

# HLAA Twin Cities

Hearing Loss Association of America Twin Cities Chapter January 2007

*Formerly SHHH Minnesota Chapter #1*

## Calendar of Coming Events

January 20, 2007 – Dr. Shallop, Mayo

February 17, 2007 – Dr. Kristen Swan

from Region's Hospital

Mar. 17, 2007 - Family Panel hearing loss

April 11, 2007 – HLAA TC Steak Fry

April 21, 2007 - Deaf/Safe Speaker,

Alina Schroeder

May 19, 2007 - Elections & Pot Luck

June 21 – June 24, 2007 – HLAA National Convention in Oklahoma City.

[View Hearing Loss Magazine free online](http://tinyurl.com/lormh)

<http://tinyurl.com/lormh>



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

National Website:

[www.hearingloss.org](http://www.hearingloss.org)

Minnesota Website:

[www.hlaatc.org](http://www.hlaatc.org)

MN Contact Information:

[info@hlaatc.org](mailto:info@hlaatc.org)

## January 2007

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Meetings are held at:

Courage Center  
3915 Golden Valley Road  
Golden Valley, Mn 55422

September through May  
9:30 a.m. – Noon  
3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of each month  
(Except June, July & August)  
See Page 12 for contacts and more information.

National HLAA Website will have a major overhaul in 2007, with tons of information, individual web pages of the states, national calendar that will include all the states activities and even greeting cards to send via email. <http://hearingloss.org/>

## President's Message



**President:  
Merrilee Knoll**

Happy 2007 to everyone. Hope you holidays were happy and safe ones. This past year 2006 has been an exciting and changing year, we had our name changed, our website changed, our brochures changed. We also had 6 new members join us.

We presented Feed My Starving Children (FMSC) on Dec. 28, 2006, a canister that contained enough quarters to feed 93 children. This was done in memory of Cliff Miller who passed away this year; he helped with the food preparations in April 2006. Thank you Cliff for setting such a good example for us to follow. You are sadly missed. At this year's event we had Jodi Ostman, Janis Lajon, Julie Leon, Bob and Merrilee Knoll, Alida and Analise Adams (Miller). We packed enough to feed 4,752.

This year was an exceptionally good year for us, we had many members make personal donations, we had the shirt sale, we did the steak fry and we had donations from 2 Lion's Clubs, some members made contributions through the United Way or volunteer work programs, our new sign was donated, UPS gave us discounted copies of the newsletter, Harris Communications, Jerry McMahon and Dr. Schwartz continued their ads, and we had 2 new members take on officer's jobs. In addition at holiday time we had more membership donations, Paradigm gave us their services free for Dec., and the cookie sale gave us \$75. Thank you to everyone who made this all possible.

This year we had many great people join us as new members. We also had great speakers.

So what did we give back? We attended the Aware Fair, we attended workshops (Cepin, Hearing Awareness Expo, DHHS, MCDHH, Ubi Duo), we attended Feed My Starving Children twice, we gave Courage Center an appreciation

gift, we passed along 1000's of magazines to nursing homes and the VA, we collected old HA's, glasses, cards, milk carton caps, Campbell soup can labels. Thank you!

All these things should make you proud to belong to such a great group. I am proud to be your president.

**Merrilee**

## Why Don't People Who Need Hearing Aids Get Them?

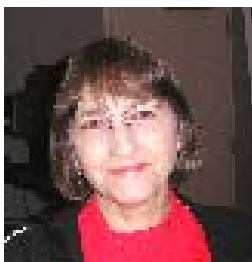
*from the Nov./Dec. 2001 issue of Hearing Loss*

The following might be a clue. A lady whom we will refer to as S.S. writes that she has been wearing hearing aids (HA) since age six and is lost, helpless, and isolated without them. An effective method she uses for getting someone to try wearing a HA is to share her own story about the difference it has made in her life. She also states that hearing aid dispensers did not prepare her for the "break-in-phase" each time a new HA was acquired. Nor was she ever informed that adjustments requiring many visits back to the HA dispenser are often needed to get the best results from a HA. Not knowing this, the person who bought the HA becomes frustrated and disappointed because it doesn't work. She also suggests that support groups such as SHHH (HLAA) might also be helpful, but, "I've never run across a hearing aid dispenser office that offered this service or indicated how the person might locate this type of service."

