

SHHH News

Minnesota Chapter #1 Volume 20 Issue #23 March 2006
SELF HELP FOR THE HARD OF HEARING

Calendar of Coming Events

March 18, 2006 – Mary Hartnett

March 22, 2006 – Legislation Day at the capitol
8:30 AM – 4 PM. See page 3

April 2, 2006 – Daylight Saving Time Begins –
set clocks ahead 1 hr.

April 12, 2006 – Steak Fry to benefit MN
SHHH Chapter #1. See Page 7

April 15, 2006 – Ole Nelson, Past District
Lion's Governor 5M5.

May 20, 2006 – Debra Hilstrom (DFL) 46B
Representative-speaks on hearing loss. Potluck
lunch.

June 29 – July 2, 2006 – National Convention in
Orlando, FL

September 16, 2006 – Our meetings resume.

* No mtgs. in June, July, or August.

Meetings are held at:

Courage Center
3915 Golden Valley Road
Golden Valley, MN 55422

September through May
9:30 AM – Noon
3rd Saturday of each month
(Except June, July & August)

See Page 12 for contacts
and more information.

March 2006

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National Website:

www.hearingloss.org

Minnesota Website:

<http://deafvision.net/shhhmn1/>

MN Contact Information:

shhhmn1@hotmail.com

STEAK FRY

APRIL 12, 2006
See PAGE 7

Thank you Paradigm Captioning for providing CART.

February 17th Meeting Synopsis

By Dora Weber

Joe opened the meeting by thanking everyone for coming out on such a cold morning. He reminded us that the room is looped so those of us who have a T-coil on our hearing aids or Cochlear implants can switch to T-Coil.

Joe shared the sad news that Cliff Miller has been diagnosed with several serious health issues and is now inactive in the many hearing loss service committees that he has been active with. Joe suggested that anyone wishing to would send him a card.

Bonham announced that since moving to his appt he does not have the space to store his collection of amplifiers, microphones, etc.

Dora welcomed new member Steve Tell from Edina, Mn. Steve was sent to us by the VA hospital .He uses a hearing aid.

Bob gave the treasures report. We are in the black. He asked for and was granted a discount from UPS, the Co that prints our newsletter .In return we will include an ad in our newsletter about the Company. Bob also reminded us about the Steak fry in April.

Lori asked for suggestions for speakers for future meetings .She also asked us to consider accepting an officer's spot for the upcoming year.

Mike Day was the member in the spotlight .He shared his life experiences as well as his experiences with his newly implanted Cochlear implant.

After a coffee break, Dora introduced another visitor, Mary Hogan from White Bear Lake. She then introduced Tina Childress, our speaker. Tina is a consumer service specialist from Advanced Bionics.

Tina began her presentation by sharing info about Advanced Bionics. There are three divisions.1-.Cochlear implants 2-Pain management devices that control migraine headaches and bladder problems.3-Spinal cord pain

The most recent CI is the High Resolution 90K. There is an updated processing strategy called the High Resolution 120 that is now in trials around the country. Virtual channels are created between the 16 channels. It will be available to those who received the CI after March 2001. There will be a new processor called the Auria Plus, which will have a built in Tele-coil.

Advanced bionics has what is called The Care Program. There is support for users, Audiologists, schools, sports and parents.

Tina then shared her personal experience with deafness and receiving her Cochlear implants .She lost her hearing seven yrs ago to autoimmune inner ear disease She was implanted with her first CI in August of 2000 and has recently received a sequentially implanted CI.

Joe closed the meeting by reminding everyone to turn in their name tags and to return in March.

Register Now for the MCDHH Deaf, Hard of Hearing and DeafBlind Legislative Day

At the Minnesota Judicial Center

Room 230 25 Reverend Martin Luther King Boulevard (across from the State Capitol at the Corner of Cedar Street and Martin Luther King Boulevard)

Learn How to Advocate for This Year's Big Issues

Funding for the Minnesota Commission Serving Deaf and Hard of Hearing People

Increase in Special Education Funds

Interpreter Legislation

Other Important Issues!!

