

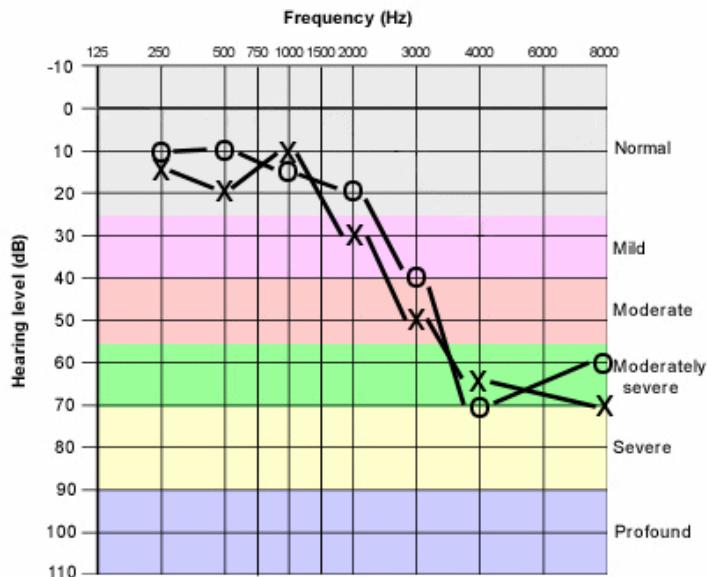
November 2011

Best HLAA State Newsletter Award 2009
Serving HLAA Members and Friends in Colorado

<http://www.hearinglosscolorado.org>

What percentage of hearing loss do I have?

Monday, October 24th 2011



Although many people talk about hearing loss in terms of percentage, it is not an appropriate or meaningful measure of hearing loss. Hearing is tested across many different frequencies or pitches, from low-pitched sounds like thunder all the way up to high pitches, like a whistle. It is very common to have more hearing loss at some frequencies than for others. Therefore, even if it were possible to quantify hearing loss by percentage, for some people the percentage of hearing loss would be different at each test frequency, making it virtually meaningless when describing the overall hearing loss. Hearing loss is not measured in percentages, except in specific legal situations where decibels of hearing loss are converted via a recognized legal formula to create a "percentage of hearing loss" for legal purposes only.

The generally recognized categories of hearing loss are as follows:

Degree of Hearing loss Audiometric Thresholds

Normal hearing: 0 to 25 dB HL

Mild hearing loss 26 to 40 dB HL

Moderate hearing loss 41 to 70 dB HL

Severe hearing loss 71 to 90 dB HL

Profound hearing loss greater than 91 dB HL

Note that the term "audiometric threshold" refers to the lowest sound level that a person is able to hear at a specific frequency. The higher the threshold, the worse that person's hearing is.

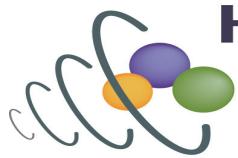
It's important to realize that the degree of hearing loss does not necessarily reflect the impact the hearing loss has on someone's life. A mild hearing loss can be significantly handicapping for some people, while a moderate hearing loss may not have a great impact on someone else. An individual's lifestyle, support system, and feelings about the hearing loss strongly affect its impact, even more so than the clinical diagnosis.

Source:

<http://www.healthyhearing.com/content/faqs/Hearing-loss/Test/32038-What-percentage-hearing-loss?print=on>

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Hearing Loss Association of Boulder

By Christie Nudelman, Boulder HLA Chapter President

November 2011						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5		
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

The Boulder October meeting had Namati Katungu from the Colorado Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing join us to give an update on the activities and plan for the state. In addition, we

reviewed some highlights of the HLAA convention in Washington, D.C.



