



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

Volume 32, Number 8 published monthly except July and August – Rochester NY Chapter Newsletter April 2019

## **APRIL Calendar**

## <u>Tuesday, April 2nd</u>

10:00 am - HOPE Session-Vestry Room, St. Paul's

Daytime Chapter meeting: **11:00 am** - Refreshments/Social Time- Parish Hall 11:30 am – Announcements <u>12 Noon – 1 pm – Program Speaker</u>

Evening Chapter meeting: **7:00 pm** – Refreshments/Social Time – Parish Hall 7:30 pm – Announcements <u>8:00 pm – 9 pm – Program Speaker</u>

Tues., April 9<sup>th</sup> – BOD – 7-9pm – Al Sigl Center

Tues., April 16<sup>th</sup> – PAC MEETING, 7-9pm, ASC

<u>**Thurs.,April 18<sup>th</sup>**</u> - **Device Demo Center**, Lifespan, from 10am to 2pm, free to all. (see page 8)

#### SAVE THESE FUTURE DATES

<u>Tues., May 14<sup>th</sup></u> - BOD – 7-9pm – Al Sigl Center <u>Thurs., May 16<sup>th</sup></u> – Device Demo Center, Lifespan, from 10am to 2pm, free to all. (see page 8) <u>Tues., May 21<sup>st</sup></u> –ANNUAL DINNER – 6-9pm – at Cobblestone Creek Country Club, Victor 14564 (see page 11)

## **Hospitality Duties for April:**

Daytime Meeting –Joan Kohler, Barbara Rice, Nancy Shepard Evening Meeting –Elise de Papp, M.D.

Board of Directors –Michelle Gross, Art Maurer, Stuart Loewenstein PAC Meeting – Sue Miller, Suzanne Johnston, Chas Johnstone We need your support. Please consider joining our Chapter, or renewing your membership. (Please see form inside the back cover)



## APRIL PROGRAMS

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

<u>Tues., April 2<sup>nd</sup> - 10:00am - Vestry room</u> HOPE (Hearing Other People's Experiences) session – Joe Kozelsky, MS, abd, CCC-A retired.

Prospective, new or long-time hearing aid users share their experiences, questions, and hearing loss journeys in an informal round table discussion facilitated by retired audiologist and hearing aid user, Joe Kozelsky. All are welcome!

## <u>Tues., April 2<sup>nd</sup></u> -Daytime Meeting -11:00 am-<u>Speaker begins at Noon</u> in the Parish Hall.

11:00am-1:00pm. Program begins at noon.

Cochlear Implants: What? How? Who? – John W. Wayman, M.D., Dept. of Otolaryngology, URMC

Cochlear implants have been around for over 20 years. No longer is there "no help" for individuals with severe/profound hearing loss. Like vehicles and cell phones, modern cochlear implants have leapt forward technologically. Criteria for candidacy have broadened, surgery is

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## <u>Tuesday, April 2<sup>nd</sup> – Daytime</u> (continued)

less arduous, implants are smaller and more versatile, and toddlers as well as elders are implanted.

Dr. John Wayman is a UR surgeon with over 200 implants to his credit. His talk could be called "CI surgery 101." He will review implant history, development, and current technology. Topics to be covered include: How does a cochlear implant work? Who can potentially benefit? How to be evaluated for an implant? What are possible future developments in implant technology?

Dr. Wayman is an associate professor of otolaryngology at UR Medical Center where he specializes in pediatric otology.

## <u>Tues., April 2nd – Evening Meeting–7:00-9pm</u> <u>Speaker begins at 8:00 pm</u>

Genetic Susceptibility to Hearing Loss from Noise - Patricia M. White Ph.D., Dept. of Neuroscience, URMC

Dr. White, a research associate professor of neuroscience, has explored the genetics of noise damage and cochlear regeneration for 18 years. She will discuss current knowledge of the genetics governing susceptibility to noise-induced hearing loss. While describing current theories correlating specific forms of physical damage to noise-induced hearing disorders, Dr. White will also describe what kinds of genetic mutations are known to confer susceptibility and the research gaps hindering a more complete understanding of this biology.

