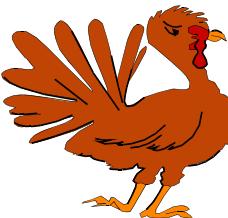


HLAA Twin Cities

Hearing Loss Association of America Twin Cities Chapter November 2008
Formerly called....Self Help for the Hard of Hearing (SHHH)



Calendar of Events

2008

Nov. 15, 2008 – Linda Senechal – CI's

Dec. 20, 2008 – Rubin Latz - Dept. of Vocation Rehabilitation, Potluck, White Elephant Gift Exchange, Cookie Sale

2009

Jan. 17, 2009 – Mary Hartnett – MCDHH

Feb. 16, 2009 – Lisa McDonald, Cochlear Implants

Mar. 27-28, 2009 – State Convention in St. Cloud, no mtg. at Courage Center this month

A big thank you to Ross Hammond who has provided pictures for us in almost every newsletter for the last 2 yrs.

November 2008

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THE **NEXT MEETING** IS
November 15th at 9:30 AM
Courage Center
3915 Golden Valley Road
Golden Valley, MN 55422-4249

HLAA TC Website
www.hlaate.org

Contains map to our location, resources, officers, upcoming events and newsletters.

HLAA National:
www.hearingloss.org

MN Contact Information:
info@hlaate.org

The Mission of HLAA is to open the world of communication to people with hearing loss by providing information, education, support and advocacy.

If you took part in the first live radio coverage for the elections when NPR, Harris Corp. and Towson Univ. simulcast captioned format event, tell the editors about it so we can share it with our readers.



The President of HLAA TC



Vicki Martin

Are We On the Same Page?

I – and probably many of you -- have been to any number of meetings that were called just to make sure that “everyone is on the same page”.

This metaphor resonates for us in a way that it may not for most people. In fact, I sometimes wonder if it originated with a hard of hearing person.

Handouts do help keep us on track. But have you ever had the experience of spending most of your time and attention just trying to keep it open to the right page? Me, too. I watch for key words, sneak furtive glances at others’ papers, and try to find a match in my own hand without rustling the pages too much. After a couple of minutes I repeat the process, trying to look as if I know exactly what we are talking about. I can spend the entire hour doing this, feeling a great sense of pride and accomplishment just for managing to stay on the same page.

Metaphorically though, I might as well be reading a different book. Trying to keep the right page in front of me leaves me no time to think about what’s actually on it, much less its

meaning for my work. Such is our life among hearing people, unless we learn – and they learn – how to accommodate.

Not all accommodations are high-tech. Many people, after attending their first HLAA meeting, have commented on how they felt fully accepted. You can ask people to repeat things, talk loudly, and be thought a perfectly nice person even when you fail to reply to someone’s greeting. We’re here because we can be who we are – hard of hearing people – and not be left out of the community.

Look around you, and you will see your accommodations: your friends at HLAA. Here, we are truly on the same page, due to our common understanding. We are even literally on the same page, because of CART. And because we don’t have to work so hard at it, we are free to think about how things apply to us. We’re free to find things meaningful.

I like it that way. I hope you do, too.

Thank you **Paradigm CART**, with us since 1990.



L
I
S
A

Lori

Angie

Suzanne



10/18/08 Meeting Synopsis



Thanks to Angie Sundell from Paradigm who provided the CART services for the day.

Our President Vicki introduced our speaker Mary Bauer, who is program advisor from the Minnesota Department of Human Services Deaf and Hard of Hearing Division Metro Office. She talked to us about the equipment lending program and Pathways to Employment (PTE). Their job is to make sure that all people have access to communication by lending out equipment for one month if somebody is having trouble hearing on the job or participating as a volunteer. This way they can see what works at the job site and where their employers may purchase it. The goal of PTE. is to make sure that people who have a hearing loss keep their jobs, increase the number of people who are being hired and enable people to get job promotions. Thanks again Mary for your wealth of information.

President Vicki mentioned that Rich Diedrichsen left forms to be filled out regarding airline complaints. An article was written in the Hearing Loss Magazine about looping airports. She also mentioned that we are the first recipients to receive the Bonham Cross Memorial Award given annually from the Williams Sound Corporation. Vicki and VP Linda were given

a tour, wonderful food and a presentation on Bonham. We were awarded a plaque and a check in the amt. of \$1,500. Thanks so much to Williams Sound! Vicki also helped us to play ASL bingo. What fun and there were prizes given out.