Join with deaf, deafblind and hard of hearing people from all around Minnesota

Wednesday, March 22, 2006 8:30 am - 4:00 pm

8:30-11:00 am	Advocacy Training - Learn how to meet with your legislator, hear from legislators and learn about the issues.
11:00-12:00	Lunch on your own and meet with Legislators - We will set up appointments for you and arrange for interpreters. You can go on your own or with a team leader.
11 a.m.-4:00 pm	Meetings with Legislators

RSVP so we can prepare packets and make appointments. RSVP to 651-297-7305(V/TTY) or to dhhs.metro@state.mn.us with your answers to the following:

- 1) **Name, email address, address, phone.** (we need your address so we can help you get the name of your legislator and make the appointment).
- 2) **What special accommodations do you need for the training?** Interpreters will be provided for the day and captioning services for the training. Let us know if you need tactile interpreting, an FM, loop or infrared system.
- 3) **Do you want a tour of the Capitol?** Please call 651-296-2881 or e-mail statecapitol@mnhs.org Let them know if you need an interpreter.

Directions: Go to the following URL:

<http://www.courts.state.mn.us/page/Default.aspx?pageID=152&printerFriendly=true>

Parking: Metered street parking is available along the south side of the Judicial Center. Metered parking is also available in the Orange Level of the Centennial Ramp, directly south of the Judicial Center. \$4 parking passes available through State Plant Management. Call 651-2012307.

Hello fellow SHHH'ers!

Well while I am typing this article, it's 40 degrees plus outside. I would say Spring is well on its way, with only a few weeks left of winter. I am looking forwards the rebirth of nature so too speak. Last month's speaker was Tina Childress from Advanced Bionics, and she gave a very wonderful, informative presentation and answered many questions. I would like to thank all that attended since it was extremely cold outside. I also want too thank Tina for taking time out and giving us a great presentation. On March 18th we will have Mary Hartnett she works tirelessly at the capital as an advocate for the rights of humans everywhere no matter what your disability is.

*Peace,
Joe the Prez*

PRIDE AND PREJUDICE

By Vicki Martin

How many hard of hearing people work in your department? Aha...gotcha! You don't know, do you? Neither do I.

There are a lot of reasons for this. A big one is the HIPAA rule of privacy in matters of health information. No one is going to risk legal entanglement by sharing employees' hearing status with others. The employee himself may tell you, of course, but we're not allowed to ask.

It may be even harder to know if a prospective employee has a hearing loss. There is clearly more at stake, since the person does not yet have the job and may be extra-careful not to jeopardize his chances.

What actually takes place when you, a hard of hearing person, go in for a job interview? One of the good things: you appear extremely alert and interested, never taking your eyes off of the interviewer. This makes a good impression. But the interviewer, fumbling through some papers behind him or thoughtfully covering his mouth with his hand, asks some mystifying questions. Your answers are good, but not always relevant. And when you part, you are still referring to him archaically as "Mr. Anderson," even though he invited you to use his informal preferred name.

He kind of likes you, but is left scratching his head. Something just isn't quite right.

Is he prejudiced? I suppose we could call him that, since he is making a judgment without including all of the facts. But it isn't really his fault. He doesn't *have* all of the facts, and he has to make do with what he does know.

Of course, you could have told him in the beginning that you are hard of hearing. Or you could have done so when it first became necessary (you didn't hear his question). Why didn't you?

Did you want to prove that you are not hard of hearing? Or that it doesn't make any difference, even when it comes to communication? Was it your pride, or his prejudice that kept Mr. Anderson from making a correct judgment?

Sometimes, I'll concede, it's not so clear which it is. You fear (perhaps justly) that prejudice will thwart you if you mention your disability, so you (perhaps unjustly) hide some of the facts from your potential employer.

I once applied for a graduate fellowship in musicology with no intention of revealing my hearing disability. But I couldn't sustain the act. I had to decide whether I'd rather be thought deaf or stupid.

