

## Chapter Calendar of Events

**Friday, Nov 15 - 12-1:30pm**

Esteem Hearing Implantable Device Lunch & Learn at Johnson Audiology, call 423-933-3623.

**Sunday, Nov 17 - REGULAR MEETING, 2pm**

How to help healthcare providers meet HOH communication needs + Hospital kit presentation

**Monday, Nov 18**

TN Hands & Voice mtg, (for parents of children with hearing loss), 6pm, Ronald McDonald House

**Saturday, Dec 7 - NOTE NEW DATE!**

Christmas Holiday Party at Alexian Village, noon, \$5 per person, all are welcome.

**Thursday, Dec 12**

A Christmas Story, the Musical, CTC, 7pm, captioned

**Sunday, Jan 19 - REGULAR MEETING**

Cochlear Implant & Hearing Aid Roundtables, 2pm, Ronald McDonald House

**Thursday, Jan 30**

The Odd Couple, Chattanooga Theatre Centre, 7pm, captioned

**Sunday, Feb 16 - REGULAR MEETING**

Ototoxicity: Meds you take can hurt your ears, 2pm, Ronald McDonald House

**March (TBA)**

Deaf/Hard of Hearing Expo, Brainerd UMC, time/date TBA

**Thursday, March 6**

The Taming of the Shrew, Chattanooga Theatre Centre, 7pm, captioned

**Sunday, March 16 - REGULAR MEETING**

Tinnitus: do you hear that noise? 2pm, Ronald McDonald House

**Thursday, March 27**

And Then There Were None, Chattanooga Theatre Centre, 7pm, captioned

**Saturday, March 29 - SAVE THE DATE!**

Kickoff at Chattanooga Theatre Centre; time & agenda TBA

**Saturday, May 10 - SAVE THE DATE!**

6th Annual Walk4Hearing at ChattState



# Hearing Loss Association of America

## Chattanooga Chapter CHOO-CHOO SIGNAL NEWSLETTER A resource for people with hearing loss

November 2013

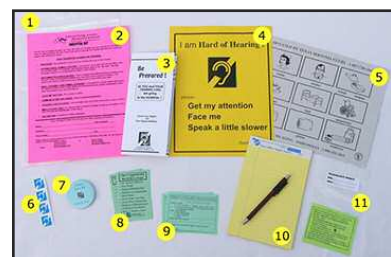
### Healthcare concerns

Our November 17 program focuses on hearing loss in healthcare situations. Guest speakers include Erlanger's Elizabeth Appling and Memorial Hospital's Sabrina Carter. Both ladies will discuss how to make your stay a better experience when you have hearing loss.

Marion County Sertoma Club and HLAA Chattanooga Chapter have partnered to sponsor "Hospital Kits" that will be presented to both ladies for their respective hospitals. Additional hospitals will be contacted in the future.

#### The kits include:

- a sign to hang above your bed to alert staff of your hearing loss
- a brochure about your rights and re-



sponsibilities in the hospital

- bags to hold your hearing aids or CI's in the event of surgery and a card about how to use the bag
- tip cards for communicating with HoH people
- a pad of paper and a pen
- a communication sign to point at in the event you cannot communicate and have a need
- International communication access symbol stickers & Face me buttons

<http://www.hearinglosshelp.com/articles/hospitalkits.htm>



### Vocational Rehabilitation can work you YOU!

Our October guest was Sonja McDougal, deaf and hard of hearing counselor for the Dept. of Human Services Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) Department.

The main goal of VR is for deaf or hard of hearing people is to get a job and be productive citizens.

In the workplace, VR can help stop any discrimination occurring and discuss accommodations needed. Legally, employers cannot ask about any disabilities a person has or medications they might be on, but the employee also must be willing to share the nature of his/her disability in order to get the help needed to

do the job. Sonja said she finds that communication is usually the problem at work.

To initially qualify for VR services, a person must have a 30dB loss.

VR also can help with transportation services, education (such as training or re-training to get you ready for work), voting - which is the right of every American; and career counseling.

Teens with hearing disabilities who contemplate entering the workforce should begin seeking out VR assistance at age 16 to be ready for post-high school education opportunities. Sometimes, young people can shadow a person who is in a job they are interested in - to help them decide if they really would like to do it.



