

HLAA TC

September 2018



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 15, 2018

Drew Gerling, Golden Valley Fire Department, "Thinking (not 'hearing') your way to fire safety"

October 20, 2018

Dustin Leslie, "Text-to-911"

November 17, 2018

FREE Second Annual "Live Better with Hearing Loss" Conference
St. Louis Park Recreation Center
9 AM – 2 PM



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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



Kathleen Marin
President's Message
HLAATC September 2018

It's hard to believe that September is upon us already. I feel like this summer just flew by. I hope all of you enjoyed some summertime activities with friends and family.

It was a treat seeing so many of you at the National HLAA Convention in Minneapolis in June. Thanks to all of you who volunteered your time. Several representatives from National commented on how much they appreciated the volunteers and how you went above and beyond what was expected. I really liked attending the workshops and learning about the latest ideas and research concerning hearing loss. I hope you also found these presentations beneficial.

Our own conference, Live Well with Hearing Loss, is coming up. It will take place Saturday, November 17 at the Rec Center in St. Louis Park, from 9am to 2 pm, just like last year. The conference committee has been hard at work over the summer lining up speakers and exhibitors. We will also be asking for volunteers to help out and make this event a success. Members of the committee will give you an update and details at our September meeting.

Our first meeting of the new year is Saturday, September 15th. We have social time starting at 9:30

with the meeting proper starting at 10 am. Our guest speaker will be Drew Gerling of the Golden Valley Fire Department, talking about "Thinking (not hearing) your way to fire safety." I am looking forward to what he has to say and how, as a person with a severe hearing loss, I can be more safety conscious and more successful in the event of an emergency.

I am also looking forward to reconnecting with all of you. I am excited to hear what you have been up to and to laugh and commiserate with you over your stories of life with hearing loss. Our hearing loss certainly helps us keep a good sense of humor (and occasionally a sense of the ridiculous) and helps us develop greater creativity and coping skills.

See you soon!

-- Kathleen

New device offers host of features

(Information culled from Pioneer Press August 28, 2018)

"With new model, hearing aid meets smartphone"
By Julio Ojeda-Zapata

The Eden Prairie-based Starkey hearing-aid maker on Monday revealed a new model that builds in health monitoring, language translating, voice queries, tap controls and other features commonly offered in consumer electronics devices — but not, typically, hearing aids.

Starkey is positioning the **Livio AI** as a next-generation hearing aid

The **Livio AI** is being released in the United States and Canada this week

September Speaker

Drew Gerling
Golden Valley Fire Department



“Thinking (not hearing) Your Way to Fire Safety”

I've been a member of the Golden Valley Fire Department for 10 years. During that time I've had the pleasure of speaking to dozens of groups ranging in size from 5 to 500 people covering various topics of fire safety.

I hold many certifications for fire officers and fire instructors. It is my opinion that in the modern fire service, prevention and education are the keys to fire safety: thinking proactively about the fire/rescue risks we all face in life and adapting our surroundings to have a “ready mindset”. This approach will always yield a better, safer outcome than reactive thinking and taking a “wait and hope for the best” attitude.

I look forward to the challenge of addressing and helping develop the “ready mindset” with your group in September. I can't think of a better group that could benefit from proactive fire safety thinking than the HLAA.

While away from the fire service, I enjoy spending time with my wife who is a Kindergarten teacher, my 6 year old son and 3 year old daughter.

Metro Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services is offering two free diversity trainings this fall.

Deaf Culture Training,

Tuesday, October 16, 2018 9:30am – 11:30 am or 1:30-3:30pm

Survival Sign Language Training

Tuesday, November 13, 2018 9:30am – 12:00 noon or 1:30-4:00pm

Both will be held at Golden Rule Building, Suite 105, 85 E 7th Place, St. Paul MN

Register at dhhs.metro@state.mn.us or call 651-431-5940

WORDS FROM THE TREASURER

Welcome back to our Chapter. We appreciate your continued attendance at our nine monthly meetings. As treasurer, I am responsible for collecting the annual dues which cover September of 2018 through August of 2019.

Once you pay dues to HLAA-TC, you have the right to hold any office at the local level, you have the right to make and/or amend motions and vote on them, you have the right to serve on committees, you have the right to participate in all discussions concerning the chapter, you have the right to present a grievance, and you have the right to receive the regular newsletter.