"My work centers on identifying what molecules regulate inner ear regeneration in mammals," Dr. White explains. "My goal is to find a biological treatment for noise induced hearing loss." She has published extensively in numerous professional journals.

Dr. White's talk is a preview of a workshop she will present on this topic at the National HLAA Convention in June in Rochester. (see page 6) She says, "I seek input from the informed public on what aspects of these topics are interesting and important to disseminate."

All HLAA programs are free. Anyone interested in hearing loss is welcome. For more information, view the organization's web site at <u>www.hearinglossrochester.org</u> or telephone 585 266 7890.

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.

## ANNUAL AWARDS DINNER, Tues., May 21st

We need your help in organizing our dinner. Please contact Barb Law at <u>blaw1@rochester.rr.com</u>; or, Sue Miller at <u>SusanLeeMiller39@cs.com</u> for more info. Thanks for your consideration in helping to make our dinner a huge success. For reservation form, please see page 11.

# FROM OUR PRESIDENT, AND, VICE-PRESIDENT

By Dan Brooks and Suzanne Johnston



"What's in your wallet?" is a familiar slogan related to a popular bank credit card. Many of us have heard it on TV or read it in a magazine. Most of us could likely

say we are familiar with it, and some could even identify the company who uses these words to convince customers that they should have THAT bank's credit card in their back pocket. And they want their customers to *use it*.

Slogans are small groups of words which communicate big but memorable messages. Would you, our members, be able to repeat the 'slogan', or mission, of HLAA?... To recall them: HLAA's mission is to 'open the world of communication to people with hearing loss through information, education, support and advocacy.' These simple

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## PRESIDENTS COLUMN (continued)

words underpin all our organization does for its members and the community.

HLAA accomplishes this mission in many ways and at many levels. First, it does so broadly – across the Rochester area in the form of connections made at the community level. Some examples of this wide reach include our contacts with our Professional Advisory Committee members, and our connections with community organizations such as Lifespan, Regal Theatres, the Jewish Community Center, HL2, and Monroe County Courts and Greater Rochester International Airport.

More focused mission work includes provision of venues for our membership and the general public to learn about hearing loss, and how to manage its effects on our lives. These vehicles include monthly meetings, or through our Demonstration Center or our Featured Speaker program.

Finally, HLAA's mission is accomplished through its members--who make important and essential connections on a personal level, with each other. These occasions are available at 'social' times prior to and following our monthly meetings, and at events where we enjoy each others' 1:1 interaction, such as community outings, dinners and HOPE sessions. But HLAA also understands that those personal connections go far above and beyond the venues that HLAA organizes for its members. For each and every person in the community who interacts with a member of our organization, there is an opportunity for connection, and to spread the word that there IS support and connection for people with hearing loss. And that is GOOD news!

Come One, Come All! HLAA-Rochester will host its Annual Dinner from 6:00-9:00pm, Tuesday, May 21 at Cobblestone Creek CC in Victor (14564). The evening will include a scrumptious, three-course dinner in the pleasant Country Club setting. We will celebrate and present scholarships to deaf and HOH students who have demonstrated academic and personal achievements and who hope to continue their studies after high school. The Community Organization and Community Person of the year awards will be presented to candidates who have demonstrated commitment and support for our organization and for those with hearing loss in our community. We will also honor a special Chapter member who has made significant contributions to our local chapter. (This award is a secret until the night of May 21<sup>st</sup>.) The dinner is an opportunity to socialize with friends and meet new ones, and promises to be an enjoyable evening for all. Keep an eye out in this Newsletter for your reservation form, or visit our website at: <u>http://www.hearinglossrochester.org/</u> to download a form. (also, see page 11)

And so, YOU, our members, are our 'experts' - an essential part of our organization. YOU, our members, have the power and the information to share with others you meet in our community. "Opening the world of communication through information, education, support and advocacy" is something YOU have in your 'wallet.' Use it!

