

# LISTEN UP!

Newsletter of the Association for the Hearing Impaired, Inc.

June 2011

71 Glenwood Avenue, Queensbury, New York 12804

Phone: (518) 761-0554 - [www.afthi.org](http://www.afthi.org)



## *Director's Corner:*

*What's Your Sign?* I'm not talking about astrology or when you were born but rather are you able to use sign language to communicate with a Deaf or Hard of Hearing individual? A day rarely goes by that Kassey and I do not hear from someone who is either interested in learning (ASL) American Sign Language for the first time or getting into a refresher class because it has been years since they last used this skill. The Association's ASL Level I & Level II classes ended during the month of May and the next 10-week Level I & II and perhaps Level III class, if there is enough interest, will resume in September. On Wednesday's June 8th, 15th, 22nd & 29th from 6:30 - 8:00 PM, the AFTHI will offer ASL Refresher Classes for Adults. The AFTHI is always interested in increasing opportunities available to individuals wishing to learn about ASL, Lip Reading, the Deaf Culture, Assistive Technology, etc., as well as receiving the charitable contributions, membership dues, fundraising dollars and grant funds from private and corporate foundations that enable us to offer these programs. Before the end of June, the AFTHI will have submitted three separate grant proposals to private foundations seeking the following: (a.) Twenty-hour Beginners/Refreshers ASL Class & Introduction to the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Cultures/How to Communicate with Persons, of all ages, with Hearing Loss. This program will be offered for Municipal Employees (village, town, city, county & state, as well as members of volunteer fire & EMS companies and law enforcement agencies); (b.) same Twenty-hour program but structured for business employees, particularly those that regularly have face-to-face interaction with customers; and (c.) same Twenty-hour program but structured for medical/health care, human service agency employees and clergy. If successful, programs would be offered at sites within Warren, Washington and Saratoga Counties. The AFTHI is proud of its ASL classes and the professionalism of its Instructors. We consider our classes to be primers for persons interested in having a basic knowledge of ASL as well as Deaf and Hard of Hearing cultures and those planning to enroll in ASL classes at SUNY Adirondack or other institutions of higher learning.

Once again, the AFTHI would like to thank Sandie Clark and Connie Fuller for their many years of involvement with the Fabulous Friends with Flying Fingers. I am certain that Kassey is going to do a wonderful job leading the FFFF but it would be truly unfair to expect that she could do the job of two (2) dedicated and competent Instructors. That is my subtle way of asking for individuals who are committed to the Flying Fingers to share their talents and volunteer 2-3 hours of their time each week to help the program prosper.

The AFTHI was pleased to be informed by the Tri-County United Way's Community Investment Committee that we were recommended to receive an allocation of \$20,000 for the Assistive Equipment Loan-Out Program for the 2011 fiscal year. Despite it being a 20% decrease in the previous year's funding amount, the AFTHI is already engaged in finding ways to make up for that shortfall and raise monies to support both existing programs/services as well as new opportunities that residents of the Tri-County and beyond have asked us for.

I would refer you to the May edition of Listen Up! that listed Be A Hear-O Sponsors as well as businesses/organizations and individuals that donated Raffle & Auction items. Sponsors and major gift givers will receive complimentary advertising space in the July 2011 edition of Listen Up! In the mean time, please consider thanking them by patronizing their businesses whenever you can. Kassey is still missing some business cards or advertisement blocks to include in the newsletter. Please send a PDF to Kassey at: [office@afthi.org](mailto:office@afthi.org) . Thank you, again!

Thank you to the Prospect Child & Family Center for inviting me to be the newest member of their Board of Directors. The AFTHI has had a long and positive history with Prospect as well as their Executive Director A. Larrie Gouge. I am honored to serve as well as to find new ways for our two organizations to collaborate on matters of mutual interest and concern.

Please share with me in paying our respects to all of those that have served our nation as well as their families, friends and communities on this Memorial Day!

