



### Get in the Hearing Loop – Demonstration and Community Information Meetings with Juliëtte Sterkens, the HLAA Hearing Loop Advocate

By Karen Keil



L to R: Debbie Mohney, Juliëtte Sterkens, AuD, Pauline Weiss, Trish Messinger (CART person), and Vickie Pacheco

Juliëtte Sterkens, an audiologist, presented at three meetings in Colorado on October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>, in Denver, Aurora, and Boulder. At the October 6<sup>th</sup> meeting in Boulder, she told about hearing about loop installations and loop advocacy in 2008 and decided to get into the act to loop Wisconsin in the churches and other public places. She first started with her patients and saw firsthand the very powerful results her patients had in hearing clearly for the first time. She even installed a TV in the waiting room to demonstrate and introduce her patients to the loop.

These quotes in her own words from two websites illustrate further what she said. She also answered many questions from people attending the meeting.

*"I moved to Wisconsin from the Netherlands where hearing loops were already in use in the school for the deaf and the hard of hearing where I did some of my student teaching. In October, 2008, sitting in the back row of a session at the Wisconsin HLAA meeting, I heard David Myers give a presentation about the success of hearing loops in places like Holland and western Michigan, where over 400 hearing loops have been installed. As probably the only audiologist in the room, I realized that I could be the person to bring these loops to Wisconsin. My engineer husband Max, who deserves much of the credit, offered to retire and become a hearing loop installer. We are proud that there are now over 12 trained hearing loop installers in the state, and the A/V*

*companies are now routinely recommending hearing loops for auditoriums, meeting rooms, churches and libraries."*

*"During our first hearing loop dedication my husband and I sat tense and excited in the back of the church. One of my severely hearing impaired patients looked back at me and I nodded that he should switch his power BTE to T, which he did. He then spoke in a loud booming voice (he just turned off his mic so he could no longer hear and monitor his own voice): "Wow, I can really hear now", and turned around and gave us a big thumbs up sign."*

<http://www.audiologyonline.com/articles/20q-what-old-new-again-808>

*"I started talking to my patients about what the T-coil was for. The best thing we probably did was to install a large flat screen TV and hearing loop in our office waiting room. Demonstrations were invaluable. How do you explain to a person that they are missing something, when they don't know what they are missing? I even had a church council meeting in my waiting room so those with hearing aids could experience a loop."*

*"Why did I become a "hearing loop activist"? I do it because I believe with all my heart, that hearing loops are the missing link to hearing aids. I agree with David Myers, when he said that hearing loops will do for hearing instruments what Wi-Fi has done for laptops. I want to make a difference in the life of persons with hearing loss; in my office I can only help one person at a time, but through these loops I will be helping thousands of folks. I know this may sound pretty hokey, but I would die a happy woman knowing I pulled this off in the Fox Valley. In addition, it would have made my father, who was hard of hearing himself, very proud!"*

<http://betterhearing.org/professionals/sterkens.cfm>

Juliëtte Sterkens said that the simplicity of hearing loops requiring only hearing aids and hearing instruments equipped with tele-coils already used by listeners dramatically increase the impact of hearing loop technology. □

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# Hearing Loss Association of Boulder

By Debbie Mohney, HLAA Colorado State Coordinator

November 2012						
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28	29	30	31	1	2	3
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25	26	27	28	29	30	1

## Saturday, November 17th, 11:30 am Social Lunch at Laudisio

The HLAA Boulder Chapter is meeting for lunch on Saturday, **November 17<sup>th</sup>, 2012** at 11:30am at Laudisio, 1710 29<sup>th</sup> Street, Boulder, CO. They have a quiet area, and the restaurant is in the Twenty Ninth Street Mall.

Join us for delicious food and wonderful company! Please **RSVP** to [laacolorado@yahoo.com](mailto:laacolorado@yahoo.com), or call 303-938-9659 (speak clearly and slowly), by November 15<sup>th</sup> to ensure accurate seating for the reservation.

