



**NOVEMBER Calendar**

**Tuesday, November 7th**

**10:15 am – HOPE Session**–Vestry Room, St. Paul’s

**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

**Sun., Nov. 5<sup>th</sup>** – Daylight Savings Time Ends  
**Tues., Nov. 14<sup>th</sup>** - BOD – 7-9pm, ASC  
**Thurs., Nov. 16<sup>th</sup>** -Device Demo Center, Lifespan,  
from 10am to 2pm, free to all. (see page 8)

**SAVE THESE FUTURE DATES**

**Tues., Dec. 12<sup>th</sup>** – BOD – 7-9pm, ASC

**WEATHER – During the winter, the rule to follow for cancelations of meetings is: IF THE ROCHESTER CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT IS CLOSED, OUR MEETINGS ARE CANCELED. (No other notification will be made.)**

**Hospitality Duties for November:**

- Daytime Meeting –Gail Clay, Cathy Lee, Al Suffredini
- Evening Meeting – Margaret Cochran, Sue Miller
- Board of Directors –Steve Barnett, Mary Chizuk, Margaret Cochran

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

***WELCOME BACK MEMBERS, AND, WELCOME ALL NEWCOMERS TO HLA!***



**NOVEMBER PROGRAMS**

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

**Tues., Nov. 7<sup>th</sup> – 10:15am; Vestry room**

**HOPE (Hearing Other People's Experiences) session** –*Joe Kozelsky, MS, abd, CCC-A (retired)*

Retired audiologist and hearing aid user **Joe Kozelsky** moderates a question-and-answer session for people considering hearing aids and those using them. Join us and share your hearing loss journey and learn from others.

**Tues., Nov. 7<sup>th</sup> Daytime Meeting--11:00am - Program begins at noon**

**CENTERSTAGE THEATER AT THE JCC: Bringing a world of theater to Rochester and taking Rochester theater to the world –** Ralph Meranto, Artistic director and producer

JCC CenterStage Theater just celebrated its 40th year at the Rochester Jewish Community Center. Ralph Meranto, its Artistic Director and Producer, will review the theater's history and its mission to entertain, enlighten and educate the Greater Rochester community by providing quality productions both relevant to the Jewish experience and with universal appeal.

*(continued on page 2)*

**Tues., Nov. 7<sup>th</sup> – Daytime Meeting** - (continued)

Two years ago, CenterStage began offering open captions, a huge benefit for theatergoers with difficulty understanding dialog from the stage. The number of captioned plays has grown enormously since its inception.

Meranto is in his 12<sup>th</sup> season as Artistic Director. He has produced/directed a host of shows, some of which have moved on to New York stages. He is also a private acting coach and appears in an occasional corporate video or television commercial.

**Tuesday, Nov. 7<sup>th</sup> - Evening Meeting--7:00pm**  
**Program begins at 8:00pm****HEARING LOSS ASSOCIATION: GOALS AND STRATEGIES – Peter Fackler**

Peter Fackler is a past president of the HLAA-Rochester Chapter, and he is currently serving on the organization's national Board of Directors for a second term. He reports on the activities of national HLAA as it advocates for people with hearing loss. As well, he will review the relationship among the local chapters across the country and HLAA's national office.

Fackler's pre-retirement career focused on higher education financial management. Also, he was one of a small group of volunteers who helped initiate the national Walk4Hearing in 2006.

*All HLAA programs are free. Anyone interested in hearing loss is welcome. For more information, view the organizational web site at [hlaa-rochester-ny.org](http://hlaa-rochester-ny.org) or telephone 585 266 7890.*

*HLAA Rochester Chapter meetings are held in the Parish Hall at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, East Avenue at Westminster Road, across from the George Eastman Museum. Those needing a sign language interpreter for an evening meeting should contact Linda Siple at 585 788 6744 a week in advance. (Please note, this phone is only for those needing an interpreter.)*

*The Rochester Chapter is a dynamic group of individuals working together as a team. HLAA has a support network of organizations: Bethesda, MD, state organizations, and local chapters.*

**PRESIDENT'S COLUMN**

*By Art Maurer and Sue Miller*



A major challenge for HLAA chapters is building awareness across their local communities. It's often said, "The HLAA is one of the best kept secrets in our

community!" Yet, more and more people are experiencing hearing loss and can use some help. Some new members, after discovering HLAA and participating in our programs, say, "If only I'd found you sooner..."

