

Telephone: (585) 266-7890 Email: hlaa.rochester@yahoo.com

Website: https://www.hearinglossrochester.org



Volume 35, Number 10 June 2022

Live at St. Paul's on June 7th with Zoom available

JUNE CALENDAR

Tuesday, June 7, 10 am-11 am in person, St Paul's Vestry Room: Joe Kozelsky: HOPE Session: 'Hearing Other People's Experiences' (HOPE)

Tuesday, June 7, 11:30 am - Noon at St Paul's Parish Hall and on Zoom: Chapter announcements and business meeting.

Tuesday, June 7, Noon -1 PM at St Paul's Parish Hall and on Zoom: Mary Chizuk RN, Ret; MS Ed Accessible Healthcare for People with Hearing Loss: A Call to Action

Tuesday, June 14, 7 PM AT AL SIEGEL CENTER: Board of Directors Meeting

THURSDAY, JUNE 16. 10:00 AM-2:00 PM ASSISTIVE LISTENING DEVICES DEMO CENTER. Technology Team. In person. Lifespan, 1900 South Clinton Avenue, 14618.

Tuesday, June 28, 8 pm - 9 pm on Zoom: "Hear Together": Parent/Caregiver Support Group

Please check our Chapter Website hearinglossrochester.org for any changes

June Programs

Hearing Loss Association of America (HLAA) Rochester Chapter offers several live and hybrid programs in June benefitting anyone interested in hearing loss. All are free and some also on the Zoom platform. As well, all are captioned. Preregistration for Zoom sessions is required by visiting the HLAA website at: http://hearinglossrochester.org

Programs for June are:

Tuesday, June 7, 10 AM-11 AM, Live in St. Paul's Vestry Room: Joseph KozelskyCCC/A. Hearing Other People's Experiences (HOPE)

Prospective, new or experienced hearing aid users can share their experiences, questions, and hearing loss journeys in an informal round table format. We learn

(Continued on page 4)

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Art Maurer, President



 $Better\ Hearing = Better\ Living!$

With my two-year stint coming to an end, I must say being president of HLAA's Rochester Chapter is one of the most interesting challenges I've ever had, and I've had a few. Being an all-volunteer outfit, we need to rely on each other to accomplish our

designated tasks, and you all have performed in stellar fashion. I found we can always count on having each job done with excellent results...and on-time. My thanks to each of you for making my job so much easier. I'm sure you'll support our new president, Dan Brooks; he is astute on the issues of living with hearing loss, plus being more reasoned and polished.

In spite of the pandemic and the fact we had to cease all in person meetings in March 2020, we persevered using Zoom. Significant to the transition were Chas Johnstone and our Tech Team researching Zoom, then he and Dan Brooks patiently guided those of us needing help through the Zoom protocols. Working through Zoom registration and scheduling took a lot of effort. Then Dan Brooks gave us our email *Monthly Updates* reminder; and Eric Matson took the initiative to get our monthly presentations on YouTube. Lorin Gallistel developed our Virtual Demo Center and Michell Gross embedded all the necessary details on our website.

Other than not being able to be together physically, Zoom has proven to be effective with some surprising potentials. We haven't had in person Board or committee meetings over the past two years, yet attendance at the meetings has been as good as or better than before. With distance no longer being a barrier, we've begun to proactively reach out, and been surprised as folks in other states have joined in our presentations.

Quite a bit has been accomplished too. We've engaged a designer for our materials and have a new brochure, compatible print media ads, and a 3X5 Welcome Card. Our new Tip Card, borrowed from National, is a popular self-help piece for those with and without hearing loss.

Outreach initiatives are starting in Buffalo, and we hope soon in Syracuse. A program of presentations in (Continued on page 3)

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Lorin Gallistel- 2022 HLAA Rochester Chapter Award Recipient

Presented by Chas Johnson

At the annual Chapter dinner on May 24, 2022, Lorin Gallistel was presented the 2022 HLAA Rochester Chapter Award.



Lorin is humble, soft spoken, very motivated and committed to sharing his knowledge; working tirelessly to develop strategies to share his knowledge that can be understood by a layperson with minimal technical background.

