rather, they are prostheses which directly stimulate the auditory nerve in the brain, bypassing diseased or dead “hair cells” in the inner ear. Many implantees can understand speech, music, and a cacophony of ambient noises. Cochlear Implants are the only devices that replicate a human sense.

Among the topics Dr. Dutcher will cover:

- What is a Cochlear Implant?
- When are you ready for a CI?
- Criteria for candidacy
- Financial issues
- The CI team members
- Description of surgery, before, during, after
- Aftereffects good or not so good
- Programming (“mapping”)
- Are two CI's better?
- Pediatric implants

Dr. Dutcher is a long-time HLAA friend and our chapter's permanent Medical Consultant. He is the Director of the Otology Center of Western NY and he has served on the UR Medical Center faculty since 1983.

Tuesday, May 5th, Evening Meeting –7:00pm Speaker begins at 8:00pm

YOUR JOB AND THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT - *Jessica Lukasiewicz*

Attorney, Thomas & Solomon LLP

A worker or job seeker with hearing loss is considered disabled under the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. It prohibits discrimination and ensures equal opportunity for persons with disabilities in employment and a variety of other circumstances. The Act passed in 1991, and amended rules went into effect in 2011. Title I covers employment. But businesses are not expected to provide ADA accommodations to disabled persons if they "fundamentally alter" its goods or services or would cause an "undue burden."

How does all this relate to a job seeker or employee with hearing loss? Jessica Lukasiewicz exclusively practices employment law and has represented employees in a wide range of discrimination issues.

Her presentation will specify who is covered by ADA; common discrimination issues encountered in the workforce; and resources available to those who feel they are the victims of discrimination.

Ms. Lukasiewicz is a graduate of the University of Florida and earned her JD from Syracuse University College of Law.

*HLAA-Rochester chapter meetings are held in the Parish Hall at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, East Ave. at Westminster Road, across from the George Eastman House. Enter through door on Westminster Road. All programs are audiolooped and **captioned**. Those needing a sign language interpreter for an evening meeting should contact Linda Siple at 585 288 6744, or, lasnss@rit.edu, a week in advance. (Please note, this phone is only for those needing an interpreter.)*

The Hearing Loss Association is a nationwide organization dedicated to advocacy, education and support for people with hearing loss. For more information visit www.hlaa-rochester-ny.org or telephone 585 266 7890.

Hearing loss is a daily challenge you can overcome. You do not have to hide your hearing loss. You do not have to face hearing loss alone.

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

By *Cindy Kellner*



It Takes a Village!

By the time you read this it will be close to May and my term as President will be winding down. I must say it has been a very busy but

gratifying year. I have met so many wonderful people and had the opportunity to work closely with an amazing group of dedicated individuals. Above all, I have learned so much. The most important lesson learned by far is to never underestimate the power of people united by a purpose they care deeply about. They can do so much.

The Board of Directors I have worked with are a group of diligent, competent and caring individuals, all dedicated to doing what they believe is right for HLAA-Rochester and what is best for the hearing loss community. They give generously of their time and their expertise and for that I am grateful.

Barb Law and Sue Miller, among other things, have again worked to bring our members excellent programs of interest and benefit to those of us who do not hear so well. They have had to respond quickly when scheduling abruptly changes and not once did they panic or complain. They quickly lined up other speakers and moved forward. It is what they do and they do it well.

For ten months of the year we all receive a top-notch, award-winning Newsletter. I cannot begin to tell you the incredible amount of time and effort that goes into getting our Newsletter out every month, on time and to the right people. **Ginger Graham** works nonstop all month long to make our Newsletter a reality. Hands down, I have never worked with a more committed and dedicated volunteer. We, who simply enjoy the Newsletter have no idea the energy that goes into the publication. Yes, Ginger has help, but it really is her baby. She combs through piles of articles to find topics of interest and it shows. I firmly believe our Newsletter is second to none and I have enjoyed being a part of it.

Behind the scenes there is another amazing volunteer who stays on top of so much, especially our emails and webpage. I was thrilled this year that both our webpage and the person behind it--**Michelle Gross**--were recognized and awarded by National. Michelle does an amazing job and never complains. She is always on top

of everything and helps to keep our wheels spinning. If you haven't visited our webpage recently, please do so. It is really first rate and very helpful.

