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June 2016

## JUNE Calendar

### Tuesday, June 7, 2016

**10:30 am – HOPE Session – Vestry Room\*\*NEW\*\***  
(see page 6 for more info.)

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

**Tues., June 14<sup>th</sup>** – BOD meeting, 7-9pm  
1<sup>st</sup> floor Conf. Room, Al Sigl Center

**Thurs., June 16<sup>th</sup>** – Program Planning Meetings  
9:30am-Sue Miller's home; 6:00pm – ASC with  
Barb Law (see page 5 for more info.)

### SAVE THESE FUTURE DATES

**Tues., Aug. 9<sup>th</sup>** – Board of Directors, 7-9pm,  
1<sup>st</sup> floor Conf. Room, Al Sigl Center

**Sun., Aug. 14<sup>th</sup>** – Colonial Belle Cruise –  
Erie Canal (see page 11 for more info.)

**Tues., Sept. 13<sup>th</sup>** – Chapter meetings start again.

### **Hospitality Duties for June:**

Daytime Meeting –Gloria DeMeo, Richard Fallon;  
Al Suffredini

Evening Meeting –Elise de Papp, M.D.  
Board of Directors –Sue Miller

## **WELCOME ALL NEWCOMERS TO HLAA!**



## **JUNE PROGRAMS**

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

**Enter only thru Westminster Rd. door.**

**Tues., June 7<sup>th</sup> – 10:30 – 11am; Vestry room.**

**HOPE (Hearing Other People's Experiences)  
session - Joe Kozelsky, MS, abd, CCC/A (ret.)**

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

**Tues., June 7<sup>th</sup> -Daytime Meeting**  
**Social time and Business meeting - 11:00am**  
**Program begins at noon - Parish Hall**

**“BLUETOOTH AND HEARING AIDS”**  
*Kristen Nolan, MS, CCC/A*

Bluetooth is everywhere today. Having nothing to do with dentistry, Bluetooth is the technique of wirelessly exchanging data over short distances. It is cheap and automatic, transmitting power by low frequency radio waves.

Kristen Nolan will discuss different Bluetooth options for those wearing hearing aids or

*(continued on page 2)*

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

considering them. She will also touch on Bluetooth assistive devices to accompany hearing instruments.

Kristen is a clinical audiologist with Sounds for Life in Pittsford. With over 15 years of experience in the Rochester area, she has evaluated patients from children through the geriatric population.

*FYI: Bluetooth is named for King Harald Bluetooth, a 10<sup>th</sup> century Danish ruler. Harald united Denmark and Norway while converting the Scandinavians to Christianity. Thus, the concept of “connecting” several things via Bluetooth.*

**Tuesday, June 7<sup>th</sup> - Evening Meeting**  
**Social time and business meeting--7:00pm**  
**Program begins at 8:00pm - Parish Hall**

**“NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN HEARING LOOP DESIGN AND EQUIPMENT”** – *Donald W. Bataille, RA, CCS*

Hearing loops have jumped from analog to digital drivers with advanced performance features. Focusing on new developments in hearing loop design and equipment, Don Bataille will demonstrate the latest large venue and personal digital systems. The program will provide attendees with an understanding of how a space is assessed for a hearing loop and how specific room criteria are used to design a hearing loop system. Modern systems now can provide music reproduction across all frequencies, allowing hearing aid or cochlear implant users to hear music as they remember it.

A past president of HLAA-Rochester Chapter, Don is a practicing architect and owner of Hearing Loops Unlimited which has installed and designed over a hundred loop projects in commercial, higher education, theater, senior living, and house of worship venues. He is the vice chair of the UR Healthy Living with Hearing Loss Community Committee (HL2) and serves on many other organizational boards.

