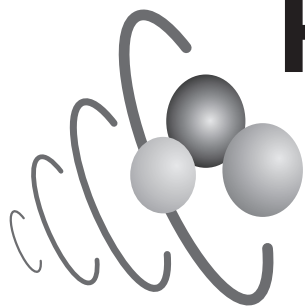


January 2013



Hearing Loss Association of America

North Shore Chapter of Long Island

Meeting Location

Long Island Jewish Hearing & Speech Center is located on the grounds of the Long Island Jewish Medical Center.

Enter the grounds from LAKEVILLE ROAD and it is the first building on your left. Free parking is available behind the hearing and speech building: first entrance to parking lot after building. DO NOT go into the main parking building. Go to the Conference room on the Lower Level
270-05 76th Avenue
New Hyde Park, NY
11040.

If you are in doubt as to whether there is a meeting, or if you'd like further information, please call Sal: 718-479-1098.

FYI

Assistive Listening Devices (ALD) are provided at our meetings. Headphones are available in the back. This room is Looped, so those who have hearing aids/cochlear implants can put on their T-coil switch.

Meeting News January 16, 2013

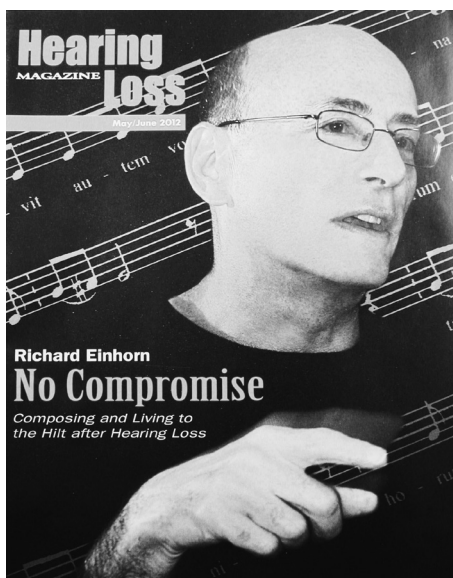
Refreshments and Social Time begins 6:30pm

Meeting begins 7:00pm

Topic: "No Compromise: Composing & Living to the Hilt after Hearing Loss"

Speaker: Richard Einhorn, Classical Music composer

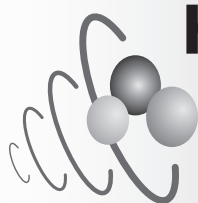
COME AND MEET THE PERSON BEHIND THE STORY!



World-renowned classical music composer Richard Einhorn woke up one day to sudden and extreme hearing loss. He joins us at our January meeting for an absolutely engaging discussion about his journey, and how, with his clever uses of existing technology, he continues to work and live well with hearing loss.

Join us for our most highly anticipated meeting yet!

Note: There will be CART (real time captioning) at the January meeting.



Hearing Loss Association of America

North Shore Chapter of Long Island

Chapter Planning Committee

HLAA North Shore Chapter
Voice: 718-479-1098

Sal Sturiale
Chapter President
Sturiale@verizon.net

Charlie Kantor
Newsletter Editor

David Siegel
Meeting Reporter

Hilda Drucker
Events

Fred & Ruth Wiener
Publicity

Silvia & David Siegel
Hospitality

Charles Kantor
Technology

Members:

Ruth Dunitz
Claire Fox
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Helmuth Mooreman

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Sony and Regal Theaters Introduce Access Glasses to Bring Closed Captions Right in Front of Your Eyes

By Andrew Webster on April 19, 2012

Sony is working with American theater chain Regal Entertainment to introduce a new kind of glasses technology that can display closed captions for those with hearing problems. The new Access Glasses can show text in six different languages, which is then placed directly in the viewer's field of vision so that they don't have to constantly look at the bottom of the screen. The information is streamed wirelessly, and the location of the text can be adjusted to make things more comfortable. The glasses also include features for the blind or visually impaired, as they can be used alongside headphones to provide extra audio detail about just what's happening on screen.