## **DIRECTIONS TO HLAA CONVENTION** By Mary Chizuk

Take 590 to 490 and exit at Clinton Ave. Turn left onto Main St.; then left into Hyatt Regency hotel Garage.

Upon pulling into the garage, someone came out to help. Very close by is a 1-person Handicap Lift to the hotel Lobby.

Then several large elevators to ballroom and small divided rooms. These rooms are centered around escalators so it is open to see across the escalators if waiting to meet someone. I think it will be easy to get around! Personally I was relieved that the set-up is so central and there isn't a lot of walking.

Put this into the NL for others who have mobility concerns (as I do, using a walker) and suggest they not hesitate to register and attend Convention.

Of concern is the JAZZ Festival traffic and some streets will be closed, which we don't know yet. <u>mcchiz6152@gmail.com</u>

## **<u>RBTL LIVE THEATRE</u>**—CAPTIONED!



All performances are Sunday, at 1:00 pm

April 28, 2019 – Hamilton June 9, 2019 - Waitress

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

## **GEVA THEATRE – CAPTIONED PLAYS !**



<u>Sat. shows 2pm;</u> <u>Wed. 2pm & 7:30pm</u> <u>unless otherwise indicated</u>

Sat. March 30; Wed. April 17 - Native Gardens Sat. April 13 @ 2:30pm - The Royal Sat. May 4; Wed. May 29 - Revival: The Resurrection of Son House

Call the Box Office at 232-4382. <u>Ask for seats in the</u> "open captions" viewing section.

## JCC CenterStage – Captioned Plays!



Wed/Thurs @ 7pm; Sat/Sun @ 2pm unless otherwise indicated

Sun. April 7; Thurs. April 11 – "Indecent" Sun. May 12; Wed. May 15 – "Oklahoma"

Tickets and information are available at <u>www.jcccenterstage.org</u> or (585) 461-2000. <u>Please</u> <u>specify "Captioned Area.</u>" Tickets are \$25-33 with discounts for JCC members, full-time students and season subscribers.

We need your support! Rising costs are making the mailing of Newsletters to non-dues paying members difficult. Please pay your dues! Thanks so much.

## <u>NTID THEATRES</u>



PANERA THEATRE - captioned

*Thur/Fri.*-7:30pm; *Sat.*-2pm,7:30pm *Sun.*-2pm (unless otherwise indicated)

"FENCES" April 11 & 12; April 13 @ 7:30pm only; April 14

#### MAGIC SPELL THEATRE - captioned.

#### "AL-POLLO"

April 19; April 20 @ 2pm & 8pm; April 25; April 26; April 27 @ 8pm only; April 28

Panera Theater parking in Lot "L" Magic Spell parking in Lots "E" & "F" Cost: \$12 general public More Info: <u>https://www.rit.edu/cla/finearts/theatrearts/cla-ntid\_18-19jointseason</u>.

#### CAPTIONED MOVIES AT <u>CINEMA THEATRE</u> By Gaelen McCormick

All <u>Wednesday</u> movies at the Cinema are <u>open</u> <u>caption</u>. They rotate movies every week and are a LOT less expensive than the AMC and Regal cinemas. Check local listings and www.cinemarochester.com or www.captionfish.com

#### BIRTHDAYS – 90 YEARS AND OVER...

<u>Everyone</u>: 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 <u>right away</u> as our Newsletters are written two months ahead. Thanks, Ginger

ggraham859@gmail.com; or, (585) 671-2683

## CONDOLENCES



Our sincere sympathy is extended to the family and friends of a long-time member, friend, and advocate who passed away March 5<sup>th</sup>. We

will dearly miss **Barbara (Bobbie) Hargrave.** Bobbie was the wife of Mark Hargrave who was one of the founding members of our Chapter. Mark passed February 2015.

