

# Choo-Choo Signal

## February 20 program: Disability laws & you

### Member birthdays

- **February** birthdays: 7-Marvin Hare; 22-Rolando DeLeon.

### Calendar of meetings & events

- Feb. 19: Deaf Chat, 10am, Starbucks, Hamilton Place Mall perimeter
- Feb. 20: Disability Laws, 2pm
- Feb. 24: **Captioned performance** of "The Diary of Anne Frank," 7pm, CTC
- March 10: 1st Annual Deaf & Hard of Hearing Expo, Brainerd UMC, 2-7pm
- March 11: Federation of the Blind/Deaf-Blind conference, Choo Choo, details TBA
- March 12: Walk4Hearing Kickoff Brunch, ChattState Main Campus cafe, 10am
- March 19: Deaf Chat, 10am, Panera, Ft. Oglethorpe
- March 20: Coping with hearing loss, 2pm
- April 14: **Captioned performance** of "Cat on a Hot Tin Roof," 7pm, CTC
- April 17: Clarity products, 2pm
- April 30/May 1: Combread Festival Help (we get a donation to the Walk)
- May 14: Walk4Hearing, 10am
- May 19: **Captioned performance** of "The Women," 7pm, CTC
- June 16-19: HLAA Convention, Wash., DC
- July 7: **Captioned performance** of "Hairspray," 7pm, CTC
- Oct. 15: GoFest at the Zoo!
- Oct. 15-19 (2012): 42nd Annual Southeast Regional Institute on Deafness Conference in Chattanooga. See [www.serid.org](http://www.serid.org) for information.

### In our thoughts & prayers...

- Susie Collins, broken wrist
- Winnie Hargis, knee replacement
- Teresa Moon, broken toe

Sunday's meeting speaker will be Becky Allen, Advocate with the Disability Law & Advocacy Center of Tennessee, in



DISABILITY LAW & ADVOCACY CENTER  
of Tennessee

Knoxville. She will be sharing info about the center, about how to become an advocate for hard of hearing folks, and about various laws that impact people with hearing loss.

Becky may be including comments about ADA and the recently signed into law 21st Century Technology bill. Her focus will center on appropriate reasonable accommodations for hard of hearing such as captioning services, captioned movies/DVDs, assistive listening devices and other technology.

## Walk4Hearing Kickoff is March 12



The Chattanooga Walk4Hearing is off and running! We are one full month ahead of ourselves in fund raising over 2010 at this point in time. With a goal of \$30,000, we have reached 18 percent of that, or \$5,535.

Now, get ready for fun! See the Kickoff invitation below and make your plans NOW to attend this FREE brunch to learn more about the Walk and how you can support it -- ALL are welcome, but RSVPs are required!

Come join us and get in the spirit!

*Your Invitation...*

### KICKOFF EVENT

#### CHATTANOOGA WALK4HEARING KICKOFF BRUNCH

Saturday, March 12, 2011 | 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Chattanooga State Community College | Faculty Staff Dining Room OMN-124 & 126 | 4501 Amnicola Highway | Chattanooga, TN 37406

R.S.V.P. by Saturday, March 5, 2011

Bea Lyons at [mykitties5@comcast.net](mailto:mykitties5@comcast.net), Text only: 423-424-6708 or call Dick Twitchell at 423-894-3138.

Anyone interested in learning about how they can support the Walk4Hearing may attend. Space is limited, so please R.S.V.P. early.

Kickoff Sponsors: Clarity, Division of Plantronics, Inc. and Caption Associates, LLC

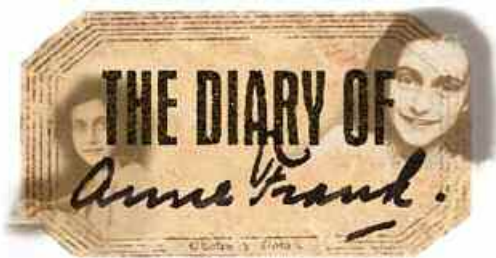
### WALK EVENT

#### CHATTANOOGA WALK4HEARING

Saturday, May 14, 2011 | Chattanooga State Community College | Chattanooga, TN

Walk Chairperson: Betty Proctor, [baproctor1@comcast.net](mailto:baproctor1@comcast.net)

[www.walk4hearing.org](http://www.walk4hearing.org)



