

Meetings held at the:
New York School for
the Deaf
555 Knollwood Road
White Plains, NY 10603

*Unless Otherwise
Noted



Hearing Loss Association of America

Westchester Chapter

CHAPTER NEWS APRIL 2014

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President's Message



Hi Everyone ~

It is still chilly out there-- even though it's officially Spring. Let's hope soon we can finally take off those winter coats, stuff the gloves in coat pockets, put the wool hats away, bring the snow shovels indoors and start to see some warmer Spring-like weather...with flowers blooming and birds chirping. It's been one heck of a Winter! And I'm looking forward to putting it all behind me.

Westchester Chapter is thinking **SPRING** too!

The guest speaker at our upcoming April 5th, meeting is Marc Anthony Gallucci. He is the Executive Director of the Center for Disability Rights in West Haven, CT. Marc will speak about the ADA law with emphasis on changes related to the Deaf & Hard of Hearing. This will be a most interesting and informative discussion... you won't want to miss this!

Our **KICKOFF EVENT**, one of the highlights of **SPRING** for **Westchester/Rockland Walk4Hearing**, is Sunday, April 6 from 1 pm to 3:30pm at the same venue as last year, ArtsWestchester in the Grand Banking room, located at 31 Mamaroneck Avenue in White Plains. This is going to be a most exciting event! We will have some great

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Come To Our Next General Meeting!

Saturday, April 5, at 1:00pm

At the New York School for the Deaf, Cafeteria Building

Marc Anthony Gallucci,
Executive Director of Center for Disability Rights
New Haven, CT

"Americans With Disabilities Act"

Emphasis on Changes related to the Deaf & Hard of Hearing

Assistive listening devices are always available as well as live **CART** captioning

Bring your friends and family and spend a delightful afternoon with us.

CHAPTER NEWS

OFFICERS & COMMITTEE CHAIRS

PRESIDENT - *Roberta Seidner*
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VICE PRESIDENT - *Anita Goldwasser*
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IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT - *Karen Ratner*
email - klratner@aol.com

COMMITTEES:

BY-LAWS – *Melanie Brand*
email – mbrand3958@aol.com

Coalition of Organizations for Accessible Technology
Alicen Noselli
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CONVENTION GRANT – *Arlene Esgar*
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HOSPITALITY – *Adrienne Stern*
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FUNDRAISING – *Carolyn Tanen*

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SCHOLARSHIP - *Karen Ratner*
email – klratner@aol.com

ALD TECHNICIAN - *Judy Ginsberg*
email - judybginsberg@gmail.com

HEARING LOOP TECHNICIAN - *Robert Wolfe*
email - robertmwolfe58@gmail.com

HAPPY BIRTHDAYS TO THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS:

January: Leslie Cohen

February: George Arpajian, Barbara Bartelson, Kathleen Boyanski, Ira Cohen, Elyse Lemonda, Karen Rogers, Roberta Seidner, Maureen Throop, Mary Whalen

March: Evelyn Breslaw, Angela Castiglia, Tamara Gottfried, Lenny Harris, Linda Mandel, Victoria Ong, Connie Rocco, Gary Rogers, Janet Rosen, Hagen Von Burchard

April: Ann Aaron, Jorge Bassi, Kathleen Delaney, Judy Ginsberg, Helen Gurvitch, Nancy Housner, Karen Ratner, Steve Wolfert

WE WELCOME NEW MEMBERS:

Kathleen Boyanski, Dr. Linda Mandel, Victoria Ong and Laura Mrugalski.

OUR SINCERE SYMPATHY TO:

Alicen Noselli on the loss of her father
Nancy Tenure on the loss of her mother

THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATIONS:

Paul Anthony, Evelyn Breslaw in honor of her birthday, Anita & David Goldwasser, Debra & Charles Harz, Al Levitt, Karen & Howie Ratner, Thelma Roberts, Roberta Seidner in honor of her 70th birthday and Drina Tamburo.

Tamara Gottfried for Blair & Anita Mazin Scholarship

Upcoming Chapter Meetings & Events

Sunday, April 6, 2014 - Walk4Hearing Kickoff, ArtsWestchester, White Plains, NY

Saturday, April 19, 2014 - Defensive Driving Class, NYSD Cafeteria, 8:30am - 4:00pm

Saturday, May 3, 2014 - Board & General Meeting at Suffern Library

Saturday, May 17, 2014 - Walk4Hearing, FDR State Park, Yorktown, NY

Saturday, June 14, 2014 - Elections, Scholarship Awards and Year end Party

Saturday, September 20, 2014 - Annual Chapter Picnic at Ridge Road Park, Pavilion #2

* Please note dates may be subject to change.