So what to do? HLAA-Rochester formed a Marketing Committee several years ago. Recently, the monthly meetings have been focused on how to 'Brand' HLAA across the multi-county Greater Rochester area. How do we make our community aware of our all-volunteer efforts dedicated to Support, Education and Advocacy for those experiencing hearing loss? Limited use of Broadcast media (TV/radio) and targeted print media, as well as expanded presence on social media such as Facebook is being considered. In addition, in-person presentations to civic, houses of worship and school groups are being explored; plus how to better coordinate with audiologists. At the heart of all efforts will be a new website being developed by **Michelle Gross**. With user friendly access and navigation, it will provide easy access to HLAA announcements and information. We'll let you know as soon as it is available.

Efforts are also underway to make person-to-person promotion of HLAA more straightforward through development of concise statements explaining our all-volunteer HLAA organization providing Support, Education and Advocacy. We call these "Elevator Speeches"... as if we only had the time of a 30-second ride to the listener's desired floor to brief him or her on who we are and what we do.

*(continued on page 3)*

## PRESIDENT'S COLUMN (continued)

Our hope is multi-fold: To guide folks who are experiencing hearing loss to find help sooner than the average seven-year delay. To make health professionals aware there is a resource for patients to acquire information focused on concerns and issues with hearing. And, to make future fundraising events more effective. Finally, as technological innovation, over-the-counter access, and pricing of hearing aids and assistive devices bring new challenges, we see the fundamental purpose of HLAA becoming more essential to help people navigate what may become a very confusing marketplace.

As accomplishments are made, we'll share them with you. We're open to ideas and suggestions: please contact Art at [amaurer40@frontier.com](mailto:amaurer40@frontier.com) or call 585-721-5943.

“Outreach and Education” is also being started through our new Hearing Device Demonstration Center which opened on September 21. A Center of this size and scope is one of the first in the United States. It's been spearheaded by Charlie Johnstone, Dan Brooks, Michelle and Stan Gross, plus a cadre of volunteers. The Center will be open the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month from 10:00am to 2:00pm at Lifespan, 1900 S. Clinton Ave. (14618) We do need more volunteers; if you're interested please contact Sue Miller, at [SusanLeeMiller39@cs.com](mailto:SusanLeeMiller39@cs.com) or call 585-924-8933.

**Flu Shots** – The CDC recommends getting your flu shot now. Because flu is contagious 1-2 days before symptoms appear, it can be spread before we know we're infected. For more info, go to: [www.cdc.gov/flu](http://www.cdc.gov/flu). And the CDC indicates this could be a particularly bad season for flu, possibly made worse by hurricanes and wildfires that have forced people into close contact at shelters. You cannot get the flu from the flu shot!



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## VISIT BY DON DOHERTY

*By Ginger Graham*

Our chapter was honored to have Don and Melanie Doherty choose Rochester for their first visit to a local chapter. (Thanks to the fast thinking of **Sue Miller** at the Convention last June!)



Back row: Pete Fackler, Sue Miller, Margaret Cochran  
Front row: Melanie and Don Doherty, Barb Law

Don spoke at our daytime meeting on “HLAA: Relevant in a Changing Technological World?” and again at our evening meeting on “The Invisible Veteran with Hearing Loss.”

Thanks, Don, for sharing your time and thoughts with our Chapter! (And, thanks to Margaret for supplying Stever's hand-made chocolates--a Rochester tradition--to Melanie and Don for their return flight home.)