Although you would have to drag this information out of him about his formal education and past work experiences, Loren

earned undergraduate degrees in Electrical Engineering and a Ph.D. in Engineering Research from the Grainger College of Engineering, University of Illinois at Urbana -Champaign. From there, he had a very productive career in electronic hardware and software product design.

Lorin recently wrote, "My hearing loss developed gradually over the past 25 years. It became severe by 2015 and I have been wearing hearing aids since then. Although hearing loss played a central role in generating my initial interest in ALD products, the knowledge acquired during my career keeps me interested in following the evolution of technology that will further improve our ability to hear and understand."

Lorin became the Chairperson of the Chapter Technology Committee in 2017. This is a very challenging and time-consuming position as technology related to hearing loss is constantly changing. He continues to do a great job trying out new devices and keeping us up-todate on the latest assistive technology. In the Fall of 2019, Lorin was elected to the Chapter Board of Directors. He continues to contribute to the direction of the Chapter with his knowledge of technology and easygoing demeanor. Lorin is among the "Trainers" and a significant contributor to the direction of the Assistive Listening Device Demo Center. The monthly demo center sessions have been meeting via Zoom for the past two years. As we ease back to in-person sessions, Lorin continues to contribute to bring the devices displayed up-to-date.

Among Lorin's significant contributions is the design, creation and maintenance of a "Virtual ALD Demo Center" website. This site served as a substitute for the in-person sessions. It has become so useful that it will continue to be available after the in-person sessions have resumed.

The Rochester Chapter is blessed to have Lorin Gallistel on-board and will continue to benefit from his contributions.



Of Interest to Veterans

Submitted by Gerry Loftus

Fox Nation is offering a free year subscription to Fox Nation to all military, veterans and First Responders. If interested, go to **FoxNation.com** and click on "Unlock Offer".

Free RTS Bus Passes for Veterans. The Veterans Outreach Center (VOC), in partnership with the Rochester Transit Service (RTS), is proud to provide bus passes to veterans free of charge. The passes can be used on any RTS bus in Monroe County and are good for three years. Eligibility requirements are:

- 1 Be a veteran and not have been dishonorably discharged.
- 2. Provide a valid photo ID.
- 3. Provide a copy of a DD214 or have a military/VA ID card AND submit an SF 180 to retrieve a DD214.
- 4. Complete the VOC intake process by contacting the VOC at 585.546.1081.
- 5. Visit the VOC at 447 South Ave., Rochester, to have your photo taken and receive your bus pass.

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President's Message

(Continued from page 1)

library branches has been launched, we're exploring how to be of help to folks living in senior residences and a new collaboration with the Monroe County Sheriff's office has begun. For the first time, HLAA is reaching into the heart of Rochester – neighborhoods where many have not been able to afford hearing aids but for the first time may find OTC and Assistive Listening Device technology within reach.

Our Potential Future – including OTCs...

The above initiatives and others like them must be carried forward to develop the HLAA of the future. Our customers will be younger with preference for use of on -line resources including continued use of lessons learned during the pandemic. Hearing aid technologies will also change and Over-the-Counter (OTC) will bring disruptive impact to the marketplace. This includes the opportunity to serve broader segments of economic strata. Our well-established pre-pandemic in person support -education-advocacy model will, over time, prove to be unsustainable.

What do I mean? Our potential future challenges us to network more, beyond traditional perceived boundaries; often collaborating with distant chapters. Using on-line presentations, the need for meaningful content becomes crucial since, even with hybrid meetings, the elements of in person socialization will not be as prevalent. Technologies will be ever changing, probably beyond what any chapter can absorb, so centralized multi-chapter or National analysis may be necessary.

Advice to customers must reach beyond specific technological considerations. First, urge the customer who is recognizing need to address his/her hearing loss to get tested to determine eligibility for OTC or need for professional assistance. Then, if OTC, consider vendor relationships and protections to assure the customer gets benefit for his/her hard-earned dollars. Refunds must be 100% with reimbursement of the dollars so the user is free to switch to the equipment and services of other providers. Some audiologists may engage in helping folks with their OTCs, the extent and fees have yet to be determined. We at HLAA must be willing to work with them to address customer needs. Finally, more focus should also be placed on helping parents with children having hearing loss to be aware of what is available and how to advocate for it.