Secretary Sue handled the door prize drawing, which was another beautiful pen set from Mike Cowell. It was made out of deer antlers. The prizewinner was Dave Lovell. Way to go big Dave.

VP Linda informed the group that we had some brochures given by Williams Sound on their products such as the Pocket Talker and Assistive Listening Systems for places of Worship.

Treasurer Bob again mentioned the business cards available. Mary Bauer brought hearing aid batteries and the Jerri McMahon from Sonus Hearing in Crystal donated around 400 some batteries. Thanks to Mary and Jerri. He also mentioned that quite a few members have already paid their membership fee and thanks to everybody for that. Lets not forget about the Minnesota State Convention on Hearing Loss, which will be in March.

See you next month.

Linda Miller

From HLAA Delray newsletter Oct. 2008

Getting An Appointment

My son developed an earache so I hopped in the car and drove to our pediatrician. I did not have an appointment and the nurse was reluctant to fit us in unless it was a real emergency. "My son has a horrible earache," I told her. "Which ear?" she asked. I called to my son, "What ear is it?" He replied "2008." I got the appointment.

Comment from our readers

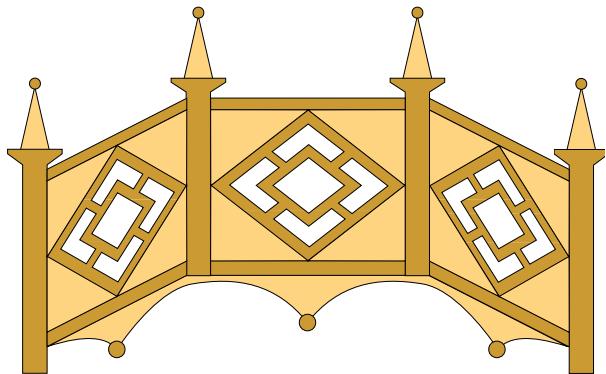
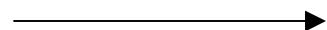
Last month in the Bits and Pieces column, an item of interest was a HA that appeared to have not too

much to offer, and in response we have a comment from Paul Tuveson from Midwest Hearing Aid Systems who wrote.

Your little blurb on the Zon hearing aid which has no t-coil or no way to interface with assistive listening devices.

Just a little note regarding that: The hearing aid industry has changed somewhat in the last few years as to fitting strategies and features. Hearing aids are getting smaller and smaller due to better feedback controls by the manufacturers. Also hearing aids with the right feature can work better with the telephone. For most people this has been a blessing. This however does not translate to be a positive situation for everyone as typically the new phone feature cannot be used with assistive listening devices. The consumer needs to make this problem known when buying a new hearing aid.

Unfortunately this is a bad oversight by many people selling hearing aids as the numbers of people who use assistive listening devices are few in comparison to the number who don't need it or won't use them. Bottom line is this. Many new models, many new features, please make it clear what you want the hearing aid to do for you when you're shopping for a new aid. Should you be uncertain as to what you are getting, please speak up. What will be next? Probably Blue Tooth expansion (it's out, but somewhat limited). You'll be able to sit in your chair, push a button and it will send a signal directly from the telephone to your hearing aid. Push another button and you can pick up the signal from the television for starters. Will you be able to push a button and have your spouse deliver your favorite beverage? No I doubt that one will ever be programmed! You're on your own there! Paul can be reached at



HLAA TC would like to thank these people for providing gifts of

Batteries:

Ken Simons, from Excellence Marketing
Jerri McMahon, from Sonus
Mary Bauer form DHHS

Hard Carved Pens:

Mike Cowell

Deaf and HOH Books, Tapes and Videos

Dave Lovell



Ralph and Mary
our Oct. speaker

Paul Tuveson, BC-HIS
Midwest Hearing Aid Systems
Nasseff Speciality Center
225 N Smith Ave Suite 502A
St Paul, MN 55102
651-646-2994
ptuveson@midwestentspecialists.com

Fourth Bi-annual Minnesota Hard of Hearing Conference

My hearing loss and me – that's OK!