It was no contest. "Could you repeat that?" I asked, for the second time. Seeing the blank looks of the two professors interviewing me, I hastily explained, "I don't hear very well".



"Pride and Prejudice" continued on Page 8

Free Tax Clinic

Tax preparation provided by AccountAbility Minnesota

Women, Men and Families Welcome

Free (donations appreciated)

Income guidelines:

\$37,000 or less for families

\$27,000 or less for singles

Tuesday and Thursday Evenings from February 2 to April 13

Chrysalis, 4432 Chicago Ave South,
Minneapolis

- Walk-in only. First come, first served
- Sign-up starts at 5 pm; taxes start at 6 pm
- Electronic filing for quick refunds
- Call for a list of what to bring
- Limited child care available; call 612-870-2432 to reserve space.
- **ASL interpreters will be provided to deaf clients by appointment.**

Please call TTY 612-824-2780 to reserve a spot.

612-871-0118 VOICE
612-824-2780 TTY

Chrysalis
Helping Women, Children and Families
Transform Their Lives

“Bits and Pieces”

Chicago Airlines - When a flight was starting out, an overhead compartment flew open and a small piece of luggage fell out. The flight attendant asked whom it belonged to. No one responded, she then opened it and it was full of medications. Turns out the bag did belong to someone on board, but he was HOH and did not hear the announcement. The flight was delayed for 45 minutes.

FDA on Cochlear Implants and Meningitis Risk
<http://www.fda.gov/cdrh/medicaldevicesafety/atp/020606-cochlear.html>

Mail in registration for the **Orlando Convention**
will be in the March/April and May/June issues
of **Hearing Loss Magazine** or online now at
www.hearingloss.org

In **Camden, England** a program has been developed to give doctors and patients a better way to communicate with each other. Offered by the Dept. of Health on a temporary basis for testing, it will enable the patient and dr. to sign or speak in 12 different languages. SignHealth, developed by national charity Sign, is the first program of its kind available to GP surgeries.

Movie "**Universal Signs**," is done in ASL with captions for those who are not fluent in American Sign Language. People in the movie who play Deaf are Deaf, those that are hearing play hearing roles. Some of the actors in the movie are; Margot Kidder, Anthony Natale, Lupe Ontiveros, and Sabring Lloyd. The movie is about a young man who feels guilty because he could not hear the screams of a drowning child.

SHHH – Self Help for the Hard of Hearing

Our mission statement.....Our mission is to open the world of communication to people with hearing loss by providing information, education, support and advocacy.

BITS AND PIECES

STEAK FRY APRIL 12, 2006

Where: Crystal VFW Post 494
Address: 5222 Bass Lake Road
Time: 5 - 7 PM (you can come anytime during 5 - 7 and get your steak)
Date: Wed. April 12, 2006
Cost: \$8
Dinner includes: steak, baked potato, cole slaw, garlic toast and coffee.

After costs 80% will go to SHHH.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

**The smoking ban was reversed at this facility.
So this is now a smoking VFW.**

Everyone who obtained tickets from Bob should bring the unsold tickets or the money to the March 18th meeting. The Lion's Club needs a count of how many people will be there so they can order steaks and other foods. Thank You.

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Cochlear Implants will be the discussion each Monday on the National HLAA web site at 8 PM Central time. Go to www.hearingloss.org and click on Message Boards and then click Visit Our Chat Room.

^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^

Bill Austin head of **Starkey Hearing Foundation** will receive on May 31, 2006 in Las Vegas the same award given to Helen Keller, Audrey Hepburn, Prince Phillip, Danny Kaye and Dr. Albert Schweitzer. The award is the "Humanitarian of the Year." He recently fitted his 150,000th child with HA's.

Among a few celebrities he has fitted are 4 presidents, Buzz Aldrin, Walter Cronkite, Sidney Sheldon, Kirk Douglas, Norman Schwarzkopf, and Billy Graham.

May is also "Better Hearing Month in America."



If you can't afford a hearing aid, where can you go?????

