

## October Chapter Meeting & Program

Monday Evening, October 10, 2016

**5:30 HOPE Discussion Group**

**6:30 Social Time**

**7:00 Meeting & Program**

Program: *Killing the Telephone Monster!*  
*How a Captioned Phone Could Improve Your Life.*

Presented by: Chris Moylan, Outreach, Education & Installation Specialist from CapTel in Madison WI



Many people with hearing loss become afflicted with 'Phone Phobia'. With the technology today, this should no longer happen. There are many solutions, but the captioned telephone is one of the best, and it's here to stay. Let's learn more about it! Even if your hearing loss isn't to the point where it needs this, it pays to know what's available when the time comes!

No typing skills required!



Chapter meetings are held at the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship in Appleton. Address: 2600 Phillip Lane. (Just off of E. Calumet St.) Map available at: [www.fvuuf.org](http://www.fvuuf.org)

NOTE: HLAA is not affiliated with UUF or any religious group. We appreciate being able to use their accessible facility.

## HLAA-WI Annual Meeting

Friday, Nov. 4th 7-9 PM

Comfort Suites—Milwaukee Airport

6362 South 13th St. Oak Creek 414-570-1111

All HLAA members are encouraged to attend; vote on proposals, establish priorities, & elect state leaders.

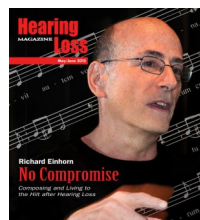
There is a special room rate of \$79 at the hotel for those who plan to stay overnight and attend the Loop EXPO. Join us for the meeting & social time!

More information: [hlaawi.org/conventions.html](http://hlaawi.org/conventions.html)

## Hearing Loss & Accessibility EXPO - Saturday, November 5th @ Milwaukee Area Technical College

### Keynote Speaker: Richard Einhorn

Richard is a world renowned composer who experienced sudden hearing loss. His story was recently featured in the NY Times and on MSNBC. He has become an advocate on hearing loss issues. Don't miss this!



*"Hearing Loops: What They Have Done for Me...  
What They Can Do for YOU!"*



HLAA-Fox Valley Chapter is organizing carpooling to Milwaukee for this event. Sign up at the chapter meeting in October or contact Christine:

[bommaklessig@gmail.com](mailto:bommaklessig@gmail.com)

If you are a national member of HLAA who attends Fox Valley Chapter meetings, the chapter will reimburse you the \$25 registration fee after the event. A good time to become a national member!

## What is the EXPO about?



Participants will learn to **get more out of hearing aids and cochlear implants**, about accessibility with hearing loops at home, at worship, at work or in recreation, what's involved with proper loop installation, how to self-install a TV loop, how to advocate for loops, & how to obtain funding & create publicity once a loop is installed. There will be presentations by national and local experts, a panel discussion, exhibits & vendors available to answer questions about the latest services and loop products.

This event is for people with hearing loss, hearing aid & cochlear implant users, librarians, ministers, veterans, hearing aid providers, aging care facility managers, and educators. Anyone interested in learning more about communication access, is encouraged to attend.

Event Information: **COST:** \$25 Includes Lunch & Materials

**WHEN:** Saturday November 5, 2016 9AM-3PM—Registration at 8:30AM

**WHERE:** MATC — Oak Creek Campus - 6665 S. Howell Ave.

**CONTACT:** [eloise6376@gmail.com](mailto:eloise6376@gmail.com)

Registration: [hlaawi.org/conventions.html](http://hlaawi.org/conventions.html) **RSVP BY:** October 21st.

## A Beautiful Story with a Big WOW Factor!

Fox Valley Chapter is the recipient of a very special gift! Beth Aschenbrenner, President/CEO of U.S. Captioning Company has informed us that our chapter was named as beneficiary of the alliance team they formed for the 2016 Milwaukee Walk4Hearing!

MS Aschenbrenner explained that as service providers of captioning, they are members of prominent organizations that promote positive action for the hard of hearing community. They decided to designate the money their team raised to Fox Valley Chapter so it would remain in the region.

