

Choo-Choo Signal

April 17 program: New technology by Clarity

Member birthdays

- April birthdays: 8-Lillian Barnett; 10-Mary Elam; 16-Larry Akers & Alexandra Ingram

Calendar of meetings & events

- April 17: Clarity products, 2pm
- April 29: Community Health Expo, ChattState, 9am-1pm.
- April 30: Volunteer at Cornbread Festival, 9-4 (Chapter gets a Walk donation)
- May 1: Volunteer at Cornbread Festival, 1-4
- May 3: Senior Expo, 9am-Noon, Brainerd UMC (see new technology)
- May 14: Walk4Hearing, 10am
- May 15: Extreme Makeover: Home Edition, 8pm EDT on ABC: watch Cindy, Michael & Patrick Sharrock in their NEW home! Cindy is a brand NEW member of HLAA!
- May 15: NO regular HLA meeting
- May 19: **Captioned performance** of "The Women," 7pm, CTC
- May 21: Say it in Sign BBQ picnic; Booker T. Washington Park, 11am-6pm, rain or shine, \$7 adults, \$4 kids. Contact info@sayitinsign.info to RSVP.
- 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 for information.

In our thoughts & prayers...

- David Saluk, mother passed away



Our good friend **Gary Moore** from Clarity will discuss new technology available to hard of hearing members and guests of Hearing Loss Association Chattanooga Chapter at 2 p.m. on Sunday, April 17, Ronald McDonald Community Room. All are welcome!



And they're off...

TOP EARNING TEAMS (4/14/11):

- 1) Dalton League of Women Voters.....\$850
- 2) Twitchell's Gang.....\$625
- 3) Chattanooga Deaf Community Center.....\$590

Total teams: 28 • 110 Walkers • \$9,490 or 32% to goal

Participants from: North Carolina; Alabama; Georgia cities: Ringgold, Rossville, Atlanta, Roswell, Dalton, Chickamauga and more; Tennessee cities: Chattanooga, Ooltewah, Oak Ridge, Hixson, Maryville, Madisonville, Knoxville, Nashville, Jasper, South Pittsburg and more!



If you remember in our last newsletter, we were about to announce the winner of the **\$100 team prize** following the Kickoff; and the winner is **Team Alex (Ears for Scooby)!** ← Read about Alex "Scooby" Hayes on page 2!

It's NOT too late to form a team or join one! Contact Winnie Hargis for more information!

Winnie Hargis, Chattanooga W4H Team Captain Coordinator; Email: whargis@windstream.net
Land-line/Fax phone 706-226-4290, Cell/Text Phone 706-217-7398

Current Regular Teams

- Susie Q and You
- Beltone Hearing Aid Centers
- Team Alex (Ears for Scooby)
- Step'N for Caleb
- Twitchell's Gang
- Associates in Ear Nose and Throat
- HJ's High Tech Hearing Team
- McCombs River Ramblers
- Proctor's Gamble
- Johnson's Joggers
- Can You Hear Me Now?
- Brinkmann Team
- Atomic Sneakers
- McCombs River Ramblers
- Ella Hears!
- Rosemarie's Racers
- Team Closer Home

Current Alliance Teams

- Alpha Beta
- Dalton LWV
- Chattanooga State Foundation
- Chattanooga Deaf Community Center LLC
- Hearing and Speech Foundation
- Signal Centers
- UTC-OSDers
- GA Peach Cochlear Implant Club (Peachy Ears)

Current Affiliate Teams (HLA chapters)

- Knoxville HLA
- NaSHHHers
- Go Georgia! – GA State HLA office
- Chattanooga Local Sponsors Team

**36 million people in the U.S. have hearing loss...
won't YOU step up and help us raise funds and awareness?**

Chattanooga Walk4Hearing is May 14



Walk4Hearing inspired Alex' mom

By Rebecca Hayes, mother of Alex

We live in Shelby, NC (between Charlotte and Asheville). The members of our team consist of my husband and I, and our sons Aiden and Alex. Alex is 6 years old, has moderate-to-severe hearing loss in both ears, and wears bilateral hearing aids. He was just diagnosed with his hearing loss last summer.

