

Chapter Calendar of Events

Wednesday, January 14 - TODB MEETING
(TN Organization of Deaf-Blind) 10am-2pm, Signal Centers on Bailey Ave.

Sunday, January 18 - HLAA MEETING
2pm, program: CapTel Phones; Quinnon Taylor TN Outreach Coordinator

Saturdays, Jan. 24 to March 28- BEGINNER SIGN CLASS

With Charity Painter will meet at First Christian Church, 650 McCallie Ave at 10am (\$100 for 10 weeks) Info: ChattCommSign@gmail.com

Wednesdays, January 28 (15 weeks) - SIGN CLASS

At Partnership offices, 1800 McCallie Ave from 6-8pm (\$150) Info: vdunn6466@gmail.com

Wednesday, February 11 - TODB MEETING

(TN Organization of Deaf-Blind) 10am-2pm, Signal Centers on Bailey Ave.

Sunday, February 15 - HLAA MEETING

2pm, program: Affordable hearing aids & new services

Thursday, February 19 - CAPTIONED PLAY

Into the Woods, CTC, 7pm

Sunday, March 15 - HLAA MEETING

2pm, program: To Protect & To Service, Police Services



*Celebrating 35 years for
48 million people with hearing loss*



**2014-2015 Chattanooga Theatre Centre
Thursday evening 7 p.m. captioned plays:**

- February 19 - "Into the Woods"
- March 19 - "Festival of New Plays"
- June 18 - "Vanya and Sonia"
- July 23 - "9 to 5, the Musical"

www.theatrecentre.com or call 423-267-8534

Hearing Loss Association of America

Chattanooga Chapter

CHOO-CHOO SIGNAL NEWSLETTER
A resource for people with hearing loss

January 2015



January 18 Meeting: CapTel

Our **January 18** chapter meeting speaker will be **Quinnon Taylor**, *Tennessee Outreach Coordinator for CapTel Services powered by Hamilton Relay*. He will present a program on how the state's distribution program can assist citizens with getting a CapTel phone.

Quinnon works with residents of the state who are hard of hearing or deaf to help provide them with assistive technology options for their telecommunication needs. Born and raised in Mississippi, he graduated from Mississippi State University in 2009 before relocating to Nashville. He now resides in Murfreesboro, TN.

When asked about getting CapTel on cell phones, Quinon shared: Visit <https://hamiltonwebcapitel.com/> and register for a username. Once you've completed this, login to secure a "call me number." After that, download the "Hamilton CapTel" app to your Android (in the Play Store) or iPhone (in the Apple Store). **It's free!**

The app is free, but just be mindful of your calling plan's minute restrictions as you will be using them.

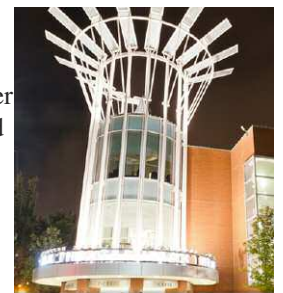
Local Advocacy in Action

I have some good news for the group! During October I spoke with Corey Cobb of the IMAX theater about their captioning. Few movies were captioned and for those that were, the captioning was not in sync with the narrator. I explained the importance of it to the thousands of hearing impaired people here in Chattanooga as well as tourists and that he would be doing a great service if they could fix it.

He called me a few days ago and said they bought a whole new system and now EVERY movie will be captioned.

I'm sure you'll want to let the group and any interested parties know this wonderful news.

God Bless, Ron Reynolds



Did you know?

The 2014 goal for all 22 Walk4Hearing walks was \$1.4 million. As of January 2015, a total of \$1,429,544 was raised - meaning we surpassed the goal at 102%!

Using T-Coils (Telecoils) to Couple Your Hearing Aids to Various Audio Devices

Gleaned from an article by Neil Bauman, Ph.D. on <http://www.hearinglosshelp.com>

T-coils are simply tiny coils of wire mounted inside your hearing aids. In addition to the name t-coils, you may hear people refer to them variously as telephone coils, tele-coils, audio coils or t-switch. These terms all mean the same thing.

The big advantage of using your t-coils is that they generally cut out background noise so you only hear the sounds from the device you are listening to. You will hear loud, clear sound with little or no interfering racket. This is because by switching your hearing aids into their t-coil mode, you typically automatically turn off your hearing aids' microphones. Thus, the only signal you hear is from the device you are plugged into.

Here's how they work: Alternating current and pulsing direct current (such as you would find in the output of any audio device) produces a fluctuating magnetic field as it flows through any wire. This magnetic field extends out some distance from the wire. It may be only an inch or two, or as much as 20 feet or more—depending on the amount of power flowing through the wire and whether the wire is straight or coiled, and if coiled, how many turns of wire there are in the coil.