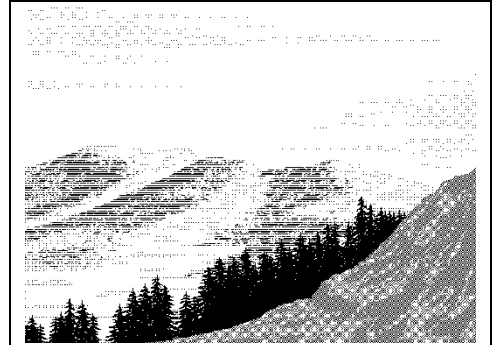
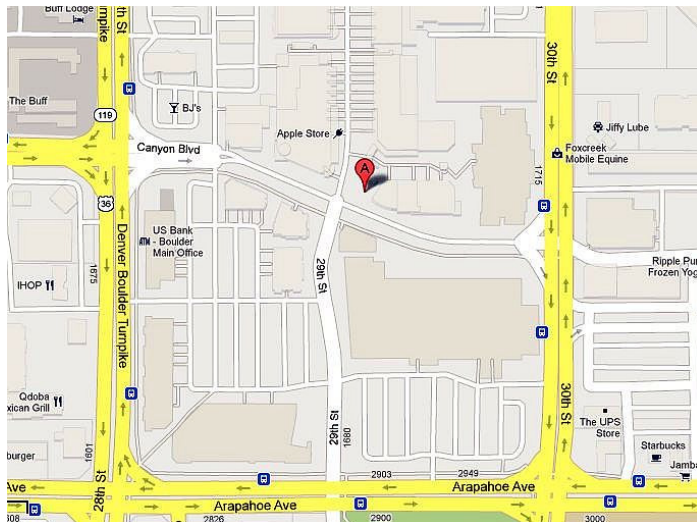
**Laudisio**  
1710 29th Street #1076  
Boulder, CO 80301  
29th Street Mall - phone 303.442.1300

**Parking**  
Plenty of free parking is available underneath the building. The elevators can take you up to the 1<sup>st</sup> floor then look for us on the NE corner of 29th and Canyon across from Borders Bookstore and Z Galleries.  
The garage directly beneath our building sometimes fills up due to the movie theater. If this is the case, the adjacent lot (directly north of the theater) is very convenient to the restaurant as well. The third level joins the mall just east of Laudisio, on the same level. Just walk across the little bridge (towards the movie theater and the escalators) and round the corner by the Security kiosk. You'll see us straight ahead!

### Getting Here

We're easy to find in the 29th Street Mall!

- From 30th Street:** Turn into the mall on Canyon. Pull into the garage on your right for convenient parking directly under the building, or turn North on 29th. We are directly on the corner.
- From Arapahoe:** Turn into the mall on 29th St. For garage parking go right on Canyon and find the garage entrance on your left.
- From 28th Street:** Enter the mall on Canyon. You'll see us on the NE corner of 29th. Keep going for the garage entrance!
- From Denver:** 36 West to Boulder. 36 will become 28th Street. From 28th, turn right (east) on Canyon.



## Hearing Loss Association of Colorado

- HLAA Colorado State Coordinator:** Deborah Mohney 303-938-9659 voice
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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 2012 newsletter: no later than Sunday, November 25th at 11:30 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**  
*Believe your beliefs and doubt your doubts.*  
--- F. F. Bosworth



*By Pauline Weiss, President*

**The Colorado Springs Chapter of the Hearing Loss Association of America meets the second Saturday of each month, from 1-3 pm, at Mission Medical Clinic, 2125 E. LaSalle St., in Colorado Springs (entrance in back, by lower parking lot). We provide a loop system for the benefit of members and visitors with telecoils in their hearing aids.**

Vickie Pacheco, our Chapter's Vice President, was recently selected as the hard-of-hearing representative on the CCDHH Legal Auxiliary Committee. The Auxiliary Members met in August to address issues that exist for the hard-of-hearing in the legal setting, whether meeting with attorneys, or in the courthouse. The hard-of-hearing person needs help whether the person is a defendant, witness, juror, or in the gallery. Signage needs to be visible, upon entering the courthouse, that ALDs are available (if loops are not installed). Identification of needs, for instance, CART, needs to be known before going to court, and a flag should be placed in the judicial file to alert for need of service. A list of 11 goals/projects was listed to focus on, and small work groups will be organized.

