



HLAA, Rochester Chapter
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June 2011

JUNE Calendar

Tues., June 7th – 11:00 am Daytime meeting

Brown Bag lunch, then Program at Noon.

7:00 pm - Refreshments and Social Time

7:30 pm – Evening meeting.

St. Paul’s Episcopal Church, East Ave. and Westminster Rd across from George Eastman House, enter thru rear door.

Thurs. June 9th—Board of Directors

7:30 pm – Justin Vignor Room, Al Sigl Center

Wed., June 15th – between Noon & 3pm –

RWC movie, Loew’s Webster. Check theatre for movie & exact time; then social time.

They’re back! At last! And in High Definition!

Tues., June 28th – Program Planning Meeting-

Evening meetings – 6pm –JV room, Al Sigl Center (see article on page 3)

SAVE THESE FUTURE DATES

Tues., July 12th – Program Planning Meeting-

Daytime meetings – 10am – Sue Miller’s home (see article on page 3)

Sun., Aug. 14st, PICNIC – Sue & Scott Miller’s Cottage on Keuka Lake

Tues., Sept. 13th - Chapter meetings start again after summer hiatus. (Note: it is 2nd Tuesday of Sept.)

Tues., Sept. 20th – Board of Directors

Hospitality Duties for June

Daytime Meeting – Jeannette Kanter, Jessie Lazeroff

Evening Meeting – Barb Law

Board of Directors – Joe Kozelsky



JUNE PROGRAM

(at St. Paul’s Church, East Ave. & Westminster Rd.)

Tuesday, June 7th – Daytime Meeting – 11 am

“HEARING AIDS DON’T HELP ME ANY MORE. WHAT SHOULD I DO?” –Paul O. Dutcher, MD; and, Mark Orlando, MS, PhD, University of Rochester Medical Center

If you are considering a Cochlear Implant, you should plan to attend this presentation. At one time, as your audiogram line descended to the bottom of the page, your audiologist would sigh, “There’s nothing more I can do to help you.” Happily, for individuals with severe/profound deafness, the **Cochlear Implant** can provide a return to a more “normal” communication life style.

Cochlear Implants do not restore “normal” hearing. Rather, they are prostheses which directly stimulate the auditory nerve in the brain, bypassing diseased or dead “hair cells” in the inner ear. Many implantees can understand speech, music, and a cacophony of ambient noises.

Veteran otolaryngologist Paul Dutcher, and Mark Orlando, Director of research and education at Strong, comment on the only device that replicates a human sense. Among the topics they will touch on:

- Deciding when you’re ready for a CI
- Criteria for candidacy
- Description of surgery, before, during, after
- Programming (“mapping”)
- Different manufacturers

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Tuesday, June 7th, Daytime meeting (cont.)

CI topics to be touched on (continued):

- Keep your expectations low, and your hopes high: end results
- Further help: auditory training
- Are two CI's better?

Dr. Dutcher is a long-time friend and our chapter's permanent Medical Consultant. Most of our members who received Cochlear Implants at Strong Hospital have been his patients. He is the Director of the Otology Center of Western NY and has served on the UR Medical Center faculty since 1983.

Dr. Orlando has been associated with Strong Hospital since he received a fellowship there in 1987. He has "mapped" many HLAA-Rochester members' Cochlear Implants.

Tuesday, June 7th, Evening meeting – 7:00 pm

'JOB SEARCH AND EMPLOYMENT: IT'S CLEAR, COMMUNICATION IS CRITICAL!' – John Macko, NTID Center on Employment.

Mr. Macko will provide tips and strategies that job seekers and employees with hearing loss can use in disclosing their disability, dealing with communication and requesting accommodations. Those in attendance are invited to share their experiences on these topics. Mr. Macko gave a similar talk at the 2010 HLAA National Convention.

John Macko, is Director, NTID Center on Employment. The center serves hard of hearing and deaf students, graduates, and alumni looking for jobs and works with companies and organization employing them. Mr. Macko holds degrees from RIT.