## BRAIN HEALTH: WHAT HELPS, WHAT HURTS

*(excerpt from AARP Bulletin, June 2015)*

Hearing and Vision Loss. Problems hearing and seeing are both linked to trouble with thinking, memory and socialization and should be corrected whenever possible. One Johns Hopkins study found that older adults with hearing problems appear to have a greater rate of brain shrinkage as they age.

*(previously appeared in our October 2015 Newsletter)*

**RBTL LIVE THEATRE—CAPTIONED!**

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

Oct. 29<sup>th</sup> – The Little Mermaid  
 Nov. 19<sup>th</sup> – Fun Home  
 Dec. 17<sup>th</sup> – A Christmas Story  
 Feb. 11<sup>th</sup> – On Your Feet  
 March 15<sup>th</sup> – An American in Paris  
 May 6<sup>th</sup> – RENT

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

**GEVA THEATRE – CAPTIONED PLAYS !**

SAT. shows 2pm; WED. 2pm & 7:30pm  
unless otherwise indicated

Wed. Nov. 8 – **The Agitators**  
**Sun. Dec. 3 @ 12N; Wed. Dec. 20 @ 2pm & 7pm –**  
**A Christmas Carol**  
 Sat. Dec. 9 @ 2:30pm – **Marvelous Wonderettes**  
 Sat. Jan. 13; Wed. Jan. 31 – **The Other Josh Cohen**  
 Sat. Jan. 27 @ 2:30pm – **Erma Bombeck: At Wit’s End**  
 Sat. Feb. 17; Wed. March 7 – **Diary of Anne Frank**  
 Sat. March 17 @ 2:30pm – **Heartland**  
 Sat. April 7; Wed. April 25 – **One House Over**  
 Sat. May 12; Wed. May 30 – **Steel Magnolias**

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

**IF YOU MOVE, or are a “SNOWBIRD!”**

Please don't forget to notify **Henry Adler, Ph.D.**, Univ. of Buffalo, 137-L Cary Hall, 3435 Main St., Buffalo NY 14214; or – [hjadler@aol.com](mailto: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.

**JCC CenterStage – Captioned Plays!**

**Wed/Thurs @ 7pm; Sat/Sun @ 2pm**



**“First Date” – Broadway Musical**  
**Comedy**

Sun., Dec. 10; Thurs., Dec. 14; Sat., Dec. 16  
**“The Hit Makers: And the Beat Goes On”**  
 Sun., Feb. 11; Thurs., Feb. 15; Sat., Feb. 17  
**“Buyer & Cellar”**  
 Sun., March 18; Thurs., March 22  
**“Bridges of Madison County” – the musical**  
 Sun., May 13; Thurs., May 17; Sat., May 19

Tickets and information are available at [www.jcccenterstage.org](http://www.jcccenterstage.org) or (585) 461-2000. Please specify “Captioned Area.” Tickets are \$26-29 with discounts for JCC members, full time students and season subscribers.



For Your Donation to HLAA:

--Phyllis & J. Stuart MacDonald Estate  
 --Dr. Ruth P. Oakley Estate  
 --Rochester Area Community Foundation  
 --Mary Tuckley Estate

For Donation Above Membership:

Dan Brooks, Joyce Burg, Paul Callaway, Gwen Cheney, Gail Clay, Jean Cristantello, John Curtis, Janet D'Ambrose, Mary Agnes Decker, Arthur Fitelson, Bert Foos, Brian Fox, Jennifer German, Ginger Graham, Nick and Marilyn Graver, Hal Hood, Judy Howard, Jane Kitchen, Edith Lank, Barb Law, Mary Leene, Edith Lumb, Paul (Eric) Matson, Craig Miller, Jean Murphy, Jo Owens, Sheldon Potter, Barbara Rice, Nancy Rubery, Eleanor Siegfried, Douglas Smith, Joe Termotto, Lisa Wainwright, Mary Wilkins; & United Way

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

**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. The service cost is \$3,000 a year and it is being paid by CaptionCall. CaptionCall has been a blessing in providing true access for everyone in our chapter, and we thank you!

