

HLAA TC

June 2017



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

Next Speaker:

September 16, 2017

Andrew Oxenham
CATSS
Tonal Distortion

October 21, 2017

Mary Hogan
Immigration & Customs
Enforcement
Overview of Program/services

November 18, 2017

CONFERENCE
Living Well With Hearing Loss
St Louis Park Recreation Center,
3700 Monterey Drive, St. Louis
Park, MN 55416
9:30 AM to 2 PM
FREE

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Officers' emails

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Hearing Loss Association of America Twin Cities Chapter (HLAA TC) is held the 3rd Saturday of the month (September thru May). We gather at 9:30 to socialize, and begin our meeting at 10 AM at The Courage Kenny Rehabilitation Institute, 3915 Golden Valley Road, Golden Valley, MN 55442. The meeting adjourns at noon.

President's Message



Christine Morgan
June 2017

Summer weather has finally come to Minnesota (sort of)!

Even though we are technically on “summer break”, HLAA-TC has a lot going on behind the scenes.

The 2017 National Convention in Utah is later this month. For information on the 2018 convention dates and site, look inside this newsletter. You may just want to plan ahead.

The Board and conference planning committee is working hard on the Living Well with Hearing Loss conference to be held in St. Louis Park in lieu of the November meeting. We also want to thank those HLAA-TC members who volunteered to help. This is a large fundraising project for our chapter. If you have not already given Lionel (the committee chair) your name, be sure to e-mail him soon at secretary@hlaatc.org

Our next chapter meeting is September 16 with a presentation on Tonal Distortion. This is another one of those not-to-be missed presentations. The slate of presentations is almost complete. We have a great variety of speakers and subject matter.

Thanks everyone for all your hard work and dedication. Special thanks to our Board, newsletter editor, photographer, greeters, transcribers, webmaster, and volunteers. Each and every one of you helps keep our chapter strong and viable.

With gratitude and affection,

Christine



May Meeting Summary



Kathleen Marin

Vice President Kathleen Marin opened the meeting at 10 am and introduced the speaker, Tony Strong, the national sales manager with Williams Sound. Williams Sound is one of the manufacturers of audio equipment that allows venues to be in compliance with ADA rules for equal access for people with hearing loss. Tony reminded us of the importance of advocating for ourselves, letting our legislators know our needs, and speaking up at specific venues as well. He also put hearing loss in perspective, noting that if all the people in the world suffering from hearing loss lived in one country, it would be the third most populous country, right behind China and India. There are a lot of us out there, and our population is growing. In the US, this is being driven by the baby boomers.

Tony explained looping and t-coils. A t-coil is a bound copper bobbin of wire that receives an electromagnetic signal and transmits it directly to our ears through our pre-programmed hearing aids. It is embedded in the hearing aid, unless the hearing aid is too tiny (like in the canal hearing aids), and must be activated by an audiologist. The electromagnetic signal comes from a wire which is buried in the floor around the perimeter of the room and which is taking audio from a sound board and microphone. The t-coil only works when there is an induction loop in place. If the t-coil doesn't fit in a hearing aid, it is possible to have it in a remote control or other device and still get its benefit.

There is little to no consistency across hearing aids in how they work and how they interface with other devices. There is no set of standards for their manufacture. Some have Bluetooth capability but no t-coils. They can be paired with your cell phone, TV, car or other equipment but don't work with induction loops in public settings. Instead, the cell phone can pick up the audio either through a wi-fi hotspot if the venue is broadcasting in wi-fi or through an adapter that is a loop receiver.

It is also possible to use a counter loop, such as at the library, bank teller or grocery checkout. In addition, room loops are available for use at home, such as at the dining room table or for watching TV.

Tony brought examples of a variety of equipment for us to look at and try out. He showed us the wire used in looping, examples of personal amplifiers with and without t-coil capability, and different types of microphones that could be used with the amplifiers, depending on the situation. It was helpful to see the technology.

Tony concluded by saying that all of these technologies will continue to be used in the future: induction looping, wi-fi, Bluetooth, FM receivers, tablets or laptops and captioning.

After the break, Kathleen talked about advocating, including the positive response from the Minneapolis Institute of Art to her request for captioning the videos in a new display. She also offered to go with anyone who wanted to request better accommodations, since it can be intimidating to have to do it alone. If you want her support, email her at vicepresident@hlaatc.org to set up a time.