Gerry and Carol Loftus do much behind the scenes also. Gerry is our treasurer and works hard to keep us on track and balanced. Carol is our corresponding secretary who presently answers our mail. Both Carol and Gerry are very dedicated individuals who have helped HLAA-Rochester grow to what it is today.

Despite being a busy professor, **Tim Whitcher** always finds the time to help set up our loop and manage our assistive listening technology for almost all of our meetings. Truly we would be lost without him. The same can be said for **Bruce and Candi Nelson** who see to it that our captions come through. Together these hard working people help to ensure that we can all "hear" at our meetings.

I have also had the joy of working closely with **Margaret Cochran** who will be succeeding me as President in July. Margaret is currently in charge of membership and has recently taken on responsibility for our data base. Like the others, she has a firm commitment to helping all of us with hearing loss live better. I have no doubt she will do a great job next year.

There are so many more people I would like to mention, but space does not allow me to. **Carmen Coleman; Carol Bradshaw; Dr. Elise de Papp; Rev. Suzanne Johnston; Ginny Koenig; Janet McKenna; Marlene Sutliff;** our Technology gurus--**Fred Altrieth and Al Suffredini**, and many others who have helped me immensely this year and I am so grateful

As you are aware, we are an all-volunteer organization and I hope you agree that we really do a great deal. I have learned that it does take a village to move things in the right direction. The gates to the village are wide open and welcoming. Please consider joining all of us who volunteer. I guarantee you that your sense of accomplishment will make your decision a wise one.

DO YOU NEED A HEARING AID?

By *Robert S. Menchel, Ed.D.*

Now for some new news--NTID/RIT has developed a test that anyone can use to determine if they need a hearing aid. It is free and I just received the information. The person needs to go to this web site then follow the instructions. Some of our members might want to test it out. Here is the site: <https://apps.ntid.rit.edu/NSRT>.

RBTL LIVE THEATRE--- CAPTIONED!

All performances are **Sunday, at 1:00 pm**

May 17 – Kinky Boots
Oct. 11 – Newsies
Nov. 15 – Motown
Dec. 20 – White Christmas
March 13, 2016 – Beautiful
April 17, 2016 – Matilda
May 15, 2016 – Dirty Dancing

Tickets become available 6 weeks in advance of each show. Request seats in “open captions” viewing section. Call 222-5000; email, info@rbtl.org.

GEVA Theatre Offering Captioned Plays!

All performances are **Saturday, at 2:00pm** (except-- A Christmas Carol)

May 9 – Vanya & Sonia & Masha & Spike
Sept. 12 – Spamalot
Oct. 24 - Red
Nov. 29 - A Christmas Carol --**SUNDAY**
Feb. 20, 2016 – To Kill a Mockingbird
April 2, 2016 – A Moon for the Misbegotten
May 7, 2016 – The May Queen

Call the Box Office at 232-4382. Ask for seat in the “open captions” viewing section.

This award-winning Newsletter of the Rochester Chapter of HLAA is published monthly except for July and August.

Editor and Publisher.....Ginger Graham
Computer Consultant,
Webmaster, and Writer.....Michelle Gross
News Releases, and Writer.....Janet McKenna
Research Assistant.....Ginny Koenig

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY!

In 1995, the Internet search engine website Yahoo! was incorporated by founders Jerry Yang and David Filo. *(from D&C 3-1-15)*



For Your Donation to HLAA:

Dr. Ruth P. Oakley Trust Fund; United Way

In Memory of Lourine Miller Beckmann –

Ginger Graham

In Memory of Mark Hargrave:

Jim Littwitz

Thanks to all who have renewed their membership. If you haven't renewed yet, please consider a donation when you renew your membership. Thanks so much!

HELP VIA THE UNITED WAY

We continue to be a United Way “Donor Designated Option” choice. We are not a

direct United Way agency and do not receive any funding from their general campaign. Therefore, to donate to HLAA through the United Way, we ask you to consider donating to us through the “Designated Option” on your gift card.

Our United Way number is 2425.

Your past support is deeply appreciated. As with other gifts, your donation enables our chapter to continue to provide education, help, and advocacy for people with hearing loss, their family and their friends. Alas, even though the local chapter is a totally volunteer organization, there are still costs such as printing, postage, phones, and technical items. Many thanks!

