



Monthly Chapter Meeting

1st Monday of the month at 1:30-3:00 p.m.
Except June, July & August; on holidays, meets 2nd
Monday

Veterans Memorial Senior Center
1455 Madison Avenue, Redwood City, CA 94061
One block from Jefferson Avenue & Valota Road

**Register to attend Zoom meetings on our
website:**

<https://hearinglossca.org/peninsula/>

Presentations

January 6 – **ZOOM ONLY**

Thibault Duchemin, CEO, will explain AVA's
real-time captioning for personal conversations
and meetings

February 3 – **ZOOM ONLY**

Brian Trieu-Mallari, PT, DPT, Neuro Physical
Therapist, and owner of Homestretch Neuro
Physical Therapy, will speak about the benefits
of physical therapy for people with vestibular
conditions and hearing loss

March 3 – **To be determined**

Hearing Other Peoples Experiences. We can
learn a lot from one another as we talk about
our hearing loss journey. Bob Hall,
Psychologist, will moderate this meeting. Be
thinking about your hearing loss and events or
circumstances that have been good or not so
good for your ability to communicate with
others

Special Meetings

Saturday Connections

2nd Saturday of the month,
11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
except June, July, August, December
(Meeting online until further notice)

Meniere's

2nd Friday of the month
12 noon-1:00 p.m.
(Meeting online until further notice)

Please contact us if you are interested in
attending any of our meetings. We'll put you on
the roster for the next meeting. You'll then
receive an invitation and a link to attend.

info@hearinglosspen.org

<https://hearinglossca.org/peninsula/>

Our mission is to support, educate and
advocate for persons with hearing loss.



3555 Alameda de las Pulgas,
Suite 100
Menlo Park, CA 94025
650-854-1980

496 First Street, Suite 120
Los Altos, CA 94022
650-941-0664

CO-PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE
Robert Hall



Sally will be out of town when we have our Holiday party. Her sister has been quite ill and she has gone back to Pennsylvania for her sister's funeral. Sally: Our thought and prayers are with you.

I talked with Austin Watts at Veterans Memorial Senior Center. I was curious when the new building would be open and ready for occupancy, and we could have some in-person meetings again. Austin told me that a more likely date of occupancy will be September 2025.

We had a wonderful Holiday Party. There were 25 people who attended, and we socialized, ate and had a white elephant gift exchange. It was good to see others with hearing loss and catch up.

The last issue of *Hearing Life* had a reminder that one can donate money for your dues to HLAA and that \$45.00 received by HLAA would count for your dues and pay for the *Hearing Life* print addition. You will get *Hearing Life* in your in your email if you don't pay \$45.00. Any donations to the Hearing Loss Association of America are tax deductible.

HLAA has over-hauled their website. If you have not logged in for a while you may wish to do so to see what is there: www.hearingloss.org . Not every section is a finished product, but I noticed that a great deal had been done since I first looked at the new version several weeks ago. The goal of this revision is to make it easier to navigate and find the information you want. I'm told that some information in the prior version has not yet been reloaded.

This update was badly needed. While the old website was full of information, it was often difficult to find. Over the years HLAA added new layers to what they offered. The new version integrates the information much better. The top menu, when you log in, shows what is covered: Understanding Hearing Loss, Find Help, Advocacy & Resources, Get Involved, About HLAA. Under each of those headers are sub-headings. I urge you to look at the first heading, Understanding Hearing Loss, to see how the information about hearing loss is ordered and how it leads you to what you want to know.

Bob Hall

CHAPTER NEWS – Holiday Party

We had a wonderful time at our annual holiday party on December 2nd. Hope to see you there next year!



CHAPTER NEWS – Holiday Party (continued)



CHAPTER NEWS – Scholarship Update by Kate Szentkuti



We have been offering scholarships to San Mateo County high school seniors with hearing loss and BIG plans for their futures for several years now. Since we began our program in 2017, we have awarded over \$40,000 in scholarships to 17 graduating high school seniors. For the first time we have counselors contacting us to ask for information and applications. Our eligibility requirements are that a student either live in or attend school in San Mateo County, have a documented hearing loss, and have plans to attend a college (2 or 4 year) or trade school. Contact scholarship@hearinglosspen.org for more information.

