

Chapter Calendar of Events

FEBRUARY 2017

- 2, 9 16, 23 - Happy Hands meets, Hamilton Place Food Court, 4:30pm. Practice signs, make new friends!
- 15 - Ruth Fox' birthday
- 16 - "Lovesick" **Captioned Play**, 7pm, Chattanooga Theatre Centre; tickets \$23/\$25.
- 18 - Deaf Chat meets at Hamilton Place Starbucks, 10am. Practice signs, make new friends!
- 19 - HLAA Meeting, 2pm, Ronald McDonald House, 911 Services Update for People with hearing loss
- 21 - Deaf Senior Citizens Meeting



MARCH 2017

- 2, 9 16, 23, 30 - Happy Hands meets, Hamilton Place Food Court, 4:30pm. Practice signs, make new friends!
- 3 - Marty Dunagan's birthday
- 13 - Helen Kitchings birthday
- 15 - Cindy Groves birthday
- 18 - Deaf Chat meets at Hamilton Place Starbucks, 10am. Practice signs, make new friends!
- 19 - HLAA Meeting, 2pm, Ronald McDonald House, Topic TBA
- 21 - Deaf Senior Citizens Meeting
- 31 - Early-bird registration for the HLAA convention closes

APRIL 2017

- 6, 13, 20, 17- Happy Hands meets, Hamilton Place Food Court, 4:30pm. Practice signs, make new friends!
- 7 - Larry Judd's birthday
- 8 - Bill Bennett's birthday
- 10 - Mary Elam, Rebecca Walls birthdays
- 13 - Cheryl Judd's birthday
- 15 - Deaf Chat meets at Hamilton Place Starbucks, 10am. Practice signs, make new friends!
- 16 - HLAA Meeting, 2pm, Ronald McDonald House, Topic TBA
- 16 - Alexandria Ingram's birthday
- 17 - Wanda Threat's birthday
- 18 - Deaf Senior Citizens Meeting

Hearing Loss Association of America

Chattanooga Chapter

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

January 29, 2017

Jeff Carney, Director of Operations at 911 will come share updated information about 911 Services and Accessibility for Hamilton County Citizens



Next Meeting: Sunday, Feb. 19 @ 2pm
Ronald McDonald House, Chattanooga



Chapter News

Our guest speaker for the February 19 Chattanooga HLAA meeting will be 911 Operations Director Jeff Carney.

According to the 911 website, Carney is responsible for the direction and overall performance of the 911 Center and oversees the three shift supervisors, training and quality assurance supervisor, and the terminal agency coordinator.

If you recall, Jeff addressed our group in October of 2013. Some of us had attended the 2013 HLAA convention in Portland Oregon and learned that the FCC mandated that all carriers must provide text and video messaging to 911 services during 2014. Since we are now in 2017, it will be interesting to learn what progress has been made.

Don't miss this opportunity to find out what text/video services to 911 have been implemented in the Chattanooga area. To read up on 911 Operations, visit <http://www.hc911.org>.

HLAA Convention Scholarship Deadline February 17

If you're an HLAA member who has never attended an HLAA Convention before you are eligible to apply for the **Rocky and Ahme Stone Endowment Scholarship**. But hurry, the deadline is approaching! Refer to the Scholarship Criteria, complete the Scholarship Application and **submit it by February 17** to be considered.

See <http://www.hearingloss.org/content/convention-scholarships>



PARTNERSHIPS

HLAA Partners With National Court Reporters Foundation on Hard-of-Hearing Heroes Project

The Hard-of-Hearing Heroes Project is a new initiative launched by the National Court Reporters Foundation (NCRF). The aim is to preserve the experiences of veterans with hearing loss for the Library of Congress Veterans History Project. Veterans with hearing loss will be interviewed for the project using CART (Communication Access Realtime Translation) captioning. NCRF and HLAA have partnered to interview multiple veterans with profound hearing loss at the HLAA office in Bethesda, Maryland on February 18, and at the HLAA2017 Convention in Salt Lake City in June. **Please sign up by contacting April Weiner, NCRF manager, at aweiner@ncra.org.**

For more information contact Nancy Macklin at nmacklin@hearingloss.org.