HLAA-Rochester chapter meetings are held in the vestry room at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, East Ave. at Westminster Road, across from George Eastman House. All programs are audio looped. Those needing a sign language interpreter should contact Linda Siple at 585 475 6712. For more information visit www.hlaa-rochester-ny.org or telephone 585 266 7890.

HLAA opens the world of communication to people with hearing loss through information, advocacy, education and support. Our message is: *"Hearing loss is a daily challenge you can overcome. You do not have to hide your hearing loss. You do not have to face hearing loss alone."*

LEADERS COLUMN

By Don Bataille



There has been so much happening the past couple of months, I am not sure where to begin.

First, a huge THANK YOU to everyone who helped to make this year's W4H a HUGE SUCCESS. WOW! Rochester kicked off **HLAA 2011 Walk4Hearing** with a great walk and set an example for other chapters to emulate. Thank you to everyone who joined us in this year's W4H walk, increasing awareness of hearing loss issues in our community and demonstrating support for HLAA activities and programs through your donations.

A great job, and special thanks to everyone who worked behind the scenes. Fantastic job by members of the Steering Committee... **Sue, Pete, Mary, Barb, Kelly, Jeannette, Ginny and Ray, Gerianne, Pat, Art, Carol, Laura...** with countless planning meetings. The many **unsung heroes...** **Marlene, Boy Scout Troup 31, and others**, for their preparation work, along with HLAA National making this W4H a better hearing event with real-time cell phone captioning.

Congratulations to the 7 **Scholarship** winners. Our Scholarship fund is supported by funds raised at the Walk and continues to help students with hearing loss achieve their dreams.

Congratulations to **Penfield Library**, winner of our HLAA Community Organization Award, and **Joe Kozelsky**, past BOD president for well-deserved recognition as winner of the HLAA-Rochester Chapter Award. The Community Person Award was given to **Larry Taylor**, MCLS.

Thank you to the Board of Directors and Committee members for keeping our chapter at the top. HLAA-Rochester is recognized as one of the best chapters in the country! Our chapter has provided **several National Board of Director members—Jim DeCaro, Marcia Dugan, Jeannette Kanter, and Pete Fackler** (current president), and continues to set the mark.

Thank you to everyone who attended our **day and evening chapter program meetings**. Our meeting attendance is growing thanks to the many excellent

(continued on next page)

LEADERS COLUMN (continued)

program presenters. We are in the process of planning our 2011-2012 program line up and have several very good programs in mind responding to hearing loss.

At our May program meetings, many of you completed an informal survey evaluation form to help the Board **establish a HLAA-Rochester Position regarding supporting and/or participating in various research programs that would provide benefit to individuals with hearing loss.** About 81 percent of the respondents indicated that they would like to receive research program notifications listed in our Newsletter, and 58 percent indicated they would be interested in participating in a research program.

Many have responded to the Captioned Call Phone Study, the RIT/NTID Speech Perception Study, and the U of R/NCDHR Task Force to study health issues of People with hearing loss (PHL). The PHL task force is of particular interest because it will focus directly on PHL health issues through a Community Based Participatory Research program with HLAA-Rochester members and non members. The task force would formulate its own vision and mission statement and provide the basis for future research programs. Please contact Mary Chizuk at mcchiz@bluefrog.com or me, at don@bataille.us if you are interested in participating in our PHL task force.

We have several 2011-12 initiatives-- a **Parents Group Conference** is being planned for early Fall thanks to **Katy Kuczek and Pete Fackler**; additional research programs are in the planning stages; Going Green in 2011-12; and a new web page format is being designed thanks to **Barb Law and David Hartman**. Other ongoing activities include legislative support for hearing aid tax credits and insurance coverage thanks to **Joe Damico and members of the Legislative Committee**, Health fair attendance, Technology Committee with T-Loop assistance, and our excellent Newsletter-- **thank you, Ginger, Ginny, and Janet.**

Many of us are attending the **HLAA National Convention in DC** later this month and will be sharing what we have learned at our September Meeting.

Have a great summer and remember to change your hearing aid tubes and filters for a better hearing summer.

PLANNING THE PROGRAMS FOR YOUR CHAPTER MEETINGS

Are you tired of "the same old subjects" at our Chapter meetings? We hope not!! But.... 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 to June.

