

MARCH CALENDAR

**CHAPTER MEETINGS ARE STILL ON ZOOM
UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE**

TUESDAY, MARCH 1, 11:30 AM—NOON ON ZOOM:
Chapter announcements and business meeting.

TUESDAY, MARCH 1, NOON-1 PM ON ZOOM:
Carly Alicea AuD and Peter Hart AuD “Ask the Audiologists”

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 2, 10 AM-11 AM ON ZOOM:
Joe Kozelsky: HOPE Session: ‘Hearing Other People's Experiences’ (HOPE)

TUESDAY, MARCH 8, 7 PM Board of Directors Meeting

THURSDAY, MARCH 17 NOON - 1 PM ON ZOOM:
HLAA-Rochester Technology Team: Virtual Device Demo Center

TUESDAY, MARCH 22, 8 PM—9 PM ON ZOOM:
“Hear Together”: Parent/Caregiver Support Group

**Please check our Chapter Website
hearinglossrochester.org for any changes**

March Programs

Hearing Loss Association of America (HLAA) Rochester Chapter offers several virtual programs in March benefitting anyone interested in hearing loss. All are free and in real time on the Zoom platform. As well, all are closed captioned. Preregistration is required by visiting the HLAA website at:

<http://hearinglossrochester.org>

Programs for March are:

Tuesday, March 1, Noon via Zoom:
Carly Alicea AuD and Peter Hart AuD “Ask the Audiologists”

What’s bothering you, person with hearing loss?

Be ready with your inquiries about hearing issues as we “Ask the Audiologists” in the long-running and perennially popular HLAA presentation. Drs. Alicea and Hart will field audience questions about audiograms, hearing aids, deafness, tinnitus, or whatever



(Continued on page 3)

PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

by Art Maurer, President



Better Hearing = Better Living!

When I became involved with HLAA-Rochester as a Professional Advisory Committee (PAC) member almost two decades ago I was impressed with how well our all-volunteer organization ran with no paid staff and a limited budget. Monthly in-person daytime and evening presentation meetings plus a monthly newsletter with a mailing list of 600. Need to coordinate a Walk4Hearing of 500 people, Featured Speaker Program, ‘Day of Hearing’, Annual Dinner, or anniversary celebration – HLAA-Rochester performed like pros. Then over the years our HOPE roundtable and the Demo Center were started. Hearing Aids and Cochlear Implants were stable technologies with steady improvements coming on a seemingly evolutionary basis.

With our cadre of dedicated *Stellar Supporter* volunteers keeping everything on-track, my concern as I contemplated becoming chapter president in 2020 was to administer adroitly and not upset the applecart.

Then Covid hit in March 2020! The mainstay of our almost 40 years of operation, meeting in-person, was gone! Within weeks our Tech Team quickly responded by introducing something most of us had never heard of – Zoom. We decided to go on the Internet and by September all programs and meetings were fully virtual. We thought for a few months ... we never expected over two years.

On Zoom, with visitors across the United States joining in, we found distance limitations evaporate. So we started Outreach across Western and Central New York. Also 24/7 availability as we placed recordings of our sessions on YouTube.

(Continued on page 2)

President's Message

(Continued from page 1)

The Demo Center was placed on our website in digital form for easy access to information on Assistive Listening Devices. We've also developed a presentation to be given in libraries and senior residences inviting folks to participate in our sessions via Zoom; plus offering those present Express Hearing Checks. An updated brochure and marketing materials have been developed to build more awareness of HLAA in our communities.

When we can again gather-together, better able to offer *Support*, our monthly sessions will be hybrid - in-person and on Zoom. We have one course on YouTube accessible through hearinglossrochester.org; there will be more to come – one on guidance to the person considering buying an OTC hearing aid.

But what's really ahead in 2022? Although we've been saying we'd like to get back to 'normal', or rather a 'new normal', once the scourge of pandemic is under control, it may seem more like bedlam; change will come from new and unexpected fronts. Hearing Aid and Cochlear Implant technology is hitting a stride of ever faster improvement and flexibility; that coupled with the introduction of Over-the-Counter hearing aids disrupting stable markets - widespread advertising, unfamiliar equipment, lower prices. Quietly, in the background, assistive listening devices are much more effective, easy to use, and at even lower prices. These developments will disrupt and expand traditional markets that have been somewhat stable over the years. And, as more folks are sensitized to their hearing loss new market opportunities will emerge? What role might HLAA play as these developments unfold?