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

**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 two months ahead. Thanks, Ginger  
[ggraham859@gmail.com](mailto:ggraham859@gmail.com); or, (585) 671-2683

**DID YOU KNOW...**

In 1924, Macy's first Thanksgiving Day parade (billed as a "Christmas Parade") took place in New York City. *(from D&C 11-27-16)*

**LIKE US ON FACEBOOK !**  
*By Jenn Hurlburt*  
Are you on Facebook? If so, please be our friend. We currently have **313** friends and we want more. Find us at: **Hlaa Rochester Ny**



*See page 8*



**CONDOLENCES**

Our sincere sympathy is extended to **Gwen Cheney**, on the loss of her husband of 66 years, Elmer. He passed September 21<sup>st</sup>.



**A PUBLIC HEALTH EPIDEMIC –** The Statistics show a troubling trend. From 2000 to 2015, the number of Americans

with hearing loss has doubled. Globally, the number is up by 44%.

26 million people in the U.S. between ages 20-69 have hearing loss.

20% of teens ages 12-19 have reported hearing loss due to loud noise.

*(excerpt from Wisconsin NL – Fall 2017)*

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  
Photographers.....Art Maurer, Al Suffredini

**MOMENTS IN TIME**

In March, 1985, the first-ever “Adopt A Highway” sign is erected on Texas Highway 69. The highway was adopted by the Tyler Civitan Club (sic), which committed to picking up trash along a designated 2-mile stretch of the road.

*(from Genesee Valley Penny Saver)*

## NEW PROFESSIONAL ADVISORS

*By Suzanne Johnston*

The purpose of the Professional Advisory Committee (PAC) is to furnish professional advice and support in order to promote the development of a credible and effective HLAA organization in the Rochester area. Following is more information on one of our **new** PAC members:

### PETER REEB

Peter grew up in the Buffalo area and moved to Rochester to attend Monroe Community College. He graduated from MCC in 1978 with an AAS degree in Audio Visual Communications. Following MCC, he then attended RIT and in 1980 graduated with his B.S. in Audio Visual Technology. In 1981 he graduated from RIT with an M.S. degree in Instructional Technology.

Upon graduation, he accepted a position with the Fairport School system and worked there until 1984, when he started working for NTID. Peter is still employed with RIT/NTID and has just completed his 33<sup>rd</sup> year of supporting Deaf education. Peter's position as Media Engineer involves the technical support, design and repair of instructional venues all across RIT campus. During this tenure, Technology has changed quite a bit and Peter's experience with specialized projection, audio and ALD systems related to Deaf communications has become well known among the Deaf community. Throughout his career, he has supported both local and National events related to Deaf culture.

Married: Lynette {Mastin} in May 1982  
 Three children: Kimberly, Kristina, Michael  
 One grandson: Caiden

## NOVEMBER 7<sup>th</sup> – ELECTION DAY

Tuesday, Nov. 7 is General Election day. Based on the recent Democratic Primary that was at St. Paul's, it is thought that it will be a fairly busy voting day. Note that we do have to reserve at least 2 spots for voters. Those spots will be marked. Please respect them. Thank you.

## WEBSITES OF INTEREST

Our award-winning Chapter website is: [www.hlaa-rochester-ny.org](http://www.hlaa-rochester-ny.org). Michelle Gross is our Web Master.  
 HLAA National website is [www.hearingloss.org](http://www.hearingloss.org).