Ms. S.S. goes on to make a very important observation. "The hearing person who nags a family member about his/her hearing loss only makes the person with the hearing loss feel inadequate and alone." She suggests that the hearing family member be supportive and encouraging in order for the person with the hearing loss to seek further assistance by having his or her hearing tested and following up with other solutions.

## HLAA TC Meeting 12/16/06

By Monique Hammond VP



This was our last meeting for the year 2006. President Merrilee welcomed all present. Regrettably, our secretary Sue could not be with us and was sorely missed.

Merrilee recognized the Officers for the time and devotion that they brought throughout the year to the organization. She also warmly thanked Linda Senechal and Jodi Ostman for their longterm commitment, friendship and support. All were rewarded with a lovely Poinsettia plant. I also want to add that Lisa Richardson from PARADIGM offered us her C.A.R.T. services for free as a special Holiday gift. Thank you so much.

Our brand new brochures will be ready for the next meeting. The organization by-laws were handed out to those present. All others will receive them in the mail.

Door prizes were won by Jodi Ostman and by Ralph Katz.

Our speaker was Dr. Jerry Yanz, a highly credentialed Senior trainer from the Starkey. Jerry shared his tremendous knowledge and expertise with us. He answered questions from just about anyone in the room and could have stayed all day long without getting bored. He introduced us to a new Starkey product called E.L.I. (Ear Level Instrument), a hands-free, secure audio connection between a hearing aid wearer and digital cell phones as well as Bluetooth enabled land lines. It gives a

clear signal and eliminates buzzing. It connects directly to B.T.E. hearing aids and uses a standard direct audio input (DAI) connector. You need a telecoil though in order to use E.L.I. For those with other types of hearing aids outfitted with telecoil -but that are not DAI compatible - an adapted neck loop device is available. E.L.I. brings Bluetooth technology to hearing aid wearers.



Jerry and  
John  
Lindlan  
discussing  
Bluetooth  
technology

Jerry was looking for volunteers to field test and evaluate E.L.I. and a sign-up sheet was passed along. By this time, my eyes glazed over, but there was more: On the verge of being put on the market place by Starkey, is another device: the Blue P.A.L (personal audio link) which consists of a microphone and a Bluetooth transmitter and is similar to FM systems. However, it is smaller and allows for lower noise and secure transmission when compared to the older A.L.D. systems. In the end, these devices are designed to be compact, to cut down on interference problems and to help us hear more clearly in normal as well as in noisy situations.

After this formidable presentation, it was PARTY time. During the exchange of white elephant gifts, Jodi packaged the cookies that sold for three dollars - much to the joy of treasurer Bob. Then it was on to FOOD, FOOD and more FOOD. It was a busy, packed two hours, but a fun time was had by all.

Happy Holidays to you and a wonderful, prosperous NEW Year. See you all in 2007.

## **SURVEY RESULTS**

Below are the results of the survey taken in Oct. and Nov. 2006

### **Seven surveys came back, here are the results:**

#### **(1) Name optional**

-6 names given;                      -1 anonymous

#### **(2) How were you introduced to HLAA TC?**

-Audiologist at VA                      -Audiologist  
-DHHS                                      -Sister  
-Access Press                              -Web site  
-No answer - 1

#### **(3) How long have you been a member of HLAA TC?**

- 2 years                      - 4 years                      - 6 years  
- 8 years                      -10 years                      -12 years  
-15 years

#### **(4) Who do you feel is the best speaker we have had?**

-Police officer in 2004  
-Mary Bauer from DHHS  
-Our members  
-Michelle Trebtoske from AmeriCorps Disability Coordinator in 2002  
-All are good in their own way – 3 responses

#### **(5) What do you like best about our group?**

-Age diversity  
-Teaching each other how to be a better person despite hearing loss.  
-Friendship  
-The information, the people  
-Fellowship, information helpful to people with hearing loss.  
-The good people of course.  
-The information that is given.