Rest assured HLAA-Rochester will continue to strive to Support - Educate - Advocate while we navigate the uncharted waters ahead; coupled with an emphasis on building awareness for new customers to help them achieve *Better Hearing = Better Living!*

As always, your comments and suggestions are most welcome...

Art Maurer

amauer40@frontier.com

Stipends Available for NYS HLAA Conference

Are you an HLAA Rochester Chapter Member and planning to attend the 2022 HLAA New York State Association State Conference?

Our chapter has made 40, \$250 stipends available for chapter members who are attending, on a first-come, first-served basis.

To add your name to the list, or to ask questions, email: Sue Miller at susanleemiller39@cs.com.

Hear Together: Parent/Caregiver Support Group


Are you interested in connecting with other parents or caregivers who also have children who are D/HOH? Do you know parents who are in that position?

Hear Together, our parent/caregiver support group, provides a safe and supportive community that brings parents/caregivers together to connect about their children, ask questions, provide insight, and share strategies and opportunities about supporting the success of children who are D/HOH.

This parent group will be facilitated by a speech-language pathologist, Kristin Bergholtz and audiologist, Carly Alicea. However parents are encouraged to join in conversations, ask questions, and devise topics of interest in order for all to share/gather information that they need. The parents/caregivers who have participated in our groups thus far have commented that "they have finally found their people".

Parents/caregivers have also found deeper connections for themselves as well as their children. This group provides the opportunity for support, self-care, gratitude, and knowledge sharing to further enhance the lives and success of children who are D/HOH. We hope you will join us on the fourth Tuesday (next on March 24th) of each month, and running through June 28, 2022. This group will take place on Zoom from 8:00-9:00 pm and closed captioning will be available. See you soon!

To register, or for further information, send an email to kristinbslp@gmail.com.



*Included with printed copies
of this newsletter*

HLAA's Communications Tips Card

Also downloadable at:
<http://hearinglossrochester.org>

March Programs

(Continued from page 1)

subjects you bring up. Completely unrehearsed and impromptu, “Ask the Audiologists” gives patients the chance to interact with local clinicians. No relevant concern is off-limits.

Audiologist Carly Alicea joined Rochester Hearing & Speech Center in 2021. Her clinical and research interests include aural rehabilitation for adults, public health issues related to audiology, hearing screening, and expanding access to hearing healthcare for underserved populations. She has researched adults' motivation to seek help for their hearing problems, new methods for teaching new hearing aid users to use and care for their hearing aids, and parents' and caregivers' abilities to care for their children's hearing aids. Her daughter is hard of hearing, and she supports other parents in celebrating their children's abilities and accomplishments.

Peter Hart AuD earned degrees from SUNY Geneseo and University of Akron. He interned for a year at the VA Medical Center in Canandaigua. He has been an audiologist with the family firm, Hart Hearing and Balance Centers, since 2012.

Wednesday, March 2, 10:00 am via Zoom: Joseph Kozelsky CCC/A. Hearing Other People's Experiences (HOPE)

Prospective, new or experienced hearing aid users can share their experiences, questions, and hearing loss journeys in an informal round table format. We learn from one another. Anyone interested in hearing loss is invited to join the hearing aid community.

Captions will be provided to support access to the discussions.

Thursday, March 17, Noon via Zoom: Virtual ALD Demo Center. HLAA-Rochester Technology Team.

This is a continuing orientation to the on-line “Virtual Demo Center” web site. It is a review of selected assistive listening devices, captioning-capable and amplified telephones, signaling-alerting devices and smart phone app's related to hearing enhancement and gives the opportunity for the presenters to answer questions from those joining the Zoom meeting.

Tuesday, March 22, 8 pm via Zoom: HearTogether: Parent/Caregiver Support Group. See the article on page 4 for this exciting new offering from the HLAA Rochester Chapter to help parents with D/HoH children.



