

Hear Ye, Hear Ye

You asked for it - and here it is!
HLA-FL Chapter Collaboration
Workshop II : May 4, 2013

HLA-FL is planning a second Chapter Collaboration Workshop following the overwhelming response to the first Workshop this past March. Once again, the focus will be for leaders of all the state's chapters to come together to brainstorm innovative solutions for the common major issues and opportunities that we share.



The event in March featured 23 State and Chapter leaders representing 12 chapters in a roundtable discussion with HLAA Executive Director, Brenda Battat and the American Academy of Audiology's immediate past President, Dr. Pat Kricos. An audience of some 60 other state chapter members observed and participated in the lively Q&A session.

Continued on page 9



Please support
our advertisers
Caption Crew, page 8
Harris Communications, page 8

Notice is hereby given of
the Annual Meeting,
Election of Officers and
New Members of the
Hearing Loss Association
of Florida Board of
Trustees

Sat., Oct. 6, 2012 - 9 a.m.
at The Villages Public
Library at Pinellas Plaza
7375 Powell Road
Wildwood, FL 34785.
For further information email
[**judygmartin@bellsouth.net**](mailto:judygmartin@bellsouth.net)

Also in this issue:

Election Ballot, page 3
 Candidates for Election, page 4, 5, 6
 Report from the President, page 6
 Membership Committee Kick-Off, page 7
 Two Scholarships to Convention 2013, page 8
 Brenda Battat to retire, page 9
 Peer Mentors, Class of 2012, page 9
 HLA-Florida Cruise, page 11
 CAI, Tampa Town Hall Meeting, page 11
 Our Chapters Speak, pages 12, 13, 14 15
 Juliette Sterkens, page 16

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Hearing Loss Association of Florida • www.hla-fl.org

**ACTING PRESIDENT
STATE CHAPTER COORDINATOR**

Judy G. Martin, Jacksonville
judygmartin@bellsouth.net
904-778-2265

TRUSTEES

Robert Astle, Maitland
rpastle@gmail.com
407-492-4754

Theresa (Tess) Crowder, Tampa
tmt.tess@verizon.net
813-814-7736

James Diaz, Oviedo
combobulated@earthlink.net

Richard Herring, Sun City Center
rhmann@tampabay.rr.com
813-677-2192

Cell Text: 813-494-9428
Flo Innes, Sarasota
a4bh@msn.com
941-349-3057

Cynthia Moynihan, Valrico
smileasl@yahoo.com
813-684-1147

Joseph Nadeau, Miami
joe@jenadeau.com
305-666-7100

Jodi Pate, Fort Myers
305-304-9026
fishinpate@aol.com

Lynn Rousseau, Gainesville
HLAFlorida@aol.com
352-331-9808

Terri Schneider, Lakeland
atladhoney@aol.com
863-647-5700

Don M. Shaffer, Plant City
advocman4hi@yahoo.com
813-719-3074

Lisa Tanner, Plant City
lisatanneraud@adhs-brandon.com
813-601-1247

PROFESSIONAL ADVISORS

James Forstall, Tallahassee
jforstall@ftri.org
888-292-1950 X230

Dr. Patricia Kricos, Gainesville
pkricos@ufl.edu
352-273-3723

ACCOUNTANT

Don Powell, Gainesville

UPCOMING BOARD MEETINGS

Sat., Oct. 6, 2012 - The Villages Public
Library at Pinellas Plaza, 7375 Powell
Road, Wildwood, FL 34784

Sat., Feb. 2, 2013
Place TBA



If you are a member of Facebook, check us out. You can add news and photos of your chapter, send announcements of events or share hearing loss news of general interest. You can follow us on Twitter or join our Yahoo group.

www.facebook.com/HLA.Florida
twitter.com/hlaflorida
health.groups.yahoo.com/group/HLA-FL/

Attention Florida Residents

Join HLAA Now

We hope you agree that there is nowhere else where people with hearing loss can benefit from a national advocacy presence, a website with reliable, organized, and archived answers to questions about hearing loss and assistive technology, the Hearing Loss Magazine, with credible, current information, over 200 local support chapters and 14 state organizations, discounts to annual national conventions and many regional conferences.

All issues of *Hear Ye, Hear Ye* will be posted on our website only. If you are on our mailing list, you will receive an email when it is available. If you want to subscribe, unsubscribe or are getting duplicate notices, please use this link to tell us:

HearYeHearYe2006@gmail.com



Is in partnership with



You Can Help

☺ We publish six electronic newsletters (November, January, March, May, July and September). Circulation is 800. All editions are posted to the website and remain there.

☺ Advertising rates for the e-newsletter are \$150 for a

full page, \$85 for a half page and \$50 for a quarter page. **Chapter leaders, please forward the link for this newsletter to your members or you may send us their e-mail addresses.**

☺ Subscribe (or unsubscribe) to our electronic edition by sending an email to

HearYeHearYe2006@gmail.com

2012 BALLOT

Hearing Loss Association of Florida (HLA-FL) Candidates for the 2012 HLA-FL Board of Trustees

*We are pleased to announce our candidates for the
2012 Board of Trustees Election
Every HLAA member residing in the state of Florida is asked to vote
THIS MEANS YOU!*

Review the nominees noted below. If you wish to vote for this entire slate as recommended and endorsed by the Nominating Committee, simply send an email including your name and, if you are a member, your Chapter to nomination.blaf@yaboo.com, stating approve all for the 2012 Board of Trustee Election.