*(submitted by Al Suffredini)*

Following info from AARP -- [5 Myths About Hearing Loss](#)

Audiologists sounds off about a condition that will eventually affect almost all of us

<http://www.aarp.org/health/conditions-treatments/info-2015/hearing-loss-myths.html?intcmp=AE-HEALTH-HEARING-SPOTLIGHT-SPOT1>

[Trouble Hearing? Have your Hearing Tested](#)

The National Hearing Test offers AARP members a FREE validated hearing test from home

<http://www.aarp.org/health/conditions-treatments/info-2016/free-hearing-test-aarp.html?intcmp=AE-HEALTH-HEARING-SPOTLIGHT-SPOT2>

[Hearing Loss – Is it Linked to Dementia?](#)

Find out if a hearing aid can prevent memory loss and delay signs of dementia

<http://www.aarp.org/health/brain-health/info-07-2013/hearing-loss-linked-to-dementia.html?intcmp=AE-HEALTH-HEARING-SPOTLIGHT-SPOT3>

Hot Jobs: Openings for audiologists projected to jump 14 percent

<http://www.democratandchronicle.com/story/money/business/2017/09/04/hot-jobs-openings-audiologists-projected-jump-14-percent/629997001/>

## ‘FOUNDER’S DAY’ FOR HLAA

(BY GINGER GRAHAM)

Founder's day for HLAA is celebrated in November each year.

### OUR FOUNDER, HOWARD E. “ROCKY” STONE

(1925 – 2004)



Because there were no services for hard of hearing people, Rocky Stone founded the organization Self Help for Hard of Hearing People (SHHH) in 1979, in the family room of his home. The concept that he started, with local chapters, has continued.

Hearing loss was an important but secondary consideration. Once we accept responsibility for ourselves, we have to learn to love ourselves, and then, each other. The thinking behind the self-help philosophy for SHHH was to enhance each of us as human beings.

Local chapters provide a community of people with hearing loss, help you to deal with the issue of hearing loss stigma, share technologies beyond hearing aids, empower you through the exchange of knowledge, encouragement and the sharing of experiences; and alleviate the despair and isolation of hearing loss through their support.

Please visit [www.hearingloss.org](http://www.hearingloss.org) for more information on hearing help and support. If you are not already a member, consider joining the largest consumer organization for people with hearing loss. The membership includes a wonderful magazine that comes out 6 times a year, and is a bargain at \$35 a year for individuals. The advocacy done through HLAA alone is priceless for the 48 million people in the U.S. who have hearing loss.

You can find information on Rocky Stone at <http://www.hearingloss.org/about-us/founder>.

During the November 2005 Board of Trustees meeting, the board votes to change the name of Self Help for Hard of Hearing People to the Hearing Loss Association of America. Richard Meyer, president of the SHHH Board of Trustees stated, “This strategic decision is a significant milestone in SHHH’s 25-year history. While remaining committed to the vision of our founder Rocky Stone, SHHH is evolving to best meet the needs of people with hearing loss today and in the future, continuing to be a pioneer in advocacy and support for consumers with hearing loss.”

Terry D. Portis, Ed. D., executive director of SHHH stated, “SHHH needs to position itself to meet the needs of a new generation of people with hearing loss while continuing to serve the constituents who rely on us today. I believe that by updating our name and image we will be better able to communicate our message and fulfill our mission. SHHH expects to complete the transition to the Hearing Loss Association of America in March 2006.” For more information, go to:

<http://www.hearingloss.org/about-us/history/2005>

*With thanks to Hollace Goodman, Program Assistant at national; Debbie Mohney, Colorado; and, the California newsletter)*

### **We Welcome All Donations**

Please make your check payable to: HLAA-Rochester (HLAA is a 501©(3) organization.)  
Mail to: Ms. Joanne Owens, 1630 Woodard Rd.,  
Webster, NY 14580

*Be sure to designate:*

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

With sincere thanks for donating to our Chapter!

### **SPEECHLESS?**

If there is a lull in the conversation at 20 minutes before or past the hour, it’s said that an angel is passing by.

*(Old Farmer’s Almanac 2017)*

## HLAA-Rochester's Holiday Good Deed



Both daytime and evening meetings will feature a Holiday gift box of personal care items destined for homeless people at the Veterans Outreach Center in Rochester.