- (1) Vocational Rehab wants to keep you in the job market, check with them.
- (2) Audient <http://www.audientalliance.org/>
- (3) Lion's Clubs of America
- (4) Starkey Hearing Foundation
- (5) MEI information <http://www.envoymedical.com/>



Letter to the Editor is a question this month.

Question: I don't have a computer, and I want to visit some of the web sites you mentioned.

Answer: Anytime you see a web site mentioned in this newsletter you can go to your local library and the staff will be happy to show you how to get to that web site. Be sure to bring this newspaper with you.



Audiology Online is offering a free online course about protecting your ears when listening to music. Check out this web site and register.

http://audiologyonline.com/ceus/livecourse_details.asp?class_id=4306

Correction: February's issue should have been #22 not 21 as posted. Jan. was already 21. So that makes this issue March, issue #23.



“Pride and Prejudice”

cont. from Page 5

Oops. Big mistake. The two professors looked at each other, and I could all but see them roll their eyes. I knew right then I wouldn’t get the fellowship. Although I was admitted to the doctoral program, I didn’t go. I needed the fellowship too.

But times have changed, or so we would like to think. Yet even if everyone agrees that a hearing disability *per se* will not prevent you from doing your job, it doesn’t stop people from thinking other things about you: you seem easily distracted; it takes you a while to catch on; you are just not quite as bright as the other candidates.

Hiring someone is a subjective process, and it always will be. Major strides have been made in regard to hiring disabled people but we still have to deal with the fact that a hearing disability is manifested in ways that look like genuine shortcomings.

I don’t think this misperception will be eradicated by more laws and more diversity training. These will help, but it will also take the experience of hiring and working with hard of hearing people. This means that our employers and co-workers will learn these things through us.

There may be a catch-22 here. You need to hire hard of hearing people to realize they are employable, but you must realize they are employable or you will not hire them.

Can we break this cycle of pride and prejudice? Maybe. We can start by being truthful about our hearing status, whether we are already employed or looking for work.

So, once again, how many hard of hearing people work in your department? Only you can make sure that everyone knows the answer to that question.

From NAD Magazine Oct./Nov. 2005

Dear Law Guy,

I tried to call a company but they keep hanging up on me. I am always frustrated when this happens. Is there a rule against this kind of behavior?

Frustrated Relay User in Dallas

Dear Frustrated,

Yes, here is a rule against this kind of behavior. Title 111 of the ADA applies to most private businesses. Under the ADA, if a company accepts telephone calls from the general public, the company cannot refuse to accept calls from people who are deaf for hoh, who use a relay service. The availability of relay services make ADA compliance a lot easier for private businesses. Private businesses do not need to purchase, install or use any special equipment to communicate with people using a relay service.

A private business discriminates when it fails to make reasonable modifications in its policies, practices or procedures when necessary to communicate with people who are deaf or HOH. Accepting and making calls through a relay service is a reasonable modification.

If a company keeps hanging up on you when you call using the relay service, you can file an ADA Title 111 disability discrimination complaint against that company with the United States Department of Justice. For information about filing a complaint go to <http://www.ada.gov/t3compfm.htm>

The Law Guy

National Association of the Deaf (NAD) has been around since 1880 with headquarters in Silver Springs, Maryland. See <http://www.nad.org> for more info.

U of M has a coffee and chat the first Wed. of each month at 10:00 AM. See Linda Senechal for more information.

COCHLEAR IMPLANT CORNER

From the Hearing Loss Message Board Working with your new CI

Until you can find some audio books to help you practice using your new CI, here are a few links to some helpful sites. They include a number of simple children's stories, an ESL lab, animal and environmental sounds, and some music with lyrics.