MOTHER'S DAY

(from the Old Farmer's Almanac)

After her mother died in 1905, Miss Anna Jarvis campaigned for a national day to honor all mothers.

On May 10, 1908, a Mother's Day service was held at a church in Grafton, West Virginia. In **1914**, Mother's Day was declared an annual national holiday on the second Sunday in May. Love to all Mothers!



COCHLEAR IMPLANT GROUP Meeting

By Janet McKenna

Introducing MED-EL implants and CI networking

WHEN: Tuesday, May 19th, at 5:00pm.

WHERE: Vestry Room, St. Paul's Episcopal Church, East Avenue at Westminster Road, across from the George Eastman House.

Individuals considering an implant and their family and friends are welcome to HLAA's Cochlear Implant Spring meeting. MED-EL cochlear implants will be introduced by Dr. Rachel Franklin, northeast clinical account manager, and MED-EL patient support Margarita Sweet.

Well-known in Europe, MED-EL recently gained FDA approval of its most current "Synchrony" implant. According to company statements, "Synchrony" allows patients to undergo MRI procedures safely. Moisture resistance is a consideration, and Dr. Franklin will comment on the company's "WaterWear" implant covering for swimming.

MED-EL implants are relatively new to Rochester. We are fortunate to learn about another option for CI candidates. For more information on this implant see the MED-EL web site at www.medel.com.

Dr. Franklin is an audiologist at MED-EL. She has local ties, with a degree in communication disorders from Nazareth College and an Au.D from Arizona School of Health Sciences.

Accompanying her is patient support Margarita Sweet. Margarita received her MED-EL cochlear implant in 2009. She is originally from Bogota, Colombia. Spanish is her first language. Margarita was born deaf, wearing hearing aids at six months of age. She moved to the US in 1999. Married and mother to two boys, Margarita works as an occupational therapist in a school for deaf children.

Their talk is followed by the perennially popular networking and discussion time, when CI people exchange experiences and answer questions. The program is open to anyone interested in any cochlear implant. For more information email:

RCBradshaw@aol.com or phone 585 266 7890.

LIKE US ON FACEBOOK !

By Cindy Kellner

Are you on Facebook? If so, please be our friend. We currently have **223** friends and we want more.

Find us at: **Hlaa Rochester Ny**

(Facebook coordinator: Jennifer Hurlburt)

"THE SQUEAKY WHEEL GETS THE GREASE"

By Anna Gilmore Hall, executive director HLAA

Ms. Hall's column on page 6 in the Hearing Loss Magazine, March/April 2015 gives HLAA members information on how to file a complaint with the FCC re Captioning of movies or television, and more.

"The truth is that the FCC needs to hear from that one person who can't enjoy their favorite show. They need documented written complaints."

FCC's new consumer help center:

www.hearingloss.org/content/fcc-consumer-help-center-0

When a Complaint Means More than Just Complaining – How to File complaints/Lise Hamlin May/June 2014 *Hearing Loss Magazine*, page 34- Go to: <http://bit.ly/HamlinMJ2014>.

We Welcome All Donations

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

Mail to: Ms. Joanne Owens, 1630 Woodard Road,
Webster, NY 14580

Be sure to designate:

This donation is: In Memory of; or, In Honor of,
or, Birthday congratulations.

And who to send the Acknowledgment to. Thank you.

WELCOME FROM TOWN OF PERINTON!



It is with great pride I welcome the Rochester Chapter of the Hearing Loss Association to the Town of Perinton again! This annual event certainly shows your commitment to the national

HLAA's mission statement to open the world of communication to people with hearing loss by providing information, education, advocacy and support. I am very excited about Perinton's role in hosting the Rochester Chapter's 10th annual 5K Walk4Hearing on Sunday, May 3rd!

Congratulations on a decade of caring and commitment to this cause. What better place to host a 5K walk than Trail Town USA? The site of your walk, the Erie Canal Heritage Trail, was one of the three trail systems in Perinton that helped earn us this national honor. It is a community asset of which we are very proud.