This fluctuating magnetic field will induce an identical electrical current in any wire (or coil of wire such as a t-coil) that lies inside this magnetic field. Thus, if you have the t-coils in your hearing aids turned on, any nearby fluctuating magnetic field will induce an identical signal into your t-coils, which your hearing aids then amplify. You hear this as sound.

In order to hear sounds via your t-coils, instead of using earphones or loudspeakers, you connect a loop or coil of wire to the output of the audio device. This produces the magnetic field that your t-coils will pick up. They include such things as room loops, neckloops, silhouettes and ear links.

The room loop is the simplest to use as you do not have to do anything other than switch your hearing aids to their t-coil mode. You will then (hopefully) hear beautiful, clear sound in your ears. (In case you are interested, it is basically a loop of wire that runs around the perimeter of the room. This wire is then plugged into a loop amplifier.)

You will find room loops used in a few churches and other public buildings (Chattanooga note: City Council Chambers!) These are becoming more and more common as the word gets out.

If you wanted to, you could purchase a small loop amplifier, run a loop of wire around a room in your house and listen, for example, to your TV as long as you are inside the loop. I looped half of my house with one such amplifier. Thus I can clearly hear my TV from any place in that half of the house—both upstairs or downstairs!

If you want is a personal loop for yourself, you need to get either a neckloop, silhouette, or ear link that can be used with small portable assistive listening devices (ALDs) such as PockeTalkers, Sound Wizards, FM systems or Infrared systems, or landline or cell phones that have the appropriate jack on them, computer, radio, TV, stereo, tape player, CD or DVD player, iPod, MP3 player, etc.

HLAA advocating for movie access



From left: John Fithian (NATO, president & CEO); John Stanton (AG Bell, volunteer); Anna Gilmore Hall (Hearing Loss Association of America, executive director); Andrew Phillips (NAD, policy counsel); I. King Jordan, Ph.D. (Gallaudet University, president emeritus, and ALDA); Randy Smith (Regal Entertainment Group, senior vice president, chief administrative officer & counsel)

HLAA, along with Alexander Graham Bell Association, Association of Late Deafened Adults, National Association of the Deaf, and National Association of Theatre Owners held a joint press conference at the National Press Club on Friday, November 21 to announce an agreement to file joint recommendations with the Department of Justice regarding its Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) on captioning equipment in U.S. movie theaters. HLAA will also be filing additional comments with the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) in response to other questions raised by DOJ in the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) but not covered in the joint agreement with NATO.

After several weeks of discussions, *the five organizations agreed on a set of recommendations to the DOJ to improve access to movies for deaf and hard of hearing patrons.* To see the set of recommendations visit our website under advocacy news hearingloss.org/content/advocacy-people-hearing-loss

- Closed captioning (CC) and audio description (AD) technologies are to be installed in all digital movie theater auditoriums nationwide.
- The joint plan establishes certain minimum closed captioning device requirements with a monitoring requirement. This flexible, market-responsive device scoping method will ensure access for all deaf and hard of hearing patrons and respond to actual consumer demand.
- The compliance period has been restructured to reflect reasonable timelines in delivery and installation of CC and AD systems.

In addition to these and other requirements regarding marketing, staff training, and equipment maintenance, the movie theater industry and the advocacy groups have committed to voluntary actions (attached) to expand access to the movies. These include:

- Encouraging movie distributors to provide CC and AD data files on all movies and trailers.
- Encouraging movie distributors to provide theaters with information on the availability of CC and AD technologies in advance of the film's release so this information can be included in show time listings.

**HCAA Chattanooga Chapter Treasury Report
November 07, 2014 - January 09, 2015**

Beginning Balance (Nov. 07, 2014)	\$6,292.30
Deposits & Credits	85.00
Withdrawals	0.00
Checks:	
#641 HCAA Rocky Stone Founders Month	
Donation	500.00
Total	\$500.00
Ending Balance (Jan. 09, 2015)	\$5,877.30

Note:

The following outstanding check has been determined to be lost: #625 [6/14/14, \$250] TN Hands & Voices advocacy support

Beatrice R. Lyons, Treasurer

Marty Dunagan
Director

423.805.3025

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Chattanooga, TN 37411

www.facebook.com/martyscenter



STATE OF TENNESSEE
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

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Fax: 423-634-8721

Video Phone Number: [REDACTED]

423-933-1228



Carmike Cinemas



Movie fan?

The following Carmike Cinemas in the Chattanooga area now provide captioning in their theaters:

- Wynnsong 10 on Gunbarrel Rd.
- Majestic 12 on Broad St.
- Northgate 14 behind Northgate Mall
- Bradley Square 12 in Cleveland

SAVE THE DATE!

