



Volume 39, Number 4

December 2025

Featured Presentation

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 2

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

Dr. Meg Wallhagen:

The Stigma of Hearing Loss

Many people with hearing loss wait seven years or longer to seek treatment, or never get treated at all. What role does stigma play in this dynamic and is the public's perception of hearing loss improving over time?



At the Hearing Loss Association of America (HLAA) annual convention in June 2025, a panel of top researchers in this field engaged the audience with consumer-friendly presentations that inspired curiosity and questions.

One of the panelists was Margaret (Meg) Wallhagen, Ph.D., GNP-BC, AGSF, FAAN – professor, School of Nursing, University of California San Francisco and gerontological nurse practitioner

Dr. Wallhagen will discuss some of the reasons behind the feelings of stigma associated with hearing loss and the reluctance of many people to wear hearing aids, and some of the ways these feelings can be alleviated.

This was one of the highlights of the Convention. It's a program you won't want to miss!

Thank you to our members who are bringing refreshments to our December meeting: **Eileen Lumb, Sue Miller, Christine Rankie, and Kathy Wiegandt**

Additional December Meetings and Programs

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 2

10:00 AM - 11:00 AM IN PERSON, ST PAUL'S VESTRY ROOM: HOPE Session: 'Hearing Other People's Experiences': 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, NOVEMBER 9

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

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 17

7:00 - 8:00 pm on Zoom: HOPE in the Evening : 'Hearing Other People's Experiences': Joe Kozelsky CCC/A:

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 18

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

An evening version of our popular HOPE sessions for those who cannot participate in a day-time session

7:00 - 8:00 pm on Zoom: HLAA Book Club
See back cover for details.

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

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HLAA Rochester Book Discussion Group

by Jenn Lowden, Director of the Chili Public Library

Having a book club specifically for those with hearing loss has so many benefits. The common thread of hearing loss is that it creates a specialized community that brings unspoken patience and understanding. It provides a sense of belonging for individuals that feel isolated or reluctant to participate in a regular book club. It secures the sense of belonging and cultivates an environment of inclusivity. This shared understanding in a supportive environment helps participants connect and gives them a safe place to share their own personal experiences and their love of books.

I invite you to join us for an online captioned zoom book discussion on Thursday, January 22, 2026 at 7:00 pm. We will be discussing the book *Volume Control: Hearing in a Deafening World* by David Owen. If you are interested in attending, please email me at libraryladyjenn@gmail.com and I will send out the zoom invite a few days before the discussion. The book is currently available through the Monroe County and OWWL (Ontario, Wayne, Wyoming, Livingston counties) Library Systems, as an e-book and audiobook on Overdrive/Libby and for purchase on Amazon.

Give Back this "Giving Tuesday"

Giving Tuesday, first created in 2012, has grown to become a global movement. The first Tuesday after Thanksgiving (**Tuesday, December 2nd** this year) was formed around one simple yet brilliant principle: **Doing good for people**. Hundreds of millions of people in 111 countries have now "caught the bug" and contributed money to worthy causes (last year alone more than \$3.6 billion), donated goods, done something positive in their communities, or performed random acts of kindness to others.

At HLAA, we hope that we've earned your ongoing trust and your support.

There are a number of ways you can support HLAA locally, support your HLAA State Association, as well as the national HLAA organization:

- Contribute to your local **HLAA Rochester** chapter (www.hearinglossrochester.org) by pressing the Donate button on the chapter home page
 - Contribute to the **HLAA-New York State Association** (www.hearinglossnys.org) by pressing the Donate button on the home page
 - Contribute to **HLAA National** (www.hearingloss.org) by pressing the Donate Today tab on the home page
 - Once you've contributed, please spread the word by word of mouth and on social media and let others know that you have contributed to help people with hearing loss
- This Tuesday, December 2nd, or before, I hope you will be thinking about HLAA and all the wonderful services we provide in your local community, around New York State, and across the nation.
- Happy Holidays to you and your family!

Steve Wolfert

President, HLAA New York State Association

HLAA and HLAA-NYSA are 501 (c)(3) charitable organizations

Attention Snowbirds

If you are relocating for the Winter months, please send an email to maillist@hearinglossrochester.org and let us know your temporary address and the dates you will be away.

Auracast™ Installed at the JCC

In case you haven't heard, exciting changes are happening at CenterStage! The beloved theater at the Louis S. Wolk Jewish Community Center (JCC) of Greater Rochester has completed a major sound system upgrade, including the installation of a cutting-edge Auracast™ broadcast audio system—thanks to the generosity of community grants and donors.