***NOTICE: Entrance will be only thru the Westminster Rd. door. Back door near the fence will be locked.***

***This is a permanent change. Apologies for any inconvenience.***

**PRESIDENT’S COLUMN**

*By Cindy Kellner*



**My Final Column!**

I really cannot believe two years has gone by. It seems like yesterday that I became president of HLAA-Rochester. While there have been some downs, by and large it has been a gratifying experience and I have enjoyed myself immensely. Meeting so many of you and helping to push forward things that matter to the hearing loss community have been extremely gratifying. Writing my monthly column has become a labor of love, even though I hate deadlines. I have found that sharing my experiences, hopes and frustrations has been very therapeutic for me. I have learned a lot over the last two years and continue to be totally amazed at the knowledge, commitment and professionalism of the HLAA-Rochester members. You truly are a great group of people. I have no doubt that **Margaret Cochran**, my successor to the presidency, will have the same positive impressions and reactions that I have had.

Recently a member stopped me to express her concern. From reading my columns she was worried I was frustrated and unhappy. We talked briefly and I assured her that while I was indeed frustrated at times, on the whole, I did not think I was unhappy. In fact, nothing could be farther from the truth. We also spoke further about my inability to communicate using American Sign Language (“ASL”) and perhaps that could be a cause of my frustration. She, who is proficient with ASL, described herself as quite happy and experienced very little frustration with her hearing loss.

This conversation got me to thinking about my frustration level. Was it really too high? Was I doing the members a disservice by routinely voicing

*(continued on page 3)*

## PRESIDENT'S COLUMN *(continued)*

my frustrations? That concerned me. I consider myself an optimist, and I try very hard not to sweat the small stuff.

You often hear me saying “we’ll figure it out” and I mean it. I hope my hearing loss experience did not rob me of both an unobstructed ability to hear well and my optimistic nature. That would truly be dreadful.

Yes, my hearing loss was and continues to be life altering, but it is clearly not the end of the world. HLAA-Rochester has taught me ways to improve what little hearing I have left and to utilize all that I have to communicate as best I can. I am out of the shadows for sure. I get up every morning and continue to take one step at a time. For that I am truly grateful. Much of my frustrations come from society’s misconceptions. I may be somewhat deaf but I am not ignorant, slow, rude or useless and under no circumstances should I be ignored, isolated or written off. When I encounter people who feel otherwise, I get frustrated and justifiably so.

The rest of my frustrations primarily come from manmade obstacles that I encounter every day. Sometimes I do want to scream “WHY IS THERE SO MUCH DAMN BACKGROUND NOISE?” Trying to hear with background music or the steady hum of the HVAC system does cause me frustrations and again justifiably so. Perhaps I would not be so frustrated if I did primarily communicate by signing. At least I would not have to deal with the background noise. Sadly, I doubt I will ever know. At this point in my life and with what I have on my plate, I am not about to learn a new language. It is just not in the cards for me. I will continue to go on my merry way straining to hear over the never ending noise and, yes, admittedly feeling a little bit frustrated.

At the end of it all I have concluded that a little bit of frustration is good. By and large the hearing world is not accessible to us and by no means is that fair. Missed flights, botched directions, incorrect

names, missed appointments, etc. are all part of our experiences and frankly they should not be. We need to be frustrated to keep moving forward with our goal of understanding and accessibility. Yes, we have made strides.



Captioned phones, hearing loops, captioning at the movies, to name a few, have helped open many doors, but unfortunately many more remain closed. This is where our frustration is needed. At the same time, however, we must find a balance between our frustrations and our happiness. We must always be grateful for what we have, what we hope is coming and the friends and families who support us. If HLAA-Rochester does not bring you some happiness in addition to support, education and advocacy then we are not doing a good job. I sincerely hope that we are. I have learned to laugh at myself and to laugh with others and to appreciate what I do have. There are good hearing days and there are bad hearing days; however, by and large, life is good. My hope for each and every one of you is that you, too, can feel this way.

Before ending and wishing you well I must recognize and thank **Ginger Graham** for all her guidance and hard work in helping me with this column. She is always there with a necessary comma or the correct spelling, and I have appreciated that immensely. She is truly a sweetheart, and I have enjoyed working closely with her.