A bit of his history, Alex passed his newborn hearing screening and multiple hearing tests (for fluid in his ears). Even after two sets of tubes and an adenoidectomy we still felt that at times he just could not hear us.

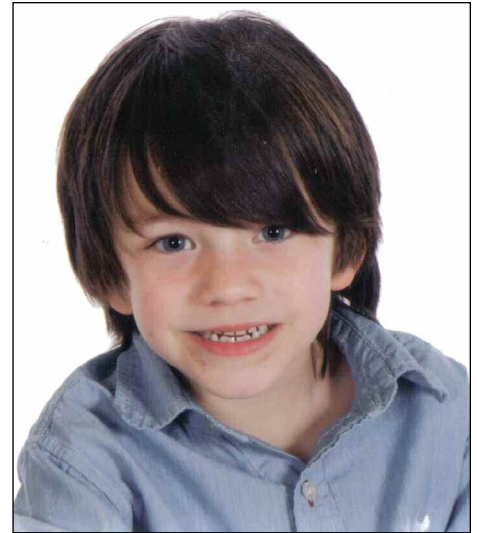
We ran into his current speech therapist at swimming lessons last summer (this encounter was pure fate) and she expressed her concerns as well. She mentioned there were certain sounds that he just was not getting, and requested we get a second opinion from another audiologist that she had worked with in the past.

That day we took him to see the audiologist, she immediately diagnosed him with moderate-to-severe hearing loss (sensorineural) and said he will need hearing aids as soon as possible. That was the day that changed our son's life.

After going through numerous testing such as Auditory Brainstem Response testing (twice), MRI, tubes in ears (three times) and an adenoidectomy, we were told he may have auditory neuropathy, or even progressive hearing loss, the final diagnosis was sensorineural.

Alex is a bright, young energetic little boy who with the help of an FM system, hearing aids, and speech therapy is doing a superb job keeping up with the other kindergartners in his class. He is reading, writing, and has become quite the social charmer among his classmates.

As for the name Scooby, my husband came up with that name when he was younger because he was always getting into things



(like Scooby Doo) and from that point on it just stuck with him!

I discovered the Walk4Hearing while browsing the Internet like most parents looking for answers about hearing loss and came across the HLAA website.

Tennessee is a bit of a drive for us but it was the closest location from where we live. I was just so excited to have us participate in such a rewarding event, and to show Alex there are other kids out there just like him.

Step'N for Caleb: 2nd year walker!

By Jana Massengale, mother of Caleb

The Team STEP'N FOR CALEB wants to raise money for a great cause!!! Caleb Massengale is 7 years old and suffers from a hearing loss in his left ear. He wears an FM system at school and has had success from this system. Without his friends and family this system would have been impossible for his family to purchase. That's what the Walk4Hearing does, The Hearing Loss Association of America helps those suffering from hearing loss to succeed in life with counseling and devices they may need over their lifetime. This is our second year walking. Last year was an eye opening experience that warmed our hearts. From Caleb standing up and being introduced at the Chattanooga Walk to being made the feature walker on the HLAA website and HLAA magazine.

Please help our team be successful!!!

Thanks, the Massengale family!!!

STEP'N FOR CALEB!



Photographer Jason Moon

Walk4Hearing 2010: the Massengale family. Caleb is standing with his parents.

2011 Walk4Hearing children's activities

Walk4Hearing activities begin at 9:00am on May 14 at Chattanooga State - JOIN US!