### In Beth Aschenbrenner's own words, here is the rest of the story:

"We have raised money and walked in the event for 5 years now. Not all employees are able to participate because of prior commitments, but they do donate. We now have 16 employees, some part time, but whoever can make the walk joins us. We get together and design a team t-shirt months before the event. One year we all tie-died our shirts. Even my dog, Missy walked!

We have invited local captioners to participate, and each year there are a few who join us. This last year, Jennifer Reinke, our Director of U.S. Captioning Co., suggested we have a rummage & bake sale. So we did, and it went over very well. Even though it rained, we raised over \$300.00! We plan to make it an annual event. All the money raised went towards the Walk.

We also had a company challenge with our captioners. We promised to donate \$10 each time a captioner picked up a show that was not on their regular weekend schedule throughout the summer. Within a short time our captioners had picked up 53 shows. U.S. Captioning donated the additional \$530 to our Walk team.

We have provided free CART services for the Milwaukee Walk "Kick off Meeting", among other contributions throughout the years. **We feel good about the service we offer to connect others with the world around them!** We enjoy working with Ronnie Adler of HLAA, and all the HLAA staff. We look forward to the 2017 Walk4Hearing.



HLAA National & HLAA Fox Valley Chapter salute these employees of U.S. Captioning Company in DePere. We appreciate their generosity and participation in the annual Milwaukee Walk4Hearing.

*U.S. Captioning Company's remarkable efforts to support HLAA generated over \$5000. 40% of that amount was added to Fox Valley Chapter's treasury. We are grateful for their generosity.*

**THANK YOU**

**Captioners make lives better for people with hearing loss by the work they do! U.S. Captioning has certainly gone the extra mile here. We thank them for their support and for the service they provide.**

## September Program Summary...



Thank you to Erin Krueger AuD of Audiology & Hearing Aid Centers at ENT Specialists of Wisconsin, for the program she presented at our September chapter meeting. Without being brand specific, she covered everything from the history of the development of hearing aids to what is available today and beyond.

It was fascinating to learn about hearing aids of the future that will provide wireless access to communication services along with connectivity to cochlear implant processors, about how many hearing aids will soon have rechargeable batteries and even the capability to monitor blood sugar, sleep patterns, balance and more. She also shared information about current medical research aimed at curing some hearing disorders with stem cells.

Dr. Krueger spent considerable time answering questions asked by many of the 59 people in attendance. We are grateful for her time and all the information sharing. **Thank you Dr. Krueger.**

## Sudden Onset Hearing Loss is a Medical Emergency

Typically, the onset of sensorineural hearing loss is gradual, to the extent that people often do not realize it's happening until others begin telling them they are missing things. This is common, and affects over 40 million Americans.

On the other hand, *sudden sensorineural hearing loss* (SSHL), which is far less common, is a medical emergency. SSHL occurs all at once or over the course of a few days, and may be in one or both ears. Do not assume this problem is caused by allergies, earwax blockage or a sinus infection. Prompt treatment may save your hearing.

If you suspect you have SSHL, make an appointment with a *hearing healthcare professional\** immediately. When making the appointment, explain what has happened so the scheduler gets you in quickly. While treatments are limited, the majority who receive prompt medical attention are far more likely to regain some or all of their hearing.

The window for treatment closes shortly after the onset of SSHL, which when left untreated, is likely to become permanent and irreversible.

If you experience sudden onset hearing loss don't ignore it in hopes it will go away. Seeking treatment immediately could make all the difference.

\* A clinical audiologist or an ENT medical specialist



### It's BEAN SOUP Weather!!

Time to stock up on HLAA's Super Bean Soup Mix! Available at meetings or from Carol: [carolsmoke@live.com](mailto:carolsmoke@live.com)





## Chapter Leader's Message...



Colleen is gazing into her crystal ball..... and she found an event that you are sure to enjoy! This event will make your life much better. You have to come and experience it for yourself!

Milwaukee is holding it's very own Hearing Loop EXPO! It is hosted by the Metro Milwaukee HLAA chapter, and HLAA-Wisconsin. You should know that the Hearing Loop movement is picking up speed in the United States and especially here in Wisconsin!