Namati Katungu

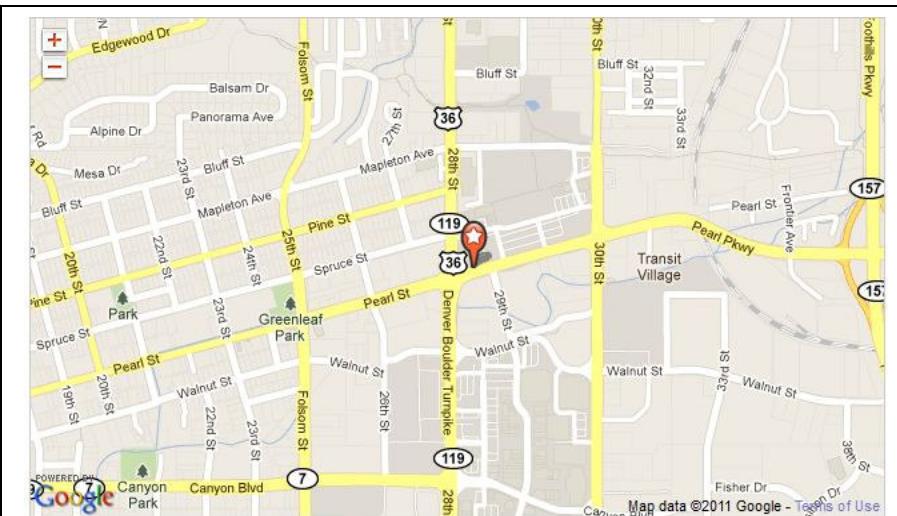
Now for the November Meeting on Saturday, November 19th, 1:30pm:

Join us for a LUNCH and try out personal listening devices!

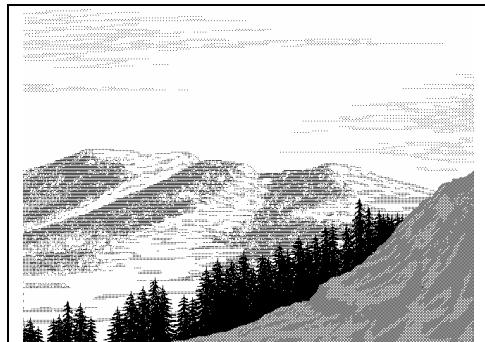
Instead of our traditional 10:30am monthly meeting, we are meeting at 1:30 pm at Turley's, 2805 Pearl St, Boulder, CO, 80301, for lunch (each person pays for their own lunch).

We will be sitting on the West Side of the restaurant. We will also have Jay from ADCO with us to try out personal listening devices – he will bring a few pairs for trial and to buy if interested!

Please RSVP to christiejoy@comcast.net by Nov 16th if you ARE COMING so we can ensure a big enough seating area. Also, if you want to try out something specific or have questions about personal listening devices; please let Jay know. Jay can be reached at jay@adcohearing.com.



Turley's is located on Pearl Street just a little east of the Denver-Boulder Turnpike (Highway 36/28th St.).



Hearing Loss Association of Colorado

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303-938-9659 voice

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HLA of Boulder Chapter

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hlaaboulder@yahoo.com

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Chapter Contact: Dave Conant 303-777-2279 voice
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HLA of Colorado Springs Chapter

Chapter Contact: Mark Valkonen mv-hlaa@comcast.net

HLA of Northern Colorado Chapter

Chapter Contact: TBD

HLA of Western Colorado Chapter

Chapter Contact: Amy Becktell hlaawco@gmail.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 by calling CapTel 1-877-243-2823, then put in 303-363-8917 or E-mail: kkeil75@yahoo.com. (Please include source, date (and page number if possible.))

Submission deadline for December 2011 newsletter: no later than Sunday, November 27th 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

Thanks to the Interstate Highway System, it is now possible to travel across the country from coast to coast without seeing anything.

-- Charles Kuralt



Colorado Springs Chapter

By Chris Hampton, President

Information about the Colorado Springs Chapter November meeting was not available at press time. Please contact Chris Hampton (contact details below) for information.

