

HLAA Twin Cities

Hearing Loss Association of America Twin Cities Chapter September 2006
Formerly SHHH Minnesota Chapter #1

NO MEETING WILL BE HELD SEPTEMBER 16, 2006 DUE TO THE AWARE FAIR ON THE SAME DAY. THE AWARE FAIR IS HELD EVERY 2 YEARS, AND IS LIKE A MINI STATE FAIR FOR ANYONE WHO HAS HEARING CONCERNs IT WILL BE HELD AT BROOKDALE SHOPPING CENTER IN BROOKLYN CENTER, MINNESOTA. SEE PAGES 2 AND 3 FOR MORE INFORMATION, MAP AND DRIVING DIRECTIONS.

OUR NEXT HLAA TC MEETING WILL BE ON OCTOBER 21, 2006
OUR SPEAKER WILL BE LARRY WIGFIELD
FROM MN OPERATION LIFESAVER



Meetings are held at:

Courage Center
3915 Golden Valley Road
Golden Valley, MN 55422

October through May
9:30 AM – Noon
3rd Saturday of each month
(Except June, July & August)
and this September 2006
See Page 12 for contacts
and more information.

September 2006

*Aware Fair	Page 2 & 3
*Bits and Pieces	Page 6
*Calendar of Events	Page 4
*Convention 2006	Page 5
*Convention 2007	Page 4
*Entertainment	Page 9
*Officers & Editors	Page 12
*Pidgin Sign	Page 8
*President's Message	Page 7
*Sponsors/Advertisers	Page 11
*Survey	Page 10

**ALL OFFICERS HAVE NEW EMAIL ADDRESSES
SEE PAGE 12**

National Website:
www.hearingloss.org

Minnesota Website:
www.hlaatc.org **NEW**

MN Contact Information:
info@hlaatc.org **NEW**

FREE EVENT!



Deaf and Hard of Hearing
Services ~ Metro Office
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Aware Fair 2006

An educational and social event for Deaf,
Hard of Hearing, Deafblind and hearing people!

Date: Saturday, September 16, 2006

10:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Location: Brookdale Center
Brooklyn Center, Minnesota
Located just south of I-694
on Highway 100 (*map on back*)



For further information, visit Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services' website:

www.dhhsd.org (click on "What's New")

or contact

Marie Koehler

marie.koehler@state.mn.us

651/297-3640 (Voice), 1-888-206-6513 (TTY)



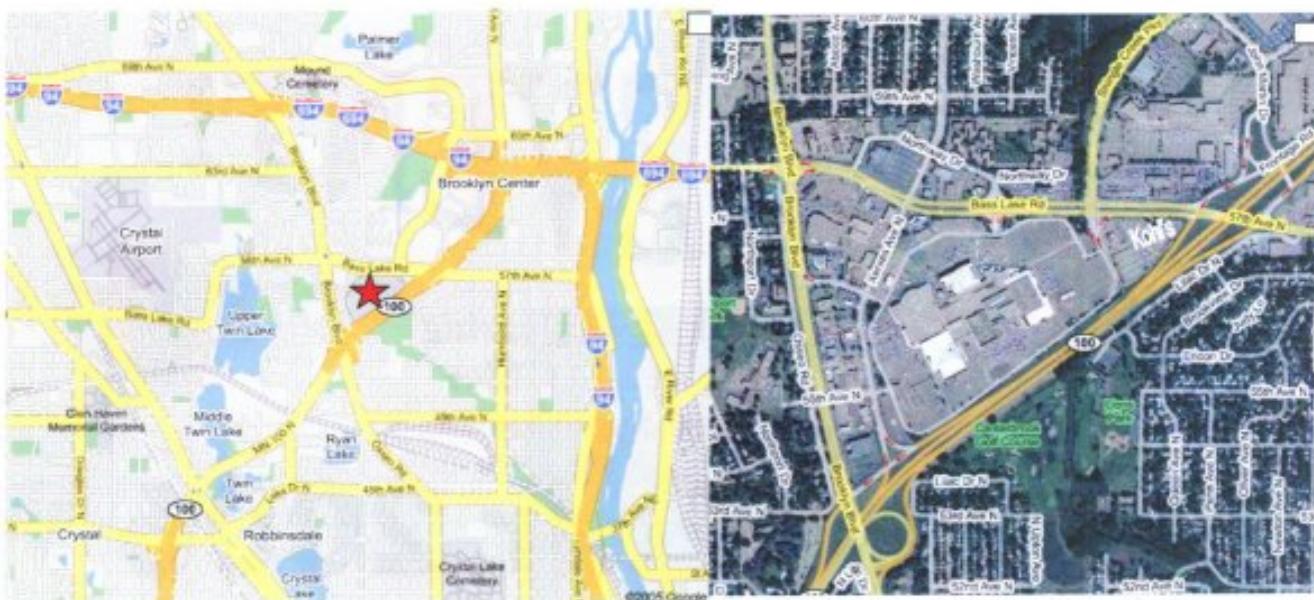
Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services is a division of the Minnesota Department of **Human Services**



