



Summer Social

Monday, July 12, 2021

At Appleton Yacht Club

1800 Lutz Drive—Appleton WI

5:30 PM Cocktail Hour 6:30 PM Hawaiian Picnic

Let's Get Together! For Real!!! Bring a Friend!

Join us for a Hawaiian themed summer party.

Food will be provided by the social committee.

All beverages must be purchased at the AYC Bar.

**Check out the artwork on page 2 and
follow the 'rules'!**

**Come in Hawaiian attire....We all have one of those
shirts or dresses somewhere in the closet!**

Prizes! Great Food! Super People!

**Thank you in advance to the planning committee:
Christine Klessig, Grace Zurovitch & Chris Moylan**



Virtual National HLAA Convention Draws 600+

The online convention included programs on a variety of topics, including a research symposium presented by



researchers from Johns Hopkins, U of Arizona and Duke University. They are concerned that the traditional medical model is not reaching millions of hard of hearing people. Barriers include living in remote areas, stigmas, high cost, cultural differences, lack of education on communication disorders among healthcare professionals. etc. Unless it's brought up at medical appointments by the patient, it is rarely discussed. It is no surprise that the majority of people who don't get hearing help are of low income.

Baltimore HEARS is a new project that is training hard of hearing seniors, to openly discuss hearing issues with other seniors. These trained 'support specialists' understand the barriers, the culture and the attitudes that prevent people from getting help because they are a part of the culture themselves. This program is successfully helping many get hearing help with hearing products that are less costly than standard.

The Over the Counter (OTC) hearing aid issue was openly discussed. Baltimore HEARS is proving that entry level hearing help is sufficient for many. OTC hearing aids are not yet legal due to FDA regulations not yet being published. Still, many manufacturers are developing products that help improve hearing in people with mild to moderate losses that are marketed as 'personal sound amplification products'. Members of the FDA and FCC are concerned about 'bad actors' who are promoting some devices by claiming they are FDA approved. They are not.

The bottom line here is that millions of people with hearing loss are not getting help. They need help to be able to help themselves. It is estimated that the cost to society of every individual who has hearing loss is over \$297,000 related to job security, depression, healthcare, falling, cognitive decline, etc.

The take home message is: Hearing Healthcare must go beyond current standards and traditional medical models to reach millions of people with hearing loss who are not getting the kind of help that will keep them healthy; physically and mentally.

