

HLAA TC

November 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:

November 17, 2018

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

December 15, 2018

Liz Anderson, CATSS
"The relationship between Hearing Loss and Cognitive Decline in Older Adults"
Plus: pot luck lunch and white elephant gift exchange

January 15, 2019

Legislative update



Contents

President's Message	Page 2
Dinner and Theater	Page 3
Meeting Summary	Page 4
Conference Flyer	Page 7
Conference info	Page 8
Conference sponsors	Page 9
Photos	Page 10

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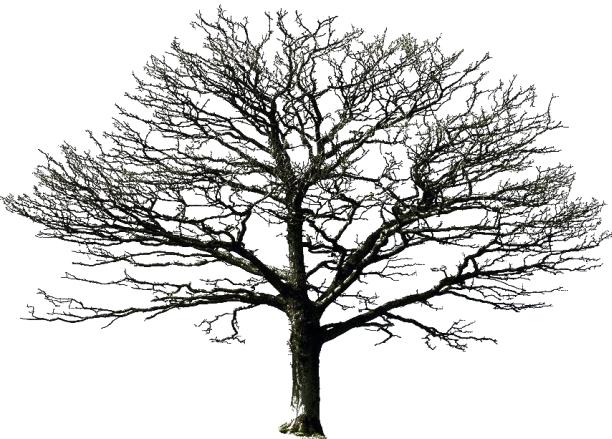
HLAA TC Website - Minnesota
www.hlaatc.org

HLAA TC telephone 763-447-9672
Contact Information - Minnesota
info@hlaatc.org

HLAA National - Maryland
www.hearingloss.org

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
President's Message
HLAATC November 2018

As we enter the holiday season with its wonderful smells, autumn colors, delicious foods, and simmering anticipation, let's take a moment to take a deep breath and be thankful for all we have. There are so many enjoyable parts of the holiday season and for those of us with hearing loss, there are also so many uncomfortable situations.

Being with family and friends is such a joy. Not being able to keep up with the enthusiastic, fast-paced conversations is not such a joy. At times we have to fight the urge to retreat and isolate ourselves. But don't forget that not every family gathering is a Hallmark moment. Many fall far short. First and foremost, be sure to take time for self-care during the holidays in whatever way that works for you.

The Conference committee is doing a lot of behind-the-scenes work as we anticipate the November conference. We appreciate all the members and guests have done to get the word out. We are thankful for the many volunteers who have come forth. I'm sure Patty would not turn down some additional volunteers.

And while you are thinking about the conference, be sure to register on line. Also encourage others to pre-register. This gives us a better idea how many people are coming even though we welcome any walk-ins. It helps us decide how much snacks and drinks we will need. We do provide those but don't forget, we have arranged a food truck for lunches, etc.

December's meeting includes a presentation by Liz Anderson of CATSS, a potluck lunch and a wrapped white elephant gift exchange (my favorite – lots of laughs and surprises).

I hope that your Thanksgiving is truly enjoyable and that you have time to relax with family and friends.

For all of you, we are truly thankful!

Christine Morgan, acting President



Dance performance "In the Margins"

"In The Margins" is an exploration of those who often live in the margins of society – an examination of implicit bias as experienced by deaf and hard of hearing people, and women in America.

Threads will have ASL interpretation by Terryann Nash, as well as open captioning by Paradigm, for both shows.

Performances are November 16 and 17 at 7:30 PM at The O'Shaugnessy in St. Paul MN.

For tickets, call or visit 651-690-6700 or visit
<http://oshag.stkate.edu>

Theater and Dinner (or Lunch) with Hearing Loss? Of course!



It had been years since we had been to the Chanhassen. Actually before I had hearing loss. Well, we called and asked about ALDs and they said they had two different kinds. Who knows what that means even though they mentioned the word "loop". We bought tickets to *Newsies* for a Saturday matinee show.

Low and behold! They had Williams Sound ALDs with your choice of neck loop or ear buds. I believe it said "Williams Sound PA FM" on the bottom. And guess what? They actually check the batteries to be sure they are fresh or charged at all times.

Lunch was not a quiet affair. But what do you expect when you have so many people at the theater and at a table. Tables were for 4-6. Lots of chatter.

I tried both with a combo microphone and t-coil setting on my fine tuner of my processor. Worked great. Then I tried t-coil setting alone. Worked very good.