This information is available in other forms to people with disabilities by calling 651-297-1316 V or 1-888-206-6513 TTY.

For speech-to-speech telephone re-voice services, contact us through Minnesota Relay at 1-877-627-3848.





If coming from the SOUTHERN SUBURBS
 I-35W North to
 I-494 West to
 Highway 100 North
 Exit #152 (Brooklyn Blvd.)

If coming from the PLYMOUTH AREA
 County Road 9 or
 42nd Avenue North to
 Highway 100 North to
 Brooklyn Blvd.

If coming from the NORTHWEST
 I-94/I-694 East to
 Shingle Creek Parkway
 South on Shingle Creek to
 Bass Lake Road

If coming from the EAST
 I-94 or I-694 West to
 Shingle Creek Parkway
 South on Shingle Creek to
 Bass Lake Road

Bus Routes that serve Brookdale:
 5, 22, 717, 721, 722, 723, 724, 761, 801.

Metro Transit Information:

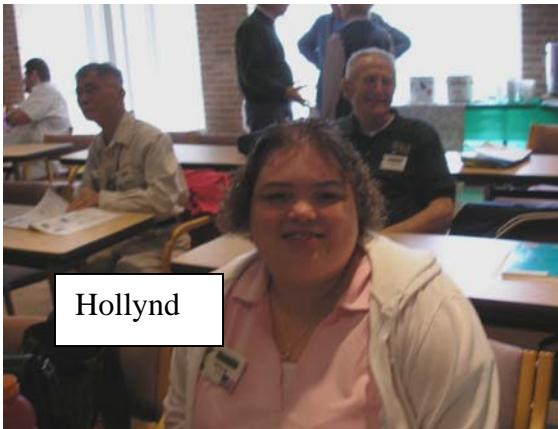
612-373-3333 Voice

TTY Service (for deaf and hard of hearing only)
 Route & Schedule Information: 612-341-0140
 Customer Relations: 612-349-7439
 Metro Commuter Services: 651-602-1253



Calendar of Coming Events

September 16, 2006 - Aware Fair
(See Pages 2 & 3 for more information)
NO MEETING AT COURAGE CENTER
October 21, 2006 – Larry Wigfield
MN Operation Lifesaver
October 28, 2006 – Set clocks back one hour
November 18, 2006 – Gloria Thompson
Identity Theft
December 16, 2006 – Holiday Party
January 20, 2007 – Dr. Shallop (tentative)
February 17, 2007 – Dr. Kristen Swan from
Region's Hospital
June 21 – June 24, 2007 – HLAA National
Convention in Oklahoma City.



Hollynd

Keys – anyone who has a key to the storage unit in the basement and is no longer using it or not an officer please return it to the secretary. Thank you.



2006 Convention in Orlando
Colleen, Bev, Candace



NATIONAL CONVENTION 2007 **June 21-24, 2007** **Convention Center Hotel** **Oklahoma City**

CapTel (C) - People who call your C phone via long distance (LD) should also inform C customer Service of their LD provider, to ensure their LD calls to you are billed under their existing LD service.

If your callers do not let C know their preferred LD provider, any LD captioned calls they place to you will be charged on their phone bill under your state's TRS LD carrier, at your state's LD rate (which varies).

Please note: Federal Relay users and people who use 3 - Line C do not need to register their LD service.



Tiffany

*** *****

News from Iraq to Miami

A 3 year old from Iraq came to the US last week to receive her cochlear implant after being deaf since birth. The little girl's name is Amina and she is in Miami after a colonel in the Army Special Forces waged a long and grueling battle to bring the child and her father to FL.

Orlando, FL Nat. Convention Report

By Candace Meinders

Hi Everyone,

I just returned from the Hearing Loss Assoc. of America convention in Orlando this afternoon. I had a wonderful time.