The EXPO is at the Milwaukee Area Technical College on November 5<sup>th</sup> from 9 am to 3 pm. It promises to be an inspiring and educational event!

Carpools are now forming for rides down to Milwaukee. If you need a ride, please contact Christine Klessig at [bommaklessig@gmail.com](mailto:bommaklessig@gmail.com) or sign up at the October chapter meeting.

You can register for the EXPO by visiting <http://www.hlaawi.org/conventions.html>

Scroll to the bottom of the page on the link and click on the Registration Form. Reservations are appreciated by October 21st. You may register after that date has passed, but early registrations will help the host group plan for food and space.

Registration forms will also be available at the Fox Valley October Chapter meeting.

It costs \$25 to attend, which includes lunch, handouts and attendance at all the presentations. If you are a National Member of HLAA, who participates in Fox Valley chapter meetings, the chapter will reimburse the registration cost to you after the event. Please consider becoming a member of National HLAA if you are not already.

My crystal ball says all you have to do is come, watch, listen & learn how to get more out of the telecoils in your hearing aids & cochlear implant processors from the expert presenters!

Hearing Loops are changing the way we live. They will make your life richer. We know that wearing hearing devices will help improve your hearing but they are only part of the solution. Come to the EXPO and learn about add-on technologies that work. You'll learn everything you need to know about loops.

As I gaze deeper in my crystal ball, I see images...lots of people, it's becoming clearer now, lots of people from our chapter. I see it! You are all attending the EXPO! Who knows I might become the next Nostradamus if I am right!!!

The night before the Expo is the Annual meeting of HLAA-Wisconsin. It's an open meeting. Come help establish priorities, and elect state leaders. (See notice on page 1.)

There will be time for socializing on Friday evening, so it will be a great time to meet other HLAA members.

See you There!

*Colleen Van Rooy*

*Chapter President and Future Nostradamus*



## HOPE Discussion Group

Join us at 5:30 every second Monday at our regular meeting location. Come to 'just talk about it', and Hear Other People's Experiences with hearing loss. Everyone is welcome, including significant others. See you there!



## 2016 Chapter Sponsors

### Platinum Level (\$200 or More)

**About Better Care Audiology** – Stephanie Long AuD  
**Anonymous - Anonymous Audiology & Hearing Aid Center of ENT Specialists of WI - Audiologists;** Mark Conratt, Erin Krueger, Holly Rush-Clothier, Tricia Roh, Tammy Mischka, Katie Armatoski & Cathy Dreifuerst

**Audiology and Hearing Services** – Michael Thelen AuD  
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**Fox Valley Hearing Center, Inc.** - Bria Anderson AuD, Melissa Dintelman AuD, & Candy McGinnis AuD  
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**Seeing the Word** - Margo Lucas, CRC, RPR, CRI

### Silver Level (\$50 - \$99)

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### Bronze Level (\$25 - \$49)

**Affinity Medical Group Audiology;** Debra Engebos AuD Carol Burns, Rich & Janet Erickson, Donald Kunde, Janice Liebscher, Fred Lilly, Raymond R. Morris, Alice Riemer-McKee, Mary Walter, Katie Weber (in memory of 'Butts' Weber), Dick & Mary Wilkenson, Anonymous X 2

**We are grateful to these Sponsors for their generosity & support of HLAA Fox Valley Chapter. Their support allows us to print & circulate this newsletter, to hold regular meetings, to provide information & materials to those who attend our meetings & so much more.**

**Our meetings are open to the public.**

**Tax deductible donations can be sent to: HLAA-FVC Treasurer, P.O. Box 25, Menasha WI 54952-0025. The chapter is a registered 501(c)3 non profit.**

**NOTE:** Substantial in-kind donations & services are provided by: Lorna Hamilton, Julie & John Olson, Gene & 'T' Van Asten, Colleen Van Rooy, Nancy & Dave Gilbertson, & others who contribute time, energy & mileage on a regular basis.

