



## JUNE Calendar

### Tuesday, June 6<sup>th</sup>

**10:15 am – HOPE Session–Vestry Room**  
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 13<sup>th</sup>** - BOD meeting, 7-9pm, ASC

**June 22 – 25** – Convention, SLC, - see page 7

**Tues., June 27<sup>th</sup>** – Program Planning meetings –  
see page 6

### SAVE THESE FUTURE DATES

**Sun., July 30<sup>th</sup>** –Bristol Valley Playhouse – 2pm  
(see page 8)

**Tues., Aug. 8<sup>th</sup>** – BOD meeting, 7-9pm, ASC

**Tues., Sept. 12<sup>th</sup>** – Chapter Meetings resume.

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

Daytime Meeting –Fred Altrieth, Judy Markowski,  
Al Suffredini

Evening Meeting – Dan Brooks, Sue Miller

Board of Directors –Gerry Loftus, Art Maurer,  
Sue Miller

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



## JUNE PROGRAMS

(At St. Paul's Church, East Ave. & Westminster Rd. 14607  
**Enter only thru Westminster Rd. door.**)

### **Tues., June 6<sup>th</sup> – 10:15–11am; Vestry room**

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

Retired audiologist and hearing aid user **Joe Kozelsky** moderates a question and answer group for people considering hearing aids and those using them. Join us and share your hearing loss journey and learn from others. (see page 5)

### **Tuesday, June 6<sup>th</sup> - Daytime Meeting— 11:00am Program begins at noon**

**“ASK THE AUDIOLOGIST”** – Christy Monczynski-Hopson, Au.D.

Let's learn about hearing aids and hearing loss. Dr. Christy Monczynski-Hopson is featured in the perennially popular “Ask the audiologist” program. Bring your questions, and an experienced clinician will answer them!

*(continued on page 2)*

**Tuesday, June 6<sup>th</sup> – Daytime** (continued)

As always, the questions and answers are impromptu and unrehearsed. Our speaker is prepared to field inquiries on all aspects of hearing aids and hearing loss. As a hearing aid dispenser, she can comment on new developments in amplification technology, deafness, audiograms, tinnitus, listening devices, etc.

Dr. Monczynski-Hopson is the Director of Clinical Services for UR Medicine Audiology & Speech Pathology and UR Medicine Audiology at Highland Hospital. She has been serving as the Director of Audiology since 2010 and the Director of Speech Pathology since 2015. A native of Buffalo, she obtained her Au.D. at SUNY at Buffalo.

**Tuesday, June 6<sup>th</sup> - Evening Meeting--**  
**7:00pm –Social & brief business; program 8pm****“LISTENING DEVICES HANDS-ON DEMO” -**  
Dan Brooks and Charlie Johnstone

Hearing aids and cochlear implants are wonderful, but by themselves they can fall short of replacing "normal" hearing. In a repeat of a recent daytime program, long-time chapter members Dan Brooks and Charlie Johnstone lead a hands-on demonstration of an assortment of listening devices to augment your hearing. You are encouraged to try out and experiment with a range of technological helpers.

Dan and Charlie will describe the items, display them for "experiment time," and answer questions about using them. Try before you buy!

Dan belongs to our chapter Technology Committee, which has been involved in establishing a device demonstration center (more to report when it becomes operational.) He is an agent for New York Life Insurance Co.

Charlie was the resource person for computer and presentation equipment until his retirement from NTID after almost forty years of service. Also a member of our Technology Committee, since about 1985 Charlie has been our chapter "technical consultant" since its early beginnings.

*HLAA-Rochester Chapter welcomes all community members with an interest in hearing loss.*

*HLAA-Rochester chapter meetings are held in the Parish Hall at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, East Avenue at Westminster Road, across from the George Eastman House Museum. All programs are audiolooped and **captioned**. Those needing a sign language interpreter for an evening meeting should contact Linda Siple at 585 288 6744, a week in advance. (Please note, this phone is only for those needing an interpreter.)*

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

**PRESIDENT'S COLUMN**

*By Margaret Cochran*



How time flies! Here we are almost half way through 2017, summer is but a few weeks away and my responsibilities as President of your chapter have come to a close. As of July 1, the baton will proudly be handed over to one of our founding and most active members: **Sue Miller**. Sue has been on every committee, been to every national Convention and personally contributes an admirable amount of time, energy and resources to the Rochester Chapter, which has been recognized as one of the largest and most active of the 138 chapters in the nation. Now she is stepping up to lead us into the year ahead. Once again, THANK YOU Sue!

