

March 2020



Hearing Loss Association of America

North Shore of Long Island Chapter

Meeting Location

Long Island Jewish Hearing & Speech Center is located on the grounds of the Long Island Jewish Medical Center.

Enter the grounds from LAKEVILLE ROAD and it is the first building on your left. Free parking is available behind the hearing and speech building: first entrance to parking lot after building. DO NOT go into the main parking building. Go to the Conference room on the Lower Level

430 Lakeville Road,
New Hyde Park,
NY 11040.

Join us and learn how HLAA can make a positive impact on your life as a hard of hearing person.

If you are in doubt as to whether there is a meeting, or if you'd like further information, please call Sal: 516-331-0231.

Meeting News

Our meetings are held bi-monthly, on the third Wednesday of every other month.

PLEASE NOTE: THE MARCH MEETING HAS BEEN CANCELLED

We all look forward to seeing each other and learning at our monthly meetings.

However, we have been closely monitoring the situation around the COVID-19 virus (Coronavirus), and as a result we have made the decision to postpone the upcoming March meeting.

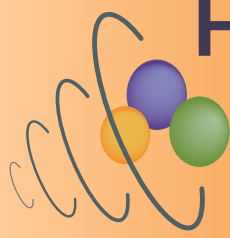
Our first priority is the health of our members, and we encourage you to take all necessary precautions to stay safe.

We look forward to seeing you at the next meeting on May 20th, where we anticipate the following speaker and topic:

Topic: Current Research in Hearing Restoration

Speaker: Dr. Loren Rieth, PhD., Feinstein Institute for Medical Research





Hearing Loss Association of America

North Shore of Long Island Chapter

Chapter Planning Committee

HLAA North Shore Chapter of L.I.

Sal Sturiale

Cliff Aronson

Charlie Kantor

Dan Morris

Len Urban

Trudie Walker

MaryAnn Weeks

Meeting Dates

Our upcoming meeting dates are:

- March 18, 2020
- May 20, 2020

Voice: 516-331-0231
<http://hearingloss-longisland.org>
hlaalongisland@gmail.com

HLAA of North Shore Long Island does not necessarily endorse the opinions of our speakers, goods & services.

What Do Cochlear Implants And Hearing Aids Sound Like?

Science Friday has a lesson for middle school students about how hearing aids and cochlear implants including sample recordings of: “..what it’s like to hear sound through a hearing aid and a cochlear implant. Unless you wear one of these devices, it is impossible to know exactly what it is like to experience sound through them. In fact, people who have normal hearing in one ear but wear a cochlear implant in the other ear say that these simulations sound very different from how they hear sounds with their implant.” The sample sounds are posted here: <http://bit.ly/2PYUcrx>



HLAA2020 Convention in New Orleans!



Early Bird Convention Registration is OPEN!

Check this off your list and get set for a fabulous trip to New Orleans!

Join us in the Big Easy for what promises to be a dynamic HLAA2020 Convention. What a fun place to find support and information! Learn in the most communication-accessible environment, meet others with hearing loss who share interests and concerns, and discover new passions. New Orleans is a magical city teeming with energy, history and culture. The birthplace of jazz, home to Creole cuisine, and charmed with its unmatched southern hospitality, the city never fails to mesmerize. Educational workshops and a broad mix of innovative, informative HLAA2020 exhibitors await you – along with the city’s French Quarter and its famous streets, a captivating assortment of museums, and the allure of “only-in-New Orleans” live music. We can’t wait to see you there!

Join your fellow New Yorkers and come to New Orleans for the HLAA Convention – get a discount by registering by March 1st!

More Information: <http://www.hearingloss.org/programs-events/convention>



Jehovah's Witnesses Complete Entire Bible in American Sign Language



When Howard Mallory first saw the Gospel of Matthew rendered in American Sign Language nearly 15 years ago, he said he was able to understand it more easily than when reading it in English.

“Seeing it in sign language, it was amazing,” said Mallory, a deaf Jehovah’s Witness from Northfield, New Hampshire. “Of course, we wanted more. Only one book was done.”

On Feb. 15, the last of the Bible’s 66 books—the story of Job—was released in video on the Jehovah’s Witnesses website, completing what Robert Hendriks, U.S. spokesman for the church, said is the only complete Bible in ASL.