What I'm trying to say is with new needs emerging, we are challenged with how to best address them?

As for me, I plan to be around working on some of the initiatives we started. Just be aware I do appreciate all you are doing and the fact you put up with my form of

generating a certain amount of chaos over the past two years.

Art Maurer amaurer40@frontier.com 585-721-5943

In the Spring 2022 issue of *Hearing Life* magazine there are meaningful articles on OTCs. See pages 4 and 20. And, on page 28, you'll find the article *Why I Like the HLAA Rochester Chapter*, written by HLAA Chapter and Membership Coordinator Carla Beyer-Smolin. You can read that issue at https://www.hearingloss.org/magazines/spring-2022

WE NEED HELP AT HEALTH FAIRS

Health Fairs are gatherings, indoor at community centers or outside at parks, organized by Monroe County and other sponsors, around the theme of educating and connecting individuals on the resources in health-related topics. Due to Covid restrictions we have not participated in these fairs over the past two years; we'll be reconnecting later this year.

HLAA Rochester chapter likes to participate in these events to raise awareness of Hearing Loss issues and Hearing Loss support. This is an opportunity for anyone who has an interest in promoting hearing health topics or connecting with the public at large to answer questions. Our group is uniquely positioned to give life experience understanding of difficulties and advise. Intrigued? Try it once and see.

We have targeted one event so far that we are scheduling HLAA- Rochester chapter participation. We will staff a table of information and demonstration at the 18th Annual Monroe County "Salute to Seniors Day" on Friday, August 26th, from 10am - 2pm at Ontario Beach Park.

Our HLAA group will list new health fair listings on the HLAA Rochester website when that information becomes available.

While on the subject, do you think your local town or community could benefit from this event? Contact the local Department of Aging and promote these gatherings.

PLEASE (figuratively) raise your hand and volunteer with the Education and Outreach committee Health Fair activity spearheaded by Trish Prosser (ppross240@aol.com) or Laura Arney (Larney1206@gmail.com).

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May Programs

(Continued from page 1)

from one another. Anyone interested in hearing loss is invited to join the hearing aid community.

Tuesday, May 7, Noon in St Paul's Parish Hall and on Zoom: . Mary Chizuk RN, Ret; MS Ed Accessible Healthcare for People with Hearing Loss: A Call to Action

For over two years, the Covid 19 pandemic has created an additional communication burden for people with hearing loss, says Mary Chizuk, chairperson of the Taskforce for Accessible Healthcare for People with Hearing Loss. Accurate communication can be crucial for us when it involves our own health. Our



past and now present and future are affected by the need to protect ourselves from Covid 19 and its variants, balanced with the need for clear communication with all healthcare personnel including providers and ancillary staff.

At the June chapter meeting, you are invited to share your health care experiences and provide direction for solving communication issues as we traverse this unchartered territory. Some changes are already being planned so you will know what will be available and how to request services.

Your input is valuable at all levels of healthcare—medical offices, telehealth, same day surgical sites and hospitals.

Says Mary: "You are being called to action now! Remember: Nothing About Us Without Us..."

Mary has a severe hearing loss. As an HLAA member for many years, she serves on the Boards of Directors for both the Rochester Chapter and NY State Association, She helped found and is current Co-Chair of HL2 (Healthy Living with Hearing Loss) at the University of Rochester.

The presentation is preceded by a chapter business meeting at 11:30am.

Thursday, June 16. 10:00 am-2:00 pm Assistive listening devices Demo center. Technology Team. In person. Lifespan, 1900 South Clinton Avenue, 14618.

At this free demonstration area, consumers are invited to view and try out a selection of assistive listening devices before actually buying them. Included are captioning-capable and amplified telephones, signaling -alerting devices and smart phone APP's related to hearing enhancement . Chapter members are on hand to answer visitors' questions.

Tuesday, June 28, 8 pm via Zoom: HearTogether: Parent/Caregiver Support Group. See the article in this newsletter for this exciting new offering from the HLAA Rochester Chapter to help parents with D/HoH children.