<http://www.brementownmusicians.com/en/story>

<http://www.realprincess.com/en/story>

<http://www.faithfuljohn.com/en/main>

<http://www.animatedtalltales.com/en/paulb/>

<http://www.leapingmatch.com/en/story.php>

<http://www.tellitagan.com/>

<http://www.esl-lab.com/>

<http://www.animalden.net/sounds.htm>

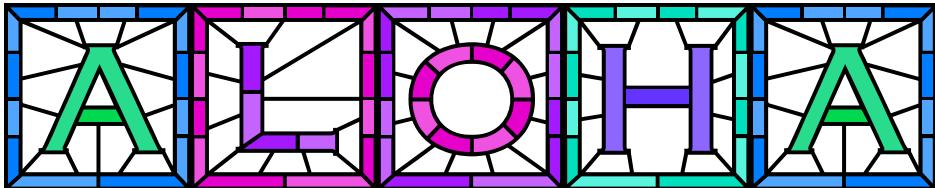
<http://users.cis.net/sammy/lyric.htm>

http://63.194.44.8/cast/cast_preview_environment.html

http://63.194.44.8/cast/cast_preview_words.html

Cochlea The word cochlea comes from Latin, meaning "snail shell." It is a small structure, about the size of a pea or a pencil eraser and well-named for its coiled appearance. If unrolled, the cochlea is about 35mm in length, which is a little more than an inch. It was discovered by Gabriello Fallopio in the year 1561.

http://www.ihsys.com/public_html/CHATS.asp
Intelligent Hearing Systems
New CI website



Saturday, March 11 at 5:30 pm (Yes, that is THIS Saturday!)

(651) 423-2249 (TTY)

Potluck Dinner

ThibodoD@aol.com

At the home of Ellen Thibodo

Rosemount (Directions will be emailed to those that RSVP)

Just bring something light, such as veggies, fruits, a side dish, dessert, cheese and crackers, whatever. We'll have a main dish here. And please bring your own beverage(s).

Just let me know by Friday if you'll be able to come so we'll know how much food to make and have enough paperware for everyone. And maybe a porta potty. Ok, just kidding about that last part!

I am sorry that I've been so late with this. But at least it was nice to see that a lot of people remembered!! I know I still need to email you the comments and suggestions regarding how to proceed with our Aloha gatherings. Although everyone's opinions were pretty much all over the map, it appears that most people are flexible as to what we do, be it going out to eat or having our dinners at people's homes. So I think I'm going to just mix it up and do both as well as continue with the August picnic and also have a brunch or 2.

Next month is tentatively planned at the home of Colleen and Mark Kaldun in St Paul. Then we'll switch over to something else.

Don't forget to let me know by Friday if you can make it this Saturday to my house for potluck!

Ellen

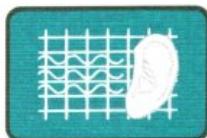
Open Captioned Movies, check web sites for locations and time. Included but not limited to - Pink Panther, Firewall, Eight Below, Nanny McPhee, Running Scared, World's Fastest Indian, Ultraviolet <http://www.Kerasotes.com/home.aspx>

Curious George 16 Blocks, Chronicles of Narnia

<http://www.insightcinema.org/links.html>

Entertainment

A Murder Is Announced, by Agatha Christie, Performed by: Bloomington Art Center Gallery Theater Company, ASL: Friday, April 21, 7:30 PM, sponsored by Bloomington Night Lions Club, Interpreters: Mary Catherine and Paul Deeming, Tix: \$12, \$10 senior/student; 952-563-8587 Location: Bloomington Center for the Arts Black Box Theater, 1800 W. Old, Shakopee Rd. Website: www.bloomingtonartcenter.com



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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.

Hennepin County residents read twice the national average in books. Did you read your 17 books last year? If not Harris Communications has some great reads.

**THIS SPACE
IS AVAILABLE FOR
REACHING HARD
OF HEARING
PEOPLE.
PLEASE CONTACT
MERRILEE
AT**

rknoll5200@aol.com

**Chapter #1 SHHH
PO Box 8037
Minneapolis, MN 55408-0037**

First Class

April 2



Daylight Savings Time Begins

**SHHH
Minnesota Chapter #1**

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MN Chapter #1 Welcomes You

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Merrilee Knoll

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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.deafvision.net/shhhmn1