



P. O. Box 882
Bardstown, KY 40004-0882

(502)233-5774

Info@hearinglosskentucky.org

A Self-Help Organization dedicated to education, advocacy and support for people who do not hear well, and those around them.

Welcome to the Hearing Loss Association of America KY Home Chapter October Newsletter

October 1, 2018

Greetings to you all!

Become a more self-advocate. Learn about what's new in hearing aids. Most hearing aids use a small speaker to amplify sounds. The **Earlens** Hearing Aid uses light and a small lens placed on your eardrum to directly activate your natural hearing system. Since this is not only a new product on the market but also a new approach to aid our hearing and understanding, we have invited Heuser Hearing Clinic to present **Earlens** at our 6:30 Monday, October 22 meeting at the Nelson County Public Library, 201 Cathedral Manor, Bardstown. This should be a very interesting and informative program. It would also be an excellent program to bring a friend, a neighbor or co-worker who might be struggling with understanding.

Heuser Hearing Institute (HHI) is a multi-specialty, nonprofit organization focused on promoting the needs of children and adults with hearing, speech and balance disorders. What started as the Louisville Deaf Oral School in 1948 has grown to an institute that includes three facilities as well as four additional outreach centers: the **Heuser Hearing & Language Academy**, **Heuser Hearing Clinic** and **Heuser Early Intervention Program**. Their well-educated and experienced staff members work together to provide every patient with the best care possible.

Our September meeting was an unusual meeting. First, we lost the internet and had to rely on Artificial Intelligence (AI) to caption the program. More importantly, this was our first effort at utilizing HLAA National's Webinars directly in our meeting. It was an excellent presentation of the differences between a hearing clinic and a "big box store," an audiologist and an

instrument specialist, and our personal role in our own hearing care. You can access the webinar yourself via www.hearinglosskentucky.org (Scroll down to the webinar button) or go to www.hearingloss.org and do a search for “webinars.”

We want to thank Dave Robertson for providing the special microphone, loading the webinar to a disk, and the AI program that enhanced the meeting. The AI captioning did not compete with our remote captioner, Laura Kogut, but it did aid the program and allowed us to understand each other better. Thank you, Dave.

The Hearing Loss Association of America Needs You to be a member, become a member, renew your membership. When National advocates for us, they are often asked “who do you represent?” They can only refer to their membership. If you are not a member, then they do not represent you. Go to www.hearingloss.org and join today.

We also need you to look to plan for the **October Walk for Hearing**. Can you plan on walking, help raising money, getting others to walk, finding sponsors?



**October 13, 2018 Beckley Creek Park 1411 Beckley Creek
Parkway Louisville, KY 40245**

We need you to be there and bring a crowd!

Here is “What’s New?” in this month’s edition of

www.hearinglosskentucky.org

I. Research

1. Have You Heard About the Cocktail Party Problem?

From cocktail parties to public transit, there are competing sound sources in many everyday environments. If you want to listen to one specific sound, say a friend’s question, in a complex auditory setting, you have to distinguish between the sounds around you and focus on the one of interest. This situation is known as “the cocktail party problem”. Understanding how humans solve this problem can lead to advancements in hearing aid designs.

2. Starkey Hearing Technologies Helping To Shape The Ears, Eyes, And Minds Of Elderly Europeans

Starkey Hearing Technologies is the only American partner, and the only member of the hearing industry, to participate in an ambitious 6.5€ million European project that aims to improve the mental well-being of numerous elderly Europeans.

II. LayPerson’s Guide

1. Guides and How To’s

Use these tips to find, purchase and get the most out of your wireless phone or handset

2. Bluetooth Hearing Aids & Implants

Bluetooth information on hearing aids. This is a spreadsheet by brand/model of hearing aids that have Bluetooth capability.

III. Guidance

1. For Parents: *Hearing Assistive Technology Questionnaire*
2. *Do You Have Questions About Hearing Assistive Technology?*

Unlike the situation years ago, nowadays just about everyone with any type or degree of hearing loss can be helped with some kind of [hearing assistive technology](#) – whether it be [hearing aids](#), [cochlear implants](#), hearing enhancement technology, apps, [other implantable devices](#), [assistive listening devices](#), or [captioning](#).