March 27-28, 2009

Holiday Inn, St. Cloud, MN

Agenda

March 27, 2009

Registration 5:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Hospitality and Welcome 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Chance to do one-on-one with vendors and meet old and new friends

Holiday Inn Conference Room – Sponsored by Advanced Bionics

March 28, 2009

8:00 a.m. Registration opens

Vendors open

(Coffee, juice and refreshment available)

9:00 a.m. Welcome – **Rich Diedrichsen, Conference Chairperson**

9:10 – 10:40 **Kristen Swan: Licensed Psychologist, St. Paul Ramsey Medical Center**

The psycho-social impact of your hearing loss; beyond not hearing, how does a hearing loss affect you? Who does your hearing loss affect (family, friends, etc.)? How can you make this a positive experience? Kris has a wealth of professional knowledge and clinical experience to draw upon, and a friendly relaxed presentation style that will leave you informed and inspired.

10:40-11:00 Break

11:00 – 12:00 **Mary Bauer: Consultant with Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services of MN, Mary is a sought after speaker on coping strategies for everyday living. Mary's practical everyday insight and humor will help you learn to live as easily with your hearing loss as you live with your favorite pet.**

12:00 – 1:30 Lunch and vendor visits – Friends, food and what's new (Lunch provided in registration)

1:30 – 3:00 **Dr. Rebecca Crowell, Ph.D.; Dr. Crowell teaches graduate and undergraduate courses at St. Cloud State University and supervises speech, language and hearing clinic on and off campus. She will talk about common diseases of the ear and how each can affect your hearing. Not all hearing losses are created equal and this informative session will help you understand your hearing loss and those of others you may know**

3:00-3:30 Wrap-up, door prizes and a chance to request topics for 2011(Yes, we plan to do this again!)

Costs: \$40.00 per person -- \$70.0 Couples -- \$100.00 Family of 3 or more

Holiday Inn has a conference rate, tell them you are with the Hard of Hearing Conference 320-253-9000 or 1-800-HOLIDAY (other accommodations nearby call Rich at 1-800-456-3690 (V/TTY) 320-255-3502 (VP

SPEAKING OUT and EDUCATING

By Monique Hammond

Our own Hunter Sargent did just that. In the Minneapolis StarTribune of October 20th 2008, an article was published regarding to the brutal beating of a young man who has fetal alcohol syndrome. This sad and revolting incident has drawn the attention of the community in general, and the Minneapolis paper carried a number of stories on the case.

Entitled “ *Too quick to trust those who pretend to care*”, the piece opened with Hunter’s name. Even though he does not know the gentleman personally, Hunter relates that “ hearing the news of his brutal beating and torture stung as if he had received the blows himself.” Those are very powerful words. He further talks about the specific vulnerabilities of people who have fetal alcohol syndrome. They tend to bond and trust easily which leaves them wide open to all kinds of abuse as well as to the betrayal of those in whom they put their faith. What could be worse? Hunter believes that the broken bones and the burns will eventually heal, but that the psychological scars go so much deeper than the actual physical wounds.

There is no doubt that Hunter can relate to the young man who was so terribly wronged. He spoke out publicly on his behalf which takes a great deal of courage and inner strength. Whenever we voice our opinion, whenever we take up a cause, we also reveal something about the soft spots within our own beings and souls.

In the end though, this is not only a story about speaking out. For those who read the article it also became quite an educational experience. Hunter does talk to groups on the realities and challenges of fetal alcohol syndrome. That way, *he is not only an advocate but also an educator*.

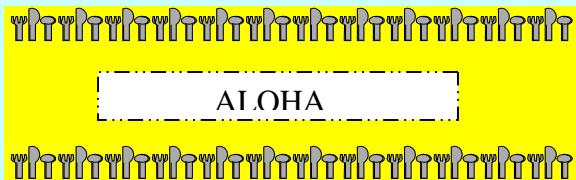
On behalf of HLAA TC, I congratulate Hunter officially on his efforts to speak for those who have little or no voice. We want to let him know how proud we are to say that he is one of us. At HLAA TC we *do not pretend to care*. We honestly do care and value trust highly.

I close with one of my favorite quotes by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.:” Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter.” Yeah, Hunter!!

Editors Note:

Hunter Sargent was also quoted in the Access Press Newspaper in the Sept. 10, 2008 issue under “Intellectual Disability NOT Funny.” It dealt with offensive language being hurtful and cruel to people with disabilities. Hunter is a self-advocate and board member for the Arc of Minnesota. He is also an HLAA TC member.

