



Featured Presentation

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 4

NOON - 1:00 PM AT ST PAUL'S PARISH HALL AND ON ZOOM

Please join us for our featured presentation, **"Your Hearing Loss Journey: Finding Solutions Along the Way"** on Tuesday, February 4th from Noon- 1:00 pm. Peter Leas will moderate fellow HLAA members, Jim McGrath, Barb Gibson, Jenn Lowden, Ralph Wiegandt, and himself in a panel discussion. They will share how they approached and took on their hearing loss, in hopes of helping others find solutions that work for them. Join us for an interactive discussion.



Leaders Message

By Bruce Nelson, Newsletter co-Editor

I was asked to write this month's Leaders Message, and I want to use it to tell you about a project in Zambia to build a school for audiologists.

Zambia, with a population of around 20.5 million people, has only one audiologist. This highlights a significant gap in hearing healthcare services in the country. Dr. John McNamara, AuD., owner of Ontario Hearing Centers, and some of his staff members donated hearing aids to residents through their involvement with Entheos cooperative and Hearing The Call organization. Entheos audiologists travel to developing countries to fit hearing aids to people who need them.



With only one audiologist in Zambia. Ethnios is a partner with Hearing the Call, Inc. to build a school for audiologists in Zambia. Your Board of Directors is consid-

(Continued on page 2)

REFRESHMENTS

We appreciate our members who have volunteered to bring refreshments to our February 4th meeting: Cathy Battaglia, Carol Bradshaw, Nancy and Doug Meyer, Bruce Nelson.

FEBRUARY CALENDAR & PROGRAMS

Other February Meetings and Programs

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 4

10:00 AM - 11:00 AM IN PERSON, ST PAUL'S VESTRY ROOM: HOPE Session: 'Hearing Other People's Experiences' (HOPE); Eric Matson, filling in for Joe Kozelsky CCC/A:

Prospective, new, or experienced hearing aid users informally share their experiences, questions, and hearing loss journeys.

11:00 AM - 11:30 AM AT ST PAUL'S PARISH HALL: Conversation and light refreshments.

11:30 AM - NOON AT ST PAUL'S PARISH HALL: Chapter announcements and business meeting

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 11

7:00 PM - 8:30 PM ON ZOOM: Board of Directors Meeting

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 12

7:00 PM - 8:00 PM ON ZOOM: Stellar Supporters Meeting

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 18

7:00 pm - 8:30 PM ON ZOOM: Cochlear Implant Group. See Page 3 for details.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20

10:00 am - 2:00 pm - Assistive Device Demonstration Center. Technology Team. In person. Lifespan, 1900 South Clinton Avenue. See Page 7 for details.

7:00 PM ON ZOOM: Book Club. See Page 3 for details.

Tuesday, February 25

8:00 - 9:00 pm on Zoom: Hear Together: Kristin Bergholtz CCC/SLP./Carly Alicea Au.D/Ph.D

Speech language pathologist Kristin Bergholtz conducts a virtual support group with audiologist Carly Alicea. See Page 6 for details.

Please check our Chapter Website [hearinglossrochester.org](https://www.hearinglossrochester.org) for any changes

Leader's Letter

(Continued from page 1)

ering ways in which we can support this effort, and Dr. McNamara will answer questions when he speaks to us in March. Our Board asked for some clarification about the project, and we received a reply from Anna Bogden, a volunteer working on the project. Her comments follow:

PHASE 1 – PHYSICAL CONSTRUCTION AT THE VILLAGE OF HOPE CAMPUS

The initial phase involves the physical construction of facilities on the Village of Hope campus, with a total cost of \$120,000. Fundraising for this phase began in December 2024, and we expect to be fully funded by the end of 2025. Construction is estimated to be completed within six months after funding is secured, assuming no unforeseen delays in Zambia.