## ***AFTHI Website Updated***

***www.afthi.org***

*Please visit our recently updated website at www.afthi.org. Learn about the AFTHI and the many benefits of becoming a member; see a list of monthly services, classes and special events; as well as read articles about hearing loss and deafness.*

*Website services provided to the AFTHI by Caspar J. Green, Proprietor of Town Fool Web Designs.*

## **Your Dollars Make A Difference!**

**T**he Association for the Hearing Impaired, Inc. is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit corporation under the Internal Revenue Code. Your contributions are fully deductible and appreciated. If you would like to make a gift "in memory of" or "in honor of" a friend or loved one, we will notify the appropriate person of your thoughtful gift. You can also remember the Association in your will or life insurance policy.

**Y**our generosity will make an important difference in the lives of deaf and hard of hearing children and adults. For more information about leaving the Association in your will or as a bequest, please contact the office at 761-0554.

**Ben Driscoll**

**Executive Director**

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**Kassey Granger**

**Program Coordinator**

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## **"Listen Up"**

is the Monthly Newsletter of the Association for the Hearing Impaired, Inc.

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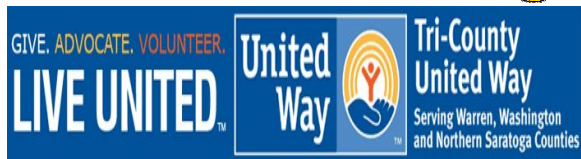
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Printing: Courtesy of

Glens Falls Hospital

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We thank everyone who supports our work, particularly



## **Association for the Hearing Impaired, Inc. Membership and/or Contribution Form**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

Membership includes a monthly newsletter and notices of events and classes.

\_\_\_\_\_ Individual Membership @ \$ 15.00 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Family membership @ \$ 20.00 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Sponsor @ \$ 50.00 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Patron @ \$ 150.00 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Contribution \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Please make checks payable to AFTHI  
& mail to: 71 Glenwood Ave,  
Queensbury, NY 12804**

## **Memberships, Contributions & Grant Funds**

The Association for the Hearing Impaired truly appreciates the financial support of all of its members as well as from those who provide private contributions, grant monies or wish to honor the life of a loved one with a Memorial Contribution. The AFTHI wishes to thank those individuals by recognizing them in the monthly edition of Listen Up! The list includes those that have either paid dues or sent a contribution during March/April. Contributions, Great & Small are all equally appreciated. Members Helping Members!

Saratoga County Office For the Aging (OFA)  
Warren County Office For the Aging (OFA)  
Washington County Office For the Aging (OFA)  
Lions Club Ballston Spa  
Saratoga Lions Club  
Kassey Granger  
Tawn Driscoll  
Jim & Sandie Clark  
Rob & Kara Hendrick

### **Membership—**

Martin Finn  
Kathy Smith  
Cindy Freebern  
Steve Scoville  
Matthew Collins  
Ruth Knoblock

## ***The Telecoil: Connecting Directly to Sound***

*A telecoil can make a dramatic difference in your ability to hear clearly and understand dialogue*

Reprinted from: Hearing Loss Magazine, May/June 2011

Even with today's technology, the best hearing aids and cochlear implants can't separate the sounds you want to hear from background noise, or pickup all the sounds coming from a distant source like a stage or movie screen.

With a telecoil you can expand the functionality of your hearing aid or cochlear implant. A telecoil in a hearing aid functions as a wireless antenna that links into a sound system and delivers customized sound to the listener.

### **WHAT IS A TELECOIL?**

A telecoil is a small copper coil that is an option on most hearing aids and is built into cochlear implant processors. They are also known as t-coils and were originally used to boost the magnetic signals from the telephone handset. The telecoil is activated by a t-switch on the hearing aid or cochlear implant. All landline and some cell phones are designed by law to be used with telecoil.

The telecoil can make a noticeable difference in your life when you combine it with hearing assistive technology. This pairing of technology bridges the physical space between you and the sound source. Hearing assistive technology connects the listener directly to the sound source while most background noise is eliminated.