I sincerely thank each and every one of you for putting your trust in me over the last two years. I hope that I have not let you down.

Take care and be well.



Sincere happy birthday greetings to **Larry Fersaci** and also to **Warren Willard** who are over 90 years of age in June. We wish you both many more healthy and happy years.

**RBTL LIVE THEATRE--- CAPTIONED!**

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

- “Curious Incident of Dog in Night Time” – Oct. 2
- “Finding Neverland” – Oct. 30
- “Cirque Dreams Holidayze” – Dec. 18
- “The Sound of Music” – March 5
- “Wicked” – April 2
- “Cabaret” – May 7

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

“Funny Thing Happened on Way to Forum” - Sat. Oct. 8 ; Wed. Nov. 2

“Mother (and Me)” – Sat. Nov. 5 @ 2:30pm

“A Christmas Carol” – SUN. Dec.4 @ 4:30pm;  
Tues., Dec. 20 @ 2pm and 7pm\*

“Sylvia” - Sat. Jan. 14; Wed. Feb. 1

“The Lake Effect” - Sat. Feb. 4 @ 2:30pm

“Guess Who’s Coming to Dinner”  
Sat. Feb. 18; Wed. March 8

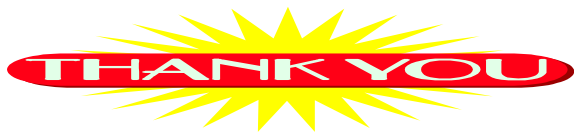
“Private Lives” - Sat. March 25; Wed. April 12

“Sex With Strangers” - Sat. April 15 @ 2:30pm

“Other Than Honorable” - Sat. April 29; Wed. May 17

“Million Dollar Quartet” - Sat. June 3; Wed. June 21

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



For Your Donation to HLAA:

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

For Donation Above Membership:

David Andrulis, Inc.; Leonard Mammacari, Jr.

In Memory of Bob Bradshaw

Peter & Elizabeth Affolter; Milton & Suzanne Bacheller; Jacqueline & Donald Bowman; Gwen Cheney; Donald & Barbara Flynn; Joan Fyfe; Judith & Jonathan Hicks; Laurie Jones; Craig & Cindy Kellner; Robert & Linda Klein (from the book club); Barbara Law; Thomas & Patricia Michaels; Richard & Ruth Morrill; Steve & Diane Orehoskky; John & Kathryn Sheehan; John & Anne Stavisky; Judith Stein; John & Elizabeth Tighe; Robert & Diane Tripp; Jean & Douglas Whitney.

In Memory of Andy Howard:

David & Barbara Ackroyd; Derek & Ashley Adams; Aaron Albrecht; Christopher & Jennifer Albrecht; Vito & Joyce Arbore; Liza & John Billone; Brenda Blohm; William & Virginia Boehm; Dennis & Ann Marie Boike; Burke Group, LLC; Kathie Cahill; Thomas & Patricia Cipro; Terri & Dale Davies; Kathleen Ellis-Snyder; Ginger Graham; John & Leah Green; Linda Hall; Walter & Carolyn Hazelton; Carol Hite; C. Stephen & Marilyn Howard; Judith Howard; Christopher & Melissa Jacobs; Colleen & Robert Joseph; Craig & Cindy Kellner; Barbara Law; Linda Mocine; John & Constance Moffat; Selma Navin; Gary O-Dea; Marleen Olson; Robert & Betty Oppenheimer; Elizabeth & Roger Powers; John & Margot Rajottte; Jeanne Ristau; Donald St. John; Roger & Suzanne Schenkel; John & Phyllis Schneider; Wayne Schneider; David & Sue Scott; David & Linda Senn; James & Jane Shannon; Edith Shuman Trust; Arnold & Anne Smeenk; Star Headlight & Lantern Co., Inc.; Harold & Jane Stock; Gregory & Mary Storey; Charlie Treat; Ian & Margaret Turner; Ingrid Wander; Teresa & Jake Whiting.