There have been 60 million downloads of the free videos—the signers are all men, dressed in jackets and ties—with the English translation below, since the Gospel of Matthew was released in 2006.

“We’re not aware of any other translation ever in history in sign language, in any sign language that is complete,” said Hendriks in an interview. “There are many who have

Continued on Page 5

begun the translation, some who feel they'll finish it soon, some who are way off. But this is the first complete Bible with the 66 books."

According to the website of United Bible Societies, which did not respond immediately to a request for comment, other Bible societies have been working on a similar goal.

"There are over 400 sign languages and yet some Bible translation has so far only been carried out for 40 of these and no sign language Bible exists," reads its website.

The American Bible Society, likewise, says in an October 2019 post on its website that there was no complete sign-language Bible, "but we are inching closer and closer to changing this."

Deaf Missions, an Iowa-based Christian organization, is close, with hopes of reaching a "broader scope of historic Christianity."

"Praise God, we have finished translating the entire New Testament and 33 out of 39 Old Testament books," said CEO Chad Entinger, in an emailed response to Religion News Service.

"We look forward to celebrating on October 1, 2020 the faithful, diligent work of those who have worked with Deaf Missions through the years to get all 66 books translated into ASL—the native, preferred and heart language of Deaf people."

Mallory, 79, a Jehovah's Witness for 50 years, said he now can use the ASL Bible on his iPad or his phone, which he called "much easier" than the DVDs he received as the Gospel of Matthew was distributed. Mallory, whose son Tim interpreted his video interview with Religion News Service from Peekskill, New York, said he helped his father give the Jehovah's Witnesses translators feedback on their work, including the first and second books of Kings, as they were in development.

Howard Mallory said his favorite section of the Bible is the Book of Daniel, because "it helps me to understand different prophecies and how they're being fulfilled today and what's going to happen in the future."

Mallory attends one of the 231 ASL congregations among the 13,000 U.S. gatherings of Jehovah's Witnesses. Of the 1.3 million active members, known for knocking on doors and standing on street corners to bear witness of the faith, about 2,300 are deaf.

Mallory isn't the only one who says that the Bible is more alive in ASL than it is on the page.

Janice Adams, 65, a Jehovah's Witness who is deaf and blind, often reads the Bible in English Braille but said, "I still greatly appreciate the ASL New World Translation when someone tactilely interprets the videos for me at home or at the meetings," she said in an email. In tactile interpretation, Adams places her hand on her husband or other signer's hand to feel the placement, shape and movement of the signs they see in the videos.

"The ASL is more natural, vivid, and expressive," she said, than Braille.

The Jehovah's Witnesses ASL Bible reflects the emphasis of the religious group's members on getting the Bible to people in their own language—the ASL brings the complete versions of the church's 1950 New World Translation to 186.

Read more: <https://bit.ly/38Fbal4>

HLAA opens the world of communication to people with hearing loss through information, education, support, and advocacy. HLAA is a 501(c)(3) organization.

MEMBERSHIP FORM

I'd like to: ☐ Become a member of HLAA ☐ Renew my membership ☐ Give a gift membership

My Membership/Renewal

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Country: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____ - _____ - _____

Chapter I belong to: _____

How did you learn about HLAA? _____

Gift Membership

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Country: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____ - _____ - _____

	Annual USA Membership Fees	Annual Non-USA Membership Fees
Individual	<input type="checkbox"/> \$35 (1 year) <input type="checkbox"/> \$95 (3 years) <input type="checkbox"/> \$140 (5 years)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$45 (1 year)
Couple/Family	<input type="checkbox"/> \$45 (1 year)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$55 (1 year)
Professional	<input type="checkbox"/> \$60 (1 year)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$75 (1 year)
Library/Nonprofit	<input type="checkbox"/> \$50 (1 year)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$75 (1 year)
Student	<input type="checkbox"/> \$20 (1 year)	N/A
Corporate	<input type="checkbox"/> \$300 (1 year)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$325 (1 year)

My membership fee is \$ _____

Plus I'm adding a tax
deductible donation of \$ _____

My total is \$ _____

3 Ways to Join, Renew or Give a Gift Membership

1. Return this form to your chapter with your check made payable to HLAA.
2. Mail or fax this form to the HLAA office at the address above with your credit card information.
3. Visit www.hearingloss.org/content/join and use your credit card online. (this is a secure website)

Credit Card Payment Information: ☐ American Express ☐ Discover ☐ MasterCard ☐ VISA

Card Number: _____ Expiration Date: _____ Security Code: _____

Name: _____ (as it appears on card)

Signature: _____ (Include your billing address if different than membership address above.)