### **WHEN WOULD YOU USE A TELECOIL?**

Increasing the volume on your hearing aid or cochlear implant won't necessarily increase the clarity of what you hear. Hearing assistive technology combined with a telecoil can improve your understanding of dialogue at work, in a meeting, in the classroom, theaters, places of worship, tour buses, and other places. Some people use telecoils at home with the TV while keeping the TV volume low for the comfort of others.

Many public places are equipped with hearing assistive technology. With the implementation of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, hearing assistive technology is increasingly available in public places.

### **WHAT IS HEARING ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY (HAT)**

There are three types of wireless hearing assistive technology.

The **hearing loop** is a wire that circles a room and is connected to the sound system.

The loop transmits the sound electromagnetically.

The electromagnetic signal is then picked up by the telecoil in the hearing aid or cochlear implant.

An **infrared system** uses invisible light beams to carry sound from the source to a personal receiver. (the sound source must be in the line of sight.) Different types of attachments may be connected to the personal receiver such as a neckloop or a behind the ear silhouette. The telecoil then picks up sound from the receiver.

An **FM system** works similarly, but sound is conveyed through radio waves to a personal receiver.

### **WHAT OTHER USES ARE THERE FOR TELECOILS?**

Telecoils can improve hearing on hearing aid compatible phones and can be used with neckloops to replace headphones. A neckloop is similar to a hearing loop, except that it is worn around the neck and can be plugged into other audio devices (such as an MP3 player, computer, or FM or infrared receivers) to transmit the audio signal directly to the hearing aid telecoil, bypassing the need for headphones.

### **HOW DO YOU GET A TELECOIL? ARE THEY EXPENSIVE?**

Ask for a telecoil when you buy your hearing aids. A telecoil may add a small amount to the cost of your hearing aid but the benefits far outweigh the cost. Ask your audiologist to include a telecoil in your hearing aid and ask for advice on how to use it. Many models and styles of hearing aids and all cochlear implants can be fitted with telecoils. Telecoils can sometimes be added to your current hearing aid but it will cost less if you include it in your original purchase.

### **PURCHASING A HEARING AID**

Don't assume that your hearing aid will automatically come with a telecoil or that it will be recommended. Or, if a telecoil is present, don't assume it has been programmed to suit your individual needs. Today, approximately 65% of all hearing aids dispensed in the United States have telecoils. Yet, few consumers are told about them and know how to use them.

Always ask questions!!!

**AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE SUMMER FUN**

4-WEEKS IN JUNE

June 8,15,22,29

This class is for people who know some sign language if you have taken Level 1 or Level 2 classes. We will be playing games and refreshing our skills. You will not want to miss it!!!

**SIGN UP TODAY!!!!** Class Fee: \$15 please make checks payable to AFTHI

Mail in form or email to let me know you are coming.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us at (518) 761.0554 or email at office@afthi.org

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Check # \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Cash \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_



**Six Flags Great Escape Tickets**

Join the Great Escape and Six Flags Friends in helping the Association for the Hearing Impaired, Inc. in our ongoing fundraising efforts. Tickets are **only \$19.99** and a portion of all ticket sales will benefit AFTHI programs and services. Attending guests Receive:

- ◆ **A fun-filled day of unlimited rides, shows and attractions**
- ◆ **The best value of the season**
- ◆ **18 days to choose from—May 28-30, June 1-5, June 8-12 and June 15-19**
- ◆ **A special C'Mon Back ticket to return one day in the 2011 season for just \$15 + tax**

For tickets or information, please contact Kassey or Ben at the AFTHI.