In Memory of Jim Littwitz:

Ginger Graham, Sue & Scott Miller

Birthday Congratulations for Bobbie Hargrave

Peggy Savlov

## CAPTIONED PERFORMANCE AT NAZARETH COLLEGE

By *Leia Depeche, Dev.Asst., Merry-Go-Round Playhouse*

The Finger Lakes Musical Theatre Festival's dynamic 2016 Season includes *Austen's Pride: A New Musical of Pride and Prejudice*, premiering right here in Rochester, **July 13– 24!** The love story of Elizabeth Bennet and Fitzwilliam Darcy springs to life when the author re-imagines the world of her novel fifteen years before it was published. Fully accessible to the d/Deaf and HOH community-- see below for ASL performance dates. Open Captioning sponsored by Rochester Area Community Foundation. Captioned performance dates available at [FingerLakesMTF.com](http://FingerLakesMTF.com) or call [1-800-457-8897](tel:1-800-457-8897).

### Finger Lakes Musical Theatre Festival ASL Performances:

- *Oklahoma!* (Merry-Go-Round Playhouse, Auburn, NY): Saturday, June 4th, 8:00pm
- *From Here to Eternity* (Merry-Go-Round Playhouse, Auburn): Saturday, July 2nd, 8:00pm
- *Austen's Pride, A New Musical of Pride and Prejudice* (Callahan Theatre, Nazareth College Arts Center, Rochester, NY): Saturday, July 16th, 8:00pm
- *Crazy for You* (Merry-Go-Round Playhouse, Auburn): Saturday, July 30th, 8:00pm
- *Treasure Island* (Merry-Go-Round Playhouse, Auburn): Saturday, August 27th, 8:00pm

To purchase tickets, please call the Box Office at 1-800-457-8897 and **request seating in the area reserved for those utilizing hearing accessibility services.** For show synopses, please visit [FingerLakesMTF.com](http://FingerLakesMTF.com).

**THIS IS OUR LAST NEWSLETTER UNTIL SEPTEMBER!** Your Newsletter team gets a break in July and August. Have a great summer! *Ginger, Michelle, Janet, and Ginny.*



## PLANNING THE PROGRAMS FOR YOUR CHAPTER MEETINGS

Are you tired of “the same old subjects” at our Chapter meetings? We hope not!! But we do need your input and **new ideas for programs!** Please plan to attend either the Daytime Program Planning meeting held by Sue Miller, or, the Evening Planning meeting held by Barb Law, to give them your ideas for possible topics for the new season from September, 2016, to June, 2017.

### Daytime meetings planning session:

**Thurs., June 16<sup>th</sup>, at 9:30am – coffee & conversation; then, discussion 10:00-Noon – Sue's home, 16 Buckthorn Run, Victor.**

### Evening meetings planning session:

**Thurs., June 16<sup>th</sup>, at 6:00 – 9pm with Barb Law, in 1<sup>st</sup> floor Conf. room, Al Sigl Center; pizza & more.** Both meetings are on the same day.

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

Barb Law: [Blaw1@rochester.rr.com](mailto:Blaw1@rochester.rr.com); (585) 381-8640  
Sue Miller: [SusanLeeMiller39@cs.com](mailto:SusanLeeMiller39@cs.com); (585) 924-8933

### Newsletter Deadline

**Sunday, July 31<sup>st</sup>**  
**(for the September Newsletter)**  
**Email: [ggraham859@frontiernet.net](mailto:ggraham859@frontiernet.net)**

*Hearing Loss Magazine* comes with membership in HLAA. Jan/Feb. edition recent articles include:

- The Psychology of Managing Tinnitus
- Hearing Loss and Cognition; Are They Related?
- Ears and Balance: Tips for Healthy & Independent Living
- All in This Together – A Family United by the Walk4Hearing
- Make Your Hearing Loss Visible -- Medical Communication Access Strategies for Patients
- Historic Changes Coming for Access to Hearing Aid Compatible Wireless Phones

**HOPE SESSION!****\*\*NEW\*\***

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!