If you are opposed to one or more nominees, please print and mail to the attention of: Cynthia Moynihan, Nominating Committee Chairperson, 2334 Eagle Bluff Drive, Valrico, FL 33596.

****PLEASE NOTE: You must be a current member of HLAA to vote****

The current HLA-FL bylaws state that the Board shall consist of a minimum of seven, but no more than 18 members who shall serve on the Board as voting Trustees. At least two-thirds of the Trustees shall be people with hearing loss. We have two new candidates and five existing Board of Trustees nominations. Please fill out your name and address below before submitting your vote to the Nominating Committee.

- YES NO JoAnne DeVries, Sarasota
 YES NO Brad Ingraio, Tampa
 YES NO Flo Innes, Sarasota
 YES NO Robert Astle, Maitland
 YES NO Lynn Rousseau, Gainesville
 YES NO James Diaz, Oviedo
 YES NO Lisa Tanner, Plant City

YOUR NAME: _____

CHAPTER (if applicable): _____

ADDRESS: _____

All ballots must be received by October 2, 2012

Thank you in advance for your support

The Nominating Committee,
**Bob Astle, Tess Crowder and
 Cynthia Moynihan -Chairperson**

Candidates are listed on the pages following.

Bob Astle, Maitland

Bob Astle, from Maitland, is excited to begin a second term with the HLA-FL Board of Trustees. He



was elected in October 2009 and has attended every meeting throughout the state since then. Having been a member of the Orlando chapter for a number of years, Bob has learned much about advocating for people with hearing loss.

Bob has had a hearing loss since birth and currently uses two cochlear implant devices to hear.

Presently he serves as chair of the Website Committee and is a member of the Nominating and Fundraising committees as well.

A former chef and baker Bob currently is in transition career-wise. He enjoys helping others with hearing loss learn to adjust and cope, sharing his own experiences and often adding a bit of humor to those listening. Bob works with the Advanced Bionics BEA mentor program and is an avid reader, dog lover, and part-time tour guide in Orlando.

JoAnne DeVries, Sarasota

JoAnne DeVries resides in Sarasota, and is a member of the Sarasota Hearing Loss Association Chapter. She has extensive experience serving on various non-profit boards and offers valuable skills in the area of board governance.

She is presently on the HLAS Advisory Board, HLAS Board and the Board of the City of Sarasota – Citizens with Disabilities Advisory Board. She has great marketing and membership skills as well as social media and face book skills.



JoAnne believes in the mission of the Hearing Loss Association of America and wants to contribute to positive change in the lives of people with hearing loss and their families. She is a firm believer this can happen through education, awareness and focused advocacy and she would like to be a part of the solution of the challenges hearing loss presents to all of those impacted by hearing loss.

JoAnne completely supports the efforts and mission of HLAA. The commitment to collaborating and assisting local chapters in strengthening and growing

their membership is extremely important. She was a first time attendee of the 2012 HLAA convention and looks forward to attending many more of the events and welcomes the opportunity to serve on the HLA-FL Board.

James Diaz, Oviedo

Jim has been a Senior Software Engineer working on military training, simulation, and war game software. Prior to this, Jim held a position as Electronic Engineer designing underwater acoustic sensors. He received a Master's Degree in Engineering at the University of Central Florida specializing in Digital Signal Processing and is very active in HLAA. He served as President of the HLA-FL board for six years.



Jim's hearing loss challenge began at age 15 with a moderate conductive hearing loss. Coping strategies included high technology, hearing aids, lip reading, and awareness of the effects of hearing loss. Jim remains active with hobbies including dancing, acting, photography and triathlons and continued support of HLAA.

Jim welcomes the opportunity to serve another term to the HLA-FL Board.

Dr. Brad Ingrao, Tampa

Brad Ingrao resides in Tampa. He has been an audiologist for 20 years and surrounded by hearing loss on a personal basis throughout his entire life with his uncle and own son, who both have a hearing loss. He has and continues to be a very active member of HLAA since the SHHH days in the 1990's.



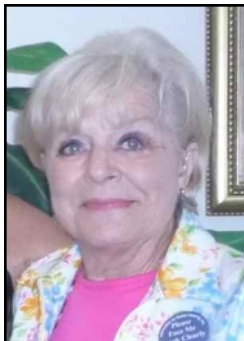
Brad has presented at several national conventions and currently has the honor of writing a regular column in HLAA Hearing Loss Magazine. He has served as the board member and professional adviser for the Boston SHHH, Educational Audiology Association and is a life member of the Acoustic Neuroma Association. In addition, he was the founding member of the St. Augustine Optimist Club. He has organized and hosted several consumer

and professional educational events for the families of deaf and hard of hearing.

Brad feels he has a unique and multifaceted view of the past, current and probably future of hearing care and is well respected in the professional and consumer circles. He, throughout his daily work, regularly refers patients to HLAA, both locally and nationally and feels it would be an honor and privilege to serve the people of Florida on the HLA-FL Board. He has stated HLAA is his home for hearing loss and Florida is his home; it only makes sense to serve his "home team" as well and as much as he can.

Flo Innes, Sarasota

Flo Innes is Founder and President of Advocates for Better Hearing, Inc., and promotes community awareness of assistive listening devices by professional services and technology.



Flo has had a hearing loss since birth. While growing up there was no advocacy, support and nowhere to turn for help. Some of her dreams, such as the Peace Corps, were denied as a result of her hearing loss. Today, thanks to the American Disabilities Act, no one can be rejected because of their disabilities. In Sarasota,

people who are blind have the Lighthouse; people who are deaf have the Deaf Services Center and persons with other handicaps, the Easter Seals but again, there was nothing for those dealing with hearing loss.