Help  
Wanted

## CAN YOU SPARE SOME TIME?

The AFTHI seeks individuals interested in and able to spend some time volunteering for programs and services throughout the Tri-County Region. Kassey and I would like to craft volunteer experiences that would be rewarding to you and benefit our diverse membership. The Association is in immediate need of a volunteer(s) Classroom Assistants for the Fabulous Friends with Flying Fingers and American Sign Language. If we are successful with grant applications articulated in the Director's Report, we will need an additional one or two ASL Instructors (paid positions) to compliment Marcie Johnson and Kassey. Throughout the year, persons are needed to help in the office for filing, photocopying, answering the phone and greeting customers. Interested Volunteers will receive training in the use of Assistive Technology available from the AFTHI's Loan-Out Program. AFTHI fundraising events and activities always need creative minds and hardworking souls. Can you help us sell Great Escape tickets, Lake George Rotary Club Americade Raffle tickets or Glens Falls Kiwanis Club Duck Race chances; help organize and participate in a Coin-Drop or other special event; as well as serve on a planning committee for the Association's annual Holiday Party and/or Be A Hear-O? Looking for volunteers to co-facilitate social/support groups and silent chat evening. The Association is in process of planning more events.

Let's meet for coffee or a bite to eat and discuss ways in which you can share your time and talents with the AFTHI and impact the lives of the individuals/families that we serve. Kassey and I especially like to get together with persons who have histories with the AFTHI. Those individuals can potentially provide invaluable human resources to our organization; as relevant today as it was some twenty-five years ago!

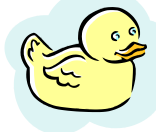
## Hearing Loss Association of America (HLAA)

The AFTHI is a member of both the HLAA and its Capital Region Chapter. In the July edition of Listen Up!, Kassey will write about her experiences attending the HLAA's Annual Convention in Washington, D.C. The HLAA is the nation's foremost membership and advocacy organization for people with hearing loss. HLAA publishes **Hearing Loss Magazine**, bi-monthly. For additional information, please visit their website at: [www.hearingloss.org](http://www.hearingloss.org). Hearing Loss Association of Albany is one of the more than 200 local chapters of the HLAA. They produce **hear (Hearing Endeavor for the Albany Region)**, a monthly newsletter. Please visit them at: [WWW.HEARINGLOSS-ALBANY.ORG](http://WWW.HEARINGLOSS-ALBANY.ORG). The AFTHI is currently exploring ways in which we can better communicate, cooperate and collaborate with these organizations and expand the scope of opportunities available to residents of Warren, Washington and Saratoga Counties and beyond.

## C.R. Bard - A True Community Partner

Heartfelt thanks to our friends at C.R. Bard in Queensbury and their Corporate Foundation for their generous charitable contribution of \$6,750 to be used for Community Outreach and Awareness activities/events. This year's contribution received in May was the same amount as last year's gift and is specially meaningful given the company's longtime commitment to the AFTHI as well as the fact that Kassey and I both have good friends at Bard.

## The Kiwanis Club of Glens Falls Annual Duck Race (On Sale Now at AFTHI)



This annual fundraiser will be held on Saturday, July 30th at Havilands Cove in Glens Falls. Tickets will soon be on sale and, in addition to the Association for the Hearing Impaired, Inc., will also benefit: Prospect Child & Family Center; House of Grace of the Adirondacks; Parsons Child & Family Center; CARES; Greater Glens Falls Senior Citizens Center; Big Brother's/Big Sister's Mentoring Program; and, the Kiwanis Club Foundation. The AFTHI would also like to thank the Kiwanis Club for recently approving a \$300 grant from their Children's Priority One Project that will be used to provide training to the membership of the Southern Adirondack Child Care Network, Inc. When you attend the Flying Finger's Performance at LARAC on Sunday, June 12th, please stop by and grab some good food from the Kiwanis Club. Also, mark your calendar's to attend this year's Taste of the North Country on Sunday, September 25th in Glens Falls City Park.

## Hearing Conservation Programs

Please remember that, in addition to programs/services that the AFTHI provides for individuals with hearing loss, we also offer information to the community on how to protect your hearing. Whenever possible, the AFTHI will join the many efforts of the Lions Hearing Conservation Society, including the distribution of free ear plugs at County Fairs and other special events. To schedule a presentation from a representative from the AFTHI, please contact Kassey or Ben.

