



ALDA Boston – P.O. Box 600622 – Newtonville, MA 02460

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ALDAgram – July 2016



Some of us were at the HLAA convention and missed the fantastic 4th of July party at Jeanne John Kennedy's house. Here is Lou Sakin's report of the picnic we missed:

“What a beautiful early summer afternoon and evening! Twenty-two people meet at the Kennedy home to enjoy the weather, companionship, food, and music. A special thanks to Jeanne and

John assisted by their daughter and son-in-law for making the party such a success. While the deck and pool area was very sunny everyone delved into the appetizers and talked. Deviled eggs, dips and chips, little meat balls on toothpicks, cheeses and crackers. Two of the guests ventured into the pool to enjoy the water.

“A picnic dinner followed with cold fried chicken, assorted sandwiches accompanied by salad, slaw, potato salads, macaroni salads; all the picnic fixings. A brief break from all the delicious food was required. A delicious array of fantastic desserts ended the feast. The picnic was topped off with a musical interlude by new member Betty Hauck on her violin as the shadows began to deepen. The ALDABoston members thoroughly enjoyed the Fourth of July 2016 picnic a week early!”

Thank You for Your Donation

A grateful thank you to Karen (Keefe) Pebbles for her generosity.



Several years ago, Karen and her family used to host the 4th of July barbecue at their home. Here is a photo from one of those years.

It looks like we even had CART at the party. We were probably having a Board meeting before eating.

Museum of Fine Arts Accessible Guided Tours, 2016



There will be no ASL guided tour in July. The next tour will be on Saturday, August 20th. Registration begins on Monday, August 25th, and registration details will be sent then. Here is what our tour guide, Karen Moss, has written about the Art of Europe tour.

Art of Europe Tour, August 20th at 10:30am

We'll focus on the MFA's extensive collection of Impressionist and Post-Impressionist art. This display was recently expanded from one gallery to three galleries: *Monet*, *Plein Air* and *Impressionism and Beyond: Urban Life and Escape*.

Monet: The MFA boasts one of the largest Claude Monet collections outside France. One gallery is dedicated to Monet, providing an immersive experience of his work from the MFA's permanent collection and select loans from private collections.

Plein Air: This corridor gallery celebrates painting in the out-of-doors, *en plein air*, a practice championed by the Impressionists in the late 19th century. It features paintings by Renoir, Sisley, Pissarro and Signac.

Impressionism and Beyond: Urban Life and Escape: The main gallery features a new installation exploring two major themes of late 19th-century French painting. In contrast to the luminous landscapes of Monet, Renoir, and Pissarro, the works of Degas and Caillebotte explored the realities of the modern urban experience in Paris while other artists sought an escape from the instability and expectations of urban life: Gauguin, Van Gogh and Cezanne.

We hope you'll join us!!

Accessible Theater



Shakespeare on the Common is offering an open-captioned performance of *Love's Labour's Lost* on Friday, July 29th at 8pm. Free and Open to the Public. "In *Love's Labour's Lost*, friendship and loyalty amongst four young men and four young women are put to the test when romantic youthful notions of love encounter the challenges of adulthood. A high spirited romantic comedy filled with dazzling wordplay, strong comic characters and a few unexpected twists."

Performances take place at the Parkman Bandstand on the Boston Common, across from the AMC Loews Boston Common Movie Theater on Tremont Street. If you are traveling via the MBTA, there are several stations located within steps of the Boston Common.

Arrive early if you want to be close to the stage. For more information, go to http://www.bostoncentral.com/events/freeshakespeare_on_the_common_boston/p1020.php



Upcoming Events of Interest

Advanced Bionics Professionals will be discussing the new Naida bimodal hearing solution from AB and Phonak on Tuesday, August 2, from 6 -9 pm at the Boston Marriott Newton, 2345 Commonwealth Avenue, Newton, MA 02466. RSVP to: Karalee Needelman, Cochlear Implant Consumer Specialist, by email at KaraleeN@advancedbionics.com or by phone/text at 661-348-215

The 21st Annual Deaf Awareness Day
Hosted by The Deaf Awareness Committee
At Six Flags New England on Saturday, August 6, 2016



Tickets are just \$33 per person until August 5th
OR \$34 per person at the ticket booth on the day of the event
Children 2 and under are FREE!