### Captioned Performance:

**Thurs., February 24 • 7 p.m.**

by Frances Goodrich and Albert Hackett. Newly adapted by Wendy Kesselman



In this transcendentally powerful new adaptation by Wendy Kesselman, Anne Frank emerges from history a living, lyrical, intensely gifted young girl, who confronts her rapidly changing life and the increasing horror of her time with astonishing honesty, wit, and determination. An impassioned drama about the lives of the eight people hiding from the Nazis in a concealed storage attic, *THE DIARY OF ANNE FRANK* captures the claustrophobic realities of their daily existence – their fear, their hope, their laughter, their grief. Each day of these two dark years, Anne's voice shines through: "When I write I shake off all my cares. But I want to achieve more than that. I want to be useful and bring enjoyment to all people, even those I've never met. I want to go on living even after my death!" This is a new adaptation for a new generation.

Call the box office at 267-8534 or visit [theatrecentre.com](http://theatrecentre.com)

## Deaf Chat gains foothold in Chattanooga area

Deaf Chat is a gathering where deaf, hard of hearing and hearing folks gather to talk in sign language and practice their skills in a non-threatening, friendly environment.

This photo was taken February 12 during the first Ft. Oglethorpe Deaf Chat at the Panera Bread restaurant in that area. HLAA member Brian Drake (far left in photo) contributed the photo.

Brian said that 55 people showed up including Mayor Littlefield and his wife Lanis (third and fourth from left); of course, they were simply out for quiet lunch which didn't happen.

For information on area Deaf Chats, Sign & Dine or FREE sign language classes, see: <http://thetabspace.metrotab.net/users/sayit-in-sign/index.php?mode=view>

+


# Deaf/ Hard of Hearing EXPO!

March  
10  
2011  
2-7pm

Free to  
the  
Public!!!


Brainerd United  
Methodist  
Church  
4315 Brainerd Road  
Chattanooga, TN

Hosted by:



Assistive  
Technology  
Center

Sponsored by:






Community Foundation of  
Greater Chattanooga

Interpreting  
Associates, LLC

**Exhibits and demonstrations of the latest technology, services, and organizations available to the Greater Chattanooga Area.**

**Admission is free! Come and go as you please! Free Refreshments! Door prizes!**

For more information contact Steve Powell 423.698.8528 x 270 (voice), 648.2628 (TTY), [powell@signalcenters.org](mailto:powell@signalcenters.org) or visit our website [www.signalcenters.org](http://www.signalcenters.org).



**Ft. Oglethorpe's First Deaf Chat**



## January meeting wrap up

January guest speaker, Larry Hixson, from Audibel, explained that Audibel is a subsidiary company of Starkey. He discussed the newest "Invisibel" hearing aid technology designed for mild-to-moderate hearing losses. Larry told listeners that the newest IRIS technology is a top-of-the-line product. And he also talked about the work his company does with Hear Now. Audibel collects old BTE (behind-the-ear) hearing aids and returns them to the Starkey Foundation to be refurbished and distributed to people in need. Hear Now distributes about 225,000 hearing aids each year.



From The Hearing Journal online:  
[http://journals.lww.com/thehearingjournal/Fulltext/2011/02000/The\\_teen\\_hearing\\_loss\\_\\_state\\_of\\_emergency\\_.1.aspx](http://journals.lww.com/thehearingjournal/Fulltext/2011/02000/The_teen_hearing_loss__state_of_emergency_.1.aspx)

Google alerts, Twitter timelines, and newspaper Web pages have been flooded with articles on teen hearing loss since Josef Shargorodsky, MD, and colleagues published their study on the increase in the prevalence of hearing loss among US adolescents in the Journal of the American Medical Association (JAMA) last August.

Just last month, a study in Pediatrics by Elisabeth Henderson, BA, and colleagues reported a five percent increase in noise-induced hearing loss among girls ages 12–19 from the study period between 1988 and 1994 to 2005–2006, using the same data from the Third National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES III).

These findings again pushed teen hearing loss to the forefront in the media, with all fingers pointed at the perceived indisputable culprit: MP3 players.

While there was nearly a five percent increase in the prevalence of hearing loss, questions over methodology, and an observation that the hearing loss reported was only slight, eased some of the concern in the hearing industry, yet the media carried on in their cautionary reports to parents and teens everywhere.

