



## SUMMER RAP SESSIONS FOR 2014

JUNE 11 • JULY 9 • AUGUST 13

It is summer and some say their favorite HLAA-Sarasota meetings—the Summer Rap Sessions, where all questions, concerns, successes and disappointments are shared and discussed.

The venue is the same as the chapter meetings, the North Sarasota Library, 2801 Newtown Blvd. The same day and time as well, second Wednesday of the month at 1:30 PM.

Our peer mentors lead the discussions and our professional partners sit in as time permits. Some of the topics from last summer were loop advocacy, theatre captioning, Medicare limitations on audiology, related treatment and products, re-training the brain apps, Bluetooth and FM, pending legislation and local organizations that can assist



**Top/above:** HLAA-Sarasota members enjoy the discussions at one of our summer rap sessions.

with hearing aids. In short, the full gamut. The social hour treats may not rival the “Delectable Lemon Chiffon Cake” prepared by Flo Innes for the May Chapter meeting but she may have another recipe for the chapter.



**Above:** Brad Ingrau sharing important information at a Rap Session.

Listen Up HLAA-S monthly newsletter offers Education, Advocacy and Support for the 135,000 people with hearing loss in Sarasota and Manatee Counties. For more information visit [www.HLAS.org](http://www.HLAS.org) or call 941-706-4312. For comments or suggestions, contact editor Richard N. Williams at [RNW1976@aol.com](mailto:RNW1976@aol.com). Opinions expressed in “Listen Up” are those of the Editor or Author. Mention of goods and services in articles or advertisements does not mean the Hearing Loss Association of America or the Hearing Loss Association of America-Sarasota Chapter endorses same nor should exclusion suggest disapproval. **Editor:** Richard Williams

**Design:** Christine Koch, boostDFM Design Lab

*“Discover how much more you can hear & understand”*



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

## We Did It!

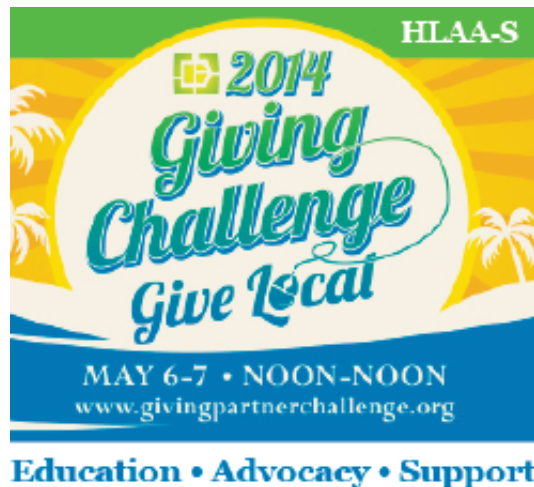
I am still in disbelief for the incredible outpouring of support for HLAA-Sarasota for our recent participation in The Giving Challenge. Over fifty individual supporters (95% were members of HLAA-Sarasota) contributed \$3,800 in donations during the 24 hour Challenge. Over 350 people clicked on our Community Foundation profile link to read more about our organization. In addition we were the recipient of the incentive grant of \$5000 for the Best Overall Campaign. When the numbers are finalized we will have raised almost \$10,000 to support our mission of support, education and advocacy for the more than 135,000 people with hearing loss in Sarasota/Manatee counties!

Of course none of this would have happened without the support of the Community Foundation of Sarasota County and their 2014 Foundation Partners- The Patterson Foundation, Williams G & Marie Selby Foundation, Manatee Community Foundation, Charlotte Community Foundation and John S and James L Knight Foundation. Many thanks to all of the foundations for their support of the non-profits in our community.

Thank YOU for your support of HLAA-Sarasota. In the months ahead you will be hearing more about some of the new initiatives we are planning to support, educate and advocate for people with hearing loss.

