

## This Month in Bethesda – November 2010

- **HLAA: Teamwork for Hearing Loss Awareness**, the video for chapters is almost ready. It took longer than we anticipated but we wanted to take into consideration feedback from the national chapter partnership committee to make sure we were on the right track. The video will be distributed to all chapters free of charge along with brochures and a cover letter with suggestions how to make the best use of it. Its availability will also be announced in the *HLAA e-News* and on [www.hearingloss.org](http://www.hearingloss.org).

The purpose of the video is to show viewers what HLAA does and how the national office and the chapters and state organizations work together to improve the lives of people with hearing loss. It was made possible through a donation from the Manhattan Chapter of HLAA with their Walk4Hearing proceeds. We are indebted to these members for their generosity and foresight.

- The HLAA Board of Trustees met the weekend of November 6, 2010. Pete Fackler, president, laid out his strategy for his two-year term in office that includes a strategic planning process to be completed by the fall of 2011.

Prior to the meeting, staff arranged for the trustees to visit the National Institute of Deafness and Communication Disorders (NIDCD) at National Institute of Health in Bethesda, MD. They heard an introduction to the NIDCD, a question and answer session with Dr. James F. Battey Jr., M.D., PhD., director of NIDCD, and a tour of the audiology department including Dr. Matt Kelley's research lab that is looking into hair cell regeneration. Dr. Kelley has agreed to present his research at the 2011 HLAA Convention. Dr. Battey was notified that he has been chosen to receive the James Snow award at the HLAA Convention in June 2011 in Washington, D.C. This award is given in honor of Dr. James Snow the first director of NIDCD. It was created in 1997 to honor those whose contributions have furthered scientific research in the field of hearing loss.

- HLAA took part in a demonstration and evaluation of the latest captioning technology for movie access organized by Regal Cinemas. Several companies have developed devices that can show closed captions either on small screens attached to the drink cup holder or glasses worn by the viewer. Feedback from the consumer representatives on the systems will be given to the companies to take into consideration as they continue to make improvements in their products. To read about the devices that were tested go to

<http://blog.keenguides.com/2010/11/17/theater-captioning-back-to-the-future/>

- On October 29, 2010, the HLAA PA Office held a one-day conference "Working Together" for employers, employees, and job seekers who have hearing loss. The PA Office of Vocational Rehabilitation provided support. Over 100 people attended and session. Brenda Battat, HLAA executive director, gave the luncheon keynote address.

Topics included: The Impact of Hearing Loss on Work and Life; Getting and Keeping the Job; Office of Vocational Rehabilitation Team PA Career Link Resources; Challengers in the Workplace; Workplace Barriers 20 years after the ADA; Resources and Legal Rights; How Earnings Affect Social Security Benefits; An Overview of the ADA; and Working with a Hearing Loss. HLAA PA state office has offered this type of conference for several years now. They also hold a successful walk and fundraising banquet as well as other events.

- HLAA conducted the Hearing Assistive Technology (HAT) training at Iowa University November 12–14, 2010. Each year, as part of a subcontract funded by National Institute of Deafness and Rehabilitation Research (NIDRR) and administered through the *Rehabilitation Engineering Research Center (RERC)* on Hearing Enhancement at Gallaudet, HLAA trains 12 consumers on HAT to prepare them to train other consumers in their community and state and to act as resources to state agencies on HAT.

*This information is provided by the national organization of the Hearing Loss Association of America®. For more information about HLAA national advocacy and public policy work, Hearing Loss Magazine and the HLAA e-News, annual conventions, the Walk4Hearing™, the Academy of Hearing Loss Support Specialists®, and more, go to [www.hearingloss.org](http://www.hearingloss.org).*

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# Hearing Loss Association of Boulder

By Debbie Mohney, HLA of CO State Coordinator

December 2010						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	<u>11</u>
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

Saturday, Dec. 11, 12:00 pm – 2:00 pm  
 Meadows Branch Library, 4800 Baseline Road, Suite C-112,  
 Boulder, CO 80303, behind Safeway

*Boulder HLA Chapter Holiday Covered Dish Luncheon*  
*Everyone is welcome! Please attend to have a good time!*

Laura Hansen, Assist2Hear, and Debbie Mohney presented information on Advocating for Loop Technology in Colorado at our November 20<sup>th</sup> meeting. It was informative on how loop technology is done in churches and other public places.