Today, thanks to the support of Flo and many others, more than 110,000 people in Sarasota have places like HLA-Sarasota and the Sertoma Club to find a way to better hearing. Flo utilizes her business to help people learn about and how to use assistive listening devices. She has traveled around the state demonstrating assistive devices to help those impacted by hearing loss. Her passion is to continue to enrich the lives of all children and adults who experience hearing loss or deafness.

Flo has served as President of the Sarasota Chapter and for many years as Treasurer of HLA-FL Board. She is a long-time active member of both the Hearing Loss Association of America and the Sertoma Club of Sarasota. Just last year she was nominated into the Hall of Fame at her local High School for all her advocacy work through the years. Through her business, Flo continues to offer annual scholarships for students dealing with hearing loss at Florida State College.

Flo welcomes the opportunity to continue to serve the HLA-FL Board.

Lynn Rousseau, Gainesville

Lynn was raised in Hollywood, Florida and currently resides in Gainesville, and is an HLA-FL Board member renewing her term.

Lynn has dealt with hearing loss her entire life, starting with the discovery of her loss in pre-school. John Hopkins Hospital confirmed she had severe nerve deafness but that she did remarkably well reading lips at three years of age. She completed twelve years of speech therapy and found dance classes/performing arts allowed her to socialize without requiring much conversation. It was years later that she finally reached out to speak to people beyond her family and close friends. After all, *she knew no one else like herself.*



Today, Lynn is married to Joel with three grown children and blessed with nine grandchildren. She is the President of the Gainesville Chapter of Hearing Loss Association of Florida and conducts weekly *Learning to Live with Hearing Loss* classes with Audiology graduate students. She is a past member of the Human Rights Equal Opportunity Board and the FLASHHH Board (Florida Self Help for Hard of Hearing); Founder, Gainesville SHHH Chapter; Chair, Alachua County Citizens Disability Advisory Committee; State Chapter Coordinator; Co-chair, 2006 Convention; Co-chair of the HLA-FL 2009 Walk4Hearing. She completed Hearing Assistive Technology (HAT) training at UF. Her awards include the State of Florida Humanitarian and Civil Rights Advocacy Award in 1996, Oticon's People Focus Advocacy Award in Denver and the HLAA Advocacy Award at the 2009 HLAA Convention.

Lynn keeps up with new technology and hearing aids as well as assistive listening devices and computer usage for those dealing with hearing loss. She believes a sense of humor and educating others goes a long way in helping one cope and welcomes another term to the HLA-FL Board.

Dr. Lisa Tanner, Plant City

Lisa Tanner, Au.D., earned her Doctorate in Audiology from the University of South Florida. She is the Director of Advanced Diagnostics and Hearing Solutions in Brandon and an HLAA advocate who offers



support to those dealing with hearing loss and encourages them to reach out to local HLA Chapters and join HLAA.

Passionate about hearing health care, Lisa offers hearing care for both children and adults. She provides complete hearing, tinnitus and cochlear implant candidacy evaluations. She also prescribes and fits high technology

hearing aids and assistive listening devices. In addition, she offers cochlear implant and BAHAs programming, counseling and education in hearing preservation, hearing loss and tinnitus. She is a licensed audiologist in the state of Florida and is certified and a member of the American Speech Language Hearing Association. Additionally she is a fellow of the American Academy of Audiology, the Florida Academy of Audiology and the Academy of Doctors of Audiology.

Lisa resides in Plant City and is running for an additional term on the HLA-FL Board.

A report from the president

Our Annual Meeting and Elections is October 6 in Wildwood. It's always an exciting time, with new blood and new ideas being tossed into the mix. Some years we have an extraordinary infusion of talent and creativity and I believe that will be the case this year. That lets me breathe the proverbial sigh of relief.

Tom and I retired to Florida in October 2004 and the following year in April, I joined the Hearing Loss Association of America. Besides marriage, children and grandchildren, it was the best thing I've done for my life.

In January 2006, I was appointed to the HLA-Florida board by then president, Jim Diaz, and created the state newsletter, *Hear Ye, Hear Ye* a few months later in April. This issue is No. 35! Absolutely, it has been a labor of love. My experience working in a daily newspaper in New York as well as being the editor of a community newspaper there for 20 years was an enormous help. The following year I created our Florida website which is still going strong, formerly under the excellent guidance of webmaster Melissa Trauthwein and currently expertly maintained by webmaster Aimee Ivey, both Jacksonville chapter members.

In the intervening six years, I've served two years as vice-president, three years as president, co-chair of the Florida Walk4Hearing 2008 and 2009 with Kathy Borzell, formerly of Tampa, and then Lynn Rousseau.

In October 2010, I was appointed as State Chapter Coordinator for a

two-year term. Last October I was appointed as Acting Secretary for one year, so you can see why I'm ecstatic over having new members and many hands join the board.

Kathy Borzell, now of North Carolina and Joan Haber, Sarasota, were excellent mentors to me, guiding me through the shoals of the murky sea of bylaws, agendas, fund-raising and the myriad of details involved in running meetings. Though I'm no longer in regular contact with them, my appreciation is unending.

Except for running as a candidate the first time in October 2006, I have never again had that opportunity. Instead, in August of 2008, I was appointed by the Governor to the Florida Coordinating Council for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (FCCDHH) which seat entitles me to a place on the HLA-Florida Board of Trustees for the duration. The position of Chapter Coordinator also has a seat at the table as a voting board member.