What an exciting year it has been for HLAA-Rochester. Now in our 34<sup>th</sup> year of operation, we are working aggressively on growing the Chapter via new membership drives, an integrated marketing plan is in development, a new website in the works; and perhaps most exciting of all is the advent of our new Device Demonstration Center which will be open to the public in September 2017. This demo center will allow individuals an opportunity to explore a vast array of assistive listening devices (ALDs) without the pressure of a sales pitch and in the presence of trained volunteers who can help them determine what kind of support will best facilitate their needs. Lifespan, a long-time

community partner of HLAA has graciously offered use of their facility at 1900 S. Clinton Avenue to house the equipment and provide conference rooms for demonstrations. Watch for details re: days and hours of operation in our September Newsletter.

We hope many of you were able to join us for our annual Featured Speaker Program that took place on May 16<sup>th</sup>. **Dr. Debara Tucci**, Professor of Otolaryngology, Head and Neck Surgery at Duke University gave an informative presentation of research recently conducted and its impact on health care policy related to hearing health care in adults. We thank her for taking time out of her remarkably full schedule to present this important work to us.

May 23<sup>rd</sup> was our Annual Dinner and Awards Ceremony where we gather to thank community supporters and recognize chapter members for their gracious contributions. The following provides a brief overview of this year's recipients:

The **Community Person Award** is given to an individual who has done an extraordinary job over the last year of furthering HLAA Rochester's purpose of helping those who are touched by hearing loss. We were pleased to present **Jim F. Feuerstein, Ph.D.** Professor of Audiology in the Communication Sciences and Disorders department at Nazareth College. Dr. F (as he is referred to by students) has played a key role in coordinating and facilitating our annual **Day of Hearing** now held at the York Wellness and Rehabilitation Institute on the Nazareth campus. If we could bottle an ounce of his energy we would all be better contributors to the world we live in. Many thanks to Jim for his seemingly inexhaustible support.

The **Community Organization Award** is similar to the Community Person Award except it is given to a business entity. Some of the past winners have been Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, *In Good Health* periodical, Caption Call, Rochester Broadway Theatre League, Geva, Wegmans, and AMC Loews Webster Theater. These entities have gone the extra mile to help HLAA-Rochester and the local hearing loss community. This year's award went to **Lifespan**. **Mary Rose McBride**, Vice President of Marketing and Communications, and

**Paul Caccamise**, Vice President of Programs were in attendance to accept the award. Thank you for all you do for not only our chapter but the community at large.

And last but most *certainly* not the least is the **Chapter Award** that recognizes a chapter member who has consistently contributed their time and talents to enrich the operations and functionality of our local chapter. By popular vote, we were very pleased to present \_\_\_\_\_? \_\_\_\_\_ with this year's award. (*Editor's note: Since our Chapter Award is a surprise until the night of the Annual Dinner, May 23, and this Newsletter goes to press weeks ahead of that date, the recipient will be announced in our September Newsletter. Stay tuned!*)

Finally, the evening concluded with honoring scholarships to deaf or hard-of-hearing (HOH) high school students planning for college. Each student was awarded \$1000 scholarship to further their education. We wish them well in their future endeavors. Their names and colleges of choice will be detailed in our September Newsletter.