In September, Elizabeth Wieland and Vickie attended the Denver Chapter of HLAA when Dr. Daniel Zeitler, with Denver Ear Associates, gave an excellent PowerPoint presentation on cochlear implants, its evaluation, procedure, and anticipated outcomes for recipients.

Dennis Kellam, Leslie Ralphe, Vickie and Pauline made the trek up to Boulder on Saturday, October 6, to meet HLAA's National Hearing Loop Advocate, Juliette Sterkens, AuD. She's had great success in having looping installed in public buildings in her home state of Wisconsin and we all appreciated hearing how this was accomplished. She was very impressive. We're hoping to make use of some of her tips in the future to get looping started in the Springs. You might want to check out our chapter's Facebook page - HLAACoSprings - to see a few pictures taken at this event.

*(continued on page 4)*

#### **COLORADO SPRINGS CHAPTER**

When: Second Saturday at 1:00 PM every month  
Where: Mission Medical Clinic, 2125 E La Salle Street, Colorado Springs, CO  
Chapter Contact: Pauline Weiss  
e-mail [HLAACoSprings@gmail.com](mailto:HLAACoSprings@gmail.com) □



**Hearing Loss Association of Denver. Chapter meeting November 17th at 1000 Englewood Pkwy, Englewood Civic Center, Anderson Room. 1:00 pm for socialization and greeting one another. 1:30 pm program.**

Our speaker this month is Laura Hansen, who will be discussing the crusade in Colorado and the nation to promote and advance the use of hearing loops, (such as the loop we use every month in our chapter meetings.) Laura has founded her own company, **Assist 2 Hear**, to facilitate the installation of induction loops in as many public venues as possible in the Denver area. Laura has also done research into the effectiveness of Assistive Listening Devices.

#### **Double the Effectiveness of Hearing Aids – Get in the Hearing Loop!**

Learn how hearing loops work and where they can benefit those with hearing loss – it is not just large venues! Also hear about the progress of hearing loop installations in Colorado and the nation. Better hearing access will only be possible with advocacy by those of us affected by hearing loss. We'll talk about advocacy and how we can encourage better communication access through loops and other ALDs. There will be personal loop products on display for you to test yourself! So join us for an informative and fun session.

#### **Laura Hansen Bio**



Observing family members and friends struggle with hearing loss issues, even though they have hearing aids, prompted Laura Hansen to research and promote Assistive Listening Devices and Induction Loop Systems through her company, Assist 2 Hear, to help improve the quality of life for those with hearing impairments.

Assist 2 Hear's mission is to help educate the general public and individuals with hearing loss about available options to improve hearing in their own home as well as public venues and social settings. We're committed to making improvements to public and private meeting places to help them conform to ADA guidelines for those with hearing disabilities, and to promoting Induction Loop technology in both residential and commercial settings throughout Colorado and the entire country.

We wish to thank Paula de John for providing our refreshments for this month!