You might wonder (or not) why I'm essentially publishing my resumé. It's because some of these wonderful, worthwhile volunteer jobs are up for grabs and this seems the best way to spread the word. Yes, you might be the very one who is considering what to do next, how to serve HLAA and HLA-Florida in the best way you can. Another reason for this message is to say that my term as Chapter Coordinator ends in October and while I can stay on for a short indefinite period, I'm hoping that the job will pique someone's interest. Lastly, I am taking this opportunity to announce that

the January 2013 issue of *Hear Ye, Hear Ye* will be my last. There are a number of excellent editors in Florida and I'm hoping they will step up.

I have long wanted to devote more time to the Jacksonville chapter, which I founded in February 2006. There is much to be done in northeast Florida as far as hearing loss advocacy – hearing loops, captioning in the theaters, pushing for membership in HLAA – and having the coordinator's and editor's job filled by others and having less participation in HLA-FL board business will definitely give me extra time.

HLA-Florida has been a very large part of my life since I moved to Florida and I realize I will miss some of it. However, HLAA and the good it does is such a continual presence in the lives of those with hearing loss that it will always be close by. I sincerely thank those who have been by my side through the years, encouraging through good times and bad. You will be missed.

*Judy G. Martin, Acting President
Hearing Loss Association of Florida*

• • •

If you have an interest in applying for the volunteer job of Florida State Chapter Coordinator you can contact Elizabeth LeBarron at the national office:

elebarron@hearingloss.org

If you want to consider the creative job of preparing a newsletter, let me or a member of the HLA-Florida Board of Trustees know. My email address and that of others are listed on page 2.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE KICK-OFF! THIS IS ALL ABOUT YOU!

**The HLA-FL Member Committee is renewed and ready to reach out
TO YOU!**

**We will unite and make Florida the number one state to
reach out to those impacted by hearing loss!**

We are going to connect with YOU as we combine efforts and reach out to those impacted by hearing loss and support the efforts of HLAA. We need YOU to make it happen. Share your thoughts, ideas and stories and what you have or feel we can do to make a difference in your area. We are establishing the Membership Committee email account to stay connected. In the interim, we will use the Membership Committee Chairperson, Cynthia Moynihan, email address at smileasl@yahoo.com. The email address is posted on hla-fl.org. Click on Membership Committee link at the top of the page adjacent to the "home" link and then click on Kick-Off!

MEMBER, CHAPTER AND NATIONAL NEWS

We have teamed with the HLA-FL Website Committee to ensure our site helps those researching hearing loss for the first time, provides information for current HLAA members residing in the state of Florida (and around the Nation!) and has stories front and center about chapter presentations and happenings in YOUR local area to share across the state. Regular individual membership and chapter recognition highlights will be used for YOU to be front and center on the HLA-FL Board website, in Hear Ye, Hear Ye and via the Membership Committee emails! Your feedback is an important part of this process. So click on hla-fl.org and the HLA-FL Member Kick-Off! and click on the email address to share.

FUND RAISING

What funds are needed to support our efforts and make a change in Florida? Let's make it happen! Think big and reach out with your ideas and the HLA-FL Fund Raising Committee.

REACHING OUT – OCTOBER KICK-OFF!

OCTOBER KICK-OFF – it is all about YOU! We will send news and information and share future events. Stay tuned and - remember – check the website – connect with us – reach out!

Thank you from the HLA-FL Membership Committee:

*Marjie Anderson, Debbie Martin, Jodi Pate, Scott Rinehart and
Cynthia Moynihan, Membership Committee Chairperson*

Two Scholarships offered in Florida for the 2013 HLAA Portland Convention

Sarasota chapter announces Convention Scholarship

HLA-Sarasota is offering a scholarship of up to \$1,000 towards expenses for a member to attend the 2013 National Convention in Portland Oregon next June. "Our number one priority as a chapter is education"



said chapter president, Ed Ogiba "and there is no question that the ultimate educational vehicle that we have is the HLAA convention. Every member should have the opportunity to take part in this transformational growth experience." HLAS has been fundraising for the past year to get itself in a position to better support its mission in the community.

The scholarship will be a HLAS top budget priority to be repeated as an annual event. The scholarship has been modeled after the HLA-FL Scholarship and will focus at supporting a member in need, who has never attended a HLAA Convention before. Interested applicants must submit an application before March 14, 2013. For an application or any questions, contact the HLAS Scholarship Chair, Joan Haber, at joanhaber2012@gmail.com.

Joan Andrews Scholarship available for 2013.

HLA-Florida's Joan Andrews Scholarship will be available once again through the generosity of her daughters, Judy Waldrop, Punta Gorda; Sara Long, Inverness; and Jane Smith, St. Petersburg. In the last three years, the Association has been honored to be able to send recipients to the Convention to commemorate a great Florida leader. The details will be forthcoming in future issues of *Hear Ye, Hear Ye*.

Submerge Yourself in Pure Listening Pleasure



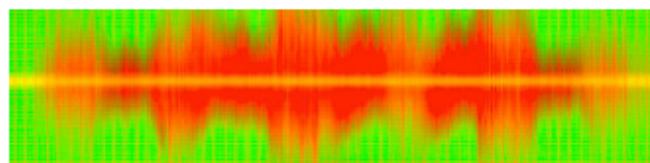
CSIR2012 IR TV Amplifier

Listen to your favorite songs or catch the latest TV shows with the CSIR2012. Listen at any volume, while the large earpads allow you to literally "feel" every sound with good bass, a focused middle and precise highs.