This state-of-the-art enhancement means that audience members, whether they have normal hearing or hearing loss, will experience a remarkable improvement in sound clarity and quality for all future productions.

This is one of the first installations of an Auracast™ system in a Rochester area theatre.

A special thank-you goes to New Electronics for the sound system enhancements and to Pro Hearing Loops for deploying the Auracast™ system by Bethear. This breakthrough technology delivers crystal-clear, immersive audio throughout the theater, setting a new standard for accessibility and inclusion.

The JCC of Rochester has long been a leader in supporting accessibility for people with hearing loss.

Through its partnership with the Hearing Loss Association of America (HLAA) Rochester Chapter, Ralph Meranto, Chief Creative Officer of the JCC, learned firsthand what audience members with hearing loss needed to fully enjoy & attend live theater and took action.

In recent years, CenterStage has added an LED caption screen for open captioning and implemented an FM Assistive Listening System. Now, with the addition of Auracast, the listening experience has reached a new level, offering CD-quality audio and unmatched ease of use.

Audience members can now sit anywhere in the theater and enjoy clear, rich sound through a receiver with a headset or neckloop. Even better, patrons with the latest hearing aids, cochlear implants, or earbuds equipped with Auracast™ can connect directly. No receiver needed! Simply scan for the broadcast stream, sit back, and enjoy the show.

Don't miss out! Order your tickets today and be among the first to experience this innovative, inclusive, and immersive new sound system at the JCC CenterStage in Rochester, NY.

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 FM 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.

Board of Directors Holds Inspiring Strategy Retreat

So many people in our organization actively contribute on a regular basis to the work of our Chapter. As we increase in size and complexity, it is essential that we focus our efforts and sustain our work as a team. One of the roles of our Immediate Past President, Suzanne Johnston, is to oversee Strategic Planning for our future. With this in mind, Suzanne, along with a team of HLAA past and present board members, and a facilitator, worked to organize an HLAA retreat. On Saturday, November 1, HLAA Rochester Board members gathered in-person to reflect on our past and discuss our future. The group met at St. Paul's for a lively and heartwarming conversation. The following comments and ideas are a result of this gathering. Many thanks to those who participated, and for giving up their weekend day to meet. Our chapter looks forward to charting a course for the future.



A DAY OF CONNECTION AND VISION

Facilitated by Mara Hazzard-Wallingford, the retreat focused on four main goals: deepening connections among members, celebrating the chapter's many accomplishments, learning about the current organizational structure, and beginning the process of setting a vision for the years ahead. The day began with heartfelt introductions, as members shared personal stories about their journeys with hearing loss and the impact of the chapter on their lives.

CELEBRATING 41 YEARS OF IMPACT

The group took time to honor the chapter's 41 years of service. Highlights included hosting two national conventions, winning national awards for the chapter newsletter, providing over \$146,500 in scholarships, and helping to make public spaces across Rochester more accessible through hearing loops and advocacy. Members also reflected on the chapter's resilience during the COVID-19 pandemic, when HLAA Rochester not only survived but helped other chapters adapt and thrive.

STRENGTHENING OUR STRUCTURE

A key part of the retreat was a review of the chapter's

division leader structure, designed to distribute responsibilities, reduce burnout, and ensure the chapter's sustainability. Members discussed ways to further refine roles, encourage co-leadership, and plan for succession—ensuring that HLAA Rochester remains strong for years to come.

LOOKING FORWARD: BREAKOUT GROUPS AND NEW IDEAS

Attendees broke into small groups to brainstorm around five key topics: visioning for the future, community partnerships, marketing and outreach, healthcare advocacy, and chapter operations. Ideas ranged from expanding open captioning in theaters and simplifying outreach materials, to leveraging social media and building new partnerships with local organizations and schools. The importance of recruiting new volunteers and engaging younger generations was a recurring theme.

A SPIRIT OF COLLABORATION

The retreat closed with each group sharing highlights and action ideas. Members expressed gratitude for the chapter's supportive community and the dedication of its volunteers. As one participant noted, "We are part of something bigger than ourselves—a chance to give back and make a real difference."

NEXT STEPS

The insights and notes from the retreat will be compiled and shared with the attendees, guiding the chapter's strategic planning in the months ahead. With a strong foundation and a renewed sense of purpose, HLAA Rochester is poised to continue its leadership in support, education, and advocacy for people with hearing loss.

AI assisted in the preparation of this article.

