



Our mission is to open the world of communication to people with hearing loss by providing information, education, support and advocacy.



## Chicago North Shore Chapter Newsletter November 2022



Upcoming HLAA Chicago North Shore Chapter Programs:

**All meetings will be virtual until further notice.**



### HLAA Hospital Safety for People with Hearing Loss Panel Discussion.

Monday, November 14, 2022  
10:30 am to Noon

Representatives from Rush University Medical Center, Northwestern Memorial Hospital, UChicago Medicine and Swedish Hospital part of NorthShore, will discuss what accommodations their hospital has for people with hearing loss in light of the effects Covid has had on the hospital systems. The program will open with suggestions on how to advocate for yourself and loved ones in medical settings.



### Annual Holiday Social Event Monday, December 12, 2022 11:00 am to Noon

Monday, December 12, 11:00 - Noon, Annual Holiday Gathering. We'll share our tried and true strategies for successful communication during the holidays.

**Premium Level (\$500 or more)**

Margie Cox

**Platinum Level (\$200 or more)**

Liz Hupp

Sharon King Foundation

Elaine and John McCaffrey

**Gold Level (\$100 or more)**

Betty DeGryse Buino

Martha and Lloyd Ferguson Suzanne

Kaatz

Bindy Bitterman

Mike and Jeanne Wehman

**Silver Level (\$50 or more)**

Marion Anders

Andy and Carol Ban

Jean Draths - in memory of John McCaffrey

Dr. Robert Dwyer

**Bronze Level (\$25 or more)**

Debra Ann Boraes

Jean Z. McCulloch

Ruth Reagel

**Chapter Sponsors**

We are very grateful to these Sponsors for their generosity and support of the HLAA Chicago North Shore Chapter.

**NOTE:** If your name or business is not listed correctly, please let us know.



Don't dispose of that mask just yet! For the latest COVID status, contact The Illinois Department of Health: <https://dph.illinois.gov/covid19/vaccine.html>

And, here are some winter safety tips from The Illinois Department of health.



- Wear warmly in loose-fitting, layered clothes, hat, mittens and boots if you go out. Cover your mouth with a scarf to protect your lungs.
- Pay attention to any travel warnings and avoid icy roads. If you walk on ice and snow, be a "penguin". • Seal drafts from doors/windows. Close off unused rooms.
- Keep the gas tank full to avoid freezing the fuel line.
- Have emergency supplies in your car at home (water, no-cook food, first-aid kit, medicines, shovel, cell phone, flashlight/batteries, blanket, emergency flares, etc.).

## That's Entertainment



The following two movies are offered by the Township of Schaumburg Deaf Services, One Illinois Boulevard, Hoffman Estates. Phone: 847884-0030

“A Quiet Place” Friday, November 18, 1 p.m. FREE. Register By: November 14 A Horror movie about a Deaf girl and her hearing family who have to stay quiet on a remote farm to avoid attracting dark forces.

“A Quiet Place Part II” Friday, December 2, 1 p.m. FREE. Register By: November 28 Complimentary popcorn and water. Limit to 25 people. Board Room door opens at 12:30 p.m.

If Halloween was scary enough for you, Ruben Carrazana, Community Engagement Manager at Northlight Theatre in Skokie, wants us to know that they are offering a limited number of **FREE** tickets to two ASL interpreted and open captioned performances of *Georgiana & Kitty: Christmas at Pemberley*.

The ASL and open captioned performance is Friday, December 16 at 8:00pm. An audio described and open captioned performance is Saturday, December 17 at 2:30pm. The show is 2 hours and 10 minutes with one intermission.

If you are interested, please provide Ruben with the **desired performance date, name, email address, phone number, number of tickets, and any additional access needs such as wheelchair accessibility**. The tickets will be waiting at the box office the day of the show. Synopsis:

The beloved characters from Jane Austen’s *Pride & Prejudice* live on in an all-new holiday story! Georgiana Darcy is an accomplished pianist but wary of romance. Kitty Bennet is a bright-eyed optimist and a perfect best friend. These two younger sisters are ready for their own adventures in life and love, starting with the arrival of an admirer and secret correspondent. Meddlesome families and outmoded expectations won’t stop these determined friends from forging their own way in a holiday tale filled with music, ambition, sisterhood, and love!

Please support the efforts of NorthLight Theatre in providing for hard-of-hearing audience members by ordering your FREE tickets today.



Editors’ note: We frequently publish website links to further information related to newsletter articles. If you have a problem with a link, please let us know and we will attempt to provide a printed copy of the reference.

Mike Wehman [mikewehman@outlook.com](mailto:mikewehman@outlook.com) Liz Hupp [Liz@Hupp.com](mailto:Liz@Hupp.com)

Recap of October 31, 2022 Chapter Meeting, featuring Northwestern University audiology students and ,Dr.Liz Meyer

Our Chapter has had a long and wonderful working relationship with the Audiology Department at Northwestern University. Many NW professors have been popular guest speakers on a variety of hearing related topics. One of my favorite Chapter events was first started over ten years ago when Dr.

Pamela Souza brought her audiology students for a round table discussion to meet with members of our Chapter at the NSSC.

This year on Monday, October 31st, Dr. Liz Meyer and her audiology students met with members of our Chapter on zoom. A list of questions was submitted prior to our meeting and, much to my surprise, many of the questions related specifically to cochlear implants - something that I can speak to since I have bilateral CI's. In fact, many of our Chapter members that participated in the meeting have at least one CI and others are contemplating CI surgery. Some of the questions were: what was involved in making our decision to proceed with CI surgery, what were our expectations and fears before surgery, what was our recovery/adjustment/rehabilitation like, what assistive devices do we like to use, and what specifically can be improved in the field of audiology? Great questions! And we had some great answers!

We, of course, took advantage of our time with the students to talk about the importance of having a tcoil in order to access hearing loops. We also urged the students to refer their patients to groups like ours to share and learn from others what it is like to live well with hearing loss.

Submitted by Jean Draths

ANA PINSHOWER,

Supervisor of Program Evaluation & Quality Assurance, has announced that effective in November she will move on from her position as facilitator for our hearing group. Ana's comments are shared as follows:

"I wanted to let you know that before the end of November, I will no longer be the facilitator of the hearing loss support group. I will still be working at North Shore Senior Center, but as my role continues to grow within the organization,

my availability has changed. Which is not fair to any of you. With that being said, the new facilitator will be Sarah Jackson. Sarah currently facilitates an in-person hearing loss support group at The Mather Evanston. I believe that you will all enjoy having Sarah as your new facilitator. We will still meet next Monday, November 7<sup>th</sup> at 11am for Sound Off, I will provide the zoom link. Sarah will be joining us on Zoom on Monday, November 21<sup>st</sup> and that will also be my last day with you all on Zoom.

I want to let you all know that you have played a very pivotal role in my career and in my personal life. I am so grateful to have had the opportunity to get to know you, to learn from you and grow because of you.

With gratitude,  
Ana Pinshower"

Liz Hupp expresses very well the feelings of our group as Ana continues her work at NSSC.

"I am sorry to hear you are moving on from being our facilitator. We all have grown a lot together. I know you are doing good work in your other responsibilities at NSSC, and I wish you well."

## **More on What You Should Know about OTCs (Over-the-Counter Hearing Aids)**

The HLAA website OTC information has been updated to include the latest guidelines for the decisions regarding the purchase of hearing aids Over The Counter. The information includes a Tip Sheet and plenty of other observations regarding OTC's. Visit the HLAA site for more information at:

<https://www.hearingloss.org/hearinghelp/technology/otc-hearing-devices/>

