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### MARCH Calendar

#### Tuesday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>

11:00 am - Refreshments/Social Time  
11:30 am - Announcements/Business Meeting  
12 Noon - 1 pm - Program Speaker

7:00 pm - Refreshments/Social Time  
7:30 pm - Announcements/Business Meeting  
8:00 pm - 9 pm - Program Speaker

Tues., March 10<sup>th</sup> - Board of Directors  
7:00-9pm, 1<sup>st</sup> floor CR, Al Sigl Center

Wed., March 11<sup>th</sup> - Kick-off for Walk4Hearing  
(see page 11)

### SAVE THESE FUTURE DATES

Tues., April 7<sup>th</sup> - Board of Directors  
7:00 - 9pm, 1<sup>st</sup> floor CR, Al Sigl Center

Tues., April 21<sup>st</sup> - PAC meeting, 7pm, ASC

Sunday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> - Walk4Hearing (see page 8)

**WEATHER - During the winter, the rule to follow for cancelations of meetings is: IF THE ROCHESTER CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT IS CLOSED, OUR MEETINGS ARE CANCELED. (No other notification will be made.)**

### **Hospitality Duties for March:**

Daytime Meeting - Ginger Graham, Cindy Kellner  
Evening Meeting - Margaret Cochran, Cindy Kellner  
Board of Directors - Barb Gates, John Metcalfe

*Please sign up to help when the "Refreshment Sheet" goes around!*

*Welcome back, members, and,  
WELCOME ALL NEWCOMERS TO HLA!*



### MARCH PROGRAMS

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

Tues., March 3<sup>rd</sup> -Daytime Meeting - 11am  
Speaker begins at Noon

**"FRONT & CENTER: THE CAMPAIGN FOR GEVA"**-- Tom Parrish, Executive Director of GEVA Theatre Center

Tom Parrish will share information about "Front & Center: The Campaign for GEVA." It is expected to transform GEVA's historic home, (the former NYS Arsenal, and also the Rochester Convention Hall) into a dynamic world-class cultural asset serving people from all over the country, providing exceptional arts and cultural programs, and contributing to the economic vibrancy of the region. Among the projects included in the Campaign are new downtown artist housing, building renovation, and accessibility improvements.

As New York State's largest non-profit regional theatre producer, GEVA's productions are made in Rochester for Rochester. HLA-Rochester has contributed to providing open captioned matinees there once a month. (See page 4 for the Spring schedule).

*(continued on next page)*

### **March 3<sup>rd</sup> Daytime Meeting - (continued)**

Executive Director Parrish provides institutional leadership for GEVA, including audience and donor development and financial management. He currently serves as a Vice Chair of the Board of Directors of Rochester Downtown Development Corporation, Co-Chair of the Tourism & Arts Workgroup of the Finger Lakes Regional Economic Development Council, and is a member of Rochester Rotary. Before joining GEVA Theatre Center in 2011, he served as Executive Director of Merrimack Repertory Theatre in Lowell, MA. Mr. Parrish was named to the Rochester Business Journal's "40 under 40" group for 2013.

### **Tues., March 3<sup>rd</sup> –Evening Meeting – 7:00pm** **Speaker begins at 8:00pm**

#### **“ASK THE AUDIOLOGISTS” –**

*John McNamara, Au.D., and Ramona Stein, Ph.D.*

Bring your questions and our audiologists will answer them! Two experienced audiologists take the floor for the approximately annual “Ask the Audiologists” panel question and answer session. As with previous hugely popular and informative presentations, it is completely impromptu and unrehearsed.

Drs. McNamara and Stein are prepared to field your questions on all aspects of hearing aids and hearing loss. As hearing aid dispensers, they can comment on new developments in technology, deafness, audiograms, etc. They welcome the opportunity to update consumers on the latest hearing technology.

**Ramona Stein** recently opened “Sounds for Life” in Pittsford, a new audiology practice taking a holistic approach to hearing health care. She has over 20 years of experience as an audiologist. (HLAA members may recall her from her tenure at RHSC as Ramona Pompea.)