Flashing, Shaking, Screaming—And It Saved Me

I watched the safety tips meeting on Zoom. I wanted to add that I bought a smoke detector from the Company, Diglo, and paid almost \$300.00 for it. It is the best money that I ever spent. It shakes my bed, flashes and makes the loudest sound that I can hear even without my hearing aids.

Last January it went off, but it didn't say smoke, it said "Alert". I had not idea what I was being alerted to, so I called 911. The dispatcher told me to leave my house and that she was sending first responders.

They arrived about 10 minutes later which was about 1 A.M. They checked my whole house and found that my hot water tank was leaking gas and called RGE for me. They arrived sometime later and fixed the leak, for me which I was eternally grateful. So this wonderful detector saved my life.

Carol Dovidio

My Story - Daniel Wolf

I was born in Rochester and grew up in Scottsville. At the age of 10 we moved to Wheatland, on the outskirts of Scottsville.



I worked delivering the newspaper, and picking apples. I worked on farms, handled animals and did hay and ran equipment.

I graduated from Wheatland Chili Central School in 1983. I worked at Cooper Vision Aqua Flex in the village and then was hired by Kodak in 1987 and worked there till 2022 when I retired on disability.

I was raised believing in God and Jesus Christ my Lord and Savior and the Holy Spirit. I gave my life to Christ in 1997 and from there it's been a journey with the Lord. I've grown into the person I am now—not who I used to be, but I'm not who I'm going to be.

I have two adult daughters—one is 33, the other is 28. I spend my days serving the Lord Jesus.

I came to HLAA through my brother in Christ Ron Smith, whom I've been giving rides to church, doctor's appointments, HLAA and other things.

Now being at the Hearing Loss Association meetings, I have decided to deal with my own hearing loss, and I was able to get my own hearing aids and now I'm a hearing aid member of HLAA. HLAA provided me with a lot of good information and was the catalyst for me deciding to address my hearing loss.

I'm thankful that the Lord lets me serve. I'm blessed on a daily basis by His mercy and grace and I look forward to the Kingdom of Heaven, but I'm enjoying being here on this earth serving Him wherever He needs me.

Seven years I've been a volunteer at Caring Choices Pregnancy Health Center. I serve in different aspects of my church—a non-denominational church—and I just enjoy that I get to meet so many wonderful people and I love to talk about Jesus.

That is my story. She isn't finished yet, by the way. I hope you enjoyed it. I hope it was a blessing to you. Thank you.

Open Door Mission Collection

The Open Door Mission in Rochester restores hope through essential resources. Our chapter supports this cause—please bring gently used items to monthly meetings. Marlene Sutliff and Bill Marshall will deliver them as a meaningful act of service from our members.

Introducing Paula Brown, Ph.D. PAC Member

Dr. Paula Brown has been happily married to Sam Spector for 50 years. She is the proud mother of a daughter, Jessica. She has spent her married life in Rochester, New York, though she originally grew up in Kansas City. As a result, she's a devoted fan of both the Buffalo Bills and the Kansas City Chiefs—though when the two teams face off, her loyalty lies with the Bills.



An avid athlete, she enjoys playing tennis and paddleball and maintains her fitness through regular Pilates sessions. In retirement, she stays mentally active and socially engaged by playing Mah Jong and bridge.

Her academic credentials include a Ph.D. in Language and Cognition from the University of Rochester, an M.A. in Speech/Language Pathology from Kent State University, and a B.S. in Speech Pathology/Audiology from the University of Missouri.

She retired in 2018 after a distinguished career spanning more than four decades. From 1974 to 2004, she served at the National Technical Institute for the Deaf, where she held several roles including Chair of the Speech and Language Department. She then spent 14 years as a Professor in the Communication Sciences and Disorders Department at Nazareth College.

Her professional achievements include being named an ASHA Fellow in 2016 and securing three consecutive four-year personnel preparation grants from the U.S. Department of Education. These grants supported the training of speech-language pathologists to promote spoken language development and emergent literacy in children who are deaf or hard of hearing. In 2013, she was awarded a Fulbright Fellowship to teach at the Barcsi School of Special Education and consult with schools for the deaf in Budapest, Hungary.

She has authored 15 publications focused on spoken and signed language, literacy, and mainstreaming, and has delivered over 40 presentations at national and international conferences. Her editorial contributions include serving as an Associate Editor for Volta Review and reviewing manuscripts for the Journal of Deaf Studies and Deaf Education. Additionally, she has reviewed grant proposals for the U.S. Department of Education and regularly evaluated presentation submissions for the ASHA Convention and the International Congress on Education of the Deaf.