## Snapshots of Deafness

By: Donna Kosloske

Some memories remain crystal clear, like snapshots in a photo album. One of my first memories is when I was four and lived in Ballston Spa. My father had just taken me to the ear doctor's in Saratoga. I remember his office was in a huge old building that had these long vines covering the front. I was so afraid they'd reach out and grab me when I walked by that I ran, but the doctor was awfully nice and he'd even given me a cardboard doll with pretty paper dresses. My father started to yell at me, "I already took you to the doctor's once and bought you medicine!! That didn't work, now I have to use the money set aside for David to get new shoes for school to take you again and buy more medicine. You think you're better than everyone else!!" Then he grabbed my paper doll and said I didn't deserve it and he'd give it to my sister Diane. I knew that money was tight with six kids, so when this medicine didn't stop the ear pain I'd bite my pillow at night so no one could hear me cry. I told no one.

When I was in Second grade I first noticed a hearing loss. We'd just moved to Schroon Lake and my teacher, Miss Hamilton was teaching phonics. She's make a sound and you'd have to repeat it. I hated phonics. She called on me and I really tried but it was wrong and all the kids laughed. I had to try again and again until she got angry and made me stand in the hall. Jack was out in the hall, (Jack was always out in the hall) he told me the principal would come around with the paddle. When I got home I told my mother everything. It was a few days later I was walking through the living room and my father grabbed my arm and demanded to know why I didn't do what I was told. I told him I didn't hear him, (I hadn't) He called me a liar. I told him I couldn't hear good and that I'd told my mother all about it and I looked to her but she turned her back to me and left the room. In those days there was corporal punishment and I got the belt, double, for not doing what I was told and for lying.

Not long after they got a note from school saying I'd failed my hearing test. My father ordered me to take it again and pass it or I'd get the worst whipping of my life. No one was going to say he had a kid that ain't normal. The next day I walked into the nurse's office, Miss Clara Fairfield, who wore white nurse's uniforms with the tall white hat, her grey hair in a tight bun and she always looked like she'd just bitten into a lemon. She started the test, I counted silently 1,2,3 then said yes, again and again until she tapped my shoulder and said she'd ended the test a few minutes ago. I thought I was caught but she added that it must cause ringing in my ears, but I'd passed, must have had a cold before.

At home my brother Jerry would run into my room full speed and say, "Yell 'what'!" I would... Then, "Yell 'right way'," I would... then yell "OK" I did, then he'd tell me what conversation I'd had with my father downstairs While I was upstairs in my room, never having heard my father. At school I became extremely introverted, so afraid I'd misunderstand what was said and respond wrong, that I never spoke. I tried to be as invisible as possible, so terrified someone would find out my horrible secret, so ashamed.

In seventh grade, I was about to have an English test on the book, "*Black Like Me*" I'd really enjoyed the book and reviewed my notes that morning. I felt totally confident that I'd ace it. It was a spring day, the teacher opened the window and you could smell the cut grass. She told everyone to take out a sheet of paper and number it 1 to 10. She was giving the test orally. She said, "Number one, who was the..." then she turned to look out the window- I couldn't see her lips. I told myself to be calm, I'd get the next one. She turned and said, "Number three," I thought 'what happened to number two!!! Calm down, you'll get the next one,' but she only said a word or two before looking back out the window. Each time I'd told myself 'to get the next one,' until the test was over and we stood in line to hand it in. I knew the material really good. It wasn't fair, wanted to cry but had to keep it inside. My turn to hand her my paper, I looked at the blank sheet and crumbled it up with all the fury I felt inside. She said, "I'm putting it in your permanent file that you're emotionally unstable!" That was THE first thing I understood what she said all day!