**See map and directions on page 7.**

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

## HLAA Chapters in Colorado

### CO – STATE CHAPTER

COORDINATOR : Debbie Mohney 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: Debbie Mohney e-mail [laaboulder@yahoo.com](mailto:laaboulder@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 every month

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

Chapter Contact: Pauline Weiss e-mail [HLAACoSprings@gmail.com](mailto:HLAACoSprings@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](mailto:ajmelnick@hotmail.com) or [hlaawco@gmail.com](mailto:hlaawco@gmail.com)

Ph 970-241-2592

Updated: 11/01/2012

*(Colorado Springs Chapter continued from page 3)*

We did not have our regular monthly meeting in October, partly because of the opportunity to attend several other October Saturday events - the October 6 Boulder meeting and the October 27 *Building Communication Bridges Conference 2012* being held at the Anschutz Medical Campus in Aurora, CO.

Vickie also attended "The Adapted House" in October (sponsored by The Independence Center, CU Assistive Technology Partners and Holladay Brothers Construction) to check out the technology available for the home for hard-of-hearing people. On a "general information desk", she placed HLAA Colorado Springs Chapter info, as well as copies of the HLAA Colorado Newsletter. Pauline and Vickie also attended an Open House (sponsored by CU Assistive Technology Partners) for Assistive Technology Awareness Week. Open houses were held in Denver, Pueblo, Grand Junction, and Colorado Springs, and, again, featured technology available for hard-of-hearing people. We spoke at length with Heather Emery Lyons, who is an Instructor, Assistive Technology Specialist. She has contacts with many organizations and/or individuals who deal with hard-of-hearing people. We provided her with information and material about HLAA on the National and State level, as well as the Colorado Springs Chapter. We also informed her of Dr. Juliette Sterkens and the looping initiative HLAA has with The American Academy of Audiologists.

We are looking forward to seeing Jay Tinglum at our November 10 Chapter meeting. He's the audiologist and product specialist from ADCO Hearing Products and will be showing us various assistive listening devices and giving us a short lesson in Speech Reading. □

### Early Registration Now Open for National Convention

It's that time again! Time to register for Convention 2013! The early-bird registration deadline has been moved back to January 31, 2013. The convention will be in Portland, Oregon June 27 – 30. Convention scholarships will be available. Get more information at: <http://www.hearingloss.org/content/convention>

You might recall that last year you registered online; however, our online registration system, powered by BlackBaud, will undergo an upgrade in November which will delay the opening of our online Convention registration. As a result, we have implemented the following changes: You may register starting NOW but only offline using [Registration Form \(pdf\)](#) at [http://www.hearingloss.org/sites/default/files/docs/2013\\_HLAA\\_Conv\\_RegForm.pdf](http://www.hearingloss.org/sites/default/files/docs/2013_HLAA_Conv_RegForm.pdf) – please submit it in any of the following ways:

- \* Mail it to 7910 Woodmont Ave, Suite 1200, Bethesda, MD 20814
- \* Fax to 301.913.9413
- \* Scan and email to [convention@hearingloss.org](mailto:convention@hearingloss.org)
- \* Save it to your computer, fill it out with [Acrobat Reader](#) and email it to [convention@hearingloss.org](mailto:convention@hearingloss.org)

The **early-bird registration deadline** has been moved back to **January 31, 2013**. Opening of **online registration** will be **delayed until about the beginning of December** – check back for an update. □

### Captioned Movies in Your Area

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

<http://www.regmovies.com/nowshowing/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

Debbie Mohney's column will resume next month. □

### Northern Colorado HLAA Chapter

No action on regular meetings at this writing. Don Willson is continuing to advocate for loop accessibility, and had loop accessibility installed in the Fort Collins City Hall chamber. An article on this appeared in the **Fort Collins Coloradoan**, January 23, 2012, p. A1, A2. (See HLA of CO February 2012 newsletter).

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](mailto:LoopNColo@comcast.net) □

HOH-LD-News, Vol. 52, Issue 11, Sept 15, 2012  
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### Hearing impaired ears hear differently in noisy environments

The world continues to be a noisy place, and Purdue University researchers have found that all that background chatter causes the ears of those with hearing impairments to work differently.