President's Message (Con't from page 1)

speakers including our guest moderator, Otis Livingston, Sports Anchor for CBS channel 2 News, and some other interesting surprises! Invitations have been mailed out, so if you have not responded, please do so by March 28. RSVP to Debbie Wolfe, deborahdwolfe@gmail.com.

Another reminder that **SPRING** is here will be the six hour **Defensive Driving Course** given by an AAA instructor on Saturday, April 19th at the New York School for the Deaf in the cafeteria from 8:30 am to 4:00 pm. If you have any points on your license or traffic violations, this is a good opportunity to reduce those points. Also, you can obtain a discount on your car insurance. So please join us! We will have bagels, cream cheese, coffee etc. at 8:30 am before the course begins. If you want, bring a brown bag lunch. CART and the loop will be available so you won't miss a thing! The cost is \$30 per person payable to HLAA Westchester Chapter. If you have not signed up, contact Melanie Brand at MBrand3958@aol.com to let her know you will be coming.

Of course **SPRING** means our **WALK4HEARING** – which will take place at our original walk grounds at beautiful FDR State Park in Yorktown Heights, NY. Registration begins at 10 am and the walk will start at 11 am. We walk RAIN or SHINE! Please encourage your family and friends to help us raise the funds for HLAA and for Westchester Chapter. More information to follow. . . .

Westchester Chapter is proud to announce that the Greenburgh Public Library, Multi-Purpose room, will be looped at the end of this month! Leo Garrison from Metro Sound Pros will be installing this permanent loop system. The funding for this project is being provided to the library by Westchester/Rockland Walk4Hearing 2013 walk funds. This will be a wonderful opportunity for our Chapter to have another place to hold our meetings where there is a permanent loop system available and for the entire Westchester community to be able to use this room for cultural events for the deaf and hard of hearing. A grand opening for this project will be held at the end of April...notices will be announced.

Please join us for all our activities – we are a **FUN** Chapter, so bring along your friends and family too!

HAPPY SPRING --- Roberta Seidner

ANITA and BLAIR MAZIN SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

Hearing Loss Association of America-Westchester Chapter is pleased to announce the availability of scholarships to students or recent veterans who have been accepted to a college or vocational education program for the Fall, 2014 term. The applicant must have a hearing loss and wear a hearing aid(s) or cochlear implant(s). Financial need is not a consideration. The scholarship is a one-time award. Each scholarship will be for \$1000.00.

The Anita and Blair Mazin Scholarships are made possible by funds raised from our annual Walk4Hearing event. The Walk4Hearing is a national project of the Hearing Loss Association of America (HLAA) to raise awareness about the causes and consequences of hearing loss, and to raise funds to provide information and support for people with hearing loss.

If you know of someone who meets the criteria mentioned above, please help by providing the following information: Applications are available online at www.hlaawestchester.org or:

Contact: Karen Ratner, Scholarship Chair at klatner@aol.com



GOING GREEN!!!!

The Chapter is trying to do our part!! Please contact Newsletter Editor Anita Goldwasser if you would like to help by receiving the newsletter via email rather than paper. You'll not only save the Chapter postage but help the environment.

ATTENTION MEMBERS

Please note that 2014 chapter membership dues are now due.

Please refer to page 6 for membership application and mailing addresses.

Saturday, May 3, 2014

12:30pm to 3:30pm

Suffern Free Library

Hearing Loss Association of America Westchester Chapter

Will host a Panel Discussion

- Speakers to discuss their personal experiences with hearing loss
- **Dr. Jeffrey Shannon**, an audiologist in Rockland County, will discuss topics including **"The Future is NOW"**. Learn about the new role of tablets, apps and smart phones in Hearing Healthcare and what to expect from an audiologist
- HLAA Board members on how we can help you live better with hearing loss.
- A Question & Answer period will follow the program

Light Refreshments will be served

***Assistive listening devices are available as well as CART captioning
Please bring your family & friends and spend a delightful afternoon with us***

For more information, please email Debbie Dolgin Wolfe at deborahdwolfe@gmail.com or phone (845)368-0968 and check out our website www.hlaawestchester.org

Directions to Suffern Free Library

210 Lafayette Avenue
Suffern, NY 10901
(845)357-1237

From the North and West:

- Take the NYS Thruway (I-87) south to Exit 14B (Airmont Road)
- Turn right at the end of the ramp onto Airmont Road
- At the 2nd light, make a right onto Route 59-West (which becomes Lafayette Avenue)
- Proceed 1.2 miles and you will see Good Samaritan Hospital on the left and the library is on the right. There is a stone wall surrounding the library.

