



**Hearing Loss  
Association  
of the Capital Region**

# The Listening Post

*“YOU ARE NOT ALONE”*

Volume '09, Number 3

July / August / September 2009

Regular Chapter Meetings are held the 4th Monday of each month from September through June. A Holiday party is held in December in place of a regular meeting. All meetings are held at GIANT Food Store, Community Room, 2nd floor in the Camp Hill Shopping Center. An elevator is available for easy access. Real-time Captioning is provided at the meetings!

\*\*\*\*\* **MEETINGS @ 7:00pm** \*\*\*\*\*

**JULY** - No Meeting for summer

**AUGUST 2** – Summer Picnic @ Negley Park, Lemoyne (1-5PM); **ALERT: NEW START TIME**

**SEPTEMBER 28** – “Hearing Aid Compatible Cell Phones”, presented by Verizon

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**NEXT BOARD MEETING: September 16 @ 7PM**

**REFRESHMENTS: September - Norm Kirsch**

## PRESIDENT’S COLUMN

*Another year half over! We certainly covered a lot of good topics with some good sessions for our members. Topics included ones such as these: Blue tooth technology, Tinnitus, 2009 PA Walk-a-Thon, Speech reading (lip reading), and a discussion on the HCAA Convention in Nashville. There are more good programs coming this fall. We had an upswing in public relations with an increase in our meeting attendance. It is exciting to see more people with hearing loss with an interest in their hearing wellness. Thanks for the efforts of all our members!*

*Don't forget our summer picnic at Negley Park, Lemoyne on August 2! It is a beautiful view along with delicious food and camaraderie! A very relaxing day to have with all ---ahhhh! We also want to celebrate with our graduates, Lori and Augusta. See you at the park!*

*Norm Kirsch, President*

*Your sponsorship message could be here in support of this newsletter. See page 4 for more information!*

## **Join us for the Annual HLA Capital Region Chapter Picnic**

**Sunday, August 2, 1-5PM**

This is a fun time for all our members and guests every year. Please bring your hot or cold dishes, salads, or desserts for all to enjoy! We will be grilling hot dogs, hamburgers and some of those delicious local trout caught by Walter Jensen. Please bring extra chairs if you want a soft seat! Oh, and some games, too!

### **Directions**

#### **FROM WEST SHORE:**

Beginning at 32nd and Market Streets in Camp Hill (one block from 32nd and Trindle Road where the Giant Food is), proceed down Market St. to the traffic light at 3rd and Market Sts in Lemoyne. Turn left at light. (You will go approximately 3/10 of mile more until you are there).

Go one block up the hill to Walnut St.. Turn right and follow Walnut St as it curves around to the left and becomes Cumberland Rd.. Proceed on Cumberland Rd. until there is a clearing on the right side of the street (just past the yellow "Watch Children sign. That is Negley Park and you should be able to see the top of our pavilion just over the side of the hill. Continue for a short distance until you see the railing at the top of the steps. (Park only on the right side of the street) There are 30 steps down from the street to the pavilion.

#### **FROM EAST SHORE:**

Using the South Street Bridge - Cross the river and take the first exit (Lemoyne). At the first traffic light, make a right and go to the second traffic light (3rd and Market Sts, Lemoyne). Go through traffic light and follow all directions for travelers from West Shore, except first paragraph.

Using the Harvey Taylor Bridge - Cross the river and exit immediately on the West Shore side. Go one block, turn right and proceed one more block to traffic light at Front Street in Wormleysburg. Turn right and proceed to next traffic light (Front and Markets Sts in Wormleysburg). Proceed on Market St. (staying in the right lane) through the "S curve" to the next traffic light (3rd and Market Sts, Lemoyne). Turn right at traffic light and follow all directions for travelers from West Shore, except first paragraph.

\*For those who would like to take advantage of the limited parking (or drop off) beside the pavilion, there is a driveway just as you see the clearing on the right side of the street before you park near the steps.

## **The Hearing Loss Association of America Reaffirms its Position to Make America Communication Accessible for People with Hearing Loss**

**(Press release by Brenda Battat, HLAA Executive Director)**

**April 16, 2009, Bethesda, MD:** The Hearing Loss Association of America (HLAA) today has requested Wireless Hearing Solutions to retract its incorrect statement published in the Hearing Review Products AAA Show Roundup that "Loops are the assistive technology of choice for the Hearing Loss Association of America."

As a matter of policy HLAA does not endorse one technology over another. We provide information about all types of technology to our members and anyone with hearing loss looking for help through [www.hearingloss.org](http://www.hearingloss.org), the HLAA E-News, *Hearing Loss Magazine*, and the annual convention.

Hearing assistive technology such as audio loops, FM, and infrared systems are like binoculars for the ears and work with or without hearing aids and cochlear implants. They benefit our constituents and help them to hear and understand better in many situations where acoustics are poor, background noise is bothersome, and there is a long distance from the speaker.