CONVENTION 2015
Hearing Loss Association of America

June 25 - 28

See the Convention Facebook page for lots of info!
<https://www.facebook.com/events/1462654163992018/>



Meeting Communication Needs of Students with Hearing, Vision, or Speech Disabilities

What do Federal laws require of a public school to meet the communication needs of students with hearing, vision, or speech disabilities?

- Under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), schools must provide a student with a disability a free appropriate public education (FAPE) designed to provide meaningful educational benefit through an Individualized Education Program (IEP).
- Under Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, schools must, without charge, ensure that communication with students with disabilities is as effective as communication with students without disabilities, giving primary consideration to students and parents in determining which auxiliary aids and services are necessary to provide such effective communication.

Will the aids and services required be the same under both Federal laws?

- It depends on the individual needs of the particular student.
- Sometimes the special education and related services provided to a student as part of FAPE under the IDEA will also meet the Title II requirements. In other instances, in order to meet the Title II requirements, a school might have to provide a student with aids or services that are not required by FAPE.
- Some services related to communication, like teaching a child to read Braille or understand sign language, are not required by Title II's effective communication requirement but may be required by FAPE.

Does the school have to give a student the aid or service the parents request?

- Under Title II, the school must provide the aid or service requested unless the school can prove that a different auxiliary aid or service is as effective in meeting the student's communication needs (in which case the school must provide that alternative), or the school can prove that the aid or service would result in a fundamental alteration or in undue financial and administrative burdens (in which case the school must take other steps to ensure that the student can participate).

- Schools are not required to provide aids or services greater than what is needed to ensure effective communication, or to comply with requests about details of the aid or service (such as particular brands or models) that are not relevant to its effectiveness.

What types of aids or services could be required for students?

- There are no categorical rules. A school must assess the needs of each individual.
- For a student who is deaf, deaf-blind, or hard of hearing, some examples are: exchange of written materials, interpreters, note takers, real-time computer-aided transcription services (for example, CART), assistive listening systems, accessible electronic and information technology, and open and closed captioning.
- For a student who is blind, deaf-blind, or has low vision, some examples are: qualified readers, taped texts, audio recordings, Braille materials and refreshable Braille displays, accessible e-book readers, screen reader software, magnification software, optical readers, secondary auditory programs (SAP), and large print materials.
- For a student with a speech disability, some examples are: a word or letter board, writing materials, spelling to communicate, a qualified sign language interpreter, a portable device that writes and/or produces speech, and telecommunications services.

Continued on Page 4

Communication Needs: Continued From Page 3

Where can I get more information about the rights of students with hearing, vision, or speech disabilities?

• The U.S. Department of Education’s Office for Civil Rights (OCR) and Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services, along with the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ), have issued a Dear Colleague Letter and a Frequently Asked Questions document explaining what federal law requires of schools to meet the communication needs of students with hearing, vision, or speech disabilities.

What can a parent do if the school won’t give a child what the parent thinks is needed?

- Arrange to meet with the IEP or 504 team or the school’s Title II or 504 Coordinator.
- Consider using the school district’s published disability grievance procedures.
- Under the IDEA, a parent challenging the provision of FAPE may request mediation, may file a complaint with the State educational agency, or may request an impartial administrative hearing by filing a due process complaint.

- Under Title II, a parent may choose to file a lawsuit in court. Parents of an IDEA-eligible student generally must exhaust the administrative hearing procedures of the IDEA, which means obtaining a final decision under the IDEA’s impartial due process hearing procedures, before filing a lawsuit seeking a remedy that is also available under the IDEA.
- OCR and DOJ both investigate complaints of disability discrimination at schools.
- To learn how to file a complaint with OCR, call 800-421-3481 (TDD: 800-877-8339), email ocr@ed.gov, or go to www.ed.gov/ocr/complaintintro.html.
- To learn how to file a complaint with DOJ, call 800-514-0301 (TTY: 800-514-0383), Email ADA.complaint@usdoj.gov, or go to www.ada.gov/fact_on_complaint.htm.

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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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JANUARY MEETING:

Sunday, January 18 • 2pm
Ronald McDonald Community Room

Topic: “How the state's distribution program can assist citizens with getting a Captel phone”

Speaker:

Quinnon Taylor, Tennessee Outreach Coordinator for Captel Services powered by Hamilton Relay.

Also: More Walk4Hearing Funding Suggestions

Refreshments: Bea Lyons & Betty Proctor

Door Greeter: Charles & Diane Slover

Captioning: Joyce Casey

Room also is looped for use with telecoils

<http://www.hearingchattanooga.org>
www.facebook.com/hearingchattanooga