

**Western Colorado Chapter
Hearing Loss Association of America
Free Monthly Meeting
Saturday, March 3, 2018**

**Ring in Your Ears, Living with Tinnitus
Paul D'Arezzo and Elaine Conlon**

Paul D'Arezzo, M.D., is a retired emergency department physician. After developing tinnitus, he became interested in the mental aspects of dealing with the condition. He is the author of a recently published book: *Change Your Mind About Tinnitus: Transforming the Way You Think to Help Control the Ringing in Your Ears*.

Elaine Conlon got tinnitus and hyperacusis after a car crash caused the side airbags to explode, sounding much like a bomb going new her ear. Seeking relief from the audio trauma, she looked for a support group for those suffering from tinnitus and finding none in GJ, created one.

The tinnitus support group meets the 3rd Wednesday of the month, 7:00 - 8:30 p.m, at the Community Hospital, Legacy Room 1.

Captioning for this meeting is sponsored from a grant from the Colorado Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing.
An induction hearing loop is available. Refreshments will be served.

People of all ages and all types of hearing loss are welcome!
All HLAA chapter meetings are free to members and non-members, including family and friends. Meetings are held the first Saturday of the month, 10:30-12:30.

**Saturday, March 3, 2016
10:30am - 12:30pm
Center for Independence
740 Gunnison Avenue
Grand Junction, CO 81501**

**For questions or further information contact:
Amy Becktell: HLAAWCO@gmail.com Or 970-241-2592**

More about the Hearing Loss Association of America: www.hearingloss.org
More about the Center for Independence: www.cfigj.org

MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR UPCOMING HLAA WCO MEETINGS!
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(No meeting in June, July or August)
Center for Independence, 740 Gunnison Avenue, Grand Junction
Contact Amy Beckett: HLAAWCO@gmail.com or 970-241-2592

Upcoming Events - Mark your calendar so you don't miss a thing!

April 7, 2018

The chapter will welcome Luke Adams, Outreach Consultant - Hard of Hearing Specialty, from the Colorado Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (CCDHH). He will talk about what the CCDHH does and can do for people with hearing loss. Come learn more about this state-wide agency and let Luke know about hearing loss issues in western Colorado.

May 5, 2018

This topic is under development. Contact hlaawco@gmail.com if you have a program idea or if you wish to speak to our chapter members.

June 10, 2018: Colorado Walk4Hearing

Since 2006, more than 90,000 walkers have raised more than \$13 million to support national and local programs to provide information, education, support and advocacy. Participants come in all ages with various interests in hearing health to form teams and walk in their communities. The Colorado walk will be at Clement Park, 7306 W. Bowles Ave, Littleton, CO.

June 21 - 24, 2018: HLAA National Convention

Activities and programs are being finalized for this year's convention at Hyatt Regency Minneapolis, Nicollet Mall, Minneapolis, MN. This year's Research Symposium is titled "Listening in Noise," and will provide presentations about research being done in this area.

Many thanks to Cochlear Americas for the donation of a portable microphone!

It takes a lot of technology to make our meetings accessible to everyone. One important piece is to make sure that everything that is said can be heard by the person doing the captioning. Cochlear Americas donated a microphone that can be clipped to the presenters allowing them move around naturally while talking. Thanks, Cochlear Americas, for this donation!

Colorado Sprint Relay Sponsorship for the Western Colorado Newsletter

Many thanks to Sprint Relay for once again sponsoring the publication of the Western Colorado HLAA newsletter. Their generous gift of \$2,000 will allow the chapter to expand its reach to people with hearing loss in western Colorado.

One of the services that Sprint Relay Provides is Captioned Telephone Service. This service allows you to answer your calls with confidence and allows you to LISTEN and READ captions of everything your caller says during your phone conversations. Don't miss another word!

Another service is Relay Conference Captioning (RCC). This is a free service available for Deaf and Hard of Hearing residents of Colorado, and allows these individuals to participate in meetings (in-person or remote), phone calls, videoconferences and multi-party teleconference calls.

Please consider joining Hearing Loss Association of America:

Membership in HLAA provides many benefits. In addition to the bi-monthly magazine, discounts on products and services, and on-line webinars and training, you have the knowledge that you are an active participant in a group that is a force for change for people with hearing loss. Please go on-line today! www.hearingloss.org/content/member-benefits

There are lots of activities and notices that the National office sends to members via email and posts on their website. Many of these are time-sensitive regarding bills that are being considered at the national level that impact people with hearing loss. Other notices are about training on-line classes or requests to participate in surveys. See some examples in the articles below.

The best way to get up-to-date information that affects YOU is to become a member! Take an active role in helping yourself by becoming a member!

Development of a Website for Older Adults with Cochlear Implants

KDH Research & Communication (KDHRC), in collaboration with HLAA, is developing a website for older adults (aged 60+) with cochlear implants and their friends and family members. KDHRC is now recruiting older adults with at least one cochlear implant and family members or close friends to participate in a research study. Participants will review either the prototype website or an e-book (PDF), and take two online surveys about their experiences. Participants will be compensated. If you are interested, visit bit.ly/interestfm to complete the interest form.

Hearing Loss Association of America is opposed to the passage of H.R.620

The US House of Representatives passed HR 620, 225 in favor of passage, and 192 against. Now, the fight moves on to the Senate. HLAA will be monitoring the situation as it moves forward.

Big business is trying to bamboozle the House and the American public into supporting an unnecessary law misleadingly titled the “ADA Education and Reform Act of 2017” (H.R.620) that would make it even harder for people with disabilities who have been waiting to listen to the same programs, use the same restrooms, shop at the same department stores, and eat at the same restaurants as our non-disabled friends and family members, for almost 30 years!

They say the law is needed to help local “mom and pop” shops, while behind the scenes, powerful trade associations for wealthy corporations—everything from multinational hotel chains to big box stores and corporate coffee shops—are pulling the strings in an effort to gain support for regressive rollbacks to the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA). This opens the door to not only dismantling the ADA, but other civil rights laws as well.

Please contact your House Representative (and others from your state) and encourage them to stay strong in their opposition to H.R.620 and any “notice and cure” bill, as a rollback of civil rights. SAVE THE ADA!

Production of this newsletter is sponsored by Sprint Relay.

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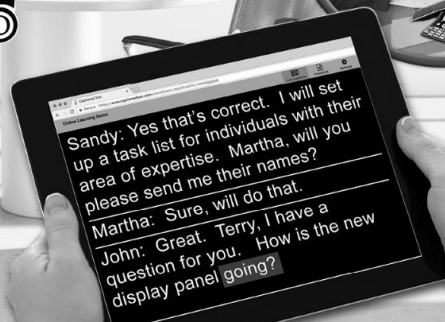
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Relay Conference Captioning (RCC)

A free service for Colorado residents who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing to actively participate in meetings!

To learn more, visit
ColoradoRCC.com



For more information, check out our
website at www.hearinglossco.org
We are also on Facebook!
<https://www.facebook.com/HLAAWCO/>
Also check out the national website:
www.hearingloss.org

Hearing Loss Association of America
Western Colorado Chapter
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