



Chapter Meeting - Monday April 10th
at Bordini Center, 5 N Systems Drive in Appleton

Presentation: Cochlear Implants for WHO?
Presented by: Dr. Lisa Ambrosius AuD



H.O.P.E. Support Group 5-6 PM
Social Break 6-6:30 PM
Chapter Meeting begins at 6:30 PM

Are you having trouble hearing even with powerful hearing aids? Come learn more about the cochlear implant option. Dr. Ambrosius, audiologist from Prevea Health in Green Bay, has an outstanding, five star reputation with patients in the Prevea Health System. Let's hear what she has to say!

Get answers to typical questions:

Why do cochlear implants work better than hearing aids?

Do Medicare and Insurance plans cover the costs of CIs?

How do cochlear implants help with clarity of speech?

What is cochlear implant surgery like?

How do people who have gotten CIs feel about the results?

Am I too old to have cochlear implant surgery?

If hearing loss affects your life, you'll want to learn more!

We hope to see you in person, but Zoom is an option.
To participate online, use the link below to register.

***Registration is required to Zoom. Here's the link.**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwscugppjMpEtN2WeS7dUZc2iQLd4UmGkDX>

Once registered you'll receive confirmation via e-mail that tells you how to join us.

NOTE: You can receive this link by e-mail request at:
hlaafoxvalley@gmail.com

The 'Zoom Room' opens at 6:20. Please be on time.

March Presentation Summary!

The March program featured excellent information about common scams that continue to haunt people. Many have lost a good amount of money after having been taken by these scam operators that lead them to believe something that is totally untrue.

Jeff Kersten, from the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade & Consumer Protection shared information on over 14 different kinds of scams. Those related to real estate, utilities, gift cards, relationships, tech support, auto warranties, false charities, investment schemes, & more.

He said never to answer a phone call with a number you don't recognize. Let them leave a message. If you do answer, never say "Yes" as that can be recorded and used in another scam setting. Think on that because if someone asks "Is this (your name)" It is very likely you will say "Yes". Instead, ask, first who is calling.

Mr. Kersten strongly recommended using two factor identification when possible. He also emphasized that if we get scammed, to admit it and let the state department know about it. www.DATCP.wi.gov It's vital for them to know as much as they possibly can to be able to stop these things from happening.

Thank you to Mr. Kersten for an excellent presentation.

Yep, it happened again! Darn it! We had some technical difficulties at our March meeting! We thought we had it conquered, but did not realize that if the Bordini computer was disconnected to accommodate the presenter's equipment, it would disrupt the system. Those of us in the meeting room did not have the advantage of captions. The Zoom group had them.

Once again, we think we have figured it out, but hold our breath! We sure could use some technical support from a real 'techie' person out there. Let us know if that could be you! Meanwhile, we will do everything we can to keep our meetings accessible with live captions and the hearing loop at Bordini Center.

My Visit to Another HLAA Chapter...

By Christine Klessig

While snowbirding in Florida, I took advantage of the opportunity to attend a meeting of the Sarasota/Manatee HLAA Chapter. I was curious to see how other chapters run their meetings, and to see if any of their practices might benefit Fox Valley Chapter. The meeting was held in a good sized meeting room with a hearing loop. Virtual attendance was not offered as an option, so it was in person only.

The meeting started at 10:30 AM. Chapter business announcements took up the first 20 minutes. That included a report about the chapter's return to a bi-weekly "Happy Hour Social" held at a local restaurant. Enthusiasm & gratitude were expressed for the possibility of getting together again in a fun, informal setting. Attendees also asked about restarting the chapter's "An Evening at the Theater" program. Their social chair is following up on that.

A presentation was done by Dr. Moore, an audiologist. She addressed "Hearing Loss & Links to Cognitive Decline". She cited research being done at Johns Hopkins. I found her power point fascinating because it showed actual brain images documenting effects of hearing loss. Methods to combat cognitive decline were presented as well. A Q & A session followed.

The arrival of a lunch buffet including wood fired pizza, Caesar salad, turkey wraps, deli salads, chips, cookies, water & soft drinks ended the Q & A session, but Dr. Moore remained for the luncheon and continued to chat with everyone. The winner of a 50/50 Raffle was announced during lunch.

In summary, I thoroughly enjoyed the day, the information shared, the gracious people from this chapter, the presentation, and the luncheon. **I have always felt the \$45 membership fee to belong to the National HLAA organization is the best investment I've ever made. HLAA has made a huge positive in my quality of life. I hope the same is true for you.** (Membership is not required for chapter participation, but that support to HLAA is strongly encouraged.)

I'd like to poll you all about the following:

1. What are your thoughts about holding some daytime meetings?
2. Would you like to try a "Happy Hour Social?"
3. How about "An Evening at the Theater?"
4. Should we bring back the 50/50 raffle at our meetings?
5. What about food at our regular meetings?
6. What presentation topics interest you?