Then I tried something a knowledgeable friend (aka Mary Bauer) told me a few years ago. I put both sides of the loop over my ears. Much louder, clearer sound. I have used this trick several times when using ALDs with loops with great results (depending on the ALD and the freshness of the batteries).

By the way, the acting, singing and choreography were first rate. So, it's time to give dinner (or lunch) and live theater another try. You might be surprised.

Christine T. Morgan, acting President

Metro Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services free diversity training

Survival Sign Language Training

Tuesday, November 13, 2018 9:30am – 12:00 noon or 1:30-4:00pm
Golden Rule Building, Suite 105, 85 E 7th Place, St. Paul MN
Register at dhhs.metro@state.mn.us or call 651-431-5940

Adult Cochlear Implant Social Group – 8-year celebration!

Sunday, December 2, 2018 1:30 – 3:30 PM Dakota County Wentworth Library
199 East Wentworth Ave West St. Paul, MN 55118 651-554-6800
Host: Sara Oberg

It will be held in the large meeting room. 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!

Summary of the October 20, 2018 Meeting



Mike Higgins, HLAATC Vice-President

Christine Morgan, President, called the meeting to order at 10:00 am welcoming all the Chapter members and introducing the Board members and our CART (Communication Access Real Time Translation) captioner. Following the introductions Christine made some housekeeping and reminder announcements.

Christine introduced our guest speaker Dustin Leslie a 911 Program Analyst in the Emergency Communications Networks (ECN) Division a State agency in the Minnesota Department of Public Safety (DPS). Dustin's presentation provided background on the Text-to-911 program and current 911 capabilities. The ECN Division, funded through the 911 fee on your cell phone bill, also oversees all land, mobile radio for police officers, emergency broadcast alerts, and broadband emergency alerts. The Text-to-911 project took two years to complete. Minnesota is one of the few states where the emergency text service is available statewide as long as you're not "roaming" outside your cell phone carrier's operating area. In order to text to 911 from your cell phone you must have an active service plan with a wireless service provider. If you don't have a service plan, Federal law requires that your phone have the capability to call 911 if you're in a cell tower coverage area. Text-to-911 is Federal mandate but not all States have complied.

Dustin went on to share that the ECN had determined that many hard of hearing, deaf and deafblind individuals experienced communication problems when calling 911. These problems the genesis of the Text-to-911 project that went live in December 2017.

Currently, the ECN receives about 350 texts per month throughout the State. That is less than 1% of the 2.7 million 911 calls they receive each month. Although this service was created as a second option for the hard of hearing, deaf and deafblind, the most common type of call has been domestic violence victims where they can't talk with a dispatcher.

(Meeting summary, cont.)

The Text-to-911 should be a second option to reach emergency help. On a voice call the question and answer exchange of information goes much faster than during a text message. Using a text to exchange any information is inherently much slower because dispatchers will not know your location, text conversations take longer, and information may need to be forwarded to another dispatch center. Text-to-911 is available in all of Minnesota, North Dakota and all but a few southern counties in Iowa. Wisconsin has coverage in the Hudson area only, and the majority of South Dakota does not have coverage.

"Call if you can, text if you can't." With 911 text messages dispatchers always respond with "can you call"? Respond "No" if you can't. All emergency dispatchers will ask for your exact location, what is your emergency, describe the situation, your name and other questions to assist emergency personnel. If you can't or don't provide a location, the emergency services can find where you are, but it may take 15-20 minutes or longer.

Break until 11:00am

Christine introduced our guest speaker Dr. Yingzi Xiong (Ariel) a Researcher at the Center for Applied and Translational Sensory Science (CATSS) University of Minnesota. She spoke provide an overview of her recent research work.

Ariel is working on a project to identify any links between hearing impairment and vision impairment. Previous research has already determined that people with a sensory loss will reduce overall social activity. Her research has determined it is difficult for individuals with hearing impairment and vision impairment to localize the direction of sound or light in the social environment. This new project is to determine how well individuals with hearing and vision loss can identify the source of sound and/or light. The goal of the research is to determine how people might be trained to better use their hearing and vision, and how architects might design buildings with an environment more accessible for people with sensory loss. When participating in this study CATSS will pay for transportation, parking and the time spent in the research lab. If anyone is interested in participating, please email Christine Morgan or Mike Higgins.