## 2016 Chapter Calendar

- \*October 10—Captioned Telephones
- October 17—Cochlear Implant Subgroup Meeting
- November 4—Annual Meeting of HLA-Wisconsin
- November 5—Hearing Loop EXPO
- \*November 14—**Coping Strategies in Difficult Settings**
- \*December 12—Annual Holiday Party

This monthly newsletter serves as our meeting notice. Please sign up to receive it. Lorna: 725-2579 or [julieo@athenet.net](mailto:julieo@athenet.net) It can come via regular mail or e-mail.

Specific program information about topics, timelines, and presenters will appear in each month's newsletter.

\* HOPE discussion is held each month at 5:30 PM, including months of chapter socials and also in months when the chapter doesn't meet (August, January & February).

Chapter events are open to anyone interested in learning more about living well with hearing loss. All regular meetings are open captioned, and all meetings use a hearing loop. Join us in a place where we all CAN hear!

### Cochlear Implant Group Meeting

4th Quarter Meeting

Monday Oct. 17th - 6PM

Festival Foods 647 S. Green Bay Road—Neenah

Upstairs meeting room. Elevator & stairs on the front left as you enter the store.



HLAA-Fox Valley Chapter  
P.O. Box 25  
Menasha WI 54952-0025

## Universal Service Fund Changes...

As a TEPP Subcommittee Member, I continue to monitor the changes to the TEPP/TAP program in Wisconsin. Through correspondence with Jeff Richter, Universal Service Fund Manager, I learned that changes were made to the USF in February. The USF is responsible for the Life-Line Low Income Programs, Telemedicine Grants, and Telecommunication Equipment Purchase Program (TEPP) along with other services for people with hearing loss and/or other disabilities.

As of Feb 2016, LifeLine credit can be used for someone who is deaf or hard of hearing who has no telephone line, qualifies as low-income, and needs to use the internet as their primary means of telecommunication through video communication such as video relay or other alternative communications such as a captioned phone, Facetime or Skype. What this means is that a qualified person who has no use for a phone line is now able to have the credit applied to their internet service from a qualified provider. The credit is approximately \$10 but it can be higher in some places. Here is a link Link for information: <http://psc.wi.gov/Lifeline>.

If you know someone who can no longer hear on the phone, and cannot afford the internet, tell them about this program. LifeLine helps people get access to vital communication.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact me.

*Colleen Van Rooy* [cvanrooy@yahoo.com](mailto:cvanrooy@yahoo.com)



"Liam the Superhero" by Heidi Dradge, is about a little boy with a hearing loss who uses cochlear implants. He likes to be a superhero & wear a superhero costume. He knows he has a special power—one that helps him hear. He shows off his CI processors while telling about them

"I'm the Boss of My Hearing Loss" by Amy Kroll, is about a child showing off his hearing aids. By explaining them, and his FM system to his classmates, he is empowered to feel he's in control. He shares specific communication skills and tells others what they can do to help him.



## 2016 HLA-Fox Valley Chapter Board

President: Colleen Van Rooy: [cvanrooy@yahoo.com](mailto:cvanrooy@yahoo.com)  
Treasurer: Jane Young: [YBLUEJAY@aol.com](mailto:YBLUEJAY@aol.com)  
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**Support Crew:** Bob Opsteen - Room Set-up, "T" & Gene Van Asten - Outreach & Fund Raising, Lorna Hamilton - Newsletter preparation & phone support 920-725-2579. Chapter e-mail: [hlaafoxvalley@gmail.com](mailto:hlaafoxvalley@gmail.com)

HLAA Fox Valley Regional Chapter is an affiliate of the national Hearing Loss Association of America, Inc. This chapter does not collect dues, and is dependent on donations and sponsorships.

Dues to the national HLA organization are \$35/year, and can be paid to HLA National Office, Attention: Membership, 7910 Woodmont Ave., Ste. 1200, Bethesda MD 20814. You can also join national HLA online at: [www.hearingloss.org](http://www.hearingloss.org).

**HLAA at all levels is a 501c3 non-profit organization.**