Planning meeting for Evening sessions:

Tues., June 28th, 6 pm, Barb Law, Justin Vigdor room, Al Sigl Center; pizza & drinks provided

Planning meeting for Daytime sessions:

Tues., July 12th, 10:00 am at Sue Miller's home, 16 Buckthorn Run, Victor; refreshments

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; (585) 381-8640
Sue Miller: SusanLeeMiller39@cs.com; (585) 924-8933

PARENTS COLUMN

By Katy Kuczek

Happy Campers! Summer is almost here. Time to make plans to keep our children busy for the next couple of months! If you haven't already signed your child up for camp, here are some options for learning and socialization to consider for children with hearing loss:

<http://www.rit.edu/ntid/techgirlz/>

<http://www.agbell.org> (Enter "camps" into the search field)

<http://www.clerccenter.gallaudet.edu> (Enter "camps" into the search field)

<http://www.acacamps.org>

http://www.kidscamps.com/special_needs/speech_hearing.html

TechGirlz Camp, hosted here locally at RIT/NTID, is for girls entering 7th, 8th, and 9th grades who are interested in careers in science, technology, engineering and math, held July 30 – August 5. Campers will build computers to



keep, investigate a 'crime scene,' use laboratory instruments, and more. Registration deadline: May 31st.

If your child has hearing loss, please consider joining our Parents group at HLAA. Contact:

kkuczek@rochester.rr.com for more information.

WEBSITES OF INTEREST:

Our Chapter website is: www.hlaa-rochester-ny.org.

(Submitted by Michelle Gross):

If you're wondering if there is a quick way to find movies on Netflix which have English subtitles burned in or captions or a combination of the two on streamed movies, try <http://www.phlixie.com/aboutcaptions> . It's free but you have to sign up. If you do sign up you can use the site to add movies directly to your Netflix queue. Remember, with Netflix streaming captions are only available on a PC/Mac, Nintendo Wii, Sony PS3, GoogleTV, and Boxee Box . This site offers more variety in finding captioned streaming Netflix movies than the Netflix webpage (<http://movies.netflix.com/Subtitles>)

Have you checked HLAA's Can You Hear Me Now? HLAA Hearing Aid Compatible Cell Phone Survey ? If not, go to: http://www.hearingloss.org/advocacy/pdfs/2011HAC_Survey_Results.pdf

(Submitted by Al Suffredini):

Tinnitus Information: Fact sheet from the National Center for Rehabilitative Auditory Research includes a description of symptoms and info on evaluation and treatment.

This link opens a PDF document.

www.ncrar.research.va.gov/ForVets/Documents/QAAboutTinnitus.pdf.

The website for National Center for Rehabilitative Auditory Research is:

www.ncrar.research.va.gov/Index2.asp.

Summary of tinnitus causes and treatment. Go to:

www.nlm.gov/medlineplus/tinnitus.html.

Is Medicare Part D Necessary? Do you need it? Consider all your options.

[www.aarp.org/health/medicare-insurance/info-11-2009/Part 4 Do you need Medicare Part D.html?cmp=NLC-HLTH-CTRL-030311-F5t-31](http://www.aarp.org/health/medicare-insurance/info-11-2009/Part4%20Do%20you%20need%20Medicare%20Part%20D.html?cmp=NLC-HLTH-CTRL-030311-F5t-31).

Even mild hearing loss doubles risk of dementia. Study by Elizabeth Agnvall, AARP Bulletin, 2-14-11 and researchers at Johns Hopkins and the National Institute on Aging. Go to: www.aarp.org/health/medical-research/info-02-

[2011/hearing_loss_linked_to_dementia.html?cmp=NLC-HLTH-CTRL-030311-F2t-13](http://www.aarp.org/health/medical-research/info-02-2011/hearing_loss_linked_to_dementia.html?cmp=NLC-HLTH-CTRL-030311-F2t-13).

(Submitted by Don Bataille):

New Jersey's "Monthly Communicator" published the article by Janice Schacter Lintz, "How to use an Assistive Listening System at the theater if you are hard of hearing." Go to: www.state.nj.us/humanservices/ddhh/newsletters/communicator/current/MC%20May%202011.pdf.