## **CAPTIONING OF MONTHLY CHAPTER MEETINGS WILL BE CONTINUED !**

Great news! Our Daytime and Evening monthly meetings as well as the CI Group meetings will continue to be **captioned**. The captioning is done remotely by Alternative Communication Servicesit 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. It will be the 8<sup>th</sup> year Cameron Tingley has offered to underwrite the cost of this invaluable service. By June 2019, CaptionCall will have spent \$24,000 to have our meetings captioned...aren't we blessed! and we thank you!

We also owe a huge debt of thanks to **Dan Brooks**, Lorin Gallistel, 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!

## **COCHLEAR IMPLANT GROUP**

By Ginger Graham and Janet McKenna

Our Spring meeting is scheduled for: Tuesday, April 2nd, from 1:30 – 2:30pm in the Parish Hall at St. Paul's church. The room has a hearing loop and there will be captioning.



Our meeting will follow the Chapter Meeting which will be a presentation by Dr. John Wayman, an implant surgeon at URMC. We'll have a round-

table discussion with Q&A covering your concerns and comments on his remarks. Also, do you want to know what it's like to get a CI? Do you have one implant and want to get a second one? Nowadays, the surgery takes less time and is less stressful than a few years ago. In addition, we have several newly implanted members who will share their up-to-date stories. This should be an interesting and exciting meeting. Join us with your significant other, regardless of the stage of your CI journey. All are welcome, with or without an implant!

## 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:

Agnes E. Griffith, Ph.D.; Mary L. Leene

Please consider a donation when you renew your membership.

## **Newsletter Deadline**

Sunday, March 31<sup>st</sup> (for the May Newsletter) Email: ggraham859@gmail.com

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.)

## SUBJECTS OF UPCOMING MEETINGS Tuesday, May 7<sup>th</sup>

Daytime Meeting: Rochester Academy Of Medicine, Home of Allis D'Amanda: Helen Keller visited there.

Evening Meeting: Cochlear implants: What's happening at UR? -Also, aural rehab, FAQs about CIs, electrodes that die, T-coil position, etc. Megan Wightman Au.D.

## **NEWS FROM NTID**

By Vienna Carvalho

Red Wings baseball, in partnership with NTID, will host Deaf Culture Day at Frontier Field April 28 at 1:05pm. Red Wings vs Pawtucket Red Sox. Jersey & cap with "Red Wings" in ASL worn during game and available to buy. GOWINGS at

https://www.ticketreturn.com/prod2/BuyNew.asp?EventID=2 62647&PromoCode=gowings; or, https://tinyurl.com/y5508vhn

## NEW NYS REQUIRED COURSE FOR AUDIOLOGISTS AND HEARING AID DISPENSERS

By Kristen J. M. Nolan, MS, CCC-A

Starting January 1, 2019 Audiologists and Hearing Aid Dispensers are required to take a one-hour Telecoil & Assistive Listening Devices Course. (This course is in addition to the already required one-hour Professional Conduct and one-hour Infection Control Courses.) Another new requirement is that all these courses can no longer be taken online. The courses must be taken in person and must be completed prior to the renewal of the New York State Hearing Aid Dispensing License. Audiologists have two New York State Licenses, one is for Audiology and the other is for the Hearing Aid Dispensing. The NYS Audiology License is renewed every three years and requires 30 continuing education credit hours to be completed. The NYS Hearing Aid Dispensing License is renewed every two years and requires four credit hours to be completed.

In the new Telecoil and Assistive Listening Devices course, we discuss the importance of a telecoil as well as where and how they can be used. We also review many Assistive Listening Devices such as amplified telephones--both corded and cordless, amplified telephone signalers, amplified alarm clocks, alerting devices (such as smoke detectors) and Bluetooth technologies.

These three courses need to be taken by an approved New York State course instructor and the courses themselves need to be approved by New York State. To find a course near you, please go to <u>https://www.dos.ny.gov/licensing/hearingaid/hearin</u> gaid\_coned.html then call one of the approved locations listed to find out when the next course will be available. <u>Sounds for Life of Pittsford</u> will be offering all three courses on May 31, 2019. For more information: (585) 248-5212, or, www.SFLHearing.com.

**SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT...** (submitted by Sue Miller)

"I always prefer to believe the best of everybody, it saves so much trouble" (*Rudyard Kipling*)

LIKE US ON FACEBOOK ! By Jenn Hurlburt

Are you on Facebook? If so, please be our friend. We currently have **346** friends and we want more. Find us at: **Hlaa Rochester Ny** 

#### HLAA CONVENTION 2019– PLAN TO COME! By Sue Miller



Can you all believe the national HLAA Convention is returning to Rochester?! In 1988, the Rochester Chapter hosted the third

national convention, and we assumed we would never have another opportunity. June 20 - 23, 2019 will provide that incredible chance again...so sign up and plan to attend!

The **Exhibit Hall** with every hearing and listening device you could ever imagine will be available to you...the **workshops** provide information and education that you'll love. The **Gala dinner** and entertainment will be terrific, especially since national is celebrating its 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary. (And remember, our chapter is celebrating its 36<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year...so it's a double celebration!) Come to support two members from Rochester who have won national awards—Ann Marie Cook, Lifespan; and Barb Law, from our Chapter.

You'll have the opportunity to meet new people from all across the country as well as see your Chapter friends. When a Convention is held on the East Coast, the turnout it always fantastic and provides an extra spark of enthusiasm, which you won't want to miss.

So far, <u>more than 60 people from our Chapter</u> have signed up to attend the convention...it will be like 'old home week,' and you'll love every minute of it!

For more info and also to register, Go to: http://www.hearinglossrochester.org/hlaa-events, or https://www.hearingloss.org/programsevents/convention

## WEBSITES OF INTEREST

Our award-winning Chapter website is: http://www.hearinglossrochester.org, and Michelle Gross is our Web Master. HLAA National website is www.hearingloss.org.

#### (submitted by Al Suffredini)

From Science Daily www.sciencedaily.com.

Discovery of new neurons in the inner ear can lead to new therapies for hearing disorders.

Researchers have identified four types of neurons in the peripheral auditory system, three of which are new to science. The analysis of these cells can lead to new therapies for various kinds of hearing disorders, such as tinnitus and age-related hearing loss.

https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2018/09/180 912081258.htm

New innovation improves diagnosis of dizziness.

Half of people over 65 suffer from dizziness and problems with balance. But some tests to identify the causes of such problems are painful and can risk hearing damage. Now, researchers have developed a new testing device using bone conduction technology, that offers significant advantages over the current tests.

https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2018/09/180 910081533.htm

## 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.

#### **HEARING OTHER PEOPLE'S EXPERIENCES**

By Jim Feuerstein, Ph.D., CCC-A, FAAA



The February 5<sup>th</sup> HOPE session was attended by14 people. There were several new people in attendance.

One was a current hearing aid user who is in the process of purchasing new, and hopefully better, hearing aids than she currently owns. Her current aids were purchased from a "big box" store and she received minimal support post fitting. There were two others who have never worn hearing aids. All were interested in how to find a reputable dispenser.

Several people strongly encouraged everyone to get a thorough audiological evaluation prior to purchasing hearing aids, regardless of where the aids are eventually bought. People also encouraged the new users to be sure to get hearing aids with volume controls and telecoils (T-switches), as those can make a world of difference. There was discussion of different types of hearing losses, some basic information of how those types of losses have very different impact on understanding speech (making a thorough evaluation by an audiologist critical to good hearing aid fitting), what telecoils are, and where they are often used (besides with the phone), and HLAA's Device Demonstration Center for assistive devices (3rd Thursday of every month at Lifespan). See article on page 8 here.

We need your support! Rising costs are making the mailing of Newsletters to non-dues paying members



difficult. Please pay your dues! Thanks so much.



FOR YOUR EYES... What's the 20-20-20 Exercise?

To reduce eye strain--every 20 minutes, look away from what you're doing and look about 20 feet in front of you, for 20 seconds. (Parade 10/21/18)

### 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!

#### We Welcome All Donations

Please make your check payable to: <u>HLAA-Rochester</u> *HLAA is a 501©(3) organization.*Mail to: Ms. Joan Kohler 15 Pickett Lane Hilton, NY 14468
Be sure to designate: This donation is: <u>In Memory of</u>; or, <u>In Honor of</u>, or, <u>Birthday congratulations</u>, And who to send the Acknowledgment to.
With sincere thanks for donating to our Chapter!