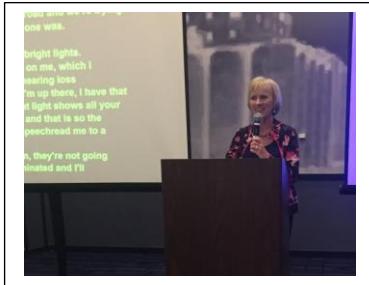
What do you think about all these rights? They are all spelled out in our Bylaws. More importantly though, is what they mean to all of us. The Hearing Loss Association is a self-help group of people with a common purpose, that is living in the hearing world yet dealing with some degree of hearing loss.

We are all volunteers with friends and relatives who understand what it is like to have communication barriers in everyday life. How we deal with those barriers, how we try to overcome those, is part of our daily routine. Hopefully at our meetings we can learn from each other and manage to be more effective.

Thank you again for being a member of the Twin Cities Chapter. Welcome back to the 2018-2019 journey.

Lionel Locke, Treasurer

Hyatt Regency Staff and Police Training, HLAA National Convention 2018, Minneapolis MN



Christine Morgan, addressing Hyatt Regency staff and St. Paul Police

On June 19, just prior to the beginning of the national convention, Christine Morgan (Board Member and Immediate Past President of HLAA-TC) provided the Hyatt Regency Hotel staff with a training session on working with people with hearing loss. Approximately 30 managers and staff attended. The St. Paul Police Department also sent 3 officers to the hour-long session. Christine has been working with the Department to provide a better understanding of how to deal with people with hearing loss who do not sign.

About 400 people from the convention planned to attend *West Side Story* at the Guthrie on Saturday evening, June 23. Christine was requested to provide the Theatre staff with a similar training provided to the hotel staff earlier in the week. Approximately 20-23 staff attended this session.

The training sessions were well received and both groups were very interested and eager to learn about hearing loss. They asked a lot of pertinent questions and a couple of Guthrie employees stated that they wore hearing aids and talked briefly about their personal challenges when dealing with hearing loss.

The convention helped bring a bit more awareness to our metro area!

Mixed Media

!captions captions captions!

Did you know that the videos people post on you-tube (and those YOU post!) can be automatically captioned? A you-tube program (not the creator of the video) does this.

See **The Backyard Bandit** video on you-tube for an example of the results.

2-minute video:
Backyard bandit
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J2cBYPkC_Rc

Deaf Oscar-winning actress Marlee Matlin is an executive producer of the A&E documentary **Deaf Out Loud.**

The program, airing September 12, follows three predominantly deaf families as they raise their children in a hearing world.



Dear Abby

(Excerpted from Pioneer Press, August 2018) A reader asks Dear Abby if she can explain why the noise level in even the nicest, most expensive restaurants is always so high that diners must yell at one another, making conversation very difficult.

“Alas,” Abby replies, “I can. The din is no accident. When diners in a restaurant can easily converse, they tend to LINGER. The restaurant makes more money if it can turn the tables a time or two or three, so it is designed with high ceilings, no carpets, loud music, and nothing on the surfaces to buffer the sound.”

University of Minnesota Center for Applied and Translational Sensory Science

Sensory Science and Art
(Excerpted from CATSS Newsletter August 2018) ☺

“Liza Sylvestre is the co-founder of Creating Language Through Arts, an educational arts residency that focuses on using art as a means of communication when there are language barriers present due to hearing loss... Sylvestre says: ‘I explore the ways in which our senses alter our experience and perception of the world. I approach this as an individual who is medically, although not culturally, deaf...’ art is an experience that asks us to use our senses to observe...”

How does sensory loss affect the art experience?

How does this translate to the ‘real world’? How do museum designs and public spaces exclude those with sensory loss?

Turnabout on GISH



Gish (formerly known as Gishwhes) is an international scavenger hunt. Instead of finding items, it usually involves doing or making something. Items are completed by taking a photo or a video of the task and uploading it onto the website.

Some items are silly, some are arty, and some are philanthropic. Gish was started by actor Misha Collins, who plays the angel Castiel on the TV show Supernatural.