HLAA Rochester Chapter 2022 Summer Picnic

Sunday August 7th, 2022 2 pm to 7 pm



Dolomite Lodge (New Location!!!) 1628 Jackson Rd. Penfield, NY 14526

FREE to members, friends, & family if you RSVP; \$15 at door

Catered by D & R Catering (same as before)

Send RSVP's to Sue Miller no later than July 31st, 2022

Contact Informationsusanleemiller39@cs.com (585) 615-5136



Food, Ice Cream Social, Music Fun time with friends.



KEEP CHECKING THE CHAPTER FACEBOOK AND /OR WEBSITE FOR LATEST UPDATES

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ASSISTIVE LISTENING DEVICE DEMO CENTER

The Demo Center is back in person! Thanks to some of our regular, long-term volunteers (Dan Brooks, Lorin Gallistel, Eric Matson, and Sue Miller) and their enthusiastic efforts, the Demo Center sessions will resume on May 19th,

Visitors who visited pre-Covid were very appreciative of the attention and help they received. There are few places where people with a hearing loss can go to get instant help and quality free information! Lifespan's generosity, in so many ways, combined with the hard work and contribution of so many volunteers really makes a difference!

The types of devices represented during the demo sessions include signaling-alerting devices, captioned telephones and personal assistive listening devices [with an emphasis on TV listening and coping with noisy environments]. This season, several new, lower cost devices will be shown; including our new self-serve hearing

The device center is open the 3rd Thursday of each month (except July and August). The next demo session at Lifespan, 1900 S. Clinton Ave. (Tops plaza) is Thursday, June 16th from 10am to 2pm. Free. All are welcome!

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General Donations

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Thank you to our major contributors:

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July

August

June Fred Altrieth (over 90)

Barb Gates

12 Lorin Gallistel

Eric Matson

19 Gabriel Pellegrino

26 Tom Corteville

Barbara Rice

Suzanne Johnston

Art Maurer

Ann Cannarozza

10 Laura Chaba

Margaret Cochran 10

18 Lisa Bailey

19 Gary Wagner

23 Tom Hargrave

27 Carol Loftus

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



The HLAA 2022 Convention is in-person on June 23-25 at the JW Marriott Tampa Water Street in Tampa, Florida!

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

Stipends Available for NYS HLAA Conference

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

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

To add your name to the list, or to ask questions, email: Sue Miller at susanleemiller39@cs.com or call her at 585-924-8933.

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Persistence is Key when it Comes to Advocating for Your D/HH School-Aged Child

By Rebecca Sprague

Whether you're a hearing adult or a deaf/hard of hearing adult, navigating services for your child with hearing loss can be overwhelming on many levels. Thankfully, Early Intervention programs are wonderful for ages 0 to 3 years, where children can receive speech and language services, audio processing services, and the like. But what kind of services can your child receive once he/she starts Kindergarten? Unfortunately, it can depend on the school district you're in, and more than anything, it depends on what you as the parent ask for and advocate for.

Before your child enters Kindergarten, consider pushing for an Individualized Education Program (IEP) in lieu of a 504 plan—even when the district tells you that your child doesn't qualify for one. The IEP is a written document that's developed for each child who is eligible for special education. It's created through a team effort and is reviewed at least once a year with all team members: parents, teachers, school administrators, and school support staff.

A 504 Plan is designed to help children with disabilities learn alongside their peers, and they can be beneficial. However, there are fewer safeguards in the 504 Plan process than in the IEP process, which is why it's crucial to be proactive. Even mild hearing loss qualifies for an IEP, so do not take NO for an answer if you're hit with resistance.

I am by no means an expert in IEPs, and, of course, each child will have different accommodations, but from my experience with my son's single-sided hearing loss, at a *minimum* a D/HH IEP should contain:

- Preferential seating (front row, closest to the teacher)
- FM system or other amplification devices worn by the teacher
- Teacher of the Deaf/Hard-of-Hearing (TOD/HOH) services
- Audiology services
- Testing accommodations (if tests are delivered orally)

While each item listed above should absolutely be provided (at no cost to you) by your school district or its associated BOCES program, you will likely face opposition in obtaining one or more of these services—especially TOD/HOH services. Here is why you should

continue to advocate for a Teacher of the Deaf for your child: TOD/HOHs not only monitor the acoustic learning environment in the classroom and provide one-on-one learning and speech/language therapy to your child, they also (and perhaps most importantly) educate the classroom teacher(s) and your child's classmates on your child's hearing loss and how it affects his/her everyday learning experience. TOD/HOHs ensure that the classroom is appropriate for your child – that the teacher is using the FM properly, that the teacher is repeating questions or comments from students who are not amplified, that background noise is limited, etc.