CONFERENCE: Christine provided a brief overview of the effort to put on our second annual conference. It takes lots volunteers in different roles. It is a time commitment, but that is required to organize and conduct a successful conference. Without the great work of last year's conference volunteers, thank you all very much, we wouldn't be having a conference this year.

Lionel spoke about his dual roles, treasurer and conference chair. As treasurer he collects the \$15 annual membership fees. The annual membership runs from September through August. Fees may be paid at any meeting or mailing in a check using the Membership form found on hlaatc.org

(Meeting summary, cont.)

As Conference Chairperson, he reinforced that our membership involvement is very important in providing more ideas about research, what's happening in the hearing loss community, education, support and advocacy individually and as an organization.

Our conference is aptly named Live Well with Hearing Loss. The conference is on the regularly scheduled meeting day (third Saturday of November). The location is the St. Louis Park Recreation Center. We're asking each member to invite or bring friends and neighbors to the conference. There is a tremendous amount of information available at our conference and we want people to benefit from attending. Information about the conference, exhibitors and speakers is on our website hlaatc.org. This year, as part of the conference, there will be FREE hearing screenings conducted by the University of Minnesota audiology graduate student group.

We still need some additional volunteers for the set-ups, the conference itself and tear down. If you haven't volunteered, please contact our Conference Volunteer Coordinator Patty Higgins by email to secretary@hlaatc.org or leave a message at 763-447-9672.

The 1st set-up is Friday, November 16 at 9:30pm. Some exhibitors will also be there to set up their table. The 2nd set-up is Saturday, November 17 at 7:00am. Volunteers for the conference itself must be on-site by 8:00am, the conference opens at 9:00am. Please note that a food truck (sub sandwiches) will be available to purchase lunch.

We will have advertising in the Metro West Sun papers and the U of M Daily.

There followed an extended conversation about future speakers, subjects and the need for our Chapter to increase advocacy for the 20% of Minnesota citizens with hearing loss. As an organization we must create a presence and build a community of those with hearing loss. Otherwise, we will remain invisible and ultimately silent.

Meeting adjourned at 11:50am

Conference Accommodations

Presentations will have visual captioning (CART), an induction hearing loop and an FM System.

Several people who do ASL interpretation will be at the conference, however, formal ASL interpretation will not be available.



Good news! For those who want to Buy their Lunch on site at our 2018 "Live Well with Hearing Loss" Conference, a Food Truck will be available in the front parking lot at the Rec Center. Check it out! <http://theurbansub.com/>

The food truck will be outside. However, there will be plenty of room inside to eat at tables and chairs downstairs from the conference area.

Stop by between 10:30 and 1:30 for a sub and soft drink. (subs \$10, soft drinks \$1)

Hearing Loss Can Affect Anyone!