#### **(6) What do you like least about our group?**

-Variety of speakers  
-People won't help-same people doing the work.  
-Too far away.  
-I like everything about it, except sad at the people we have lost as time goes on.  
-The amount of time it takes to get here (takes city bus)  
-No answer 2

#### **(7) What do you think we could do to improve ourselves?**

-Better publicity  
-Not to live in our own personal life all the time.  
-Better visibility in community.  
-Pretty good already. 3  
-You are doing a very good job. The membership

seems to be growing which is very good. Good speakers will always attract people.

#### **(8) What topics have we not covered?**

-Sharing personal experiences at work and social settings.  
-New technology  
-Audiologist and other professionals who can provide info. about new developments in hearing aids and FM systems. Also interested in new ALD's (telephones Harris Communications).  
-ALD's for phones.  
-Good question - no answer 3

#### **(9) Who would you recommend as a speaker for our meetings?**

-Firefighter  
-Forum-past members, current members.  
-Someone from one of the following companies or a person knowledgeable about more than one of the competing technologies: Blackberry, Sidekick, blupal, Conversor, MyLink, Microlink, Lexis

#### **Suggested:**

Harris Communications info@harriscomm.com  
952-906-1180 V 952-906-1198

Nathan Williams at T-Mobile (sidekick)  
natew@themobilephoneco.com  
612-750-1753 763-503-7352

-Someone who knows about new methods to solve my hearing as virus in the ear.  
-No answer 3

#### **(10) Have you ever visited our web site?**

Yes – 4                                      No computer - 3

#### **How often?**

-Frequently 3                                      -About once a month  
-No computer - 3 responses

#### **Any suggestions on how to improve it?**

-If we are looking for a greater number of "hits" on the site, there may be ways to increase the likelihood that people will find us. I'm not an expert on websites, but a good selection of keywords can pull people into it.  
No answer 6

#### **(11) What suggestions would you offer for our club?**

-Advertise  
-Keep doing what we are doing.  
-No answer (5)



## FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN HLAA VOLUNTEERS GIVE BACK TO THE WORLD COMMUNITY



Dec. 28, 2006

Left to right - Bob Knoll, Alida Adams (Miller), Analise Adams (Miller), Jodi Ostman, Merrilee Knoll, Julie Leon, Janis Lajon

Although we did not have nearly as many volunteers this time as we did in April, it was an extremely rewarding event. The instructor is interested in joining our group as is Julie. We packaged enough to feed 4,752 children in a 45 minute time slot. Our donation of one filled tube (thanks to those members who gave quarters) feeds 93. So total this time we fed 4, 845. This is the 2nd time HLAA TC has participated in this event. Thank you.

Comments from Merrilee: *It was a very fruitful event. We got to taste the soup and I don't remember doing that last time. Some thought it was not too bad, but considering people getting it won't be up to eating a Whopper it's ok. The FMSC was running short of funds so we were not able to pack the entire time we were there and we left earlier than we had expected. They also had another group of people coming in at 7:30.*

## BITS AND PIECES

**Room Change**-January's meeting will be held in ED Room 1 ONLY, not the usual 1 & 2. We will have display tables in the hallway by our room in addition to a few tables in ED Rm 1.  
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**Gil Eastman** of Deaf Mosaic fame (1985 to 1995) passed away in Dec. 2 he was 72. He was an author, and Emmy winner and trained deaf actors like Linda Bove, Phyllis Frelich and Peter Wolf. Six minute film clip about GE  
<http://academictech.gallaudet.edu/tributes>  
\*\*\*\*\*

How is the **In The Ear Hearing Aid Made**, view the construction online.