### **What can you contribute?**

Any of the following (and things we haven't thought of) would be appreciated:

Their current desperate need is for socks, underwear, neck ties, shirts—anything to make a professional appearance at a job interview. Also, shampoo, conditioner, hair spray, comb/brush, soap, deodorant, feminine sanitary items, mittens/gloves, scarves, toothpaste/toothbrush, shaving cream, body powder, single pack tissues, etc.

Please bring your donations no later than our December 5<sup>th</sup> chapter meetings.

### **No need to wrap your gift!**

Thank you in advance for your generosity.

And enormous thanks to **Marlene Sutliff** who again has offered to make the large gift box to hold our donations, and to deliver it to Veterans Outreach!

## **MORE GOOD REASONS TO JOIN NATIONAL!**

You really should belong to both our Rochester Chapter and to HLAA National. Why? There is so much to learn from our National organization, with only limited amounts of information finding its way into our monthly award winning Chapter Newsletter.

If you were better informed, it's safe to say you would be reaching out by sharing new information with your families, professionals, etc. Before we were founded, people with hearing loss were not recognized because we were not united. Think about it! Where would we be today without HLAA!!

## **THE INAUGURAL HLAA-ROCHESTER HEARING DEVICE DEMO CENTER SESSION A BIG SUCCESS** *By Charlie Johnstone*



Thanks to the enthusiastic efforts and due diligence of those involved, the Demo Center's grand opening on Thursday, Sept 21<sup>st</sup> was a marvelous success! All played a key role, whether they were actually there or helped with the preparations (thanks to **Michelle and Stan Gross**). Enormous thanks to **Dan Brooks and Charlie Johnstone** who were 'trainers' for member helpers—**Noah Brooks, Margaret Cochran, John Curtis, Art Maurer, Sue Miller, and Barb Rice.**

About 20 people stopped by looking for answers on all types of devices--with a focus on ALDs, and captioned phones.

Thursday, November 16<sup>th</sup>, 10am to 2pm, is the next Device Demo Center session at Lifespan, and we are sure it is going to be just as successful. (The Device Center is open the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday each month.)

Whoever thought two years ago, when we began talking about this initiative, that we would be where we are today!

## **WHEN BATTERIES ARE DEAD**

*By Joe Kozelsky, MS, CCC-A (retired)*



Continued from October NL... For your reading pleasure. More on this topic. Two days ago I needed to replace my batteries. So, seizing the moment, I took the old batteries, held them at the bottom of a kitchen cabinet and let them drop on the counter. They bounced a lot.

Next, I took new batteries and did the same from the same place. They dropped with a very quiet thud and just stayed in place.

Thus, good batteries don't bounce, bad batteries bounce. Who knew?

Questions? contact me at: [jkozelsky@gmail.com](mailto:jkozelsky@gmail.com)



## HOPE SESSION!



Do you wear a hearing aid?  
Come to HOPE (Hearing  
Other People's Experiences)  
and share your experiences in

order to help others who wear hearing aids and those considering getting hearing aids.

Do you think you need a hearing aid? Hearing aids do not restore normal hearing, but they can improve your hearing by amplifying and refining sounds. Hearing technology is moving fast and each year brings tremendous advances to help people hear better. Many of today's hearing instruments allow users to hear from all directions, in all sorts of sound environments.

Are you unsure of what your next step should be? Don't be swayed by advertising that promotes invisible devices. Those tiny hearing aids may not have enough power for your hearing loss. Further, a poorly programmed hearing aid could cause you to conclude hearing aids do not work for you. Before buying a hearing aid, educate yourself. Information is power. Hearing aids vary greatly in price, size, and features.

The moderator for these sessions will be **Joe Kozelsky**, MS, abd, CCC/A (Ret.), recently retired audiologist and a long-time hearing aid user.

Bring your questions to HOPE and--Hear Other People's Experiences...and...share yours!