Visit www.hearingchattanooga.org for more information or to see additional photos by members of Our Local Photographer



- Bounce House
- Face Painting
- Snow Cones
- Balloon Sculptor
- Music
- Coloring Contest

Walk4Hearing volunteer assignments: Saturday, May 14

General Set-Up: 7:00-9:00am

Bea Lyons
Dick Twitchell
Marshall Parrent
Nelda Twitchell
Brian Drake
Betty Proctor

Online Registration: 8:00-11:00am

Dorris McBride
Sam McBride
Marcella Bush
Nelda Twitchell
Lana Newton

Walk-ins Table: 8:00-11:00am

Winnie Hargis
Mary Lynn Burton
Florence Cerantonio, ESA

Information Table: 8:00am-12:00noon

1. Kris Headrick
- 2.

Greeters (front of OMN Bldg): 8:00-11:00am

Susie Collins
Cindy Sharrock

Greeters (Vendor area-cafeteria): 8:00am-12:00noon

Joyce Casey

Refreshments Table: 7:00am-12:00noon (Set up/Clean up)

Linda Hershey
Joyce Casey

Refreshments Table: 1st Shift: 9:00-10:30am

Felicia Jones
Mary Coleman

Refreshments Table: 2nd Shift: 10:30am-12:00noon

- 1.
- 2.

Water at Halfway Point-Fry Pavilion: 9:00-11:00am

- 1.
- 2.

T-shirt Table: 9:00-11:00am

Pat Bagley, ESA
Shirley Moore, ESA

Children's Activities Tent/Inflatable & Stage: 9:00am-12:00noon

1. Sarah Samarin
- 2.
- 3.

General Clean-Up: 12:00noon-2:00pm

Bea Lyons
Dick Twitchell
Tom McCombs
Betty Proctor
Brian Drake

Photography: 8:30am-12:00noon

Teresa Moon
Jason Moon
Tyler Avery
Bill Reed
Terry Watson
Rachel Harper



Volunteers get this T-shirt!
(Make sure we have your size!)

Attention Walkers!



Walk Day Sale Items...

Foot Magnets to go on your car for sale; any donation of \$5 or above accepted.

Walk4Hearing caps sell for any donation of \$8 or above accepted.

Limited quantities of both items...

Event opens at 9am!



At the halfway point...

Enjoy a bottle of water and get your Walk4Hearing photo taken at Fry Pavilion on the Riverwalk!

(See Massengale family photo on page 2)

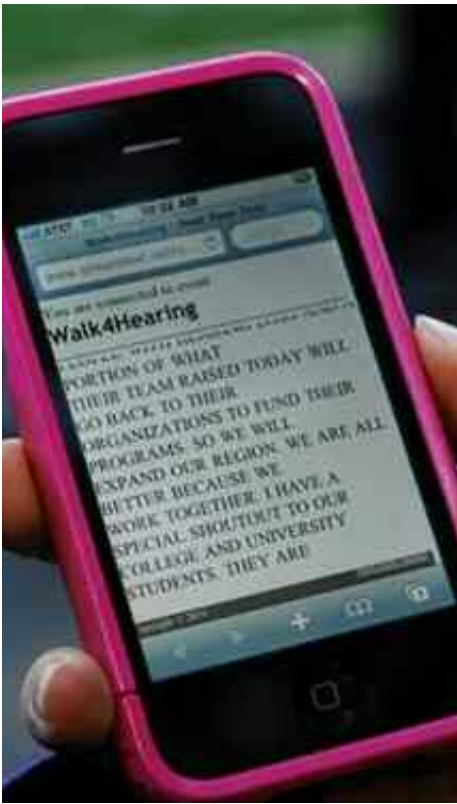
One free 5x7 photo will be available for download...

Photos will be available at this website:

<http://ourlocalphotographer.com/walk4hearing>



Our Local Photographer
Logo by Haley Condra



Got a Smart phone? Quick Captions will stream what is being said at W4H

By Ronnie Adler, National W4H Manager

HAAA national will provide and pay for a service by Quick Caption. This service is live streaming of CART to all smart phones (iPhone, Droid, Blackberry, etc.) at every Walk site. The majority of people and our walkers own a smart phone. So on Walk day all walkers who have his or her smart phone will go to www.quickcaption.com. There on the website homepage will be a large purple Walk4Hearing icon. Just simply click the icon and real time captioning will be displayed on the smart phone. The purpose of this to provide access for hundreds of people at an outdoor event.