#12 this year was to record a **Song chorus in ASL. Captioned for the hearing.** “Hear” it at this link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9XkceqjBAM&feature=youtu.be>

GOTHAMGAZETTE.COM
August 1, 2018

28 Years Later, ADA Non-Compliance Leaves Deaf Patients At Risk

“To require a person who is deaf and deprived of effective communication access to seek change, continue to advocate until the change is made, file a lawsuit if the change is not made, and continue to prosecute the lawsuit until it is resolved, is not a realistic solution for creating a more accessible world. It unfairly places the onus on the deaf individual.” And it is exhausting, and time consuming, and usually the answer is STILL no interpreter.

Hearing Loss Can Affect Anyone!

Come to a Meeting or the Conference to learn more.

PHOTO BY: AIRMAN RIVER BRUCE | VIA IN: 180222-F-60080-010.JPG



FREE CONFERENCE – SAT., NOV. 17, 2018

Live Well With Hearing Loss

- Meet our Exhibitors and Speakers
- Learn about Technology, Resources, and Coping with Hearing Loss
- Presentations, Refreshments and Door Prizes

Regular Meeting

Saturday, Sept. 15, 2018

10a.m. to noon

Courage Kenny Rehabilitation Inst.
3915 Golden Valley Rd.
Minneapolis, MN

Regular Meeting

Saturday, Oct. 20, 2018

10a.m. to noon

Courage Kenny Rehabilitation Inst.
3915 Golden Valley Rd.
Minneapolis, MN

FREE Conference

Live Well With Hearing Loss

Saturday, Nov. 17, 2018

9a.m. to 2p.m.

Recreation Center
3700 Monterey Dr.
St. Louis Park, MN

SIGN IN AT THE DOOR OR

REGISTER ONLINE AT:

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Hearing Loss Association of America
Twin Cities Chapter

HLAATC Live with Hearing Loss Conference – 2018 Sponsors / Exhibitors



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The University of Minnesota Center for Applied & Translational Science is doing research to solve problems faced by people with sensory deficits such as low vision or hearing loss.
<http://catss.umn.edu/>



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Esteem is a device with no microphones to distort sound or amplify wind. Instead, the device's three components work together with your ear to deliver Esteem's natural hearing.

InnoCaption

InnoCaption uses stenographers to allow captioning for those with hearing loss to communicate using their smartphones (Android & iPhone).

MED-EL

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www.medel.com/us/



COMMISSION OF DEAF, DEAFBLIND & HARD OF HEARING MINNESOTANS

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<https://mn.gov/deaf-commission/>



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DHHS provides services and information to help Minnesotans who are deaf, deafblind and hard of hearing and their families.



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Serves the people with disabilities in Minnesota - develops effective policy, training and technical resources.

Minnesota Hearing Aid Professionals, Inc.

ENT Ear, Nose & Throat SpecialtyCare of Minneapolis, P.A.

MHAPI and ENT provide both medical and nonmedical management of hearing loss with hearing aids and other devices.

<http://www.mhapi.com/>
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Consulting services since 1926. Monique Hammond is a registered pharmacist, author, safety trainer, speaker and advocate for those with hearing loss.
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Cooking without Hearing the Sounds of Cooking

Kathleen Marin

One of the aspects of hearing loss that is rarely addressed is how it affects our time in the kitchen. I've actually only seen this written about once before in all the books and articles I've read about hearing loss. So here is some food for thought.

One of the most obvious consequences is not being able to hear water boiling. I can't tell you how many times my pot of rice or potatoes or soup has boiled over, leaving me with a mess to clean up and sometimes affecting the outcome of the recipe. What's really annoying is to be in the kitchen, constantly checking the pot while still working on a different part of the dinner, only to have my daughter yell from another room, "Mom, the water's boiling!" One little distraction, I missed the moment of boiling, and the stove is a mess. Plus, how the heck could she hear that?

I also can't hear the ding from the microwave, the alarm bell on the bread maker, the kitchen timer or basically any kind of chiming sound. So I have to be constantly alert to when the food is ready. I listen for the lack of sound from the motor on the microwave. I keep a close eye on the clock for other things. I pay more attention to how the aromas of foods change as they are cooking. In other words, like with boiling water, I have to be very aware.