Speaking of young adults with hearing loss, if you or someone you know is in high school and planning for college, you may want to refer them to the **Explore Your Future (EYF)** summer program at RIT. This is a six-day career exploration program for college-bound deaf and/or hard-of-hearing high school students who will begin their junior or senior year in the fall of 2017. This program focuses on personal growth and career awareness for students as they begin to think about college. For information please visit <http://www.rit.edu/ntid/eyf/> and forward to interested students. Speaking of students, our chapter has recently initiated a **Student Board** and welcomes students with or without HL to participate. Please go to our website for details and an application at <http://www.hlaa-rochester-ny.org>. (*see Student Board article on page 8*)

In conclusion, I would like to extend a sincere and heartfelt THANK YOU to ALL of those that have joined our chapter. As a 100% volunteer run organization with an unwavering dedication to

(continued on page 4)

**PRESIDENT'S COLUMN – (continued)**

improve and enrich the lives of people with hearing loss including those around them, your membership dollars and donations are the lifeblood of our ability to continue to conduct meaningful programs, support one another and continue advocacy for equal access and opportunity for all. Keep up the good work. See you in September! In kind regard now and always, *Margaret*

**RBTL LIVE THEATRE—CAPTIONED!**

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

Oct. 1<sup>st</sup> – School of Rock  
 Oct. 29<sup>th</sup> – The Little Mermaid  
 Nov. 19<sup>th</sup> – Fun Home  
 Dec. 17<sup>th</sup> – A Christmas Story  
 Feb. 11<sup>th</sup> – On Your Feet  
 March 15<sup>th</sup> – An American in Paris  
 May 6<sup>th</sup> – RENT

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

**GEVA THEATRE – CAPTIONED PLAYS !**

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

Sat. June 3; Wed. June 21 –  
**Million Dollar Quartet**

Sat. Sept. 9; Wed. Oct. 4 – **In the Heights**  
 Sat. Oct. 7 @ 2:30pm – **Smart People**  
 Sat. Oct. 21; Wed. Nov. 8 – **The Agitators**  
**Sun. Dec. 3 @ 12N; Wed. Dec. 20 @ 2pm & 7pm –**  
**A Christmas Carol**  
 Sat. Dec. 9 @ 2:30pm – **Marvelous Wonderettes**  
 Sat. Jan. 13; Wed. Jan. 31 – **The Other Josh Cohen**  
 Sat. Jan. 27 @ 2:30pm – **Erma Bombeck: At Wit's End**  
 Sat. Feb. 17; Wed. March 7 – **Diary of Anne Frank**  
 Sat. March 17 @ 2:30pm – **Heartland**  
 Sat. April 7; Wed. April 25 – **One House Over**  
 Sat. May 12; Wed. May 30 – **Steel Magnolias**

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

**JCC CenterStage – Captioned Plays!**

By Marc Cataldi, JCC

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



**“Bring It On” – the musical**  
 Sun., July 16; Wed., July 19

**“Cooking with the Calamari Sisters”**

Sun., Oct. 15; Wed., Oct. 18

Thurs., Oct. 19; Sat., Oct. 21

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

Sun., Dec. 10; Thurs., Dec. 14; Sat., Dec. 16

**“The Hit Makers: And the Beat Goes On”**

Sun., Feb. 11; Thurs., Feb. 15; Sat., Feb. 17

**“Buyer & Cellar”**

Sun., March 18; Thurs., March 22

**“Bridges of Madison County” – the musical**

Sun., May 13; Thurs., May 17; Sat., May 19

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



For Your Donation to HLAA:

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

In Memory of Andy Howard (in honor of his birthday):

Judith Howard

In Memory of Vilma Sheahen:

Mary Ann Stager

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

**Newsletter Deadline**

**Monday, July 31st**  
**(for the September Newsletter)**  
 Email: [ggraham859@gmail.com](mailto:ggraham859@gmail.com)

### IF YOU MOVE, or are a “SNOWBIRD!”

Please don't forget to notify **Cathy Lee**, at 22 Erie Manor Lane, apt.#6, Henrietta, NY 14467, or, via email at, [cathydisalvolee@gmail.com](mailto:cathydisalvolee@gmail.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.