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 □

HLAA E-NEWS SEPTEMBER 2011

PROMISING RESEARCH on Cord Blood Stem Cells for Hearing

Promising research has led to the first clinical trial to evaluate the safety of cord blood stem cell treatments for hearing loss. According to a [study](#)

[<http://www.medicalnewstoday.com/releases/120350.php>] published in Cell

Transplantation, animal subjects treated with cord blood stem cells showed significant healing to the damaged sensory hair cells and neurons in the inner ear. Dr. James Baumgartner, pediatric neurosurgeon, and colleagues at Children's Memorial Hermann Hospital in Houston will launch the first FDA-regulated clinical trial evaluating the use of cord blood stem cell treatments for children with hearing loss.

The year-long study will follow 10 children, aged six weeks to 18 months, with acquired or congenital (but not genetic) hearing loss. The trial will be selecting only patients who have stored their cord blood with CBR for this [trial](#)

[<http://www.cordblood.com/regenerative-medicine/form.asp?ref=hearingloss>], to ensure consistency in the stem cell processing, storage and release for infusion.

Watch the video on this research

[<http://www.youtube.com/user/cordbloodregistry?blend=22&ob=5#p/u/1/1oA1n3Z8eg>].

YouTube has it captioned but you have to activate the caption button. CBR is having the video captioned with the exact transcript; however, until then, the YouTube captions will be in place. □



Hearing Loss Association of Denver. Chapter meeting November 19th at 1000 E. Englewood Pkwy, Englewood Civic Center. 1:00 pm for socialization and greeting one another. 1:30 pm program.

Rather than trying to meet on Thanksgiving weekend (4th Saturday), we have moved our meeting date a week earlier---the 19th.!

Also this month only we will be in the **Altenbach room**, which is located just to the left as you come through the South entrance to the library. That entry is directly opposite the free covered parking garage. As usual, the loop system will be operational and Diane will provide her superb captions for us as well. We are so grateful to Diane for providing this service for us. The Altenbach room is a little smaller (no kitchen facilities) so it just means we can be a little cozier if need be. We will do fine. Sorry, we will not be able to offer refreshments this month. However, they do permit food in the room so if anyone is worried about withering away from malnutrition before the end of the meeting, you are free to bring in your own coffee and snacks.

This month we are most pleased to have Dr. Stephen Cass back with us for an "encore." Dr. Cass is a professor at the University of Colorado and affiliated with the Marion Downs Hearing Center. He is one of the eminent physicians in the Denver area who performs cochlear implant surgeries. Many of you will recall that Dr. Cass was with us in January and gave a most illuminating talk on hearing loss and the architecture of the ear. This month he will give us a power point program on **ototoxic drugs**, a topic we have been pursuing for nearly two years. We know that you will find Dr. Cass's presentation most informative and entertaining.

One other reminder. Our annual holiday party will be on Saturday, December 10th, so be sure to mark the date on your calendar. It will be held at Emily Well's club house. Full details will follow via an announcement flyer to be sent out later this month. This is an excellent facility and we are most grateful to Emily for arranging for this!

Chapter Contact: Dave Conant 303-777-2279 voice\Membership Contact: Marjorie von Frantzius 303-368-7838 voice □



The Rap Session At the Denver HLA Meeting Last Month

HLAA Chapters in Colorado

COLORADO

CO – STATE CHAPTER

COORDINATOR : Debbie Mohnen e-mail 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

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

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

WESTERN COLORADO CHAPTER

When: First Saturday at 10:30 AM Sept – May

Where: Center for Independence, 740 Gunnison Ave, Grand Junction, CO 81501

Chapter Contact: Amy Becktell e-mail ajmelnick@hotmail.com or hlaawco@gmail.com

Ph 970-241-2592

Updated: 09/09/2011 □

HLAA E-News – September 14, 2011

Captioning on Apple TV

People with hearing loss seem to be among those who love the latest and greatest technology. Early adopters of email, IM, smartphones and text messaging, we are thrilled with world that provides tech solutions for communication problems.