Her fellow panelist is veteran audiologist **John McNamara**. He has been the proprietor of Ontario

Hearing Instruments since 1990. The practice has offices in Brighton and Spencerport.

Both have shared their knowledge with HLAA-Rochester over the years.

*HLAA-Rochester chapter meetings are held in the Parish Hall at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, East Ave. at Westminster Road, across from the George Eastman House. All programs are audiolooped & captioned. A sign language interpreter is available for evening meetings only.*

*To request an interpreter for an evening meeting, contact Linda Siple at 585 475 6712, a week in advance. (Please note, this phone is only for those needing an interpreter.)*

*The Hearing Loss Association is a nationwide organization dedicated to advocacy, education and support for people with hearing loss. For more information visit our website: [www.hlaa-rochester-ny.org](http://www.hlaa-rochester-ny.org) or telephone 585 266 7890.*

### **HLAA NATIONAL CONVENTION**



At the St. Louis, MO,  
Union Station Hotel

Early-bird Registration for  
Convention  
January 31 – March 31  
Rate: \$150 +banquet  
+off-site event

Hotel reservations at

<http://doubletree.hilton.com/en/dt/groups/personalized/S/STLUSDT-HLA-20150619/index.jhtml>, or phone:

1-855-271-3620. With the Chicago Cubs in town that weekend, hotel rooms will become scarce!

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

#### **We Welcome All Donations**

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

Mail to: Ms. Joanne Owens, 1630 Woodard Road,  
Webster, NY 14580

*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.

## PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

By *Cindy Kellner*



### HLAA-Rochester Gives Back

I am thrilled to share some exciting news with you. At our December meeting, the Board of Directors voted unanimously to grant our wonderful local theatre, GEVA (acting with other local theatres) approximately \$4,000 to help acquire portable captioning equipment and to help fund training to use the equipment. Our grant, together with the generous contributions of several local HLAA members (**Werner and Susan Kunz, Cicely and Ed Carmen, Jane Kitchen, Jane Labrum, the MacDonald Fund and the Hard of Hearing Clarity Fund from RACF**), will allow GEVA to acquire the equipment.

What makes this equipment so special is that it is portable and that will allow theatres in the greater Rochester area such as the Rochester Broadway Theatre League, Blackfriars Theatre, Penfield Players, Bristol Valley Theatre, the Jewish Community Center, RAPA, Downstairs Cabaret Theatre, Off-Monroe Players, Nazareth College Arts Center and the Rochester Community Players to be able to utilize the equipment and hopefully offer at least one, if not more, captioned performance of their productions. GEVA has agreed to take the lead on this and house the equipment at their facilities.

For those of us who love the theater, this acquisition is huge. Now, many more local theatre venues can offer one or more captioned performances of their productions. The world of live theatre that is accessible to the hearing loss community just grew by leaps and bounds. I am so proud that HLAA-Rochester could be part of this movement.

GEVA has long been committed to accessibility and has worked with HLAA-Rochester to do what it can to make live theatre a realistic option for those of us with hearing loss. We, as a community, are so fortunate to have entities like GEVA who do what they can to make things accessible.

It is extremely important to HLAA-Rochester to give back to our community and open the doors for people with hearing loss when we can. We are proud to be part of this forward thinking arrangement and wish GEVA and all the participating theatres much success. I would like to thank our Theater Committee who worked hard to make this opportunity a reality.

A special thanks to **John Metcalfe**, a Board of Directors member and Chairman of our Theatre Committee, who spearheaded this opportunity and worked very hard seeing this project through. And finally, a very special thanks to all of you who give so generously to HLAA-Rochester. We hope you agree with us that this funding, and the possibilities it opens up, is money well spent.

## NOMINATIONS FOR OUR CHAPTER'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS

By *Elise de Papp, M.D., Chairperson*



The Nominating Committee welcomes suggestions from HLAA-Rochester members of names of those who might be interested in serving on our Board of Directors (BOD). Currently we have the full quota of 21 members, but it's possible some may retire in June.