Jamie Alexander of the DCPA told us about the upcoming 2011 season of open-captioned shows at the Buell Theatre. 2011 has several more shows added, including one in 2012. Please see page 6 for additional information.



**Laura Hansen, Assist2Hear, and the members getting very interesting information about loop technology and accessibility in general.**

Our next Boulder HLAA meeting is Saturday, December 11, 2010, at the Meadows Branch Library. 12:00 pm – 2:00 pm. We will be having our annual holiday covered dish luncheon. The Boulder HLA Chapter Holiday Luncheon is a long-standing tradition that allows us to meet and interact in an informal setting. Friends, family, and newcomers are welcome! We will have a short program discussing the benefits of becoming a member of the National HLAA and a fun activity to test your lip-reading skills.

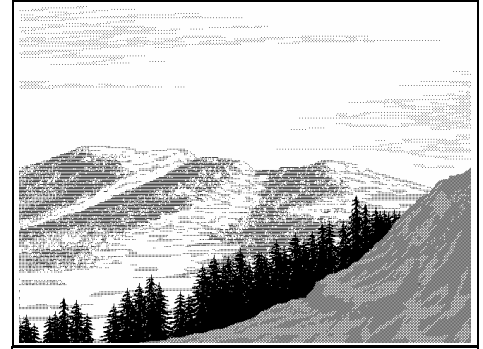
Below is a suggestion for items to bring based on the first letter of your last name. This is just a suggestion! If you have a favorite recipe, by all means, bring it! The chapter will provide place settings and drinks.

A-I: Dessert or appetizer

J-Q: Side dish

R-Z: Main dish

See maps and directions on page 5. □



## Hearing Loss Association of Colorado

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[hlaaboulder@yahoo.com](mailto:hlaaboulder@yahoo.com)

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**Chapter Contact:** Dave Conant 303-777-2279 voice

**Membership Contact:** Marjorie von Frantzius 303-368-7838 voice

**HLA of Colorado Springs Chapter**

**Chapter Contact:** Mark Valkonen [mv-hlaa@comcast.net](mailto:mv-hlaa@comcast.net)

**HLA of Pueblo Chapter**

**Chapter Contact:** Sharon Campbell 719-561-0648

[hlaapueblo@yahoo.com](mailto:hlaapueblo@yahoo.com)

*To submit a news item, article, clipping, story, book review, new product, personal/general member news, etc., please contact Karen Keil, P. O. Box 472704, Aurora, CO 80047-2704 by mail or by home phone 303-363-8917 via CapTel 1-877-243-2823 or **E-mail:** [kkeil75@yahoo.com](mailto:kkeil75@yahoo.com). (Please include source, date (and page number if possible.))*

**Submission deadline for January 2011 newsletter: no later than Sunday, Dec. 26th, at 9:00 pm. The newsletter is mailed at least 10 days prior to Colorado Springs monthly meeting.**

A major objective of HLAA is to develop a constituency of hard of hearing people. This cannot be achieved without members throughout the U.S. Members of HLAA groups and chapters should be members of HLAA National to help accomplish the goals that will benefit all hard of hearing people and at the same time receive the benefits of that national membership.

**Individual:** \$35/USA, \$35/Canada/Mexico, \$45/Overseas (via airmail).

**Professional:** \$35/USA, \$45/Canada/Mexico, \$55 /Overseas (via airmail).

(Other types of memberships include **Library, Non-Profit Organization** and **Organization**, etc.)

For information, send a SASE to HLAA, 7910 Woodmont Ave., Suite 1200, Bethesda, MD 20814.

### Quote of the month

*Today is the youngest you will ever be. Live like it.*

--- Mark Cuban, owner, Dallas Mavericks



## Colorado Springs Chapter

By Chris Hampton, President

Greetings from the Colorado Springs Chapter. Last meeting we had 16 people present to hear stories of how spouses of people with hearing loss deal with our hearing loss. It was very informative and entertaining, too. We are trying to include the whole family in HLAA as our hearing loss affects everyone in the family.

Dec. 11<sup>th</sup> we will be having a Christmas party potluck at Mission Medical Clinic where we usually meet. Everyone is welcome. We have done some updates to our loop system and will be further testing it to see if things have improved.

Our focus in 2011 will be to grow our chapter to reach many more with hearing loss issues. We will be trying to work more with the military and the local schools in our efforts to reach more young people.