However, not every new product delivers as much as we'd like or hope it will. One example of great technology that falls short in providing the kind of access some of us need is the Apple TV. According to the Apple website, the Apple TV is a device that allows you to stream programming over the Internet to your TV:

Everything you want to watch — movies, TV shows, photos, and more — streams wirelessly to Apple TV. That way you don't have to worry about managing storage or syncing to your iTunes library. HD movies and TV shows play over the Internet to your widescreen TV, while music and photos stream from your computer. Either way, all you have to do is click and play. <http://www.apple.com/appletv/#whatis>

That may all be true. However, if you rely on captions it may not be the product for you. This device apparently does support captions on programming from Apple's iTunes, and some other sources, but not on movies that are captioned via Netflix. Apple tells us they are aware of the problem, are working on it, and should come up with a solution soon.

Bottom line: consumers should always investigate any product before purchase to ensure that it can do what we want it to do – or at the very least, has a great return policy.

For more on accessibility, and to get updates on Apple's accessible products, visit: <http://www.apple.com/accessibility>

<http://hearingloss.org/content/captioning-appletv> □

Captioned Movies in Your Area

Links to see captioned movie listings in your area may be found at:

<http://www.regmovies.com/noshowing/opencaptionedshowtimes.aspx#CO>
This link gives listings per state for Regal and United Artists theatres.

<http://www.captionfish.com> (you specify the city and state)

This link lists the showtimes of movies for all theatre chains and businesses that choose to show captions and share the showtimes with Caption Fish with the following kinds of captioning:

OC = open-captioned on the movie screen—seen by everyone

RWC = Rear Window Captions (closed) --captions from LED screen on back wall seen on reflector panels provided by the theatre

ST = Subtitles (like those seen in foreign movies)

CV = CaptiView (captions on a device for personal viewing – provided by the theatre)

□

Mohney's Musings

By Debbie Mohney, HLAA Colorado
State Coordinator

Winter has arrived in Colorado! The snow started off heavy and wet, and broke a lot of branches and caused power outages. The weather forecasts have become much more sophisticated in the last decade, and while there is a bit of sensationalism in the predictions and reporting, the forecasts have become more reliable. I was ready for this storm, and luckily we did not have a lot of damage at my house, but others were not as lucky.

How do you deal with emergencies when you have hearing loss? There are resources such as television, and having a connection to the outside world via our family, 911, etc. Captioning is required on television emergency broadcasts, and violations of this requirement are hopefully becoming fewer, as stations are subject to large fines when they don't caption their emergency broadcasts. If we rely on captioning for phone calls, emergency situations can become trickier especially if a power outage occurs. We may need to have a network of trusted family and friends.

It's always a good idea to have an emergency kit assembled in case you have to move quickly. Keep medicines, food, water, warm clothes, and other essential supplies, such as hearing aid batteries, in an easily accessed place. Keep a set of items in your car. Identify a battery power source if you rely on devices that need power. Keep your cell phone charged and ready to go. You can find more information online to help you prepare for emergencies:

<http://www.hearingloss.org/content/emergencies>

It's not too early to plan on attending the 2012 Hearing Loss Association of America Convention in Providence,

RI, June 21st – 24th, 2012. This year's convention will feature Keynote Speaker Howard Weinstein; through his work with Godisa Technologies, he has produced three new products: a solar energy powered hearing aid, an analog solar charger, and a rechargeable battery. The Research Symposium will feature "How the Brain Makes Sense of the World of Sound", moderated by John Niparko, M.D. Wonderful stuff! Check out the convention at:

<http://www.hearingloss.org/content/convention>

If you have been receiving e-mails from us in the past, and you are missing them, or you want to start receiving them, you can visit our website:

<http://www.hearinglosscolorado.org/newsletters.html>

and fill in the information to be put back on our e-mail list. The new system looks a little different and the e-mails now come from info@hearinglosscolorado.org. We want to make sure you are able to get the latest information, so please sign up if you aren't receiving our e-mails!