<http://www.techeblog.com/index.php/tech-gadget/hearing-its-made-hearing-aid>  
\*\*\*\*\*

From HLAA of Escondido, Nov. 2006 - **Oprah Winfrey's** boyfriend, **Stedman Graham**, was the keynote speaker at a fundraising luncheon last Sept. in Corpus Christi, Texas and helped raise an estimated \$50,000 for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Center of Corpus Christi. The theme of the program was "Heroes for Hearing." Stedman, 55, who is an author and businessman, shared a special message for the hearing impaired. "Don't put limits on yourself. Find a way to unlock yourselves."  
\*\*\*\*\*

**MN DeafBlind Association** annual membership mtg. Jan. 13th, 1PM - 5PM, Griggs/Midway Building St.Paul, for more info. [kwdw27@aol.com](mailto:kwdw27@aol.com) or 651-777-4467 TTY.  
\*\*\*\*\*

**Library Sale**-as space becomes more and more valuable at Courage Center and out accumulation of items over the years has increased, we will need to cut some of the items we keep in our storage cabinet. Our library items we be on sale at the February meeting and all the proceeds will go to the chapter.  
\*\*\*\*\*

The **sign up sheet** for the **shirts** will be available at the Jan. mtg. If you would like to buy one, put your name down. They are now ready to be ordered and the stage of just being interested is over. This is paper is if you really want one, or two or three etc. etc. ....  
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**President Robert R. Davila**, interim president of Gallaudet University took his first day of office on Jan.1, 2007. He sent his welcoming message for you to read at <http://news.gallaudet.edu/?id=10018>  
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***Excerpts from an Interview by Healthy  
Hearing with Emilie Quast MALS,  
University of MN Libraries Cataloger, List  
Owner of the Beyond-Hearing Listserv,  
and a Cochlear Implant Pioneer***

**Ingrao:** Good morning Emilie. Thank you for taking time out of your busy schedule to talk with the readers of HealthyHearing. Can you give us some brief background on your hearing loss?

**Quast:** There's a genetic factor operating in there but we don't have "inherited" deafness per se. Everyone on my father's side of the family is born with good hearing. Some of us apparently have a condition that leads infections to settle in our ears. I'm not sure if that is a too narrow eustacian tube or what. When you set up hearing loss on the family tree, you see a classic dominant gene pattern.

I had frequent ear aches as a preschooler--every kid's cold went in there. At the time, the only remedy was to drip warm oil in the ear to try and equalize the pressure (by the way, it never worked). By the time I was out of that age, I apparently had quite a lot of scar tissue built up in my ear. When I got mumps at age 15, that infection also went into my ear, which resulted in mild hearing loss. I was still able to easily use the phone and still played several instruments, but there was lower perception of sound. All violins sounded like squalling cats, for example. I got around that by playing string bass and piano.

My hearing stayed stable until I got a cold when I was 27. That turned into an infection which settled in my ear and burned out lots of cilia resulting in profound deafness. Profound deafness has progressed with time and age and I'm now totally deaf for all intents and purposes.

**Ingrao:** A little birdie told me that you were one of the 33rd CI recipient in the state of Minnesota. How did that all unfold?

**Quast:** About 10 years after I lost most of my hearing, my audiologist, Gloria Gross, audiologist for the Hearing Society of

Minneapolis, was trying to find a hearing aid that would give me some sound to work with.

With a hearing family including two young children and lots of community involvement in my life, moving into the culturally Deaf world was just not an option--even if I had known about it, which I did not. I was a Den Leader for Cub Scouts and Webelos, a Brownie Troop helper, involved in my church, pitching in when they needed extra hands at the elementary school, just like everyone else. There wasn't time or opportunity to do anything but hear what I could and guess at the rest.

In 1988, hearing assistance technology was a very small number of options. Hearing aids were all analog, I believe, and basically just amplifiers. Gloria and I were trying to find something that would help more with sounds in the human voice range instead of just amplifying mechanical sounds (which I could still hear pretty well). Gloria had been an audiologist at the ENT Clinic of the University of Minnesota Hospitals and Clinics, and had attended seminars at the U introducing this new generation of hearing assistance called the cochlear implant. When she looked at my hearing loss profile, I was a match. She recommended I try for it. I totally failed the hearing tests they gave and that made me a candidate. With help from the Cochlear Corporation, my insurance company was persuaded this no longer an experimental program and they agreed to help us with the expense. I was implanted December 27, 1989.