HLAA FVC needs your thoughts on all the above. Let's help FV chapter to continue to be successful. We have a wonderful meeting space, and hope to increase participation. A small 6 person board of trustees cannot do it alone without input from others. Please share your thoughts at hlaafoxvalley@gmail.com or at a meeting.

Upcoming: (Watch for more information in the May newsletter.)

1. The annual Milwaukee Walk4Hearing will be held in June. FVC will participate. We hope you will join or donate to the team.
2. Julie Olson, chapter founder, and her granddaughter, have published a book. *"Can She HEAR This Cat's Meow? Living with Grandma's Hearing Loss from a Kid's Perspective"* is available on Amazon. It's a kid's book with an adult message.
3. The coming year's Broadway Series at Fox Cities Performing Arts Center has been issued. More info coming about possibly attending a performance as a group. Are you interested?



Chapter Sponsor Program

Thank you to everyone who has become a sponsor of HLAA Fox Valley so far. It's not too late to get your name on the list. We will add names if/when more donations come in. Deadline for the May issue is April 15th.

The Sponsor Project is HLAA Fox Valley Chapter's only fundraiser. Sponsors make it possible for us to cover the costs incurred in our efforts to fulfill the mission of HLAA. That includes circulating our newsletter, renting meeting space, scholarships, providing stipends for educational events, and much more. HLAAFVC is a 501c3 tax exempt organization. Donations are tax deductible, according to Wisconsin law.

To be a chapter sponsor, send your check to: HLAA-Fox Valley Treasurer, P.O. Box 25, Menasha WI 54952. Include instructions on how you wish to be listed.

2023 Chapter Sponsors

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Katie Weber

Thank you to everyone who supports HLAAFVC this way. We also thank everyone to gives in other ways via time, energy, mileage and program presentations. That is what makes our chapter successful.

Our Mission: To share information, educate, advocate and provide peer 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



NEW YORK (AP) — February 2023

After the relative quiet of the pandemic, New York City has come roaring back. Just listen: Jackhammers. Honking cars & trucks. Rumbling subway trains. Sirens. Shouting.

Over the years, there have been numerous efforts to quiet the cacophony. One of the latest: traffic cameras equipped with sound meters capable of identifying souped-up cars & motorbikes emitting an illegal amount of street noise.

At least 71 drivers have gotten tickets so far for violating noise rules during a yearlong pilot program of the system. The city's Department of Environmental Protection now has plans to expand the use of the roadside sound meters.

"Vehicles with illegally modified mufflers & tailpipes that emit extremely loud noise have been a growing problem in recent years," said City Council member Erik Bottcher, who heralded the arrival of the radars to his district to help reduce "obnoxious" noise.

Tech-ED for Adults

Residents in the Fox Cities can take advantage of free, one-on-one sessions with a compassionate technology instructor to learn about their mobile electronic device – laptop, tablet or cell phone. Tech-ED instructors work with Individuals to achieve their goals. Learn tips and tricks of Facetime, Zoom, Google and more! Contact Chelsea at 920-832-9360 or chelsea@volunteerfoxcities.org.



Historical Tidbits

We believe that hearing loops are the most cost effective way to provide communication access in most venues. The technology has been around for decades, but it remains effective, and is easy to use. INSIST THAT YOUR HEARING AID PROVIDER TELLS YOU HOW LOOPS WORK! And also demonstrates them for you. Loops are NOT BlueTooth.

"Can a Hearing Aid be Bugged by a Foreign Entity?" Plus "Hearing Loops in the 1950s"

Winston Churchill was prime minister of the United Kingdom in the 1940s & 50s, during some of the British Empire's most daunting years. While he confronted Hitler head on, he didn't address his hearing issues in the same manner. His personal physician, Lord Moran, first noted hearing impairment in the wartime leader in late 1944. Six years later his first audiogram showed a high frequency hearing loss. It wasn't until 1952 that he was fitted with a hearing aid. Churchill doesn't mention in any of this in his own public works. The following information comes from documents maintained by his physician, Lord Moran, and his hearing aid provider.

On one occasion, it was seriously suspected that his hearing aid had been bugged by the Russian KGB because the company that supplied it was owned by a Russian who had links to the Soviet trade delegation.

Churchill became increasingly dependent on hearing aids at work. **The loop system in the House of Commons broke one day and Churchill suddenly complained that he couldn't hear. A loop system was installed in the dining room at his residence. He found that so helpful he had his entire home wired exactly like the House of Commons was. By this stage he had taken a step down from his political life, but still wanted to hear his wife.**

Churchill was a master of public speaking, but it's evident by the lack of photos of him wearing a hearing aid that he was concerned about how others would perceive him wearing one. Churchill's hearing aid can be found in the Churchill War Rooms in London, besides a quote "He has a trick of pretending to be deaf than he is, when he wants to shed a bore."