Besides interest, membership is required in National HLAA. (BOD meetings are open to HLAA-R members but only BOD members may debate or vote.) For the current list of BOD members, please see the last pages of any of our Newsletters.

You can email your nominee now to: [Edepapp1@rochester.rr.com](mailto:Edepapp1@rochester.rr.com), or, at both the daytime and the evening Chapter meetings in April, we will be looking for your suggestions for new members. Please be thinking about this now.

## INTERESTING FACT...

**“In 1913, the 16<sup>th</sup> Amendment to the US Constitution, providing for a federal income tax, was ratified.”** (*D&C of 2/1/15*)

***RBTL LIVE THEATRE--- CAPTIONED!***

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

March 15 – Annie

April 19 – Anything Goes

May 17 – Kinky Boots

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

***GEVA Theatre Offering Captioned Plays!***

All performances are **Saturday, at 2:00pm**

April 4 – The Mountaintop

May 9 – Vanya & Sonia & Masha & Spike

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

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

Editor and Publisher.....Ginger Graham  
Computer Consultant,  
Webmaster, and Writer.....Michelle Gross  
News Releases, and Writer.....Janet McKenna  
Research Assistant.....Ginny Koenig

**DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS MARCH 8<sup>TH</sup>**

--First to suggest the idea: Benjamin Franklin, in 1784.

--First North American region to adopt it:

Newfoundland, in 1917.

--First year in which the United States adopted it: 1918.

*(Old Farmer's Almanac)*

--In 1974, year-round daylight saving time began in the US on a trial basis as a fuel-saving measure in response to the OPEC oil embargo."

*(from D&C 1-4-15)*



*For Your Donation to HLAA:*

Dr. Ruth P. Oakley Trust Fund; United Way

*For Your Donation Above Basic Membership:*

T. J. Hargrave, Jr.; C. Lee

*In Memory of Dr. Robert P. Gulick:*

J. Littwitz, S. Miller

Thanks to all who have renewed their membership.

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

**HELP HLAA VIA THE UNITED WAY**

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

**Our United Way number is 2425.**



Your past support is deeply appreciated. As with other gifts, your donation enables our chapter to continue to provide education, help, and advocacy for people with hearing loss, their family and their friends. Alas, even though the local chapter is a totally volunteer organization, there are still costs such as printing, postage, phones, and technical items. Many thanks!

**SMART PHONE APPS FOR HEARING LOSS**

**Alerting** – Deafalarm; Flashing Alert; Google Voice; MyEardroid; OtoSense; TapTap; Vybe

**Captions for Movies** – Hulu; Subtitles

**Captions for Phone Calls** – Clear Captions; CaptionCall; Hamilton Captel; Sprint

*(excerpt from Diablo Valley Chapter, 11/13/14)*

## OUR AWARD-WINNING CHAPTER WEBSITE

*By Michelle Gross*



In 2011, our Newsletter (Ginger Graham as Editor) won National's Best HLAA Newsletter of the year award. This year 2015, **our Website has won the best HLAA Chapter Website Award.** Not to toot our own horn but....  
**CONGRATULATIONS TO US!!**

As Webmaster, the news makes me especially proud that I could play a part in the effort to help people with hearing loss and achieve a measure of recognition for the work our Chapter does as well. Our Website provides an abundance of information and documents for people to read and download, as well as information about our Chapter meetings, events, news from National, our Newsletters and a whole bunch more.

I began working with our Website on my own over two years ago. I had a wonderful mentor in **Barb Law**. Barb was the Chapter's Webmaster prior to my taking over the position. She provided calm guidance to my shaky hand!