My son's TOD/HOHs have been instrumental in teaching him about his hearing loss and how to ask for accommodations when needed. Likewise, the TOD/HOHs have been helpful in teaching me what I need to advocate for in terms of services for my son. If you're a hearing individual like me, you don't know what you don't know about hearing loss! TOD/HOHs teach parents, teachers, classmates, and the child himself how hearing loss affects learning and development, and how adding specific accommodations in an IEP will keep a D/HH individual on par with his peers.

As any parent will tell you, parenting is hard, and figuring out what your child needs for special education services in relation to his/her hearing loss is even harder. It's helpful to find a network of those in a similar situation to share notes, swap horror stories, and support each other with ideas and experiences that worked well for you and may work well for others in the same scenario.

Finally, don't be afraid to send what I like to call "Mama Bear" (or "Papa Bear") emails! There is nothing wrong with being adamant--provided you are not rude or mean in the process. These types of emails/phone calls let the recipients know that you will be persistent and unrelenting until your mission is accomplished for your child. And that is what advocating for our children is all about!

Buy Hearing Aid Batteries from HLAA
HLAA Rochester offers hearing aid
batteries at a very attractive price.
Batteries are available at in-person
chapter meetings. You may purchase
a pack of six for \$1.50, or an entire
box (60 batteries) for \$15.00.

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HLAA New York State Association (NYSA) - Update.

By Dan Brooks, Immediate Past President, HLAA-NYSA



Hello Everyone! I hope this article finds you well! This will be the last update I will be providing until the fall of 2022 since I, along with many others, will be taking a much needed break for the summer.

This summer I plan to enjoy my free time with friends and family camping and

staying at the family cottage. My family will also be busy cheering our son Gavin at his tennis matches and our daughter Maggie at her softball games.

I also am looking forward to our Rochester Chapter Members' Appreciation Summer Picnic, which is always a lot of fun. I hope to see many of you there! For many of us it might very well be the first time we have been able get to see one another in person!

The picnic will be held at the beautiful Dolomite Lodge in Penfield from 2 to 7pm Sunday Aug, 7th, 2022. If you are planning to attend you'll need to contact **Sue Miller** so she can add you to our attendee list. This will also help us to order the right amount of food. For more information on that please visit our chapter website at www.hearinglossrochester.org

On July 1, 2022, I will be assuming the position of President of our *HLAA Rochester Chapter*. I will say I am a little nervous mainly because our Chapter will be facing another shift on how things are done.

We owe a huge debt of thanks and much gratitude to our current president **Art Maurer** for the many hours of work, dedication, and leadership that was needed to keep the chapter functioning and productive during the shutdown due to the COVID Pandemic. Since we were not able to meet in person for the past two years we had to evolve to a remote environment. Fortunately, many of our members were able to make the change to a virtual platform. We also attracted people from other locations who ordinarily would not be able to join us due to distance. Meeting remotely has is pros but we dearly miss seeing one another in person and we really miss those that have not been able to join us remotely, for whatever reasons.

As things are beginning to open up we will be going through the process of opening our Chapter Meetings in a "hybrid" format, "in person" and via Zoom, simultaneously. I would like to continue with remote meetings especially for our board, committee and other Chapter "business" meetings. Meeting remotely for those type of meetings makes sense.

Events such as our HOPE sessions, Demo Center and Program meetings lend themselves to gathering in person. I am hoping for more "hybrid" meetings and events. A Hybrid event or meeting is a meeting where people can gather in person to participate in a meeting while those wishing to join remotely will also be able to at the same time.