Secretary Lionel Locke talked about the conference entitled Living Well with Hearing Loss that our chapter will be putting on in November during our regularly scheduled meeting time. This will be an opportunity to talk to vendors about the latest technology. This conference will be our fundraiser instead of the Walk4Hearing. We need volunteers, both now and especially during the conference. Please help. Lionel also summarized an article in this month's Scientific American, describing how people do not protect themselves from dangerously loud noise, such as lawn mower, power tools, appliances, rock concerts, etc. This will lead to even more hearing loss. Current research is suggesting that 1 in 5 people in their 20's now have hearing loss, not just baby boomers. Finally, the bills to (1) provide training in hearing loss to people who work in nursing homes and other long-term care facilities and (2) provide good acoustics and loops in buildings receiving state funding both passed this year. That is excellent news.

Kathleen adjourned the meeting at noon. We will meet again on September 16. Enjoy the summer!

Four Star Restaurant

By Kathleen Marin



Last week, we went to dinner at our neighborhood Applebee's and, as always, I explained about my hearing loss and asked for a quiet table away from the bar. The hostess nodded and said she had another patron who also requested the same. She seated us at a corner booth and then volunteered to turn down the music, as she could control the speaker in that particular area! I didn't even have to ask.

Later, someone turned the volume back up, she noticed, came to our table to apologize for that and then went to turn it down again. This was an amazing response, and demonstrates that our advocacy is working. People are starting to understand our needs for quieter areas and to respect them and accommodate us. I also want to mention that the TVs were captioned. Applebee's got four stars for service that day.

Hot Off the Press! Save the Date!

Christine T. Morgan

I just got some insider information which will not be announced until the 2017 HLAA convention in Salt Lake City later in June. **The 2018 HLAA convention will be held in Minneapolis** at the Hyatt Regency on Nicollet Mall!

Wow! This and the Super Bowl in Minneapolis in the same year!

This is a great opportunity to have the convention in our own city, especially for those who for one reason or another have been unable to travel to the national conventions. So save the dates: June 21-24, 2018.

Further details will be shared as I receive them.

HLAA National Convention 2018 →



**Please join us for:
Adult Cochlear Implant Social Group**



**Sunday, July 16, 2017
2:00-4:00 PM**

**Donna's Beautiful Backyard Garden
1095 Kilburn St.
Saint Paul, MN
651-489-2915**

Host: Donna Savage



It will be held in Donna's beautiful backyard flower garden! If there is a larger crowd she will move it to a quiet corner of Como Park across the street. If it rains, it will be in her garage. You are welcome to bring a spouse, partner, friend, family member, and/or significant other to any of these events! If you would like to bring a refreshment to share that would be wonderful! *Reminder: BYO picnic blanket or lawn chair.*

Directions to Donna's:

From I94: Take Lexington North from 94 to Energy Park Drive/Front St. (it changes names at Lexington -Left is Energy Park Drive -Right is Front St.) Turn right onto Front St. then go about 3 blocks to Chatsworth and turn Left. Go another 3 blocks and pass under the Railroad overpass. Then take a right on the next corner to Como. Go one block and take another right onto Kilburn St. I am at 1095 it is a small house with big steps and a big trellis over the steps.

From Highway 36 exit on Lexington and go South through Como park on Lexington to Energy Park/Front St. (it changes names at Lexington -Right is Energy Park Drive -Left is Front St.). Take a left onto Front St. Go three blocks and then turn left on Chatsworth. Go another 3 blocks and pass under the Railroad overpass. Then take a right on the next corner to Como. Go one block and take another right onto Kilburn St. I am at 1095 it is a small house with big steps and a big trellis over the steps.

1 in 5 Americans Has Hearing Loss



Join us at the FREE Conference:

Living Well with Hearing Loss

Learn All About:

Hearing Loss

Hearing Aids

Cochlear Implants

The Newest Technology

Other Hearing Devices

Meet Vendors

FREE Refreshments

SATURDAY

November 18, 2017

9:30 AM to 2:00 PM

St. Louis Park

REC Center

3700 Monterey Drive

St. Louis Park, MN 55416

HLAA- TC: 763-447-9672

FREE ADMISSION! Stay for DOOR PRIZES !!

Many Exhibitors and Sponsors will be at the Conference

See Website: www.hlaatc.org



Hearing Loss
Association
of America

Twin Cities Chapter
<http://www.hlaatc.org/>

LIVING WELL WITH HEARING LOSS

HLAA-TC FALL CONFERENCE

NOVEMBER 18, 2017

Greetings to our membership and friends of HLAA-TC. Please mark on your Fall calendar the above date and get ready to enjoy information on hearing loss, technology options and resources provided by our many exhibitors and guest speakers.