**WALK4HEARING 2011**

By Sue Miller

The Walk4Hearing drew a large crowd again as the Rochester Chapter continued its efforts to support all people with hearing loss! The 2011 Walk took place at Perinton Park in Fairport under sunny skies, temperatures in the high 60's, and with an abundance of beautiful Spring flowers along the way. Close to 450 members and friends of the Rochester HLAA Chapter attended the event—the 6th to be held since the 2006 inaugural Walk.

The crowd enjoyed a sumptuous breakfast buffet before the Walk, browsed the silent auction, and enjoyed the antics of Just Clowning Around. Lively guitar music was provided by Bryan Law and Brian Ayers before the Walk, and Devin Petz and Joe Ceravola did the honors after the Walk.

Channel 10 morning news anchor, **Rebecca Leclair**, introduced celebrity walkers and guests, and asked Mark Hargrave and all the children to help with the countdown to launch the Walk.

We are grateful to everyone who helped make this annual event an outstanding success. The support of the team donors and the event sponsorships have, for the first time, topped the \$35,000 mark with Federated Clover Investment Advisors and Manning & Napier Advisors leading the way with a generous gift each of \$3,000. They were followed by ITT Residential & Commercial Waters and The Maco Group each donating \$2,500. This was a local record for a Walk4Hearing sponsorship! Even though exact financial tallies were not available at press time, we are assured that our goal of \$40,000 was surpassed. Details will appear in our September Newsletter.

(continued on next page)

WALK4HEARING (continued)

The Walk Committee is made up of almost 100 people, all working to do their best to make the Walk an outstanding success. Almost all of the area's audiologists participated as well as many of the hearing healthcare providers. Our sincerest thanks to all of you! A special thanks to all the Event Sponsors and Captains who organized teams, to Boy Scout Troop #31 and to ALL who participated. Our deepest thanks to each and every one of you...including the Sisters of Mercy who prayed all year for good weather on May 1st!

Sue Miller, Chair, Walk4Hearing 2011

ANNUAL PICNIC
August. 14th, at 1 pm, Keuka Lake



Swimming, boat rides, sunning, good food, relaxation and fun conversation on what we hope/expect will be a sunny day on Keuka Lake. Bring along your Frisbee, horseshoes, Jarts, and more!

Please bring a dish to pass –salads, or appetizers, or desserts, and serving spoons. The chapter provides beverages, paper products, silverware, and the meat item.

Location: Sue & Scott Miller's cottage

10461 (formerly 1050) East Bluff Drive, Penn Yan (south of Keuka College)

Home phone: (585) 924-8933

Email: SusanLeeMiller29@cs.com

Directions: Use Canandaigua Exit 44 off the NYS Thruway. Route 332 into Canandaigua. Turn left onto Rt. 5/20. About 9 miles, turn right onto County Rt. 5 (which turns into Rt. 14A), where the sign points to "Hall" and "Penn Yan." Straight into Penn Yan. At the 5th traffic light, turn right onto Elm St. Rt.54A) Follow signs for Keuka College

This will take you onto E. Bluff Drive. Miller's **BLUE** lakeside cottage at 10461 E. Bluff Drive is close to the end of the bluff. Keuka Lake will be on your left as you drive South on the bluff. Look for balloons on the mailbox. **Plan to park on the road** due to very limited parking down a long, curvy driveway.

We Welcome All Donations

Please make your check payable to: HLAA-Rochester
HLAA is a 501©(3) organization.

Mail to: Mr. Don Bataille, HLAA Board President,
8 Springwood Lane, Pittsford, NY 14534.

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.

NATIONAL CONVENTION

Date: Thursday, June 16 through Sunday, June 19th

Place: Hyatt Regency Crystal City Hotel,
Arlington, VA (outside Washington, DC)

Reservations: NOW. Visit the Convention page at
www.hearingloss.org.



Being held in conjunction with our Convention is the 2nd Hearing Loop Conference—"Get in the Hearing Loop" on June 18 – 20.

Registration: To register for either or both, go to: www.hearingloss.org/convention/ or, call, 301-657-2248.