The Rochester/Monroe County area is particularly aware of those in our midst with hearing disabilities, especially with the excellent resources present at NTID. This fundraising effort and its very impressive goal of \$50,000 to support national and local educational efforts is a natural outreach effort and certainly will be a major step in reaching your organization's goals. We also wish you success in achieving your goal of having 500 participants attend this exciting event!

Perinton wishes you balmy spring weather and a great turnout!

Yours, Michael G. Barker, Town Supervisor



ADULT MUSICIANS WITH HEARING LOSS

(submitted by Janet McKenna)

The Association of Adult Musicians with Hearing Loss (AAMHL) invites you to their inaugural conference May 29-30, in Washington, D.C. Hear stories of musicians with hearing loss; Lise Hamlin will discuss HL and disability law; learn about the Hearing Loss Revolution; and Dr. Sam Trychin re managing stress when you have a hearing loss.

Go to: <http://bit.ly/1D4G27K>.



SAVE THE DATE!

PLANNING THE PROGRAMS FOR YOUR CHAPTER MEETINGS

Are you tired of "the same old subjects" at our Chapter meetings? We hope not!! But we do need your input and **new ideas for programs!** Please plan to attend either the Daytime Program Planning meeting held by Sue Miller, or, the Evening Planning meeting held by Barb Law, to give them your ideas for possible topics for the new season from September, 2015, to June, 2016.

Planning meeting for DAYTIME sessions:

Tues., July 7th, 10:00 am at Sue Miller's home, 16 Buckthorn Run, Victor.

Planning meeting for EVENING sessions:

Tues., July 7th, 6:00 pm, Barb Law, Al Sigl Center; light refreshments.

Note that both meetings are on the same day!

RSVP: Please email (or, call) either Sue or Barb and let them know you're attending. Hope to see you at one of the meetings! We're eager for your suggestions!

Barb Law: blaw1@rochester.rr.com; (585) 381-8640

Sue Miller: SusanLeeMiller39@cs.com; (585) 924-8933

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 2 months ahead. Thanks, Ginger

ggraham859@frontiernet.net; or, (585) 671-2683

CAPTIONING OF MONTHLY CHAPTER MEETINGS WILL BE CONTINUED!

Great news from CaptionCall! 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. The service cost is \$3,000 a year and it is being paid by CaptionCall for the 4th year in a row. With special thanks to our members, **Bruce and Candi Nelson, and Tim Whitcher.**

SAVE THESE DATES !

Sunday, May 3rd – Walk4Hearing
 Tuesday, May 19th – Cochlear Implant group
 Sat., May 30th – Ed Ogbia--Chapter Building
 Tuesday, June 16th – Annual Dinner
 Tuesday, July 7th – Program Planning mtgs

ANNUAL AWARDS DINNER, Tues., June 16th

We need your help in organizing our dinner. Please contact Barb Law at blaw1@rochester.rr.com; or, Sue Miller at SusanLeeMiller39@cs.com for more info. Thanks for your consideration in helping to make our dinner a huge success...and, with perfect weather!

TAX DEDUCTION FOR DONATION



You can take a tax deduction, if you itemize your taxes, for donating used hearing aids for the Lions Club to **Joe Kozelsky**, Webster Hearing

Center, 680 Ridge Road, Webster, NY 14580; phone: 585-787-0660, and don't forget to request a receipt.

Newsletter Deadline

THURSDAY, APRIL 30TH
 (for the June Newsletter)
 June is the last Newsletter until September

Email: ggraham859@frontiernet.net



WEBSITES OF INTEREST

Our Chapter website is: www.hlaa-rochester-ny.org. **Michelle Gross** is our Web Master. (**Barb Law** continues as consultant.) The website for HLA National is: www.hearingloss.org. Congratulations! Our Rochester Chapter has won the National Award for best Website.

(submitted by Michelle Gross)

--Travelers Security Information (TSA):
<http://www.tsa.gov/traveler-information/travelers-disabilities-and-medical-conditions>

--The new policy for filing ADA complaints (after March 2015):

"The Department of Justice is pleased to announce that individuals wishing to file ADA complaints with the Department will be able to fill out the form and submit it completely electronically.

Filers will also immediately receive a "reference number" that can be used whenever contacting the Department about that complaint. Please visit http://www.ada.gov/filing_complaint.htm to view the new electronic form."