The Colorado Springs Independence Center has announced that they have opened a store for independent living at their center and it will include devices for people with hearing loss. If you are in Colorado Springs check it out at the corner of Tejon and Las Animas St. or 806 South Tejon Street.

### COLORADO SPRINGS CHAPTER

When: Second Saturday at 1:00 PM January-October

Where: Mission Medical Clinic, 2125 E La Salle Street, Colorado Springs, CO

Chapter Contact: Chris Hampton

e-mail [hampton116@gmail.com](mailto:hampton116@gmail.com) ☐

### HLA of Western Colorado Chapter News

The December 4<sup>th</sup>, 2010 meeting of this fledgling chapter-to-be had passed by the time the newsletter went to press.

The third meeting will be **January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2011.**

Please contact Amy Beckett at 970-241-2592 ([ajmelnick@hotmail.com](mailto:ajmelnick@hotmail.com)) or Robin Taber at 970-434-7104 ([taberfamily@bresnan.net](mailto:taberfamily@bresnan.net)) or [HLAAWCO@gmail.com](mailto:HLAAWCO@gmail.com) for more details. ☐



## Hearing Loss Association of Denver HOLIDAY POTLUCK PARTY on Dec. 11 at NOON – 3:00 pm. Clubhouse at 8101 E. Dartmouth Ave., Denver, CO

**West going East:** Take Hampden east of I25 towards the Tamarac Shopping area. Turn left on Tamarac Dr one mile (turns into Quebec). Turn right on Dartmouth Ave for 1/2 mile. Look for the signs on the left side of the street at the Gun Club Green, turn left. Up to the next street, find a parking place.

**East going West:** Take Hampden and turn right onto Yosemite and turn left onto Xenia St, which turns into Dartmouth Ave. Turn right at the signs, park along the next street.

AFTER you all park...walk north towards the clubhouse, hang a left around to the back to the entrance (near the pool). **Bring a favorite dish to share.** Drinks are provided.

Hope you can come and share and enjoy good food and fellowship. We are just nice people and it is always fun to be together. (We could use three or four volunteers to help clean and tidy up. A leave it as you found it type of thing. Thanks.)

At our last Chapter meeting on October 27<sup>th</sup>, we distributed an interest inventory for programs that would be of greatest interest to you. Additional survey forms will be available at the party for you to review and give us your input. You may also enter any other ideas for us to consider as we go forward in our program planning for next year. We really value your feedback and ideas.

Just a reminder that our annual dues for the coming year are now being received. You may either bring your payment of \$15.00 to the party or simply mail the payment to our treasurer, Ann Monson at 21298 E. Powers Pl., Centennial, CO. 80015-3338. Make check payable to *HLA of Denver*. Thank you.

Alice Bakemeier brought a book entitled *Rebuilt: How Becoming Part Computer Made Me More Human*, by Michael Chorost. This is a story of the author's journey from deafness to hearing, from human to cyborg (cochlear implant) and how it transformed him. His writing is described as witty, poignant and illuminating. Alice is graciously making this book available to anyone that would like to check it out and circulate among us. It will be brought to the Holiday party to review and check out.

*One final note.* We are very excited about the prospect of making captioning available probably at all of our program meetings next year. (We will also continue to have our loop system in place as well.) In this way everyone will be able to fully take in all that is shared. This is one way that your Chapter can give back to you for all your generous support for the annual Walk4Hearing, as the funds raised make it possible for us to financially provide this service.

We hope you have a very Happy Holiday season.

**Chapter Contact:** Dave Conant 303-777-2279 voice | **Membership Contact:** Marjorie von Frantzius 303-368-7838 voice **See map on page 8.** ☐

**HLAA Chapters in Colorado  
COLORADO**

CO – STATE CHAPTER  
 COORDINATOR : Debbie Mohny e-mail [HLAAColorado@yahoo.com](mailto:HLAAColorado@yahoo.com)  
 Ph 303-938-9659  
 (Note: Please notify me if you aren't able to reach your chapter contact)  
**State website:**  
<http://www.hearinglosscolorado.org>

Join the Hearing Loss Association of America e-mail E-News:  
<http://www.hearingloss.org/membership/Sen.asp>