Regal — the largest theater chain in the US — started rolling the Access Glasses out this month, and expects to have them available in “practically all of its fully digitized theater locations” by early 2013.



A Hearing Aid That Cuts Out All the Clatter

By JOHN TIERNEY, *The New York Times*, October 23, 2011

After he lost much of his hearing last year at age 57, the composer Richard Einhorn despaired of ever really enjoying a concert or musical again. Even using special headsets supplied by the Metropolitan Opera and Broadway theaters, he found himself frustrated by the sound quality, static and interference.

Then, in June, he went to the Kennedy Center in Washington, where his “Voices of Light” oratorio had once been performed with the National Symphony Orchestra, for a performance of the musical “Wicked.”

There were no special headphones. This time, the words and music were transmitted to a wireless receiver in Mr. Einhorn’s hearing aid using a technology that is just starting to make its way into public places in America: a hearing loop.

“There I was at ‘Wicked’ weeping uncontrollably — and I don’t even like musicals,” he said. “For the first time since I lost most of my hearing, live music was perfectly clear, perfectly clean and incredibly rich.”

His reaction is a common one. The technology, which has been widely adopted in Northern Europe, has the potential to transform the lives of tens of millions of Americans, according to national advocacy groups. As loops are installed in stores, banks, museums, subway stations and other public spaces, people who have felt excluded are suddenly back in the conversation.

A hearing loop, typically installed on the floor around the periphery of a room, is a thin strand of copper wire radiating electromagnetic signals that can be picked up by a tiny receiver already built into most hearing aids and cochlear implants. When the receiver is turned on, the hearing aid receives only the sounds coming directly from a microphone, not the background cacophony.

“It’s the equivalent of a wheelchair ramp for people who used to be socially isolated because of their hearing loss,” said David G. Myers, a professor of psychology at Hope College in Holland, Mich., who is hard of hearing. “I used to detest my hearing aids, but now that they serve this second purpose, I love the way they’ve enriched my life.”

After his first encounter with a hearing loop at an abbey in Scotland, where he was shocked to suddenly be able to understand every word of a service, Dr. Myers installed a loop in his own home and successfully campaigned to have loops installed at hundreds of places in Michigan, including the Grand Rapids airport and the basketball arena at Michigan State University.

“One of the beauties of this simple technology is that it serves me everywhere from my office to my home TV room to nearly all the worship places and public auditoriums of my community,” Dr. Myers said.

The Midwest has been in the vanguard, but New York is starting to catch up. Loops have been installed at the ticket windows of Yankee Stadium and Citi Field, at the Apple store in SoHo and at exhibits and information kiosks at Ellis Island, the Metropolitan Museum of Art and the American Museum of Natural History.

Even in that infamous black hole of acoustics — the New York subway system — loops are being placed in about 500 fare booths, in what will be the largest installation in the United States.

Continued on Page 4



Marine Corps Now Requires Yearly Hearing Test for All Service Members

The Hearing Review, January 23, 2012

Washington, DC — According to an article published in the *Marine Times*, all active duty Marines will now be required to have annual hearing tests. The mandate now includes non-combat troops who may also be exposed to loud noises.

The article cites Marine administrative message (MARADMIN) of January 12, 2012, which states that Marines who have not had a hearing test in the past year, must get one before May 5, 2012. The message further states that the goal of the new policy is “100% hearing readiness.”

Additionally, active-duty units now are required to have a “hearing-readiness training standdown” within 4 months of the MARADMIN message date; reserve units will have 6 months. A “standdown” is the military’s term for a temporary stop of offensive military action. In other words, the order means that all members will be required to take time from their active duties to take a course on hearing conservation.