PHASE 2 – STUDENT AND FACULTY HOUSING FOR TRAINING ACCESSIBILITY

This phase aims to build housing to accommodate both students and professors during extended training periods for certification courses. The estimated cost for this phase is \$130,000. Fundraising will begin once Phase 1 is complete, and we anticipate the construction will take approximately six months following the receipt of funds, pending any delays in Zambia.

PHASE 3 – CLINIC AND HOUSING EQUIPMENT

This phase focuses on the acquisition of specialized audiology equipment and classroom/dormitory furnishings for the educational building. The total cost is \$100,000,

and we expect the purchasing process to be completed within three months after funding is received.

PHASE 4 – STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS

The scholarship fund will help support students who wish to attend the training programs but are unable to afford the full certification cost. This fund will be designed by a small committee in 2026. At this time, we have not determined the scholarship amount or the number of scholarships to be awarded per certification program. Our goal is to ensure the sustainability of this scholarship fund for years to come as the program grows. The timeline for this phase is contingent upon the completion of Phases 1-3.

All funds raised through this Capital Campaign go directly to Hearing the Call, a U.S.-based 501(c)(3) organization. These funds are restricted to supporting this project exclusively. If, for any reason, the campaign cannot proceed, unused funds will be held until donors are contacted for further instructions.

Donations made to the campaign will be allocated specifically for the current phase of the project. We are currently fundraising exclusively for Phase 1, the construction of the building, and all contributions will be used for that purpose. A portion of the funds (10%) will be reserved to cover international wire fees, accounting, administration, and travel expenses associated with the campaign. However, no funds will be used for other operational or administrative costs unrelated to the Zambia capital project.

Donations can be sent via www.hearingthecall.org/zambia-capital-campaign

It's Your Hearing Loss and Only Yours; Moving Beyond Denial

By Michelle Gross

For those people who lose their hearing early in life, or lose a good portion of their hearing suddenly, acknowledging the fact they don't hear normally comes with many feelings, depending on their situation. The people who lose their hearing early have a bit of a head start in the process of dealing with all that comes with living with a hearing loss.

Most people with hearing loss do not lose their hearing in early childhood or due to a sudden event. Most individuals lose their hearing gradually, are mostly unaware of their progressing hearing loss or deny the situation for many years.

The sad reality is for a prolonged period of time most people with hearing loss depend on others to take action to communicate. Others are asked to repeat what they've said, put up with the increased volume on the television, act as interpreters, and intervene when the hard of hearing person errs. This situation creates impatience and frustration and often leads to "boisterous" conversations within the family and with well-meaning friends.

What also comes with the denial of hearing loss may be less obvious... the dropping out from social situations to avoid embarrassment, either talking too much to avoid listening in a group situation, or not speaking at all, or "faking" to hide the lack of understanding. The toll paid by the hard of hearing person is often frustration with others, social isolation, and depression.

At some point one is almost forced into reality. Let's look at reality...the television *is* too loud, not *everyone* mumbles, and the sound system wherever you are is not poorly maintained or by bad luck you have the one seat located where the sound system isn't working properly.

Let's face it, *you* probably have a hearing loss, *you* are missing out, and *you* are the one who can take action to make things better. While it's true that at this time there isn't a "fix" to make your hearing normal, you *can* make the situation better.

Take action! Have your hearing tested, learn what you can do in your particular situation and connect with National HLAA and the HLAA Rochester Chapter, for information, interaction, and becoming a part of a group that really understands.

New PAC Member - Korin Reynolds

We welcome Korin Reynolds to the chapter's Professional Advisory Committee (PAC).



She is an experienced healthcare professional with nearly 20 years of expertise in senior care. Passionate about community engagement, she is dedicated to helping individuals and families access vital resources. Her previous roles at the Department of Health and various skilled nursing facilities have provided her with deep insights into the healthcare sector. Currently, as the Director of Community Relations and Admissions at St. John's Nursing Home & Rehab, Korin uses her extensive network to foster relationships and promote the valuable education and support offered by the HLAA. She is excited to continue learning and growing with the HLAA community.