**BOULDER CHAPTER (Boulder)**  
 When: Third Saturday of Month at 10:30 AM, Sept. - May  
 Where: Meadows Branch Library, 4800 Baseline Road, Suite C-112, Boulder, CO 80303  
 Chapter Contact: Christie Nudelman e-mail [hlaaboulder@yahoo.com](mailto:hlaaboulder@yahoo.com)

**CENTRAL DENVER CHAPTER**  
 When: Fourth Saturday of Month at 1 PM, no meeting July/August (special event in Sept. and Dec., date TBA)  
 Where: Englewood Public Library Anderson Conference Room 1000 E. Englewood Pkwy in Englewood Civic Ctr.  
 Chapter Contact: Dave Conant Ph 303-777-2279 e-mail [DCONANT2279@MSN.COM](mailto:DCONANT2279@MSN.COM)

**COLORADO SPRINGS CHAPTER**  
 When: Second Saturday at 1:00 PM January-October  
 Where: Mission Medical Clinic, 2125 E La Salle Street, Colorado Springs, CO  
 Chapter Contact: Chris Hampton e-mail [hampton116@gmail.com](mailto:hampton116@gmail.com)

**WESTERN COLORADO CHAPTER**  
 Amy Becktell e-mail [ajmelnick@hotmail.com](mailto:ajmelnick@hotmail.com) or [hlaawco@gmail.com](mailto:hlaawco@gmail.com)  
 Ph 970-241-2592

**PUEBLO CHAPTER**  
 Sharon L. Campbell e-mail [hlaapueblo@yahoo.com](mailto:hlaapueblo@yahoo.com)  
 Ph 719-561-0648  
 Tonya Barker  
 Ph 719-561-3105  
[Silverfox0506@hotmail.com](mailto:Silverfox0506@hotmail.com)

Updated: 09/29/2010

OPEN-CAPTIONED MOVIE TITLE RWC = Rear Window Captions (closed captions) ST = subtitles * = may play beyond	LOCATION (See <a href="http://www.regmovies.com/nowshowing/opencaptionedshowtimes.aspx#CO">http://www.regmovies.com/nowshowing/opencaptionedshowtimes.aspx#CO</a> and <a href="http://www.insightcinema.org/links.html">http://www.insightcinema.org/links.html</a> for latest info), see also <a href="http://www.captionfish.com">http://www.captionfish.com</a> and <a href="http://www.fomdi.com">http://www.fomdi.com</a> to find open/closed captioned movies	DATES
<b>NOTE: If you wish to get the latest e-mail updates on open-captioned movies in Colorado, please send e-mail to <a href="mailto:kkeil75@yahoo.com">kkeil75@yahoo.com</a> to be added to the mailing list. Please see links above for latest updates.</b>		
<b>Grand Junction</b>		
Burlesque	Regal Cinemas Canyon View Stadium 14	Dec. 7-13
Love and Other Drugs	Regal Cinemas Canyon View Stadium 14	Dec. 14-16
<b>Golden (Lakewood)</b>		
Burlesque	UA West Village Stadium 12	Dec. 10-13
Love and Other Drugs	UA West Village Stadium 12	Dec. 14-16
Faster	UA West Village Stadium 12	Dec. 3-9
<b>Broomfield</b>		
NA	AMC Flatiron Crossing 14	NA
<b>Lakewood/Littleton</b>		
Tangled	Colorado Mills Stadium 16	Dec. 3-9
Burlesque	UA Meadows 12, Littleton	Dec. 10-13
Love and Other Drugs	UA Meadows 12, Littleton	Dec. 14-16
Faster	UA Meadows 12, Littleton	Dec. 7-9
Burlesque	AMC Highlands Ranch 24, Littleton	Dec. 5-9* RWC
<b>Denver</b>		
NA	The Mayan, Denver	NA
NA	Chez Artiste, Denver	NA
<b>Boulder</b>		
NA	Century Boulder, 1700 29 <sup>th</sup> St.	NA
<b>Westminster</b>		
Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows Pt 1	AMC Westminster Promenade 24	Dec. 5-9* RWC

HOH-LD-News, Vol. 45, Issue 4, October 23, 2010  
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**Siemens MiniTek Offers Robust Wireless Connectivity**

Despite recent progress in increasing the percentage of hearing aids with telecoils, there are still millions of units that do not contain telecoils. The issue, especially for smaller hearing aids, may be that there just isn't room for a telecoil. Siemens has addressed that issue for their hearing aids with the advent of the MiniTek, a combination gateway/remote control that also contains a telecoil! Oh, and a Direct Audio Input (DAI). It only works with Siemens wireless hearing aids (and not all of those), but it does appear to offer the full range of wireless (and even wired) communications options.