### 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... We thank you!

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



### HOPE REVIEW

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

Counting myself, eight people were in attendance at the May 2<sup>nd</sup> session: four regulars and then Fred Altrieth and Al Suffredini, and Charlie Treat--who brought in a \$30 hearing device he bought through a mail-order catalog, and he reports that he can hear the TV better than, or as well as, he does with his regular hearing aids. A discussion ensued about other less expensive devices, and we said why not try them to see if they help? Sometimes a curiosity itch just has to be scratched. Especially when it is such low cost.

Something to keep in mind is that sometimes there can be a huge unpredictable interactive effect between hearing, hearing loss and hearing aids which can result in incredibly satisfactory benefit for a particular individual. Unfortunately, the interactive effect can work in the opposite direction as well with some ears being very difficult to accommodate.

Once again, people wondered where was the best place to go for hearing service and our advice was to ask around. Don't rely on the ads, instead learn about people's experiences with their provider and how well they liked their hearing aids. And once again we said that there is no better place to ask around than at an HLAA gathering. So if someone is looking at your hearing aids at one of our HLAA functions, you might wish to get ready for some questions. I'd like to know if anyone does ask.

Finally, we handed out our first “REFRIGERMINDER” which is a small card to be affixed to your refrigerator by a magnet in a spot where all refrigerator users can see it. Refriggerminders are tips for family members for better communication with people with hearing loss. Refriggerminder No. 1 advises people to look directly at the person they are speaking with.

### BIRTHDAYS – 90 YEARS AND OVER...

Everyone: please let me know if you're one of our special Chapter members who will reach the spectacular age of 90 years, or more. If you agree, we'd like to announce it in our Newsletter. It is important to let me know right away as our Newsletters are written two months ahead. Thanks, Ginger  
[ggraham859@gmail.com](mailto:ggraham859@gmail.com); or, (585) 671-2683



Sincere happy birthday greetings to **Larry Fersaci** on June 11; and to **Anna Shapiro** on August 30--who are over 90 years of age. We wish you both many more healthy and happy years!

### SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT...

“Compassion is the language which the deaf can hear and the blind can see.” (Mark Twain)

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

Are you on Facebook? If so, please be our friend.  
We currently have **312** friends and we want more.  
Find us at: **Hlaa Rochester Ny**

**WEBSITES OF INTEREST**

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

HLAA National website is [www.hearingloss.org](http://www.hearingloss.org).

**SAVE THE DATE!—June 27th****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, 2017, to June, 2018.

**Daytime meetings planning session:**

**Tues., June 27<sup>th</sup>, at 9:30am – coffee & conversation; then, discussion 10:00-Noon – Sue’s home, 16 Buckthorn Run, Victor.**

**Evening meetings planning session:**

**Tues., June 27<sup>th</sup>, at 6:00 – 9pm with Barb Law, in 1<sup>st</sup> floor Conf. room, Al Sigl Center; light snacks.** Both meetings are on the same day.

**RSVP:** Please email (or, call) either Sue or Barb and let them know you’re attending. We appreciate an RSVP for seating and food! Hope to see you at one or both 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

**HELP HLAA VIA THE UNITED WAY**

We continue to be a United Way “Donor Designated Option” choice. We are not a direct United Way agency and do not receive any funding from their general campaign. Therefore, to donate to HLAA through the United Way, we ask you to consider donating to us through the “Designated Option” on your gift card.

**Our United Way number is 2425.**



Your past support is deeply appreciated. Alas, even though the local chapter is a totally volunteer organization, there are still costs such as printing, postage, phones, and technical items. Many thanks!

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

Editor and Publisher.....Ginger Graham  
Computer Consultant,

Webmaster, and Writer.....Michelle Gross  
News Releases, and Writer.....Janet McKenna  
Photographers.....Art Maurer, Al Suffredini

*By Nancy Meyer*

Did you know that our chapter has a Lending Library? There are several books and DVDs available for members to sign out for a month at a time. They are on display at the front of our meeting room. Sign out one (or more), and return them at the next month’s chapter meeting.

Members have donated books; you can too! Please bring them to a meeting. Right now, we have available to borrow:

Gael Hannan – “The Way I Hear It”

Katherine Boughton – “Living Better with Hearing Loss”

Monique Hammond – “What Did You Say?”