From the diaries of Lord Moran; The Struggle for Survival 1940-1960.



Last Call!

To celebrate Fox Valley Chapter's 40th Anniversary, we have established a \$1500 scholarship that will be awarded to either a high school senior, or a college student in their first two years of college studies.



Applicants must be students with hearing loss who use hearing aids or cochlear implants to remain in the hearing mainstream. They must reside in the greater Fox Valley region which covers the variety of communities in which our chapter participants reside. We ask chapter participants to share information about this opportunity in their area.

The scholarship winner will be invited to join us at our June chapter meeting to share a bit of their hearing loss journey. They will also be encouraged to promote & support HLAA in some way.

This scholarship is possible because of the generosity of donors, including invested funds from gifts and bequests received over the years from people who have supported the chapter since its founding in 1983. We hope this will be an annual award.

The application form, with specific instructions is available at: <https://hlaawi.org/fox-valley-chapter.html> The application can be requested at: hlaafoxvalley@gmail.com

The deadline to apply is April 15th. Instructions are included in the online application form. If you have questions, contact us.

Our newsletter is published 10 months of the year. Please share it with others. Help HLAA let hard of hearing people know they 'have a voice' & are not alone. You may receive it by e-mail or in print by regular mail. Let us know your preference. The e-mail version is in color and has live links. Send suggestions, comments and changes of address to hlaafoxvalley@gmail.com

HLAA-Fox Valley Chapter

P.O. Box 25

Menasha WI 54952-0025

2023 Chapter Calendar

April 10 – Current Information on Cochlear Implants
Dr. Lisa Ambrosius of Prevea Health/Green Bay

May 8 – Hearing Loss and Dementia – Kristen Felten

May 16 - CI Group meets on Zoom 6 PM

June 12 – Becoming Hearing Empowered – Katherine Rybak, HH/D educator. Member HLAAWI Board

July 10 – Annual Summer Social is a Road trip to Options Accessible House in Green Bay

August – Vacation Month—NO MEETING

September – Traveling with Hearing Loss

October 9 – Buying Hearing Aids – What's the Scoop on Non Prescriptive Devices?

November 13 – The Emotional Side of Hearing Loss - Julie Olson MS, Hearing loss Support Specialist

December 11 – Annual Holiday Social at Appleton Yacht Club

Cochlear Implant Support Group News

Hi cochlear implants users and folks exploring the options to get implanted. Our next Zoom meeting will be Tuesday, May 16 at 6:00 pm. We use an open format allowing each participant to ask questions or share information. For regular participants please bring any new information that you have experienced in last couple months.



NOTE: Dr. Lisa Ambrosius from Prevea Health in Green Bay will be presenter at the chapter's April 10th meeting. She will update us on cochlear implant surgery, technology, etc. It's not to miss!

Our CI support group is open to everyone. We will continue on Zoom to be able to reach so many folks spread throughout the state. **Join us on Tuesday, May 16th at 6:00. Watch for an email invitation a week or so prior.**

Happy Spring!

Rhonda Clancey, CI Group Moderator

rclancey@hotmail.com or hlaafoxvalley@gmail.com

If you are not on the CI e-mail list, please get in touch with me so I can add you to that list. Links to our Zoom meetings go out via e-mail.

Chapter Leadership Board

Officers:

President & HOPE Chair: Dale Voskuil* voskuild@gmail.com

Immediate Past President/Newsletter Editor: Julie Olson*
julieo@athenet.net

Treasurer: Michelle Frisbie* michellelfrisbie@gmail.com

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Chapter e-mail: hlaafoxvalley@gmail.com

Phone Contact: Karen at 920-733-4853

Support Crew: Jerry Van Handel, Mary Hatfield,
Colleen Van Rooy, Karen & Gary Kasten

* Designates chapter board members.

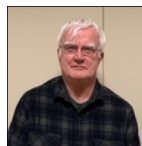
H.O.P.E. Support Group News

Join us to Hear Other People's Experiences (H.O.P.E.) from 5 – 6 PM at the Bordini Center prior to the chapter meeting on April 10th.



H.O.P.E. is meant to be a relaxed, no agenda time during which everyone can ask questions and share experiences with hearing loss. New people often need to know where to begin getting help. Others in the group can help point them in the right direction.

When people begin the journey toward better hearing, the support and empathy others can provide helps greatly. A bonus: You may develop new friendships; people who understand.



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

voskuild@gmail.com

Help Needed!

**Could You Sit at the Welcome Table?
Greet those who join us and hand out
HLAA info & Newcomer Folders.**

HLAA does not endorse products or providers. We share information about them, including our personal experiences with them. The HLAA mission is to educate, share information, provide peer support and advocate for communication access. Goal: Make the world a better place for people with hearing loss. National Membership info at: www.hearingloss.org