Six Flags New England Route 159 Agawam, MA
Park Hours: 10:30 AM-10:00 PM
Ticket Booth Hours: 10:00 AM-5:00 PM

CAN'T COME AUG. 2ND? NO PROBLEM! TICKETS ARE GOOD THROUGH OCTOBER 2016

For more information and to purchase tickets, visit:

<https://www.sixflags.com/greatamerica/special-events/special-group-event/deaf-and-hard-hearing-day>

News of Note

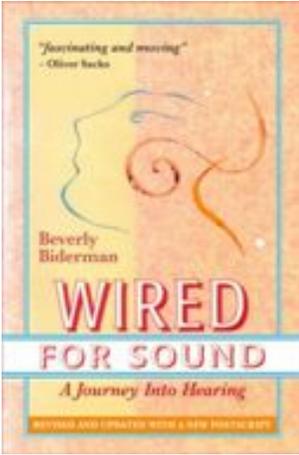
On June 2, The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine issued a report titled *Health Care for Adults: Priorities for Improving Access and Affordability*. Dan Blazer, M.D., Ph.D., one of the plenary speakers at the HLAA convention, explained the committee's report. The full report and additional resources can be found at www.nas.edu/hearing

The committee made 12 recommendations:

- Improve Population-Based Information on Hearing Loss and Hearing Health Care
- Develop and Promote Measures to Assess and Improve Quality of Hearing Health Care Services
- Remove the Food and Drug Administration's Regulation for Medical Evaluation or Waiver
- Empower Consumers and Patients in Their Use of Hearing Health Care
- Improve Access to Hearing Health Care for Underserved and Vulnerable Populations
- Promote Hearing Health Care in Wellness and Medical Visits
- Implement a New Food and Drug Administration Device Category for Over-the-Counter Wearable Hearing Devices
- Improve the Compatibility and Interoperability of Hearing Technologies with Communications Systems and the Transparency of Hearing Aid Programming
- Improve Affordability of Hearing Health Care
- Evaluate and Implement Innovative Models of Hearing Health Care to Improve Access, quality, and Affordability
- Improve Publicly Available Information on Hearing Health
- Promote Individual, Employer, Private Sector, and Community-Based Actions to Support and Manage Hearing Health and Effective Communication

The President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology (PCAST), working independently, reached similar conclusions. At the Convention, Susan Graham, Ph.D., presented the PCAST report and its implications for people with hearing loss. "The PCAST report, issued October 27, 2015, focuses on the nearly 30 million adults over the age of 60 who have age-related, progressive, mild-to-moderate hearing loss." Cost is one reason why many of them do not seek treatment. To read the report, go to https://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/microsites/ostp/PCAST/pcast_independence_tech_aging_report_final_0.pdf

What are you reading?



Wired for Sound: A Journey into Hearing by Beverly Biderman is July's book of the month.

Susanne Jones at *Healthy Hearing* writes that *Wired for Sound* "is a solidly written personal account of Canadian author Beverly Biderman's journey with hearing loss." The book was first published in 1998, but it has been updated for 2016 with new resources.

"Biderman was born with normal hearing ability to one hearing parent and one deaf parent, then began to progressively lose her hearing as a young child. She was profoundly deaf by her teenage years. Biderman was raised in a hearing world; she attended regular schools and was not taught sign language. Instead, for over 30 years, she relied on an array of largely self-taught communication techniques mostly centered around lip reading. After much research and soul-searching, Biderman received her first cochlear implant at the age of 46, immediately plunging her back into the unfamiliar world of sound. She does an excellent job detailing her feelings and emotions in that process, as well as those of others who have had similar experiences at a variety of different ages. Her awakening after being able to hear again is truly moving. Biderman's road back to hearing didn't come easily and her book highlights the struggles and challenges she faced daily that naturally come from receiving a cochlear implant after decades of silence.

"In the years since she re-entered the world of hearing and published this book the first time, Biderman has become an influential advocate, crusader and cheerleader for cochlear implant users. Her book is an essential "how-to" manual for adults receiving cochlear implants. The science is accurate and the research and statistics are easy to follow. The personal narrative is clear, straightforward and engaging. Although much of the technology in cochlear implants has changed significantly since this book was first written, the revised version explains the technology improvements very well and doesn't feel outdated."



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