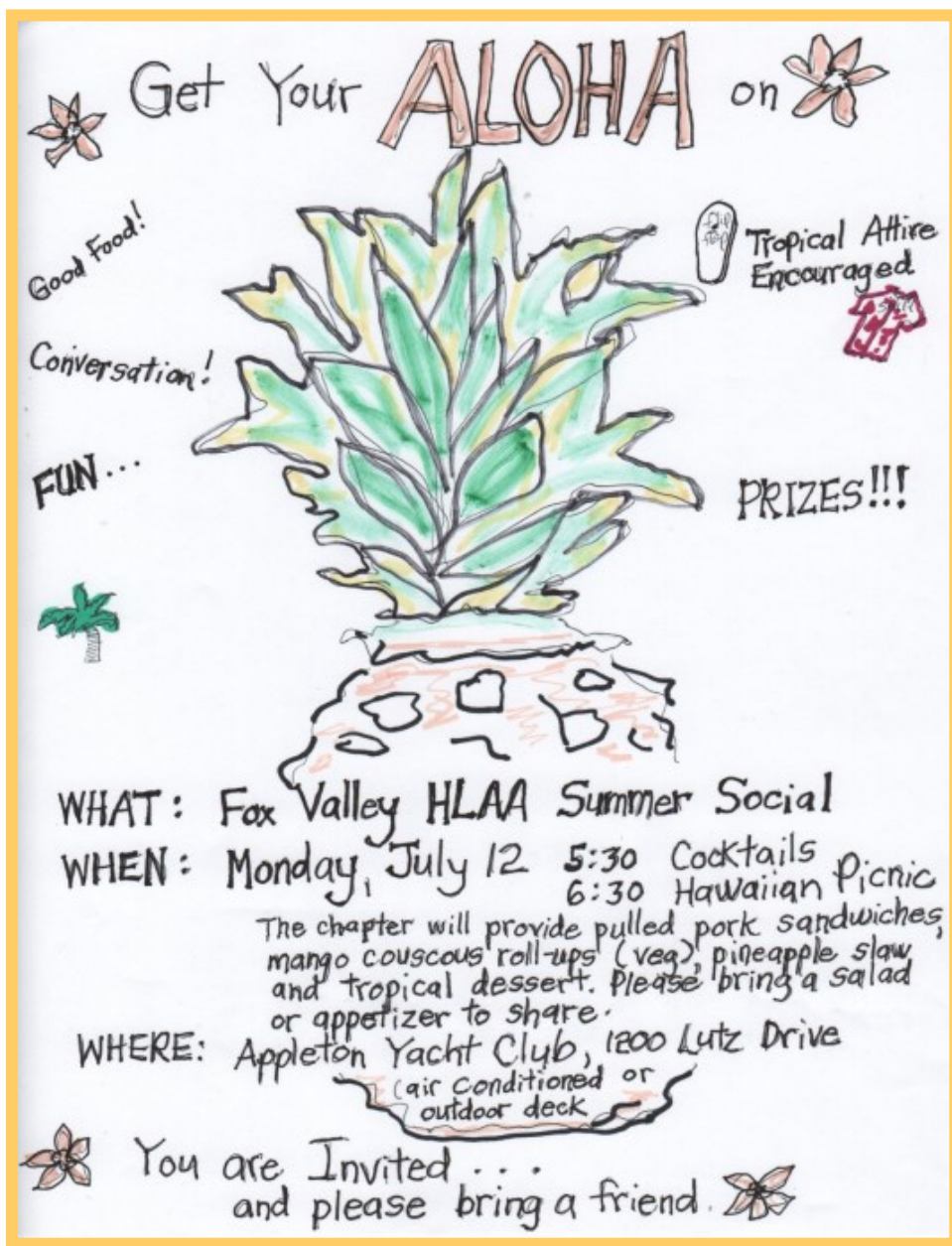
**The 2022 National HLAA Convention will be held in
Tampa Florida. It will be so good to see everyone again!**

HLAA Wisconsin Board Seeks Applicants...

Download the application [here](#) Submit the completed application to the [Nomination Chairperson](#) as indicated on the form by September 15, 2021. More information at: [HLAA WI Opportunities to Serve - HEARING LOSS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA WI](#) www.hlaawi.org



The state board meets four times a year at various locations. Recent meetings have been held online with Zoom videoconferencing. It is conceivable that this mode of meeting will continue due to convenience, with the exception of the annual meeting in October. **HLAA Fox Valley does not have a representative on the board at this time.**



Now phones are fun! We can call anytime + anyplace with cell phones! For people with hearing loss, the cell phone has been a life changer. Some of the most recent hearing aids + cochlear implant processors have blue tooth technology that brings the phone call right to our personal devices. In the past cords could be connected to our processors to the cell phone, but this wireless option is far better! Oh how we remember struggling to hear on our home phone land lines! Cell phones are a game changer for us, not only with voices but with texting. All sorts of apps are available for captioning on cell phones too. Technology is great. Being able to connect with friends is fun!

HLAA brings friends together, like Rhonda and Michelle pictured above.

June Chapter Meeting Synopsis - And, Upcoming Support Events for HEAR in the Fox Cities

Twenty plus people logged into our June meeting to learn about HEAR in the Fox Cities. Since its inception in 2017, this area nonprofit has given the gift of hearing to 20 children; aged 6 months to 21 years. HITFC awards grants to purchase hearing aids for children whose families cannot afford them.

The organization was founded by Colleen Van Rooy & Stephanie Long AuD. Both are long time members of HLAA who have held leadership roles on local & state levels. The geographic area covered by HITFC presently extends from Green Bay to Fond du Lac. They have a website at: hearinthefoxcities.org. Kudos to Colleen & Stephanie.!!! They are making a difference in the world. HLAA Fox Valley Chapter wholeheartedly supports the efforts of this organization and its mission. Thank you ladies for presenting for us.

NOTE: HITFC is holding a fund raising event at Whistler's Knoll in Hortonville on Sunday, August 15th. Tickets are available at: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/life-is-meant-to-be-heard-tickets-144129594497>
Good Music! Good Wine! Raffles! Silent Auctions! A great afternoon of fun for a good cause!!