## Website update:

Working with us now are Ruth and Gary Fox. Ruth is a cochlear implant recipient while Gary has a newly admitted high tone loss. They are looking forward to adding their experience and skills to what they see as an already top notch chapter (hey, that's us!). They have redesigned our website and will be adding and updating all the information relating to the chapter and hearing loss in general. They hope that we can get to a point soon that all chapter related information will be on the website (within hours) for quick and easy access.

See: <http://hearingchattanooga.org/>



## AT&T introduces Video Relay Service app

From Audiology Online, courtesy of Margie Ulrich

This app allows users to make Video Relay Service calls with iPhone 4.

AT&T VRS is a service that allows a person who uses American Sign Language (ASL) to place a relay call to a hearing person by communicating through a certified ASL interpreter. AT&T has offered video relay services to customers for many years, but the new AT&T VRS app provides a more flexible and convenient way for users to make VRS calls on the go. iPhone 4 customers can make unlimited VRS calls using the AT&T VRS app at no additional cost.

In addition to the app, AT&T VRS also offers a free software download called AT&T Video Link that turns a computer or laptop into a video phone. This software works on certain Macs and PCs enabled with a web cam and a broadband connection.

AT&T VRS will also provide users with a ten-digit telephone number and supports all the FCC required 911 emergency capabilities.

The AT&T VRS app is available for free from the App Store on iPhone or at [www.itunes.com/appstore/](http://www.itunes.com/appstore/). For additional information about AT&T VRS, please visit [www.att.com/vrs](http://www.att.com/vrs), or access AT&T VRS via video phone at [ATTVRS.tv](http://ATTVRS.tv) or 877-642-0877.

## 12 reasons why self-help groups are good for you

By Brenda Battat, HLAA,  
 as published on Better Hearing Institute website

### Self-help groups:

- Provide a community of people with hearing loss who understand and are empathic to your unique problems
- Help you deal with the issues of hearing loss stigma
- Will help you understand your legal rights as a person with a hearing disability
- Will teach you coping and communication strategies
- Will help you to adjust and communicate your needs in a "hearing" workplace
- Will share technologies beyond your hearing aids that will enhance your ability to function in the world
- Will educate you on technologies and strategies for ensuring your safety
- Will show you how to stay tuned into family conversations
- Will suggest strategies for communicating in noisy situations
- Will show you how to accommodate your hearing loss while traveling
- Will empower you through exchange of knowledge, encouragement and the sharing of experiences
- Will alleviate the despair and isolation of hearing loss through their support

# 2011 Walk4Hearing Sponsor Opportunities

The **FEBRUARY 18 DEADLINE** to have your logo included on the printed local brochures or posters, for sponsorships of \$1,000 and more, is coming up **FAST!** Sponsors only need let me know that they want to sponsor and send me their logo by email!

**A SIGNED FORM IS REQUIRED. WE CAN INVOICE YOU!**

Contact Betty Proctor, Chattanooga Walk4Hearing chair at [baproctor1@comcast.net](mailto:baproctor1@comcast.net)

The 3rd Annual Chattanooga Walk4Hearing walkathon will be held at Chattanooga State Community College on Saturday, May 14, 2011. Your corporate/business name or logo will appear in the Walk4Hearing publicity materials at the level described below:

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Platinum Sponsor .....\$5,000</b><br/>Local Walk brochures • Local Walk posters<br/>• T-Shirt • National Walk Web site</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Gold Sponsor .....\$3,500</b><br/>Local Walk brochures • Local Walk posters<br/>• T-Shirt • National Walk Web site</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Silver Sponsor.....\$2,500</b><br/>Local Walk brochures • Local Walk posters<br/>• T-Shirt • National Walk Web site</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Kickoff Event Sponsor .....\$1,500</b><br/>Kickoff Invitations • Local Walk posters<br/>• T-Shirt • National Walk Web site</p> | <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Bronze Sponsor .....\$1,000</b><br/>Local Walk posters • T-Shirt • National Walk Web site</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Supporting Sponsor .....\$500</b><br/>T-Shirt • National Walk Web site</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Friends .....\$250</b><br/>T-Shirt</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Walk Route Marker.....\$100</b><br/>12x18 inch sign along Walk Route</p> |
|--|--|

**ALL sponsors:**  
 • will be recognized in ongoing local publicity  
 • may have booth space at the Walk

\* HLAA is a registered 501c3 charitable organization; visit [www.hearingloss.org](http://www.hearingloss.org) for more information.