By Betty Proctor, W4H chair

November is traditionally the month in which donors are solicited for the next Walk4Hearing. I'd like to thank the following donors again for their support in 2013. If you do business with any of them please express your thanks to them for supporting people with hearing loss:

- EPB Fiber Optics
- Volkswagen Chattanooga
- Chattanooga Times Free Press
- Audiology Services of Chattanooga
- Clarity
- Caption Associates LLC
- Cornbread Festival
- TN Captioned Telephone
- The Ingrams
- Chattanooga State

### Five years & \$27,000 later...

Putting together this annual list is a daunting task and also never ceases to amaze me. We are not New York, Chicago or Washington, but we ARE making a difference and will continue to do so with the support of our sponsors and supporters. Take a look at our accomplishments:

- Purchased an LED electronic captioning board, housed at the Chattanooga Theatre Centre
- Replaced the chapter's aging loop system



- Helped sponsor Deaf/Blind Camp
- Permanently loop Ronald McDonald House Community room
- Monetary support to caption plays at Chattanooga Theatre Centre – 4 years
- Seed money” toward building fund for Chattanooga Deaf and Hard of Hearing Community Centre
- HLA national convention scholarships – 3 years
- Protective case and spare cables for the captioning board
- Captioning of ESA Taster’s Luncheon in support of Boehm Birth Defect Center – 3 years
- Stipend for a local captioner to attend HLA conventions as a working captioner – 2 years
- Captioning of annual Signal Centers Deaf and Hard of Hearing Expo - 2 years
- Hearing Heroes Camp for kids in Marion County – 2 years
- Two college scholarships for hard of hearing students, UTC and Chattanooga State – 4 years
- Exhibit fee for HLA booth at Boomers & Seniors Life Expo - 2 years
- Exhibit fee for Speech & Hearing Center booth at Boomers & Seniors Life Expo - 1 year
- Hole Sponsor, Deaf Golf Tourney
- Promotional items for Walk4Hearing

- (vests, banner, goodie bags, printed materials, or other)
- Marty’s Center support(NEW Preschool for deaf/HOH children)
- Membership fee Marion County Sertoma Club (Susie Collins, liaison)
- TN Hands & Voices to support printing costs of newsletter for Chattanooga area
- Kids on the Block to perform disabilities program at Walk4Hearing and Hearing Heroes Camp – 1 year

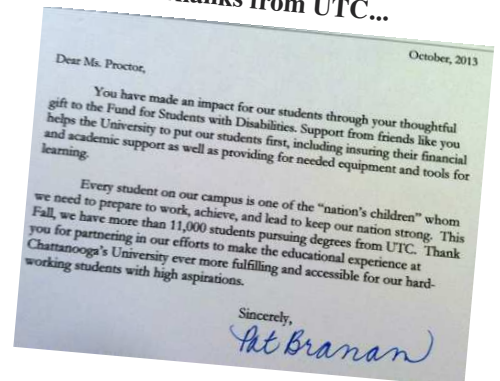
### \$3,400 pledged now...

- Interpreting for four plays at Chattanooga Theatre Centre
- TN Hands & Voices parent advocacy training
- Provide speech therapy at Hearing Heroes Camp 2014 in Hamilton County
- Piece of equipment for a veteran through Signal Centers

### \$2,147 in emergency fund...

- Emergency Fund established - for use by Deaf/HOH persons in need of assistance in Marion and/or Hamilton Counties

### Thanks from UTC...



Like us Facebook! <https://www.facebook.com/ChattanoogaTnWalk4Hearing>



**“A Christmas Story  
”The Musical  
Captioned performance:  
7:00pm, Thursday, Dec. 12**

Music and Lyrics by Benj Pasek and Justin Paul; Book by Joseph Robinette; Based on books and short stories by Jean Shepherd; and the MGM Movie, A Christmas Story

A bright, buoyant retelling of the cherished comedy and much-repeated family holiday film. All of the best-loved moments are in the production, including the leg lamp, the tongue-on-a-flagpole, the bunny suit, the Santa slide and all of Ralphie's extravagant

daydreams. A big Broadway hit last season, this year all the fun is right here at home, complete with dazzling dance numbers, scrumptious songs and an incredibly talented cast of youngsters.

Tickets: [www.theatrecentre.com](http://www.theatrecentre.com) or call 423-267-8534





## Effects of hearing loss on development

From <http://www.asha.org>

It is well recognized that hearing is critical to speech and language development, communication, and learning. Children

with listening difficulties due to hearing loss or auditory processing problems continue to be an under-identified and under-served population.