**HOPE will meet from 10:30 – 11:00am,  
in the Vestry Room.**

Social Time-- 11:00 – 11:30am, Parish Hall.

Business meeting-- 11:30 - Noon

Chapter Meeting speaker-- Noon to 1:00pm

*(with permission from Nancy Gilbertson, editor,  
HLAA Fox Valley News, Wisconsin)*

**LIKE US ON FACEBOOK !***By Jenn Hurlburt*

Are you on Facebook? If so, please be our friend.  
We currently have **281** friends and we want more.  
Find us at: **Hlaa Rochester Ny**

**IF YOU MOVE**

Please don't forget to notify **Margaret Cochran**, at  
PO Box 1002, Fairport NY 14450, or, via email at,  
[mc23@rochester.rr.com](mailto:mc23@rochester.rr.com) , even if your change of address is  
a temporary one.

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

**RIT and University of Michigan to partner in a  
\$3 million grant to improve health care  
information dissemination to people who are  
deaf.** *Led by two of the nation's leading deaf  
scientists, the grant aims to reduce health disparity  
among the nation's deaf population.*

*By Suzan Murad*

Health information can be difficult to understand for  
anyone, but it is especially difficult for deaf  
individuals who may struggle with information and  
health care marginalization. A grant from the  
National Institutes of Health's National Institute on  
Deafness and Other Communication Disorders is  
looking to change that.

The five-year, \$3 million grant will assess key  
differences in attitudes, knowledge and skills related  
to health information between deaf and hearing  
individuals.

Leading the project will be Dr. Michael McKee,  
assistant professor, Department of Family Medicine  
at the University of Michigan, and Peter C. Hauser,  
professor and director of the Deaf Studies  
Laboratory at RIT's NTID. For more information,  
go to [https://medicine.umich.edu/dept/family-  
medicine](https://medicine.umich.edu/dept/family-medicine) and [www.rit.edu/NTID](http://www.rit.edu/NTID).

**THOUGHT FOR THE DAY**

Dogs believe they are human.  
Cats believe they are god.

*(author unknown)*



## WALK4HEARING

By Carol Loftus

Something special you can do **Sunday, October 2..** Come out to support our **11th Walk4Hearing** at Perinton Park. Walk along the canal to the lovely Village of Fairport and beyond should you choose to complete the entire 5K walk--how far you walk is up to you.

Start your morning by registering, followed by enjoying our expanded assortment of breakfast treats (gluten free as well) while chatting with family, friends and folks you've met at prior Walks.

**Children** will be kept busy at our staffed Children's Activities area engaged in projects, activities and enjoying their own food choices and drinks. NEW this year will be a complimentary ID program providing two laminated ID cards per child. Be sure to take advantage of this service!

Save time to peruse our well-known **Silent Auction** that promises to be bigger and better than ever. What a great time to think of holiday gifts, birthdays, or a kind thank you gift.

### Maybe you're asking 'Why Should I Walk'?

The **Walk4Hearing** is a walk to raise awareness and to raise funds to provide information and support for those with hearing loss. These funds enable the Rochester Chapter to provide monthly daytime and evening programs, an annual Featured Speaker program and to make our Community a better place for those with hearing loss. A few beneficial endeavors have been to purchase and install captioning equipment for use by GEVA theater, and to provide funds for hearing assistive technology at the Dryden Theatre and the Susan B. Anthony Carriage House.

**SUPPORT our WALK**--become a Sponsor at one of the several levels. Please go to our WALK site at [www.hlaa-rochester-ny.org](http://www.hlaa-rochester-ny.org) for a Sponsor form and more information. Become a Team Captain bringing family and friends to enjoy our WALK. With your SUPPORT, we can continue our much needed work in the Community!

## Our WALK4HEARING needs YOU to be a success!

For questions or information, contact Carol Loftus at [cloftus3@gmail.com](mailto:cloftus3@gmail.com).