Book your flight on UNITED, United Express or select Star Alliance using www.united.com, or by calling 800-521-4041. Use **Meeting/Tour Code 588AG.**

Our own, **Sue Miller**, will hold a get-acquainted session for newcomers, as she has done for many years.

Rochester members planning to attend, please go to our website: www.hlaa-rochester-ny.org for the form to fill out to receive a STIPEND.



for your donation to HLAA:

Nancy Nurick and Gary Mount, in memory of Sally Trafton.

Sandi Willsey, for donation above membership.

CMAC NOW HAVE FM SYSTEMS

(By Al Suffredini)

If you attend a performance at CMAC at Finger Lakes Performing Arts Center, Canandaigua, this season, please get back to us with your feedback.

They have 85 FM receivers available. To request a receiver, you would need to ask an usher for directions to where to obtain one.



The FM receivers come with a “walkman”-type ear plug. This type of ear plug in many cases is not effective for those having severe to profound hearing loss. A neck loop is needed for them to benefit from the FM System. CMAC has no neck loops, so HOH people would need to provide their own. **We would appreciate input from anyone who attends a concert there this summer.**

Please email me at: asuff@frontiernet.net.

“THE ABC’S OF DOMES”

(Excerpt from Hart Hearing Center, April 2011)

Don't worry, this is not a lesson in architecture! The domes we are concerned with are the ones that fit into your ears at the end of a low profile hearing instrument. In lieu of a traditional earmold, more and more people are wearing domes for all the benefits they provide: increased comfort and low visibility to name a couple. These domes are not meant to last the life of the instrument, nor is it necessary to change them often. Here are some tips to get the most out of your domes:

-Normally, domes should be changed only once a month. They may become discolored, but if they are fairly new, they should still be fine.

-If you are concerned with the fit or comfort of the dome or instrument, you should schedule an appointment with your audiologist. Domes come in different sizes and we may need to change the size you are wearing. It is not unheard of for one person to wear two different sized domes in each ear!

-If possible, hold onto the packaging of your domes. That way, when you come in to purchase another package, we will be able to find the right size quickly.

“Good company in a journey makes the way to seem the shorter.” -- Izaak Walton

About HLAA

The Hearing Loss Association of America (HLAA), founded in 1979, opens the world of communication to people with hearing loss through information, education, advocacy and support. HLAA publishes the bimonthly Hearing Loss Magazine, holds annual conventions, a Walk4Hearing, and more. Check out <http://www.hearingloss.org/>. HLAA has chapters and state organizations across the country.

RBTL LIVE THEATRE--- CAPTIONED!

“WEST SIDE STORY – Sunday, June 5th”

Tickets become available 6 weeks in advance of each show. Request seats in “open captions” viewing section.



Call 222-5000.

SUMMER ACTIVITIES

...for summer events—picnic, baseball, bowling ??

Please contact Barb Law with your ideas at

Blaw1@rochester.rr.com

...”Program Planning” meetings –see article on page 3. We need YOUR input to plan future chapter meetings. Contact Sue at SusanLeeMiller39@cs.com, or, Barb Law at Blaw1@rochester.rr.com.

HUMOR

(from Mildred cartoons) (Submitted by Barb Gates)

Some one-liners to make you laugh:

- You're just jealous because the voices only talk to me!
- I'm starting to wonder how bad 4 years with no President would be.
- Ever stop to think, and forget to start again?
- A hangover is the Wrath of Grapes!
- I used to have a handle on life but it broke.

RUNNING FOR A REASON



Support HLAA by sponsoring **Dr. Steve Hart** when he runs his first marathon, Oct. 30th, in Washington, DC! Suggested donation 1 dollar/mile = \$26; or 50 cents/mile for \$13. Supports to be listed on his website: www.HartHearing.com, and you'll be given a link to track Dr. Hart's progress during the race!

