



Monthly Chapter Meeting

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

Our meeting place in Redwood City is under construction. When we can meet again in person, we'll let you know.

Special Meetings

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

Presentations

September 8 – ZOOM ONLY
Tom Pritsky, CEO of Captify Glass
A demonstration of smart glasses with
built-in captions designed specifically for
the deaf and hard of hearing

October 7 – To Be Announced

November 3 – ZOOM ONLY
"Is there a cochlear implant in your
future? If so, join us to hear from three
HLAA chapter members who have gone
through the CI experience."

**December 1 – In Person at Vet Memorial
Holiday Party**

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

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

**Once you register, you'll receive an
email with the link to join.**

If you have more questions, feel free to
contact us at **info@hearinglosspen.org**

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

Newsletter
Sponsor



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-PRESIDENTS MESSAGE
Sally Edwards and Bob Hall



Dear Friends,

I hope you are all enjoying this lovely summer and our so-far wonderful weather. Bob and I are both writing this message. I'll start.

The Bay Area Walk4Hearing in May was a great success. We raised a total of \$44,060, toward the \$50,000 goal, and more than last year! Our chapter

donations totaled \$5,300! I'm so proud of all of us! Thank you each and every one of you who donated to our Walk and to those who attended. It was quite a day! Our chapter will receive a portion of our donations which provides for our operating expenses as we have no chapter dues. Speaking of dues, if you haven't already done so, please send your annual HLAA dues (\$1.00 or whatever you feel led to give) to National. If you want a hard copy of the Hearing Life Magazine, that's \$45 more. Otherwise, you can request an email copy of the magazine for free when you donate. (Renewal information is near the end of this newsletter.)

The annual HLAA National Convention was in Indianapolis in June. Unfortunately, none of our chapter members attended this year. The reviews as usual were very positive. Let's get some of us there next summer. It will be in Louisville, KY, June 10-12, 2026.

We just had our annual summer picnic in July and as usual it was special and delicious. One of the two scholarship recipients attended, Hudson was very happy to receive the \$4,000 scholarship. He's off to San Diego State in the Fall. Jaynie took pictures as usual. Thank you, Jaynie.

September 8 and October 6 are important chapter meetings which will be on zoom. We are still waiting for the new Vets Memorial Sr. Center to open so we can resume in-person, hopefully hybrid meetings. It is now projected to be December 2025 at the earliest. At the September meeting we accept nominations for the officers for the next two years and at the October meeting, vote on and install them.

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CO-PRESIDENTS MESSAGE (continued from page 2)

Well, this is the hard part of this message. After 16 yrs as president or co-president, I will be leaving this office in October when we vote on and install the officers for the next 2-year term. This has been a hard decision but necessary as I focus my energies primarily on my dear husband who has significant health needs. I will stay active, just not as your co-president. It is my joy working with you. I am blessed by our friendships. Thank you for all you do for our great chapter.

Sally

I too am stepping down from the Co-Presidency. It is time. So please offer to provide leadership for our chapter. We have a board of 11 members. If you are not sure what the President or co-Presidents do, just ask. Sally and I will still be here.

The chapter has many tasks ahead and will take the participation of as many members as possible. We will be moving into the new Redwood City Community building, and we need to advertise that to our members. That could happen as early as December. In the absence of the San Jose Chapter and the San Francisco Chapter, we need to find a way to engage persons with hearing loss from San Francisco to San Jose about what we do and invite them to join us. Having a working hybrid system will be instrumental for that task.

The Saturday Connections meeting will continue to be virtual. That is an ideal place to convey information about hearing loss and aid those who are just learning about their loss.

Bob

WE HAVE OPENINGS FOR TWO CO-PRESIDENTS. Obviously, this is a huge need. PLEASE CONSIDER VOLUNTEERING TO GO ON THE BALLOT or talk to someone you think would be open to applying. You don't have to do it alone. You may nominate yourself. We have a board of 11 members who all work together to lead our great chapter. It is a collaborative effort. If you would like to have more info about the role of co-president, please contact Bob or me, Sally. My email is sallyedwards888@gmail.com.

CHAPTER NEWS – SCHOLARSHIP UPDATE by Kate Szentkuti



The Scholarship committee awarded two scholarships this year of \$4,000 each. We are very excited to make the awards to two very outstanding students.

The back story of how Ashlyn came to learn of our scholarship is unusual and I take away the lesson of you just never know how you can make an impact on someone's life. Raegene Castle, a former President of our Chapter and our biggest fundraiser, was talking with her nurse at the hospital. Raegene was telling the nurse all about HLAA and our "wonderful group" and, of course, about the scholarship we offer. The nurse's reply: "I have a friend...." Enter Ashlyn who attended Hillsdale High School. Ashlyn is a golfer, winner of many golfing awards. She competed for the US Deaf Golf Association and Team USA at the Deaflympics in Brazil and will again this Fall in Japan. She will attend George Fox University in Oregon, majoring in Business Management and continue to play golf.

Our second winner is Hudson, who attended Terra Nova High School in Pacifica. Hudson played water polo during his four years of high school. He was on the Pacifica Youth Advisory Board, participating and helping to organize activities for seniors as well as teens. He plans to attend San Diego State with an open mind as to what he plans to study. Hudson came to our picnic and charmed us all—he is very articulate and willingly shared his plans, over and over!

The Chapter has been supportive of our efforts, and we appreciate that. If you have expertise or interest in grant writing, we would love to hear from you! If you wish to donate specifically to the Scholarship Fund, please indicate that on your contribution.

Kate Szentkuti

CHAPTER NEWS - PUBLICITY AND ADVOCACY UPDATE by Ken Peters



My educational Power Point presentations on “Hearing Loss in Seniors” continue to be well received. We are having 30 to 100 attendees at each presentation including recent ones at Sons in Retirement, The Mountain View Senior Center and Los Altos Senior Center.

