



**Hearing Loss
Association
of America
Cape Cod Chapter**

Cape Ears March 2010

Chapter News

CHAPTER DUES--still only \$10!

Your \$10 goes a long way toward providing the newsletter and other projects. If you want your voice to be heard on Cape Cod issues for the hearing impaired, please join us and help us advocate! There is strength in numbers and organizations are judged on their number of members. Please mail your 2010 dues or pay at the next meeting. Use the handy form inside this newsletter.

The Board needs YOU!

Looking for smart people with good ideas. That's YOU! Educate, advocate, support, have fun. Help others learn to stop faking it. Call Betty at 508-432-3948, email info@hearinglosscapecod.org or drop us a note. Planning in the summer for new season in the fall.

Saturday, June 12, 2010

We've got our thinking caps on about what social thing we can do for our last get-together before summer. So far we've inquired about a picnic at Grey's Beach/Bass Hole picnic area in YarmouthPort. We can either bring food in or cook it there, or make a potluck. Let us know your ideas and we'll decide at the meeting.

2010 Meetings 1:30 pm -->

--Saturday, May 22-- Bob Prescott, Wellfleet Bay Audubon Society
--June 12, 2010 -- something social

We meet at the Dennis Public Library in Dennisport where the meeting room is equipped with a loop that works with your hearing aid telecoil to bring sound right to your ear.
web: www.dennispubliclibrary.org

website: www.hearinglosscapecod.org

David Roellke will discuss "New Advances in Technology" at the March 27th meeting.

David Roellke of Cape Cod Hearing Center in Hyannis is a very entertaining and informative speaker who has the gift of making technical information understandable and interesting. He will share the latest advances with hearing aids and assistive devices.



One big change is that the offices are moving to 60 North Street in Hyannis on April 1, just behind Puritan Clothing. There is a large parking lot and easy access to the ground floor offices.

Dr. Theresa Cullen is enthusiastic about the new space. A Reality Room is planned that will simulate real life situations like noisy restaurants and television shows so that clients can try out new hearing aids and learn how to compensate or have the staff make needed adjustments. Also, a separate Assistive Device Room will give clients privacy to try out assistive devices like television listening systems and loops. She said that clients were hesitant to try out the television system that was in the waiting room. There will also be a looped conference room for meetings and other uses.

Theresa, David and Siemens Representative Pamela Messano are responsible for providing money so that we could have CART at all of our meetings this year. When they found out about the loss of state funding for CART, Theresa and David promised they would help us. We were expecting help with perhaps a meeting or two, and were overwhelmed and gratified by their support.

Highlights of January 23rd Meeting

Cara Jordan, director of the Clarke School East in Canton described the successful oral program and showed an informative film which featured students, parents and teachers. Because of the newborn screening law Massachusetts, children are now fitted with cochlear implants at 12 months and mainstreamed back into regular classes much earlier than before the law passed. The Clarke Boston website: http://www.clarkeschool.org/content/Clarke_East/index.php

Tom Driscoll spoke about "Living and Excelling in the Land of the Hearing," describing his loss of hearing, use of assistive devices, and his coping strategies. He has a new Captel phone and invites anyone who would like to see it in operation to his office. He also teaches sign language classes. Email tom_driscoll@comcast.net

email: info@hearinglosscapecod.org

News Briefs from National
**Getting the Most from your
Telecoil** By Dr. Brad Smith
*condensed from the Albuquerque
NM, HLAA newsletter*

The telecoil or induction coil is an important hearing aid feature that has been shown to improve the overall benefit and satisfaction from hearing aids. Unlike hearing aid microphones (which respond to acoustic signals traveling through the air), telecoils are sensitive to sources of magnetic energy such as hearing aid compatible telephones and induction loop assistive listening devices/systems.

Telecoil use can improve speech understanding on the telephone and provide a convenient, economical means of connecting hearing aids with a vast array of assistive listening devices (ALDs) such as wireless transmitters for television, personal FM systems, and induction loop systems found in public places. *[ed. note--the Dennis Public Library has a loop system in the meeting room.]*

A new development, programmable telecoils enable the practitioner to custom tune the telecoil's response to the individual's hearing profile and account for some of variables which have caused problems with telecoils in the past. With appropriate adjustments of the tones and the volume provided through the telecoil, it is possible to improve both sound quality and speech clarity.

Real ear measurements are an essential clinical tool for fitting hearing aids and can also be very useful for fine-tuning programmable telecoils because they allow the practitioner to visualize how a hearing aid is amplifying sound.

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Special thanks to those who gave more than the minimum amount of membership dues!