**Art Maurer** – “Twisted Vines;” also, “Frackin’ Lives” and more to choose from!



**Little America Hotel,**  
500 South Main Street,  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84101

Reference that you are with

the HLAA2017 group. Visit

<http://bit.ly/LittleAmericaSL>; 800-437-5288.

**RADISSON HOTEL-**

<http://bit.ly/RadissonSL>; 1-800- 967-9033

**Online** – login to the [HLAA Online Portal](#) and select Convention Registration on the left menu (if you don't have a login yet, go to [New User Registration](#).)

**Veterans**

**(Free Registration for 1st Timers).**

Those veterans wishing to attend should complete the “Veterans Registration Form” which can be obtained on the national HLAA website at:

<http://hearingloss.org/content/registratiion>. In the middle of this web page is all the info about the benefit and a link to download the required form.

*(Link details provided by Michelle Gross, Rochester Chapter Web Master.)*

**Delta Air Lines** - Use Meeting Code **NMPE4** when booking to Salt Lake City [delta.com/meetings](http://delta.com/meetings), or when you call Delta Meeting Reservations at 800-328-1111. The discount of up to 10% (depending on whether you book First Class, Economy, etc.) will be applied to your fare.

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.”

### **Subjects of Sept. 12<sup>th</sup> Chapter Meetings:**

**Daytime** – Will be decided at June 27<sup>th</sup> Planning meetings.

**Evening** – “ “ “ “

## **THE DISTANCE BETWEEN HEARING AND LOSS - *By Gael Hannan***

There's a space between a hearing person and me. An expanse that changes shape and size as it fills with the sounds and meanings of spoken language.

To the hearing people, this space is invisible. They don't even know it exists.

As they converse easily, crisply, back and forth.

But the people with hearing loss, we know something different.

Noise and meaning are fractured in this sometimes painful space.

Containing half sounds with

Blurry edges

Hollow middles

Or even *nothingness* – as if the sound never happened.

We work hard to understand, but often get things wrong and must ask for them to be repeated, again.

This is the space between hearing and loss.

And we can conquer it.

Some of us will say, “*I never had good hearing, so how can I have lost it?*”

And some of us say, “*Hearing has slowly dripped away*” - or -

“*It left so fast I didn't have time to say goodbye.*”

That was then and this is now:

Let's smooth the space between us and them.

Let's use technology, develop skill at reading faces, and learn how to pull

Better communication from the people on the other side.

Communication is the glue that connects us.

Without it, we really would be islands, separate from each other.

And I don't want that kind of space between a hearing person and me.

*(excerpt from Hearing Health and Technology Matters; [info@hearinghealthmatters.org](mailto:info@hearinghealthmatters.org); suggested by Elise de Papp, M.D.)*

“Be a rainbow in someone else's cloud.”

*(Maya Angelou)*



## HLAA SUMMER OUTING AND DINNER

By Sue Miller

Bristol Valley Theatre, captioned

musical, Sunday, July 30<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m. **“Lucky Stiff”**: *“A hilarious musical murder mystery!”*

*“Hapless Harry Witherspoon's life is about to get much more exciting! He'll inherit six million dollars from his dearly departed uncle, but only if he succeeds in taking Uncle Tony's body on one last vacation to Monte Carlo! Meanwhile, Tony's killer is hot on Harry's tail. This show has great music and is lots of fun!”*

If we have 20 people, each ticket will cost \$23.40. Normal cost would be \$34 or \$32 if you are over 60.

This outing also includes going to the Lodge at Bristol Harbour afterwards for an enjoyable early dinner and a breathtaking view of Canandaigua Lake.

Please let me know ASAP if you can join us. Also, feel free to invite a friend so that we can achieve our goal of having at least 20 people! We can arrange for carpooling once we know who all will be going.

Bristol Valley Theatre is hoping we'll respond soon, and will hold the seats accordingly in the *captioned* area of the theatre. (Captioning equipment is on loan to Bristol Valley from GEVA.)

