

HLA-NJ News and Views

A Monthly Column from The Hearing Loss Association of N.J.

By Peter Yerkes, Trustee, HLA-NJ

Nation's Capital To Host Convention On Hearing Loss

We Hope to See You There - Washington, DC June 16 - 19, 2011

Monthly Communicator readers are invited to join people, from across the United States, who care about hearing loss at Convention 2011, which is being sponsored by the Hearing Loss Association of America. This year's gathering, especially convenient for New Jersey residents, will be held at the Hyatt Regency Crystal City Hotel in Arlington Virginia, just a few miles from the Capitol and Washington, D.C.

One of the country's largest gatherings devoted to people who are deaf and hard of hearing, the convention offers first-rate speakers who will share their expertise. There will be helpful exhibits and a captioned performance of *Wicked* at The Kennedy Center. There will be lots of time to meet people who live with hearing loss themselves, or are caring for young children or aged relatives with hearing loss.

"The energy at these conventions is amazing," says Arlene Romoff, president of the Hearing Loss Association of New Jersey and a regular participant. "For four days, people with hearing loss gather in one place to learn, to socialize, relax and have fun."

A special "plus" this year is the second international conference on hearing loop technology will also take place at the Hyatt Regency from June 18 - 20.

Major events include the following:

Keynote Speech Christopher J. Artinian, CEO and President of Morton's Restaurants, will relate the extraordinary story of his family's struggle to come to terms with their children's deafness. The Artinian family is the subject of the Oscar-nominated film, *Sound and Fury*.

Captioned Performance of *Wicked* Seats are available for convention-goers at the world-famous Kennedy Center for a captioned performance of this Grammy and Tony award-winning musical on June 17 at 7:30 p.m.

Workshops You can explore topics such as hearing technology, medical issues, advocacy and government affairs, young adults, and handling relationships with family, friends and your employer.

Demonstration Room and Exhibits Companies from across the country will showcase the latest in products and services of interest to people with hearing loss.

Hearing Loop Conference Exhibits and workshops will explain loop technology from a user's perspective. Learn more about the helpful but sometimes complex world of loop technology and FM and infrared systems.

To learn more, or to register for either conference, go to www.hearingloss.org , and click on the link to the convention page. Then click on the link marked reservations.

On the convention page, just click on the link called reservations for information on how to register by e-mail, fax or phone. You can register there for both the HLAA Convention 2011 and the Hearing Loop Conference.

Reminder - New Book On Hearing Loss

HLA-NJ President Romoff's new book is now available. Titled *Listening Closely: A Journey to Bilateral Hearing*, it is available from Charlesbridge Publishing (www.charlesbridge.com), www.amazon.com and bookstores. Her previous work, *Hear Again—Back to Life with a Cochlear Implant* is available from *Amazon.com*. Make sure your friends with hearing loss know about these important resources.

A great way to get involved with the Hearing Loss of New Jersey is by attending chapter meetings. We have three chapters, serving Bergen, Middlesex and Ocean/Monmouth counties. Information is available from info@hearingloss-nj.org, or at www.hearingloss-nj.org.