### 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 Road,  
Webster, NY 14580

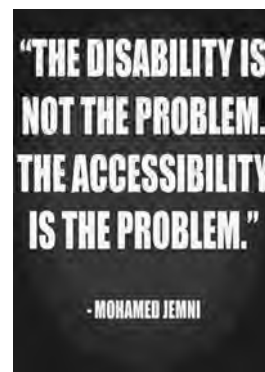
Be sure to designate:

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

And who to send the Acknowledgment to. Thank you.

## VENUES WITH ALS OR CAPTIONING

By Tim Whitcher



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

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

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

Editor and Publisher.....Ginger Graham  
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Webmaster, and Writer.....Michelle Gross  
News Releases, and Writer.....Janet McKenna  
Research Assistant.....Ginny Koenig  
Photographers.....Art Maurer, Al Suffredini

## NATIONAL CONVENTION

Washington, D.C. – June 23--26

*By Ginger Graham and Sue Miller*

Our Rochester Chapter Board of Directors has voted to increase the “Reimbursement for Convention” to \$500 for every *active* chapter member. Check our chapter’s award-winning website for further information at [www.hlaa-rochester-ny.org](http://www.hlaa-rochester-ny.org).

Hotel registration and Convention registration, go to: [www.hearingloss.org/events/convention/hotel-](http://www.hearingloss.org/events/convention/hotel-)

Awards Breakfast, Sunday, June 26: Plan to attend and see our own **Cindy Kellner** be presented with the “Spirit of HLAA” award.

**Rochester members planning to attend, please go to our website: [www.hlaa-rochester-ny.org](http://www.hlaa-rochester-ny.org) for the form to fill out to receive “Reimbursement for Convention”**

## DAN MEYERS RETIRING FROM ASC

*By Sue Miller*

After 29 years of exceptional service to the Al Sigl Center, President Daniel Meyers is retiring. The ‘Captain’ of the Center is sailing off to new territories unknown. When he returns, he will begin a new and exciting chapter in his life.

Dan said, “If you tie yourself to causes that you believe in with all your heart, as I have been fortunate to do in my professional life and in my volunteer life, you always find it within yourself to give what you have and ask for whatever else is needed.” He has certainly given his heart and soul to the Al Sigl Center and to everyone connected to this fine organization. We wish him well. He definitely will be missed by all whose lives he touched.

Over the years, through Dan’s kind generosity, HLAA has not been paying to rent rooms for some of our meetings. Such as, Board of Directors, Operations Committee, PAC, E&O, Finance, Student Committee, Technology, Walk Kick-offs.

The ASC Board of Trustees has elected Thomas O’Connor as President effective June 1, 2016. Tom

is a Rochester native who joined Al Sigl in 2008 and was promoted to Vice-President of Operations in 2011. HLAA looks forward to establishing a long lasting relationship with Mr. O’Connor, and we wish him well with his new endeavor.

## HLAA-ROCHESTER GIVES BACK

*By Cindy Kellner*

This was another extraordinary year for HLAA-Rochester.

We awarded ten western NY high school seniors with hearing loss \$1,000 scholarships to help with the cost of their continued college education.

The awards were handed out at our Annual Dinner on May 24th. Our scholarship program was started in 1996 with a grant from Mr. & Mrs. J. Stuart MacDonald. With this year’s awards, we are proud to report that HLAA-Rochester has awarded \$96,500 to 112 recipients. This year’s awards were again made possible by a generous donation from the MacDonald Fund at the Rochester Area Community Foundation.

Our scholarship recipients and the schools they are attending are Rebekah Allen (RIT), Cassie Miller (Syracuse), Laura Discauge (RIT), Brady Dickens (Cornell), John Delforte (RIT), Jonathan Kaiser (FLCC), Kimberly Caceci (Ithaca), Marlena Rauber (RIT), Brianna DiGiovanni (Gallaudet) and Felicia McGinnis (Regis). Congratulations and best wishes to them all.