Request a FREE Catalog!

www.harriscomm.com (800) 825-6758



>> CAPTION CREW

Tanya Ward English, RPR-CRR-CCP-CBC
President/CEO

- Certified CART Providers and Broadcast Captioners
- CART, Realtime Captioning, Internet Captioning
- On-site and remote services
- Serving persons with hearing loss since 1994

Visit our website for more information:

www.CaptionCrew.com or call 954.767.6363

**HLA-FL Chapter Collaboration Workshop II :
May 4, 2013 (Continued from front page)**

Workshop II will be an all-day affair on Saturday, May 4 in Sarasota. Save the date. Dr. Juliette Sterkens, HLAA's newly appointed National Loop Advocate will be on hand to help chapters develop a stronger loop effort, as this was the top need identified by leaders during the last Workshop. Dr. Sterkens has lead the highly successful loop advocacy program in Wisconsin, which is one of the top states in the U.S. for loop acceptance with hundreds of participating locations. Elizabeth LeBarron, the HLAA Chapter Coordinator is also planning to attend to lend her expertise to the discussions on the range of chapter and membership building topics that will be covered that day.

Leaders from all 16 Florida Chapters will be invited to participate in the roundtable discussions at Workshop II in May. As was done this year, an online survey will be sent to all chapter leaders at the beginning of 2013 to shape the priorities and agenda for the day's discussions. More details will follow, but if you have any preliminary questions or suggestions regarding the event, please contact the event co-chair, HLA-Sarasota president Ed Ogiba, at ed@groupefo.com

Brenda Battat announces retirement

Dear HLAA Leaders

I have announced to the HLAA board of trustees that I will be retiring as executive director next year on August 31, 2013.

An official notice will be posted to the HLAA website on Friday but I wanted to send a personal message to you first.

Convention 2013 will be my last one as executive director and so I hope to see you in Portland to say goodbye in person.

This was a very hard decision for me as I love HLAA more than anyone will ever know and I enjoy working with all of you. But I am reaching a stage of my life when I would like more time for family and for other interests which is not possible in the role of executive director.

I have given the Board more than a year to conduct a search to find my successor. During this year I will work hard with the national staff to build on our successes and continue the momentum we have going at the national, state and local levels.

Thank you for your commitment and enthusiasm and all you do for HLAA.

With my warmest personal regards and thank you for everything,

Brenda Battat, Executive Director
Hearing Loss Association of America



Gallaudet University is pleased to present the 2012 graduates of its Peer Mentoring Certification Program. Six newly minted Peer Mentors gathered on campus June 25-27 to complete their two-year program and receive their certificates. Pictured are: (Top Row - left to right) Dr. Matthew Bakke, Program Director; Katherine Groon, Program Instructor; Peer Mentors Joan Haber, Lorraine Van Horne and Anne Taylor. (Bottom Row - left to right) Peer Mentors Barbara Burton and Linn Tearney; Zac LaFratta, Program Instructor and HLAA Board Member; and Peer Mentor Jeff Bonnell.



FTRI to Launch on the Hearing News Network

Colleen Schuster, FTRI Outreach Manager

You may have noticed the prevalence of televisions in medical waiting rooms. Whether it's CNN or a continuous loop of educational information, the trend is growing. FTRI joined the trend by purchasing time on a new medium called the Hearing News Network (HNN). HNN is a subscription-based system targeting hearing healthcare professionals, audiologists and physicians. Custom content coupled with hearing health information airs on a flat screen monitor in a clinic waiting room. The educational content is provided by credible sources including HLAA, Better Hearing Institute and the Hearing Health Foundation. Advertisers may be added to offset the subscription cost. As a pilot program, five minutes of FTRI information will launch on select HNN screens in Orlando and Jacksonville this year.

"This is an innovative way to reach more clients for the FTRI program," said James Forstall, FTRI Executive Director. "We have a captive audience of people already seeking assistance for their hearing loss – they're more likely to respond to a message about our free specialized equipment." Audiologists and hearing healthcare professionals are among the top referral sources for the FTRI program.

FTRI's regional distribution centers will work closely with their area HNN-subscribers to coordinate on-site phone distributions or promote other offsite distribution events in their area. Practitioners enjoy the goodwill gained from telling a client about the free amplified phones and clients enjoy the convenience of receiving a phone on-site or at a nearby

FCCDHH Outreach Position Opening

The Outreach and Education Coordinator position is a part-time OPS position with the Department of Health. Please encourage anyone you think would be qualified and interested to apply.

A link to the Outreach position, as well as other open Council seats, is on the homepage of our website – check out *Open Positions*.
<http://www.fccdhh.org/services/council-openings.html>

Mary Grace Tavel
 Human Services Program Specialist
 Florida Coordinating Council for the Deaf
 and Hard of Hearing
 Office of Minority Health

location.

As an internet-based system, content on HNN screens is updated frequently to stay fresh. For example, FTRI can add information about a new product or change distribution event dates. "We continually seek creative ways to deliver our message," Forstall said. "We like the concept of presenting our message with other hearing health information in an engaging way."

Florida Telecommunications Relay, Inc. provides free specialized equipment to Florida residents with hearing loss. Find out more about FTRI at www.FTRI.org. Look for FTRI on Facebook and on Twitter (FTRI_Inc.) If you're interested in learning more about the Hearing News Network please visit www.hearingnewsnetwork

9:10 AM
 Mon Aug 27, 2012

What Is Deafness? What Is Hearing Loss?