"When immersed in the noise, the neurons of the inner ear must work harder because they are spread too thin," said Kenneth S. Henry, a postdoctoral researcher in Purdue's Department of Speech, Language and Hearing Sciences. "It's comparable to turning on a dozen television screens and asking someone to focus on one program. The result can be fuzzy because these neurons get distracted by other information."

The findings, by Henry and Michael G. Heinz, an associate professor of speech, language and hearing sciences, are published as a Brief Communication in *Nature Neuroscience*. The work was funded by the National Institutes of Health and the National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders.

"Previous studies on how the inner ear processes sound have failed to find connections between hearing impairment and degraded temporal coding in auditory nerve fibers, which transmit messages from the inner ear to the brain," said Heinz, who studies auditory neuroscience. "The difference is that such earlier studies were done in quiet environments, but when the same tests are conducted in a noisy environment, there is a physical difference in how auditory nerve fibers respond to sound."

Hearing loss, suffered in varying degrees by 36 million American adults, means there is damage to sensory cells in the cochlea and to cochlear neurons as well. The cochlea is the part of the inner ear that transforms sound into electrical messages to the brain.

In this study, the researchers measured a variety of physiological markers in chinchillas, some with normal hearing and others with a cochlear hearing loss, as they listened to tones in quiet and noisy environments. Chinchillas are used because they have a similar hearing range to humans, and background noise is used in the study to simulate what people would hear in a crowded room.

"The study confirmed that there is essentially no change, even for those with hearing loss, in terms of how the cochlear neurons are processing the tones in quiet, but once noise was added, we did observe a diminished coding of the temporal structure," Henry said.

The researchers focused on coding of the temporal fine structure of sound, which involves synchrony of neural discharges to relatively fast fluctuations in sound pressure. Both coding of fast fine structure information and coding of slower envelope fluctuations are critical to perception of speech in everyday listening environments.

"When noise was part of the study, there was a reduction in how synchronized the neurons were with the temporal fine structure," Henry said.

The auditory system filters sound into a number of channels that are tuned to different frequencies, and those channels vary based on their frequency tuning. In a normal system, the channels are sharp and focused, but they get broader and more scattered with hearing impairment.

"Now that we know a major physiological effect from hearing loss is that the

auditory nerve fibers are particularly distracted by background noise, this has implications for research and clinical settings," said Heinz, who also has a joint appointment in biomedical engineering. "For example, most audiology testing, whether it is lab research or hearing-loss screenings, takes place in a quiet environment, but testing noisy, more realistic backgrounds is necessary to truly understand how the ear is processing sound. This also could influence the design of hearing aids and assistive technologies.

"Designers are often working on improving the temporal coding of the signal, but this research suggests that a primary focus should be on improving noise-reduction algorithms so the hearing aid provides a clean signal to the auditory nerve. Other ways people can reduce background noise include induction-loop hearing systems, which are used in churches and other public settings to provide a cleaner signal by avoiding room noise."

Next, the researchers plan to expand the study to focus on more real-world noises and coding of slower envelope information in sound.

"Additional study is certainly needed, and there are others who are also looking at the role the central nervous system plays, too," Henry said. "But ultimately, we found that hearing loss degrades temporal coding of sounds in background noise in the cochlea, the most peripheral level of auditory processing."

Source: Purdue University □

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

#### Captioned Live Showings Coming up in 2012 at Buell Theatre

We offer Open Captioning at select performances for many of our shows. We invite persons who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing to join us for these shows.

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. Seats for Open

Captioning are also available online by entering the promo code **OCAP**.