Truthfully, I knew next to nothing about what it would take to produce and maintain a Website. In fact, (don't tell anyone) but I still don't know the language of Websites-- HTML (hypertext markup language). We are fortunate that although it would be helpful to know HTML to manage our Chapter's Website (<http://www.hlaa-rochester-ny.org>), our web host Homestead Technologies (<http://www.homestead.com>), takes care of translating what I put onto the Website into HTML, to my great relief.

If I don't know HTML what I do know is that people with hearing loss find the written word much easier to deal with than listening. When I took over the job of Webmaster, my goal was to provide a Chapter Website that was interesting, informative, and supportive. Since those of us with hearing loss feel on firmer ground with the written word rather than having to listen, it was a personal goal of mine

to provide as much information as possible and as easily accessible as possible, to our Rochester Chapter Website visitors.

If you haven't had the opportunity to see what's on our Website, you may want to look around. Some information stays on the site for newcomers; however, much of it changes to stay current with meetings, events, news from National, technological advances and other items of interest to people with hearing loss.

It is with great pleasure that I can say I have a hand in maintaining a Website which our National organization feels is "the best" Website in our countrywide organization. I hope the information it contains will be of use and occasionally bring some smiles when we find the going a bit tough. Do stop in and visit sometime...It's free!!

## VETERANS WITH HEARING LOSS – ATTEND CONVENTION, ST. LOUIS, MO.

*By Gerry Loftus*

HLAA is pleased to offer a **complimentary registration (education package) for veterans** with hearing loss attending the National HLAA Convention **for the first time**. Those veterans wishing to attend should complete the "Veterans Registration Form" which can be obtained on the national HLAA website at: [www.hearingloss.org](http://www.hearingloss.org).

Click on "Convention 2015" from the Menu on the right of the Home Page. Once on the Convention Page, select "Registration" from the Menu on the left side of the page, and read the second paragraph which provides instructions and a link to the registration form for Veterans. Unfortunately registration for the first time veteran package is not available online, but the form is. (Details provided by Michelle Gross, Rochester Chapter Web Master.)

## SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT...

"Life isn't about waiting for the winds to change, it is about learning to adjust your sails."

*(author unknown)*

## IN MEMORIAM



The members of the Rochester Chapter of HLAA extend their heartfelt sympathy to the family of **Mark Hargrave**. Mark passed on Sunday, February 1<sup>st</sup> ...just two weeks shy of

his 93<sup>rd</sup> birthday. Surrounded by family, he 'went to heaven,' as his loving wife, Bobbie Hargrave relayed.

Mark grew up in Nebraska, attending the University of Nebraska, where he was a cheerleader. Many of you know Mark from his continuing presence of still being a cheerleader at our annual Walk4Hearing events where he would lead everyone in counting down from ten to one, and starting the Walk.

In his later years, Mark was still a pillar of support and knowledge when it came to making the world a better place for all people with hearing loss.

In the early 1980's, Mark heard about a meeting that was going to be held in the Washington, DC area initiated by David Sachs, who headed up OUT...Organization for Use of the Telephone. While at that meeting, Mark learned about induction hearing loops and brought the technology back to Rochester. He returned with a goal of 'looping Rochester.'

While helping to make our community hearing accessible, he invited Rocky Stone, founder of SHHH/HLAA to meet with a few people after the annual meeting of the Regional Council on Aging in 1983. This helped to launch the Rochester SHHH Chapter, which he remained involved with for the rest of his life.

The first facility to have this assistive listening device was St. Paul's Episcopal Church, where people could hear every word from the pulpit regardless of where they sat. He was instrumental in installing loops in other venues such as the South Town Theatre, GEVA, and Planetarium. He worked to make sure that all telephones in a 'bank of four or more' were hearing aid compatible. His efforts were enormously successful, and the City of Rochester was awarded the Most Accessible City in the USA in 1988, at the third national SHHH Convention

which was held in Rochester. Mark served as one of the co-chairs for this memorable event.

His interest never waned from the enjoyment of helping to make Rochester ever more hearing accessible. He recently joined other volunteers who installed a hearing loop at the Dryden Theatre. Mark and his wife hosted our Theatre Committee meetings at their Cloverwood residence for several years. Just last month, he attended the HLAA Finance Committee's meeting, sharing helpful information on donations to our chapter.

