

# HLAA TC September 2014



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

## September 20, 2014

HLAA TC meeting: Jason Galster, Ph. D., Starkey, "Wireless Technology"

## September 27, 2014

HLAA Walk4Hearing Thomas Beach, Lake Calhoun 9 AM registration, 10 AM WALK

## October 18, 2014

HLAA TC meeting: Vicki Martin, HLAA-TC member, "Cochlear Implant Year One – Predictably Unpredictable!"

## November 15, 2014

HLAA TC meeting: Wendy DeVore, Career Ventures exec Former MPLS Police Officer, Founder of DeafSafe program, "Hearing Loss and Law Enforcement"

## December 20, 2014

HLAA TC meeting: Rhoda Nelson, Deafblind consultant, "Boomerang Joy"

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Hearing Loss Association of America Twin Cities Chapter (HLAA TC) is held the 3rd Saturday of the month (except June, July and August). We meet at The Courage Center, 3915 Golden Valley Road, Golden Valley, MN 55442

# President's Message

September 2014



*Christine Morgan*

I hope everyone is having a terrific summer! It goes so quickly, especially as we get older! My summer was challenging and exciting. I had my cochlear implant surgery on June 18, 2014. I have to be honest and say that I was very frightened prior to the surgery. The surgery itself (as other recipients know) was not a "walk in the park". However, after being "activated" a little less than two months, I am already pleased with the results.

Our "kickoff luncheon" for the Walk4Hearing was Saturday, August 16 at Pizza Luce in Minneapolis. The actual date for the walk is September 27, 2014 at Lake Calhoun (see details in this newsletter). We'd love to see you, your friends and your family there.

Many children are ambivalent about returning to school. However, we are excited that we start our 2014-2015 Season on September 20, 2014. Social time starts at 9:30 a.m. with the presentation scheduled for 10 a.m. We always appreciate any help with set up prior to the meeting.

We have a terrific lineup of interesting talks by top-

notch speakers for our 2014-2015 season.

The speaker for September is Jason Galster from Starkey. Jason will be speaking about Wireless Technology and Advances in Technology. In October, Vicki Martin will be talking about her "CI Experience".

I am excited to begin my position as President of the Twin Cities Chapter. We have a wonderful, talented team on the Board. We also have many volunteers who work hard to make the Chapter a success and many interested, supportive members. A winning combination to be sure!

So welcome back and I hope you enjoy attending the meetings. Be sure to tell and bring your friends, relatives and anyone with an interest in hearing loss.

If you have any suggestions, comments, etc. please contact me or any of the other Board members. We want to hear what you think and feel about our Chapter.

*Christine*





## HLAA TC Notes from the Vice President

*Lionel Locke, HLAA-TC Vice President*

- 1) Upcoming calendar events
  - a. HLAA Monthly Meeting Courage Center September 20, 2014 10 AM –Noon (Social time starts at 9:30 a.m.)
  - b. Walk4Hearing Main Event Walk at Lake Calhoun, Minneapolis MN the walk starts at 10 AM at the South Beach.
- 2) Membership Renewal Announcement: HLAA membership for the Twin City Chapter runs from September through August of each year. This is a reminder that 2014-2015 dues are due and payable in September starting with the meeting on the Sept 20<sup>th</sup>. If you cannot attend the September meeting, you can submit your dues by October 18<sup>th</sup>.
- 3) DUES INCREASE VOTE: This year we are asking the membership to vote at the September meeting to increase the annual dues from \$10.00 to \$15.00 for individual membership. There is no change in professional or supporting memberships. The newsletter subscription only fee is also being raised to \$15.00. This increase helps the local chapter pay for the following expenses: newsletter production and mailing costs, CART, coffee, etc. Currently we send out about 120 monthly copies of the newsletter by email and about 35 copies by regular first class mail. We encourage you to provide your e-mail address in order to help keep our costs down.



**Marie Saliterman, Treasurer**

My name is Marie Saliterman. I have three grown children and six grandchildren who I truly adore. I became a member of HLAA-TC at the end of 2013, along with my husband, Jerry Saliterman. I was very impressed by HLAA meetings and was wondering why it took me 25 years to find this GREAT organization.

I lost my hearing 25 years ago due to severe illness, double pneumonia and a 105.6 temperature. I survived the illness, barely, and after I went back to work I was struggling to hear. After a hearing test it was confirmed I have a moderate to severe hearing loss. So after years of shock and finally acceptance, here I am, your new Treasurer.

I hope to keep the organization financially healthy by continuing the fundraising events we have throughout the year so we can cover meeting, administrative and any other expenses or expenditures that occur for our group.