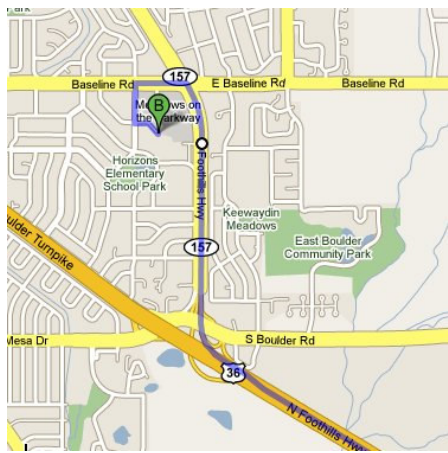
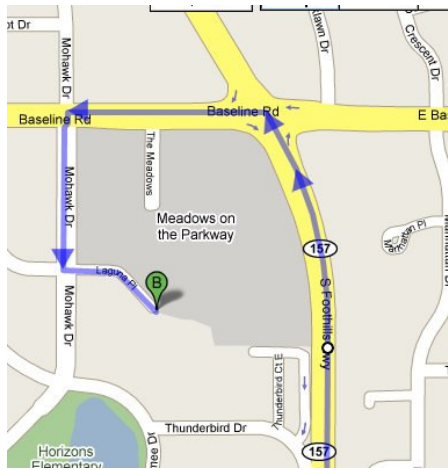
<http://hearing.siemens.com/en/04-products/20-minitek/minitek.jsp>



## Directions to Boulder HLA Chapter

### Directions from Denver

Go on Highway 36 west from I-25. Exit on CO-157 Foothills Parkway ramp and merge (slightly left) into Foothills Parkway. Turn left onto Baseline Rd. Turn left at Mohawk Dr. Turn left at Laguna Pl. The library and its parking lot will be on the left.



### HLA of Pueblo Chapter News December 11<sup>th</sup>, 2010, Rawlings Library, 1:30-3:30 PM Pueblo, CO

At press time, the meeting information was not announced. Questions, please contact Sharon Campbell at e-mail [hlaapueblo@yahoo.com](mailto:hlaapueblo@yahoo.com) or Ph 719-561-0648. □

## Mohney's Musings

*By Debbie Mohney, HLAA Colorado State Coordinator*

Happy Holidays to all of you! I'm having a hard time believing that it is already the last month of 2010!! A decade in the Twenty-first Century is almost gone!

So many things have happened in the last 10 years, some good and some not so good. A good thing is that right now is the best time to have a hearing loss than it has ever been in the past. Some of you have already discovered the newest technologies, and some are still yet to come.

Technology is a friend of those with hearing loss, most of the time. Sure, once in a while it seems like we are forgotten when new features come out, but we have so much more now than we did a decade ago. We have cell phones with Bluetooth technology that can be connected with our hearing aids. We may need a few pieces of technology to make it happen, but it can happen. While we had e-mail a decade ago, it is now available mobile on-the-go. We can text, have more captions than ever before, get CapTel over the internet... and the list keeps growing.

I have been looking through the November/December 2010 *Hearing Loss Magazine*. If you are a member of Hearing Loss Association of America, you receive this wonderful magazine. One of the great features of this magazine is the heartwarming stories about people who have found ways to deal with their hearing loss. Some of them have had a lifelong hearing loss; others have lost their hearing suddenly.

This issue features a woman who is a missionary, and lost her hearing suddenly due contracting malaria in Africa and the antibiotics used to

treat the illness. She recounts her story of becoming deaf and then having bilateral cochlear implants. Another story in this issue focuses on a late deafened musician and his discovery of being able to enjoy and perform music again. There is an article on choosing a cell phone to use with your hearing aid or cochlear implant, and the FCC requirements.



Nov-Dec 2010 *Hearing Loss Magazine*

Mark Ross, Ph.D., is an audiologist and associate at the Rehabilitation Engineering Research Center (RERC) at Gallaudet University, and has an article about the Hearing Healthcare Professional and "The Key Factors in Determining Successful Use of a Hearing Aid".

