



Happy
Holidays!

Volume 35, Number 4

December 2021

DECEMBER CALENDAR

CHAPTER MEETINGS ARE STILL ON ZOOM UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 7, 11:30 AM—NOON ON ZOOM: Chapter announcements and business meeting.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 7, 12 PM-1 PM ON ZOOM: Brendan Fitzgerald, AuD, CCC/A, MM Clinical audiologist, University of Rochester Medical Center. "Hearing loss, tinnitus, and music appreciation"

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 15, 10 AM-11 AM ON ZOOM Joe Kozelsky: HOPE Session: 'Hearing Other People's Experiences' (HOPE)

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 14, 7 PM Board of Directors Meeting

THURSDAY DECEMBER 16, NOON - 1 PM ON ZOOM HLAA-Rochester Technology Team: Virtual Device Demo Center

Please check our Chapter Website
hearinglossrochester.org for any changes

December Programs

Hearing Loss Association of America (HLAA) Rochester Chapter offers several virtual programs in December 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 December are:

Tuesday, December 7. Noon via Zoom: Brendan Fitzgerald, AuD, CCC/A, MM Clinical audiologist, University of Rochester Medical Center. "Hearing loss, tinnitus, and music appreciation"



Many individuals with hearing loss can also experience tinnitus, the perception of sounds like ringing, rushing, or roaring when no external sound is present. Some find this disruptive to their

(Continued on page 2)

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Art Maurer, President

Better Hearing = Better Living!



With Christmas, Hannukah and the Holidays upon us we are hopeful for a joyful season and look forward to a more open and 'normal' 2022. Hopefully you can relax and enjoy...

Plans are in place to bring all HLAA-Rochester monthly sessions back to in person gatherings, as they were pre-Covid, as soon as possible. Due to persistent Covid infection rates in our area at this time, while we'd like to begin in February, we aren't sure this will be feasible. Please check our website, watch email, or call 585-266-7890 for updates.

When we do begin in person gatherings, our monthly Meeting and Presentation will be hybrid – both in person and on Zoom...then placed on YouTube. HOPE will be in person, just before the monthly meeting. Demo Center will be in person at Lifespan. And we'll keep updating our VDC (Virtual Demo Center) to provide meaningful information on assistive devices on our website 24/7.

The Cochlear Implant and Stellar Supporters groups will remain on Zoom. For other groups and committees please check our website for latest information. And we are exploring other activities to place on Zoom and YouTube, such as our new course *Getting Hearing Aids – What you need to know....*

We're also planning our Annual Dinner in May and an Annual Picnic in July or August. We look forward to all our activities in Support, Education and Advocacy continuing, getting back to in person where possible - or remaining on Zoom when expedient.

New development includes working with the Rochester Monroe County Library System to make presentations on HLAA-Rochester and what we have to offer. Our first presentations are to the Penfield Library on Nov 20 and The Ogden Farmers Library Dec 4. Work is in progress with the Central Library to coordinate to

(Continued on page 3)

December Programs

(Continued from page 1)

communication, appreciation of music, and emotional well-being. Dr. Fitzgerald will share information about tinnitus management, including sound therapy and the latest research about behavioral therapies. His talk also includes discussion of music appreciation and hearing loss.

Brendan Fitzgerald completed his AuD degree at SUNY at Buffalo with an externship at the Cleveland Clinic. His clinical and research interests include tinnitus, hearing protection and hearing loss prevention, particularly among musicians. He holds a Master of Music degree in Conducting Performance from SUNY at Buffalo. Before his career in audiology he taught music in public and private schools and presented workshops in improvisation, composition and performance throughout the northeast. He currently serves as Director of the contemporary chamber music ensemble Wooden Cities based in Buffalo, NY.

Wednesday, December 15, 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 discussion around a real round table. 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 December 16, 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.

LIKE US ON FACEBOOK !