I look forward to working with everyone; please do not hesitate to contact me with any ideas or information you would like to share. ~ Marie



## Introducing...



*Hi, I'm Lisa Richardson, a CART provider and a captioner here in Minneapolis. I'll be the secretary for HLAA-TC this year. I've been providing CART captioning for the HLAA-TC chapter since 1991 so this is definitely a new role for me. I hope I can be of help to the chapter. I'm looking forward to seeing you all at the meetings!*

*Lisa*

## Walk4Hearing 2014



**Mark your calendars! The Minneapolis Walk4Hearing will again take place at Thomas beach, south end of Lake Calhoun in Minneapolis.**

**Join the crowd, and enjoy a fall walk around a beautiful lake.**

**Register online ([walk4hearing.org](http://walk4hearing.org)) to join a team, or just show up and walk.**

**Saturday September 27, Thomas Beach, Lake Calhoun, Minneapolis**

**Registration and/or check-in 9 AM**

**Walk begins at 10 AM**



## Summer Fun Lions' De-Feet Hearing Loss Walk



Goldy and Monique



Clowning Carole

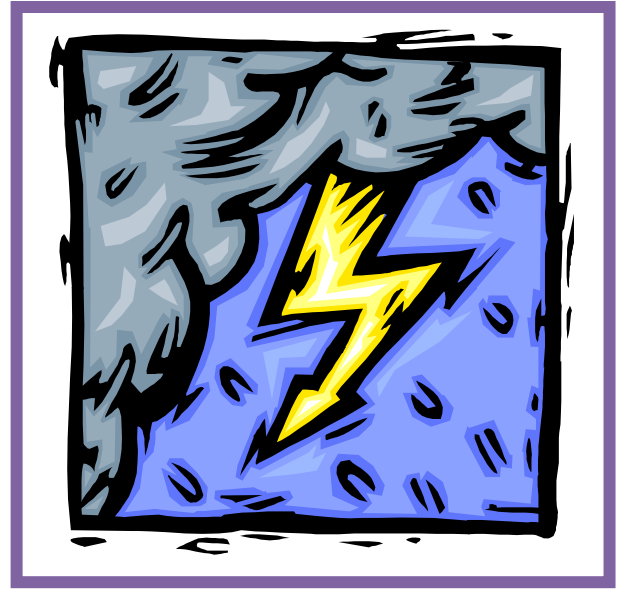


Diligent Bob



Martin family "conference"

(More pix)



HLAA-TC draws interest



The Walk begins!

## SUMMER NEWS

By Monique Hammond

Although we do not have any formal chapter meetings during the summer months, it does not mean that there are no activities on behalf of those with hearing loss.

On the 2<sup>nd</sup> of June, 2014, HLAA TC presented the **City of Saint Louis Park** with a \$1000 donation toward the costs of a hearing loop for the City Council Chambers. The check hand-over is featured at the start of the meeting, within the first 8 minutes of this Youtube. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZCH3Yt3xov0&list=UUzQFTRvOv-RbSJt6xTbz4lw>

During the Council meeting we got to enjoy the crisp sound signal through our telecoils. One Council member with a long-standing loss commented that listening through the loop was 200% better ... Yes! High-Fives!

Congratulations to Saint Louis Park for being a trailblazer in providing improved access to city business for people with hearing loss.

Which City Council will be "looped" next? Think about it! Maybe yours? Let's talk about that in the coming year.

Who is **LOOP MINNESOTA**? [www.loopminnesota.org](http://www.loopminnesota.org)

In the above Youtube clip you may have noticed that another group called LOOP MINNESOTA also made a contribution to the Saint Louis Park City Council Chamber loop.

LOOP MINNESOTA is a brand new non-profit, *technology-oriented* group. It actively promotes access for those with hearing loss by whichever technology is appropriate under the circumstances.

Although the major goal is to showcase the advantages of hearing loops, LOOP MINNESOTA provides information to interested parties and consults with them on the best and most feasible ways to proceed: Hearing loop, *FM or IR system, captioning, CART or any other technology*.

*The interests of HLAA TC and LOOP MINNESOTA overlap when it comes to advocating for access for those with hearing loss. Together, as a team, we can locate venues that will benefit from access technology and see much needed communication improvements become a reality in our communities.*

Once again, HLAA TC supported the **Lions Multiple District 5M (MD5M) D-Feet fundraiser**, which took place on June 7, 2014 at the University of Minnesota's Arboretum in Chaska. Although the weather turned out to be rather dismal, spirits were high. And rightfully so! Those of us who attended witnessed an extremely successful event with over-the-top generous donations towards the Lions' efforts to help those with hearing loss, especially children.