*JoAnne DeVries*

JoAnne DeVries  
President, HLAA-Sarasota



## EVENT CALENDAR

### JUNE EVENTS

Wednesday, June 11, 2014  
1:30 PM to 3:00 PM – Chapter Meeting  
"Summer Rap Session"  
3:00 PM – Refreshments/Social Time  
North Sarasota Library Meeting Room  
2801 Newtown Blvd., Sarasota

Wednesday-Sunday, June 25-29, 2014  
HLAA National Convention  
Renaissance Hotel  
Austin, Texas

Saturday, June 28, 2014  
7:00 AM –1:00 PM  
Downtown Sarasota Farmers Market  
Free Hearing Screenings  
1920 State Street, Sarasota

### JULY EVENTS

Wednesday, July 9, 2014  
1:30 PM to 3:00 PM – Chapter Meeting  
"Summer Rap Session"  
3:00 PM – Refreshments/Social Time  
North Sarasota Library Meeting Room  
2801 Newtown Blvd., Sarasota

Tuesday, July 22, 2014  
6:00 PM to 7:30 PM  
HLAA-Sarasota "After Hours",  
Education, Social, Support  
"How a Speech Therapist Can Improve  
Your Hearing and Communication"  
Jennifer Hansen  
Center for Arts and Cultural Alliance  
1226 N. Tamiami Trail, Sarasota

Saturday, July 26, 2014  
7:00 AM –1:00 PM  
Downtown Sarasota Farmers Market  
Free Hearing Screenings  
1920 State Street, Sarasota

## Scene and Heard

HLAS COMMUNITY NEWS BITES

### HLAA-Sarasota Volunteer Opportunities

HLAA-Sarasota hosts monthly meetings, organizes social events and participates in community outreach. In the past few years, the Chapter has grown to over 200 members and the Board is committed to continuing that growth. In order to accomplish this, your support is necessary. We always have a need for volunteers for the Chapter meetings, such as membership assistance, 50/50 raffle and social hour. We are active in Outreach at the Farmers Market, Health Fairs, public events and another knowledgeable member is always welcome.

There are so many ways you can make a difference. Please contact Anne Taylor or JoAnne DeVries at [membership@hlas.org](mailto:membership@hlas.org) if you can give of your time but cannot attend our Chapter meetings

### HLAA-Sarasota Board of Trustees Application

It is time again to seek members for the HLAA-Sarasota Board of Trustees. The term is for 2 years-- 2015-2016. The deadline is Oct 16, 2014. Elections will be at the December general meeting. The job description and the application are posted on the HLAA-Sarasota website under the bullet points on the right hand side: <http://hlas.org/> Please contact the Chapter Nominations Committee Chair, Dr. Susan Fulton at: [sefulton@sar.usf.edu](mailto:sefulton@sar.usf.edu) for additional information if needed. Dr. Fulton states that: "We are looking for individuals with a love of the association and who are interested in getting involved and making a difference".

### Renewals and New Memberships



In 2014, all of our membership applications are being converted to dual HLAA / Sarasota memberships. The cost is \$35 for an Individual membership, \$45 for a Couple. If you have any questions on Membership please feel free to contact Anne Taylor at [membership@hlas.org](mailto:membership@hlas.org). Membership applications can be found at the Chapter website, <http://hlas.org>.

### Welcome New Members



Venice: Dennis Holbrook

Bradenton: Sylvia Stasiowski

We encourage all members to come to our HLAA-Sarasota chapter meetings a little early and to stay for refreshments after the speaker to share your hearing experiences and to get to know other members over social time. Our Peer Mentors will be available to answer questions a half hour before and after meetings, as well as by appointment. For more information on our support programs, contact Joan Haber at [vp@hlas.org](mailto:vp@hlas.org). To become a member, contact JoAnne DeVries at [membership@hlas.org](mailto:membership@hlas.org).



#### Hardeman Realtime, Inc. Speech to Text Solutions

Captioning services provided today by HRI - CART Excellence, a leading provider of Communication Access Real-time Translation (CART) services.

In addition to providing CART, transcription, and Web-captioning services, HRI offers Certified CaseCATalyst software training and real-time writer workshops.



The HRI team is made up of a dynamic alliance of Tampa Bay area, state, national, and internationally based Certified CART Providers, each of whom has experience in healthcare, legal, academic, technical, legislative, corporate, support group and personal settings. If you have an event which needs CART, we can provide it to smart phone, monitor or large screen.

Give us a call!