What Works Well for One Person May Not Work Well for Another

Excerpted from "HEARING, HEARING LOSS AND HEARING AIDS; A Primer and Handbook for Consumers,"
A book in progress, by Joe Kozelsky, Audiologist

In this section, we will discuss a pair of users who had the exact same make and model hearing aids. One user was very highly satisfied with her hearing aids, and the other demonstrated more frustration than benefit. He took a long time to reach a level of satisfaction.

EVE AND FRED, full size classic Behind-the-Ear hearing aids (BTE).

Eve and Fred demonstrated the most difference between users we ever had. Eve was one of the few users who yielded a perfect score for the new user's hearing aid outcome questionnaire. She reported a perfect ten for Helpfulness with zero Frustrations. Fred was virtually the opposite.

Eve, had been an experienced user with a pair of Completely-In-the-Canal analog hearing aids which she had for several years and which she had found quite frustrating for some time. She demonstrated 25 dB aided gain with her new hearing aids - the difference between aided and unaided hearing thresholds in the sound room. Her WRS was 84% at the average conversational level in the sound room. This compared well to her best ear WRS of 68% under earphones.

Eve was randomly selected for our Long-Term user's satisfaction surveys. Her outcome score dropped somewhat from her perfect score. I do not remember the actual value, but as I recall they were still quite good. I've often wondered if perhaps she was in the "honeymoon period" earlier. Perhaps she initially compared how well she heard with her new hearing aids to how well she had been hearing before.

Next, we look at Fred's results.

Fred was the only user who reported a negative score for the outcome questionnaire. That is, he demonstrated more frustration with his hearing aids than helpfulness. I do not recall what his scores actually were. As stated, Fred had the exact same make and model as Eve. It is ironic that the best and worst scores in practice were obtained with the exact same hearing aid make and model.

Fred was seen for a large number of visits before we

reached a plateau. He demonstrated 21 dB aided gain with excellent gain of 30 dB at the important frequency of 2000 Hz. His aided WRS was 96% at the average conversational level in the sound room. These are good audiologic findings. Incidentally, Fred received an average of 30 dB improvement for 1,500 and 2,000 Hz; and 20 dB at 3,000 Hz. These too, are good results.

In a coincidence with Eve, Fred was also randomly selected for one of our Long-Term user's satisfaction surveys. In this instance Fred's scores for the outcome questionnaire moved well into the positive range. It always caught my attention that Fred opted to keep his hearing aids even though he initially demonstrated more frustration than helpfulness. This might suggest that he might have been somewhat more satisfied with his hearing aids than his scores suggested.

The point of these comparisons is that:

- what works well for one person may not work well for another; and
- how difficult and unpredictable hearing aid work can be.

Discussion

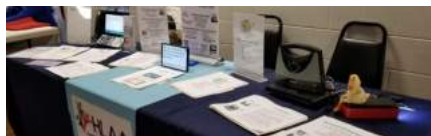
What we've seen from the above examples is there can be a very wide range of responses to hearing aid use. Some users do exceedingly well, whereas others do not demonstrate nearly as much benefit. This variability is unknown and unpredictable in advance. Unfortunately, users may expect unrealistic benefit from their hearing aids without realizing that the unseen or unknown cause of their difficulties imposes limitations on how well they might be able to do with hearing aids.

A Comment

As an audiologist, I always cringe when one of the questions people ask in the on-line forums is about other users' opinions of a particular make and model of hearing aid. This is because so much of an individual's experiences with a particular hearing aid are "person-specific" and unpredictable as well as "provider-specific." It is impossible to generalize from one person's experience with their make and model of hearing aids to a broader population. I wonder if other audiologists feel the same as they look at the various social media sites.

Chapter Displays at Age-in-Place

Our chapter was invited to host a table at the Lifespan Age-in-Place event. Usually this event is hosted at Lifespan but due to its popularity they moved it to JCC to have more space. There were several exhibitors to check out for mainly seniors and caregivers. Our chapter's table was manned by Eric Matson, Lorin Gallistel, Jim McGrath and Dan Brooks. If you would have enjoyed seeing our table be sure to catch us next time at the Demo Center from 10am to 2pm Dec. 18th at Lifespan!



“HOWALS” Project

Houses Of Worship with Assistive Listening Systems

2 Wayne County Churches

by Dan Brooks

I attend a church in Wayne County that has a wonderful hearing loop that was installed by Hearing Loops Unlimited a few years ago. The church is called The Bible Baptist Church of Sodus located at 6181 Ridge Rd. Sodus NY which is just west of the Town of Sodus on Ridge Road that runs parallel south of route 104. This church is close by to the famous Orbakers Restaurant on Rt. 104.