Now how does this work? Basically, when someone is speaking at the Walk he or she will hold a smart phone with microphone attached to it. The speaker clips on the microphone to their top and everything the speaker is saying will be heard by a remote captioner. So while the speaker is talking, people will read the captions on their smart phones. Walkers will be informed and educated through our coaching emails, posters, and brochures before Walk day about this great feature and how they can use it on Walk day. Mid Hudson, NYC and DC used this feature for their 2010 Walks and it was a great success!



Clear surgical masks!

According to an article in South Palm Beach County Chapter newsletter, NexGen Clear Surgical Masks stay crystal clear, enabling HOH patients to see their doctor's mouth and aid in speechreading. Ask your doctor or surgeon about them!

Rotary asked to support hearing healthcare

As published in Hearing Journal

For some 25 years, Darrell Micken, AuD, has been involved with programs that bring hearing health care to places where few can afford it, including Mexico, El Salvador, and the Philippines. Micken, a member of the Rotary Club in Bozeman, MT, where he lives and owns an audiology practice with his wife, Lee Micken, AuD, has, along with his friend Dudley Anderson, a veteran hearing aid specialist in Missoula, MT, raised support for this charitable work from Montana Rotarians.

Micken says they learned a lot from the first project they undertook in Oaxaca, Mexico. On their initial trip, the volunteers spent several days testing children and fitting hearing aids on about 90 of them. But when they returned 6 months later, 75% of the hearing aids weren't working. That underscored the need for a local infrastructure with people trained to screen and test children, clean and repair

hearing aids, and generally monitor the program. Today, under the sponsorship of the local Soroptomist Club, the Oaxaca program is so successful Micken says it could serve as a model for hearing care programs worldwide.

He sees Rotary International, which has chapters virtually everywhere and already supports several hearing care programs, as being ideally positioned to take on the mission of addressing hearing healthcare worldwide, especially among children. To that end, the Montana District of Rotary has petitioned the board of Rotary International to make hearing healthcare a Rotary Foundation program at its triennial meeting April 25-30 in Chicago.

This will be the fourth time the issue has been raised, but support has been building and Micken hopes this is the year Rotary International adds hearing care to its causes. To help make that happen, he urges hearing professionals who are in Rotary to ask their district councilors to endorse the cause.

Limited time only...

Hearing aids batteries for only \$1 per pack (3-pack maximum). All sizes. Visit Dr. Megan Johnson's office at 1618 Gunbarrel Rd, Suite 102 or call 710-1432.

Captioning problems?

FCC: <http://esupport.fcc.gov/complaints.htm>

Verizon Fios:
videoclosedcaption@verizon.com

DirecTV: CloseCaptions@directv.com

Time Warner Cable: twc.closedcaptioningissues@twcable.com

Comcast: Closed_Captioning@Comcast.net



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captionanne@gmail.com

www.captionassociates.com



Captioners Linda Hershey, standing, and Joyce Casey, captioning, present an eye-opening program on captioning during the March meeting.

Captioning 101

By Betty A. Proctor, editor

Because so many people often have questions about captioning, its quirks and uses, we asked out very own captioners, Linda Hershey and Joyce Casey to present a program about captioning in March.

Linda first explained that there are three types of captioning: Realtime, CART and Closed Captioning. Each one is used in a different situation, but the goal is always providing communication access.

We've all seen word combinations that don't come out quite right. Some can be shocking when a key misstroke occurs: "a 20 percent chance of rape" should have read "rain" but one keystroke difference made it embarrassingly incorrect. Then there are some combinations of words that can be downright funny when a mistranslate happens: "trust ur instincts" became "trust urine stinks." We've all seen them on TV or other places where captioning occurs.