Future presentations are scheduled for Redwood City Senior Center on August 20th via Zoom and an in person talk on September 24 to take place at The Veterans Memorial Center in Redwood City. I will also be speaking at The Palo Alto Vi Senior Residential Center on September 26 as well as The San Carlos Senior Center on September 29.

The talks include information about HLAA and our local HLAA Peninsula Chapter. All attendees receive our chapter flyer which has a QR code and printed website address which can be used to provide their contact information.

Feel free to attend any of the presentations and share your experiences. If interested, please contact me at kpeters@pacbell.net Also please let me know of any presentation opportunities. Thanks for your support.

Advocacy- I have been in touch with Neil Snyder who is Director of Public Policy at HLAA and will be receiving more information on both national and local advocacy issues. Please let me know if you have any advocacy issues that I could look into.

CHAPTER NEWS – July Picnic held at the beautiful Elks Lodge, Redwood City



Left to Right: Mary, Larry, Kathleen, Jim, Hudson (one of our scholarship recipients), Jaynie, Eliot, Sally, Kate, Sister Ann, Annette, Steve, Paul, Bonnie (hidden behind Paul), Bob



See you next year!

CHAPTER NEWS-Our Chapter Goes to the WALK4HEARING held at the beautiful Robert W. Crown Memorial State Beach in Alameda

A “Where’s Waldo” version of “Can you find our chapter members?”



(Photo courtesy of Peter Townsend, East Bay Chapter)

Bob & Sharon (left at the end); Ken (center in bright green tshirt with arms raised); Bonnie (center in orange shirt, white hat, pink sunglasses); Sally Edwards (center in front of Eliot and to the right of Bonnie); Eliot (center and behind Bonnie); Janet (right in front of Eliot, between Bonnie and Sally, in light blue dress and wide brimmed hat with :Queenie”, her hearing dog at her feet.

See you next year!



TIDBITS FROM OUR MEMBERS WHO WANT TO SHARE

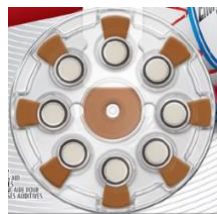
Frustrated by Hearing Aid Battery Packaging? By Neil Snyder, HLAA Director of Public Policy <https://www.hearingloss.org/frustrated-by-hearing-aid-battery-packaging/>

This is an excellent article. For instance, I didn't know I should NOT just put several into a pill bottle. After reading this article, I searched for a battery caddy. There were lots on Amazon but not small and portable for hearing aid batteries, that I could see. I bought these on Etsy by searching "hearing aid battery case 13" (I needed a case to fit the slightly bigger hearing aid batteries for my power aids). I loaded my batteries in and was able to retrieve them easily. The light blue one on the right is lighter than the gray.

(Jaynie Kind)



Child-resistant packaging



Old-style packaging



Battery dispensers



A Review of "Deaf President Now!" (by Eliot Terborgh, with a little help from ChatGPT).

Deaf President Now! is a powerful 2025 documentary directed by Nyle DiMarco and Davis Guggenheim that recounts the historic 1988 student protest at Gallaudet University. When a hearing candidate was chosen over two qualified Deaf applicants for university president, students shut down the campus in an eight-day demonstration that ultimately led to the appointment of I. King Jordan, the school's first Deaf president.

Critics praise the film for its emotional depth and inventive use of sound and ASL to convey Deaf perspectives. With strong reviews from outlets like *Screen Rant*, [RogerEbert.com](https://www.rogerebert.com), and *The Atlantic*, the documentary is both a compelling piece of activism and a moving tribute to the power of community-led change.

As one who grew up in the Washington, DC area, I have always been aware of Gallaudet, so this documentary really caught my interest. It is very well done and can be streamed on Apple TV or Amazon Prime Video.

CHAPTER NEWS- HLAA Membership Report by Kate Szentkuti

Bargain Hunters Alert! HLAA has a complete change in membership policy and costs. ANY contribution of one dollar or more will entitle you to all the available perks that membership can bring. The only exception is that the magazine will be online only—to receive a print copy of the magazine, you will need to make a minimum donation of \$45 which helps cover printing and mailing costs—pretty fair. Joining Hearing Loss Association of America gives them the bragging rights of support from larger numbers of people that live with hearing loss and gives HLAA greater influence.

It is going to be more your responsibility to keep your membership current. I am hearing that people are not receiving renewal reminders. Mark your calendars! HLAA renewals can be made online through the website, or a check can be mailed:

Hearingloss.org

**Hearing Loss Association of America
P.O.Box 736444
Chicago, IL 60673-6444**

An email went out in early June to update our chapter email list, and to be sure that people who have expressed interest in our activities are still interested, whether it is in the newsletters, the Zoom meetings, or the Saturday Connections, picnics or holiday get togethers. To remain on the mailing list, we will need to hear back from you prior to October.

Thanks to everyone for their support in this safe place, where we can be ourselves, say “huh”, “what” and learn about how to navigate this crazy world.

Kate Szentkuti

P.S. And here’s a nice response to that email, thank you Gail!

I was wondering when my dues to HLAA were due. I never received any notice from HLAA so thank you for advising me. I just made my donation so hopefully you will see my name as a current member once it gets processed.

The Peninsula Chapter is so active and has so many great speakers and guests at our meetings. I really appreciate all the work everyone puts into making the Chapter so rewarding for the members.

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.

**These are our latest donations, all directed to our scholarship fund:
Hannig Sail it Forward Foundation
Easter Cross Association
Bonnie Neylan**

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.)

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:



Travel with Hearing Loss and An Update on CTAP (4/7/2025)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xM0M-dVG1BM>

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/>