But Mark had many other interests, too. He loved to go fishing with his 'buddies,' as he called them. Often, not many fish were caught, but the comradery was the really fun part. He enjoyed outings with his cousin, Tom Hargrave, on his fishing boat, and going to Lake Clear in the Adirondacks with his male friends and their sons.

And how he enjoyed the challenge of a good backgammon game with his buddies. He didn't mind losing, but was as competitive as could be and loved to win.

Last year, Mark was invited to go on an Honor Flight to Washington, DC. He said it was an experience of a lifetime and felt so fortunate to be able to attend. It made his service in World War II all worthwhile.

But his main love was his family; his dear wife, Bobbie, daughter Ann, and his two sons, Tripp and David...plus their spouses, grandchildren, and the many new great-grandchildren that blessed their lives. Even though his family live out of town, they all made sure to visit Bobbie and Mark on a regular basis.

Mark's bright spirit, good nature, wonderful sense of humor, and an ever-ready smile will be remembered forever. Although confined to a wheelchair for the past several years, he never complained and was always able to find something to laugh about. His positive attitude was unparalleled and taught all of us how to live with dignity and courage, regardless of our circumstances. He will be sorely missed, but never forgotten.

\*\*\*

His Memorial Service will be at 11:00am at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, East Avenue, Saturday, March 7<sup>th</sup>, with a reception following at the church.

## CAPTIONING OF MONTHLY CHAPTER MEETINGS WILL BE CONTINUED!

Great news from CaptionCall! Our Daytime and Evening monthly meetings will continue to be **captioned**.

The captioning is done remotely by Alternative Communication Services—it is flawless, plus the people doing the captioning are from all over the country! It's amazing to see the words almost instantly on the screen as soon as they're spoken. The service cost is \$3,000 a year and it is being paid by CaptionCall for the 4<sup>th</sup> year in a row. With special thanks to our members, **Bruce and Candi Nelson, and Tim Whitcher**.

## SAVE THESE DATES !

Tuesday, April 21<sup>st</sup> – PAC meeting  
 Sunday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> – Walk4Hearing  
 Tuesday, May 19<sup>th</sup> – Cochlear Implant group  
 Tuesday, June 16<sup>th</sup> – Annual Dinner

Watch upcoming Newsletters for more details!

## ANNUAL AWARDS DINNER, Tues., June 16<sup>th</sup>

We need your help in organizing our dinner. Please contact Barb Law at [blaw1@rochester.rr.com](mailto:blaw1@rochester.rr.com); or, Sue Miller at [SusanLeeMiller39@cs.com](mailto:SusanLeeMiller39@cs.com) for more info. Thanks for your consideration in helping to make our dinner a huge success...and, with perfect weather!

## TAX DEDUCTION FOR DONATION



You can take a tax deduction, if you itemize your taxes, for donating used hearing aids for the Lions Club to **Joe Kozelsky**, Webster Hearing

Center, 680 Ridge Road, Webster, NY 14580; phone: 585-787-0660, and don't forget to request a receipt.

### Newsletter Deadline

**SATURDAY, FEB. 28<sup>th</sup>**  
 (for the April Newsletter)

Email: [ggraham859@frontiernet.net](mailto:ggraham859@frontiernet.net)



## WEBSITES OF INTEREST

Our Chapter website is: [www.hlaa-rochester-ny.org](http://www.hlaa-rochester-ny.org). **Michelle Gross** is our Web Master and she is updating our website. (**Barb Law** continues as consultant.) The website for HLAA National is: [www.hearingloss.org](http://www.hearingloss.org).

(submitted by Carmen Coleman)

Here is a neat technology link that I found while doing research: <http://atcoalition.org/news/top-10-iphone-apps-people-who-are-deaf-or-hard-hearing> - Top 10 iPhone Apps for people with hearing loss.