Captioning is available on these dates:  
*War Horse*.....Jan 20, 2013 at 2pm  
*Jekell & Hyde*.....Feb 10, 2013 at 1pm  
*Catch Me If You Can*.....Mar 10, 2013 at 2pm  
*Chicago*.....Mar 23, 2013 at 2pm  
*Spamalot*.....Mar 30, 2013 at 2pm  
*Mary Poppins*.....May 4, 2013 at 2pm  
*Les Miserables*.....May 25, 2013 at 2pm  
*Peter and the Starcatcher*..Sept 1, 2013 at 2pm  
*Priscilla, Queen of the Desert*.Sept 15, 2013 at 2pm  
*Sister Act*.....Oct 6, 2013 at 2pm  
*Evita* .....Jan 2014 TBA  
*Once* .....Apr/May 2014 TBA  
*The Doyle & Debbie Show*.Spring 2014 TBA

**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 Live 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 at least two weeks before the performance.

*The Giver*.....Nov 11 at 1:30pm  
*When We Are Married* ....Dec 9 at 1:30pm  
*White Christmas*.....Dec 16 at ??pm  
*War Horse*.....Jan 20, 2013 at 2pm  
*Jekell & Hyde*.....Feb 10, 2013 at 1pm  
*Grace, Or the Art of Climbing*...Feb 17, 2013 at 1:30pm  
*Romeo & Juliet*.....Feb 24, 2013 at 1:30pm  
*Catch Me If You Can*.....Mar 10, 2013 at 2pm  
*Chicago*.....Mar 23, 2013 at 2pm  
*Spamalot*.....Mar 30, 2013 at 2pm  
*A Weekend with Pablo Picasso*...April 21, 2013 at 1:30pm  
*Other Desert Cities*.....April 28, 2013 at 1:30pm  
*Mary Poppins*.....May 4, 2013 at 2pm  
*Sense & Sensibility, the Musical*...May 19, 2013 at 1:30pm  
*Les Miserables*.....May 25, 2013 at 2pm  
*Peter and the Starcatcher*..Sept 1, 2013 at 2pm  
*Priscilla, Queen of the Desert*.Sept 15, 2013 at 2pm  
*Sister Act*.....Oct 6, 2013 at 2pm  
*Evita* .....Jan 2014 TBA  
*Once* .....Apr/May 2014 TBA  
*The Doyle & Debbie Show*.Spring 2014 TBA

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**

**Saturday, November 3, 2012**

**Interactive Lip-Reading Instruction**

**Led by Amy Beckett and Robin Taber, Chapter Leaders**

Do you know how to read lips? Some people with hearing loss developed this skill with a structured program from an early age. Others have acquired the ability to read lips over time. No matter how much you may or may not know about lip reading, practice can help you become more proficient. We will be using an interactive lip-reading training program: Seeing and Hearing Speech.

Seeing and Hearing Speech: Lessons in Lipreading and Listening exploits the multimedia capabilities of personal computers to allow people to train and practice lip-reading at their own pace and at home. This interactive CD-ROM from contains carefully planned lessons that help people combine what they see with what they hear to understand speech better. Seeing and Hearing Speech uses the latest multimedia technology and computer-aided learning techniques to provide extensive, convenient lipreading training on computers running Windows.

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

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

All HLA 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 3, 2012**

**10:30am – 12:30pm**

**Center for Independence**

**740 Gunnison Avenue**

**Grand Junction, CO 81501**

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

**Amy Beckett: [HLAAWCO@gmail.com](mailto:HLAAWCO@gmail.com)  
Or 970-241-2592 □**

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR  
FOR UPCOMING MEETINGS!**

**Mark your calendar for these upcoming meetings. You don't want to miss these informative sessions!**

All HLA chapter meetings are free to members and non-members, including family and friends.

Meetings are the first Saturday of the month, 10:30 – 12:30. (No meeting in June, July, and August)

**December 1: Annual Covered Dish Holiday Meal**

Please join us as we gather with family, friends, and supporters in an informal setting to get to know each other better and to learn how our hearing loss stories are different, but also very similar.

**January 5, 2013: Dr. Jeanette Sadler, Colorado West Otolaryngologists Connectivity Solutions for Hearing Loss**

Dr. Sadler will give an update on hearing devices and how these solutions provide the tools to help you connect to other devices and with people. In addition, she will give advice for connecting and communicating with your hearing service provider to help you receive the best benefit from your hearing devices.