If You're New, This is for You!

More than 48 million people in the US have a hearing loss, which can hinder daily communication. By age 65, one in three Americans has a hearing loss. This invisible condition affects the quality of life of the individuals with hear loss, as well as family, friends, co-workers and everyone with whom they interact. HLAA believes people with hearing loss can participate successfully in today's world.



Information - Education - Support - Advocacy

Founded in 1979, the mission of HLAA is to open the world of communication to people with hearing loss through information, education, support and advocacy.

HLAA is the nation's foremost membership and advocacy organization for people with hearing loss. HLAA publishes the bimonthly *Hearing Loss Magazine*, holds annual conventions, a Walk4Hearing, and more. Check out: www.HearingLoss.org

The North Shore Chapter is a dynamic group of individuals working together as a team. To join, please fill out the Membership Form in this newsletter. Welcome!



Donating Hearing Aids to the Lions Club

By Michelle Gross

If you have used hearing aids to donate, please address the package to:

John McNamara, Au.D., Ontario Hearing
2210 Monroe Ave., Rochester, NY 14618

Put on the lower left corner of the package:
"Finger Lakes Region Lions Club"

(Cleaning tools, cases, most accessories, etc. have virtually no value and are discarded.) Aids that are usable are cleaned and checked and made ready for sending to the Lions Club for qualified recipients.

You can obtain a receipt for your donation (for tax purposes) but **you must request it**. And, thanks for considering donating your used aids.

Trudie Katz Walker

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Fax (631) 361-8792

Landmark Agreements Establish New Model for Online Accessibility in Higher Education and Business

Settlement with MIT Follows Similar Agreement with Harvard University to Caption Online Content Agreements Represent the Most Comprehensive Set of Online Accessibility Requirements

BOSTON—The National Association of the Deaf (NAD) announced today a landmark settlement with the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) that institutes a series of new guidelines to make the university's website and online resources accessible for people who are deaf and hard of hearing. The settlement follows a similar agreement with Harvard University in November 2019, which together represent the most comprehensive set of online accessibility requirements in higher education and provide a new model for ensuring worldwide online and digital accessibility in academia and business for people who are deaf and hard of hearing.

MIT, one of the most celebrated academic research institutes in the world, has agreed to provide industry standard captioning for publicly-available online content, including video and audio content posted on MIT.edu as well as MIT's YouTube, Vimeo, and Soundcloud pages, certain live-streaming events and online courses such as Massive Online Open Courses (MOOCs), MITx and MIT OpenCourseWare.

The terms of the settlement are included within a consent decree, which can be enforced by the court. The court must approve the consent decree before it may become effective.

MIT must also implement a public process to manage these requests. MIT is also required to submit reports every six months beginning in June 2020 to the NAD and the Disability Law Center with information about the number of requests received, among other details.

This settlement was reached four years after this litigation began in 2015, when it was filed in the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Massachusetts as a class action lawsuit. The lawsuit was prompted by the recognition that, notwithstanding the description of MIT's online resources as "open and available to the world," many of its videos and audio recordings lacked captions or used inaccurate captions. MIT had no published policies in place to ensure these learning tools were accessible to people who are deaf and hard of hearing. In the United States alone, there are approximately 50 million deaf and hard of hearing people.

During the litigation, MIT filed a motion to dismiss the case. In response the court ruled that federal laws prohibiting disability discrimination covered MIT's online content.

The named plaintiffs in this class action lawsuit, the NAD, C. Wayne Dore, Christy Smith and Lee Nettles, were represented by Cohen Milstein Sellers & Toll, the Disability Law Center, the Disability Rights Education & Defense Fund, the Civil Rights Education and Enforcement Center, and also the NAD.

Read more: <https://bit.ly/3aIHPaG>