Hearing impairment, deafness, or hearing loss refers to the inability to hear things, either totally or partially. Symptoms may be mild, moderate, severe or profound. A patient with mild hearing impairment

Do you have trouble hearing on the telephone?

To qualify for a FREE special phone you must be:

1. A permanent Florida resident
2. At least 3 years old
3. Certified as having a hearing loss or speech impairment

Florida Telecommunications Relay, Inc. www.ftri.org Voice: 1-800-222-8448 TTY: 1-888-487-2920

FTRI **ESPN Seahawks tab rookie Wilson as Week 1 starter**
 e team's starting quarterback in Week 1.



**Rud Nast, Kari Morgenstein, Liz Aitken,
 Diana Guercio and Vicki Ledon.**

Students from the University of Florida attended the 2012 Florida Academy of Audiology conference in St. Augustine, Florida. The conference is a rewarding opportunity for students and clinicians to learn about the field of audiology and to attend lectures from distinguished audiologists around the state of Florida on promoting prevention, diagnosis, and management of auditory and vestibular disorders.

Submitted by Vicki Ledon,
 Vice President of the
 Student Audiology Association

Town Hall Meeting Stadium Captioning for Tampa Bay Sports

Communication Access, Inc., (CAI) a charitable organization that serves the needs of people with hearing loss, is hosting a town hall meeting, "Stadium Captioning for Tampa Bay Sports", to be held on September 6, 2012, from 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. at the Hilton Tampa Airport Westshore, 2225 North Lois Ave, Tampa, Florida. The meeting will begin with a presentation by Communication Access, Inc., about the need for and benefits of realtime captioning in sports venues. The next presentation will be from John Waldo, Esquire, from the State of Washington, about the Americans with Disabilities Act and laws pertaining to the obligations of sports venues to provide captioning, including a history of related lawsuits and their outcomes. Following

will be statements from representatives from national, state, and local Deaf, Hard-of-Hearing, and disability organizations providing their support for this cause, including Chris Wagner, President of the National Association of the Deaf, and Blossom Montessori School for the Deaf. All local sports teams are invited to this event. We also encourage all members of the Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing communities to join us in this effort to encourage our state to become fully accessible for people with hearing loss. CommunicationAccess Realtime Translation (CART) and Sign Language Interpreting services will be provided.

Contact: Tess Crowder, Executive Director
813-843-6279

ExecutiveDirector@communicationaccess.org



Vern Thayer and Lynn Rousseau. Vern is the TV personality who advertises CapTel phones in Florida! He lives up north and used to visit Florida each year. We met in St. Augustine. Vern has a cochlear implant and loves it!

—submitted by Lynn Rousseau

**Advocate for Quality Captioning
Inclusion Universally
Join CCAC (free membership):
www.ccacaptioning.org**



Sail Along with the Hearing Loss Association of Florida on our 8-Day Eastern Caribbean Cruise!

LEAVING: December 8, 2012

FROM: Ft. Lauderdale, FL

ON: Royal Caribbean Cruise Lines

Independence of the Seas

Contact **Lynn Rousseau**

(HLAFlorida@aol.com)

or **Barbara Maher**

(barbaram@gotravelorlando.com)

for more info.



RCCL Independence of the Seas

OUR CHAPTERS SPEAK . . .

Flo Innes, long-time member of HLA-Florida as well as Founder and President of Advocates for Better Hearing, Inc., recently demonstrated assistive listening devices to the Naples chapter. The large and appreciative audience learned how to enhance their hearing with different devices.

-photo by Lynn Rousseau



Broward County
Andrea Wilson
awilson4@comcast.net

Central Florida
Muriel Raine
352-751-3464
murhlaacntrfl@aol.com
Jan Sharp
352-751-4532
fjs4532@embarqmail.com

Clearwater
Marjie Anderson
marjia1@gmail.com
Tess Crowder
813-814-7736
tmt.tess@verizon.net
Janet White
jonewhite1@aol.com

Gainesville
Lynn Rousseau
352-331-9808
HLAGainesville@aol.com
www.hearinglossassociationofgainesville.com

Greater Miami
Joe Dashiell, President
Phone 305-213-4092
Email info@hla-gm.org
www.hla-gm.org
Alyssa Bobadilla
abobadilla@SouthfloridaENT.com

Jacksonville
Judy G. Martin
904-778-2265
judygmartin@bellsouth.net
Melissa Trauthwein
melissat1977@bellsouth.net
www.hla-jax.org

Lakeland
Art Matlock
863-853-3130
hla-lakeland@hotmail.com
http://hla-lakeland.org

Lee County
Lois Smith
lojims@embarqmail.com
239-369-7532

Naples
Walter Renner
239-455-6544
walcyn@embarqmail.com
www.naples.net/presents/naplesears/

Orlando
Merv Daniels
407-656-9283
mmbdaniels@att.net
Jim Diaz
407-366-3024
jdiaz@flashhh.org

Sarasota
Ed Ogiba
941-966-8999
ed@groupefo.com
www.hlas.org

South Palm Beach County
Oscar Segal
561-499-9873
trip3584@comcast.net
http://www.hladelrayboynton.org

Sun City Center
Richard Herring
813-642-0558
rhmann@tampabay.rr.com
Shirley Nauman
813-634-7280
snauman@tampabay.rr.com
www.hla-scc.com/

Tallahassee (Big Bend)
James Forstall
850-205-1470 ex 230
jforstall@ftri.org
Carlos Monserrate
Carlos520@centurylink.net