## Welcome 2011 sponsors!

### Sponsorships 2011

|  |         |
|--|---------|
| Caption Associates LLC.....            | \$1,500 |
| Clarity.....                           | \$1,500 |
| Barnett & Co. Investment Counsel ..... | \$500   |
| Bea Lyons.....                         | \$500   |
| Chattem (Hamico Inc).....              | \$500   |
| Capital Wealth Management.....         | \$250   |
| David Ingram Family.....               | \$250   |
| Mediating Issues .....                 | \$250   |

### In-Kind Sponsorships 2011

|                             |         |
|-----------------------------|---------|
| Chattanooga State.....      | \$1,000 |
| Magical Music Machine.....  | \$1,000 |
| Speech Hearing Center ..... | \$500   |

### National Sponsors:

- AARP
- Advanced Bionics
- Beltone
- Cochlear Americas
- CapTel (Ultratec)
- Sorenson Communications
- T-Mobile

### HLAA Chattanooga Chapter Treasury Report: February 16, 2011:

|   |             |
|---|-------------|
| Beginning Balance (Jan. 2011)   | \$5,448.67  |
| Deposits & Credits  | \$65.00     |
| Earned Interest   | \$.23       |
| Disbursements   | \$0.00      |
| Ending Balance (Jan. 2011)  | \$5,513.90* |
| FYI: 2010 YTD Interest:   | \$5.34      |
| (*This total does NOT include 2010 Walk4Hearing income, in a separate account.) |             |



# Go Team!

Winnie Hargis, Chattanooga Walk4Hearing team captain coordinator  
whargis@windstream.net or call 706-217-7398

Nelda Twitchell, Chattanooga Walk4Hearing alliance coordinator  
nrtwitchell@bellsouth.net or call 423-894-3138

## New in 2011: Team captain coordinator

This year, I am thrilled to introduce Winnie Hargis as our team captain coordinator. Winnie has a long history with both the Atlanta and Chattanooga walks and she will help rev up your team for this year's Walk!

In order to help your team succeed, Winnie will be available by email or cell phone. Contact her with questions or to form a team.

Team captains (people who lead a team of walkers) should plan to attend the Walk4Hearing Kickoff Brunch on March 12 (see invitation page 1). At the brunch, all team captains and people interested in forming a team will receive material in a "packet."

## Alliances are teams too!

### What is an alliance group agreement?

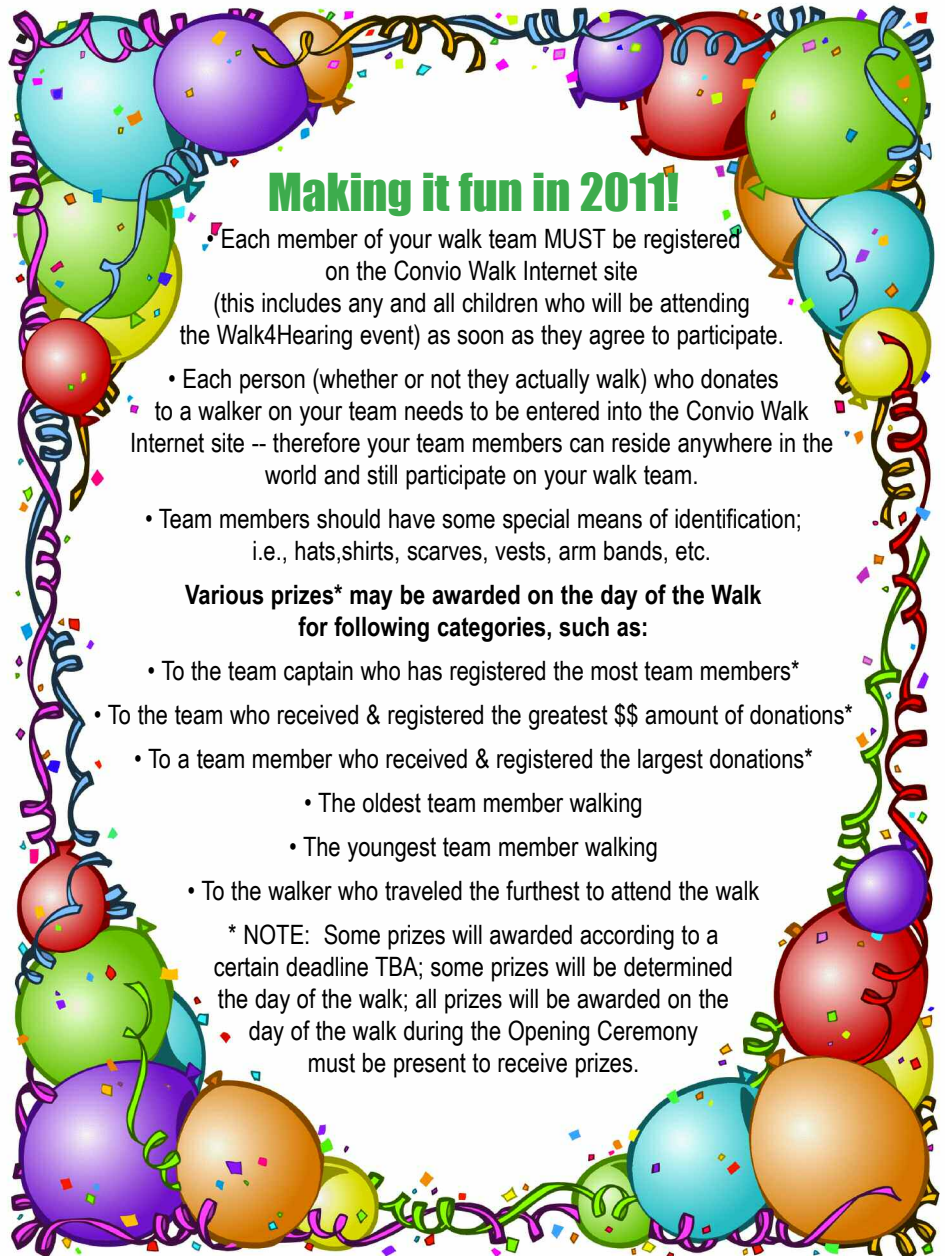
An alliance group is an entity such as a non-profit organization, local school, hospital, hearing health-care-related group or house of worship that wants to team up with the Hearing Loss Association of America (HLAA) national office to raise money by participating in a local Walk4Hearing site.