Plans for other meetings are underway, but mark your calendars for these dates:

**February 2, 2012**

**March 2, 2012**

**April 6, 2012**

**May 4, 2013: Denice Roberts, Assistive Technology Partners Devices for Your Life**

Ms. Roberts, our chapter's Professional Advisor, will present and demonstrate various devices to help people with hearing loss be independent and safe in their homes.

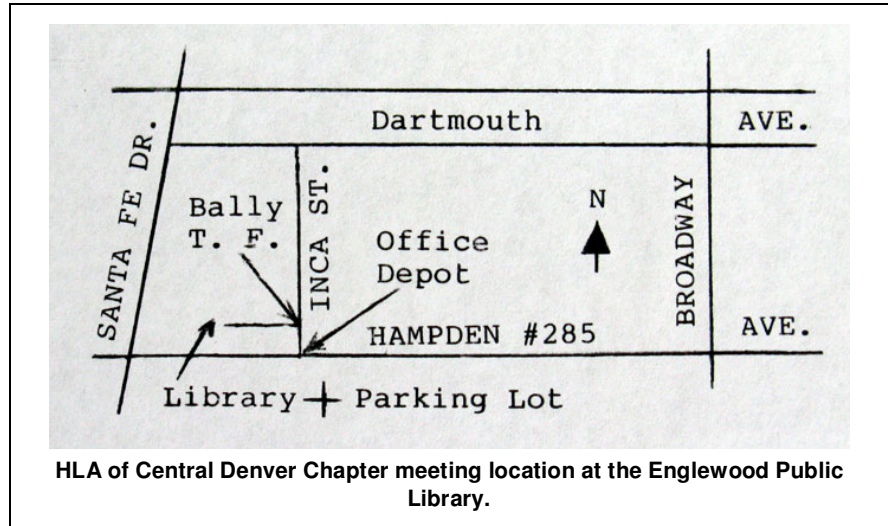
**Western Colorado Chapter Awarded Grant**

The Western Colorado Chapter of HLAA was awarded a grant through the Colorado Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing in October. The grant funds will be used to provide CART, or captioning, at the chapter's monthly educational meetings. The chapter is grateful to the Commission for its continued support for people with hearing loss on the western slope.

**Volunteers Needed!**

We are still asking for volunteers to fill open chapter committee positions. WE REALLY NEED YOUR HELP! Please consider volunteering for one of these positions. According to our By-Laws, more than one person can be on a committee. Please let Amy know if you need more details about these positions.

Treasurer  
Public Relations



Community Outreach  
Membership

Are you interested in scrapbooking? We also need to start capturing our chapter's history in a chapter scrapbook. Contact Amy if you are interested in this project.

**Directions and Map to Englewood Public Library**

**From East Hampden:**

Turn right on to S. Inca St.

**From West Hampden:**

Turn left on to S. Inca St.

Turn left where the Bally store is and continue to go into the parking garage to park. The library is on the right next to the garage.

**From Dartmouth Avenue:**

Turn left from the East or turn right from the West into S. Inca St. at the northern end.

Continue south on S. Inca St. Turn right where the Bally store is, and continue into the parking garage. Library is to the right.

See map on this page. □

*Western Colorado Chapter 11/03/2012 Newsletter, page 3-4.*

**Newspaper Article: Miracle of Sound**

Long-time HLAA member and hearing loss advocate Renata Scheder-Bieschin wrote the following article for the September 2012 edition of *The Crystal Valley Echo and Marble Times*. The article describes her very personal experience with a loop system installed in her church. Here is her story.