## ASSISTIVE LISTENING DEVICE DEMO CENTER

By Charlie Johnstone



Thanks to the enthusiastic efforts of those involved, the Demo Center session on

Thursday, March 21<sup>st</sup> was a great success!

Visitors were very appreciative of the attention and help they received. There are few places where people with a hearing loss can go to get instant help and quality, free information! Lifespan's generosity in so many ways, combined with the hard work and contribution of so many volunteers, really make a difference!

The types of devices represented during the demo sessions include signaling-alerting devices, captioned telephones and personal assistive listening devices [with an emphasis on TV listening and coping with noisy environments].

A new "virtual device demo center" app for smart phones and tablets will continue to be tested.

The next demo session at Lifespan is <u>**Thursday**</u>, <u>**April 18<sup>th</sup>**</u>, <u>**10am to 2pm**</u>. The device center is open the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month (except July and August, or when Lifespan is closed).

There will NOT be a demo session in **June** because the **HLAA National Convention** will be held here in Rochester June 20-23, 2019! We encourage you to register and attend the convention. Among many featured events, manufacturers and distributors of assistive devices will be showing their products in the Exhibit Hall. Admittance to the exhibits is open to the public at no charge. There are registration fees to attend other aspects of the convention. A link to info about the convention and registration is below.

## https://www.hearingloss.org/programsevents/convention/

#### **STUDENT BOARD OF ROCHESTER CHAPTER** By Suzanne Johnston



Years ago, deaf and hard-ofhearing students attended special academic programs specifically for students who had similar hearing and communication needs. With recent advances in

education and hearing technology, the majority of deaf/HOH students are often mainstreamed into regular educational programs.

While this has served to improve educational and vocational outcomes, as a result, many of these students are isolated from others who are deaf/HOH.

The Student Board of HLAA-Rochester works to serve as a means to unite and support students and youth who are deaf and/or hard-of-hearing, and their families. The Student Board welcomes high-school and college-age students who are deaf and/or HOH, as well as youth who are interested and involved in serving those with hearing loss. If you know of any students who may be interested in joining this group, please contact Suzanne Johnston, HLAA-Rochester Student Board Liaison at (585) 314-1807 (v/txt) or <u>suzanneejohnston@aol.com</u>

## MY STORY—A Personal History of Hearing Loss By Joan Kohler



I was born to a diabetic, Type 1, mother February 1, 1954. I was told that babies of diabetic mothers often become stillborn in the ninth month. To prevent

that, they would induce labor a month early. Although, I was 6 lbs. 8oz., I was still considered premature. I also was told that as a newborn, I was "yellow" due to premature liver functioning. As a toddler, I had some delayed development in speech and walking. My mother always knew there was something wrong but the doctors told her that I will catch up and I was delayed due to premature birth.

I did "catch up" in some ways. They finally took me for testing at Yale University in Connecticut at the age of 4. They found out I had poor vision, moderate hearing loss, and mild cerebral palsy which affected small motor coordination. I was fitted for glasses, and also started speech therapy which I continued through High School. I was fitted for a hearing aid at the age of nine.

With the wonderful support and love from my parents and my two older brothers, I had a wonderful normal childhood. I was a very normal little girl who liked to play with Barbie dolls, ride bicycles, and play with her friends. We lived in a neighborhood with many other post-war families on Long Island, New York.

I graduated from High School in 1973. I went away to college at SUNY at Delhi and graduated in 1976 with an Associate's degree in Business Management. This is where I met my future husband. Richard Kohler. Richard was hired by Eastman Kodak in June, 1976. We were married on October 9, 1976 and moved to Rochester. We were blessed with two children. Dan who was born 1978 and Amy who was born 1980. When Dan and Amy were school age, I worked as a teacher aide for BOCES for six years, working with children with various disabilities. I decided to go back to school for Medical Record Technology at NTID/RIT, and graduated in 1994, the same year we were blessed with our third child, Eric. I was working at Strong Memorial Hospital.