Sound like fun? Contact Sue Miller for tickets and a dinner reservation. 924-8933 or [SusanLeeMiller39@cs.com](mailto:SusanLeeMiller39@cs.com). Directions will be provided on request.

## 5 THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT PROTECTING YOUR HEARING

By Ernst Lemothe, Jr.  
(excerpt from *In Good Health*, May 2017)

Hearing loss can be so gradual that some people don't notice the effects until it's too late. Hearing is one of our five senses. It is a complex process of

picking up sound and attaching meaning to it. The ability to hear is critical to understanding the world around us. Kristen Geissler, an audiologist at UR Medicine Audiology gives us 5 tips to protecting and improving our hearing.

- 1. Use hearing protection.
  - 2. Monitor your ear health.
  - 3. Schedule an audiologic evaluation.
  - 4. Determine if you may be a candidate for HA's.
  - 5. Develop good communication skills.
- (check website for details or pick up a May issue of *In Good Health*)

And Ms. Geissler gives a side bar of information on “How can I tell if I have a hearing loss?” Source: Hearing Loss Association of America.  
Go to: [GVhealthnews.com](http://GVhealthnews.com)



## STUDENT BOARD OF ROCHESTER CHAPTER

By Suzanne Johnston

Years ago, deaf and hard-of-hearing students attended special academic programs specifically for students who had similar hearing and communication needs. With more recent advances in education and hearing technology, the majority of deaf/HOH students are often mainstreamed into regular educational programs. While this has served to improve educational and vocational outcomes, as a result, many of these students are isolated from others who are deaf/HOH.

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

## WHY BELONG TO NATIONAL?

*By Ginger Graham*

One of the many reasons to belong to National is receiving the bi-monthly Hearing Loss Magazine.

The March/April 2017 issue contains articles on

--SLC is the place to be! – Convention in Utah

--The NAS report: What is it and why should I care? Hearing health care for adults and time are changing.

--Tinnitus – solutions for making life manageable.

--Telecoil: Old? Yes. Outdated? No.

--Hearing loss and career success: Refining yourself, your career, and your social network.

--Fifteen feet to the microphone. Humor in life and hearing loss leads a budding comedian to the stage.

--Sneak peek at the latest products and technology that you'll see at the Convention in Utah.

--New hearing loop at Thomas Jefferson's University of Virginia thanks to local chapter.

Go to: [www.hearingloss.org](http://www.hearingloss.org)

## NEW SLATE OF OFFICERS 2017-2018

*By Cindy Kellner, Chair, Nominating Committee*

The committee is pleased to announce the new slate of officers for our chapter, from July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018.

|                          |                     |
|--------------------------|---------------------|
| President:               | Sue Miller          |
| Vice-President:          | Art Maurer          |
| Recording Secretary:     | Elise de Papp, M.D. |
| Corresponding Secretary: | Carol Loftus        |
| Treasurer:               | Gerry Loftus        |
| Asst. Treasurer:         | Jo Owens            |

With many thanks to these folks for stepping up to lead our chapter in future months!

## COCHLEAR IMPLANT GROUP

The CI meeting is held twice a year. The next meeting is scheduled for OCTOBER. We are considering moving to a Saturday. Details follow in our September Newsletter.

## DAY OF HEARING @ Nazareth College

Our annual "**Day of Hearing**" is planned for Friday, October 6th 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 with exhibits, literature, and ALD's to demo. Several audiologists will be giving presentations. Please plan to attend! Watch our September Newsletter for more details.

We're looking for volunteers to help Oct. 6<sup>th</sup>. Lots of varied opportunities. Please contact Sue Miller at [susanleemiller39@cs.com](mailto:susanleemiller39@cs.com).

## BUFFALO WALK4HEARING

*By Carol Loftus*



Yes, the Walk has moved to Buffalo. Now I would like to give you the particulars about the **Walk** and a fun-filled **Kick Off**, also to be held in Buffalo.

The Buffalo Walk4Hearing will be held Sunday, October 8, at Delaware Park. Registration opens at 10:00 a.m. with the Walk starting 11:00 a.m.