"Effective March 15, 2015, e-mail complaints will no longer be accepted by the Department. However, complaints will still be accepted by U. S. mail. Contact the Department's ADA Information Line at 1-800-514-0301 (v); 1-800-514-0383 (tty) to receive a paper complaint form by mail."

Subjects of June 2nd Chapter Meetings

Daytime: "Ask the Audiologists" – P. Hart, C.Monczynski Hopson, J. Salisbury

Evening: "Bluetooth Technology and Hearing Aids" - Kristen Nolan, Au.D.

HLAA NATIONAL CONVENTION



At the St. Louis, MO,
Union Station Hotel

Keynote Speaker: Charles
A. Laszlo, Ph.D. –
“Advances, Obstacles and
Solutions in a Changing

World.” + St. Louis Cardinals vs. Chicago Cubs baseball

Hotel reservations at

<http://doubletree.hilton.com/en/dt/groups/personalized/S/STLUSDT-HLA-20150619/index.jhtml>, or phone:

1-855-271-3620. With the Chicago Cubs in town that weekend, hotel rooms will become scarce!

Go to: www.hearingloss.org.

Active Rochester members planning to attend, please go to our website: www.hlaa-rochester-ny.org for the form to fill out to receive a STIPEND. On the Home Page, click on “Forms” section of the navigation menu.

SAVE THE DATE—CHAPTER BUILDING WORKSHOP

By Cindy Kellner, President, Rochester Chapter



The following workshop is an HLA A Upstate New York District event that the

Rochester Chapter is thrilled to be hosting. Welcome to an all-day Chapter Building Workshop with National’s **Ed Ogiba**, Director of Chapter Development, on Saturday, May 30th from 10 am until 4 pm in the Main Conference Room, First Floor, in the Golisano Building at the Al Sigl Center, Elmwood Avenue and South Avenue.

Ed will be arriving on Friday, the 29th, and **Scott and Sue Miller** will be hosting a wine and cheese affair at their home that evening, from 5:00 – 7pm.

Home address: 16 Buckthorn Run, Victor, NY 14564. All attendees are invited and encouraged to come to both events. More details will follow. Come and be part of our future.

Please RSVP to SusanLeeMiller39@cs.com if you are planning to attend one or both of these events.

CLOSED CAPTIONS – LIVE AND IMPROVED ON TV

By Bruce Nelson

WHAM 13 News and WUHF FOX Rochester have improved closed captioning to better serve viewers with hearing loss. All of their newscasts are now utilizing real time captioning which allows viewers with hearing loss better access to unscripted segments like Weather and live breaking news.

“Caption Colorado” is providing the service. The Rochester School for the Deaf is sponsoring this real time captioning on both WHAM and WUHF.

SMART PHONE HELP

By Cindy Kellner



Want to learn to better utilize your smart phone to aid with hearing loss? If so, HLA A-Rochester and Verizon are teaming up to help.

Training sessions will be held at Verizon’s Pittsford Plaza Store (Monroe Avenue) from 9:00 am until 10:00 am. The store will not be open to the public during these sessions to maximize our hearing capabilities.

The sessions are free and open to all Verizon customers. The first session will cover many of the basics and the second will address doing more.

I Phone users should attend the sessions on May 12th and May 19th.

Android users should attend the May 26th and June 9th sessions.

Hats off to Verizon for this generous offer to help and teach.

For more information contact Cindy Kellner at ckellne1@rochester.rr.com.

PERSONAL SOUND AMPLIFIERS—PSAPs— NOT QUITE HEARING AIDS

*(excerpt from New Mexico Newsletter
February 2015; suggested by Ginny Koenig)*

Hearing Mojo is a general web site for the hearing industry. They offer a lot of inside information on hearing aids, hearing assistance products, technologies, and the companies and business strategies driving the growth of the hearing industry. They have a section on their web site devoted to the growing availability of better quality Personal Sound Amplification Products (PSAPs) that use a lot of the same technology as hearing aids. Many PSAPs provide good amplification along with other features normally found in high-quality digital hearing aids, including volume control, feedback cancellation and noise suppression.

