

HEARSAY



The Official Newsletter of Hearing Loss Association of PA

Volume 7, Issue 2
June 2008

MESSAGE FROM DIANA

We are delighted to welcome Brenda Battat as the new Executive Director of Hearing Loss Association of America. Brenda has been very supportive of the PA state office, and was a speaker at all 3 of our employment conferences. Lise Hamlin has replaced Brenda as the Director of Public Policy and State Development. Lise comes to us from the Northern Virginia Resource Center and those of you who attended our conference in Harrisburg last October will remember her from the great Emergency Preparedness

workshop she provided. HLAA is energized as never before to continue to open the world of communication to those of us living with a hearing loss by providing information, education, support and advocacy. I'm looking forward to spending time with Brenda and Lise at the HLAA convention in Reno this June.

Diana Bender,
HLA-PA State Director
Bender@pa-shhh.org

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HEARING LOSS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA,
MONTGOMERY COUNTY CHAPTER

Invites you to the 9th Annual Southeastern Hearing Loss Association-PA Picnic

EVERYONE IS WELCOME!!! PLEASE BRING FAMILY AND FRIENDS

SUNDAY, AUGUST 3, 2008

12 NOON TO 6 PM
RIDLEY CREEK STATE PARK, PAVILION 11B
NEWTOWN SQUARE, PA

THIS IS A WONDERFUL OPPORTUNITY TO MEET OTHER HLAA FOLKS IN PA AND NEARBY STATES, AS WELL AS TO HAVE A RELAXING AND FUN AFTERNOON.

THE PICNIC WILL BE HELD RAIN OR SHINE.

HLAA-MONTGOMERY COUNTY WILL PROVIDE FRIED CHICKEN.

WE'RE RELYING ON ATTENDEES TO BRING APPETIZERS, SALADS, DESSERTS AND DRINKS.

PLEASE LET US KNOW BELOW WHAT YOU CAN CONTRIBUTE.

Suggested serving size for food contributions is for 6-8 people.

Email Diana Bender for directions and/or food contribution information: bender@pa-shhh.org

PLEASE SEND IN YOUR RESERVATIONS BY JULY 26, 2008

COST: \$6.00 per person; \$10.00 per family

Write checks payable to HLA-PA and mail to:

Diana Bender

101 Oakwood Lane

Phoenixville, PA 19460

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT DONNA PENMAN by phone: 610-292-9003 or 610-279-0905; or email: pen447@verizon.net or penguin2@tmail.com.

The SayWhatClub Convention

The SayWhat Club would like to invite all from HLA-PA to attend our annual convention being held at the Holiday Inn Historic District, 400 Arch Street, Philadelphia, PA.

The Dates are July 9-12, 2008 and registration and other information can be found on our website at <http://www.saywhatclub.com/events/pacon/>

Schedule of Events

- Wednesday, July 9: 7:00pm - 10pm - Welcome Party/Registration, in Hospitality Room
- Thursday, July 10 9:00am - 12pm - Workshops
- Friday, July 11: 9:00am - 12:00pm - Workshops
- Saturday, July 12: 9:00am - 11:00am - Breakfast and Town Meeting
- 5:30pm - Silent Auction opens
- 6:00pm - 10:00 pm - Cash bar, Silent Auction, Banquet

*** Workshop Schedule**

Thursday: 9:15-10:30 AM "Don't Let Otototoxic Drugs Flip Your World Upside Down!" -Neil Bauman
 "Shhh ... Don't tell Anybody! ... and other interesting facts about the medications we take." - Ellen Luse
 RPh BS Pharmacy

- **Thursday: 10:45AM-Noon** "Remote CART" - How to Get It" - Gayl Hardeman FAPR, RDR, CCP
- **Friday: 9:15-10:30AM** "Do You Hear What I Hear: Appreciating and Performing Music with a Hearing Loss" -Wendy Chang AAMHL founder and president
- **Friday: 10:45-Noon** "CI Presentation discussing the use of Assistive Listening Devices" - Tina Childress, M.A., CCC-A (Advanced Bionics); LeAnn Boone, AuD, CCC-A (Med-EI); Cochlear Americas

*** On Friday, July 11** arrangements have been made with the National Park Service for a very special 2 hour tour of Independence Hall and the Liberty Bell. The private tour runs from 1:30- 3:30 pm . It will begin at 1:30 PM at the corner of 5th and Chestnut Street. The group will go through security (bag check only - so leave the shopping behind) at 5th and Chestnut. Then you will meet the Park Ranger at the exit from the security tent. The tour will begin in the East Wing of Independence Hall for orientation at 2:00 pm then proceed to Independence Hall. Gayl Hardeman will be providing instant captions during the tour so you won't miss a word.

The tour will visit Congress Hall where you can sit in the seats where Congress met. Finally the tour will go to the Liberty Bell with exhibits, a short captioned film and the world famous Liberty Bell. The tour has a maximum capacity of 80 people, so reserve now. July is a very busy time at Independence Hall, but this special tour is just for us using CART
 Please send in your reservation to Donna at pen447@verizon.net

If you have any questions please email Donna at pacon@saywhatclub.com

Hope to see many of you there.