Korin lives in Fairport with her two boys and their giant Dad (6'8"!) They go to a lot of Monster Truck shows, take many train and bike rides and are in the midst of rebuilding go-carts for this summer's camping season!

HLAA Rochester Cochlear Implant Group Announcements

By Pete Fackler

Our Cochlear Implant (CI) Special Interest Group gathers on Zoom four times a year, with participants joining from across the USA.

The upcoming session on Tuesday, February 18th, will feature Suzanne Johnston, who will share her expertise on aural rehabilitation and its benefits for cochlear implant users.

The final meeting of the year is scheduled for Wednesday, May 21, 2025, but the agenda is yet to be determined.

To receive updates and invitations for our Cochlear Implant Group programs, please email cochlearimplantgroup@gmail.com. By doing so, you'll be added to our distribution list for Zoom links and other communications. Everyone with an interest in cochlear implants is welcome to join!

Open Door Mission Collection

Please bring any gently used items to our monthly chapter meetings to be delivered by Marlene Sutliff to the Open Door Mission for the benefit of the people and families they support.

HLAA New York State Association Report

by Peter Fackler, Immediate Past President -- Board of Directors

The annual meeting of HLAA-NYS took place Saturday, December 7 via Zoom connection.



With the close of the calendar year, the normal changes in board of directors membership and officers has taken place. Jon Taylor, Peg Bell, and Jeanine Byrnes are stepping down from board service with the conclusion of their respective three-year terms. Debra Trees, an audiologist and a member of the HLAA Albany chapter, and Joseph Perino, a clinical psychologist from Great River in Suffolk County have been elected to new three-year terms of service while Lindsay Vanvolkinburg was elected to a new three-year term at the fall meeting of the board of directors.

Officers effective January 1, 2025 are Steve Wolfert, president; Gloria Matthews-England, vice president; Tom Corteville, treasurer; Kathy Gates, secretary; and Peter Fackler, immediate past president. Officers serve one-year terms of office with the president and vice president term limited to two consecutive terms.

Elected to serve one-year terms on nominating committee are Kassey Granger, Anne Pope, and Deborah Wolfe with immediate past president Peter Fackler serving ex officio as chair of the committee.

Reports were provided for the New York City, Rochester, and Westchester chapters by Jon Taylor, Sue Miller, and Deborah Wolfe, respectively. Sue Miller, chair of the chapter development committee reported on new chapter development and chapter remediation efforts across the state.

Committee reports were received from the advocacy committee (Jerry Bergman), publicity/website (Peg Bell), and professional advisory (Sue Miller). And, Steve Wolfert provided a status report on the early planning for an October 2026 state conference. As was reported in this space last month, the Board of Directors determined to move ahead with a fall 2026 state conference pending ironing out the contractual details with the venue. In early November, we reached an agreement with Holiday Inn Saratoga Springs where the conference will take place. Mark your calendar for October 2 – 4, 2026; details to follow as they are available.

An unofficial count of twelve non-board members of HLAA-NYS attended the annual meeting. Lisa Johnston graced the assembled with her usual fine work in providing real-time captions.

SAVE THE DATES



Get Revved Up for the HLAA 2025 Convention



Start your engine and join us at HLAA's 40th annual convention, June 11–14, 2025, in Indianapolis, IN—host of the famous Indy 500 automobile race. Our annual event brings together hundreds of people with hearing loss from around the U.S. to learn, discover and connect. Check out the latest technology and hear from health and industry experts during a series of empowering events designed to help you live your best life with hearing loss.



Online registration will be available starting in January 2025, with Early Bird Rates through March 14.

REIMBURSEMENTS ARE AVAILABLE TO ACTIVE MEMBERS OF THE ROCHESTER CHAPTER. SEE PAGE 7 FOR DETAILS.