I should point out that I tried my CI for 18 months and hated it. I absolutely could not make any sense of the sound I was getting. I put my CI in the drawer and continued to (mal)function with a hearing aid in the other ear, with continued diminishing hearing ability for another four years. At that point, even I had to agree that the HA was not giving me anything. I'd put the CI away feeling it was not right for me at that time, but believing that eventually it would be my last shot at staying in my world. When I got it out of the drawer and had it remapped, the sound I was getting started to

make sense.

About a year and a half after trying the CI again, my HA needed a good cleaning. I took my HA in and actually forgot to pick it up. The clinic finally sent me a thank you note for my "donation" At that point I was definitely functioning with my CI.

It took another several years before I began to approach "normal" hearing. I still recall the first birdsong I recognized; they were meadowlarks. That was the first music I'd heard in over 20 years. I stood transfixed and just listened and listened and listened.

The point of all that is learning to use a CI is truly learning. You are training nerves to respond in a certain way--perhaps in a way they've not had to respond in years. Like any other human act, it gets better with practice and repetition. I'm still regularly recognizing "new" sounds 17 years after the implant. Just this year I have noticed a new level of music awareness. With all that piano, choir, band and orchestra music in my background, I still have more music in my memory than I'll ever get again from my ears, but being able to recognize an old familiar song is a wonderful "welcome back" event.



THANKS, EMILIE!!

Editor's Note: See

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Beyond-Hearing/> the home page for Beyond Hearing for more information about that list.

To join it, send an email to [Beyond-Hearing-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:Beyond-Hearing-subscribe@yahoogroups.com) with a brief statement of why you are interested in joining the group.

## What does the future hold for cochlear implants?

Although no one can predict the future, it appears that in the next few years, completely implanted cochlear implants will be commercially available. At this time, cochlear implants have external hardware, much like a behind-the-ear hearing aid, and some people would prefer to not have any external hardware for cosmetic and other reasons. However, completely implantable cochlear implants are technically possible, although they may not necessarily be the "universal" best alternative. Issues such as microphone location and sensitivity and battery life will be key issues.

*Linda Senechal, Editor, and a grateful cochlear implant wearer since 1997*

### More BITS AND PIECES

**Advanced Bionics** Harmony upgrade

<http://www.bionicear.com/faq.asp>

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**9/11 Fear In Silence** - The forgotten underdogs

<http://www.911fearinsilence.com/>

\*\*\*\*\*

December 2006 issue of "**Are You Ready**" from The Community Emergency Preparedness Information Network **CEPIN**

<http://www.cepintdi.org/pdf/atip1206.pdf>

\*\*\*\*\*

**Evelyn Glennie**, Deaf musician percussionist from Aberdeen, Scotland was made a Dame by the Queen on Dec. 30, 2006. Evelyn lost her hearing at age 12 she is now 41. She has won over 70 awards and has played with Bjork, Sting and the Mormon Tabernacle Choir to name a few.

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**deafCensus** - National Directory of Deaf and Hearing Loss related Organizations

<http://www.deafCensus.org>

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**Make Plans Now for 2007 Events** -

- June 21-24, 2007 Hearing Loss Association of America Convention, HLAA in Oklahoma City

- August 23-25, 2007 TDI 17th International Conference

- September 26-30, 2007 Association of Late-Deafened Adults Conference, ALDA in Rochester, NY

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## A “Sound” Mind

A quiz that went around on the internet recently asked readers to count the ‘f’s in the following sentence:

”Finished files are the result of years of scientific study combined with the experience of years.”

Before you read any further, try it!

It seems a simple exercise, yet most people get it wrong. We only need to be able to do two things: identify the letter ‘f’, and count. But we can’t do it easily when the exercise is presented to us in a sentence. Why not?