If you are not a member of Hearing Loss Association of America, join today! An annual individual member is \$35 a year, or less than 10 cents a day! In exchange, you become a part of the largest consumer organization for Hearing Loss. Join at <http://www.hearingloss.org>, and click on membership.

Looking for something to do in the summer of 2011?

Sign up for the Hearing Loss Association of America Convention 2011 being held in Crystal City, VA, June 16 – 19, 2011. Also, the 2<sup>nd</sup> International Hearing Loop Conference is being held June 18 – 20, 2011 in collaboration with the

HAAA convention, at the same location.

To register:

<http://www.hearingloss.org> and click on Convention. Register for the Full Activity package and/or the 2<sup>nd</sup> International Hearing Loop Conference by December 31, 2010 and you will be eligible to win a Kindle 3G. The drawing will be held in January 2011.

Happy Holidays! ☐

### Denver Center for the Performing Arts (DCPA) Open-Captioned Live Shows

#### Captioned Live Showings Coming up in 2010/2011/2012 at Buell Theatre

- [Shrek](#).....Nov 28 at 2pm
- Next to Normal*...Jan 15 at 1pm (2011)
- Avenue Q*.....Mar 13 at 2pm
- 9 to 5*.....May 8 at 2pm
- Billy Elliot*.....June 5 at 2pm
- Rock of Ages*.....June 26 at 2pm
- Les Miserables*....Sept 4 at 2pm
- Hair*.....Oct 16 at 2pm
- The Lion King*.....Dec 4 at 1pm
- West Side Story*...Jan 1 at 2pm (2012)

#### Please come and support this open captioning effort!

Tickets

Voice: (303) 893-4100

TTY: (303) 893-9582

Online: [www.denvercenter.org](http://www.denvercenter.org)

If you wish to get updates on these shows and any other shows in e-mail, please send e-mail to

[kkeil75@yahoo.com](mailto:kkeil75@yahoo.com) to be put on the Captioned Movies and Shows e-mail list.

From the DCPA: Because Open Captioning uses a text display at the side of the stage, it is important that you alert our box office staff that you would like this service. This way we can ensure your seats are in the optimal location. Contact the Denver Center Box Office at (303) 893-4100; (800) 641-1222 or TTY (303) 893-9582. ☐

### Denver Center for the Performing Arts (DCPA) ASL Sign Language Interpreted

### and Audio Description Live Shows

The Denver Center for the Performing Arts provides American Sign Language (ASL) interpretation and Audio Description of all of our productions on select dates. We invite persons who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing to join us for these plays and we will seat you in an optimal location to view the interpreters and the stage.

When you purchase your tickets, please alert our box office staff that you would like ASL interpretation, so that we can secure appropriate seats.

Blind or low vision patrons can check out assistive listening devices for the Audio Description and large print versions of the Applause program magazine at the patron services desk in the Bonfils Theatre Complex and through house management at the coat check in the other theatres (photo id required).

For a Braille script, please call 303.893.6003 or contact [jalexander@dcpa.org](mailto:jalexander@dcpa.org) at least two weeks before the performance.

- [Grease](#).....Oct 17 at 2pm
- [The House of the Spirits](#).....Oct 23 at 1:30pm
- [Dracula](#).....Oct 30 at 1:30pm
- [MAMMA MIA!](#).....Nov 7 at 2pm
- [Free Range Thinking](#).....Nov 13 at 2pm
- [The 39 Steps](#).....Nov 6 at 1:30pm
- [Shrek](#).....Nov 28 at 2pm
- [A Christmas Carol](#).....Dec 11 at 1:30pm
- [Reckless](#).....Dec 18 at 1:30pm
- Next to Normal*.....Jan 16 at 1pm (2011)
- [Map of Heaven](#).....Feb 5 at 1:30pm
- [The Catch](#).....Feb 19 at 1:30pm
- [A Midsummer Night's Dream](#)...Feb 26 at 1:30pm
- [Ruined](#).....April 23 at 1:30pm
- [Superior Donuts](#).....May 7 at 1:30pm
- 9 to 5*.....May 8 at 2pm
- Billy Elliot*.....June 5 at 2pm
- Rock of Ages*.....June 26 at 2pm
- Les Miserables*.....Sept 4 at 2pm
- Hair*.....Oct 16 at 2pm
- The Lion King*.....Dec 4 at 1pm
- West Side Story*.....Jan 1 at 2pm (2012)

Should you need assistance in ordering tickets to these programs,

contact us at 303.893.4100, 800.641-1222 or TTY 303.893.9582. ☐

### Photos of the Denver HLA Chapter Meeting on November 27th



Ginny Kitch Lupo, M.S., Audiologist of Marion Downs Hearing Center audiologist, speaks at the November 27<sup>th</sup> meeting with 26 attendees seeing her presentation.