There are other, more subtle losses. I can't hear meat or bacon sizzling. I can no longer hear the crunch of crisp, fresh vegetables when I chop them up. I have to gauge their freshness by sight and touch alone. I don't hear the sounds that the oven, toaster and toaster oven make as they are heating up and cooling down. That led to a challenge last week when I didn't notice that the toaster oven had been unplugged, popped the meat in it, only to discover when all else was ready, that the meat was still as cold as when it came out of the refrigerator. Thank goodness for microwave ovens! I also can't localize things by sound, so I can't easily find pills or other small, bouncy items that I drop on the kitchen floor. Then there is the number of times I've accidentally left the water running, usually by not noticing that I turned it off only partway. Fortunately, I haven't flooded the house yet.

Finally, according to my daughter, I'm louder in the kitchen than I used to be. Not too loud yet, but louder. I make more noise opening and closing drawers, putting dishes away, doing everyday things. The worst was when I was making deviled eggs for one of our potlucks. I was busy tapping the hardboiled eggs against the sink to crack their shells when my disheveled, bleary-eyed daughter emerged from her room to complain, "Mom, it's 7 am on a SATURDAY! What are you doing?!" I had no idea I was making much noise. I was actually trying to be quiet so as not to wake her up.

The bottom line is that even cooking is affected by hearing loss. I have to be much more alert and rely more on my other senses. Cooking can be more tiring than before, but it is still a satisfying activity for me, especially when we sit down to a well-prepared, delicious meal.

Bells and Whistles

Vicki Martin



Well, actually – maybe just the Bell.

In any case, the beautiful new Bell museum is now up and running on the St. Paul campus of the University of Minnesota.

One of the great things about the new Bell is its accessibility. They are truly trying to cover all of the bases. It is a work in progress, however, so have patience!

We asked about the planetarium show. Was it captioned? Was there assistive listening? Was there an ASL interpreter? ALL of these accommodations are, or will soon be available. On the day we visited in July, only assistive listening was available – but both earbuds and neckloops are provided, so you can benefit from great sound whether you use hearing aids/CIs or not.

ASL interpreting was in place too, but it must be requested two weeks in advance OR you may come to one of the regularly scheduled interpreted showings, which take place once a month.

Captioning had not yet been installed, but is planned for some time in fall 2018. It will follow the same availability pattern as ASL: captioned programs will be shown once a month, plus on request with two weeks' notice.

Assistive listening is also available for use during guided tours.

The Jim Brandenberg movie that was shown more or less continuously at the Bell was captioned.

I also noticed that the dioramas have bronze plaques mounted alongside the viewing area, with imprints of key features of the diorama: a footprint, for example, that a person can touch to discover its size and shape. Along with the well-stocked Touch and See Labs, this provides an interesting tactile experience to both sighted and blind visitors.

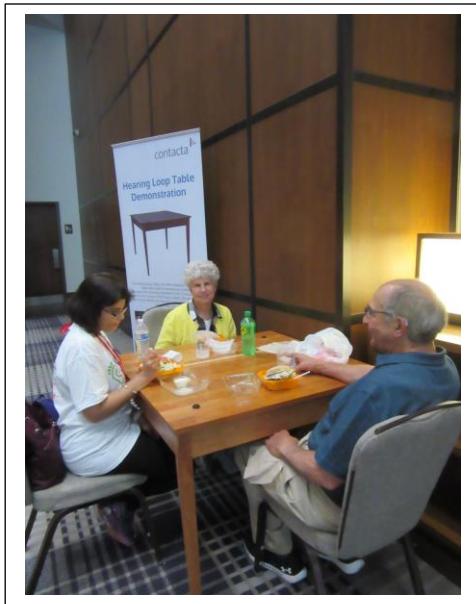
After collecting all the information I could during our visit, I mentioned to a Bell staff person that we provide this newsletter to the hearing loss community. “Is there anything else I should know about?” I asked.

“Yes, there is!”, she replied enthusiastically. “We would love to get feedback about our accommodations!” So there is our invitation -- let them know what works well (and also what doesn’t).

<https://www.bellmuseum.umn.edu>

2018 Summer Photos

All Fired up for the Convention



Monique
and her
customers



Yes—this is a table with a
built-in Hearing Loop!

At the Great Minnesota
Get-Together

These two know how to seize an
opportunity!





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Our next meeting is: September 15, 2018

First Class

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Photos – Vicki Martin

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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 (3915 Golden Valley Road), 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.