(from *This Week in Bethesda* 12/19/14)

Transportation Security Administration (TSA) is working to ensure people with disabilities are treated with dignity and respect when traveling thru airport security gates staffed by TSA agents. Their website is being updated but is full of good info. [www.tsa.gov/traveler-information/travelers-disabilities-and-medical-conditions](http://www.tsa.gov/traveler-information/travelers-disabilities-and-medical-conditions)

(submitted by Al Suffredini)

From the Hearing Health Foundation:

What is NIHL—Noise Induced Hearing Loss?  
<http://hearinghealthfoundation.org/what-is-nihl>

The Dangers of iPod Use.

<http://online.qmags.com/HH0115?pg=1&mode=2#pg8&mode2>

## VENUES WITH ALS OR CAPTIONING

*By Tim Whitcher*

Have you seen a movie or a show that has an Assistive Listening System or Captioning system and would like to share your experience with your fellow members? Did your church or synagogue install or upgrade such a system, and you'd like to make that known?

Please contact Tim Whitcher at [hlaa.rochester@yahoo.com](mailto:hlaa.rochester@yahoo.com) with the info that you'd like to share. (Please mark your email to Tim's attention.) Likewise, if you have a question regarding such a venue, please contact Tim.

### Subjects of April 7<sup>th</sup> Chapter Meetings

**Daytime:** “Everything You’ve Wanted to Know About Hearing Loss” – Barbara Bushart

**Evening:** “Tips for Becoming an Effective Self-Advocate in the Workplace” – Cathy Lee, John Macko



**SUNDAY, MAY 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2015!**

**WALK4HEARING 5K**  
PERINTON PARK ALONG THE  
ERIE CANAL - FAIRPORT RD at  
O'CONNOR RD, Route 31F

Come and join us for the HLAARochester chapters only annual fundraiser. Walk4Hearing is now in its **10th year** raising and providing funds for scholarships for high school seniors going on to postsecondary education, captioning for theater performances at the Rochester Broadway Theater League, GEVA, and assisting national HLAAR in its support, education and advocacy of millions of people with hearing loss, and lots more.

We need your support! How can you help? Become a team captain and gather a group to walk on Walk Day. Become a walker and walk along the beautiful Erie Canal. You don't have to walk the entire 5K. Any distance you walk is fine. Don't care to walk? Show up and root for us! There will be lots of fun. Breakfast, clowns, face painting, music, a silent auction full of great gift cards and other goodies from local merchants.

We also need **event sponsors**. If you know of any business you think would be willing to sponsor us, please let us know. Email me at [CKelle1@rochester.rr.com](mailto:CKelle1@rochester.rr.com).

Watch our Newsletters for more details.

### LIKE US ON FACEBOOK !

*By Cindy Kellner*

Are you on Facebook? If so, please be our friend. We currently have **223** friends and we want more.

Find us at: **Hlaa Rochester Ny**

### SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM CONTINUES

*By Cindy Kellner*

HLAA-Rochester is once again pleased to announce the continuation of its Scholarship Program. The Scholarship Program was started in 1996 initially with a \$500 grant awarded to local high school seniors further perusing their education and who have hearing loss. The initial Program was made possible by the generous donation from J. Stuart and Phyllis MacDonald. In 2006 the award was increased to \$1,000 made possible in part by funds raised by our annual Walk4Hearing.

If you know a high school senior with hearing loss, who is pursuing their higher education either through college or vocational training, please tell them about our program. Financial need is not a requirement. The scholarship is a one-time award.

Applications for the scholarship are available through our web site: [www.hlaa-rochester-ny.org](http://www.hlaa-rochester-ny.org) or by contacting Cindy Kellner at [ckellnel@rochester.rr.com](mailto:ckellnel@rochester.rr.com). The application deadline is **APRIL 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2015**. Please help us spread the word.