Thank you Monique
for catching the
article in the
StarTribune and
writing about it.



Hi, Everyone!

Guess what - a restaurant exists that will accept our large group! I have eaten there on several occasions and I give it a 5 star rating! Hoban, located in a strip mall in Eagan off of Silver Bell Rd and Hwy 13, is an authentic Korean rest. They have recently expanded and remodeled the interior and now have room to seat us.

When: Saturday, November 8

Time: 5:30 PM

Where: Hoban

1989 Silver Bell Rd

Eagan, MN 55122-3167

Phone: (651) 688-3447

After Dinner: You are invited over to our house (Ellen and Doug) in Rosemount for dessert and coffee, mingling and of course, the old standby, Texas Hold 'Em! Other card and board games will be available.

Please RSVP to me no later than Friday noon, November 7 if you plan to attend, as I need to give Hoban an EXACT count for seating purposes.

Ellen

ThibodoD@aol.com

&&*&*&*&*&*&*&*&*&*&*&*&*&*&*&*&*&*

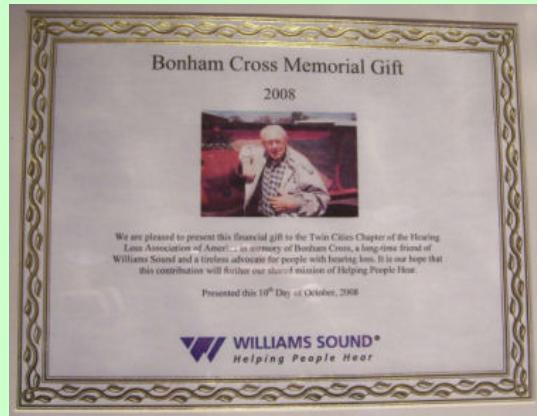
Hunter asks a question of our speaker

Mary Bauer



Tiffany, Shannon, Hunter

The first Bonham Cross Award from Williams Sound – Oct. 18, 2008



Mary



Vicki



Monique & Mike



Linda & Vicki



Bits and Pieces

Coming to the market in March of 2009 is an alarm clock/bed shaker that goes off when the smoke alarm goes off. Cost is \$189. Visit the website at <http://www.lifetonesafety.com/>

Website for people with Meniere's with message board, check our
<http://menieres.org/>

A tip from Rich Diedrichsen who is a member of the Northwest/KLM advisory panel in the Twin Cities - **when making a complaint**. When you have a concern with air travel, know which law applies. If your complaint is with the physical space of the terminal, or the fact they have no amplified phone or TTY this is an ADA issue. If the concern is related to the information the airlines give out on monitors and at gates it is an ACCA issue. Yep, it is complex.

For a list of Culvers restaurants that have a drive thru accommodation for HOH/deaf patrons see the video at <http://deafdrivethru.com/> its captioned. Read how to get your favorite restaurant added to the list. MN has zero.

If you suffer from **Tinnitus**, ask your ENT dr. to get this book for you. Sedona, AZ-Auricle Ink Publishers announces the release of "The Consumer Handbook on Tinnitus" (Richard S. Tyler, PhD, Editor). Already this title received a rave review: "Clear talk from renowned tinnitus experts on reducing the devastating impact tinnitus can have on quality of life," says Robert W. Sweetow, PhD. "Great book!" This book was written for patients suffering from tinnitus and is presented without hype and false hopes. 288 Pages

Also check out National website Nov. 12 when Dr. Seidman talks on tinnitus.

**The Oprah Winfrey Show" has expanded its reach into the Latino community with Monday's launch of its Spanish version through Secondary Audio Programming and closed captioning. <http://www.eurweb.com/story/eur47969.cfm>

In the July 29, 2008 issue of "USA Today" a team of researchers at Johns Hopkins University state that an estimated **55 million Americans have hearing loss**. This from the Archives of Internal Medicine. The number increase from formerly 33 million is due to aging, personal listening devices and returning wounded military personnel from Iraq.

Dogs in prison-in many prisons inmates are training dogs to be service dogs. They do all the training except for outside events when someone from 4Paws does that. The Trainers get a feeling of self worth and accomplishment.