Captioners must have a 98% accuracy rating. Linda explained that in normal captioning, the captioner types 150 words per minute. News broadcasts are 250 words per minute, so the

challenge becomes much greater; hence the reason for such a high accuracy rating. We ALL know when captioning is bad and it interferes with understanding.

Captioning also has been heralded as the career that will go away because of voice recognition software. We've all been "treated" to use of software on TV stations; it makes the worst captioner look good. Understanding is a nightmare.

Captioning is a highly specialized career where nimble fingers and a quick mind are both required. It's also a fairly expensive career by year to maintain as Linda pointed out.

- Steno machines cost \$3,000-\$5,000
- A yearly maintenance contract costs \$500
- Computers run between \$350-\$1,000
- Software for captioning is whopping \$5,000-\$7,000
- * Softwares updates run \$1,000
- Using audio runs \$500

Now double this amount for the backups required; and don't forget \$500 a month for phone bills and \$1,000 per year for continuing education. Dedication much???

One last thing she shared about why our area is not required to have captioning on local news: we are not a top 25 market. Thank

goodness we have NewsChannel9. After losing a grant several years ago, management at TV9 felt it was important to keep local captioning intact and found a way to provide it Monday-Friday from 6-6:30pm.

We will be honoring their commitment to people with hearing loss at the Walk4Hearing when they will open the Walk by cutting the ceremonial ribbon.

HIAA Chattanooga Chapter Treasury Report: April 10, 2011:

Beginning Balance (March 2011)
\$5,529.11

Deposits & Credits
\$258.00

Earned Interest
\$.23

Disbursements
\$42.33

Ending Balance (Jan. 2011)
\$5,745.01*

FYI: 2011 YTD Interest: \$.67

(*2010 Walk4Hearing income not included.)

Local support as of 4/13/2011

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 (past due)	
Mrs. Walter Brissenden (12/2011)	\$10 + gift
Dot Carter (past due)	
Mary Coleman (9/2011)	\$10
Susie Collins (1/2012)	\$10
Brian & Annette Drake (past due)	
Cynthia Eby (11/2011)	\$10
Mary Elam (4/2013) - 2 years	
Marilyn Fisher (11/2011)	\$10
Gary & Ruth Fox (11/2011)	\$15
Provash Ghosh (past due)	
Winnie Hargis (3/2012)	\$10
David & Cathy Harrison (11/2011)	\$15
Kris Headrick (10/2011)	\$10
David, Debbie & Alexis Ingram (2/2012)	\$15
Taber Jenkins (1/2012)	\$10
Katye 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 (past due)	
Tom & Diane McCombs (12/2011)	\$15
Elaine Moniz (1/2012) - 2 years	\$20

Lana & Bud Newton (2/2012)	\$15
Marge Pasch (12/2011)	\$10
Vivian Putnam (11/2011)	\$15
Betty Proctor (3/2012)	\$10
Robbye Reep (1/2012)	\$10
Ron Reynolds (11/2011)	\$10
Sara & Dan Rhein (past due)	
Terri Rice (past due)	
Peggy Anne Rogers (4/2011)	\$10
David Saluk (11/2012) - 2 years	\$20
Jim & Joan Sewell (past due)	\$15
Cindy Sharrock (3/2012)	\$10
Charlie Slover (3/2012)	\$10
Laqueta Soule (1/2012)	\$10
Betty Soward (past due)	
Dave & Myralin Trayer (4/2011)	\$15
Nelda & Dick Twitchell (11/2011)	\$15
Howard VanZant (3/2012)	\$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 5.

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 and pay online!

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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: April 17

Sunday, April 17, 2pm in the Ronald McDonald Community Room.

Topic: New Technology by Clarity Products; speaker: Gary Moore

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

Captions by Lind Hershey.

Refreshments by Susie Collins & Betty Proctor.



Visit our website: <http://hearingchattanooga.org/>