February Birthdays

Happy Birthday in February to:

- 1 Sister Veronica Casey
- 1 Joan Kohler
- 2 Shirley Tschang
- 2 Bridget Colette
- 4 Gerry Loftus
- 11 Kathy Sweryda
- 14 Anne Adamson
- 18 John Curtis
- 23 Gayle King Carini
- 24 Betsy McClain
- 24 Elaine Vangellow

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captions@hearinglossrochester.org

Captioned Entertainment Around Rochester



JCC Center Stage - Tickets and information are available at www.jcccenterstage.org or (585) 461-2000. Please specify "Captioned Area". Tickets are \$35-40 with discounts for JCC members, full time students and seasonal subscribers. All captioned performances are on Sundays at 2 pm.

The Little - The Little Theatre provides options for people with hearing loss, including hearing amplification headphones in all theaters. The hearing amplification headphones can also be used for descriptive listening.

Theatres 1, 2, 4, and 5, are equipped with Hearing Loop Systems. Personal captioning devices are available for all theaters. Please inquire at the box office.

The Little offers open caption screenings when available. Open captions mean captions are visible to everyone, and cannot be turned off. Open caption screenings are currently shown on Thursdays, along with the first matinees on Sundays (please note some films do not have an open caption version). You can find Open Caption shows via thelittle.org (listed in the showtimes on each film page), and on social media.



The REV (Merry-go-Round) Theatre in Auburn has a state-of-the-art Assistive Listening System, which makes use of FM to transmit sound over radio frequency directly to the listener's ear. While the overall system is FM, they also have individual induction loops for each device. For information about the REV Theatre's productions, see <https://therevtheatre.com/>

GEVA Theatre Center - Open Captioning for patrons with hearing loss is provided during the 1st Saturday matinee and both performances of the final Wednesday of each Wilson Stage Series production, and the first Saturday matinee of each Fielding Stage Series production.

When booking your seats, mention your interest in open captioning in order to secure the most advantageous view of the display on the right of the stage.

RBTL Live Theater - Open Captioning, made possible by HLAA, is offered during most 1 pm Sunday matinee subscription performances of the Broadway Season, and select other performances. A text display scrolls words in synchronization with the dialogue and lyrics of the show. Reserve seating in view of the captioning screen in advance or request open captioning for unlisted events, 585.222.5000 or mail@rbtl.org.

Roc Cinema has a hearing loop and some Saturday matinee movies are open-captioned.

OFC Creations Theatre at Winton Place has an M system and receivers with hearing loops for T-coils.

Other Theaters - Regal Theatres, Cinemark Theaters, AMC Theaters, and Movie 10 all indicate on their websites that they have closed captioning devices available by asking at the box office. The Strand Theater in Brockport, has individual displays on goosenecks available.

Building Partnerships Through Books

By Jennifer Lowden

Over the course of the last few months, the Hearing Loss Association of America (HLAA), Rochester



Chapter has been working with the OWWL (Ontario, Wayne, Wyoming, and Livingston counties) Library System to donate books about hearing loss to 35 of their libraries. The Education and Outreach committee worked with Suzanne Macaulay, Program Director of OWWL to collaborate on which titles to

select. To that end, five books of each of the following titles were chosen:

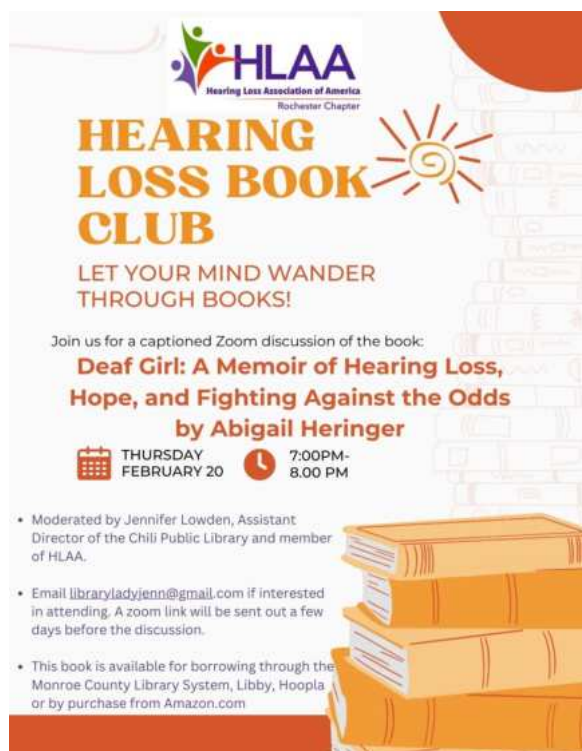
- *Hear and Beyond: Living Skillfully With Hearing Loss* by Shari Eberts & Gael Hannan
- *Smart Hearing: Strategies, Skills, and Resources for Living Better With Hearing Loss* by Katherine Bouton
- *Life After Deaf: My Misadventures in Hearing Loss and Recovery* by Noel Holston
- *Hearing Loss for Dummies* by Frank Lin, MD

- *El Deafo* by Cece Bell (children/teen graphic novel)
- *Hearing and Brain Health* by Andrew Campbell
- *Shouting Won't Help: Why I --And 50 Million Other Americans --Can't Hear You* by Katherine Bouton

Gabriel Pellegrino, from the Central Library in Rochester, created beautiful bookplates to be placed in each book stating these books were a donation from the Hearing Loss Association of America, Rochester Chapter.

This was an excellent way to create another partnership in our community, this time with public libraries outside Monroe County. Making patrons aware of HLAA, and all it has to offer while providing books about hearing loss, is such a worthy endeavor.

The chapter pays \$1.01 to the Post Office any time a newsletter is returned because of an address change. Please email info@hearinglossrochester.org when you change your address.



Hear Together: Parent/Caregiver Support Group

by Kristen Bergholtz, Speech Language Pathologist

Are you looking to connect with other parents or caregivers of children who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing (D/HOH)? Join "Hear Together," our parent/caregiver support group! We provide a safe and supportive community for parents and caregivers to come together, ask questions, share insights, and discuss strategies for supporting the success of children who are D/HOH.

Our group is facilitated by a speech language pathologist, Kristin Bergholtz, and audiologist, Carly Alicea. We encourage parents to lead conversations, ask questions, and suggest topics of interest, ensuring that everyone can share and gather the information they need.

Participants have shared that they "have finally found their people" in our group, discovering deeper connections for themselves and their children. This group offers the opportunity for support, self-care, gratitude, and knowledge sharing to enhance the lives and success of children who are D/HOH.

Please email kristinbslp@gmail.com to receive meeting reminders and the Zoom information.

Join us on February 25th, (we meet the fourth Tuesday of the month) on Zoom from 8:00-9:00 pm. Closed captioning will be available. We look forward to seeing you soon!

Earbuds are Danger to Hearing

by Bruce Nelson as suggested by Gerry Loftus

Earbuds are the "audiologists full employment device". More and more children are being treated for noise induced hearing loss.

Teenagers especially like to listen to their music loud, through earbuds. Earbuds deliver sound directly into the ear canal, which can amplify the volume and lead to potential damage.

Noise Induced Hearing Loss occurs when the hair cells in the inner ear are damaged by loud sounds. These hair cells convert sound waves into electrical signals sent to the brain. Once damaged, these hair cells do not regenerate, leading to permanent hearing loss.

Teenagers are at a higher risk because they often listen to music at high volumes for extended periods, increasing the risk damage to their hearing. According to the American Academy of Pediatrics, 12.5 percent of kids between the ages of 6 and 19 have hearing loss as a result of listening to loud music, particularly through earbuds at unsafe volumes.