HLAA 2022 Convention, June 23-25

The HLAA 2022 Convention is June 23-25 in Tampa, Florida! HLAA is very excited to be hosting an in-person Convention again. This year the exhibit hall, workshops, demo presentations, plenary sessions, social events and Research Symposium will all be held under one roof at the brand new JW Marriott Tampa Water Street. When you aren't learning and networking at the most communication accessible convention for people with hearing loss, you can explore Tampa's new Sparkman Wharf area or cruise down the local Riverwalk. Start booking your trip now!

All the information about the upcoming convention is in the Fall 2021 issue of the Hearing Life Magazine and on the HLAA website, www.hearingloss.org.

Donations

Thank you to these members who included donations to the chapter in addition to their dues:

Gayle Carini
Patricia Pogue
Cindy Kellner

General Donations

Warren Crandell
Art Maurer
Target Corporation Employee Giving

Thank you to our major contributors:

Phyllis & J. Stuart MacDonald Estate
Dr. Ruth P. Oakley Estate
Mary Tuckley Estate
Elaine VanderBrook



March Birthdays

Happy Birthday to:

March 3	Carmen Coleman
March 4	Richard McCollough
March 21	Michelle Gross
March 29	Tim Whicher

We have a limited number of birthdays listed in our records. Please let us know so we can include yours next time around.

Stop Trash Talking Telecoils! Please.

by Gael Hannan, reprinted with permission

I don't know how to say this more clearly: **Telecoils in my hearing aids have made my life better.**

Better, happier, easier, and more connected. And I'm not the only one – there are gazillions of us. Because of this positive experience, it's frustrating for us – the hearing loss advocates and international organizations – to hear that audiologists are advising against telecoils, saying they're 'old technology' and *here, try this newest, greatest thing!*



Without telecoils, I wouldn't have been able to use the phone as well as I have for the past 20 years. I still use it to talk on the phone, both cell and landline, daily.

Without telecoils, I would continue jostling for space at the front of a group or crowd, to sit in the front row so that I could better see and lipread the speaker. Now I can stand at the back of a crowded hall – like I recently did at the national conventions of the Canadian Hard of Hearing Association and the Hearing Loss Association of America. In plenary sessions and smaller workshops, the speakers' voices flowed beautifully into my devices. (Bluetooth can't do that – the poor speaker would have 100 transmitters hanging around her neck or pinned to his clothes.)

Without telecoils, I wouldn't have been able to use audio guides in museums, art galleries, boat tours and other facilities around the world that care about inclusion for people with hearing loss. I would have had to rely on imperfect relay by the Hearing Husband or get by just with the visual information.

I've used telecoils in other looped environments such as at church, at the bank, and watching TV. When I'm presenting or performing, in addition to the audience area being looped, I ask for the stage area to be looped as well, because it lets me hear *myself* better (always a good thing for the presenter).

Still, many audiologists say that telecoils are 'old' technology, as if discoveries come with a "Use By" date when they are suddenly no longer useful. I mean, hey! What about the wheel? It's a *very* old invention – and to this day, wheels *still* make our world go 'round. Like the song says: *big wheel keep on turnin'*! Penicillin and insulin were invented in the 1920's and they are *still* saving lives. So, while telecoils are decades-old, they *still* provide crucial and exquisite access to communication.

Hearing care professionals need to stop trash-talking telecoils, because people with hearing loss around the world *love* them! We love how switching our devices to the telecoil mode connects us to other people. And it's not an 'either-or' situation. We also *love* what Bluetooth does for us when we can use it. We *adore* the improvements in speech-to-text technology. We are *passionate* about captioning.

We want it all and today we *can* have it all – but only if hearing care professionals put client needs first and look at our overall, everyday hearing requirements. And if they are still not convinced – simply because we say so – we strongly recommend they attend a consumer hearing loss event. There, they can see for themselves the look on the face of a person with hearing loss when they use telecoils for the first time in a workshop or when someone sings the national anthem. That look of wonder is worth a CEU (Continuing Education Credit).

If you're a person whose hearing care professional tries to talk you out of a telecoil, be polite but firm: Give. Me. A. Telecoil! And if *that* doesn't work, find a more person-centered care clinic.