Are you on Facebook? If so, please be our friend. We currently have 444 friends and we want more. Find us at: **Hlaa Rochester NY**

"HITMAKERS - Welcome to the 70s" Captioned at JCC Center Stage Sunday, February 13, 2022 at 2pm

Come join your HLAA friends at the JCC Centerstage for the following:

All-new show – A tribute to the history of popular music highlights the diversity of rock music in the early 1970's with hits from Bill Withers, Stevie Wonder, The Carpenters, The Staple Singers, Al Green, Carly Simon, Elton John, and more.

All audience members 12 and older will be required to show proof of full Covid-19 vaccination upon arrival. Masks will be required.

Ticket prices: \$30 – members; \$35 – non-members. Our group rate is \$30 per person.

See the JCC Centerstage website for more details at jccrochester.org

If you wish, join us after the show at a restaurant nearby for a light dinner. Location to be determined.

Please RSVP by January 8 to Barb Law at 585 381-8640 or blaw475@gmail.com.

Please send checks made out to HLAA-Rochester to

Barbara Law
25 Harvest Road
Fairport, NY 14450

Donations

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

Edward Carman III, Mary Aman, Diane Amelotte, Sandra Baldwin, Wayne Brooks, Dianne Brown, Doris Caffiers, Sandra Erickson, John and Margaret Housel, Suzanne Johnston, Marcia Kramer, Werner/Susan Kunz, Adina Lopez, Eileen and Greg Lumb, Sandra McGavern, Donna Merrill, Bruce and Candi Nelson, Ann Sklar, Elizabeth Webster

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30 million Americans are exposed to dangerous noise levels everyday.

President's Message

(Continued from page 1)

branches across the system including those in the city.

We are also investigating the potential to introduce ourselves to the adult living communities in greater Rochester.

The Health Task Force is forging ahead ... hoping to improve communication between patients and the medical profession both in hospital and out-patient settings.

Development of the Adult Working Group and use of Social Media networking continues.

Finally, Over-the-Counter hearing aids are fast upon us – with the FDA proposed rules under public review, while on-line sales of pre-OTC hearing aids are happening now. How can this impact HLAA? Let me offer my personal perspective...

*OTCs are Coming –
Both a Challenge and an Opportunity*

My right hearing aid failed recently and I was driven back to my pre-hearing aid days of repeatedly asking WHAT? I didn't want to admit I had hearing loss and the cost of HAs was just too much! Until at a family dinner, when I mentioned the high cost, my daughter said, "Dad, just spend the money, you're driving us all nuts!" Given my recent problem, I think a meaningful HLAA ad might simply say:



The first line of the ad implies that the reader who may respond knows he has a problem. Asking WHAT all the time! The second line implies that when he does get in touch we are prepared to help.

OTCs offer what has been referred to as *disruptive technology* – a change challenging traditional approaches to resolution of problems. Consider the cell phone vs wired desk and wall phones, or mainframes leading to personal computers. Lower cost leads to more buyers; leading to substantially more revenue potential, attracting new providers and innovation – some good, some bad.

What does this have to do with HLAA?? With only a fraction of the people needing hearing aids having them,

there is a large potential market waiting to be tapped. The new buyer, considering hearing aids for the first time will be price conscious, convenience oriented, and not particularly interested in detailed explanations of technical sophistication. The challenge for HLAA is to be aware of the pros and cons of various classes of OTC offerings and to be able to convey that knowledge in straightforward layman's terms – what to look for and, importantly, what to be cautious of - always with the caveat that a hearing test by an audiologist may be recommended. We must also realize the new buyer and user can only absorb so much to begin with. The more sophisticated aspects of hearing and hearing aids to come later.

In summary, we are approaching an era when new opportunities for HLAA will emerge if we wish to prepare to serve them in addition to the help we now give established hearing aid users. It is also an era when innovation will challenge traditional approaches putting new demands on HLAA to support and educate. It's imperative that we continue to respond to the demands of the market.

Please share your comments to my email below ... just put HLAA in the title line.

Have a happy and healthy Christmas, Hannukah and Holiday season.

As always, many thanks for all you do,

Art Maurer amaurer40@frontier.com

December Birthdays

Happy Birthday to:

December	2	Carol Bradshaw
	5	Pete Fackler
	29	Barb Law, Mary Chizuk
	30	Ray Koenig

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.