Bob Prescott of Wellfleet Bay Audubon Society, May 22 at 1:30 pm at Dennis Public Library. PUBLIC IS INVITED!
"Understanding our Local Wildlife: Current Research at Wellfleet Bay"

What do piping plovers, diamondback terrapins, horseshoe crabs and the Wellfleet oyster have in common? They are all subjects of long-term projects conducted by Mass Audubon's Wellfleet Bay Wildlife Sanctuary. The majority of these projects are done with the help of citizen scientists—trained volunteers, many with no previous experience, who work with Wellfleet Bay staff to meet the goals of the projects. This exciting network of volunteers helps raise our understanding of Cape Cod's wildlife on multiple levels. This presentation will highlight Wellfleet Bay's current research and monitoring projects and provide insight into what we have learned from our studies. Slides and CART transcription.

Thank you to our wonderful advertisers. While we cannot endorse any products of services of our advertisers, we appreciate their support and encourage your personal exploration of options.

Place an ad in the newsletter--only \$75 for the year!

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Send 2010 dues (\$10 each person) or business cards for ads (\$75 includes chapter dues) and check made out to Hearing Loss Association, Cape Cod Chapter to:

Marita Cable, 7 Spruce Street, South Yarmouth, MA 02664

Your Name(s):

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HLAA is working for you: Public Policy and Advocacy by Lise Hamlin

See the complete announcement:

hlaa-advocacy.blogspot.com/

<http://www.fcc.gov/cgb/consumerfacts/closedcaption.html>

Tired of problems with captioning and descriptive audio on television? New rules for filing captioning complaints are in effect to help consumers get captioning problems solved more quickly.

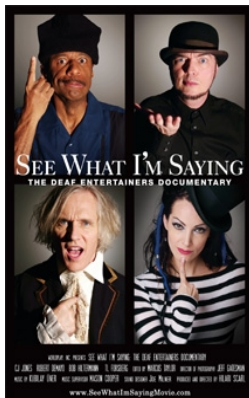
Under the new rules:

- You can contact the program distributor (broadcaster, cable company, satellite company or whoever is sending you the television signal) directly. A contact person must be available during hours of operation for you to call or email, great for situations with a quick fix, like captions suddenly disappearing during a program.

- You can contact the FCC **first** which will send your complaint to the program distributor. Or, you can contact the FCC **after** you contacted the program distributor directly if the problem was not solved. The FCC will be able to see the kinds of complaints that are coming in, and might even start seeing patterns in our complaints. **Use the handy form on the FCC website.**

So, send your complaints to the FCC. I for one, look forward to the time when we have no complaints to send in!

---Lise Hamlin



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Doctor of Audiology

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www.capecodhearing.com


Coming to the Cape??

See What I'm Saying, a movie directed by Hilari Scarl, follows four deaf entertainers - a comic, a drummer, an actor and a singer as they overcome personal obstacles and celebrate professional landmarks. It is premiering in Los Angeles and traveling across the country. Tom Driscoll knows some of the actors and is trying to bring it here and the Cape Cod chapter will be ready to help! <http://www.seewhatimsayingmovie.com>

Question of the day: One of our members wants to know -- which do you prefer for access services (captioning, help with questions, etc) VERIZON or COMCAST?

The HLAA Convention is June 17-20 in Milwaukee, WI. Is anyone interested in going as a chapter delegate? There is an excellent lineup of speakers and workshops. For info, www.hearingloss.org

Hearing Loss Association of America/Cape Cod Chapter
to contact a board member, use
firstname@hearinglosscapecod.org



Tiffany Pflieger, MS, FAAA
Leanne O'Neil, MS, FAAA
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Email: hearus@cape.com



c/o Marita Cable
7 Spruce St.
So. Yarmouth, MA 02664

***Dennis Public Library
Dennisport***

***Sat. March 27
1:30 pm for coffee***

President Bobbie McDonnell
bobbie@hearinglosscapecod.org
Vice-President vacant
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Make new friends and support our mission in a direct way by joining the Board or a committee. Do you have a special skill or a great idea? Tell us! We're looking for a few good volunteers who want to get involved and make a difference!

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Ken Amesbury and Betty Keeshan

have resigned from the board, but will stay active in the group. We thank them for many years of service to the group.

**We are an official chapter of Hearing Loss Association of America. *Join now and add your voice to the thousands of other members. Some chapters have made a goal of 100% membership in National.***

[www.hearingloss.org](http://www.hearingloss.org) a very informative website

7910 Woodmont Ave, Suite 1200  
Bethesda, MD 20814

Phone: 301-657-2248 Fax: 301-913-9413 A 501(c)(3)non-profit members receive discounts on travel, assistive devices and more.

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The **Hearing Loss Association of America**, formerly SHHH, is a hard working organization.

Part of the mission statement says:

Self Help: - HLAA believes people with hearing loss can help themselves and one another to participate fully and successfully in society.

HLAA promotes self-confidence; empowers individuals with skills to improve their lives; and provides an opportunity for affiliation among people with hearing loss, their friends, families, and professionals.

- ▶ We work to develop options for ourselves and open doors for others.
- ▶ We provide support in setting up local support groups.

Join today to receive the magazine and learn how to advocate.