

MAY 27, 2016

This is a weekly report from the HLAA national office in Bethesda, Maryland. Please also sign up for the [HLAA e-News](#) where even more news is published.

CONVENTION 2016

Last Chance!

Register for [Convention 2016](#); if you miss the May 31 deadline, no worries, you can register on-site. May 31 is also the last day you can request banquet seating. This too can be done on-site.

Hotel Reservation Deadline is May 31

Reserve your hotel room at the [Washington Hilton](#). Looking for a roommate to share the hotel expense? Post a message on the HLAA Message Boards – go to [myhearingloss.org](#), register or login, and post under the Convention 2016 topic. Questions? Email [Nancy Macklin](#).

Mobile Convention App – Download Today!

The app will quickly become one of your new best friends! Message other attendees, create your own schedule, view a list of exhibitors and sponsors, complete workshop evaluations, take notes, view handouts and speaker presentation slides, and participate in Gamification, the **Play to Win** game. Download the app to your mobile device and start planning your Convention experience. To download the app, click on the appropriate link below or search “HLAA” in your app store.

[Google Play](#)
[Windows Phone Store](#)
[Apple Store](#)
[BlackBerry World](#)

Scavenger Hunt in Dupont Circle

Be on the lookout for more information about the Hunt soon! This is going to be a blast! Register ASAP!

CHAPTERS

Were you loaned a Phonak Roger Pen at the HLAA Convention 2015 in St. Louis? If so, we hope you have used it, shared it with other chapter members, and have completed the [short survey](#) about your experience with it. If you have already completed the survey – thank you! But if you or the people you shared the Roger Pen with have not done so yet, we need your input.



Phonak is looking for feedback on the design and usefulness of the Roger Pen. It will not only help them, but if successful other device makers could seek out HLAA – and possibly your chapter – to help them in the design and upgrade of assistive hearing technology. This would not only help chapters get the word out about assistive technology, but it might also help HLAA get in on the ground floor for the development or upgrade of other hearing assistive devices. So, by completing the survey you are helping Phonak *and* HLAA!

Time is running out. Please complete the survey before Memorial Day – May 30. If you have already done so, thank you! A link to the survey can be found [here](#).

WALK4HEARING

Spring Walk4Hearing

Our spring Walks are making a splash! Chattanooga, Dayton/Cincinnati, Westchester/Rockland, Milwaukee, and SE Michigan all had successful Walks – and great weather!

We are looking forward to our upcoming Walks in Hartford, Connecticut (June 11), Long Beach, California (June 11), and Littleton, Colorado (June 12).

Take Off With jetBlue!

Have your fundraising efforts prepared you for takeoff? You can take to the skies with a chance to win two round-trip tickets to any destination in the United States where jetBlue flies – a prize valued at \$800!

On December 8 we will have a random drawing for one lucky winner from the top 30 fundraisers of the 2016 Walk4Hearing. *You* could be the winner! Visit the [Walk4Hearing website](#) for more info.

TECHNOLOGY OUTREACH

Did you know that HLAA has a [Get in the Hearing Loop](#) task force? In existence for several years, the mission of the task force is to raise awareness of hearing loop/telecoil technology in the United States among both the public and hearing care professionals, and to promote the availability of [hearing loops](#) in all public venues.

Among the action items being addressed by the task force are:

- Supporting the establishment of standards and guidelines for looping systems and other ALDs
- Establishing systems for identifying looped venues and facilities



- Establishing systems for identifying qualified installers of looping systems
- Raising consumer awareness about the value of looping and all assistive listening systems. (This is the area where HLAA Chapter participation is encouraged and the reason the "Looping Toolkit" was developed).
- Advocating for looping systems with providers. HLAA Chapter participation is encouraged at the local level in addition to advocacy from the national office regarding professional associations like the International Hearing Society and the American Academy of Audiology.

Much of the effort has been funded by the David and Carol Myers Foundation. We are grateful for that support along with all the volunteers who work diligently for communication access. Some members of the task force will be at the [HLAA Convention](#) next month.

Anne Pope – Chair
Toni Barrient
Jerry Bergman
Cynthia Compton-Conley
JoAnne DeVries
Richard Einhorn
Lise Hamlin
Barbara Kelley
Steve Frazier
Cheri Perazzoli
Karen MacLennan
David Myers
Ed Ogiba
Juliette Sterkens
Ellen Semel

ADVOCACY

Lise Hamlin, representing HLAA, attended the American Association of People with Disabilities (AAPD) Technology Forum's discussion on accessibility related to the Internet of Things (IoT). The AAPD Technology Forum serves as a strategic meeting of national disability advocacy organizations and representatives from the technology industry with a mission to holistically drive and accelerate innovations to advance the interests of underrepresented groups. The accessibility of various technologies, devices, and applications continues to be an essential part of the forum's deliberations.