Tampa
Gail Wachtel-Smith
863-815-7179
Gailgolds2@aol.com
Mike Cano
mcano1@tampabay.rr.com
www.hearinglosstampa.org/

Treasure Coast
Cheryl Nolte
772-468-0123
noisegone@treasurecoastflhlaa.com
www.treasurecoastflhlaa.com

Other chapters are forming and not yet official. If you are interested in joining them, please contact the people listed:

Pensacola. Email Susan Herring sherring50@aol.com **Daytona Beach** Email Lynn Sinnott lsinnott@eseals-vf.org

Babson Park meets the 2nd Tuesday. Write to Terry LangVal, 3 Fort Clinch Heights Rd., Frostproof, FL 33843

HLA-Greater Miami members group at their meeting at A.D. Barnes Park. From the left, clockwise: June Keedy (wearing hat), Frances Siegel, Joe Dashiell, Stanley Kolber, Hilda Andrews, Marcia Kolber, Hilda Sietlin, Howard Watson, Helen Rosenthal, Maria Elena Septien, and Ned Fleishman (not pictured, behind the camera).



Hearing Loss Association of Greater Miami

The Miami-Dade county park facility is offering us free use of an air-conditioned spacious cabin (Cabin is hardly the word to describe the building. We have free parking and the park is centrally located in the demographic center of the county, so we should be able to build membership a bit easier. Hats off to Howard Watson for arranging this facility. The only caveat is the park management will want to present to the group what can be offered, such as free trips to local attractions, including Stiltsville (Google that) and Fairchild Tropical Gardens, among others. These trips and activities are for disabled citizens.

This is our largest group so far. Stanley and Marcia Kolberg, Frances Siegel, and Ned Flieshman are new (first time attending). Marcia is HOH and Stanley is normal hearing. Ned lost his hearing at 18 when trying to build an aqualung from a popular mechanics book - it blew up. Joe Nadeau and Jerry Ellis were absent. Joe is recuperating from CI implant surgery and will be activated later in July. We had a great meeting introducing ourselves

In advance of our September 10th chapter meeting, I wanted to let everyone know about the upcoming NBC6/Telemundo 51 Health & Fitness Expo 2012.

This expo is FREE to the public and as a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) organization we qualify for a FREE exhibit booth! We will be discussing this upcoming event (September 22-23) at our next meeting and assigning volunteers to "man" the booth. We will hand out flyers and provide general information about the Hearing Loss Association of America and our local chapter in hopes of generating more members.

Everyone is invited to attend and volunteers to aid in this event are welcome.

Please join us at our chapter meeting to sign up for a

block of time to volunteer.

The following link shows the floor plan and the current list of exhibitors. clicking on the exhibitor name on the left shows the location of the booth.

<http://fp32.a2zinc.net/clients/fpne/nbc6t51hf12/public/fphtml.aspx>.

Remember, we will gather for our chapter meeting on September 10 at 1 p.m. at A.D. Barnes Park Leisure Access Center, 3401 SW 72 Ave., Miami. It is located at the corner of Bird Road and SW 72 Ave.

Joe Dashiell, President
info@HLA-GM.org - www.HLA-GM.org



Lunch with the State Chapter Coordinator, Judy Martin (standing). A happy time was had by all at the Doubletree-Hilton in Miami. From left, clockwise, Joe Nadeau; Ned Fleishman; Howard Watson; Joe Dashiell; June Keedy; Charles; Frances Siegel. It's wonderful to meet face-to-face.



NBC 6 / Telemundo 51 Health & Fitness Expo

September 22nd & 23rd 2012
 Miami Beach Convention Center - Hall D, Miami, FL



HLAA Broward County Chapter will be meeting again after a summer hiatus. Meetings will be held on the second Wednesday of the month at the Northwest Regional Library, 3151 University Drive, Coral Springs, FL. The time is 10:15-12 noon in Room 214 on the second floor. Looking forward to seeing everyone on September 12. For further information, contact Andrea Wilson, Chapter Leader, at awilson4@comcast.net

Do you live in or near Daytona Beach? Are you interested in joining an HLA chapter?

Lynn Sinnot, President and CEO of Easter Seals Volusia and Flagler Counties, would welcome your response.

Contact her at

**386-944-7818
386-566-3424 Cell
lsinnott@eseals-vf.org**

**1219 Dunn Ave
Daytona Beach, FL 32114
www.easterseals-volusiaflagler.org**



Need new ideas for speakers?

Ed Ogiba of the Sarasota Chapter has created two very popular programs for presentation at chapter meetings. If you are interested in having him come to your chapter, please contact him at ed@groupefo.com

• **Membership Building: Meeting Your Members, Guests and Community's Needs** This presentation includes 17 suggestions on how the chapter's Membership Chair or Committee can focus their membership retention and guest cultivation/conversion efforts. It also develops how to understand and better deliver your members' education and support needs, and to provide a basic foundation for a communication program that integrates branding, public relations, newsletter and community alliances to attract more traffic of meetings.

• **Advocating for Loops: 25 Lessons Learned** This presentation starts with the *added* level of detail that an advocate has to know about how loops and t-coils work, plus a summary of the various wired and portable systems that have gained acceptance. It then covers in detail how to position the benefits of loops which can vary by venue, develop the appropriate "sales" approach and tools plus how to support the effort with communications, especially in public relations and free media sponsorships to generate needed community awareness. It also stresses how to work with the installation vendors to ensure all looped venues meet or exceed expectations, plus the many ways an interested non-profit site can source funding for a loop.