### What is the purpose and benefits of an alliance group agreement?

The purpose of an alliance group agreement is to bring local community groups and organizations together to raise money for and support the cause of the Walk4Hearing. It is a revenue sharing plan to give other hearing-loss-related groups a financial incentive to join the Walk. The alliance group benefits by retaining a portion (40%) of the total amount of money raised by their team(s) for their own cause.

### Who is eligible to be an alliance group?

Any entity which helps or supports programs or services for people with hearing loss is eligible to be an alliance group. The portion of



## Making it fun in 2011!

• Each member of your walk team MUST be registered on the Convio Walk Internet site (this includes any and all children who will be attending the Walk4Hearing event) as soon as they agree to participate.

- Each person (whether or not they actually walk) who donates to a walker on your team needs to be entered into the Convio Walk Internet site -- therefore your team members can reside anywhere in the world and still participate on your walk team.
- Team members should have some special means of identification; i.e., hats, shirts, scarves, vests, arm bands, etc.

### Various prizes\* may be awarded on the day of the Walk for following categories, such as:

- To the team captain who has registered the most team members\*
- To the team who received & registered the greatest \$\$ amount of donations\*
- To a team member who received & registered the largest donations\*
  - The oldest team member walking
  - The youngest team member walking
- To the walker who traveled the furthest to attend the walk

\* NOTE: Some prizes will awarded according to a certain deadline TBA; some prizes will be determined the day of the walk; all prizes will be awarded on the day of the walk during the Opening Ceremony must be present to receive prizes.

money retained by the alliance group must be used for programs or services benefiting people with hearing loss.

### How can I find out more?

Alliance coordinator, Nelda Twitchell, has the answers! She and Winnie will work together to make sure your alliance Walk team has a great experience! See Nelda's contact information above.