Lonely in the pandemic, HLAA Rochester Chapter member moves forward with a cochlear implant

By Carrie Johnson, HLAA Director of Communications

When HLAA released our survey last year in partnership with Cochlear on the impact COVID-19 had on our hearing loss community, we never thought we'd still be talking about the pandemic.

But as the impact of the pandemic continues, the survey findings continue to be true. Face masks/coverings continue to create communication barriers for many, and feelings of isolation and loneliness persist. HLAA shared our COVID-19 Resources. However, some within the community are taking control of their health and hearing care, and using what they missed out on in the height of the pandemic to motivate them to treat their hearing loss.

Marlene Sutliff, 79, of Rochester, New York and an HLAA Rochester Chapter member, started to lose her hearing after brain surgery in 2001. By 2006 she could no longer function without hearing aids, by 2010 she had no hearing in her right ear, and by 2019 the hearing in her left ear had deteriorated to the point of desperation.

After almost two years of considering a cochlear implant, the pandemic gave her that extra push to move forward.

Sutliff received her cochlear implant in January 2021, after having increased feelings of loneliness and need for, "sharing family, love, grief, education and information," all of which became harder throughout the COVID-19 pandemic.

When Sutliff received her cochlear implant, her hearing went from 0 percent hearing to 72 percent at her activation appointment. She now acknowledges how lucky she feels to have this technology available to her, and she feels at peace knowing she made the effort to hear and contribute again. Her cochlear implant has even allowed her to understand Zoom meetings as the pandemic continues.

Sutliff believes without hearing we are left out of so much of life. She believes everyone deserves to enjoy life fully and not be forgotten when we can't be together in person. With her cochlear implant, Sutliff now has the gift of sound, life and connection back.



If you or a loved one notices a change in hearing or suspects a hearing loss, answer the following questions:

- Do you think you have a hearing loss?
- Do you have questions about hearing assistive technology (hearing aids, implantable devices, and other hearing assistive technologies)?
- Do you have a need to explore a new hearing treatment beyond hearing aids?

Are you looking for local support in your community? Find an HLAA Chapter near you here.

For questions or more information, email HLAA at inquiries@hearingloss.org.

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 hours per day, 7 days per week, thanks to the tireless devotion of **Lorin Gallistel**. Please visit the VDC to see the full range of devices in the Demo Center and submit any questions there that you might have. Please follow the link on the chapter's website, <http://hearinglossrochester.org> to access the VDC.

We offer an online Zoom session at noon on December 16th where we discuss some of the items presented on the website. You can sign up on the chapter's website.

Open Caption Films at The Little

The Little Theater has advised us that all films shown on Thursdays and Sundays will have open captions. Call 258-0400 or email info@thelittle.org to make sure a film you wish to see is open (or closed) captioned.

Assistive Listening Device Team Goes on the Road

By Lorin Gallistel

Members of our chapter will be presenting an overview of HLAA at the Ogden Farmers Library on Dec 4 at 2:00 pm. The talk will include a short introduction to HLAA, a tour of our Virtual Demo Center, and a sampling of ALDs for testing.

Our hearing check kiosk will be available for private screening.

A presentation is also planned at the Irondequoit Library on January 8 at 1 pm.

Come and hear what you are missing.

HLAA New York State Association (NYSA) - Update.



By Dan Brooks, President, HLAA-NYSA

How is everyone doing? I am doing well. With the holidays upon us I am sure everyone is busy. Busy is an understatement for me but it's all good. I would not have it any other way. I just wish I could see many of the people I work with in-person once in a while instead of virtually most of the time. However, I will say, as much as I miss seeing people in person I do enjoy "zooming." I am able to hear so much better on Zoom and captions are usually available when I need them. Using a virtual platform has been a great way to meet and network with others. Virtual meetings have been a great way to learn what other chapters are doing and has been a great resource for my Rochester Chapter.