Gael Hannan is a writer, speaker and advocate on hearing loss issues. In addition to her weekly blog at the Better Hearing Consumer, which has an international following, Gael wrote the acclaimed book The Way I Hear It: A Life with Hearing Loss. This article originally appeared on the Hearing Health & Technology Matters website.

Follow Gael on her blog at <https://hearinghealthmatters.org/betterhearingconsumer/>

You can "Attend" Other Chapters' Meetings

HCAA Chapters and State Organizations have been transitioning their in-person meetings to virtual meetings online during the pandemic. You are welcome to visit online HCAA Chapter and State Organization meetings from all across the country. They are listed in one central calendar from the HCAA Leaders List Groups.io calendar.

First, go to hearingloss.org. There is a new purple calendar option in the upper menu bar. After you click on it, a new window will open. Click on the purple FIND HCAA CHAPTER MEETINGS HERE button to access the HCAA Leaders Groups.io calendar.

10 THINGS SOMEONE WITH HEARING LOSS WISH OTHERS WOULD KNOW



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- 01 Get my attention:**
So I can focus on you; please speak one at a time.
- 02 Give me quiet:**
Off the TV, music, fan; and a quieter booth in a restaurant.
- 03 Hearing loss is tiring:**
It takes all my energy to fill in the blanks of missing sounds.
- 04 I am not rude or stupid:**
I am trying; please repeat and let me speak.
- 05 Be kind to me:**
When you get frustrated, I would rather opt out and be alone.
- 06 Speak clearly & slowly:**
Give my brain some time to process your speech.
- 07 Repeat & rephrase:**
I will miss some; please repeat, rephrase or spell it out.
- 08 Face me when you speak:**
Lip-reading helps me connect the dots when I can't hear you clearly.
- 09 Hearing aids are not glasses:**
Sounds are louder, but not 100% clear in noisy environments.
- 10 Give me context:**
If all I hear is "ca_", knowing if it's about animals (cat) or headgear (cap) helps.

Main Clinic:
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enquiry@drlynnelim.com

Satellite Clinic:
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ASSISTIVE LISTENING DEVICE DEMO CENTER IS VIRTUAL

By Chas Johnstone

Since we are unable to conduct our Demo Center at Lifespan, our Virtual Demo Center (VDC) is now available online 24/7. Please visit the VDC to see the full range of devices in the Demo Center and submit any questions there that you might have. To access the VDC, follow the link on the chapter's website, <http://hearinglossrochester.org>

We offer an online Zoom session at noon on March 17th where we discuss some of the items presented on the website. You can sign up on the chapter's website.

Buy Hearing Aid Batteries from HLAA

Even with the pandemic, HLAA Rochester is still offering hearing aid batteries. You may purchase a pack of six for \$1.50, or an entire box (60 batteries) for \$15.00. Simply contact Suzanne Johnston at: suzannejohnston@aol.com (or call 585-586-4158) to arrange for pick-up at your convenience at her home at 44 Washington Rd. in Pittsford. Mail a check with the cost of your order to ATTN Nancy Meyer, HLAA Asst. Treasurer, 5275 Rosebrugh Lane, Geneseo, NY 14454 with notation RE: battery purchase.

Sign up for Hearing Life e-News



Hearing Life e-News is delivered to your inbox twice per month. *Hearing Life e-News* keeps readers up to date on the latest news and information on hearing loss. Each issue features high-interest content such as recent legislation and advocacy efforts, technology, new products for hearing loss, human interest stories, webinars, updates on the Walk4Hearing, Convention, and information on HLAA Chapter happenings.

Sign Up at:

<https://hearingloss.org/news-media/e-news>



We're Reaching Out This Spring...
to small groups
In Libraries
In Senior Residences
even across Central/Western NY

Help spread the word on how HLAA-Rochester leads to Better Hearing = Better Living!

Contact Art Maurer or Sue Miller
Amaurer40@frontier.com
Susanleemiller39@cs.com
585-721-5943

HLAA New York State Association (NYSA) - Update.

