



Outreach Advocates

The Sarasota Chapter of the Hearing Loss Association of America advocates for equal access and political empowerment for approximately 135,000 residents of the two county area with hearing loss.

To do this, we work with government and industry to expand access to technologies that assist with hearing loss. We assist the HLAA to make sure the hearing-impaired have equal opportunities in areas of telecommunications, employment, health care, education and community life in general. Your membership dues and donations are essential to make this happen.

Our Outreach program has a booth at the Sarasota Farmers Market downtown on Saturday, a regular presence at Chamber of Commerce events, health expos, veteran's events and at assisted-living centers. We are continually

looking for residents who are under-informed about help with their hearing loss and find many who know nothing about t-coils, looped facilities and assistive devices like "captioned telephones." We are also always looking for "outreach advocates."

To be a good outreach advocate, you must be open about your hearing loss and willing to discuss it with others. A fun and worthwhile thing to do is volunteer at the Farmer's Market and "practice" discussing your hearing problems and dealing with them. It is also good to thank the facilities who are "with us", such as those who have installed loops, the movie theaters with captions and restaurants who are helpful with seating.

The Sarasota Chapter loves its volunteers – us helping each other – who spend a few hours here or



Top/Above: Rap Session Discussion



Above: JoAnne DeVries and Joan Haber at Rap Session

there. Your contacts to do so are Dave Donnelly or JoAnne DeVries at hlaa.sarasota@gmail.com

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 or call 941-706-4312. For comments or suggestions, contact editor Richard N. Williams at 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

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Scene and Heard

HLAS COMMUNITY NEWS BITES



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

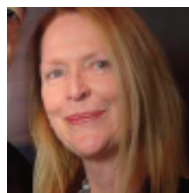
In order to further our mission of education, advocacy and support and reach the more than 135,000 folks with hearing loss we must keep pushing forward, continue our level of involvement, and stay connected to the community. We've been talking a lot the last several months on the importance of membership in our organization. One of the most important ways you can help us with our mission is by becoming a member of the Hearing Loss Association of America-Sarasota Chapter.

One of the many ways we promote our mission is by maintaining a strong presence in the community. HLAA-Sarasota has been going non-stop this past year participating in Outreach events. Your membership dues and donations have allowed us to participate in numerous Outreach events. We are constantly looking for new venues in order to reach out to those with hearing loss and with your help we can continue to expand our efforts.

If you have any Membership questions or can share any potential Outreach venues please do not hesitate to contact me.

JoAnne DeVries

JoAnne DeVries
President, HLAA-Sarasota



MEMBERSHIP NOTES

Please Welcome our New Members!

Ted Block, Venice

Vinell Lacy, Sarasota

Jennifer Meinert, Sarasota

Scott Barde, Sarasota

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. Membership applications can be found at the Chapter website, <http://hlas.org>.



EVENT CALENDAR

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

AUGUST EVENTS

Wednesday, August 13, 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

Saturday, August 23, 2014

7:00 AM –1:00 PM

Downtown Sarasota Farmers Market
Free Hearing Screenings
1920 State Street, Sarasota

SAVE THE DATE

November 15, 2014

Walk4Hearing
Jacksonville, Florida

March 7, 2015

Fourth Hearing Tech Expo
MTI, Bradenton, Florida

June 24-28, 2015

HLAA National Convention
St. Louis, Mo.

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@hlaa.org if you can give of your time but cannot attend our Chapter meetings

HLAA-Sarasota At the Downtown Farmers Market



**Saturday July 26th
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

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



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://hlaa.org/> Please contact the Chapter Nominations Committee Chair, Dr. Susan Fulton at: 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".



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 www.HRICART.com
877-372-2278 (CART) or 813-404-2488, voice/ text

Meeting Update

UPCOMING MEETING PREVIEW, PRIOR MEETING RECAP

UPCOMING MEETING JULY 9

JULY CHAPTER MEETING: RAP SESSION

The summer rap sessions are a great time to get questions answered and find support in coping with hearing loss. Take a look below at the topics covered at the June meeting. No question goes unanswered!

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.

JULY 9 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": "How a Speech Therapist Can Improve Your Hearing and Communication".

The next "After Hours" meeting will be **July 22 at 6:00 PM** at its permanent location, The Center for Arts and Cultural Alliance, 1226 N. Tamiami Trail, Sarasota.



Above: Jennifer Hansen

Right: May After Hours Meeting

Speech Pathologist Jennifer Hansen will speak about "How a Speech Therapist Can Improve Your Hearing and Communication". As always, questions and discussions are encouraged.



JUNE MEETING RECAP

"Choosing A Hearing Aid Brand"

Our Peer Mentor, Joan Haber, began with a leadoff topic, choosing a hearing aid brand.

A discussion among the 36 attendees included advice to never go where they sell just one brand; some brands have too much technology for your need; Widex had range of functions and prices, Phonak has Roger, an FM pairing pen device with mixed results; an audiologist is important—should have questionnaire or questions about lifestyle; and much more.

The discussion then turned to Doctors who perform cochlear implant surgery and many were discussed—all good. Advice was given to look for a skilled surgeon AND audiologist that works

with that doctor. Questions about V.A. services were addressed.

The discussion moved on to explaining Baja device and surgery as compared to cochlear implant surgery.