## Local support as of 2/15/2011

|  |             |
|--|-------------|
| Larry & Jane Akers (10/2011) .....           | \$15        |
| Frances Andrews (11/2011) .....              | \$10        |
| Lillian Barnett (2/2013) - 2 years .....     | \$20        |
| Warren Barnett (11/2012) - 2 years .....     | \$20        |
| Jeff Bonnell (due now) .....                 | \$10        |
| Mrs. Walter Brissenden (12/2011) .....       | \$10 + gift |
| Dot Carter (2/2011) .....                    | \$10        |
| Mary Coleman (9/2011) .....                  | \$10        |
| Susie Collins (due now) .....                | \$10        |
| Brian & Annette Drake (3/2011) .....         | \$15        |
| Cynthia Eby (11/2011) .....                  | \$10        |
| Mary Elam (2/2011) .....                     | \$10        |
| Marilyn Fisher (11/2011) .....               | \$10        |
| Gary & Ruth Fox (11/2011) .....              | \$15        |
| Steven & Sharon Fritts (4/2011) .....        | \$15        |
| Provash Ghosh (3/2011) .....                 | \$10        |
| Winnie Hargis (2/2011) .....                 | \$10        |
| David & Cathy Harrison (11/2011) .....       | \$15        |
| Kris Headrick (10/2011) .....                | \$10        |
| David, Debbie & Alexis Ingram (2/2012) ..... | \$15        |
| Taber Jenkins (1/2012) .....                 | \$10        |
| Katy Jones (8/2012) - 2 years .....          | \$20        |
| Judy Kincer (11/2011) .....                  | \$10        |
| Helen & Charles Kitchings (8/2011) .....     | \$15        |
| Bill Lawson (11/2011) .....                  | \$10        |
| Jeanette Legg (9/2011) .....                 | \$10        |
| Bea Lyons (11/2012) - 2 years .....          | \$20        |
| Nita Martin (8/2012) - 2 years .....         | \$20        |
| Dorris & Sam McBride (2/2011) .....          | \$15        |
| Tom & Diane McCombs (12/2011) .....          | \$15        |

|  |      |
|--|------|
| Elaine Moniz (1/2012) - 2 years .....  | \$20 |
| Lana & Bud Newton (past due) .....     | \$10 |
| Marge Pasch (12/2011) .....            | \$10 |
| Vivian Putnam (11/2011) .....          | \$15 |
| Betty Proctor (2/2011) .....           | \$10 |
| Robby Reep (past due) .....            | \$10 |
| Ron Reynolds (11/2011) .....           | \$10 |
| Sara & Dan Rhein (3/2011) .....        | \$15 |
| Terri Rice (past due) .....            | \$10 |
| Peggy Anne Rogers (4/2011) .....       | \$10 |
| David Saluk (11/2012) - 2 years .....  | \$20 |
| Jim & Joan Sewell (2/2011) .....       | \$15 |
| Laqueta Soule (1/2012) .....           | \$10 |
| Betty Soward (3/2011) .....            | \$10 |
| Dave & Myralin Trayer (4/2011) .....   | \$15 |
| Nelda & Dick Twitchell (11/2011) ..... | \$15 |
| Howard VanZant (3/2011) .....          | \$10 |

If your support fees are past due, please remit as soon as possible.

Individual fees are \$10 while family fees run \$15. You may pay your fee at the regular meeting or mail it to our PO box shown on mailing panel of this newsletter. The chapter survives because of your generosity! Not a supporting member? See box at right and pay your fees to become one!

(Date next to name indicates when membership is next due - thanks for supporting the chapter!)

Treasury report on page 4.

## HLAA Membership

HLAA is committed to creating awareness of hearing loss issues.

### Local Support Benefits:

Newsletter, membership directory, special mailings, educational info, support, National HLAA information

Memberships are good for one calendar year.

To become a member, sign up below:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

Birthday \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ HLAA Chattanooga Chapter, circle one:

**\$10** individual, or **\$15** family, **mail to:**

PO Box 25254, Chattanooga, TN 37422-9992

\_\_\_ HLAA National Dues, **\$35**

Includes Hearing Loss magazine subscription, **mail to:**

HLAA, 7910 Woodmont Ave., Suite 1200

Bethesda, MD 20814 or visit [www.hearingloss.org](http://www.hearingloss.org) and pay online!

### CHOO-CHOO SIGNAL Published monthly - Betty A. Proctor, Editor

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# HLAA (formerly SHHH)

CHOO-CHOO CHAPTER SIGNAL, c/o Betty A. Proctor, editor  
P.O. Box 25254, Chattanooga, TN 37422-9992

## Next meeting: February 20

Sunday, February 20, 2pm in the Ronald McDonald Library Room, upstairs (due to RMH Telethon).

Topic: Disability Laws by Becky Allen

Fellowship and refreshments, all are welcome! Meetings captioned and loop system in use.

Captions by Linda Hershey.

Refreshments by Jeanette Legg & the McBride's.

Visit our website:

<http://hearingchattanooga.org/>