Our website also has a calendar, so you can see at a glance what is happening in the current month.

Have a safe Holiday Season, and don't forget to attend your chapter meetings! □

Denver Center for the Performing Arts (DCPA) ASL Sign Language Interpreted and Audio Description Live Shows

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

*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

If you wish to get updates on these shows and any other shows in e-mail, please send e-mail to 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 at least two weeks before the performance.

*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. □



**Western Colorado Chapter
Hearing Loss Association of
America**
Free Monthly Meeting
Saturday, November 5, 2011

**Surviving the Holidays:
Communication Strategies and
Stress-Reducing Techniques**

**KimMarie, Institute of Self
Knowledge**

The winter holidays can be stressful for anyone, but particularly so for people with hearing loss. This session includes a presentation with a guided discussion to recognize communication barriers, and identify techniques to both adjust to and accept various situations.

Our leader will be KimMarie, founder of the Institute of Self Knowledge in Grand Junction. She has a BA in Psychology Counseling, a Spiritual Teacher and Student, a Neurolinguistic Life Coach, has training in Personality Testing and Insight and Transformational Coaching and Mentoring. Your participation and input is encouraged by not required.

This meeting will be captioned and light refreshments will be served.

**People of all ages and all types of
hearing loss are welcome!**

All HLAA chapter meetings are free to members and non-members, including family and friends. Meetings are held the first Saturday of every month, 10:30-12:30.

Saturday, November 5, 2011

10:30am – 12:30pm

Center for Independence

740 Gunnison Avenue

Grand Junction, CO 81501

**RSVP's are not required but
appreciated**

**Amy Becktell: HLAAWCO@gmail.com
Or 970-241-2592**

**More about the Hearing Loss Association
of America at: www.hearingloss.org**

HLAA is the nation's leading organization representing people with hearing loss. HLAA provides assistance and resources for people with hearing loss and their families to learn how to adjust to living with hearing loss. HLAA is working to eradicate the stigma associated with hearing loss and impacts on communication access, public policy, research, and services related to hearing loss.

**More about the Institute of Self Knowledge
at: www.instituteofselfknowledge.org**

Working with Self Knowledge allows you to experience your mental, emotional, and spiritual needs, which guides you to a place of wisdom. It's Okay to be here just the way you are! □

**JUSTICE DEPARTMENT REACHES
AMERICANS WITH
DISABILITIES ACT SETTLEMENT
WITH H&R BLOCK**

From: White House Disability Group
[mailto:disability@messages.whitehouse.gov]
Sent: Monday, January 31, 2011 4:54 PM
To: David Bolin
Subject: Justice Department Reaches
Americans with Disabilities Act Settlement
with H&R Block

WASHINGTON - The Justice Department today announced a comprehensive settlement agreement under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) with HRB Tax Group Inc., H&R Block Tax Services LLC and HRB Advance LLC (H&R Block) to ensure effective communication with individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing in the provision of income tax preparation services and courses at more than 11,000 owned and franchised offices nationwide.

The settlement agreement, which resolves an ADA complaint filed by an individual who is deaf, requires, among other things, that H&R Block furnish appropriate auxiliary aids and services, including sign language interpreter services, when necessary to afford a person who is deaf or hard of hearing equal access to the goods, services and accommodations made available to others.

"By signing this agreement, H&R Block has affirmed its commitment to providing effective communication with people who are deaf and hard of hearing not only at their tax

preparation offices in San Antonio, where the complaint originated, but at their locations across the country," said Thomas E. Perez, Assistant Attorney General for the Civil Rights Division. "The agreement will ensure that individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing have equal access to tax preparation services at more than 11,000 offices nationwide."