Donna Penman HLA-PA Montco Chapter

THE EASIEST WAY TO IMPROVE COMMUNICATION ACCESS

Are you well informed about the newest hearing aid features? What about cochlear implants and assistive technology? Have you been helping to make sure that captions will be available on digital TV, the Internet, and wireless devices, that cell phones will be hearing aid compatible, and that you won't miss a flight because you couldn't hear the announcement of a boarding gate change? Does this all sound like an overwhelming responsibility?

Don't worry--you don't have to do the research and advocacy by yourself. There's an organization working on all these issues and more, but it needs your support in order to be as effective as possible. The Hearing Loss Association of America (HLAA) is dedicated to maximizing communication access for the 31 million Americans with hearing loss. HLAA also sponsors an annual convention, an informative website, the online American Academy of Hearing Loss Support Specialists, and hundreds of local chapters (chapters are separately funded, so if you belong to a chapter, you should join the national organization as well).

Individual membership in HLAA is only \$35 a year and includes 6 bimonthly issues of *Hearing Loss* magazine, which is chockfull of information to keep you in the loop communication-wise. To join, send your check (payable to HLAA) to HLAA, 7910 Woodmont Avenue, Suite 1200, Bethesda, MD 20814 and provide your name, address, phone number, and email address. Visa, MasterCard, and Discover credit cards are accepted (give credit card number and expiration date). You can also join on the HLAA website (www.hearingloss.org). Your membership helps to make our society more communication accessible for everyone.

Nancy Kingsley
kingsley@pa-shhh.org



HLA-PA Support for PA HLAA Chapters

Does your chapter have a project you would like to conduct but lack the funds to do so? Our national organization encourages chapters to raise money by conducting a Walk4 Hearing, which also raises awareness of hearing loss, while benefiting both our national organization and the chapters which organize the walk. But if your chapter is unable to do this, the state office will consider funding special projects on an individual basis. Send your request for special project funding to Diana Bender at Bender@pa-shhh.org and include your name, the name of your chapter, amount of money requested and how you want to use the funds.

Save the Date!

When: Sunday, November 3, 2008
Noon—3p.m.

What: Eastern PA Hearing Loss Association
Banquet
*Meet the New Executive Director of HLAA
Brenda Battat!*

Where: Conshohocken Marriott Hotel

Watch for more information in the September issue of HearSay and the events page of our website:
www.pa-shhh.org

REMINDER
2008 Marcia Finisdore Award for Advocacy
Nominations Due August 30, 2008

The Marcia Finisdore Award for Advocacy was established by Hearing Loss Association of Pennsylvania in 2004. This award is presented to an individual in recognition of excellence in improving communication access for hard of hearing people.

The criteria for selection are:

- A positive vision for the hard of hearing community and a continuing commitment to leadership
- A demonstrated record of advocacy work for the rights and needs of hard of hearing people in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

Nominations should include a written statement about the nominee and why this individual deserves the award. Please include contact information for yourself, as well as for the nominee

Nominations should be sent to
 Ms. Iris Boshes, Director
 Deaf Hearing Communication Centre
 630 Fairview Road, Suite 100
 Swarthmore, PA 19081

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!

Assist the HLA-PA State Director by serving on the Advisory Council or one of its committees. The Council meets periodically in Carlisle but committees conduct most of their business by e-mail and occasionally meet in various parts of the state. If you think you would like to serve on the council or any of its committees, please contact one of the state leaders listed here:

State Director: Diana Bender (bender@pa-shhh.org)

Membership: Russ Green, Chair (green@pa-shhh-org)
 Barb Beard (beard@pa-shhh.org)
 Ronnie Adler (adler@pa-shhh-pa.org)

Communication: Linda Rusinko (rusinko@pa-shhh.org)
 Pam Reiher, Chair
 Donna Penman
 Donna Schumacher
 Beth Ann Rejonis

Advocacy: Nancy Kingsley, Chair (kingsley@[pa-shhh.org])

Government Affairs: Teresa Nellans, Chair (Nellans@pa-shhh.org)

HearSay Subscription

If you would like to receive your own copy of *HearSay*, the official newsletter of HLA-PA, please fill in this form and mail it to the address below. A *HearSay* subscription is free; however, HLA-PA is a not-for-profit organization run exclusively by volunteers and we are grateful for any donations.

NAME: _____ PHONE: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

E-MAIL : _____

Enclosed is my contribution of \$ _____ to support HearSay. Donations are tax deductible.

Make donations payable to HLA-PA and mail to:

I would like to remain anonymous

**Marcia Finisdore
HLA-PA
4 State Road, #109
Media, PA 19063**

I cannot contribute, but would like to receive HearSay.

HLA-PA DONORS

A Special thanks to those who help make it possible.

Henry Fader
Mrs. Shawn Wall
Joan and William Douglas
Forrest Miller
Susan Streib
Gerald Lacey

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For HLA-PA Activities or Other Information,
feel free to call:**

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