### BIRTHDAYS – 90 YEARS AND OVER...

Everyone: please let me know if you're one of our special Chapter members who will reach the spectacular age of 90 years, or more. If you agree, we'd like to announce it in our Newsletter. It is important to let me know right away as our Newsletters are written 2 months ahead. Thanks, Ginger  
[ggraham859@frontiernet.net](mailto:ggraham859@frontiernet.net); or, (585) 671-2683

### THINGS LEARNED ALONG THE WAY...

*By Andy Rooney, 60 Minutes USA;*

*Suggested by Ginny Koenig*

I've learned...

that the best classroom in the world is at the feet of an elderly person.

...that when you're in love, it shows.

...that being kind is more important than being right

I've learned...that you should never say no to a gift from a child.



## “HYBRID “HEARING AID”

*(excerpt from AARP, Oct/Nov.2014)*

Only a couple of people in the country have received this new hybrid cochlear implant-- a combination hearing aid and CI. Traditional cochlear implants are used on those with severe or complete loss of hearing. Instead, this hybrid device is surgically implanted in those who can still hear some low-pitched sounds but whose hearing “sharply drops off in higher pitches.”

Approved by the FDA March 2014, the hybrid implant treats sensorineural hearing loss—the most common form, which occurs when the cochlea (the inner ear) has been damaged by aging, hereditary, illness or loud noise.

The hybrid device combines the functions of both a hearing aid and a CI to transmit sounds to implanted electrodes in the high-frequency part of the cochlea. Recovery of hearing appears to occur more quickly with the hybrid device.

Following are details from **Mark Orlando**, Audiologist at Strong Medical:

A person would have to have near normal hearing in the low frequencies. It uses a shorter electrode array in the inner ear. If you came for this “Cochlear Implant Hybrid” with no worse than a very mild hearing loss from 125-750 Hz, the surgeon could implant a shorter electrode array into your cochlear. You could then use a traditional hearing aid to amplify the low frequencies, and the Cochlear Implant for the mid- and high-frequency information.

### IF YOU MOVE

Please don't forget to notify **Barb Gates**, at 28 Country Gables Circle, Rochester, NY 14606, or, via email at [cdgblg28@aol.com](mailto:cdgblg28@aol.com), even if your change of address is a temporary one.

HLAA is charged for each piece of returned mail, which the Post Office will not forward. When you return, we will resume sending to your local address. Thanks.

## DISPOSAL OF DRUGS

*(suggested by Barb Gates)*

How to properly dispose of pharmaceutical waste? The Monroe County “ecopark” accepts unwanted medications during hours of operation; and also holds collections 3X year at selected Wegmans. Call 585-753-7600 (option #3) or go to: [www.monroecounty.gov/hhw/appointments](http://www.monroecounty.gov/hhw/appointments) for available drop off dates and locations.

Following is a list of law enforcement agencies within Monroe County collecting pharmaceutical waste during certain regular times:

- Brighton Police Department (2300 Elmwood Ave. 14618) - Daily collections (M-F) 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. (excluding holidays)
- East Rochester Police Department (317 Main St. 14445) - Daily collections (M-F) 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. (excluding holidays)
- Fairport Police Department (31 S. Main St. 14450) - First Wednesday of each month 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- Gates Police Department (1605 Buffalo Rd. 14624) - Daily collections (M-F) 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. (excluding holidays)
- Greece Police Department (400 Island Cottage Rd. 14612) - Second Wednesday of each month 9 a.m. to noon
- Monroe County Sheriff's Office A Zone Substation (789 Linden Ave. 14625) - Second Tuesday of each month 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- Ogden Police Department (269 Ogden Center Rd. 14559) - Daily collections (M-F) 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (excluding holidays)

(Info from Tom Sinclair, HHW Coordinator, Monroe County Dept. of Environmental Services) [www2.monroecounty.gov/ecopark](http://www2.monroecounty.gov/ecopark), or, [tsinclair@monroecounty.gov](mailto:tsinclair@monroecounty.gov).