If your children, grandchildren, or an acquaintance is listening to their music through earbuds, and you can hear it, it's too loud. Please try to educate them on the dangers of hearing loss, and that they may be using hearing aids a lot earlier in their lives than they would expect.

"HOWALS" Project

Houses Of Worship With Assistive Listening Systems

Each month, our chapter's Education and Outreach Committee will be featuring short vignettes of various congregations in the area who have installed assistive listening systems.

St. Josephs - Penfield

Submitted by Barb Rice



My house of worship is St. Joseph's Church in Penfield. There is a T-loop covering one large section of the worship space, and it works very well.

About ten years ago when I became a member of HLAA Rochester, I was encouraged to place a blue and white logo card at each of the entrances, and there is a large screen slide which reminds the congregation during the announcements before Mass of the presence of the T-Loop. We have been streaming for those who cannot attend in person for over ten years.

Reimbursements Available to Attend the National Convention in June



When authorized by the HLAA Rochester Board of Directors, HLAA Rochester NY Chapter provides opportunities for reimbursement to members who actively contribute to the Chapter by their diligent commitment of time, effort and skills. This policy does not require the Board to fund the convention reimbursement program every year.

Reimbursement helps defray the cost of attending the National Convention and is provided as a means of recognition for those who give of themselves on an ongoing basis. Reimbursed amounts up to \$1000 are distributed following the Convention, and upon submitting the 'Application for Reimbursement available on hear-inglossrochester.org.

All applicants must submit Part I of the Application for Reimbursement as directed to determine if the member is an *active and contributing member* of our Rochester Chapter. Part II addresses the expectations required to participate in Convention activities. You will be requested to give a brief report at the September program meeting highlighting the Convention activities you attended. Or, you may submit a 150 – 250-word article about your experience at the Convention for the HLAA Rochester Chapter Newsletter

WHAT IS AN "ACTIVE AND CONTRIBUTING MEMBER"?

HLAA Rochester's goal is to provide support for those who show a commitment to the mission/work of the Rochester Chapter on an ongoing basis. A combination of factors will be used to determine an "Active and Contributing Member" of the HLAA Rochester Chapter. The Application Form requires that applicants describe their ongoing work and/or accomplishments and commitment for the chapter. While the criteria below are helpful, not all must be met, and other contributions can be included.

Examples of an 'Active and Contributing Member' of the HLAA Rochester Chapter are below:

- Having attended 5 or more Chapter meetings in the past year, either in person or via Zoom
- Serving on the Chapter Board of Directors
- Belonging and contributing to at least one Chapter Committee: regularly attending committee meetings, corresponding with other members, and substantially contributing to the work of the committee
- Helping plan and/or volunteering at two or more Chapter events such as: the Chapter Annual Dinner and/or Picnic, Demonstration ('Demo') Center, Health Fair Volunteer, Chapter meeting Presenter, etc. in the 12 months prior to your application

Applicants must be a current Member of HLAA Rochester Chapter at the time of application submission.

Reimbursements will be made following the Convention.

Assistive Device Demo Center



Our chapter proudly sponsors the Assistive Device Demo Center, providing a platform for our members and the public to explore the latest devices designed to ease day-to-day challenges associated with hearing loss.

During our demo sessions, you'll find a variety of devices on display, including Signaling-alerting devices, Captioned telephones, and Personal assistive listening devices. Special emphasis is placed on devices for TV listening and coping with noisy environments. Our knowledgeable chapter members will be available to answer any questions.

Join us on the 3rd Thursday of every month. The next Session is Thursday, February 20th, from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm at Lifespan, 1900 S. Clinton Ave. (Tops Plaza)

Sessions are free and open to everyone. We look forward to seeing you there!