By Dan Brooks, Immediate Past President,
HLAA-NYSA



Are we all ready for winter to be over with and get on with springtime? I sure am! However, my family did make the most of wintertime by spending time outdoors in the snow and the kids enjoying being part of the school's ski club. We can't wait to get our travel trailer out of storage and begin prepping

it for our next camping excursion! We already have several campground reservations booked and still have a few more key dates to book. The problem we're running into is that many of the sites where we normally camp are already booked, forcing us to look for new places. In the long run this situation probably will be a blessing in disguise. We'll have the opportunity to try some great new locations. Our family is all for new experiences and adventures.

The concept of looking for new opportunities has become the norm for both *HLAA Rochester Chapter* and the *HLAA New York State Association (HLAA-NYSA)*. Our hearing loss organizations are continually being challenged to look for new ways to reach out to help support those with hearing loss, in our local community and beyond. Fortunately, with the help of the internet, virtual meeting capabilities, captioning and other resources, we are able to do just that.

The most-important asset we have however, are our many dedicated volunteers. Countless hours are spent by tech members, social media administrators, committee members, leaders, and others who play an important role in making all we need to do, possible.

Many people are needed to provide accurate and timely information to those interested in hearing loss, as well as to manage the elements of running our local and state organizations.

I like to picture our chapter and state organization as well-oiled machine full of moving parts that only can run if everything is working as it should. Our volunteers may be thought of as our "moving parts," if you will. Despite the number of wonderful volunteers we have now, our chapter can use more help. Having more volunteers means no one person feels stressed or overburdened.

There is always a need for those with fresh new ideas and abilities to step up and take on a role in helping us to help others. "Newcomers" are always welcome and appreciated!

I personally know some of our neighboring chapters are struggling to keep their doors open and sometimes think about whether to close due to lack of help or interest. I realize we all have lives and perhaps some are very busy, but giving back, even in small way, can breathe new life into our local and state organizations.

If you are able to, please consider giving a little of your time to help in some way. We all have interests, talents and activities we enjoy, or provide us with small or large rewarding challenges.

Some people may prefer to volunteer for a one-time need, some may choose to do a task that is small on a more regular basis. No matter how you volunteer there are always others who will help with guidance and information, and you won't be thrust into anything over your head or an activity that requires more than you can give.

I spent most of this update to reach out to and ask for your help. Hearing loss is never going to take a back seat or go away like many other things in life. If we want to make tomorrow a better life experience for those with hearing loss, we need to look to ourselves and see what are we able and willing to do to accomplish that goal.

We have an optional volunteer form on the *Rochester Chapter's* website www.hearinglossrochester.org/forms-publications or email hlaa.rochester@yahoo.com if you want to be more involved with the HLAA-NYSA please email me at dbrooks.hlaa.roc@gmail.com or hlaa.newyorkstate@gmail.com and someone will be sure to get back to you!

Please do not forget that we have the *HLAA-NYSA State Conference* coming later this year during the weekend of **September 16th-18, 2022 in Glens Falls, NY**. If you have not already registered please do. I cannot say it enough... "This will be a conference you will not want to miss!"

For more information please visit our website at www.hearinglossnys.org or if you have questions specific to the State Conference feel free to email us at NYSASC2022@gmail.com.

We plan to have our next *HLAA-NYSA* Board of Director's meeting Saturday March 26th, 2022. Please look for key updates and announcement from that meeting in next month's update.

We are always in need of volunteers and your support! If you haven't already please renew your membership or join *HLAA* at: www.hearingloss.org. By living in New York State and being a member of *HLAA* you are automatically a member of the *HLAA-NYSA*! This is the first step in supporting your State Association!

We can never thank you enough for your support!

-Dan

The Arts are Back!

by *Ralph Meranto, JCC Arts Director*

After more than a year of live theater being relegated to outdoors and online, local theaters are returning to their stages and that includes Live Open Captioned performances.

Local theaters including JCC CenterStage, Geva Theatre Center, Bristol Valley Theatre and the Broadway Theatre League have all started live events with Covid safety protocols. The HLAA audience is encouraged to check out specific "Captioned" performances to ensure you experience the shows without missing a single word of dialogue.

Please see the list of all our JCC Center Stage productions on Page 10. Our Open Caption performances, all on Sundays at 2 pm are:

March 13, 2022 : **TRACY JONES**

May 15, 2022: **LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS**

We Would Love Your Feedback (about the Health Care Appointment Communications Guide!)