The earlier hearing loss occurs in a child's life, the more serious the effects on the child's development. Similarly, the earlier the problem is identified and intervention begun, the less serious the ultimate impact.

### There are four major ways in which hearing loss affects children

- It causes delay in the development of receptive and expressive communication skills (speech and language).
- The language deficit causes learning problems that result in reduced

academic achievement.

- Communication difficulties often lead to social isolation and poor self-concept.
- It may have an impact on vocational choices.

### Specific Effects

- Vocabulary
- Speaking
- Academic Achievement
- Sentence Structure
- Social Functioning

To find an audiologist in your area, contact the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) by calling 800-638-8255 or use the Find a Professional service on ASHA's website ([www.asha.org](http://www.asha.org)).



For information email  
Brandi Groce at  
[b\\_randi04@yahoo.com](mailto:b_randi04@yahoo.com)

## HLAA Webinars for YOU starting next month

In order to serve you better, HLAA is planning to host monthly webinars specifically for you, our state and chapter leaders and coordinators. The webinars are easy to use and we will send you instructions before each one. In order to access them, you will need to create a login name and password on the member portal (access point) on the HLAA website ([www.hearingloss.org](http://www.hearingloss.org)).

The webinars will have CART (communication access realtime translation) and will be recorded. The webinars will be part of an online "library" for you to access whenever it's convenient for you. Make sure that you give us your ideas about topics by using the link above under "We Want Your Input!"



### Captioning on the move...

Linda Hershey took the LED electronic captioning board to the Cumberland County Playhouse to caption the play "Ring of Fire" the Johnny Cash story on October 19. It was the first time the Playhouse had experienced captioning!

### HLAA Chattanooga Chapter Treasury Report 10/8/2013 to 11/6/2013

Beginning Balance (October 8, 2013)	\$7,135.28
Deposits & Credits	80.00
Withdrawals	0.00
Checks:	
#613 Betty Proctor, postage reimbursement	16.56
Total:	\$16.56
Ending Balance (November 6, 2013)	\$7,198.72

Beatrice R. Lyons, Treasurer

Members again voted to donate \$500 to HLAA for Founder's Day. Bea Lyons is shown with the 2012 certificate.



Marty Dunagan  
Director

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Chattanooga, TN 37411



STATE OF TENNESSEE  
DEPARTMENT HUMAN SERVICES  
DIVISION OF REHABILITATION SERVICES  
SERVICES FOR THE DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING

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CHATTANOOGA, TN 37403-0048

Catch up on the latest chapter news by visiting our chapter website or chapter Facebook page:

[www.hearingchattanooga.org](http://www.hearingchattanooga.org)  
[www.facebook.com/hearingchattanooga](http://www.facebook.com/hearingchattanooga)

## Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)

From: <http://adasoutheast.org/solutionfaqs.php>

### What is the ADA?

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 is a civil rights law that protects qualified individuals with disabilities from discrimination and provides for equal access and opportunity. Former President George Bush signed the ADA into law on July 26, 1990.

### The ADA applies to situations in these five areas:

- Employment [Title I]
- State and local government [Title II]
- Public accommodations (private businesses) [Title III]
- Telecommunications [Title IV]
- Transportation and miscellaneous provisions [Title V]

### Definition of Disability under the ADA

The ADA prohibits discrimination against any qualified individual with a disability.

Specifically, the ADA protects three categories of individuals:

- Individuals who have a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activity.
- Individuals who have a record of a physical or mental impairment.
- Individuals who are regarded as having an impairment, whether they have an impairment or not.

The ADA does not include a list of covered disabilities under the law. Therefore, to determine if you are covered under the law, you need to determine if you have a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activity.

The definition of disability does not include simple physical characteristics, common personality traits, or environmental, cultural, or economic disadvantages.

The ADA also excludes coverage for individuals who currently use illegal drugs, certain sexual disorders and preferences, and compulsive gambling, kleptomania, and pyromania.

## 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 \_\_\_\_\_

Birth day \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ 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!

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### CHOO-CHOO CHAPTER SIGNAL

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## NOVEMBER MEETING:

### Sunday, November 17 • 2pm

Ronald McDonald Community Room

### Topic:

How to help healthcare providers meet HOH communication needs + Hospital kits

### Speakers:

Elizabeth Appling, Erlanger Health System  
Sabrina Carter, Memorial Hospital

Refreshments: Betty Proctor, Bea Lyons & Dick Twitchwell

Captioning: Linda Hershey



<http://www.hearingchattanooga.org>