Save the Dates

- May 13, 2025, 6 pm, HLAA Annual Dinner at Cobblestone Country Club
- June 11-14, 2025, HLAA National Convention in Indianapolis
- October 2-4, 2026, HLAA-NYS Conference in Saratoga Springs, NY



HLAA on the Radio

Our own Art Maurer will be interviewed on the WYSL program, "Health Talk" on Tuesday, February 4th, between 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm.



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- Andrea M. Segmond, Au.D.
- Elizabeth Orlando, Au.D.
- Carly Willmes, Au.D.

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OC Open Captioned
 Performance Dates



October 13, 2024



December 8, 2024



February 9, 2025



March 9, 2025



May 11, 2025



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 Eric Matson
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Honorary: Joe Kozelsky
 Past Honorary Board Members: Joe
 Damico and Jeannette Kanter

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 in person
 and online via Zoom. See our website
 at **hearinglossrochester.org**
 to register for the online access.

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

2023-2025:

Jeff Klein
 Jennifer Popovich
 Korin Reynolds
 Betsy Runnion, Ph.D.

2024-2026:

Paula Brown, Ph.D.
 Meghan Fox, PsyD
 William Marshall
 John McNamara, AuD.

Consultants:

Medical - Paul Dutcher, M.D.
 Technical - Charles Johnstone
 Legal - James Vazzana, Esq.

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#### **Newsletter**

Newsletter deadline: first day of the  
 month preceding the issue month.

Bruce & Candi Nelson, Editors  
 120 Cobblestone Dr.  
 Rochester, NY 14623  
 585-334-5513  
**editor@hearinglossrochester.org**

#### **HEARING LOSS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA**

### ***Be Part of National HLAA***

It's now easier than ever to **become a member** of HLAA's unique  
 community of support! HLAA is the leading organization  
 representing more than 50 million Americans with hearing loss, and  
 empowering millions more who are at risk of developing this  
 invisible disability.

Make a gift in any amount to help us make an impact on this  
 growing public health crisis

#### **As a Member, You Will...**

- Make an impact helping millions thrive with hearing loss
- Get *Hearing Life* seasonal magazine delivered to your home\*
- Get the latest in hearing news, events and action alerts each month
- Get involved in important local and national advocacy initiatives

*\*Donations of \$45 and higher have option to receive Hearing Life Magazine by mail.*

To sign up, please visit

<https://www.hearingloss.org/make-an-impact/hlaa-membership>

or send your donation, with your name, address, phone number,  
 and email address (if any) to 6116 Executive Blvd, Suite  
 320, Rockville, MD 20852

#### **CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP FORM HLAA-ROCHESTER**

Membership year: July 1 - June 30

All members receive the Rochester Chapter Newsletter!

☐First-Time Member ☐Renewal

**Membership Type:** ☐Individual \$10 ☐Family \$20 ☐Corporate \$50  
☐Veteran \$0 (Free lifetime chapter membership for veterans with hearing loss.)  
 Please state Branch of Service\_\_\_\_\_ *Thank you for Your Service!*

Please consider making an additional charitable contribution to maintain and  
 expand HLAA's work. ☐\$25 ☐\$50 ☐\$75 ☐\$100 ☐Other \$\_\_\_\_  
**Total Amount** \_\_\_\_\_

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☐ I have a different mailing address for part of the year! Please attach an  
 additional page with the addresses and dates at each. Thanks!

Please make your check payable to: **HLAA Rochester.**

Send to:

Mr./Mrs. Doug Meyer 5275 Rosebrugh Rd., Geneseo NY 14454





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## **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](http://www.hearingloss.org)**.

The Rochester Chapter, started in 1983, is a dynamic group of individuals working together as a team. To join, please see inside back page. HLAA has a support network of organizations—Rockville, MD; State organizations; and, local Chapters. Welcome!

## **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 audio looped and captioned. Our chapter meetings will also be streamed on Zoom, with captioning. See our website at **[hearinglossrochester.org](http://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 to join our meetings online or in person.*