Members of the Denver HLA Chapter and visitors listen to Ginny Kitch Lupo, M.S., Audiologist, of the Marion Downs Hearing Center, speak on the latest in hearing technologies and accessibility resources such as voice to text for voice mail on the Internet. ☐



# Hearing Loss Association of America Western Colorado Chapter Newsletter November 2010

**Thank you to all who attended the  
Hearing Loss Seminar  
at the Center for Independence on  
November 6th, 2010!**

We had a very successful meeting with 61 people present, and introduced a variety of speakers. Amy Beckett, president of HLAA's Boulder, Colorado, chapter from 2007 to 2009, opened the meeting with a brief explanation of the Hearing Loss Association of America. HLAA is a national organization with local chapters that offers information, education, advocacy and support to people with all types of hearing loss.

Next, Robin Taber, a chapter coordinator for Western Colorado, talked about her experience with profound hearing loss and encouraged attendees to join HLAA.

Denice Roberts, an assistive technology expert at the University of Colorado-Denver, demonstrated a variety of practical devices, including captioned telephones, conduction loops, and vibrating alarm clocks.

Dr. Verner Johnson, a geology professor at Mesa State College, was the keynote speaker. He talked about his profound hearing loss as a young boy, his parents' determination to help him succeed, his many years of education, and his work experience - all without being able to hear. His theme was "persistence is the name of the game."

There were three display tables for HLAA, The Assistive Technology Partners, and AAA Hearing, staffed by hearing care professionals, plus free copies of HLAA's *Hearing Loss Magazine* and catalogs of assistive devices. The Center for Independence

provided microphones, a display screen for the speakers' PowerPoint notes, live captioning on another screen in the front of the room, two sign language interpreters, electronic audio loop to amplify sound directly to hearing aids, a folder of printed information for each person, and a tasty lunch!

The combination of several auditory and written communication methods was very deliberate, and before starting the meeting, Amy Beckett reminded everyone to "make sure you find a method to help you understand everything being said!" We do apologize for a few technical glitches in the complicated electronic setup, but we will continue to learn and use these technologies at future meetings so everyone can participate equally.

There was a wide variety of people with many different types of hearing loss, including parents of hearing-impaired children, adults just losing their hearing, senior citizens, and professional healthcare providers. Many people asked questions after the seminar, and 33 people filled out a survey, suggesting topics for future meetings.

**Please join us for our next meeting,  
Saturday, December 4th, 10:30 to  
12:30,**

**at the Center for Independence!**

Thank you to everyone who took time to complete the surveys at the Hearing Loss Seminar on November 6, 2010. Many of these topics are also discussed in HLAA's national *Hearing Loss Magazine*.

Some suggestions from the survey include: Managing hearing loss at home, work, and in social situations; updates on hearing aid technology; how to use and purchase a hearing aid, captioned phone, or cell phone; understanding hearing loss terminology; the psychological impact of hearing loss; how to help a family member accept help; training in lip reading and in American sign language; and how FM looping can improve your hearing comprehension.

YOUR suggestions will become program

topics for our monthly chapter meetings.

**We encourage you to join the western  
Colorado chapter of HLAA!!**

How can Hearing Loss Association of America (HLAA) help you? HLAA offers information, education, advocacy and support to anyone affected by hearing loss. In other words, hearing loss affects many areas of our lives, and we are each at different points in this journey -- from feelings of frustration and isolation, to acceptance and action. The founder of HLAA, Rocky Stone, said "Hearing loss is an 'invisible' condition," and the people around us can easily forget or underestimate the challenges of not being able to hear well. Every HLAA chapter meeting offers an opportunity to meet other people who share and understand your hearing loss, plus information about different coping strategies and assistive technologies, and updates on national issues such as hearing aid tax credits, insurance coverage, and captioning.

HLAA is America's largest educational advocacy organization for people with hearing loss. HLAA's national, state organizations, and local chapters are a united effort of people determined to make a difference for all people with hearing loss.