ADVOCACY

Barbara Kelley and **Lise Hamlin** represented HLAA at several meetings with the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) this past week. They met with the staff of each of the three FCC

Commissioners, the staff of the Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau and the staff of the Disability Rights Office. The goal of the meetings was to ensure that standards for volume control on cell phones are included in an item currently before the FCC. HLAA was supported by representatives from Gallaudet University's Rehabilitation Engineering Research Center, Telecommunication for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, National Association of the Deaf, and Communication Services for the Deaf.

SOCIAL MEDIA

HLAA Is Now on Instagram!

Join the conversation and follow us on Instagram at [@hearinglossassociation](https://www.instagram.com/hearinglossassociation).

And if you haven't already, make sure you connect with us on Facebook and Twitter as well!

- Follow Executive Director Barbara Kelley on Twitter [@BKelley_HLAA](https://twitter.com/BKelley_HLAA).
- Follow HLAA on Facebook at facebook.com/HearingLossAssociation and on Twitter [@HLAA](https://twitter.com/HLAA).
- Follow the Walk4Hearing on Facebook at facebook.com/Walk4Hearing and on Twitter [@Walk4Hearing](https://twitter.com/Walk4Hearing).

NIH Reports Hearing Loss Prevalence in US Adults Is Declining

Published on 12/16/2016 in The Hearing Review

New research findings announced by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) reveal that hearing loss among US adults aged 20 to 69 has declined over the last decade, even as the population of older Americans continues to grow. These findings, published online December 15, 2016 in JAMA Otolaryngology–Head & Neck Surgery, also confirm that hearing loss is strongly associated with age and other demographic factors such as sex, race/ethnicity, and education.

According to the research, noise exposure, which is potentially preventable, was also significant but less strongly associated after adjustment for other factors. The research was supported by the National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders (NIDCD), part of the National Institutes of Health (NIH), and the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), part of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Researchers found that age was the strongest predictor of hearing loss, with the greatest likelihood of hearing loss in the oldest age group surveyed (aged 60 to 69). Across all ages, men were about twice as likely as women to have hearing loss. In addition, lower education level and heavy use of firearms were associated with hearing loss. Non-Hispanic white adults were more likely to have hearing loss than adults in other ethnic groups, with non-Hispanic black adults having the lowest risk.

NIH says the researchers do not know the reasons for the decline in hearing loss prevalence, but they speculate that possible factors could include fewer manufacturing jobs, increased use of hearing protectors, less smoking, and advances in healthcare, including better medical care to manage risk factors associated with hearing loss.

To read the full article, see http://www.hearingreview.com/2016/12/nih-reports-hearing-loss-prevalence-us-adults-declining/?utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_term=HR+Insider+12%2F22&sp_rid=NjA2NjQwNjY3MTUS1&sp_mid=16189066&sp_inm=S%7CNIH%20Reports%20Hearing%20Loss%20Prevalence%20in%20US%20Adults%20Is%20Declining&spMailin-gID=16189066&spUserID=NjA2NjQwNjY3MTUS1&spJobID=922056030&spReportId=OTlyMDU2MDMwS0ing&spMailingID=16189066&spUserID=NjA2NjQwNjY3MTUS1&spJobID=922056030&spReportId=OTlyMDU2MDMwS0

**NEXT REPORT WILL BE IN THE FEBRUARY 12 NEWSLETTER
HLAA Chattanooga Chapter Treasury Report
December 02, 2016 – January 15, 2017**

Beginning Balance (December 02, 2016)	\$3,870.90
Deposits & Credits	00.00
Withdrawals	00.00
Checks:	
#1015 Susie Collins Sertoma Dues	280.00
#1016 Signal Centers AT Expo Registration	25.00
#1017 Chapter Donation: Rocky Stone Founders	500.00
Total:	805.00
Ending Balance January 15, 2017	\$3,065.90

Beatrice R. Lyons, Treasurer
Chattanooga Chapter, HLAA
Chattanooga, TN

IMPORTANT:
Checks for membership dues
MUST be made out to HLAA.
\$35 Individual & \$45 Family