In eighth grade I had a Science teacher, Mr. Lavarney, who'd just graduated from college. I could get by most classes by reading the text but this teacher didn't use it. The first quarter I got a circled 65. Meant you really failed but it was close enough. I asked him to help me before the next test. We spent a period reviewing the material. That test I got a 98. I was thrilled. He asked me to stay after class, I thought it was to congratulate me but he said he didn't know what I was trying to pull. I learned two weeks of material in 45 min, I wasn't slow. There was no reason for him to help someone who could do it themselves. The next two weeks I tried SO hard, but I failed the next test miserably. He said he didn't understand, but he knew how hard I'd tried so we set up once a week tutoring. If I didn't need help in his class he'd help me with my others. The end of the year my average was over 90 and I didn't have to take the final, even with the 65 first quarter. He told me I owed him for all the time he spent on me. I said, 'sure' anything I could do for him. He wanted an explanation, wasn't prepared for that. By the end of summer I got to thinking of all the help he gave me and how I wouldn't have him in Sept, so I wrote him a letter and explained things. As soon as I put it in the Post Office I regretted it. On the first day of school I prayed he didn't get the letter. I tried to walk by him with my head down but he saw me and wanted to see me after school. He wanted to call my father, I begged him not to. Told him what would happen to me, but he promised I wouldn't get hurt. I don't know what he said to my father on the phone. My father was furious but said not a word to me and told my mother to take me to the doctors. The doctor said I was "legally deaf". I wish I knew to ask him the decibel loss but I didn't. Both eardrums were destroyed by the ear infections when I was a child. He said most kids with such hearing loss tend to shout but I spoke hardly above a whisper.

Continued from page 6

I had surgery in Burlington, VT. They removed chewing muscles from my jaw to make new eardrums. It was a long time before I could eat solid foods, everything was from a straw. Didn't matter because my father refused to sit at the table with me. I'd shamed the family. The day they removed the bandages was one of the worst of my life! The loudness, I didn't know what the sounds were. I couldn't stop shaking. I only wanted to hide, stuff my ears with cotton and put the pillow over them. Never wanted to leave my room. One day a while later, I was in my room and heard a sound that made me smile. I asked my sister Diane what it was. She said, just a stupid bird. I thought, they really do sing! I went outside for a walk listening. I was doing well until this monstrous roaring noise was coming. I ran into the woods, hid behind a tree, peeked around it to see a logging truck go by. When my heart stopped jumping I headed home, far enough for one day.

When I was 18 I worked as a waitress and met a deaf man, Craig Hall. I'd never met a deaf person before. We wrote back and forth. About a month later I was out to the Black bear with my friends Shirley and Theresa listening to the band. The music was rocking, the people dancing, the place filled with such energy. Craig walked in and sat at the bar and stared at the blank wall. He was so isolated and alone. I knew that feeling. I asked the girls if he could join us. They said, "sure." Craig and I wrote back and forth but the lights were dim and it was hard to read. I asked him to teach me sign. He said people often asked him that and he'd give them an alphabet card just to find it crumpled in the dirt when he left. I assured him that would not happen and we made plans to meet the next afternoon. The next morning I got up early, had some strong black coffee and studied the alphabet. When I met him that afternoon I finger spelled, "Hi Craig, how are you today?" His eyes were as big as saucers. We finger spelled until evening. My hands throbbed, using new muscles, I asked if there was a book I could get. He said ABC Sign Book. I bought it the very next day.

Fast forward seven years, I got a job as an interpreter at Saratoga High School. The student was having a test in English on a book they read. I asked Tommy if he was prepared for the test. He signed, "Know it!! I'm going to ace it" The teacher came in and said the test would be given orally. My heart beat so loud I thought all the kids could hear it, my hands started shaking. Told myself, breath, breath, focus on interpreting. After the test the teacher said to read quietly while she corrected them. I searched his face when he got his paper back but it showed nothing. I was so anxious when he left the classroom, I asked how he did, he looked at me like I had two heads and signed, "Told You!" and showed me the 100%. He had aced it! A tear rolled down my face, had to wash my face with cold water before the next class.

Josh inherited Craig's deafness. Josh's growing up years were filled with battles to ensure he got qualified interpreters, (but that's another story all in itself). When Josh was in High School, he wrote a poem that the teacher was so impressed she submitted it and it was published in two books!