Having already given some thought to the role of sound in our use of language (and its absence in sign language), it appeared to me that the ‘f’s we can’t identify are those that do not sound like ‘f’s: those in the word “of”. It doesn’t matter whether you read the sentence aloud or not – most people don’t – you still “hear” the “f” in “of” as a “v”, and fail to identify it.

Who knew that we were so dependent on the sound of words, even when reading silently? And even when asked to *look* (not *listen*) for something in the text.

Though I perceive far less of it than the average person, I can’t imagine life without sound. Many hard of hearing (and perhaps some deaf) people love music, even if only a small part of its sweep is in our range of reception. But music constitutes only a fraction of the sounds that that bring subtlety and meaning into our lives.

Environmental sounds – the raspy rustle of dry leaves, the squeak of snow under foot, the white cacophony of rushing water; all of the animate and inanimate things that move enrich our lives with a continually changing backdrop of sound. But none, perhaps, are so deeply evocative as the sounds of language.

In their book A Meaningful World, Wiker and Witt compare the pointless alliteration and slant rhyme of a bad poem (of their own construction) with the meaningful use of the same devices by Shakespeare. Ariel’s song in “The Tempest” happens to use the letter “f” to meaningful

effect:

“Full fathom five thy father lies...”

The authors note: “ the ‘b’ sound of the doggy poem beats on the ear...and is out of step with[the]poem. Ariel’s alliteration, in contrast, well suits the situation. The gentler ‘f’ sound imitates the rhythm of the waves unfurling on the island shore...”

This was a surprise to me. An ‘f’ has a sound? I think of an ‘f’ as a sort of stop before a vowel sound, not a sound in itself. A ‘p’ functions the same way to my ears, and I can’t tell them apart. Yet when I read them, I am aware of the difference. I know, after all, how they are produced. The soft, leaky ‘f’ and the plosive ‘p’ indeed have different effects, both in the (imagined or literal) sound, and in the inner tension of the person producing them.

The brain carves meaningful pathways in our consciousness wherever it can. And if sound is available, every scrap of it will be used. It etches subtle connections between things newly learned and our accumulated archive of knowledge -- unique and beautiful passages that allow us a meaningful view of the world.

*Submitted by Vicki Martin*



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## Still More BITS AND PIECES

**Save all your used cards** for Mary Andresen, she turns them into beautiful name tags for future packages.

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**UbiDuo**, for people with hearing loss to communicate in the hearing world. This is a computer like device, font size can be changed for low vision, black or white background, easy carry snaps together, both people can type at same time  
<http://www.scommonline.com/>

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## **PICTURES FROM THE CHRISTMAS PARTY, 2006**

### White elephant gift exchange



He had it.....She got it.....Most sought after gift was the “Birds of MN” book.

### **SUPPORT ACTION ON NEWBORN HEARING SCREENING:**

Send it via email to: [tim.pawlenty@state.mn.us](mailto:tim.pawlenty@state.mn.us) or address it to: Office of the Governor,  
130 State Capitol, 75 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Governor Pawlenty:

I am writing to request that you add screening for hearing loss as part of the panel of conditions that are screened at birth and that you fully fund screening, testing, reporting, follow up and intervention in your budget. Minnesota is one of the few states in the country that does not have an Early Hearing Detection and Intervention mandate. In 2006 the Minnesota Department of Health received reports of only 55 babies with confirmed hearing loss out of an estimated 230 infants that were been expected be reported. There is a higher incidence of hearing loss than any other condition screened at birth.

Research from Gallaudet University shows that deaf and hard of hearing children with normal intelligence graduate with mean reading levels of 3rd grade 8 months. Research also shows that if infants are screened and identified at birth and receive intervention by 6 months, the gap between chronological age and language acquisition narrows significantly.. For the first time in history deaf and hard of hearing children have a shot at graduating with equivalent education outcomes as their hearing peers.