Please join us for this interactive program. Your experiences can make a positive difference to others. Other people's experiences can be helpful to you. Join us for some peer support.

**HOPE will meet at 10:15 am in the Vestry Room at St. Paul's.** We hope you stay for our routine Chapter Meeting:  
Social Time-- 11:00 – 11:30am, Parish Hall.  
Business meeting-- 11:30 – Noon.  
Chapter Meeting speaker-- Noon to 1:00pm.

### Newsletter Deadline

**Tuesday, October 31st**  
**(for the December Newsletter)**  
Email: [ggraham859@gmail.com](mailto:ggraham859@gmail.com)



HLAA thanks all of our veterans for their service and sacrifices by offering a complimentary membership in the organization.

Hearing issues are the most common service related disabilities among American veterans. Over 2.3 million veterans receive either disability compensation for service related hearing disabilities or are in treatment for hearing related issues.

Veterans may enroll for a complimentary one year membership at:

[www.hearingloss.org/content/veterans](http://www.hearingloss.org/content/veterans)

Hearing Loss Magazine will be delivered, complimentary for one year, renewable at regular dues rates thereafter. All benefits of HLAA membership are included.

We are grateful to our veterans for their service and sacrifices. Please share this information with all the veterans you know.

*(excerpt from Wisconsin Newsletter;  
verified by Lise Hamlin)*

### Subjects of Dec. 5<sup>th</sup> Chapter Meetings:

**Daytime** – “Service Dogs for Hearing Loss” -  
Linda and Jim Panko – A “hearing dog” shows us how it helps its deafened owner react to sounds.

**Evening** – “Cochlear Implants – FAQ's” -  
Dr. Mark Orlando- He reviews CI candidacy, technical upgrades, insurance issues, and much more. Always time for Q&A.



## HISTORY OF HLAA-ROCHESTER

By Meredith Low

Rochester Chapter of SHHH (Self Help for Hard of Hearing people) was founded November 1, 1983. With only 12 members in 1984, the Rochester Chapter has grown to over 209 members today. The Rochester Chapter mailing list now contains 595 entries.

The chapter started publishing a monthly chapter Newsletter in 1983 with **Harriet Thayer Adams** as the first editor. Since that time, **Joan Ewing, Gwen Cheney, Debby Taylor and Ginger Graham** have performed this important position. The Rochester Newsletter received National Outstanding Newsletter awards in 1994 and again in 2011 at the National SHHH/HLAA conventions.

In the late 1980s, **Dr. Paul Dutcher** presented a program on “Tinnitus” to a record-breaking attendance of 102. Daytime programs were added to the already existing evening programs.

During the 1990s, SHHH had an active parent support group organized by **Noreen Conte**. In more recent years, **Katy Kuczek** has contributed monthly parent columns to the Newsletter.

In 1997, Library Liftoff program led by **Harriet Adams** began as a nationally sponsored project. Its purpose was to improve library resources relevant to the needs of people with hearing loss and to enhance communication for our many members who use the library. By the following year, there were 20 volunteers from Rochester Chapter.

In 1998-1999, the Technology Committee started “Tech Talks” at meetings to inform members of technology and devices to assist us with our hearing loss.

In 2002-2003, assistive listening devices became available in Ontario and Yates County courthouses, as well as federal courthouses in Buffalo and Rochester under guidance from chapter member **Judge Arthur Curran**.

In 2006, SHHH changed its name to HLAA (Hearing Loss Association of America.)

In 2006, Rochester was one of six chapters to hold the first Walk4Hearing. Over eight years, Rochester Walk4Hearing has earned a gross of \$370,850.62.

In 2007, Rear Window Captioning at AMC Loews Theater began in Webster, and C-Print had its debut at evening HLAA program meetings.

In September, 2011, Sorensen Communication began providing live captioning at day and evening HLAA chapter meetings and still does so today.

July, 2012, our chapter made a generous donation to GEVA Theatre for the purchase of ALDs.