**Deaf Rule  
By Josh Hall**

**My motto is Deaf Rules  
From birth I could not hear  
The only deaf student in a hearing school.**

**I have nothing to fear  
I have my pride  
No sound goes in my ear.**

**Never do I hide  
I stand strong, not weak  
Doesn't bother me, I take things in stride.**

**With my hands I speak  
Signing with skill  
Self-confident, not meek.**

**Sign language gives me a thrill  
Communication sets me free  
As it comes, I do it at will.  
A proud deaf man, that's me!**

Now Josh is grown, married with a family of his own. His second child, Jake Joshua (JJ), who is now 9 months old has inherited his father's deafness. What does the future hold for this beautiful, perfect, little man?

# KASSEY'S KORNER

## American Sign Language

### *ASL 4-week Refresher Classes for Adults*

Offered on Wednesday Nights June 8th, 15, 22, 29!! COST \$15 6:30pm– 8:00pm Sign up Today!!!

This class is for anyone who took sign language class before whether it has been five years ago or more recent. You will not want to miss this class it will be FUN!!! Registration forms on page 4.

## Fabulous Friends with Flying Fingers

I am very excited to be taking on this group. We got a call last week to perform Tuesday, May 24th at 7:00pm for Zonta Club of Glens Falls, as well as, at the LARAC Arts Festival on Sunday, June 12th at 12:00pm. If you have not seen FFFF perform yet, now is your chance at the LARAC. We are hoping to perform this summer at a Glens Falls Golden Eagles Baseball Game at East Field.

## Stories

I am looking for members, non-members or family members to write an article for the newsletter on their life experiences of being hard of hearing, deaf, or have a loved one who is hard of hearing or deaf. Please send me your story at [office@afthi.org](mailto:office@afthi.org) or mail in your stories.

## Going Out

Recently, I had the pleasure to go out with two deaf young ladies. One is a member of the Association and has helped out in many ways volunteering. Her name is Jessica. The other young lady just moved to the area and is a single mom. She came into the office looking for support and wanting to meet people. We went out to dinner and then ice cream. It was a wonderful evening. It was interesting how the waiter acted. Here you have three deaf women signing at the table and the waiter walks over and he didn't know what to say or do. He looked scared to death. So, I came to his rescue so to say. I started talking and I think he was a little shocked. So we all ordered he had a hard time understanding Jessica and the other women with me. So the waiter turned to me and asked me what they said. All and all I think we need to educate people on how to act around deaf /hard of hearing people so they are not afraid to talk to us. (See Ben's Director's Report)

## PRESENTATIONS

As I am writing this newsletter I have already been to the Whitehall meal site to do a presentation and Saratoga Lions Club meeting. I have met a lot of great people at both presentations and members asked a lot of great questions. On May 23rd, I will be going to Greenwich to meet the people at Meadow Senior Housing. Then off to YMCA for Senior Health Fairs. Glens Falls YMCA Fair is May 25th and South Glens Falls Fair is May 31st. Hope to see some familiar and new faces.

## FUNDRAISER

We are looking for volunteers to help sell tickets in Lake George for Americade week. There are different time slots and locations. The time slots from 8am-10pm starting June 6th—June 11th. If anyone is interested please contact Kassey or Ben for more details. [office@afthi.org](mailto:office@afthi.org) or 518.761.0554



# Black Ice Software LLC

*Demo version*

Association for the  
Hearing Impaired, Inc.  
71 Glenwood Avenue  
Queensbury, NY 12804

NON-PROFIT ORG.  
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12801  
PERMIT NO. 4116

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9. On the Go

## May/June 2011

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
	30 Office Closed Memorial Day	31 YMCA South Glens Falls Senior Health Fair 11-1pm	1	2	3	4 Vermont Workshop Training Kasey
5 Vermont Workshop training Kasey	6 Americade Week	7	8 ASL Summer Fun 6:30-8pm	9 FFFF practice 4pm	10	11
12 FFFF Perform at the LARAC 12pm	13 GF Lions Club Golf tournament	14	15 ASL Summer Fun 6:30-8	16 Kasey Leaves for Convention	17	18
19	20	21	22 ASL Summer Fun 6:30-8	23	24	25
26	27 AFTHI Board meeting 12pm	28	29 ASL Summer Fun 6:30-8  Ft Edward Lions Adk Drums	30		