A Kick Off will be held August 13 at the Big Ditch Brewery (Buffalo) from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. Planning for both events is actively ongoing.

Although the Walk has moved to Buffalo, **ALL ARE WELCOME** to join those from Buffalo at the Kick Off and the day of the Walk.

Let's come together to support the Walk and the Rochester Chapter; 40% of your Walk donations can be 'designated' to the Rochester Chapter by team captains, walkers, and those who choose to donate but not walk.

*(continued on page 10)*

## WALK4HEARING – continued

Please visit the HCAA National website for ongoing postings -- [www.hearingloss.org](http://www.hearingloss.org)

Should you have any questions about the Kick Off or the Walk, please feel free to contact me at [cloftus3@gmail.com](mailto:cloftus3@gmail.com). Details and directions will be in our September Newsletter.

## HEARING HEALTH CARE FOR ADULTS: PRIORITIES FOR IMPROVING ACCESS AND AFFORDABILITY

*By Dave Hutcheson, HLM publications editor  
(excerpt from Hearing Loss Magazine, March/April 2017)*

This booklet was issued by the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine (NAS) on June 2, 2016. The groundbreaking report documents the critical nature of hearing loss and provides 12 recommendations that underscore hearing loss as a significant public health concern. Go to: [www.nas.edu/hearing](http://www.nas.edu/hearing).

## NEW ERA OF RECHARGEABLE HEARING AID BATTERIES

*By Wayne Staab (excerpt from Central Oklahoma Chapter Newsletter, March 2017)*



Hearing aids are entering a new era of rechargeable batteries where consumers no longer have to deal with the hassles of replacement disposable batteries.

The industry appears to be positioned to witness a new trend of rechargeable hearing aids. Recent evidence suggests rechargeable products will be welcomed with open arms by consumers.

When asked what compelling features consumers want in their hearing aids, 70% indicated a “rechargeable hearing aid” and “rechargeable batteries.” Rechargeable hearing aids are not new. However, for many reasons, they were not widely adopted, and disposable zinc-air batteries have continued to be the dominant power source for hearing aids. That now appears to be shifting as industry is taking a fresh look at rechargeable batteries.

## NEW APPS ARE LIFE SAVERS

*By Deborah Jeanne Sergeant  
(excerpt from In Good Health, March 2017)*

Phone apps have made many areas of our lives easier. For people who live with hearing disabilities some apps can offer help that’s much more convenient than help offered by a separate device.

Many people carry Smart phones which lack the stigma that people attach to Assistive Listening Devices.

**Dragon Dictation** (iOS; free) makes it easier for people who hear to communicate with someone with hearing loss. The app turns spoken words into written text.

**RogerVoice** – Caption Calls (iOS; Android; free) provides real time phone conversation subtitles; and, optionally, text to speech for the sake of the person on the other end. The app requires an Internet connection during use.

Learning sign language can help. **Marlee Signs** (iOS; free) and **Spread the Sign** (Android; free) offer comprehensive sign language dictionaries that can help teach anyone sign language.



## THOUGHTS ON ORIGIN OF TINNITUS

*By Robert Traynor  
(excerpt from "Hearing Health & Technology Matters,"  
[hearinghealthmatters.org](http://hearinghealthmatters.org)).*

Until recently, not much was known about the cause or source of tinnitus. New thoughts on tinnitus from various researchers funded by the Veterans Administration (VA), National Institutes of Health (NIH) as well as private organizations such as the American Tinnitus Association (ATA), suggest that tinnitus is not necessarily an auditory or ear malady but a brain issue.

Prevailing older theories generally assume tinnitus is due to inner ear malfunction of one type or another (e.g., mis-shaped or destroyed hair cells; lack of

*(continued on page 11)*

## TINNITUS - continued

blood supply to the ear; etc.). Yet, audiologists and otolaryngologists have known for some time that even when the auditory nerve is cut, the tinnitus from the “disconnected” ear can persist, often even worse than before.