### 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@frontiernet.net](mailto:ggraham859@frontiernet.net); or, (585) 671-2683

## NEWS FROM MEMBERS...

From JoAnn McCarthy ([jmcarthy58@gmail.com](mailto:jmcarthy58@gmail.com))  
She wrote a children’s book honoring her two uncles. Go to: [www.threespooks.com](http://www.threespooks.com).



## 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 **Bruce Nelson** and **Tim Whitcher** for overseeing the technical set-up needed for this service. Without their dedication in attending *all* meetings, this would not happen!



## DAY OF HEARING @ Nazareth College

Our annual "Day of Hearing" is planned for **Friday, October 7<sup>th</sup>** from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., sponsored by HLAA-Rochester, Lifespan, and Nazareth College. There will be hearing screenings and tables for exhibits, literature, and ALD's to demo. Several audiologists will be giving presentations. Please plan to attend! Watch our September Newsletter for more details.

## COCHLEAR IMPLANT GROUP

The CI meeting is held twice a year. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 18<sup>th</sup>. **SAVE THE DATE.** Details follow in our September Newsletter.

## DID YOU KNOW...

Harriet Tubman will appear on a new series of our \$20 bills. The abolitionist will be the first African-American to appear on U.S. paper currency. No date given for when this starts.

*(excerpt from D&C 4-23-16)*

## FROM HEARING HEALTH FOUNDATION

*(submitted by Al Suffredini)*

### 10 Signs and Symptoms of Ménière's Disease

Ménière's disease causes bouts of vertigo due to fluid that fills the tubes of the inner ear. On top of dizziness and nausea, flare-ups can also cause some loss of hearing as well as Tinnitus. Keep an eye out for the 10 signs and symptoms listed in our recent [blog post](#) and consult with your doctor if you're experiencing one or more of these symptoms. <http://goo.gl/ulcb9g>.

### 7 High-Tech Reasons For Dealing With Your Hearing Loss

There are plenty of benefits for treating even a mild hearing loss brought on by years of loud music, power tools, motor-sport engines, crowded nightclubs and bars, and raucous sporting events are plenty. But in this digital age of smart phones and wearable technologies, the draw for many may be in the technology itself: super-smart, super-sleek, super-convenient, and super-sophisticated. Check out our recent [blog post](#) for facts about today's highly functional, high-powered hearing aids. <http://goo.gl/RuHSH0>.

### **Subject of Sept. 13th Chapter Meetings:**

**Daytime and Evening: Barbara Kelley,**  
newly appointed Executive Director of HLAA  
will speak. **Not to be missed!**

### THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

On June 14, 1777: The Continental Congress in Philadelphia adopted the Stars and Stripes as the national flag. *(from D&C 6/9/13)*

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

## LOOP de LOOP

By Janet McKenna

"The entire Convention Center will be looped," we were assured by two Lifespan staffers before Lifespan's 20th Celebration of Aging, a banquet featuring awards and a guest speaker. Initially we were asked by a Lifespan employee to sit up front to hear the speaker. Being told this was unacceptable. Lifespan inquired about a hearing system at the Rochester Riverside Convention Center and was told it would be "a loop."

That's a big venue, we thought, wondering how to loop the entire room. The large crowd was helped by enormous screens. Our table was in far right field. We tried the telecoils on our two Advanced Bionics cochlear implants. Static. On and off, fiddling as usual. Our companion took the initiative, seeking an official-looking man wearing a badge.

### FM system

"The loop which is supposed to be here doesn't seem to work," she said. "Can you help?" He could and did, appearing in minutes with an fm system, headset, and neck loop. The system was excellent. Even from the most distant table we understood all the speakers clearly. In fact, after the program ended, Chuck Berry singing "Roll over, Beethoven" was perfectly audible in the ladies' room.

The helpful convention staffer had disappeared when we returned the fm system. When another man retrieved it, we asked about the nonexistent loop. He laughed. "The OTHER banquet downstairs was looped." Was it true that another banquet got the hearing loop? Interestingly, an ASL interpreter had appeared onscreen throughout Lifespan's celebration.