Another church in Wayne County that I know of has an FM system in East Williamson. This church is now called Grace



Ridge Church. That is located at 4984 Ridge Rd. Williamson NY. The FM system there was installed by their own audio team. I personally used it and it works well. They offer both

headsets and neckloops with the FMs.

Assistive Device Demo Center

Our chapter proudly sponsors the Assistive Device Demo Center, offering members and the public a chance to explore the latest devices designed to ease



hearing loss challenges. At our demo sessions, you'll find Signaling-alerting devices, Captioned telephones, and Personal assistive listening devices, with special focus on TV listening and noisy envi-

ronments. Knowledgeable chapter members will be available to answer any questions.

Join us on the 3rd Thursday of each month, September through June! The next session is **Thursday, December 18th**, from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm at Lifespan, 1900 S. Clinton Ave. Sessions are free and open to everyone. We look forward to seeing you there!

Hear Together: A Season of Gratitude and Connection

by Carly Alicea, Au.D., Ph.D.

As the year draws to a close and the holidays approach, the *Hear Together* community is feeling especially thankful—for the friendships, shared wisdom, and support that have grown among the parents and caregivers who have attended our meetings this year.

This season brings even more to celebrate: as of November, *Hear Together* has officially gone national, now hosted and promoted through the Hearing Loss Association of America (HLAA)! Families from across the country are now invited to join our monthly meetings, and with the addition of CART (real-time captioning) services, our conversations are more inclusive and accessible than ever.

Each month, parents and caregivers gather on Zoom to listen, share, and remind one another that no one walks this journey alone. Whether it's celebrating a child's progress, exchanging tips about technology, or simply taking comfort in being understood, *Hear Together* continues to shine as a space filled with empathy, learning, and connection.

This holiday season, we're reflecting on how much we've learned *from each other*. Every parent brings something unique—stories of advocacy, creative communication strategies, and moments of joy that inspire us all. It's this spirit of community and mutual support that makes *Hear Together* such a meaningful part of the year.

From all of us in *Hear Together* - thank you for being part of our growing community. We're deeply grateful for each family who joins us, and we look forward to another year of connection, understanding, and shared growth.

With the business of the holiday season, we pause our meetings for December. Our next *Hear Together* meeting will be on Wednesday, January 21st from 8-9 p.m. EST on Zoom.

Birthdays

Happy Birthday in December to:

2 Carol Bradshaw	19 Cathy Battaglia
5 Pete Fackler	22 Janice McFollins
6 Lorraine Gluck	25 Betty Redifer
8 Nick Sprague	25 Carol DeLong
14 Margaret (Peg) Crowley	29 Mary Chizuk
19 Barb Gibson	31 Linda Kozelsky



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OC Open Captioned Performance Dates



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COMPREHENSIVE HEARING CARE FOR INFANTS, CHILDREN AND ADULTS
HEARING AND HEARING AID EVALUATIONS
HEARING AID DISPENSING, REPAIRS, BATTERIES AND SUPPLIES

- 7995 CALL PKWY STE. 100 BATAVIA, NY 14020
- 2345 S. CLINTON AVE SUITE 200 ROCHESTER, NY 14618
- 48 EAST SOUTH STREET GENESEO, NY 14454 AUDIOLOGIC EVALUATIONS ONLY
- 60 GREECE CENTER DRIVE ROCHESTER, NY 14620
- 125 LATTIMORE RD ROCHESTER, NY 14620 PEDIATRICS ONLY

COME SEE ONE OF OUR AUDIOLOGISTS TO LEARN MORE ABOUT YOUR HEARING!

585-758-5700

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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 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

2024-2026:

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

2025-2027:

Pamela Kincheloe, Ph.D.
 Diana Palotas
 Jason A. Richards
 David Scott

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 _____

PLEASE PRINT: Name_____

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Phone(Home)_____(Cell)_____

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☐ I have a different mailing address for part of the year! Please attach an addi-
 tional 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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Please deliver by November 30, 2025





HEARING LOSS BOOK CLUB


LET YOUR MIND WANDER THROUGH BOOKS!

Join us for a captioned Zoom discussion of the book:

Volume Control: Hearing in a Deafening World by David Owen

 **THURSDAY JAN. 22**  **7:00PM-8:00 PM**

- Moderated by Jennifer Lowden, Director of the Chili Public Library and member of HLAA.
- Email libraryladyjenn@gmail.com if interested in attending. A zoom link will be sent out a few days before the discussion.
- This book is available for purchase from Amazon, or borrowing from the Monroe County Library System and Overdrive/Libby



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** 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.