For reasons of privacy and logicistics some meetings and events will return to strictly in person meetings, such as the HOPE sessions and Demo Center. We realize that there may be some people who will not be able to attend in person and prefer to attend remotely. At some point we may be able to find a solution for that issue but we will have to wait and see. I say this with confidence because our chapter is truly blessed by all the dedicated volunteers we currently have, and some solution may be found. Having said that our Chapter can only continue to function if we have volunteers to keep things going. We need volunteers to help continue our Chapter and move it forward. Please think of contributing a bit of your time to keep our Chapter, you will not be "tied" to a specific time. Find out more, you don't have to commit yourself.

Here are some updates about the *HLAA New York State Association (HLAA-NYSA)*. In previous updates you have heard about the upcoming **HLAA-NYSA State Conference in Glens** Falls, NY **September 16**th -18th! "It will be an event you will not want to miss!"

On Friday evening after enjoying delicious hors d'oeuvres and checking out the exhibitors there will be a private viewing of the Oscar winning Best Picture of the Year *CODA*! (CODA stands for Children Of Deaf Adults). Those who attend the viewing will enjoy the film with open captioning. The room is looped as well. Sit back and enjoy the film along with others as well as freshly made popcorn!

For those who are interested we will also have a 1 hour yoga session Saturday afternoon in a looped room! If this is something in which you are interested, please remember to bring your yoga mats! Later Saturday evening after the sit-down dinner, we will all enjoy some good laughter with comedians.

On Sunday, for those interested and have time, we will end our conference with a steamboat ride on Lake George. Since the conference will be in September, the boat ride will be enjoyed to its fullest with wonderful views of the fall foliage.

There is much to look forward to so don't wait to mark your calendar! If you have not already registered or reserved your room at the historic Queensbury Hotel where the conference will be hosted, please do soon! Discounted rooms will likely be scarce going forward. For more information on the upcoming 2022 HLAA-NYSA State Conference please visit our website at

www.hearinglossnys.org.

If you have questions specific to the New York State Conference, feel free to email us at NY-SASC2022@gmail.com.

By the time you read my next update the State Conference will be upon us and we are hoping it will be a conference of the decade! Until then, I thank you for all your support and hope to see many of you at the conference!

-Dan

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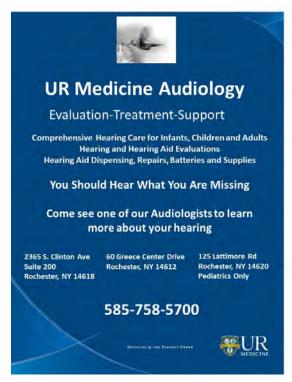


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HLAA Membership Information

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

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

For more information, call

585 266 7890 or see hearinglossrochester.org

Professional Advisors Sue Miller, Chair

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^^^^^ <u>Newsletter</u>

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

MEMBERSHIP FORM – HLAA-ROCHESTER CHAPTER

July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022
☐ I want to join as a first-time member ☐ I want to renew
All members receive the Rochester chapter Newsletter!
Check preference for access: ☐ via US mail ☐ via Chapter website Check membership type: ☐ Individual ☐ Family ☐ Corporate Check contribution: (*please consider a charitable donation above Basic dues - an acknowledgement is sent for donations only.)
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HEARING LOSS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

YES! I want to join or renew membership in national HLAA. Membership entitles me to the magazine, <i>Hearing Life</i> ; a number of discounts; and knowing I'm supporting advocacy for people with hearing loss nationwide.
☐ 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.



P.O. Box 1002 Fairport, NY 14450 **Return Service Requested**

Time sensitive

Please deliver by May 28, 2022



If You're New, This is for You

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

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

HLAA is the nation's foremost membership and advocacy organization for people with hearing loss. HLAA publishes a bimonthly magazine, *Hearing Life*, holds annual conventions, a Walk4Hearing, and more. Check out: 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!

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Our Meetings are Hearing Accessible

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

All meetings are <u>audio looped and captioned</u>. Interpreters are available on request.

Our chapter meetings will also be streamed on Zoom, with captioning. See our website at **hearinglossrochester.org** to sign up for access to all future meetings. Please register at least 24 hours before the first meeting you wish to attend, so that you will receive the link by email.

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