There were questions on CaptionCall and Captel phones and the FCC forms necessary to continue service. In addition, the new features of CaptionCall that allow saving the transcription. Flo Innes gave a detailed description of who the voice recognition system with human backup at caption phone centers works.

That topic led into movie captions and it was explained that all Regal theaters have the Sony caption glasses and that the AMC Theaters have a caption



Above: June Rap Session

system but it is cumbersome.

One member talked about poor reception on his church's loop system. It was pointed out that all loops may need to have annual or semi-annual checks as things get turned, moved, bumped and if there is a problem, we need to advocate for that..

HLAA WEBINAR: "Master Your Emotional Intelligence"



July 16, 2014

8:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Presenter: Brenda Williams

Each month, HLAA presents an on-line Webinar. Take advantage of your membership and "tune in". To go online live, you must be a mem-

ber and use your password, the direct link is www.hearingloss.org/content/webinars.

Once a live broadcast is presented, the presentation is placed in the HLAA online archives. Members can access the archives at the "online community" link at:

<http://www.hearingloss.org/>

This month, Brenda Williams' topic is "Master Your Emotional Intelligence"

Brenda's focus is on mastering progressive communication skills that lead to extraordinary relationships. She will introduce you to the Energy Leadership Self-Mastery Program which promotes an introspective and creative process that inspires you to maximize your personal and professional potential.

This Self-Mastery process will help you transform yourself and your world from the very core, creating more happiness and success with less stress...and that's really just where your journey begins.

HLAA FOUNDER'S EDITORIAL: THE "INVISIBLE CONDITION"

Do you know what the invisible condition is? Howard "Rocky" Stone founded the Hearing Loss Association of America in 1979. In those days, HLAA was named Self Help for Hard of Hearing People (SHHH). In Rocky's first book, a collection of his editorials as Executive Director from 1979 to 1993, he wrote:



"The most pervasive physical handicap in America today is an invisible condition – hearing loss. We will attempt to make the invisible visible; to examine all aspects of this complicated problem to permit you to cope better; to show you how you can make a difference; to enter the consciousness of our society and develop a position in it equal to non-disabled people".

This quote from Rocky was written in 1980 on the 1st birthday of our organization, 34 years ago this month. It is still relevant today. HLAA is our organization. It is us that makes hearing loss visible and offers hope to the 135,000 people with hearing loss in our area. In this 35th anniversary year of the founding of HLAA, join us in remembering Rocky Stone by honoring his vision and his passion for those of us with the "invisible condition".

For more on the founder, see

<http://www.hearingloss.org/about-us/founder>

LEGAL NEWS—ADA ADVOCACY

The Chapter is a national leader in looping theatres and churches but looping medical offices is a challenge. Hospitals and doctors are under ADA requirements to accommodate the deaf and hard of hearing. They fail to recognize the cost saving of looping at least one patient room so that advice can be clearly given and understood. The following area medical facilities are looped:

Hearing Spa, HearCare Audiology Center, Manatee Hearing and Speech, All Ears Mobile Office, Sarasota Memorial Hospital Auditorium, Silverstein Institute

Members should be aware of what the law requires and in order to advocate for looping with their doctors.

A most informative article on this subject is "What Doctors (and Their Office Managers) Need to Know About Patients with Hearing Disabilities"

Example: "I'm a doctor in private practice, and I can choose my patients - If a patient is deaf or hard of hearing and doesn't agree to bring their own interpreter or assistive device, I can turn them away, right?"

No. Doctors in private practice are covered by title III of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and cannot discriminate on the basis of disability. The full article is available at: www.fccdh.org/system/js/back/ckfinder/userfiles/files/ADA_Explained.pdf

Private Eyes MOVIE CLUB

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."

Between the Covers BOOK CLUB

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. The book will be announced in "Listen Up" on August 1 and we can all start reading and increase our knowledge of hearing loss to better advocate for ourselves.

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

Curtain Time THEATER CLUB

The 2013-2014 season at Players Theater has

concluded but next season's productions 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 "Knowing You, Knowing Me" and "Talking With" at http://theplayers.org/?page_id=357

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

Knowing Me, Knowing You:

The Hits of ABBA

July 10, 11, 12, 17, 18, 19 at 7:30pm

July 13 & 20 at 2:00pm

An all singing, all dancing, all ABBA musical revue covering the best songs from "Chiquitita" to "Winner Takes It All"-- Tickets: \$18

Talking With...

Playing: August 7, 8, 9, 14, 15, 16 at 7:30pm

August 10 & 17 at 2:00pm

This winner of the American Theatre Critics Association Award boasts an extraordinary series of monologues dealing with the personal ordeals of eleven compelling female characters--Tickets: \$18

If you use the box office in person, thank them for the loop. If you attend a performance, thank them for the loop. Easy advocacy!

FARE THEE WELL DR. BRAD INGRAO



Chapter Trustees and members gathered at the Blue Rooster on June 19 to sing the blues with our own Dr. Otoblock, audiologist Brad Ingrao. Brad has served not only the Sarasota Chapter and the State Board with his wisdom but has been the "go to" audiologist for HLAA. He will continue to share his knowledge and understanding of the hard of hearing in articles for HLAA's "Hearing Loss Magazine".

Opportunity knocks in Albuquerque and not only his knowledge but his saxophone artistry at the holiday chapter meetings and special events will be missed as well.