**HLAA can help you learn to make the  
best use of the hearing you do have!**

**So, what is next? Join us at the next meeting, December 4th, from 10:30 to 12:30 at the Center for Independence!**

**Our third meeting will be January 8th, 2011.**

**We need at least four people to officially start a HLAA chapter in Western Colorado. The annual membership dues of \$35 (individual), \$45 (couple), or \$60 (professional) include a subscription to HLAA's bimonthly *Hearing Loss Magazine* plus many other programs and services (see included page). Learn more at [hearingloss.org](http://hearingloss.org) and join your local chapter in Western Colorado!**

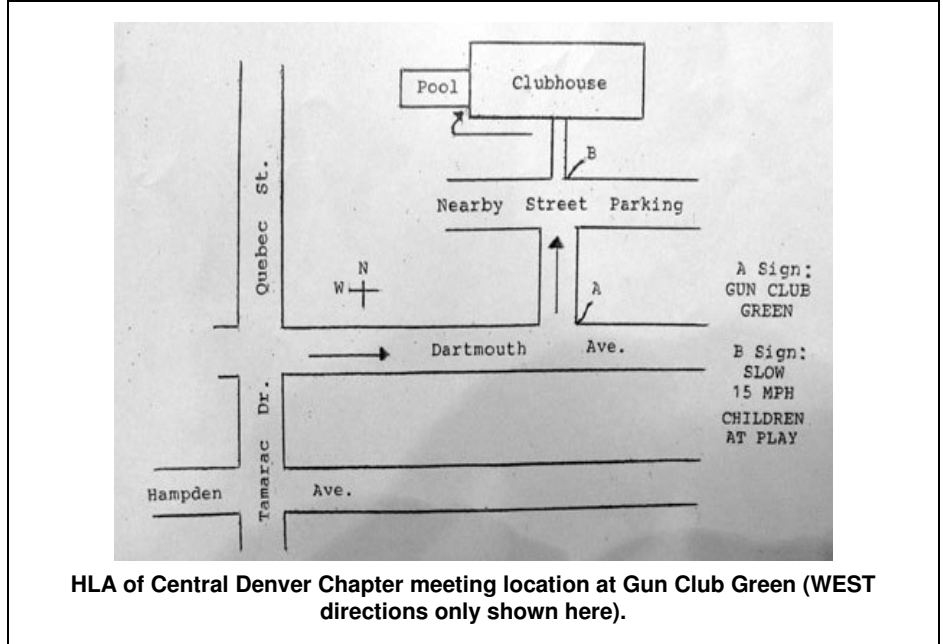
Please contact Amy Becktell at 970-241-2592 (ajmelnick@hotmail.com) or Robin Taber at 970-434-7104 (taberfamily@bresnan.net) or HLAAWCO@gmail.com with any questions.

If you are interested in receiving future news by email, please send your email address to any of the above.

HOH-LD-News, Vol. 45, Issue 4, October 23, 2010  
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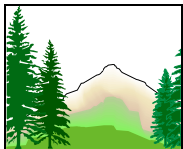
### 3D Imaging Technology to Enhance Hearing Aid Fitting

A patented technology for creating revolutionary hearing aids may offer a solution to those apprehensive of wearing traditional hearing aids. According to a past study by National Institute of Deafness and Other Communication, close to 36 million people in America have some kinds of hearing complications, and among them, only one out of five such people do actually get access to a hearing aid. This shows that despite deafness is a common problem, not many people who suffer from the condition are really getting hearing aids into their ears.



Surprisingly, the failure to wear hearing aid is not expressly as a result of affordability issue. Douglas Hart, an MIT engineer says that some people find it uncomfortable to wear hearing aids in their ears. He says that the percentage of people who don't wear hearing aids

could be decreased if a better way of fitting the gadgets is used. If you observe people who have the hearing aids in their ears, most of them do not fit them. They will either keep popping out or else too tight for their ears, and therefore prickly. <http://tinyurl.com/2f719bo>



### Hearing Loss Association of Colorado

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**Note to those on Boulder Chapter Mailing List**  
Check your mailing label for the numbers after your name. This is the year and month of the last newsletter you will receive. Please pay **\$15/year fees** to continue receiving the News. Checks are payable to HLA Boulder, and sent to Karen Keil, P. O. Box 472704, Aurora, CO 80047-2704.