If you are told there is nothing you can do and you should just learn to live with hearing loss, get a second opinion.

3. Checklist of Difficult Listening Situations

When we go to a hearing professional, we are asked, “where do you have problems hearing?” We are often hard pressed to give a good answer. This check list is a starting point to help us make the best of a visit to an audiologist.

IV. Points of view

The Lonely World Between the Hearing and the Deaf

Am I deaf or am I hard of hearing? How and with whom do I identify myself? At what point does a hard of hearing person become deaf? Is deafness a mindset or something physical? Is deafness a disability or an asset? This is a common struggle as a person lives between the two worlds of hearing and deafness.

V. Expert Videos

The 6 Ways You Can Save Money on Hearing Aids - Applied Hearing Solutions

Hearing aids are expensive. In this video, Dr. Clifford Olson from Applied Hearing Solutions in Anthem Arizona, discusses 6 ways you can save money on your next pair of hearing aids.

VI. How It Works

How to Read an Audiogram

How to read an Audiogram and How to Understand Your hearing test results...what do they mean? What is an Audiogram? An Audiogram is a graph that shows the persons hearing. It tells us the type and degree of hearing loss. The results of the hearing test are plotted on an audiogram.

VII. My Story

What it's like to become a nurse with hearing loss

When I first got to college, I decided I wanted to be a nurse. When I thought about being a nurse with hearing loss, I wasn't sure what that experience would be like.

IN APPRECIATION:

Captioning provided by **McLendon-Kogut Reporting Services** at chapter meetings. Without this real time captioning, our meetings would be extremely difficult. Congratulations to McLendon-Kogut for the 20th anniversary of service to the community!

TAP

Do you have trouble hearing on the phone? If so, TAP may be for you!! The Kentucky Commission of Deaf and Hard of Hearing Telecommunications Access Program is here to serve you if you have a hearing loss. KCDHH provides specialized telephone equipment at no cost to you and other resources to assist with your hearing loss. To learn more click here -

<https://www.kcdhh.ky.gov/ifyky/>

SHARP (Statewide Hearing Aid and Reuse Program) needs your used hearing aids.

Contact SHARP directly for a mailer and tax receipt--KATS Network at (800) 327-5287 or email them at sharp@katsnet.org . Ask SHARP about monetary donations as well.

WWW.HEARINGLOSS.ORG

To find all the news from HLAA check out the HLAA national website.

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

Each top menu gives you good information on HLAA and hearing loss. Make it a habit to keep informed!

HEARING LOSS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

(HLAA). headquartered in Bethesda MD, is the nation's largest organization for people with hearing loss. The HLAA exists to open the world of communication for people with hearing loss through information, education, advocacy and support. HLAA is a 501c3 non-profit corporation and offers tax exempt status to all local chapters. Please join HLAA as the one of the first steps to doing something about your hearing loss. Through our advocacy work at the federal level, we represent 48 million people with hearing loss in the United States. <http://www.hearingloss.org/>

A Special Thanks to our Webmaster, Dave Robertson, for a job well done!

Each month we add a few reminders:

- **Did you Know** that Keystone Theaters now have both Assistive Listening Devices and Captioned programs.
- Please keep in mind that we collect used hearing aids for the **SHARP** program of KY. This program assists people in purchasing new or refurbished hearing aids at a very discounted price. **Please note: The SHARP program has depleted its budget and is dependent on your financial donations.**
- HLAA KY Home is a Non-Profit 502c3 organization that is dependent on your involvement and donations. You may donate on line at our website, www.hearinglosskyhome.org , click on **DONATE**. You can send a contribution to our address and you can designate Hearing Loss Association of America KY Home as your Kroger charity. We then receive a percentage of nearly everything you purchase at Kroger. It costs you nothing and it is a win win situation.

- **Is your world of communication better because you found HLAA?** If you need help or more information just contact us.
- (see below)

Kroger

Anyone who has a Kroger Card can join the Kroger Community Rewards Program.

If interested, please go to your Kroger Account and login in. Go to the Community section and learn more about this worthy program. The code for Hearing Loss Assoc. of America KY Home Chapter is 12384.

This will donate to HLAA KY Home a percent of what you spend on your groceries. This **does not** affect set your fuel points. This is an easy way to help our chapter.

Be good to yourself!

Ed Schickel