This is when I had to make choices. I have always wanted a family. Having a wonderful husband and three great kids was a dream come true. Due to my own challenges, I did not feel I could effectively care for my family and have a full-time job or a career. I wanted to be there for my children's first word or first step. I decided to be a stay-at-home mom. Thinking back, I am so glad I made that choice. My husband told me once, "Life is like a card game. You can't control the cards you are dealt, only how your play them."

I had my own personal challenges, dealing with my hearing loss and speech impairment. I have had my ups, downs, and frustrations. I was very fortunate to have found a wonderful support and educational group SHHH/HLAA 35 years ago. It is so nice to be in a room with people who have the same problem as you do. I could never hear on the phone. It was through this group that I was introduced to a TTY so many years ago! I'm currently the Assistant Treasurer for our Rochester Chapter.

Life is about making the best choices for you.



Sincere birthday greetings to these members who will be 90 years or older! Congratulations and many more healthy and happy years!

April 8 – Mary Greene; April 25 – Bert Foos

## WHY GET A HEARING TEST?

(excerpt from AARP Bulletin, Feb. 2019)

Uncorrected hearing loss leads to higher hospitalization rates and health care costs (Johns Hopkins University in collaboration with AARP.) The study looked at data of 150,000 people 50+. It found that over a period of 10 years, individuals with <u>untreated hearing loss</u> had a 52% greater risk of **dementia**; a 41% higher risk of **depression**; and almost 30% greater risk of **falls**.



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

<u>Put on the lower left corner of the package:</u> "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.

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

VENUES WITH ALS OR CAPTIONING By Tim Whitcher

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

Please contact Tim Whitcher at

<u>hlaa.rochester@yahoo.com</u> 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.



## PLANNING THE PROGRAMS FOR YOUR CHAPTER MEETINGS

This is only April, and we're thinking about June already...but this is really important!

Do you have new ideas for speakers or programs for our monthly HLAA Chapter meetings...if so, we would love to hear about them! 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, 2019, to June, 2020.

Daytime meetings planning session:

## Tues., June 25th, at 9:30am -

coffee & conversation; then, discussion 10:00-Noon – Sue's home, 16 Buckthorn Run, Victor 14564.

Evening meetings planning session:

**Tues., June 25th, at 6:00 – 9:00pm** with Barb Law, in the 1st floor Conf. room, Al Sigl Center; light snacks. Note: Both meetings are on the same day.

**RSVP**: Please email (or, call) either Sue or Barb and let them know you're attending. We appreciate an RSVP for seating and food! Hope to see you at one or <u>both</u> of the meetings! We're eager for your suggestions!

Barb Law: <u>Blaw1@rochester.rr.com;</u> (585) 381-8640 Sue Miller: <u>SusanLeeMiller39@cs.com;</u> (585) 924-8933

> 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.

### **ANNUAL DINNER**

By Sue Miller



We'll all have the chance to come together on <u>Tuesday.</u> <u>May 21<sup>st</sup></u> for the Annual Dinner of the Rochester Chapter of HLAA. From **6:00 to 9:00 pm**, 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 three awards.

The Cobblestone Creek Country Club has done a superb job in past years with service, hearing accessibility and scrumptious food.

You will enjoy being part of this fabulous evening!

<u>Please sign up by **Thursday**</u>, **May 16<sup>th</sup>** using the form included here. We hope to see you there!

## Please join us!

Tuesday, May 21, 2019

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

> <u>6:00 to 9:00 P.M.</u> Spouses/guests welcome! Menu choices:

- (1) <u>Grilled Flank Steak</u> Mushroom Marsala sauce –whipped potatoes & asparagus
- (2) <u>Chicken French</u> in Lemon/Sherry/Butter sauce –whipped potatoes & asparagus
- (3) <u>3-Cheese Manicotti</u> -house made Marinara

House Salad, and Strawberry Shortcake

**\$26.00 per person (includes tax & gratuity)** 

Questions? Please email, or call, Sue Miller at <u>SusanLeeMiller39@cs.com</u>; or, phone, 585-924-8933.