Attend a FREE conference to learn more

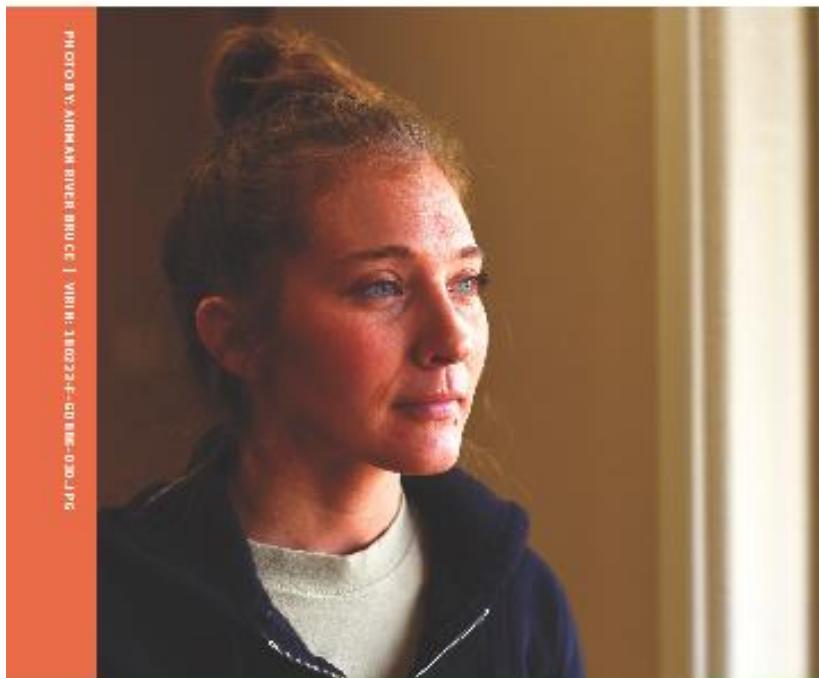


PHOTO: ALICE BURKE / BURKE PHOTOGRAPHY | 320.802.7747 | www.burkephotography.com

FREE Conference

Live Well With Hearing Loss

Saturday, Nov. 17, 2018

9am to 2pm

Recreation Center

3700 Monterey Dr.
St. Louis Park, MN

REGISTER ONLINE AT:

hlaatc.org

and sign up for a free
hearing screening*

REACH US BY PHONE AT:

763-447-9672

FREE CONFERENCE – 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
- **FREE** hearing screenings*

*Screening is not intended for those with hearing aids or implant recipients.



Hearing Loss Association of America
Twin Cities Chapter



Twin Cities Chapter
P O Box 8037
Minneapolis MN 55408-0037

Please come to the HLAA-TC [Website](http://www.hlaatc.org/)

2018 Live Well with Hearing Loss Conference - Free Admission

Saturday, November 17, 2018

St. Louis Park Rec Center

3700 Monterey Drive, St Louis Park, MN 55416

NOTE: The Free Conference will be held on the Regular November Meeting Date for HLAA-TC

The Conference is a unique opportunity for getting information on hearing loss, technology, assistive devices and other resources. It fits with the HLAA mission of education, support and advocacy.

Presentations will have visual captioning (CART), an induction hearing loop and an FM System. Several people who do ASL interpretation will be at the conference, however, formal ASL interpretation will NOT be available.

Schedule

9:00 AM: Doors Open – Register and Visit Exhibitor Tables

10:00 AM: First Program: Tony Strong, Sales Manager for Williams Sound, will speak on: “Update on Wireless technology” and “Hearing Loss and the ADA.”

Williams Sound is a Twin Cities based Manufacturing and Installation Company.

10:40 AM: Questions for Speaker

10:30 – 1:30 Food Truck available (custom grilled subs and chips \$10, soft drinks \$1)

12:00 Noon: Second Presentation: Can Do Canines – Service Dogs

12:20 PM: Questions for Speakers

1:00 PM: Third Program: CATSS, the Center for Applied and Translational Sensory Science, University of Minnesota will discuss Current Research geared at helping people with hearing loss. *The University of Minnesota Center for Applied & Translational Science does research to solve problems faced by people with sensory deficits such as low vision or hearing loss.*

1:35 PM: Questions for Speakers

1:45 PM: Door Prize Drawing - **YOU MUST BE PRESENT TO WIN.**

2:00 PM: Adjourn (doors will close to public)

**2018 HLAA TC Live Well with
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University of Minnesota Center for Applied & Translational Sensory Science does research to solve problems for people with sensory deficits, such as low vision or hearing loss. <http://catss.umn.edu/>



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<https://www.innocaption.com/>



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Serves people with disabilities with effective policy, training, technical resources & stakeholder collaboration.
<https://www.disability.state.mn.us/>



Deaf & Hard of Hearing Services provide services & information to help Minnesotans who are deaf, deafblind & hard of hearing & their families.
<https://mn.gov/dhs>



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Hearing Loss Education & Safety Training by Monique Hammond, registered pharmacist, author, speaker & advocate for those with hearing loss.
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October 2018 Photos



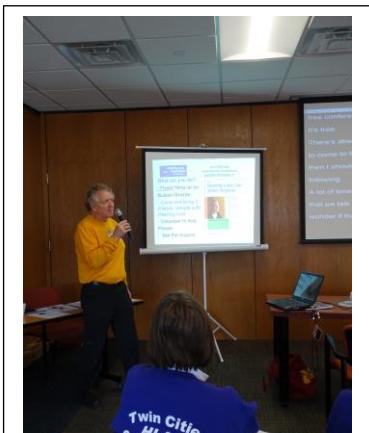
Christine
◀



HLAA
group
▶



October
Speakers
▶
◀



Lionel
◀



Mike
▶



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HLAA TC
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Next meeting: Live Well With Hearing Loss Conference, November 17, 2018

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Contact Info. - info@hlaatc.org
Photos – Doug Moen

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 (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.