HITFC is also selling tickets to raffle off 2 pair of high premium hearing aids, valued at \$4999/pair. Tickets are available via their website, hearinthefoxcities.org and will be available at upcoming HITFC and HLAA events. The drawing will be held on October 30th. Last day to purchase tickets is October 29th.



Air Horns, Megaphones, Drills, Grenades Exploding in Your Ears: A Powerful Ad Campaign Shows What Loud Volumes Can Do to Your Hearing 06-24-21



Hearing Health Foundation (HHF) is delivering an urgent message to young people: Turn down the volume on earbuds and headphones to prevent permanent hearing damage.

The HHF **"Keep Listening"** campaign encourages people ages 16-35 to protect themselves from noise-induced hearing loss (NIHL) by changing their listening habits with their personal audio devices and wearing earplugs when exposed to loud sound at places like music and sporting events, fitness classes, and even at the movies. The incidence of NIHL has increased exponentially since audio devices with headsets have been available and in wide use.

"The goal is to wake people up to the fact that hearing loss from noise is permanent—but entirely preventable—if people take precautions," says HHF president and CEO Timothy Higdon. The danger of damaged hearing is especially pernicious among young people because many wrongly believe hearing loss is something that only affects older people.



A study, "Gender-Specific Risk Factors and Comorbidities of Bothersome Tinnitus", was published in the journal *Frontiers in Neuroscience*. 06-22-2021

A Swedish study found that for both men and women, 'bothersome' tinnitus was associated with higher age, reduced hearing ability, hearing-related difficulties, cardiovascular disease, epilepsy and burnout when compared with non-bothersome tinnitus.



Women with bothersome tinnitus specifically reported higher rates of cardiovascular disease, thyroid disease, epilepsy, fibromyalgia and burnout. **Men** with 'bothersome' tinnitus reported higher rates of alcohol consumption, Meniere's Disease, anxiety syndrome and panic.

The study conducted a cross-sectional study using survey data from the Swedish LifeGene cohort containing information on self-reported tinnitus. 7,615 persons participated in the study.

In the study, the participants' self-reported their tinnitus as constant and bothersome or as intermittent and non-bothersome.

Sources: <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov>

The Sponsor Program is Fox Valley Chapter's Main Fundraiser. Names will be added as donations are received. If your name or business is not listed correctly, please let us know immediately. **If you would like to support the chapter this way, send your check to: HLAA-Fox Valley Treasurer, P.O. Box 25, Menasha WI 54952.**
hlaafoxvalley@gmail.com



2021 Chapter Sponsors

Platinum Level (\$200 or More)

Ascension Audiology - Debra Engelos AuD, Lisa Esser Aud, Susan Iwanski, AuD

Fox Valley Hearing Center - Melissa Dintelman AuD; Jody Jedlicka, AuD; Stephanie Long, AuD; Brittany Uitenbroek, AuD; Candy McGinnis, AuD

Haviland Hearing Aids - Peter J. Zellmer, AuD; Kyle Martell, AuD

Rural Audiology Services, Inc. (Waupaca)
Becky Franz AuD, Cari T. Kramer AuD

Larry & Judy Benish - Jim Machalk

Tom & Linda O'Connor - Jay & Babbette Robitchek

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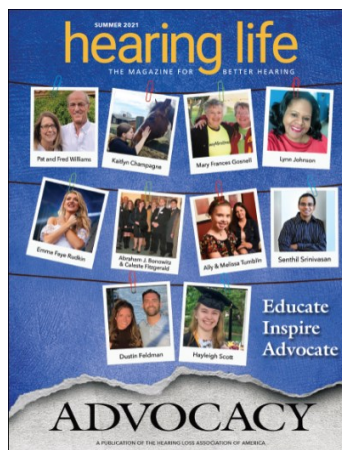
Bronze Level (\$25 - \$49)

Lorna Hamilton, Don Harteau, Fred Lilly, Robert Opsteen, Kenneth & Mary Ann Walter, Katie Weber, Kathleen Wiers

We are grateful to everyone who has made smaller donations to our treasury, & to those who contribute personal resources of time, energy, mileage & more. You all help make our chapter successful.