As was the case in previous years, the Lions' tireless energy and good humor as they lived up to their motto "We Serve" was totally inspiring.

On August 16, 2014 we gathered at Pizza Luce in downtown Minneapolis for the **kick-off lunch of the Minneapolis Walk4Hearing**. CART was provided by Paradigm. Ronnie Adler



from HLAA National had flown in for the occasion. She reminded us that the time had come to form teams and to register them with HLAA National. We can also join an existing team or sign up as an individual.

Ronnie recommended that we share the website link for the Minneapolis Walk on our Facebook pages and encourage friends to make a donation. Online donations are very much welcomed. [http://hlaa.convio.net/site/TR?fr\\_id=2211&pg=entry](http://hlaa.convio.net/site/TR?fr_id=2211&pg=entry)

The Minneapolis Walk4Hearing, a National Fundraiser, will be held on September 27, 2014. The starting point is at Lake Calhoun, near Thomas Beach, on West Lake Calhoun Parkway. Registration starts at 9a.m. We walk around the lake at 10a.m. The total distance is 3.1 miles or 5 kilometers.

### **Chapter Secretary: Great News!**

As those of you know who attended our May meeting, we did not find a candidate to serve on the HLAA TC Board as Secretary. Lionel Locke who held that position became our Vice President and this left the Board post open.

Over the summer break our own member and CART specialist **Lisa Richardson** has put forth her candidacy as HLAA TC secretary. As we did not receive any other applications, the Board has appointed her and in our September meeting we will formalize her position.



### **In Memoriam**

*"For death is no more than a turning of us over from time to eternity." William Penn*

It is with great sadness that we announce that one of our own, Past President **Chip Evans**, left this world for a better place. He passed away peacefully on August 4, 2014. We thank Chip for his service and devotion to our Chapter, which was then known as SHHH (Self-Help for the Hard-of-Hearing). Our heartfelt sympathy goes out to his family and friends.

As suggested by the family, HLAA TC has made a donation in Chip's name to the Courage Center. Until we meet again, friend...

(contributed by Monique Hammond)

## My trip to the 2014 HLAA Convention

By Candi Meinders

On Wednesday morning, June 25<sup>th</sup>, I flew via Southwest Airlines, to Austin, TX. The purpose was the 2014 HLAA Convention that was held June 26-29, 2014. I did not know if anyone else from Minnesota would be at the Convention.

I especially wanted to go to meet my cyborg friends in person. I sometimes am on HearingJourney.com on Thursday nights and have a lot of facebook friends that I hadn't seen. One of my HearingJourney.com moderators even suggested my roommate. My roommate, Julie Husting, was from Southern California and had never been to a convention so we emailed frequently but did not meet until I saw her at the Austin airport. She was waiting for me at the shuttle service to the hotel. There are still a lot of facebook friends I have not seen but I estimate I saw about ¼ of them at the Convention, or about 50 of them that were new to me.

It was my 6<sup>th</sup> Convention, actually. The first Convention was at St. Paul in 2000 and the last one I attended was in Oklahoma City in 2007. So, I had actually seen a lot of faces from 2007 or other Conventions.

The first and only time I met another member from Minnesota was at the hotel at the line to be checked in. I walked Lisa Richardson from our chapter. I was on my way out the door with my roommate so we did not chat right then but at least I was not alone.

Oh, yes, the second best thing I liked about the trip was the weather. I love heat and it averaged 89-90 degrees. There were a few sprinkles Saturday afternoon but otherwise it felt just right to me all the time. Remember, June was our second wettest month on record so it felt good to get away from the days of using an umbrella. There was even a lady who asked me, "Did you live near the flooding because I heard it was flooding up there?"

Another thing that was awesome was the total communication. Every room was looped and the CART reporters were busy in all the workshops, fiesta banquet, awards banquet, and the biggest banquet on Saturday night. Even the country music was looped for the German fiesta Friday night.

Another highlight was the exhibit hall. All the deaf and hard of hearing vendors were there, or so it seemed. They all had sales and convention discounts for just being there. There was even a man trying to sell me some jars of Hawaiian Moon Aloes. Needless to say, this traveler had the money to buy his many jars so she did. There, I got that off my chest.

Of course, all the workshops were good. Some were geared for HA users, some to CI users, some were from vendors talking about their products, some were on relationships, employment, advocacy, music with CIs and even a class on identity theft.

If you ever have a chance to go on a Convention trip, do go because of the many experiences you will find with people that all have something in common with you, your hearing loss.



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**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) or visit us on Facebook: groups/HLAA-TC.**