We are moving our November meeting to the St Louis Park Recreation Center, 3700 Monterey Drive, St. Louis Park, MN 55416. The scheduled time will be from 9:30 AM until 2PM.

We are asking our membership to bring at least one guest to the meeting. We will provide free admission tickets to each of you in September to help us get the message out.

The Conference is a fundraiser for our local Chapter and replaces the yearly Walk4Hearing, which is a national fundraiser. Any conference proceeds stay with our local chapter. We believe this format better fits our mission of education, support and advocacy.

Agenda details for this conference are being worked on by your Board of Directors who will be busy this summer getting those finalized.

Lionel Locke, Secretary

HLAA-TC

Volunteers needed for November conference!

Please contact Lionel (secretary@hlaatc.org) to volunteer your help for this event. Volunteers will be needed for the registration table, door prize drawings, we will need greeters and guides, and almost certainly for other needs Lionel hasn't thought of yet!

Hearing accommodations for November Conference:

HLAA-TC plans to provide real-time captioning (CART) for the conference.

Looping is also being considered

Living Well With Hearing Loss Conference SCHEDULE

VOLUNTEERS and ATTENDEES:

8:00 REC Center open for set-up

9:30 Doors open to the public

10:00 First Presentation Center for Applied and Translational Sensory Science (CATTs), University of Minnesota - 30 Minutes + Questions

10:40 Visit Tables

12:30 Second Presentation Tony Strong, Williams Sound
30 Minutes + Questions

1:30 PM Drawing for Door Prizes

2:00 PM End of Conference
Take down Tables

EXHIBITORS: Tables are still available.

Payment is due upon reservation of table.

HLAA-TC can accept Credit Card payment or we can send an Invoice - whichever is easier for you.

6' table in 8 foot wide space:

Corporate: \$250 / Gov. or Non-profits \$125

Double space (two 6' tables in 16 foot wide space):

Corporate: \$500 / Gov./ Non-profit \$250

SPONSORSHIP

- Gold \$1000
- Silver \$500
- Bronze \$250

(Can become an annual sponsor if desired)

- Other: Donations of any amount (for expenses such as refreshments and printing costs).

Exhibitors and Sponsors receive Logo display and a brief write-up in the HLAA TC Newsletters for September and October. Our Newsletter goes out to over 300 people.

The Logo display will be on the finalized flyer, Conference program and signs at the event.



Disability Rights March & Rally!

Join us in celebrating the Americans with Disabilities Act and reaffirming our Rights!

Wednesday, July 26, 2017

1:00 – 4:00 pm

Come for some or all of the events

- **1:00 Gathering & orientation at the MN History Center**
- **1:30 Disability Rights March to the Capitol**
- **2:30 Disability Rights Rally in the Capitol Rotunda**
 - **Featured speakers and entertainment**

Accommodations for the orientation and rally include ASL interpreters, CART, and audio description.

For more information or to confirm audio description services or to request a reasonable accommodation not listed above, please contact Cindy at ADA Minnesota, 651-603-2015 or email cindyt@mcil-mn.org, by July 7, 2017.

Message from Marie Koehler, Regional Manager | Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services, Metro Minnesota Department of Human Services:

“It would be phenomenal to get a VERY LARGE turnout of Minnesotans who are Deaf, DeafBlind, late deafened and hard of hearing! Please encourage your co-workers, friends and family to attend.”

Photos from May meeting



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HLAA TC
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Our next meeting is September 16, 2017

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HLAA Twin Cities Chapter

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Twin Cities Chapter Welcomes You!

President - Christine Morgan - president@hlaatc.org

Vice President - Kathleen Marin vicepresident@hlaatc.org

Secretary - Lionel Locke secretary@hlaatc.org

Treasurer - Marie Saliterman treasurer@hlaatc.org

Contact Info. - info@hlaatc.org

Photos - Dennis Martin

Newsletter Editor -

Vicki Martin, editor@hlaatc.org

Meetings are held the 3rd Saturday of the month September through May at the Courage Kenny Rehabilitation Institute in Golden Valley, MN. We gather at 9:30 to socialize and the meeting starts at 10. Accommodations: All meetings are real time captioned by Lisa Richardson and her staff of Paradigm Captioning (www.paradigmreporting.com). The meeting room is also looped for T-coil or receiver.

Please visit the chapter's web-site at www.hlaatc.org or visit us on Facebook: groups/HLAA-TC.