I left with my friend Colleen Wednesday evening 6/28 from MSP via Northwest. We got to our hotel rooms at the resort after Midnight. Thursday, after we registered, we left for Epcot to participate in a small experiment for Disney and their handheld captioned wireless receiver they plan to use later this year. I hope they slow down their speed of the captions since deaf or hard of hearing people cannot understand tapes or intercoms or anything that is not captioned (and most deaf and hard of hearing people can read). Otherwise, we had a good time at Epcot. We returned to the Convention Center in time to hear the keynote speaker, Lou Ferrigno, who starred as "The incredible Hulk" many years ago. He said his life began after 40 and I plan to finish his book soon. Did you know he lost over 80% of his hearing at a very young age?. I had my picture taken with him afterwards. My three favorite workshops were I attended were: "The Emotional Impact of Hearing Loss" "Bilateral cochlear implants - To Do or not to do?" & "Superman & Wonderwoman do not Live Here Anymore, How Ordinary People face the challenge of Hearing Loss when one spouse is hearing and the other has a hearing loss." I also saw the huge exhibit hall with many vendors dealing cochlear implants, cell phones, hearing aids, CapTel, How to start an ALDA chapter (Adult Late Deafness Association), etc. I bought a Sidekick T-Mobile 2. I attended the Mexican buffet dinner, saw the premiere movie screening in downtown Disney, called "Superman Returns" that was close-captioned. Now I need to read all the earlier

books and maybe see videos of the earliest Superman so it all makes sense to me. A lot of us attended the annual banquet on Sat. with speaker and author Michael Chorost about being hooked up to a CI after 30 years of deafness. Now, we are really bionic machines.

Next year, I may try to go to the cochlear implant convention instead of the HLAA since I no longer wear hearing aids.

Thank you for praying that I would have an enjoyable time. I certainly did.

Candace or Candi



President Bush
Cheryl Heppner and Galaxy
(hearing service dog) visit the
White House 2006

BITS AND PIECES

Bring your old **hearing aids and eye glasses** to the Oct. meeting so they can be recycled and used by others.

The **magazines** are moving along very well. With each of us taking a bag full at the end of the mtg. it makes it easier for everyone to have a bunch to take to a nearby nursing home, doctors office, high rise, vets hospital etc. etc.

Keep in mind these mags should be no more than 3 months old.

CLEAN UP Every event or activity that HLAA TC conducts requires advance planning, on-site preparations and clean up. Won't you offer a few minutes of your time to either come early or stay after the event has ended for a few minutes to tidy up?

Starkey last yr. introduced the ELI Bluetooth wireless HA accessory for wireless connectivity to cellphones, now they have released the "BluPal" wireless bluetooth microphone transmitter with a range of up to 30 ft. that is the size of a butane cigarette lighter.

CI users take note - I read this but is it true? Flashlight warning for CI users, do not use the flashlights that do not need batteries just shake. The problem is that there is a magnet in it which can erase the maps from a CI or corrupt computer hard drives. Not sure if this is true or not, can some CI users enlighten us?

Street lights flashing what do they mean? MN is one of the few states that have lights mounted at intersections in the middle of the overhang. If you see a white light flashing it means there is an emergency vehicle (EV) coming from the sides or front. If the light is solid and not flashing it means the EV is coming from behind.

Campbell's Soup can labels...you do not need to bring the entire label from the can, just the UPS bar code.

Your check list for the October 21st meeting.

Bring: (1) old HA's or eye glasses no longer using to be donated. (2) completed survey (3) yearly membership dues (4) magazines

If you cannot hear the **airport** seating announcements, the ADA allows you to go on board with handicapped passengers as well as parents with small children. Just let the airline personnel know of your HL.

Almanac (local topics show about the **Twin Cities**) is now captioned and shown on Channel 2 on Friday's at 7 PM.

Bill Starkey who launched his business in his basement in 1967 was given an honoree Doctor of Law degree by Pepperdine Univ. on its Malibu campus July 8th. He heads the Starkey Hearing Foundation.

<http://www.sotheworldmayhear.org>
He has given away more than 150,000 hearing aids free around the world.

<http://geo.commissions.leg.state.mn.us/districts/start.html>

To find your representative: (1) go to the web site above (2) type in your address (3) type in your zip code (4) hit enter This will give you your state rep., state senator, US representative and US senator.

Former Miss America Heather Whitestone McCallum had her first CI four years ago, now she had her second in the other ear. It was done in July at John Hopkins University by Dr. Niparko.