National News

www.hearingloss.org

National HLAA members planning to attend the **Nat. convention in 2009 in TN**, be sure to sign up before 12/31/08 to enter in the drawing for a Nintendo Wii. <http://www.hearingloss.org/index.asp>

National's Hearing Loss Magazine features Washington Redskins **Reed Doughty**. Reed who is an HLAA member shares splay for the Redskins with a hearing loss. Don't miss this exclusive interview in the November/December issue.

Nov. 12, in the chat room <http://www.hearingloss.org/Community/schedule.asp>
talk with **Dr. Michael Seidman** at 7 PM (Eastern). He is an otolaryngologist (ENT). He lectures around the world and is considered an expert on the molecular basis of aging, noise induced hearing loss, otologic/neurotologic-skull base surgery, all aspects of ear, nose, throat, head and neck surgery, tinnitus, herbal therapies, nutrition/antioxidants and their relationship to health, sports and aging.

Chat schedule of events:

Every Monday night - Cochlear Implant Chat 9 p.m. (Eastern Time)

Every Wednesday night - Regular Chat 9 p.m. (Eastern Time)

December 11 - Dr. **Sam Trychin** (Surviving the Holidays with Hearing Loss)

Sports Fans Win Their Day in Court

October 17, 2008

(In part from the National website)

In an opinion issued on September 30, 2008, a federal district court in Maryland held that the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requires the Washington Redskins "to provide deaf and hard of hearing fans equal access to the aural information broadcast over the stadium bowl public address system at FedEx Field, which includes music with lyrics, play information, advertisements, referee calls, safety/emergency information, and other announcements."

[Lise Hamlin](#), HLAA director of public policy, provided this information from a news release issued by the National Association of the Deaf, October 2, 2008.



Carole Blowers, one of our members is appearing in a play called "Surgical Skullduggery" at the Collings School of Fine Arts, 7441 Newton Avenue N. Brooklyn Park (Brookdale Drive and Newton Avenue). It is a melodrama, with several short songs scattered throughout the play. She is playing the part of Bossy Blanche Blunt, the Head Nurse!

Dates: November 7, 8, 9, 14, and 15

All performances are at 7:30 p.m., except for Sunday, November 9th, that performance starts at 6 p.m.

In order to obtain tickets, you will have to call the Collings School of Fine Arts and ask for tickets for the specific date you want to attend. Tickets in the past have normally run \$10. # is 560-4230.

In Your Words or Theirs

Performed by: Art St. Croix performers
Captioning: Saturday, December 6, 1:00 PM, 2 hrs.

Accessible Entertainment

Note: Due to space limitations in this newsletter, we are usually not able to list all entertainment events every month which are accessible to hard of hearing people. If you are interested in receiving a complete list every month, please ask that your name be added to the email directory from VSA Arts Minnesota. To receive this list by email each month, send an email to jon@vsaartsmn.org. Please specify if you want to receive the Captioned shows, Audio Described shows, ASL-Interpreted shows, or the combined list.

Open Captioned Films

Please call these places to confirm time, dates and movie.

Changeling - ShowPlace 16, Coon Rapids, MN—November 17–18, ShowPlace 16, Inver Grove Heights, MN—November 19–20, **763-757-6233**

The Express - ShowPlace 16, Inver Grove Heights, MN—November 5–6

***NEW* Twilight** – Tickets on sale now, Nov. 20, 12:01AM, PG13, Show Place 16, Coon Rapids, to order tickets - <http://www.fandango.com/default.aspx>

[**"In Your Words or Theirs"**](#) cont.

Captioner: Ken Moses (also available to audio describe on request)

Tix: free -- donations welcome; refreshments provided; FMI: Judy at 651-251-5109 or Nancy at 651-351-3125; e-mail: ArtStCroix@usfamily.net.

Location: Boutwell's Landing, 5600 Norwich Parkway, Oak Park Heights (behind Wal-Mart, south of Hwy 36 in Stillwater/Oak Park Heights)



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**HLAA TC
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First Class



NEXT MEETING: SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2008

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president@hlaatc.org

Vice President – Linda Miller
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

Contact Info. info@hlaatc.org

Website www.hlaatc.org

Newsletter Editors – Linda Senechal, cilinda97@yahoo.com
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* (www.paradigmreporting.com). Please visit the chapter's web-site at www.hlaatc.org