Gayl Hardeman, B.A. English, RDR, CRR, CCP  
Founder and President of HRI - CART Excellence  
Fellow of the Academy of Professional Reporters  
Member, Florida Coordinating Council for the  
Deaf and Hard of Hearing



[contact@hricart.com](mailto:contact@hricart.com) [www.HRICART.com](http://www.HRICART.com)  
877-372-2278 (CART) or 813-404-2488, voice/ text



## Meeting Update

UPCOMING MEETING PREVIEW, PRIOR MEETING RECAP

### MAY MEETING RECAP

## "Impact of Hearing Loss on Mental Health"

Marybeth McDonald gave a presentation on the "Impact of Hearing Loss on Mental Health". She related studies indicating the correlation of hearing loss to isolation, need for support, failure to share feelings and general loss of health and well being. She drew out an active discussion from the 50 members in attendance.

She explained how getting help for hearing loss results in better health and less depression and how important support groups like HLAA are to a person with hearing loss.



Above Left: Marybeth McDonald explained how to cope with hearing loss.  
Above Right: Members asked good questions [DennisHolbrook]

### UPCOMING MEETING MAY 14

## June 11th Rap Session



As related in the cover story, the summer sessions are a great time to get questions answered and find support in coping with hearing

loss. It would be a perfect time to bring a friend or neighbor with hearing loss to gain exposure to the information available from HLAA-Sarasota peer mentors and friends..  
**JUNE 11 at 1:30 PM, North Sarasota Library Meeting Room, 2801 Newtown Blvd. Sarasota.** Meeting supported by hearing loop & CART. Refreshments will be served following the program.

## July "After Hours" Meeting



The next "After Hours" meeting will be July 22 at 6:00 PM at its permanent location, The Center for Arts and Cul-

tural Alliance, 1226 N. Tamiami Trail, Sarasota. Speech Pathologist Jennifer Hansen will speak about "How a Speech Therapist Can Improve Your Hearing and Communication". As always, questions and discussions are encouraged.



## Meeting Links from April Presentation

Dr. Susan Fulton gave a presentation on improving the enjoyment of music and demonstrated some computer applications. She has passed on the links to for member's use.

They are:

- **The Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra** (auditory discrimination and listening skills):  
<http://listeningadventures.carnegiehall.org/ypgto/index.aspx>
- **Creating Music** (auditory discrimination, pitch training, rhythm training):  
<http://creatingmusic.com/new/hearing/index.html>
- **Sporcle.com** (auditory discrimination):  
<http://www.sporcle.com/games/Scarpia/sound-of-musical-intruments>
- **Sheppard's Software** (auditory memory):  
<http://www.sheppardsoftware.com/braingame/s/musicmemory/musicmemory.htm>
- **Theta Music Trainer** (assortment of training games):  
<http://trainer.thetamusic.com/en/content/music-training-games>



## Join Us for the 2014 HLAA National Convention in Austin Texas

The HLAA Convention will take place on June 26-29 in Austin.

As always, an Exhibit Hall will have 60 plus Exhibitors over three days and will have all the latest products and innovations for people with hearing loss.

The Sarasota Chapter will likely lead the HLAA chapters in number of attendees. If you are not attending but have a cochlear implant—or thinking about one, share the joy of Brian Patrick Jensen as he blogged his journey from the depths of depression to a new life with his implants. He will present 'Perseverance to Triumph' (Thursday, June 26, 3 - 4:15 pm) at the Convention but you can read his hearing loss story in the link below. Brian received a cochlear implant on April 9 at the Ear Clinic in San Antonio and was activated the next day!  
<http://www.brianpatrickjensen.com/gods-precious-audio/>

## HLAA WEBINAR June 18th: Insider Information about the HLAA Convention



June 18, 2014 - 1:00pm - 2:00pm

**Presenter: Joan Haber, HLAA-Sarasota Peer Mentor**

Each month, HLAA presents an online Webinar. Take advantage of your mem-

bership and "tune in". To go online live, you must be a member and use your password, the direct link is <http://www.hearingloss.org/content/webinars>.

To go online live, you must be a member and use your password, the link is <http://www.hearingloss.org/> and Webinars is found under "Online Community". <http://www.hearingloss.org/>

HLAA states in its promotion:

"After months of anticipation, the time is almost here for your first HLAA Convention. No doubt it will be a memorable experience, one you will want to enjoy every year. Find out from Convention veteran Joan Haber just what to expect, including highlights of the Convention, technology used in workshops and other sessions, and even what to wear to the banquet! Seasoned attendees are welcome to attend".