The three types of hearing assistive technology available today all work well. Selection of which system to use depends on several factors including the size, shape and acoustics of the room, the purpose of the event, presence of electronic interference, to name just a few. Although it is tempting to look for a "one -size- fits- all" solution to assistive technology it does not work that way for people with hearing loss yet.

HLAA believes that by remaining objective we are able to promote innovation to ensure that people with hearing loss have access to the latest technology. We need as many companies as possible to step up and work on research and development to come up with new ways to help our members and those with hearing loss to hear better.

We have a record of advocating for communication access without prescribing how to make it happen. We have pushed hard to get captioned movies without saying how the captioning should be done; we have pushed hard for hearing-aid-compatible cell phones but always remaining technology neutral; we petitioned the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to grant alternative frequencies for FM systems but recognize the value of audio loops and infrared systems. We will continue to support all three types of hearing assistive technology and new and cutting edge technologies as they emerge as good solutions for our constituents. This has always been and will continue to be the policy of the Hearing Loss Association of America.

## **Walkers from Across the Country Join the 2009 Walk4Hearing Update**

**One in ten Americans has a hearing loss and yet only 20 percent receive the technology and services they need. HLAA wants you to help raise awareness about hearing loss.**

The **Walk4Hearing**, produced by the Hearing Loss Association of America (HLAA), is the largest walk of its kind in the country. The 2009 HLAA Walk4Hearing will be held in 21 cities nationwide with at least 5,000 people walking and raising money for programs and services for people with hearing loss and their families. Proceeds are shared between the national organization and local HLAA affiliates or Walk4Hearing Alliance Groups to benefit national and local programs. Since 2006, more than \$1 million has been raised.

**Why Walk?** Because hearing loss is a public health issue that is third in line only to heart disease and arthritis. Hearing loss should be screened for just like blood pressure or diabetes. The Walk4Hearing creates awareness and raises funds for local and national programs.

### **What is the Hearing Loss Association of the Capital Region doing for PA?**

A team will be walking on September 26 @ Ridley Creek Park in Philadelphia. The team is called the "Harrisburg Hoofers with Claudia Dewane as team captain. Other team members include: Patty Brockley, Norm Kirsch, Steve Schultz, Lori Leiman, and Bonnie Todd. Our team is hoping to collect \$500.00 of which we already have \$190.00. For updates on how the team is doing with their donation goals you can go to [www.walk4hearing.org](http://www.walk4hearing.org) or [www.hlkaa.convio.net](http://www.hlkaa.convio.net). **Please pass the word and help us meet our goal!!**

## **Val Hamilla, Board Member Retires**

Here is what she wrote in her resignation letter:

*"After twenty years with this Chapter, I have only wonderful memories with all of you through the years and consider all of you as my "other" family! Continue the very good work you all contribute to those in need of hearing loss information. I know my visit to National when I first began attending our meetings led me to getting a TTY and ALD .when no one in my family has had or has now any hearing loss. Of course the Text Phone is my favorite now with such a large family all over the nation. I will continue to attend meetings when possible. See you there. Take care, Val"*

We are very thankful for your wonderful contributions over the years as board member, newsletter mailer, and favor designer for the parties, along with many other types of support. We will continue to look for you at the meetings and see your bright and friendly smile!

**Mobile Lending Library now in action!** Claudia Dewane will be our mobile librarian....thanks Claudia!! A list of materials will be made available at the chapter meetings and books will be on site once a quarter. You can alert her by e-mail / phone/ letter of the book that you want and it would be brought to the next meeting. Her contact info is on the officer block on page 5.

## Web Chats Online through HLAA

**Do you visit the Web Chats online each month?** The most recent one in June was on "Everything you wanted to know about movie & live theater captioning" with Guest Speaker, Nanci Linke-Ellis.

### Upcoming web chats are:

- Brenda Battat, Executive Director, HLAA  
July 23, 2009, 9:00 p.m. EDT  
Topic: Sharing her vision of HLAA now and in the future.
- Mark Ross, Audiologist and Recipient of HLAA's Lifetime Achievement Award  
August 20, 2009, 9:00 p.m. EDT  
Topic: Answers the question: What should I expect from my hearing aid dispenser?

Web chats that are viewed "live" allow you to submit your questions at that time or questions can be submitted in advance. Web chat transcripts are available within 24 hours after the chat date if you are unable to view it at the time provided. You are also able to view past topics and even print them off for your convenience. You can find these on the HLAA E-News or @ [www.hearingloss.org](http://www.hearingloss.org) under web chats to keep up with future topics and dates.