Our Mission: To share information, educate, advocate and provide support to people with hearing loss who choose to remain in the hearing mainstream with technology.

Meetings are open to the public, and are organized and run by volunteers. Like most small organizations, we need more volunteers!



Watch for the Summer Edition of *Hearing Life*, the magazine that comes with HLAA membership. Join HLAA at: www.hearingloss.org

Consider submitting your hearing loss story for a future edition of *Hearing Life*.

Our newsletter is available by regular mail or e-mail.
The e-mail version is in color with live links.
Let us know your preference if you wish to change.

Disclaimer—HLAA does not endorse products or services. Mention of such is intended to provide readers & those who attend meetings with information on products or services that might be of interest, & is not a recommendation or endorsement.

HLAA-Fox Valley Chapter

P.O. Box 25

Menasha WI 54952-0025

2021 Chapter Calendar in Progress...

July 12: Summer Social at Appleton Yacht Club

August: There will be no chapter meeting in August
YOUR CHAPTER LEADERS VOTED TO TAKE A BREAK.

September: To be Determined. We are waiting to hear from UUF about their reopening. We hope to begin meeting in person as soon as they are open to outside groups. If UUF is not ready for us we will continue using ZOOM for fall meetings. **No meeting in August, but our newsletter will be published. We hope to have fall program info then.**

Details on programs and presenters will be on the front page of each month's newsletter/meeting notice.



Thank you to everyone who participated in and/or donated to the 2021 virtual Milwaukee Walk4Hearing.

Congratulations to everyone who participated in the virtual National HLAA Convention. Together we learned a lot. We will share more in future newsletters

Thanks HLAA for all the organization does!

2021 Chapter Leadership Board

Officers:

President & Newsletter Editor: Julie Olson* julieo@athenet.net

Vice President: Dale Voskuil* voskuild@gmail.com

Treasurer: Michelle Frisbie* michellelfrisbie@gmail.com

Secretary: Christine Klessig* bommaklessig@gmail.com

Program Chair & CI Group Chair: Rhonda Clancey*
rclancey@hotmail.com

Member at Large: Jane Young* YBLUEJAY@aol.com

Social: Christine Klessig, Grace Zurovitch, Chris Moylan

H.O.P.E. Chair: Dale Voskuil* voskuild@gmail.com

Chapter e-mail: hlaafoxvalley@gmail.com

Support Crew: Bob Opsteen, Jerry Van Handel, Colleen Van Rooy, & Paul & Harriet Zuicker

Feel free to contact any of us personally, or use the chapter's e-mail address. We will respond as soon as possible.

* Designates Members of the Chapter's Board of Trustees.



Cochlear Implant Group Will Meet on Tuesday July 20th at 6:00 PM via Zoom.

Come ask your questions and share your experiences! Let's keep teaching and learning!



Fox Valley Chapter's CI group has been drawing participation from people who live outside the Fox Valley region. This is a benefit of using videoconferencing. We have decided to keep meeting on Zoom, and will meet every other month.

We look forward to hearing more from participants who are planning to get CIs either this summer or next fall.

We encourage everyone to share information about our group and to invite others to join us whether they are seasoned CI users or people who are considering them. Unlike many other CI groups, ours is not 'brand specific'. At times we may invite manufacturer's reps to share information with us, but we do not promote any specific brand.

Stay in touch. E-mail me if you'd like a meeting reminder. We look forward to seeing you on July 20th.

Rhonda Clancey, CI Subgroup Moderator



"Aloha" is a form of greeting in Polynesian culture. It can mean "hello" or "goodbye." It also can mean "love", "I care" & "I understand." It encompasses

love, compassion, sympathy, kindness, mutual understanding & respect. May Aloha have special meaning to us all as we come together in friendship after so many months in isolation due to the pandemic. "Aloha"!!

H.O.P.E. meetings will return with the return of in-person Chapter meetings. Plans are to hold H.O.P.E. meetings before the monthly chapter meetings with sufficient time in between for social gathering.

I am honored to act as H.O.P.E. moderator. It is important to remind ourselves that we are not alone in our struggle to deal with hearing loss and H.O.P.E. does just that. Stay tuned, we hope to be meeting in person soon to Hear Other People's Experiences.

Dale Voskuil, H.O.P.E. Moderator