The agreement requires that H&R Block:

- * Provide auxiliary aids and services, including qualified sign language interpreters, to persons who are deaf or hard of hearing when necessary to ensure effective communication of its tax preparation services, programs and courses;

- * Adopt and enforce a policy on effective communication with individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing for all H&R Block offices nationwide, post the policy on its websites and in its employee manuals, and distribute the policy to current and new employees and contractors;

- * Establish and maintain a list of sign language interpreter providers;

- * Post and maintain in a conspicuous location in all reception areas of H&R Block offices a notice stating that individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing have a right under the ADA to request a sign language or oral interpreter or other form of auxiliary aid or service if needed;

- * Provide staff training on the ADA and H&R Block's obligations to provide effective communication to individuals with disabilities;

- * Monitor franchisees' compliance with this requirement consistent with monitoring of compliance with the franchise agreements and other requirements of federal, state or local laws; and

- * Pay \$5,000 damages to the individual who filed an ADA complaint and a \$20,000 civil penalty.

The ADA prohibits discrimination against customers with disabilities by businesses that serve the public. Among other things, the ADA requires tax preparation services, accountants, lawyers, doctors and other businesses to provide equal access to customers who are deaf or hard of hearing. When services such as tax preparation involve important, lengthy or complex oral communications with customers, businesses are generally required to provide qualified sign language interpreters and other auxiliary aids, free of charge, to individuals who are deaf, are hard of hearing or have speech disabilities. Other auxiliary aids may include the use of relay services for telephone communication, exchanging notes for brief and uncomplicated communications, providing assistive listening systems and receivers in classes for attendees who are hard of hearing, and providing captioned videos. The appropriate auxiliary aid to be provided depends on a variety of factors including the nature, length

and importance of the communication; the communication skills and knowledge of the individual who is deaf or hard of hearing; and the individual's stated need for a particular type of auxiliary aid.

Auxiliary aids must also be provided for individuals who are blind or have low vision, such as materials in Braille, large print or accessible electronic formats such as email or HTML, qualified readers and assistance in filling out forms.

Those interested in finding out more about this agreement or businesses' effective communication obligations under the ADA may call the Justice Department's toll-free ADA Information Line at 800-514-0301 or 800-514-0383 (TDD), or access its ADA website at www.ada.gov/ <<http://www.ada.gov/>><<http://www.ada.gov/>>. ADA complaints may be filed by email to ada.complaint@usdoj.gov<mailto:ada.complaint@usdoj.gov> <mailto:ada.complaint@usdoj.gov> .

The White House · 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW · Washington DC 20500 · 202-456-1111

(Source: From an e-mail forwarded to Amy Becktell)



HLAA Western Colorado Chapter update – November 2011

Mark your calendar for upcoming meetings:

On **Saturday, December 3**, we will have a covered dish holiday social. We will have some games and events that will be designed so everyone can participate. We will adjust the time for this meeting only to 11:00 – 1:00. Details will be sent in the next newsletter.

On **Saturday January 7**, we will welcome **William Higgins**, Grand Junction Managing Attorney, The Legal Center for People with Disabilities and Older People (The Legal Center). He will be discussing employment rights and

responsibilities for people with hearing loss. This session is for everyone, regardless of your work status. Everyone's input and life experiences will be appreciated.

News Release! HLAA WCO Receives Grant!

The Western Colorado Chapter of HLAA was awarded a grant from the Colorado Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (CCDHH). This grant will provide funding for CART at nine of our educational meetings. We are grateful to the CCDHH for providing this opportunity to reach out to the deaf and hard of hearing communities on the Western Slope. Please plan to attend a meeting so you can see for yourself how this technology can benefit you.

"CART" stands for Communication Access Real-Time Translation. A trained operator uses keyboard or stenography methods to transcribe spoken speech into written text. The Western Colorado Chapter uses Remote CART, which is done with the trained operator at a remote location. A voice connection such as a telephone, cellphone, or computer microphone is used to send the voice to the operator, and the real-time text is transmitted back over a modem, Internet, or other data connection.