From the South and East:

- Take the NYS Thruway (I-87) westbound to Exit 14B (Airmont Road)
- Turn left at the end of the ramp onto Airmont Road
- At the 3rd light, make a right onto Route 59-West (which becomes Lafayette Avenue)
- Proceed 1.2 miles and you will see Good Samaritan Hospital on the left and the library is on the right. There is a stone wall surrounding the library.

2014 Convention Grant Winner Announced

It is with great pleasure that the HLAA Westchester Chapter Convention Grant Committee announces that Cassandra Horton is the 2014 HLAA National Convention Grant recipient. This grant is given to a HLAA Westchester chapter member who has not previously attended a national convention.

Cassandra will be attending the 2014 HLAA National Convention in Austin, Texas and we know that this will be a wonderful and enlightening opportunity for her. We will be waiting for her report to all of us in the chapter on her educational and personal experiences at the convention.

Congratulations Cassandra!

Arlene Esgar
Convention Grant Committee Chair

Adaptive Technology Update

At the February meeting I highlighted and discussed Bluetooth neckloops, including the ClearSounds Quartro. Since then, some chapter members had further questions about this technology. If you are interested in this device, Harris Communications will give National HLAA members a 15% discount. Visit Harris Communications' website www.harriscomm.com and use the code, **HLAADISC** when you checkout.

Another vendor is Teltex, Inc, their website is www.teltex.com. They will give National HLAA members a 25% discount. Call them at 888-515-8120 - you will need to give them your National HLAA membership number. The National HLAA membership number appears on the mailing label of the Hearing Loss magazine you receive in the mail.

Both companies offer 30 day return policies. You can refer to each company's website for specifics on their return and exchange policies. If anyone has any further questions, please see me at a future HLAA Westchester Chapter meeting.

Judy Ginsberg
ALD Technician

Defensive Driving Class



Refresh your driving skills and learn techniques for collision prevention. The chapter will again be hosting a six hour Defensive Driving Class at the New York School for the Deaf on Saturday April 19 from 8:30am to 4:00pm. Participants will be eligible for a discount on collision and liability insurance premium and reduction of up to 4 points on their driver's license for violations within the last 18 months. The cost of this class is \$30 per person. The course will be looped and CART will be available. Breakfast will be provided; please bring a brown bag lunch.

For more information or to RSVP, please contact Melanie Brand at MBrand3958@aol.com.



2014 HLAA National Convention

Austin, TX is the host city for the 2014 HLAA National Convention from June 26-29. The host hotel is the Renaissance Austin Hotel, Arboretum Blvd. Austin, TX.

Start planning your trip by visiting the Convention Website at www.hearingloss.org/content/convention.

Registration is now open and the Convention agenda is being developed. Please visit the HLAA Convention website for links for registration.



SAVE THE DATES!

Westchester / Rockland Walk4Hearing

**Kickoff: Sunday, April 6, 2014, ArtsWestchester
Grand Banking Room, Mamaroneck Avenue,
White Plains, NY**

**Walk4Hearing: Saturday, May 17, 2014, FDR State
Park, Yorktown Heights, NY**

DIRECTIONS TO THE NEW YORK SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF

Via I-287 (Eastbound or Westbound) - Get off Exit 4 - New York School for the Deaf, Continue onto Route 100A North Knollwood Road, proceed 1/8 mile. School is on your right, turn into driveway and go to gate on your left even though it says "DO NOT ENTER" and **REMAIN IN YOUR CAR** - pull up to keypad and punch in 4 digit access code. Make the first left turn and drive straight ahead, then make right turn into the cafeteria building parking lot.

WESTCHESTER CHAPTER ANNUAL CHAPTER DUES

- ☐ \$20 - Individual Membership Dues
☐ \$30 - Couple/Family Membership Dues

Donation \$ _____

Total \$ _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Please indicate Voice or TDD or CapTel or Cell

E-mail: _____

Please make checks payable to:
HLAA - WESTCHESTER CHAPTER

Mail completed application to :
Roberta Seidner
3419 Irwin Avenue, Apt #1709
Bronx, NY 10463

Birthday: Month _____

Hearing Loss Association of America
is a 501(c)3 organization

HEARING LOSS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

NATIONAL MEMBERSHIP DUES

I wish to join National HLAA and receive the Hearing Loss Magazine:

- ☐ \$35 - Annual Dues

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Please indicate Voice or TDD or CapTel or Cell

E-mail: _____

Please make checks payable to:
Hearing Loss Association of America

Mail completed application to:
Hearing Loss Association of America
7910 Woodmont Avenue, Suite 1200
Bethesda, MD 20814

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