**THE MIRACLE OF SOUND**

*by Renata Scheder-Bieschin, Echo Contributor*

*Helen Keller who was deaf and blind said that it was easier to be blind than deaf because blindness separates you from things but deafness separates you from people.*

*This is so true.*

*For many years I was stone deaf. Although I was born with perfect hearing, at age 27 my hearing was affected when I was given the wrong medication while pregnant with my second son. Slowly I started to lose my hearing until the day came when there was none left. Communicating with family and friends became difficult. Although I had taken lip-reading lessons, I was not a good lip reader. The best way to communicate with me was by writing things down.*

*I had prepared myself for this moment by moving from New York to Colorado--to a beautiful area--surrounded by mountains, rivers and forest. I could still see the beauty I could not hear.*

*Thanks to advances in medicine and technology a cochlear implant restored my hearing to a certain degree. It is not perfect but a million times better than being totally deaf. I am back in the world.*

*However, I could still not understand most speakers at the church I joined in Redstone--with the exception of Pastor Bruce who speaks very clearly. Very few people speak and enunciate words as clearly as he does.*

*Music didn't sound good either until today when I heard the sounds of the guitars just as clearly as I remembered them from before becoming deaf. I could also understand the songs and the person who gave the sermon in Pastor Bruce's absence thanks to a loop system that the church has just installed.*

*I cried throughout the service--overflowing with the joy of hearing again and the gratitude I felt for my church for installing such a system. My special*

thanks go to Roger Yoder for setting it up.

Now hard of hearing people can hear at the Church at Redstone thanks to an "induction loop" system which magnetically transmits sound to hearing aids and cochlear implants. The hearing aids serve as wireless loudspeakers, delivering clear, customized sound directly to their ears. Over half of the hearing aids used in the U.S.A. are loop compatible, and this number is growing. Hearing aid "loop listeners" -- and people with a cochlear implant--only need to switch their hearing device to the "T" (telephone-telecoil) mode to hear.

Those with a hearing loss who do not yet wear a hearing aid or use one without a "T-switch" can request a wireless headset through which they too will be able to hear **THE MIRACLE OF SOUND**.

□

Western Colorado Chapter 11/03/2012 Newsletter, page 2-3.

### Meeting Round-up for October: Renee Drollinger, Daylight Project

October meeting of WCO HLAA was well attended and very interesting. Renee Drollinger from Colorado West Regional Mental Health Center spoke about Daylight Project. Daylight Project is sponsored by the Colorado Commission

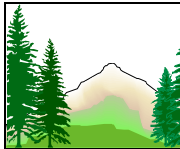
for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (CCDHH) to help improve communication access at behavioral and mental health centers for people who also have hearing loss. Rene is passionate about helping people better hear and understand and become active in their own health care, because she grew up with a brother and sister with hearing loss and understands their frustrations.

Daylight Project was initiated in 2008 when twenty Colorado leaders from a variety of mental health, substance abuse, adult and aging services, deaf and hard of hearing, education, consumer and family advocacy organizations met to focus on improved communication access. Daylight Project offers staff training to recognize patients with hearing loss when they arrive in the office, plus amplification technology to medical offices, including the Contigo amplification system with a sound transmitter and receiver (similar to a FM sound system), interpreters, and written communication methods.



Renee explained that this ear symbol indicates communication devices, including loops that work with the t-coil in hearing aids, sign language interpreters, and other assistive devices. She also explained several tools for help using the telephone, including free Caption Call and CapTel phones for those who can still hear a little but appreciate the help of captions; Sprint Relay and Purple Relay for those who prefer to type and read a written copy of the phone call; and Video Relay services (VRS) for those who use sign language.

Rene and Amy encouraged our chapter to increase public awareness of hearing loss, and educate ourselves and those around us as to how to improve our communication. Instead of nodding our heads during meetings, because we are not sure what we have missed or what questions to ask, we need to speak up and use technology to improve our communication! Too often, people who can still hear do not understand the frustrations and simply slip back into their old habits of looking down or assuming that we know what has been said. Look online at HLAA's very informative website and join us for the November 3, 2012 [meeting]. □



## 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. □