Chapter Community Outreach Efforts are Underway

A small group of dedicated members met recently to discuss meeting planning and community outreach. One effort will be to create business cards that will be available to members for distributing to people who may be interested in learning more about the organization. If you are interested in participating in a future planning meeting, please contact Amy Becktell (see below for contact info)

In addition to our local monthly meetings, the Hearing Loss Association of Colorado's (HLACO) newsletter at www.hearinglosscolorado.org/newsletter is an excellent source of information. HLAA members will receive the state newsletter as a member benefit. Please let Amy know if you would like a printed copy of the State Newsletter.

If you are receiving this newsletter by mail, please consider signing up for the email version. Send your email address to hlaawco@gmail.com and we will take care of you.

Remember, you are not alone!

All HLAA chapter meetings are free to members and non-members, including family and friends. Sometimes the best part of the meeting is meeting other people who have a hearing loss and face the same challenges that you do. Come to a meeting, to share your information and learn from others!

For questions or more information: Amy Becktell: Hlaawco@gmail.com or 970-241-2592



Northern Colorado HLA Chapter

No action on regular meetings at this writing. Don Willson is continuing to advocate for loop accessibility, which he is discussing with the City of Fort Collins.

Don is meeting with various groups on the topics of hearing loss and related aspects, and is spending most of his time in self-education on this area.

Contact:
Don Willson
Hearing Loss Association of America
Northern Colorado Chapter
LoopNColo@comcast.net □

HLAA E-News, September 14, 2011

Considering a text only mobile phone plan for people with hearing loss

September 14, 2011

Are you considering a text-only mobile phone plan for people with hearing loss? If you choose AT&T or Verizon, you can use your **HLAA Membership Card** to provide proof of eligibility.

Some of us with hearing loss spend more time texting or viewing email than we do talking on our mobile devices. Some service providers recognize that and provide plans that allow for more text and/or video than voice for people with hearing loss.

AT&T Wireless and Verizon Wireless offer wireless phone plans to people with hearing loss that may include data, text, video messaging, and/or IM, but charge for voice calls by the minute.

To qualify for these phone plans, wireless phone companies used to accept only a note from a doctor, audiologist or hearing health care provider. Now, at the suggestion of HLAA, these service providers allow people with hearing loss to establish eligibility for these plans by showing a membership card from several national membership organizations for people with hearing loss, including HLAA, as well the traditional method of seeing a doctor, audiologist or other hearing health care professional.

So, the next time you purchase a text-only plan, you don't need an extra visit to a hearing health care provider: you can simply show your **HLAA Membership Card**.

For more details, visit:
<http://www.wireless.att.com>

<http://aboutus.vzw.com>

Warm Regards,



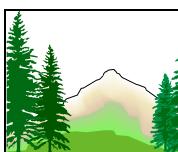
Lise Hamlin
Director of Public Policy

Read Lise's [Public Policy Blog](#)
[<http://hlaa.convio.net/site/R?i=9WqVOLQzvEKMXJOJR2hRHg>].

About the Hearing Loss Association of America

The Hearing Loss Association of America (HLAA), founded in 1979, opens the world of communication to people with hearing loss through information, education, advocacy and support. HLAA publishes the bimonthly Hearing Loss Magazine, holds annual conventions (Convention 2012 is June 21 - 24 in Providence, Rhode Island), produces the national Walk4Hearing(r), hosts online learning with the Hearing Loss Support Specialists Training, holds monthly webinars, and advocates for the rights of people with hearing loss. HLAA has an extensive network of chapters and state. The national headquarters is located at 7910 Woodmont Avenue, Suite 1200, Bethesda, MD 20814. Phone: 301.657.2248 or visit www.hearingloss.org.

Source: Hearing Loss Association of America



Hearing Loss Association of Colorado

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