One of our recent take aways is the adaptation of what we refer to as our chapter's new "e-Memo". The e-memo is a way for our chapter to send out reminders of upcoming events for the upcoming month. Some chapters are using this format as a way to distribute their newsletter. The Rochester Chapter continues to use the postal service to mail our members our newsletter, thanks to **Bruce and Candi Nelson**. If you have not already received an e-Memo and interested in getting e-Memo reminders from our chapter please sign up by visiting our website: www.hearinglossrochester.org. The platform we are using to do this is called **Constant Contact**. One more thing to remember is to check your Spam box or Promotions box to be sure you indeed did not receive the e-Memo. If you do find it in one of these two boxes move the email into your Inbox so next time you will not miss it.

There are a few updates from **The HLAA New York State Association (NYSA)**. The **HLAA-NYSA Annual Meeting** will be virtual, via Zoom, on December 4th, 2021 at 10am. The meeting will, of course, be captioned. Please email hlaa.newyorkstate@gmail.com if you wish to join the meeting. We would love to have you and send you the link to the meeting once we have your email address. There are so many updates to share; I will do my best to touch on the key points.

As mentioned in last month's update, my term as President is drawing to a close at the end of this year. **Kassey Granger** will take the reins as President. The Nominating Committee recommended **Peter Fackler**, who also sits on the HLAA National Board, to be our incoming

Vice President and he has graciously accepted! The new recommendations will be made official at the next Board of Directors meeting just prior to the **Annual Meeting**. **Mary Kate Owens** has agreed to continue a second term as Secretary and **Tom Corteville** as our Treasurer. I will become the Immediate Past President and the incoming leader of the Nominating Committee.

It is with great pleasure to let you know that we now have a full board! Please join me in welcoming our newest Board of Directors member! Her name is **Trudie Walker** from the North Shore Chapter! Trudie is a semi-retired lawyer; her expertise will be a great addition to our board! The **HLAA-NYSA** is now truly complete!

Each of our committees has much to report. Our Committee Leaders, listed alphabetically, are **Peggy Bell**, **Jerry Bergman**, **Kassey Granger** and **Sue Miller**. They plan to share updates on the upcoming **2022 State Conference**, recent testimony in front of our State Assembly, latest on the efforts of establishing a Commission for the Deaf, Deaf Blind and Hard of Hearing, website improvements and interest of a new chapter forming in Western New York!

I am proud of all our members of the Board of Directors, Officers, Committee Leaders, and Co-Leaders of our State Association! These are the people along with other supporters that have made our New York State Association vibrant once again! Although I filled the rather large job of president, it was all of **YOU** that got us to where we are now.

With the capabilities and enthusiasm of the new slate of incoming leaders, we can rest assured that the State Association will be in good hands and strong for years to come!

Check out our website at www.hearinglossnys.org for the latest information and remember to join or renew your membership with **HLAA** at www.hearingloss.org. By doing this and residing in New York State you are automatically a member of the **HLAA-NYSA**. This is the first step in supporting our efforts and helping improve the lives of those living with hearing loss in our community and state of New York.

Thanks again for your support and have a wonderful holiday season! -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. Live Open Captioned event features a digital screen with the play’s dialogue, song lyrics and sound effects displayed to enhance the experience for deaf and hard of hearing audience members. Loop and/or FM systems are also available at theatre upon request.

To prepare for caption shows, theatres employ a dedicated team of professionals to edit scripts, format text and practice timing to ensure the most accurate live presentation.

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:

December 12, 2021: **SOMETHING MAGICAL...Disney in Concert**

February 13, 2022: **HITMAKERS - Welcome to the 70s**

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? (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!



Greg Benoit, Irondequoit Public Library Director with Trish Prosser, HLAA

The Irondequoit Public Library and the Hearing Loss Association of America, Rochester Chapter honored the life of Charles Treat (February 8, 1930 - October 8, 2018) with the installation of a new flag display.

A resident of West Irondequoit, Charles was a life long reader, avid library user, and passionate advocate for the HLAA and Irondequoit Public Library. The Irondequoit Public Library displays a flag in recognition of his service as a Captain in the United States Navy, and to commemorate his love of Irondequoit Public Library.