NATIONAL HLAA NEWS

HEALTH FAIR AT DOME ARENA

NYS Senator Jim Alesi is sponsoring the 22nd Family Health and Fitness Fair at the Dome Arena. This year, the date is **Thursday, Oct. 6th, from 10 am to 4 pm.**

Over 100 exhibitors. Free testings and screenings, both hearing and health, and food samplings, prizes, etc. HLAA has a table and Joe Damico is looking for **your help for a couple of hours Oct. 6th**. Our volunteers describe the functions of HLAA—you don't need to be a professional! This is a great way to get the word out about our Rochester Chapter. It is the premier health show of the year, and it's FREE—parking and admittance.

Please contact Joe Damico at 426-3191 or, at JGDamico@frontiernet.net, soon.

Subject of Sept. 13th Chapter Meetings

Daytime Meeting & Evening Meeting:

HLAA-Rochester members and companions will report on the National Convention held in Crystal City, Virginia, (Washington, DC) in June 2011.

THOUGHT FOR TODAY

“Tomorrow you must do the thing you think you cannot do!” *Eleanor Roosevelt*

CAPTIONED iPHONE APP

From Santa Barbara, CA, NL – March 2011;
Submitted by Ginny Koenig

Do you have an iPhone, iPad, Android Phone or an Android Tablet? “CAPTIONED”™ an iPhone App that displays synchronized dialog for first-run films, will be an invaluable tool for hard of hearing, deaf, and non-English speaking movie-goers. You will be able to go to any theatre any time to see any movie! The App is expected to be available in Spring 2011. If you want to sign up for email notifications, go to: www.captionedapp.com/. You can also follow CAPTIONED™ on Facebook.

ACCESS TO THE AIRLINES—ARE WE THERE YET? – Condensed from the blog of Lise Hamlin; excerpt from Albuquerque, NM Newsletter 3/2011; Submitted by Ginny Koenig

Editors note: With vacation season fast approaching, HLAA has been working to get you better treatment by the airlines.

HLAA has been working with the Department of Transportation (DOT) forum on the Air Carrier Access Act (ACAA)... “Working together to improve air travel for passengers with disabilities.”

People with hearing loss have seen some improvements over the last few years. Some airlines are providing more visual display of info at the gate. In newer planes, we are beginning to see visual display showing not only seat belt use, but when to shut down your electronics (including cell phones!). And on some international flights, there is seat-back access to movies with a choice of captioning. When emergency info is provided on a video, that video is now required to be captioned.

HLAA strongly objects to rules that require self-identification of individuals with hearing loss at every point in the process. We object not only because it puts the onus on the individual to declare their hearing loss but because it doesn't work.

HLAA's position is that all audible announcements should be accessible via text—and not just canned announcements, but live announcements—at the gate, on the aircraft, and at the baggage area. In areas that can be looped, looping should be provided. In addition, when an airline provides videos, there should be an option to caption those videos. We know it can be done. The technology is there. It's time for the air carriers to step up to the plate.

We also believe that better and more on-point training should be provided to airline staff. We have received reports that current training does a good job of informing staff about the law, but it does less well letting them know how to interact with people with different disabilities.

At DOT's forum, it was emphasized that consumers need to send complaints in, or things won't change. DOT says that they receive very few complaints from people with hearing loss. To file a complaint, go to: <http://airconsumer.ost.dot.gov/escomplaint/es.cfm>.

NATIONAL HLAA NEWS

CLOSED CAPTIONING OF MOVIES

By Barbara Kelley, 5-3-2011

Cinemark Holdings, one of the largest motion picture exhibitors, has agreed to roll out closed captioning technology in every auditorium of their first-run theaters in California by June 2012. HLAA is thrilled to see CC being rolled out and expects to see more theaters provide closed captioning devices across the country as theater owners forge ahead with installation of digital equipment to display movies. In fact, Regal Cinemas is making its first run movie theaters fully accessible to people with hearing loss in Seattle, Washington, as well as Plattsburg, NY. For more info, go to: www.regmovies.com/nowshowing/opencaptionedshowtimes.aspx.

AMC also provides info about their open and closed captioned showings. They note that nearly 160 theaters have Rear Window Captioning (which they also refer to as “closed captioning”). Check the schedules for their films at www.amctheatres.com/AssistedMoviegoing, or, visit: www.captionfish.com, which provides information about your local captioned and subtitled showings, regardless of theaters.