Marines who work in noisy environments such as aviation, artillery, infantry, and armor have always been required to have hearing screening tests, but even service members in non-combat environments, such as kitchens, are subject to high levels of noise from industrial-sized blenders, dish washing machines, and other industrial food preparation devices.

The MARADMIN also requires units to conduct baseline inventories of noise levels and mitigation measures, including proper fittings of ear protection for Marines.

SOURCE: The Marine Times and United States Marine Corps

A Hearing Aid that Cuts Out All the Clatter, Continued from Page 3

“This isn’t just about disability rights — it’s about good customer service,” said Janice Schacter Lintz, the head of the Hearing Access Program, a group in New York promoting the loops.

“The baby boomers turn 65 this year,” Ms. Schacter Lintz said, noting that more than 30 percent of people over 65 have hearing loss. “That’s a big group of customers who won’t go to museums or theaters or restaurants where they can’t hear. Put in a loop, and they can hear clearly without any of the bother or embarrassment of wearing a special headset.”

The basic technology, called an induction loop, has been around for decades as a means of relaying signals from a telephone to a tiny receiver called a telecoil, or t-coil, that can be attached to a hearing aid. As telecoils became standard parts of hearing aids in Britain and Scandinavia, they were also used to receive signals from loops connected to microphones in halls, stores, taxicabs and a host of other places.

People in the United States have been slower to adopt the technology because telecoils were traditionally sold as an optional accessory, at an extra cost of about \$50, instead of being included automatically with a hearing aid. But today telecoils are built into two-thirds of the hearing aids on the market as well as in all cochlear implants, so there is a growing number of people able to benefit from loops.

Hearing loop systems are more complicated to install than the assistive-hearing systems commonly used in theaters and churches, which beam infrared or FM signals to special headsets or neck loops that must be borrowed from the hall. Installing a loop in an auditorium typically costs \$10 to \$25 per seat, an initial investment that discourages some facility managers. But advocates for the loops argue that the cost per user is lower over the long run.

“The joke among my friends is that the loop system sounds too good to be true, but it is,” said Christine Klessig, a retired lawyer living near Stevens Point in central Wisconsin. “Before they installed a loop at the public library, I had to sit in the front row at lectures and try to lip-read because I missed so many words. Now I sit wherever I want and hear everything.”

The Hearing Loss Association of America, the largest group representing people with hearing problems, has joined with the American Academy of Audiology in a campaign to make loops more common in the United States. The technology is a cost-efficient way to provide benefits that even the most expensive hearing aids cannot deliver, said Patricia Kricos, an audiologist at the University of Florida and a past president of the American Academy of Audiology.

Continued on Page 5

"Audiologists have always had a lot of faith in new high-tech hearing aids and cochlear implants, which are wonderful, but we're coming to realize that these work primarily in relatively quiet places without a lot of reverberation and noise," Dr. Kricos said. "In many settings, like a train station, they can't give you the crystal-clear clarity that you can get from a hearing loop."

In the pre-loop days at Dr. Myers's church in Michigan, the assistive-hearing headsets were rarely used by more than a single person at any service. Other worshipers were dissuaded by the inconvenience and embarrassment, he said. Shortly after the loop was installed, 10 people told him they were using it, and the number has been growing as more people get hearing aids that work with the system.

"If we build it, they will come," Dr. Myers said. "I see no reason why what's happened here in West Michigan can't happen across America."

Support Group for Parents of Hearing Impaired Children

Meets at the Hearing and Speech Center of LIJ Hospital

For more information: Contact Dr. Linda Glazer at (718) 470-8631 or e-mail lglaizer@nshs.edu

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Carpool Needed

Trudy Kuntz, who lives in Bethpage, needs a lift to our monthly meetings. If you would like to help her get to the meetings, please call Trudy at (516) 349-0559.

Joke Corner

Question: What language do pigs speak?

Answer: Swine language.

Question: What language do porcupines speak?

Answer: Spine language.

Question: What language do billboards speak?

Answer: sign language



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