They list and discuss the various devices at their web site and say they “will add more products to the list as they come on the market and we have a chance to assess them.” They do not include the large numbers of much less expensive (often under \$50) PSAPs available online or in catalogs saying, “In our opinion, you get what you pay for, and all too often the very inexpensive PSAPs over-amplify many of the sounds you don’t want to hear, fail to isolate voice frequencies well enough, and don’t have effective feedback cancellation.”

The products listed, while more expensive, provide the quality of digital sound processing and other more sophisticated features that we think are important for a positive user experience.” Visit their web site at: www.hearingmojo.com/psap-list/

IF YOU MOVE

Please don’t forget to notify **Margaret Cochran**, at 178 Crossover Rd., Fairport, NY, 14450, or, via email at mc23@rochester.rr.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. Thanks.

EMERGENCY CARE FOR A WET HEARING AID OR COCHLEAR IMPLANT

(from Hearing Health Magazine, Fall 2012)

Don’t panic. As soon as you realize what’s happened—

--Dry off the exterior of the hearing aids with a cloth (not a tissue).

--Remove the battery and keep battery door open.

--Remove the ear hook or ear mold, if necessary.

--Put the aid or CI into your dry-aid kit (always keep one in the car) or, if you don’t have one, put your aid on the table next to a table lamp. The mild heat will dissipate the moisture. Do not put them very close to the light bulb or in an oven. The high heat will damage the devices.

--Wait an hour or so, and cross your fingers!

AMTRAK ENHANCES TRAVEL EXPERIENCE FOR PASSENGERS WITH HEARING LOSS

*(excerpt from Greater Miami NL;
suggested by Ginny Koenig)*

Amtrak has installed hearing loop technology at designated ticket counters and at the customer service desks in NYC and Washington, DC, to enhance the travel experience for passengers with hearing loss.

Amtrak also offers a variety of accessible travel services to passengers with disabilities and is working to further improve the accessibility of its facilities and train equipment.

Go to: www.Amtrak.com. Or, 1-800-USA-RAIL.

HIGHLIGHTS IN HISTORY

In 1912, the American Jewish women’s organization Hadassah was founded in New York City.

In 1913, the 16th Amendment to the Constitution, giving Congress the power to levy and collect Income Taxes, was declared in effect by Secretary of State Philander Chase Knox.

(from D&C 2-22-15)

GEORGE EASTMAN HOUSE ACCESSIBLE

By Robert S. Menchel, Ed.D.

The George Eastman House (GEH) is going to **provide full access** for visitors with hearing loss or those who are deaf. All videos in the exhibit area will be open captioned as will any video or film that is used within the House. Furthermore, visitors with hearing loss can now access the exhibits through print media by using a smart phone which will provide captions on the phone at each of the audio stops in an exhibit. For example, when a person who is hearing stops at a numbered station within the exhibit they can listen to the verbal communication through their smart phones; at the same time, people with hearing loss will be able to read the same verbal communication through captions on their phones.

Furthermore, work is underway to provide a captioned tour of the House through the use of iPads. The narration will be put on iPads that will be available for a visitor with hearing loss to pick up at the front desk. They can be used to read the captions which will give a description of each room pointing out the features and other things of interest.

These steps are being taken through the generosity of a grant from the Regal Entertainment Foundation which was recently provided to the George Eastman House. Future work will be investigated to see if captions can be provided within the Dryden Theater and if funding can be obtained for such improvements. However, for now it should be known that the GEH is very accessible to the deaf community and those with hearing loss and all future exhibits will be fully captioned as needed.

DID YOU KNOW?

“Thanks to the Interstate Highway System, it is now possible to travel across this country from coast to coast without seeing anything.”

(Charles Kuralt)

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

NO, I DON'T KNOW SIGN LANGUAGE

By Janet McKenna

At a recent workshop on "senior" issues at the church I attend, twenty of us were seated in a circle. There was no microphone although I was told the room is looped, but a microphone is in the ceiling. (This has not been of much help to me so far.)

Anyhow, we were asked to introduce ourselves. Knowing how these things go, I waited till the introductions proceeded clockwise toward my end of the circle. Surprise! The woman on my right said, "I use a hearing aid. You'll have to speak louder." Then me, with two Cochlear Implants. I reminded the others about speaking slowly and distinctly. I forgot to add...and refrain from "cross talk." The woman on my left used two hearing aids. So I was the middle of three people with hearing loss.