You can “Attend” Other Chapter’s Meetings

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

My Story

By Jenn Hurlbut

Hi there! I am humbled to be asked to tell "My Story"! My name is Jenn Hurlbut and I have had hearing loss as long as I can remember. I find great meaning on serving on the local HLAA Chapter Board of Directors. It gives me the opportunity to connect with others who have hearing loss and to play a role in advocacy. In my new role with HLAA Rochester Chapter, I hope to work with individuals to learn to advocate for themselves. It is an art form unto itself that I am still learning!



Growing up with hearing loss entered my life every day, from not hearing teachers, friends, and family to missing pieces of life, whether that was in school or home. Not hearing the instruction from the teacher or conversations with family or friends. As I got older, this led me on the path to seek out the latest technology. I have a unique hearing loss that is conductive hearing loss (not the typical kind where there is nerve damage), meaning I have no nerve damage. The sound waves have a hard time getting back to the nerve. About 10 years ago, I started the journey to getting a BAHA device. I had been wearing traditional in-the-ear hearing aids that did not work well for me due to the type of hearing loss I have. It has made a world of difference getting the proper hearing system for me!

Around the same time, I found the HLAA Rochester chapter by accident. A family member had done some research and then inquired about the organization/chapter. I quickly became connected and started working on the social media. I did that for about 5 years before taking on a bigger role in the chapter. I currently serve on the Chapter Board, on the Healthcare Advocacy Committee, and the Scholarship Committee. I chair the Working Adults Committee and join in on the Professional Advisory Committee Meetings. On the board I report on the Working Adults Committee and join in any way that I can.

Personally, have always worked in Healthcare and most currently with Rochester Regional Health, working in Dental on the clinical and administrative side. I formerly ran a dental practice and found that very challenging and rewarding. I was born in Lewiston, NY and spent my childhood in Canandaigua which meant many trips to Rochester, with many fun trips to Hochstein School of Music for lessons, The Planetarium or GEVA Theatre. To this day you will

find me at GEVA Theatre, The Auditorium Theatre or taking in live music. I also love to read! A LOT! Most recently a book by Marie Condo, "The Life Changing Magic of Tidying Up". I cannot get enough of the organization the appreciation for what we have that the Japanese art of decluttering teaches. I highly recommend it! Lastly, to say I love music and animals is an understatement! I currently have two black cats, Harmony, 1 year/3 months and Mozart, 4 months old. They rule the house, and I would not have it any other way! As for music, there is always some music being played. I started in 4th grade playing the violin. I played in Orchestra every year and joined chorus. Jazz, classical, and popular music all have a turn. Some of my favorites are Michael Bublé, Keith Urban and Rascal Flatts to name a few. I think I have seen Kenny Chesney every time he has come to CMAC!

Thank you for taking the time to allow me to introduce myself and tell "my story". I think highly of and greatly enjoy being a part of the HLAA Rochester Chapter! Be well, stay healthy and always remember we are here to help!

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New York State Association

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2021-22 Open Captioned Performance Dates:

December 12	February 13	March 13	May 15

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**HLAA Membership
Information**

Hearing Loss Association (HLAA) Rochester Chapter, Inc., a tax exempt and volunteer group, is a chapter of a national, nonprofit, nonsectarian, educational organization devoted to the welfare and interests of those who cannot hear well.

We meet the first Tuesday of the month at noon, at St. Pauls Episcopal Church and 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

Professional Advisors Sue Miller, Chair

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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 585-334-5513  
[bruce.nelson@gmail.com](mailto:bruce.nelson@gmail.com)*

**MEMBERSHIP FORM – HLAA-ROCHESTER CHAPTER**

July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021

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/Individual Dues, \$10  Basic/Family Dues, \$20  Corporate\* \$50

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

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

**PLEASE PRINT**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Street \_\_\_\_\_ City/  
 State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone \_\_\_\_\_ 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., Genesee 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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### **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!

### **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!*