

FEBRUARY 17, 2017

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

CHAPTERS

HLAA Wishes Valerie Stafford-Mallis a Joyous Retirement...

You read that right! HLAA Director of Chapter Development Valerie Stafford-Mallis has announced that she will be retiring on March 31. While we are of course sad to see her go, Valerie is looking forward to some personal endeavors she put on hold in pursuit of professional goals. Valerie and her husband Sam are retiring together, so HLAA wishes them both a joyous and relaxing retirement. As Valerie herself is fond of saying – *thank you for sharing your time and talents with HLAA!* You will be missed, Valerie.

...and Welcomes Erin Mirante as New National Chapter Coordinator

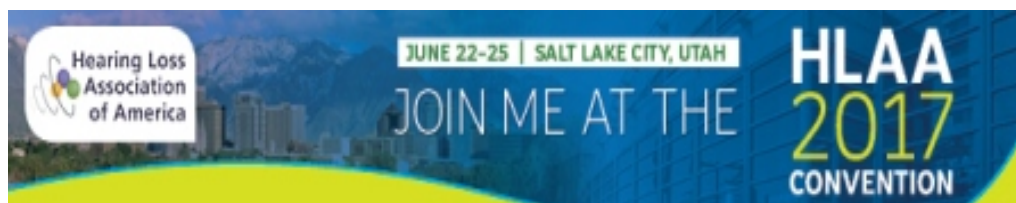
With Valerie stepping down, we are pleased to announce that Erin Mirante has accepted the role of national chapter coordinator for HLAA. Erin came to us in November of last year as the chapter and membership assistant. Even in that short time she has had the opportunity to work with many of the HLAA chapters and has found that to be a very rewarding experience. Erin is looking forward to doing all she can to help chapters grow and achieve their goals.

Make sure you check out the March/April 2017 issue of [Hearing Loss Magazine](#) (coming out in just a few weeks!) where you will find personal notes from both Valerie and Erin. If you would like to send along your well-wishes you can contact Valerie at vstafford-mallis@hearingloss.org and Erin at emirante@hearingloss.org.

PARTNERSHIPS

HLAA to Host Veterans and National Court Reporters Foundation

The National Court Reporters Foundation (NCRF) introduces a new initiative to preserve the experiences of veterans with hearing loss for the Library of Congress Veterans History Project through the use of CART captioning. NCRF is partnering with the HLAA to host an event at HLAA's national headquarters on Saturday, February 18 to interview multiple veterans with profound hearing loss. NCRF will also conduct interviews at the HLAA2017 Convention in Salt Lake City. If you are a veteran with hearing loss and interested in being interviewed for this project, email April Weiner, foundation manager, at aweiner@ncra.org.



SEMINARS

Educational Seminars About Cochlear Implants Coming to a City Near You!

HLAA is working with the [American Cochlear Implant Alliance](#) to present *Cochlear Implants 2017: Advances in Technology, Candidacy and Outcomes*. Upcoming presentations are in:

- [Columbia, South Carolina](#), February 25
- [Miami, Florida](#), March 6
- [Fort Lauderdale, Florida](#), March 7
- [Salt Lake City, Utah](#), March 29

Click on the city above to learn more!

CHAPTER WEBINAR

Now Available for Replay

ARE YOU A LONELY LEADER? The Role of Volunteers in Running Strong Chapters, presented on January 20, 2017 by Valerie Stafford-Mallis, HLAA director of chapter development, is now available for replay!

Summary:

As chapter and state organization leaders, we realize that our greatest need is for members to actively participate in the responsibilities of running a chapter or state organization. One person cannot run a strong HLAA chapter or state organization – at least not for long! Many chapter and state leaders have shared great ideas and success stories for recruiting volunteers to keep the organization going through their newsletters, emails, and updates.

In this captioned webinar Valerie shared some of those tips, ideas, and suggestions with you. You might even recognize some of them as your own! While we can't guarantee that EVERY suggestion will work for EVERY chapter EVERY time, the odds are very good that at least some of them will help increase member engagement in chapters.

[YouTube link to webinar](#)

[PowerPoint presentation \(PDF\)](#)

[Handout](#)

The webinar is also available for playback using the [Blackboard Collaborate Launcher](#).

HLAA2017 CONVENTION

Early-bird Registration Deadline

March is just around the corner, which means the early-bird registration deadline is too. Be sure to [register](#) by March 31 to receive discounted rates!





This Week in Bethesda

Convention Updates

We've got workshop schedules, new events, deadlines and much more to tell our HLAA friends about! Stay on top of all the exciting Convention news and [updates!](#)

WALK4HEARING

Thank You 2017 Walk4Hearing National Sponsors for Your Generous Support!

The 2017 Walk4Hearing National Sponsors have Stepped up for People with Hearing Loss! We are pleased to announce that we have six National Sponsors who are generously supporting the Walk4Hearing in all 21 cities across the country where it is being held. A big *THANK YOU* to CapTel Captioned Telephone (Premier Sponsor), MED-EL (Platinum Sponsor), ClearCaptions (Diamond Sponsor), Cochlear Americas, *hi HealthInnovations*, and Regal Entertainment Group (Silver Sponsors).

Spring Walk4Hearing Locations and Kickoff Events Announced

The 2017 Spring Walk4Hearing is ready to get underway! The dates and locations are set as are details about the kickoff events for each Walk. Attending a kickoff event is a great way to get your fundraising materials, learn how to build a successful team, and to network with others who is affected by hearing loss.

2017 Spring Walk4Hearing Locations:

- May 13 – Dayton/Cincinnati, Ohio
- May 13 – Westchester/Rockland, New York
- May 13 – Milwaukee, Wisconsin
- May 20 – Milford, Michigan
- May 21 – Hartford, Connecticut
- June 10 – Long Beach, California
- June 11 – Littleton, Colorado

Go to walk4hearing.org for more information and to RSVP.

POSITION OPENING

Database & Membership Manager/Administrator

HLAA currently has a job opening for a Database & Membership Manager. The successful candidate will be responsible for overseeing the daily operation of HLAA's IT network and database, which tracks contributions, constituents, members, donors, advertisers, chapter management and prospect information. The position is located at the HLAA national office in Bethesda, Maryland. If you are interested in applying or know someone who is you can find more information on the [HLAA website](#).