Have you had the chance to use the HLAA Rochester Health Care Appointment Communication Guide from the March 2021 Newsletter (also archived at the chapter website).

Did it help you prepare for the visit and communicate your hearing needs at the appointment? Please share your experience with the tool and your overall healthcare visit with the Education & Outreach Committee. The information will be used to improve this tool and future efforts to support the hearing loss community. All personal identification will be kept in confidence. Please write us at amaurer40@frontier.com

To locate the document again, go to hearinglossrochester.org. Click on the Member's page. Then click on the Forms Surveys Studies square.

As people with hearing loss, it is essential to achieve clear communication in order to receive high quality health care!

LIKE US ON FACEBOOK !

Are you on Facebook? If so, please be our friend. We currently have 440 friends and we want more. Find us on Facebook at: **Hlaa Rochester NY**

Sign-Up for our Monthly e-blast

We now offer a monthly e-mail which contains notices of our upcoming meetings and events. To subscribe, send see <https://www.hearinglossrochester.org/meetings>.



Exploring New Pathways...

We're ready to begin introducing HLAA in small groups at libraries, senior residences – also at health fairs. Initially in Rochester and Monroe County; eventually stretching to Buffalo and Syracuse. Our focus is on everyone with hearing loss – those needing hearing aids or Cochlear Implants plus those interested in over-the-counter hearing aids - even assistive listening devices.

To make this work we need volunteers interested in making small group presentations; also administering the scheduling and record keeping with the various sites. No technical knowledge is required.

The program will be segmented so no one individual is overburdened and each volunteer can select the tasks and locations they are most comfortable with.

So, how about it? Interested in embarking on this new ground-breaking effort and meeting some new and interesting people? Call me at 721-5943 or email amaurer40@frontier.com. Art Maurer



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A program of the Louis S. Wolk Jewish Community Center
 1200 Edgewood Avenue, Rochester, NY 14618

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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 are currently meeting online via Zoom. See our website at <https://hearinglossrochester.org> to register.

While our primary focus is directed toward people with hearing loss, we welcome everyone to our chapter meetings whatever their hearing ability.

For more information, call

585 266 7890
or see hearinglossrochester.org

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

Bruce & Candi Nelson, Editors  
120 Cobblestone Dr.  
Rochester, NY 14623  
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[bruce.nelson@gmail.com](mailto:bruce.nelson@gmail.com)

**MEMBERSHIP FORM – HLAA-ROCHESTER CHAPTER**

July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022

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

All members receive the 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/Individual Dues, \$10  Basic/Family Dues, \$20  Corporate\* \$50

Friend\* \$25,  Partner\* \$50,  Supporting\* \$100 Donation  \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Veteran COMPLIMENTARY (Free lifetime chapter membership for veterans with hearing loss). Branch of Service: \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE PRINT**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Phone (home): \_\_\_\_\_ (cell): \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

I have a different mailing address for part of the year.

Please attach an additional page with the address and dates you are gone.

Please make your check payable to: HLAA-Rochester. Send to: Mr/Mrs Doug Meyer, 5275 Rosebrugh Rd., Geneseo NY 14454

**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  Renew

Individual \$45  /Family \$55

Professional \$80  Corporate \$500

On-line only-individual \$35

On-line only-student \$25

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Phone (home): \_\_\_\_\_

(cell): \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Send to: Hearing Loss Association of America  
Suite 320  
6116 Executive Blvd  
Rockville, MD 20852

**Please do NOT send this renewal to the local Rochester chapter; mail directly to HLAA in Rockville, MD.**



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## **If You're New, This is for You**

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

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

HLAA is the nation's foremost membership and advocacy organization for people with hearing loss. HLAA publishes a bimonthly magazine, *Hearing Life*, holds annual conventions, a Walk4Hearing, and more. Check out: <http://www.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—Rockville, MD; State organizations; and, local Chapters. Welcome!

## **Our Meetings are Hearing Accessible**

During pandemic times, all chapter meetings are online via Zoom. See meeting information in this newsletter. Captioning within the Zoom application is available.

In non-pandemic times, 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 audio looped and captioned. Interpreters are available on request.

*Everyone, with or without a hearing loss, is welcome, on our on-line meetings or in person, when live meetings resume!*