HLAA ANNUAL DINNER – May 21 <sup>st</sup> Reservation Form
Name:
Address
Phone or Email
Dinner choice
~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
Guest:
Dinner choice
~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
2nd Guest:
Dinner choice
<u>Dinner reservations will be accepted until</u> <u>Thursday, May 16<sup>th</sup> FIRM DATE</u> <u>We cannot accept reservations after 5/16</u>
Dinners @ \$26 each = \$
(please make check payable to <u>HLAA-Rochester)</u>
<u>Please return this form and check to:</u> Ms. Joan Kohler 15 Pickett Lane Hilton, NY 14468





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135 Sully's Trail, Suite 10 Pittsford, NY 14534 sejohnston1959@gmail.com 585.314.1807 (v/txt) www.speechandcommunicationservices.com

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Honorary Jeannette	Kanter, Joe Kozelsky		58
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### **HLAA Membership** Information

g Loss Association ) Rochester Chapter, a tax exempt and group, is a chapter of tional, nonprofit, ctarian, educational ation devoted to the and interests of those ot hear well. We meet Tuesday of the month tober through June at 's Episcopal Church, e. (September is 2nd .) While our primary lirected toward hard of we welcome evervone r chapter meetings their hearing ability. ore information, Call 85 266 7890

#### **Professional Advisors**

#### 2017 - 2019

Tamala David, Ph.D. James DeCaro, Ph.D. **Christine** Olivier Peter Reeb

2018 - 2020

Kathy Foster Emilv Krohn **Ralph Meranto** Nicholas Sprague

Consultants: Paul Dutcher, M.D. Charles Johnstone, James Vazzana, Esq. ^^^^

#### 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@gmail.com

#### **MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION – HLAA-ROCHESTER CHAPTER** July 1, 2018 - June 30, 2019

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

All members receive the award-winning Rochester chapter Newsletter!

Check preference for access: [] via US mail [] via Chapter website

Check membership type: [] Individual [] Family [] Corporate

**Check contribution:** (\*please consider a charitable donation above Basic dues—an acknowledgement is sent for donations only.)

[] Basic/Indiv. Dues, \$10 [] Basic/Family Dues, \$20 [] Corporate\* \$50

[] Friend\* \$25, [] Partner\* \$50, [] Supporting\* \$100 [] \$\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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Email

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Please make check payable to: HLAA-Rochester. Send to: Ms. Joan Kohler, 15 Pickett Lane, Hilton, NY 14468

#### HEARING LOSS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

YES! I want to join or renew membership in national HLAA. Membership entitles me to the magazine, *Hearing Life; a* number of discounts; and knowing I'm supporting advocacy for people with hearing loss nationwide.

[ ] Join [ ] Renewal

] Individual \$35 [] Couple/Family \$45 [ ] Professional \$60

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Name:

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (home)

(cell)

Email:

Send to: Hearing Loss Association of America Suite 1200 7910 Woodmont Avenue Bethesda, MD 20814

Please do NOT send this form to the local Rochester Chapter; mail directly to HLAA in Bethesda, MD.



P.O. Box 1002 Fairport, NY 14450

## **Return Service Requested**

Time sensitive

Please deliver by March 27, 2019



## 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 the bimonthly <u>Hearing Life Magazine</u>, holds annual conventions, a Walk4Hearing, and more. Check out: <u>http://www.hearinglossrochester.org</u>.

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! NONPROFIT ORG. U.S. POSTAGE PAID ROCHESTER, NY PERMIT # 1193

## 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.

All meetings are <u>audio looped and</u> <u>captioned</u>. Interpreters are available on request *for evening meetings only-*contact Linda Siple, 585 288 6744, or at <u>lasnss@rit.edu</u>, 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!*