**Heartfelt thanks to Sue Miller for her special writing contribution in this month's Newsletter.**

## CHECK OUT AN ORGANIZATION CALLED 'HANDS AND VOICES'

**Steve Barnett, M.D.**, recently identified an organization called "Hands and Voices" which describes itself as follows:

"Who are we?" We are parents of ASL signers, cued speech users...parents of kids with cochlear implants or total communicators. We are people who have common interests connected through the community of deafness. This is a group for parents of children with hearing loss as well as the children themselves.

"Hands and Voices" is a safe place to explore options, get unemotional support (although we can be emotional about it!), learn from one another and share what we have in common. We value diversity and honor the role of parents and family as the single greatest factor in raising a WASK (our favorite acronym: Well Adjusted Successful Kid).

For more information, go to:

[www.handsandvoices.org/index.htm](http://www.handsandvoices.org/index.htm).

## ASL VERSION OF "LET IT GO"

*By Greg Livadas*

A music video of the popular "Let It Go" song, from the Disney movie *Frozen* done in American Sign Language with an all deaf cast and crew has generated about 75,000 views since its release January 25.

It stars two graduates from NTID--Amber Zion (who signed the national anthem at 2014 Super Bowl) and Jason Listman (an assistant professor who teaches ASL to interpreting students at NTID). "When I saw it for the first time, I was speechless, said Zion, ...it was beyond my expectations. Because the song has metaphors, it is nice to open your mind and translate that into ASL."

The video is on the YouTube page of the Deaf Professional Arts Network (or D-PAN). Here is a link to the story:

<http://www.rit.edu/news/story.php?id=51182#.VMEag8Ak0nw.twitter>

## HOWARD "ROCKY" STONE

*By Ginger Graham*

And you thought you knew all there was to know about our incredible founder, Howard "Rocky" Stone. Well, the article on his wife, Alice Marie, aka Ahme, in the *Hearing Loss Magazine*, November/December 2014, by [Barbara Kelley](#), is an eye-opener.



In 1979, Rocky told Ahme he wanted to start an organization for people who didn't hear well...those that are between two worlds...neither deaf nor hearing. He called it "Self Help for Hard of Hearing People" (SHHH). It started in their family room in Bethesda, MD. Ahme

selected Bethesda for the national headquarters office "as a place near the Metro...and people could get to them and Rocky could get to Capitol Hill."

Ahme went with Rocky on all of his overseas assignments with the CIA, except for Viet Nam. Places such as: Iran, the Sudan, Cyprus, Syria, Pakistan, Nepal, Rome, and more—and bringing along their four children. She had to keep an "emergency escape" suitcase packed in case they had to leave a place on a moment's notice.

Rocky died from complications from pneumonia in 2004 at the age of 79. Ahme still attends our National Conventions and presents awards; she is now 87 years young.

The message Ahme has for HLAA members today is: The self-help philosophy is still here. Work hard, help yourselves, get out, go to a chapter meeting. Then, go to an HLAA Convention!

For more intriguing details, please see pages 10 thru 17 of the magazine.

Mention of goods or services in articles or advertisements does not mean HLAA endorsement, nor should exclusion suggest disapproval.



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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  
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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/renew -- Support entitles me to receive the award winning Newsletter in order to be alerted to interesting and informative articles plus Daytime & Evening Chapter Meetings and Cochlear Implant meetings.

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

HLAA is the largest international consumer organization dedicated to the well-being of people who do not hear well. HLAA publishes the bimonthly Hearing Loss Magazine, holds annual conventions, a Walk4Hearing, and more. Check out: [www.hearingloss.org/](http://www.hearingloss.org/).

To join, please see inside back page. HLAA has more than 176 chapters and 14 state organizations. Welcome!

### **Meetings are hearing accessible**

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

All meetings are audio looped and captioned. Interpreters are available on request *for evening meetings only*-- contact Linda Siple, 585-475-6712, or at [lasnss@rit.edu](mailto:lasnss@rit.edu), at least a week in advance.

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