The three of us seemed to cope, and the others of course lapsed into their quick, usual speech patterns. They did face us and made an effort to speak louder. Presumably all three of us understood parts of the discussion.

The gentleman facilitating the discussion mentioned Rochester's Deaf population and NTID. I was asked whether I used sign language. "Most hard of hearing people do not know sign language," I told him, repeating information HLAA members doubtless have reminded other well-meaning folks.

After the meeting, participants wondered if I were familiar with HLAA. How encouraging to know that our group is recognized in the area (I've belonged since SHHH days in 1983.) And encouraging too that other people with hearing loss identified themselves as belonging to our cohort.

This Deaf/hard of hearing confusion continues. There are locations where ASL could come in handy--bad pun--but as a late deafened adult, I communicate by talking. It's the *listening and understanding* part of communicating that's troublesome.

ANNUAL DINNER

By Sue Miller



We'll all have the chance to come together on **Tuesday, June 16th** for the Annual Dinner of the Rochester Chapter of HLAA. From **6:00 to 9pm**, we'll get to know our

scholarship winners and their families. And, recognize just some of the people who make a difference to our Chapter in the Rochester area by presenting 3 awards.

The Cobblestone Creek Country Club has done a superb job in past years with service, hearing accessibility and scrumptious food. And, the cost has remained the same!

You will enjoy being part of this fabulous evening.

Please sign up by **Thursday, June 11th** using the form included here. Hope to see you there!

Please join us!

Tuesday, June 16th, 2015

**Cobblestone Creek Country Club
100 Cobble Creek Road, Victor, NY 14564**

6:00 to 9 P.M.

Spouses/guests welcome!

Menu choices:

- (1) Pot Roast Style Braised Beef Brisket;
braising vegetables and whipped potatoes**
- (2) Chicken – Breast stuffed with apple & sage
stuffing, carrots, whipped potatoes**
- (3) Vegetarian –Pumpkin/Mascarpone Cheese**

Ravioli

(Sauteed Mushrooms & Spinach, finished by a caramelized onion brown butter sauce)

Salad and dessert included

**\$26.00 per person (includes gratuity)
(The same price as last year!)**

Questions?

Please email Sue Miller at SusanLeeMiller39@cs.com; or, phone, 585-924-8933.



**HLAA ANNUAL DINNER
Reservation Form**

Name: _____

Address _____

Phone or E-mail _____

Dinner choice _____

Guest: _____

Dinner choice _____

2nd Guest: _____

Dinner choice _____

**Dinner reservations will be accepted until
Thursday, June 11th**

_____ Dinners @ \$26 each = \$ _____

**(please make check payable to
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1630 Woodard Ave., Webster, NY 14580**



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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 September through June at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, East Ave. While our primary focus is directed toward hard of hearing, we welcome everyone to our chapter meetings whatever their hearing ability.

For more information, Call
585 266 7890

Professional Advisors

2013 - 2015

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2014 - 2016

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^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^

Newsletter

Newsletter deadline: first day of the month preceding the issue month.

Send articles to:

Ginger Graham

859 Meadow Ridge Lane

Webster, NY 14580

ggraham859@frontiernet.net

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION – ROCHESTER CHAPTER

Yes, I want to join/renew -- Support entitles me to receive the award winning Newsletter in order to be alerted to interesting and informative articles plus Daytime & Evening Chapter Meetings and Cochlear Implant meetings.

New, first-time member

Yes, I need transportation to meetings

Check type of contribution

Individual \$10 Friend of HLAA \$25

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

HLAA is the largest international consumer organization dedicated to the well-being of people who do not hear well. HLAA publishes the bimonthly Hearing Loss Magazine, holds annual conventions, a Walk4Hearing, and more. Check out: www.hearingloss.org/.

To join, please see inside back page. HLAA has more than 176 chapters and 14 state organizations. Welcome!

Meetings are hearing accessible

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

All meetings are audio looped and captioned. Interpreters are available on request *for evening meetings only*-- contact Linda Siple, 585 288 6744, or at lasnss@rit.edu, at least a week in advance.

(This phone number is only to request an Interpreter.)

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!