Kris Hughes, Convention Center sales manager, explained about their hearing system. **THERE IS NO LOOP AT THE CONVENTION CENTER, BUT THERE ARE SIX VERY GOOD FM RECEIVERS** with headphones and neck loops. Ms. Hughes apologized that a staffer erroneously had called their hearing system a "loop." (This same incorrect generic term for a hearing system

happened earlier this year at the Jewish Community Center; they have corrected it.)

### Ask in advance

RRCC asks that people wanting to use the fm system request it in advance, but as we discovered, one can be produced on call. They do not require identification-- differing from most venues.

This has been a learning experience. We should have contacted the RRCC as well as Lifespan, the banquet's sponsor. Perhaps we would have received the incorrect "loop" answer. HLAA member **Marlene Sutliff** advises: in such a situation, ask the venue staff to describe their hearing system so you know if it's a loop, fm, or infrared system. Bringing your own neck loop might be prudent.

We also could have self-advocated when it was apparent that there was no loop rather than our companion doing it.

We've discovered that Rochester venues are not as accustomed to dealing with people with hearing loss as we'd believed when settling here two years ago. On the positive side, the Convention Center representatives we encountered were all polite and helpful.

## EXTENDING THE LIFE OF BATTERIES

(excerpt from *Fox Valley News, Wisconsin*;  
suggested by Ginny Koenig)



An eighth-grade student from Minnesota who uses hearing aids wanted to know how to make batteries last longer. By experimenting, he discovered that batteries will last longer if you let the battery sit for five minutes, positive side up, after removing the sticker and before putting it in the hearing aid. (The positive side is the completely flat side; same side as the sticker.) This allows the battery to fully activate to give the longest possible lifespan per battery—up to 85 percent longer! This is significant when considering how often batteries need to be changed.

(continued on page 11)

## LIFE OF BATTERIES (continued)

### Other Battery Facts...

The smaller the battery, the shorter the battery life. The larger the hearing aid, the larger the battery. There are four sizes of batteries-- sizes 10, 312, 13 & 675. If you buy batteries in bulk, be sure to check the expiration date on the package. Shelf life is approximately three years. Humidity, dryness and extreme temperatures also affect battery life. It pays to store batteries in a safe, dry location at room temperature (not the refrigerator).

*(previously appeared in our March 2016 Newsletter)*

## WEBSITES OF INTEREST

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

Our web master, **Michelle Gross**, has a suggestion for an online place where people share info, ask questions or provide answers/solutions, etc. It is called "Hear Peers" and is an online forum for people with CI's. <http://forum.hearpeers.com> )

*(excerpt from Peninsula, CA, NL-Spring 2016)*

Why I Don't Identify with Being Hearing Impaired  
<http://ahearingloss.com/2016/02/16/why-i-dont-identify-with-being-hearing-impaired/>

Get Your Church in the Hearing Loop  
<https://loopwisconsin.wordpress.com/2016/02/08/how-to-get-your-church-in-the-hearing-loop/>

How Apple's Wireless Ear Pods Could Change the Way We Hear Everything  
<http://www.cultofmac.com/407128/apple-wireless-earpods-hearing-aids/>

People With Tinnitus, or Ringing in the Ears, Process Sounds Differently  
<http://www.newsweek.com/people-tinnitus-or-ringing-ears-process-sounds-differently-406760>



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*By Barb Law*

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Sign up at chapter meetings or annual dinner.**

**Please let me know soon. We need a head count!**

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Colonial Belle accepts cash, all major credit cards, and personal checks (with proper ID)  
Arrangements for payment TBD .

### HUMOR

*(submitted by Elise de Papp, M.D.)*

“Be careful about reading health books. You may die of a misprint?” (Mark Twain)

Why do shops have signs “Guide Dogs Only”? The dogs can't read and their owners are blind.

I went to the library and asked at the reference desk, “Where's the Self-Help Section?” She said that if she told me, it would defeat the purpose.



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

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

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

**Meetings are hearing accessible**

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

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.

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

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