Dr. Thanos Tzounopoulos, Chair of Auditory Physiology within the Department of Otolaryngology at the University of Pittsburgh, was among the first researchers to suggest that tinnitus is likely caused by misfiring neurons in the auditory center of the brain, and may be caused by an imbalance between inhibitors and stimulus within the auditory sensation.

In other words, the brain is mistakenly responding to sound, where no sound exists, creating the tinnitus effect. These studies, begun in 2009, were further refined in 2011 and have become an ongoing investigation. (*excerpt from Central Oklahoma Feb. 2017 Newsletter*)

*(Editor’s note: The **Hearing Loss Magazine**, for March/April 2017, has an informative and comprehensive article by Doug Beck, “Tinnitus Issues and Answers for Consumers.”)*

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

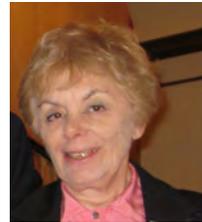
## OUR FLAG

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

In 1818, Congress decided the flag of the US would consist of 13 red and white stripes and 20 stars, with a new star to be added for every new state of the Union. (*from D&C 4-2-17*)

In June 1959, America's 49-star flag, recognizing Alaskan statehood, was officially unfurled.

In 1960, America's 50-star flag, recognizing Hawaiian statehood, was officially unfurled. (*D&C 4-2-16*)



## WANTED: CHAPTER DOCUMENTS

*By Janet McKenna, MLS*

As the Chapter Archivist, I conserve any documents, newspaper stories, programs, minutes, agendas, invitations, correspondence--all kinds of ephemera concerning HLAA-Rochester Chapter and its members. I save material about this chapter ONLY and its members, not deafness or other groups. You are the eyes of the chapter. You can find stories that I might not. Are you cleaning out your file cabinet or desk? Are you moving or downsizing?

Please forward any old SHHH or HLAA ephemera to me, either online at [deaphyduck@gmail.com](mailto:deaphyduck@gmail.com), or in person at a chapter meeting, or to my postal address: 1315 Elmwood Ave., Apt.1004, Rochester, NY 14620.

Chapter ephemera are posted in scrapbooks and depict this group's history. Our Rochester Chapter is the most vibrant chapter in upstate New York and one of the oldest HLAA chapters. We were established in 1983! Transfer your excess papers where they'll be appreciated! Many thanks, Janet

## GUIDE FOR EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION IN HEALTH CARE (aka Hospital Kit for Patients with Hearing Loss)

*By Toni Iacolucci and Jody Prysock, HLAA National*

It is divided in 3 sections:  
Communication Access Plan (CAP) and  
Instructions, Patients and Providers

Go to: [www.hearingloss.org/content/health-care-guide](http://www.hearingloss.org/content/health-care-guide)

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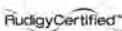
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**HLAA Membership Information**

Hearing Loss Association (HLAA) Rochester Chapter, Inc., a tax exempt and volunteer group, is a chapter of a national, nonprofit, nonsectarian, educational organization devoted to the welfare and interests of those who cannot hear well. We meet the first Tuesday of the month from October through June at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, East Ave. (September is 2nd Tuesday.) While our primary focus is directed toward hard of hearing, we welcome everyone to our chapter meetings whatever their hearing ability. For more information, Call **585 266 7890**

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Newsletter

*Newsletter deadline: first day of the month preceding the issue month.*  
 Send articles to:  
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Founded in 1979, the mission of HLAA is to open the world of communication to people with hearing loss through information, education, support and advocacy.

HLAA is the nation's foremost membership and advocacy organization for people with hearing loss. HLAA publishes the bimonthly Hearing Loss Magazine, holds annual conventions, a Walk4Hearing, and more. Check out: [www.hearingloss.org/](http://www.hearingloss.org/).

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

### **Meetings are hearing accessible**

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

All meetings are audio looped and captioned. Interpreters are available on request *for evening meetings only*-- contact Linda Siple, 585 288 6744, or at [lasnss@rit.edu](mailto:lasnss@rit.edu), at least a week in advance. **(This phone number is only to request an Interpreter.)**

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