What does all of this include? A statewide system that provides:

- a) Screening for newborns at birth.
- b) Referral to audiologists to confirm the diagnosis and referral to medical home.
- c) Reporting to the Minnesota Department of Health.
- d) Family support.
- e) Service coordinators and interventionists specially trained to work with babies and children with hearing loss and that give parents unbiased information regarding the communication choices that they have for their child that is deaf or hard of hearing.
- d) Specialized home based intervention and assessment to measure outcomes.
- e) Creation of an Early Hearing Screening and Intervention Subcommittee that is part of the Newborn Screening Advisory Committee which develops guidelines for referral, reporting and intervention and measures outcomes.

We laud your commitment to health care coverage for all kids. Screening for hearing loss, diagnosis, reporting, follow up and intervention is an essential part of kids in Minnesota getting a healthy start. Please support this important initiative.

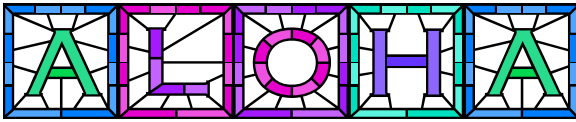
Sincerely,

# Entertainment

**Movie Info.?** To find a movie theater near you that has captions, simply type in your zip code at this Web site [www.Fomdi.com](http://www.Fomdi.com)

## **STEAK FRY**

**The Steak Fry will be April 11, 2007 (Wednesday), from 5 – 7 PM at the Crystal Lions Club. This is a major fundraiser for our group.**



Aloha is a social group of adults of all ages that share a hearing loss.

The date for the dinner at the Chatterbox Pub is Saturday, January 13. Address: 800 S. Cleveland Ave., St. Paul. Contact Ellen Thibodo at [ThibodoD@aol.com](mailto:ThibodoD@aol.com) for Aloha events.

## **Science Museum of Minnesota**

offers Rear view captioning and DVS for most films in the Omni theater or the 3D Cinema. The Omni Theater is located at 120 Kellogg Blvd. W., St. Paul. Show times vary but are approximately hourly during regular museum hours: Monday-Wednesday 9:30-5:00, Thursday-Saturday 9:30-9:00, Sunday 12:00-5:00. TTY 651-221-4585; [info@smm.org](mailto:info@smm.org); [www.smm.org/visitorinfo/hours/showtimes\\_dynamic.php](http://www.smm.org/visitorinfo/hours/showtimes_dynamic.php) or [www.smm.org/info/accessibility.php](http://www.smm.org/info/accessibility.php).

**Dora Weber, Brian Farrell and Hearing Dog Darcy at the Aware Fair, September 2006**



I recently went to a video rental place to pick up some (captioned) entertainment for a long weekend. I was going to rent the recent version of "Pride and Prejudice", but I couldn't find the 'cc' symbol on the back of the DVD case. I was sure anything recently produced would be captioned, and since I sometimes don't see what is right under my nose I asked an employee to look at it and see if she could find the caption symbol.

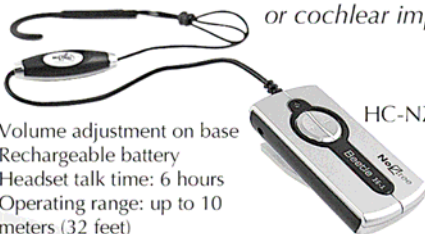
"Nope", she said, "It's not captioned."

"But doesn't it have to be?" I asked, still in denial.

She told me that there is no law requiring the captioning of DVDs, and they are seeing an increasing number of new DVDs without captioning. Her sister's boyfriend is deaf, and had alerted her to this new challenge.

The world won't end if we can't watch movies, but it is a little discouraging to see this trend. **Vicki Martin**

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**This space is available for reaching Hard of Hearing People.**

**Please contact Merrilee at [rknoll5200@aol.com](mailto:rknoll5200@aol.com)**

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This month's editor is Linda Senechal

**Meetings are held the 3<sup>rd</sup> 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](http://www.paradigmreporting.com)). Please visit the chapter's web-site at [www.hlaatc.org](http://www.hlaatc.org)**