## HLAA "Chapter Development" Blog by Ed Ogiba

HLAA'S Ed Ogiba has a Chapter Development Blog which can be accessed through the HLAA-Sarasota website, <http://hlas.org/> under "News".

Ed and other HLAA staff regularly post information on this site. Ed has left our chapter but not Sarasota and not his tireless work ethic for the hard of hearing. He commutes to headquarters in Bethesda but has not forgotten us.

## HLAA Websites

Four websites have just about every thing you need or want to know about hearing loss.

- The national HLAA website is: <http://www.hearingloss.org/>
- The Florida Coordinating Council on Deaf and Hard of Hearing (the Governor appoints two HLAA-FL members to the Council by law) website is: <http://www.fccdhh.org/>
- The revamped HLAA-Florida Association website is: <http://hla-fl.org/>
- The HLAA-Sarasota Chapter website is: <http://hlas.org/>



The Private Eyes Movie Club is Taking a Summer Break but ... you can try out the Sony Caption Glasses anytime and enjoy any show at any

theatre that provides them like Hollywood 20 on Main Street.

The Sony glasses have proven to be reliable and allow "hearing" and "understanding" every word in a movie instead of having to guess what is happening. When Regal Theatres chose the Sony product, the press release stated: "Regal strives to provide the best experience for all moviegoers and this rollout is the culmination of years of coordination with accessibility advocates, film studios and of course Sony Digital Cinema...we're giving deaf, hard-of-hearing, blind and visually impaired customers a more convenient and natural way to enjoy the movies. We've worked closely with Sony for the last year testing the technology with audiences and the feedback has been phenomenal."

[Editor's Note—Thank you to Chapter Board members, Steve Boris and Christine Koch of boostDFM Digital Marketing Agency for the three new club logos]



The 2013-2014 season at Players Theater HAS con-

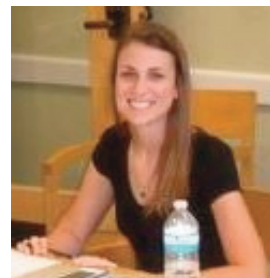
cluded but next season's production commence in October and include "Lend Me a Tenor", "Addams Family", "A Christmas Story, the Musical", "Violet", "Cabaret", "Catch Me if you Can" and "Love! Valour! Compassion!". The Players Theatre allots twenty complimentary tickets to HLAA-Sarasota each year. Also, the chapter can support the Players "Summer Sizzler" series (including "Dixie Swim Club" and "ABBA") at [http://theplayers.org/?page\\_id=357](http://theplayers.org/?page_id=357)

Please leave your e-mail with Committee Chair Betsy Roberts at [TheatreClub@hlaa.org](mailto:TheatreClub@hlaa.org) as tickets are allocated on first response basis.



The Chapter's "Between the Covers Book Club" will meet again next Fall and a book will be selected after the HLAA Convention where a number of authors attend and promote their books. The plan is to meet twice a year in a hearing friendly environment.

## HLAA-Sarasota Intern



Leanne Browning is excited about the opportunity to be involved with HLAA this summer and anticipates learning from all of its members. She says that "there is so much that you can't be taught in the classroom and this experience is going to be valuable as I move

on to graduate school". Leanne is from Bradenton and majoring in Communication Science and Disorders at Florida State University.

## HLAA-Sarasota At the Downtown Farmers Market



**Saturday June 27th  
7am to 1pm**

Our monthly information and support booth offers an opportunity to learn to address their hearing loss.

HLAS has a permanently assigned site, 1920 State Street between Lemon and Pineapple.

There are free hearing screening each month by one of HLAA-Sarasota's Pro Partners.

Members are encouraged to volunteer a two hour shift. Let Dave Donnelly know if you can help HLAA-Sarasota out by contacting [hlaa.sarasota@gmail.com](mailto:hlaa.sarasota@gmail.com)



**Join Over 500 users and "Like" the HLAA-Sarasota Facebook Page at <http://www.facebook.com/Hearing.Loss.Association.of.Sarasota>**