Young Hearing Group (YHG) Young Adult & Professional Division of Hearing Loss Association of Sarasota

Nov 13th, 2012 **Joan Haber, Hearing Loss Support Specialist & Peer Mentor**

*'Hearing Loss Association of America Annual Convention'
(About the Benefits, Technologies, Programs, Workshops, Networking &*

Companies involved at the convention)

YHG Meeting includes:

Expert Speaker - Rap Session - Networking

Location: SRQ Herald Tribune,

1741 Main St, Sarasota

Conference Room (Meet in the lobby next to Front Reception)

Time: 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

For more information on YHG:

Contact Alexander Magnus Boakes

(Mobile / Text) 786-457-6205 / (Email)

AlexBoakes@msn.com www.HLAS.org



**What's
Happening in
Your Chapter?
We Need
News From**

 **Hearing Loss Association of America**
Lee County Florida Chapter

We have continued with meetings over the summer and are so very thankful for that. We had 17 people at our July meeting. We showed the DVD *Learn About Hearing Loss*. We knew some folks would be away for August but were very pleased to have 16 attend LeAnn Boone's presentation for Med-El.

She has a wonderful explanation of hearing loss and what can be done and what cannot be done. Also her explanation about audiologists and hearing aid dispensers/dealers is so informative. There was a great interest from both meetings but the greatest is an email we just received which makes all we do worthwhile:

"I have to say for the first meeting that I attended it was wonderful. After the meeting I talked with the Audologist and she gave me the name Tampa Hearing Center phone number and e-mail. I made contact, had an Appointment on August 8th for evaluation of an implant. I went today for the balance of the testing and will have my first implant of the Med EL on September 20th and the second is tentatively scheduled for December 20th.

I look forward to seeing you all at the next meeting. Thank you so much. This has been my dream for over 10 years, but was told by 3 local audologist that I was not a candidate"

We are looking forward to meeting Cynthia Moynihan and Larue II from Canine Companions for Independence on September 7. Our meetings are "booked" through March 2013.

As we have stated before: "We encourage all who are hard of hearing, live with someone who is hard of hearing, know someone who is hard of hearing, or just interested in the "life" of the hard of hearing to attend our meetings." We met the first Friday of each month from 10:30-noon at the Deaf Service Center, 1860 Boy Scout Drive 208 B, Ft. Myers. We have a CART provider at every meeting. Jim and Lois Smith 239-269-7532 lojims@embarqmail.com

 **Hearing Loss Association of Jacksonville**

 **Hearing Loss Association of America**
South Palm Beach County Chapter

 **Hearing Loss Association of America**
Treasure Coast Chapter

 **Hearing Loss Association of America**
Lakeland Chapter

 **Hearing Loss Association of America**
Sun City Center Chapter

 **Hearing Loss Association of Big Bend**

 **Hearing Loss Association of Gainesville**

 **Hearing Loss Association of America**
Tampa Chapter

CAPTIONFISH 

FIND CAPTIONED MOVIES NEAR YOU!

www.captionfish.com

Juliette Sterkens new HLAA Hearing Loop Advocate

Bethesda, MD: The Hearing Loss Association of America® is delighted to introduce Juliette Sterkens, Au.D., the new HLAA hearing loop advocate. Dr. Sterkens is an audiologist in private practice and has led a successful hearing loop initiative in her community of Oshkosh and the Greater Fox Valley area of Wisconsin, which



has resulted in nearly 200 hearing loop installations in the state.

In her role as hearing loop advocate, Dr. Sterkens will collaborate with HLAA volunteers in the United States to further the organization's mission and increase awareness about hearing loss,

and the need for an increase in the use of hearing loops to improve hearing accessibility. She will offer her public speaking and advocacy skills to help HLAA Chapters start hearing loop initiatives of their own. Dr. Sterkens was officially introduced to HLAA's membership at the Opening Session of Convention 2012 during the keynote address by David Myers, Ph.D.

"Hearing loss affects more than volume alone and often people with hearing loss complain they can hear but cannot understand," Dr. Sterkens explains. "Hearing loss requires the user to receive speech with an improved signal-to-noise ratio. Although hearing aid and cochlear implant technology has improved dramatically, the ear-worn microphones cannot entirely deliver what the user needs to understand speech with ease – something that has long frustrated me professionally.

"The good news is that a hearing loop can connect a user wirelessly to the sound system via the telecoil in a hearing aid or cochlear implant,

much like Wi-Fi connects a computer to the Internet. Hearing loops can be installed in auditoriums, classrooms, pharmacy checkout counters, metro cars, places of worship, meeting rooms, TV rooms, museums, nursing homes, hospitals and businesses – wherever acoustics, noise and distance from the speaker make hearing difficult. Hearing loops are inconspicuous and effortless to use, and, best of all, deliver sound customized for each person."

Brenda Battat, executive director of HLAA said, "We are delighted that Dr. Sterkens will devote her sabbatical year to working with HLAA volunteers to become effective advocates for hearing loops and to expanding the number of hearing-friendly places." Dr. Sterkens will write a blog of her looping activities; a link to the blog can be found on the Loop Resources page.

Dr. Sterkens resides in Oshkosh, Wisconsin with her husband LeRoy Maxfield and her two children. She holds a doctorate in audiology from A.T. Still University - Arizona School of Health Sciences in Mesa, is a member of the HLAA-American Academy of Audiology "Get in the Hearing Loop" National Task Force, and has published as well as spoken publicly about hearing loop technology and hearing aid telecoil programming. She has received awards for her advocacy work on local, state and national levels.