Below is a half-page flyer—please print and post anywhere you feel it will be seen by our target audience of students and parents.

Kate Szentkuti, HLAA – Peninsula Chapter Scholarship Committee



Cut here



SCHOLARSHIP AVAILABLE COLLEGE, JUNIOR COLLEGE, TRADE SCHOOL FOR GRADUATING SENIORS WITH DOCUMENTED HEARING LOSS

**OFFERED BY PENINSULA CHAPTER OF HEARING LOSS
ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA**

APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE AT scholarship@hearinglosspen.org

CHAPTER NEWS

PUBLICITY AND ADVOCACY UPDATE by Ken Peters

I am giving power point presentations at senior centers and residential communities on the Peninsula and South Bay. The topic is “Hearing Loss in Seniors” which includes information about both the National HLAA as well as our HLAA Peninsula Chapter.

I gave a presentation last month at Town Park Towers in San Jose which was well received. I am scheduled for three more talks which will be given at Palo Alto Commons, The Forum at Rancho San Antonio and Gateway, Santa Clara. Please let me know if you have any connections at other venues. Also, we encourage you to distribute our chapter flyer in areas of public interest. I can send you a PDF that you can download and copy.

You can reach me at kpeters@pacbell.net

SATURDAY CONNECTIONS by Jaynie Kind

Did you know our chapter meets on Zoom once a month on the second Saturday at 11:30-1:00pm Pacific Time? There’s no speaker and for the agenda, we write down what everyone would like to get out of the meeting (coping, technology, or “I’m just here to listen”, etc.).

Each of us who attends finds that we learn something at every meeting. Won’t you join us sometime? You can register by going to <https://hearinglossca.org/events/> and looking at the EVENTS at the top right. Scroll down to find the meeting date you’re interested in and click on the for the link to register.

(P.S. At the November meeting, there was a discussion about music and hearing loss. One of the attendees mentioned a Facebook group: “Association of Adult Musicians with Hearing Loss”. It’s private and you can request to join the group if you’re interested.)

CHAPTER NEWS – Tidbits from our members who want to share.

HeardThat – Easier conversations in noisy places - A review by Steve Sells

HeardThat, available on both the Apple store and the Google store, uses AI to separate speech from background noise, using your phone's built-in microphone. How? It is described on the HeardThat website, <https://heardthat.ai>.

To listen to HeardThat's output, link your phone via Bluetooth to your hearing aid or cochlear implant. Technical support for such a configuration is available by clicking on the Feedback button. Try out HeardThat for yourself.

The actual performance of HeardThat noise removal is very good, sometimes excellent even. I've been very impressed with what HeardThat can do. I haven't tried the food court environment used for the website demo.



Eyeglasses that Caption by Carolyn Odio



The co-founder of AirCaps has also contacted me asking for doing a demo...Here is their website and also competitors that I know about.

Does anyone know of other competitors / information on eyeglasses that caption? I am very curious about this field.

Eyeglasses that Caption

AirCaps Eyeglasses with captioning (**\$699**) [Click Here](#)

Hearsight with Active Look's ENGO Glasses with captioning (\$300+\$150/yr) [Click Here](#)

TranscribeGlass Eyeglasses with captioning (**Beta**) [Click Here](#)

Xander Eyeglasses with captioning (**\$4,999**) [Click Here](#)

Xrai.glass Eyeglasses with captioning (\$1,000) [Click Here](#)

CHAPTER NEWS – More Tidbits from our members who want to share.

I watched a meeting at the NYC chapter about “Communication Access in Health Care: Barriers and Solutions” from the NYC chapter. It covers all health care providers, in that they have to provide some accommodations. I thought it was really good and asked for the link in case you’d like to see it as well..