Newsletter Deadline

Sunday, July 31st
(for the SEPTEMBER Newsletter)

Email: ggraham859@frontiernet.net

There are no Newsletters in July & August.

COUNCIL FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

By Meredith Low

I was formally appointed to the County of Monroe – City of Rochester Council for people with Disabilities – “The Council” - by County Executive Maggie Brooks and then-Mayor Robert J. Duffy by letter in 2007, after going through a screening process. The Council’s membership consists of 9 volunteers from the community residing in Monroe County and/or the City of Rochester and 4 ex-officio Council members, 2 each from the mayor’s office and the County Executive’s office. The Council meets monthly.

Council members have met with people working in various government departments. Examples include but are not limited to the following Monroe County departments: Office of Emergency Management, 9-1-1

Emergency Communications Department, the County Parks Office, and more. My role as a Council member is suggesting ways government services could become more accessible to people with hearing loss. (Other Council members represent City and County citizens with other disabilities.)

If you live in Rochester and/or Monroe County and wish to communicate your thoughts regarding City/County government services, please send me a brief email: meredithlow@yahoo.com. Thank you.

EXCESSIVE ALCOHOL CAN INFLUENCE HEARING LOSS – (Irish Medical Times, 11/19/10; By Aoife Connors; Submitted by Ginny Koenig)

Excessive alcohol consumption may affect our hearing, new research has found. Dr. Nina Byrnes, Irish GP and Medical Liaison Office with Hidden Hearing—the Irish hearing health care provider—explained that studies have shown that high alcohol consumption over a long period of time can result in damage to the central auditory cortex of the brain and may lead to brain shrinkage. As the damage to the auditory nerves adds up, even moderate drinkers may risk nerve damage and hearing loss.

Research shows that alcohol can result in brain damage, but the quantity and length of time needed to accomplish this remains unknown. Although the ears may continue to function perfectly, the brain is no longer able to process the sounds.

The high levels of alcohol in the bloodstream can create a toxic environment known as “ototoxicity,” which can damage the delicate hair cells in the cochlea. A previous British study shows that alcohol and noise can cause temporary hearing loss. Researchers also believe that a regular ingestion of alcohol may lead to permanent hearing loss in the long term.

Dr. Byrnes says, “As people’s ability to hear reduces, it can often lead to other problems, such as less social interaction, lack of confidence, depression, etc.”

REAR WINDOW CAPTIONED MOVIES

RWC movies return to AMC Loew’s Webster, after a 6-month hiatus. Captioned movies are now in high definition, and Kevin Deutsch, Manager, is anticipating HLAA members will greatly appreciate the new system.

The next movie dates are: Wed. June 15, then in the Fall, Wed., September 21st. (Ginger will be on vacation out West and not available until the Sept. date.)

THIS IS OUR LAST NEWSLETTER UNTIL SEPTEMBER. Have a great summer! *Ginger Graham*



Hearcare Hearing Centers

Dr. Jared Teter, Au.D.

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(585) 421-7039

Tobey Village Office Park
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www.rhsc.org



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HLAA Membership Information

Hearing Loss Association (HLAA) Rochester Chapter, 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 September through June at St.Paul’s Episcopal Church, East Ave. 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:
 Ginger Graham
 859 Meadow Ridge Lane
 Webster, NY 14580
 ggraham859@frontiernet.net

Membership Application – Rochester Chapter

Yes, I want to join -- support entitles me to receive the newsletter in order to be alerted to programs for Daytime, & Evening Chapter Meetings and Cochlear Implant meetings.
 Yes, I need transportation to meetings

Check type of contribution
 Individual \$10 Friend of HLAA \$25
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Send to:
 Mr. Donald Bataille, HLAA Board President
 8 Springwood Lane, Pittsford, NY 14534

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HLAA is the largest international consumer organization dedicated to the well-being of people who do not hear well.

To join, please see inside back page. HLAA has more than 200 chapters and 14 state organizations. Welcome!

Meetings are hearing accessible

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

Audio loop (all meetings)

Captioning (evening only)

Interpreters on request- contact Linda Siple, 585/475-6712, lasnss@rit.edu a week in advance

Entrance to meeting room is from rear door next to fence