This list is for anyone who has a **Hearing Dogs**, thinking about getting one, or are just curious about what Hearing Dogs can do to make life easier. We are a new group (founded in January 2004). If you are interested, just send Nancy a private email, and she will send you the official invitation. nancyd@questingcenter.com



Hello and Welcome to HLAA TC,

Lots of things have changed this year and for the next six months more things will change. Our new name is Hearing Loss Association of America Twin Cities Chapter. We have a new president, vp, secretary and treasurer. They are working hard in your behalf to make this a fun, rewarding, stimulating, educational and supportive club for YOU.

I am happy to say that we are a thriving group of people with no shortage of ideas to keep us going.

One of our biggest obstacles was the fact we had no money to support our CART or newsletter. So over the last year we had t-shirt sales, contacted VFW's, Lion's Clubs and had a steak fry to earn funds. And we did survive. We all know that without CART this would not be the same organization. Because CART is so important to the HOH, please thank your CART person wherever it is used. They are very sweet people and they like to know they are appreciated.

In looking ahead to my year as your president, I do not come in blindly, as I've been a member for many years and have held the office of everything except treasurer, and now my husband does that. So I guess between the two of us, we have held every position.

Keep in mind that your new time to renew is September 2006. Because we will not be meeting in Sept. (due to the Aware Fair) that date has been extend to Oct. 21. If you come to the Oct. 21 mtg. bring your fee with you. If you are mailing it, please send it in Sept.

Joe O'Brien is the person who originally asked me step up and become an officer many moons ago, he has done this with other people too. One thing that has always stayed in my memory about Joe is his continued dedication to volunteerism. Some people are just like that; they like to serve other people. We should all strive to be like Joe and volunteer more. Thank you Joe for all the years and years of service you have given to SHHH now HLAA TC.

Your President
Merrilee



Pidgin Sign

By Vicki Marten

Most of us at HLAA-TC know at least a few ASL signs. But knowing a few signs – even knowing a great many signs – is not the same as knowing ASL.

We use ASL not so much as a language in itself, but as a supplement to the language we already know. What is it we do with ASL when we treat it this way? Mangle it, I suppose. Like the fractured French of my youth, my attempts to use the shards of a language I am struggling to learn might be called “splintered Sign”. But since I actually *need* these fragments of visible language, it seems worthy of a less flippant name.

Now, at last, I have a term for it: Pidgin Sign. I didn’t make this up. Linguist Steven Pinker ([The Language Instinct](#), 1994) describes a pidgin as “choppy strings of words borrowed from the language ...highly variable in order and with little in the way of grammar.” Sounds a lot like my use of ASL.

“Shall we go back to work?”, I’ll ask, signing “work” with a questioning look (or maybe one of sad resignation), but no visible grammar whatever. Because my companion is also listening, she knows I didn’t say “I don’t like my job”, or “I do bad work.” As we converse we watch one another’s faces, read lips, listen for any sounds we can hear, and bolster it all with a few key signs.

Why do we do this? Pinker says that pidgins arise “when speakers of different languages have to communicate to carry out practical tasks, but do not have the opportunity to learn one another’s languages”. And signs do serve a very practical function for us, even if we are not able to convey a complete and complex idea in ASL. They can help us find the topic, change the direction of the conversation, or learn what activity is next. Like the creators of spoken pidgins, we need to communicate but we lack the opportunity to fully learn the language.

Most of our conversations are with hearing people, and unless that changes, we will continue to lack the opportunity to learn ASL in its full grammatical form. We must speak to be understood by most of the hearing population, so we are not able to abandon English and immerse ourselves fully in ASL.

Is that a bad thing? Not necessarily. Echoing the HLAA philosophy (Terry Portis, [Hearing Loss Journal](#) July/August 2005) of “whatever works”, I would claim that ASL’s usefulness authorizes us to include it in our communications arsenal. It can’t hurt -- though I think we owe it to ASL “natives” to make sure we don’t represent our manual jabberings as the ASL language.

Even Franglais wan’t all bad. I was, after all, practicing my vocabulary, syntax, declensions, grammar – I just wasn’t practicing them all at the same time.

In the interest of “whatever works”, I’d say, if it helps, do it. You might even learn the ASL language some time. After all, I did eventually learn French.