<https://www.hearinglossnyc.org/meetings-topics>

Jaynie

Recordings of Peninsula Chapter Meetings

Did you miss some of our chapter meetings? Alan Katsura from Diablo Valley volunteered to edit them and put them on the HLAA-CA YouTube page. Thank you, Alan! They are all captioned. Here are a few of the most recent links:

What’s New at InnoCaption (1/2024)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v65bHFRgDOw>

Amptify, Hearing Health Reimagined! (2/2024)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bjfa8kgnYKs>

Raising Awareness on Hearing Loss in Workplace: Challenges, Advocacy & Inclusion, Pat Dobbs, (5/2024)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_snOVBit49c

Latest Updates on Cochlear Implant Technology, Dr. Blevins (9/2024)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D6dTpTG742E>

Hearing Loss & Our Friends & Loved Ones, Pat Dobbs (10/2024)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0TA3ai2sfsI>

THANK YOU!

We are so grateful to our donors. All donations to our chapter have helped pay for our captioning, student scholarships, refreshments, convention scholarships, brochures, and assistive listening demo devices.

(No new donations since the last newsletter)

If we have missed someone, please let us know as we want to acknowledge each of you.



If you would like to donate to our chapter directly, and/or have your family or friends donate instead of giving you a present, please tell Eliot, our chapter treasurer if it's an occasion such as a Birthday, In Memory Of, Congratulations, etc., and to whom to send the acknowledgement.

Please make checks payable to HLAA-Peninsula Chapter and mail it to:

Eliot Terborgh
57 Parkwood Drive
Atherton, CA 94027

(HLAA-Peninsula Chapter is a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Your donation to our chapter is tax deductible to the extent allowable by law.)

JOIN OR RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP IN THE HEARING LOSS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA!

HLAA ADVOCATES FOR YOU!

HLAA has started a new membership policy. To become a member or renew your membership, you now only need to make a donation of \$1.00/year or as much as you feel led to donate. If you want a hard copy of the HLAA magazine, "Hearing Life," the cost is \$45/year, sent to you by the national office. Otherwise, it is available free online at hearingloss.org/hearing-life-issues. One rationale for this change in policy is that there have been two groups supporting HLAA: members and donors who are not members. This policy combining the two groups better represents our actual number of supporters. If you are a current member, you do not need to renew your membership until 2025 (although all donations are welcome). To join/renew, go to www.hearingloss.org/membership or call 301-657-2248. Please remember to say you are with Peninsula Chapter.

SAVE THE DATES



Get Revved Up for the HLAA 2025 Convention

Start your engine and join us at HLAA's 40th annual convention, June 11–14, 2025, in Indianapolis, IN—host of the famous Indy 500 automobile race. Our annual event brings together hundreds of people with hearing loss from around the U.S. to learn, discover and connect. Check out the latest technology and hear from health and industry experts during a series of empowering events designed to help you live your best life with hearing loss.



Online registration will be available starting in January 2025, with Early Bird Rates through March 14.



Our local Walk is Sunday, May 18, 2025 In Alameda, CA

FIRST CLASS MAIL

Contact : Email: info@hearinglosspen.org; Telephone: 650-529-5445

HEARING LOSS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

The Hearing Loss Association of America (HLAA) is the nation's foremost membership and advocacy organization for people with hearing loss. The National support network includes the Maryland office, 14 state organizations, and 200 local chapters. Hearing loss is a daily challenge you can overcome. You do not have to hide your hearing loss. You do not have to face hearing loss alone.

Resources:

Hearing Loss Association of America-Peninsula Chapter:

<https://hearinglossca.org/peninsula/>

Hearing Loss Association of America: www.hearingloss.org

Hearing Loss Association of California: <http://www.hearinglossca.org>

Hearing Aid Reviews, Audiologists, etc. <https://www.hearingtracker.com>

CTAP and CRS (telephone access): <https://ddtp.cpuc.ca.gov>

Young Adults Social Network 18-35: https://www.hearingloss.org/hearing-help/communities/students_youngadults/

American Tinnitus Association: www.ata.org

Hearing loops: www.hearingloop.org

To find and add venues that offer ALDs and Loops: www.ALDLocator.com

To find and install loops: www.loopamerica.com

Quick statistics about Hearing: <https://www.nidcd.nih.gov/health/statistics/quick-statistics-hearing>

Speech Recognition Test: <https://appsprod.ad.rit.edu/NSRT/>