### **Ralph Sentz: Founding Father / Newsletter Editor / Fundraiser Passes away in June**

He was a very faithful member and helped the group get off the ground. Jarring current members' memories of what he did, we came up with a few:

- Arranged for board meetings to be held at his church.
- Monetary donations to the group (he would have a former employer match the amount)
- Food for picnics and Christmas parties
- Arranged for usage of the old New Cumberland CVS store parking lot for a garage sale to raise funds for the Chapter

He was an inveterate salesman, could win any argument, and would sell the shirt off his back!! A guy with a great big heart!

We will miss him! The chapter sends their condolences to the family!

### **CONGRATULATIONS!**

- Congratulations to **Norm and Ann Kirsch** on their **50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary** on July 11<sup>th</sup>!
- Congratulations to our Graduates:  
**Lori Leiman**, our professional advisor, received her PhD. Aud. (doctorate in audiology)  
**Augusta Spandler**, our secretary, Harrisburg Academy High School
- **Patty Brockley**, cochlear implant recipient with hook-up on July 7th

**LOOKING FOR SPONSORSHIPS:** Group / Company / Individuals willing to sponsor an issue of this newsletter will receive free advertising! Help us defray HLAA's printing and mailing cost of each quarterly newsletter. If you know of a potential interested sponsor, contact one of the officers listed on page 5.

# HLA - Capital Region Member Profile

No profile this article

## **You can still read all about it! 2009 HLA Convention Workshop Topics**

If you could not attend this year's convention in Nashville you can still learn about the workshop topics by going to [www.hlaconvention.blogspot.com](http://www.hlaconvention.blogspot.com) and click on the right side under workshop presentations and read all about the topics and even print them off. The editor found one on "Radio Captioning" - who would have thought?

### ***CHECK OUT PAYMENT OF 2009 LOCAL MEMBERSHIP FEES:***

**A red X on your address label indicates your membership renewal is due"**

## ***Happy Birthday***

*James Johnson – July 3*

*Saul Lugaro- July 13*

*Thomas Durkin – July 18*

*Kay Erb – August 22*

*Patricia Brockley – September 18*

*Laurie Hensen – September 18*

*Ann Nisson – September 21*

## **Treasurer's Report for 2009**

Balance on June 30, 2009 - \$940.20

**\*If you have questions contact Steve Schultz, Treasurer**

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### **LOCAL CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP FEES Year 2009**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ TTY/ Voice

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Birthday: \_\_\_\_\_

New Member  Renewal

Annual Fee: \$10. (Includes Newsletter) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Newsletter Subscription only: \$5 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Contribution: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Make Checks to: **Hearing Loss Association of The  
Capital Region**

Mail to: Steve Schultz  
P. O. Box 1553  
Camp Hill, PA 17001-1553

### **Hearing Loss Association of The Capital Region Officers**

**President:** Norman Kirsch 564.0230 normkirsch@aol.com

**Vice Pres:** Barbara Beard 534.0820 barbbeard@webtv.net

**Treasurer:** Steve Schultz 761.3632 bfschultz@aol.com

**Secretary:** Claudia Dewane 761-8249 cdewane126@aol.com

#### **Appointed Board Members:**

Bonnie Todd 761.8164 sbaat@pa.net

Claudia Dewane 761.8249 cdewane126@aol.com

Don Deppen 777.0030 dwdeppen@comcast.net

Jeanine Osman 697.1221 josman@lumenos.com

Pat Brockley 245.0352 prbroc@pa.net

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**Newsletter Editors:** Steve / Bonnie Todd sbaat@pa.net

**Newsletter Printing:** Don Deppen

**Newsletter Distribution/ Mailing:** Val Hamilla

**Librarian:** Claudia Dewane 761-8249 cdewane126@aol.com

**MISSION STATEMENT OF HEARING LOSS  
ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA:**

**HLAA AND OUR MEMBERS ARE CATALYSTS THAT MAKE MAINSTREAM SOCIETY MORE ACCESSIBLE TO PEOPLE WHO HAVE HEARING LOSS. WE STRIVE TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF LIFE OF PEOPLE WHO ARE HARD OF HEARING THROUGH EDUCATION, ADVOCACY, SUPPORT, AND SELF-HELP!**

**HEARING LOSS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA (HLAA)**

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Bethesda, MD 20814

Phone: 301.657.2248 (V)

301.657.2249 (TTY)

301.913.9413 (FAX)

HLAA E-mail: [info@hearingloss.org](mailto:info@hearingloss.org)

[www.hearingloss.org](http://www.hearingloss.org)

National Individual Membership: \$35.00



D. Deppen  
37 South 24<sup>th</sup> Street  
Harrisburg, PA 17103

**The Listening Post**

**Address Correction Requested**

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**Next Meeting: September 28 @ 7PM  
GIANT Food Store Community Center, Camp Hill**

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A red **X** on your address label indicates your membership renewal is due"