Shannon

Report lead submitted from Alfred Tsang

Federal Video Relay Service -

www.federalvrs.us

Federal Relay Conference Captioning -

www.federalrcc.us

Federal IP Relay (a.k.a. Internet Relay) -

www.federalip.us

Federal CapTel - www.federalcaptel.us

Federal Relay Information -

www.federalrelay.us

Federal Online TTY Directory -

www.federaltty.us

Federal Relay Customer Service - 1-800-877-

0996 TTY/Voice/ASCII

(24/7/365)

CapTel Customer Service

<http://www.captionedtelephone.com/contact-us.phtml>

Also from Alfred Tsang

Read about the well known Dr. Levine who has done many implants on the Envoy website www.envoymedical.com

Movies this month

Coon Rapids Kerasotes Showplace

16 Snakes on a Plane 09/11/06 - 09/12/06

Faribault Cinema 6 How to eat Fried Worms 09/06/06 -09/07/06

Inver Grove Kerasotes Showplace

16 Snakes on a Plane 09/13/06 - 09/14/06



Elizabeth



Please call these places to verify information.

VSA arts of Minnesota newsletter,
ARTS ACCESS. www.vsaartsmn.org

Where can I see captioned movies?

MN Coon Rapids Kerasotes Showplace 16

MN Coon Rapids Showplace 16

MN Eagan Regal Eagan Stadium 16

MN Eagan Regal Eagan Stadium 16

MN Faribault Cinema 6

MN Inver Grove Kerasotes Showplace 16

MN Inver Grove Heights Kerasotes Showplace 16

MN Minneapolis Regal Brooklyn Center Stadium 20

MN Minneapolis Regal Brooklyn Center Stadium 20

MN Oakdale Oakdale Ultrascreen

SURVEY SEPTEMBER 2006

Please complete this survey and bring it with you to the Oct. 21, 2006 meeting
or mail it to the PO Box (address on Page 12).

This survey helps us to know what you are looking for in our organization.

1. Your name (optional)
2. How were you introduced to HLAA TC? Ex. Doctor, Audi, web site, paper etc. etc.
3. How long have you been a member of this chapter?
4. Who do you feel is the best speaker this chapter has had?
5. What do you like best about our group?
6. What do like least about our group?
7. What do you think we could do to improve ourselves?
8. What topics have we not covered?
9. Who would you recommend as a speaker for our meeting?
10. Have you ever visited our local web site? How often? Any suggestions on how to improve it?



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Paula Schwartz, Au.D.

Doctor of Audiology

7450 France Ave. South

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Edina, MN 55435

952-224-0308

fax 952-831-4942

plschwartz@msn.com

link through www.audiologyconcepts.com

Please note

**Opinions expressed in
this newsletter are those
of the person
submitting the
information and not
necessarily those of
SHHH MN Chapter #1.
Mention of goods or
services does not mean
endorsement nor should
exclusion suggest
disapproval.**

**This space is available for
reaching Hard of Hearing
People.
Please contact Merrilee at
rknoll5200@aol.com**

**HLAA Twin Cities Chapter
PO Box 8037
Minneapolis, MN 55408-0037**

First Class

NO MEETING THIS SEPTEMBER



HLAA Twin Cities Chapter

Name.....

Address.....

City.....

State.....Zip.....

Phone.(area code).....

E-Mail.....

<input type="checkbox"/>	Individual	\$25
<input type="checkbox"/>	Professional	\$50
<input type="checkbox"/>	Supporting	\$100
<input type="checkbox"/>	Newsletter only	\$10
<input type="checkbox"/>	Contact me for newspaper advertising	

Mail to: **HLAA Twin Cities Chapter
PO Box 8037
Minneapolis, MN 55408-0037**

HLAA Twin Cities Chapter Welcomes You

President – Merrilee Knoll, (763) 537-7558 TTY, V president@hlaatc.org

Vice President – Monique Hammond, vicepresident@hlaatc.org

Secretary – Sue Brabeck, secretary@hlaatc.org

Treasurer – Bob Knoll, treasurer@hlaatc.org

Aloha Event Coordinator – Ellen Thibodo, (651) 423-2249 (TTY) ThibodoD@aol.com

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Merrilee Knoll, Rknoll5200@aol.com

This month's editor is Merrilee Knoll



Meetings are held the 3rd Saturday of the month September through May at the Courage Center in Golden Valley, MN. We gather at 9:30 to socialize and the meeting starts at 10 AM. All meetings are real time captioned by Lisa Richardson and her staff of *Paradigm Captioning*. Please visit the chapter's web-site at www.hlaatc.org