In December, 2012, HLAA-Rochester established a presence on Facebook.

In March, 2013, we provided funds and labor to help install a hearing loop in the Dryden Theatre at the George Eastman House.

In September, 2013, new HLAA Executive Director Anna Gilmore Hall visited Rochester Chapter.

Above document was written in 2013.

*(Editor's Note: THIS IS A KEEPER! Meredith has put a lot of time and effort into searching out this info. She is the author, but she talked with several seasoned members of the chapter to obtain details. Best to file it where you can find it again later!)*



## TV's In Public Areas Must Use CC

By Ginger Graham

(excerpt from D&C 9/26/17; Brian Sharp)



Rochester soon will become one of only a handful of cities nationally to require businesses with televisions in public areas to utilize the closed captioning function.

In closed captioning, the sound track is displayed as text in the lower part of the screen.

The law, effective in 90 days, covers bars and restaurants, business lobby areas and elsewhere that TV viewing is accessible to the general public.

City Council added the CC requirement to its human rights code, making it a type of discrimination to refuse to provide the service.

...”with this ordinance, people with hearing loss will now have the same access watching TV in public.” There are no set penalties for noncompliance but a person could sue the establishment under the city ordinance.

Comments from members: **Michelle Gross.** “I wonder if this pertains only to the city limits or all those addresses listed as ‘Rochester.’ And, of course, no one to enforce it. Being that the ADA is supposed to ensure equal access, it’s too bad local regulations need to be enacted. Nevertheless, this is a step forward to be sure.”

**Suzanne Johnston:** “What a wonderful milestone to be celebrated! And to be included with other accessible but markedly larger cities certainly says something about the superior accessibility of our area, despite our city’s relatively small size.”

**Al Suffredini:** Continually advocating actively in Canandaigua and surrounding areas for exactly this.

**Sue Miller:** “What a great chapter project. Every chapter member could be an advocate for closed captioning on public TVs!”

## DON'T PUT OFF GETTING YOUR HEARING CHECKED

(excerpt from Wisconsin NL – Fall 2017)



If you think you have a hearing loss, do not wait for over-the-counter hearing aids to come to market.

First, there will be an extended rulemaking period where anyone can comment, after which the FDA has to evaluate and decide on the standards for an OTC device.

Second, not everyone will be able to get help from an OTC device. HLAA recommends seeing an audiologist or hearing instrument specialist if you are having trouble on the phone, asking others to repeat, turning up the volume on your television, or showing other warning signs.

Untreated hearing loss can cause falls, isolation, depression, anxiety, and it has been shown that there could be a link to cognition. Hearing loss should be prevented, screened for, and treated without delay.

Disclaimer—HLAA does not endorse products or services. Mention of such is intended to provide readers with information on products or services that might be of interest; it is not a recommendation or endorsement.

## DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME

(Will occur **Sunday, November 5th** this year)

--First to suggest the idea: Ben Franklin in 1784.

--First North American region to adopt it:  
Newfoundland in 1917.

--First year in which the US adopted it: 1918.

(from the *Old Farmer's Almanac*)

## WORTH REMEMBERING

“I am just as deaf as I am blind. It is the sound of the voice that brings language, sets thoughts astir, and keeps us in the intellectual company of man. Blindness separates us from things but deafness separates us from people.” (Helen Keller)



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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 hard of hearing, we welcome everyone to our chapter meetings whatever their hearing ability. For more information, Call **585 266 7890**

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**2017 - 2019**

*Tamala David, Ph.D.  
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**Newsletter**

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

*Send articles to:  
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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 the bimonthly Hearing Loss Magazine, holds annual conventions, a Walk4Hearing, and more. Check out: [www.hearingloss.org/](http://www.hearingloss.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 House Museum. Parking is available at the George Eastman Museum, 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](mailto:lasnss@rit.edu), at least a week in advance. **(This phone number is only to request an Interpreter.)**

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