

January 2014

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 15, 2014

Refreshments and Social Time begins 6:30pm

Meeting begins 7:00pm

Topic: "Elder Law: What You Need to Know"

Speaker: Michael N. Connors

Michael N. Connors was born in 1950 on the Upper East Side of Manhattan. His family moved to Bay Ridge, Brooklyn, in 1954, and he remains there today with his wife and son. After his 1972 graduation from Pace University, Mr. Connors served in the United States Army with the Military Police in Germany. Upon his honorable discharge he enrolled in Brooklyn Law School, and graduated in 1979 (Magister: Phi Delta Phi, 1978-1979). Mr. Connors opened his private practice in Bay Ridge in 1981 and formed Connors and Sullivan in 1986. He specializes in Trusts and Estates with a strong emphasis in Estate Planning and Elder Law.

Through regular seminars Mr. Connors devotes much of his time to educating the community on estate planning. In particular, these seminars focus on asset protection and taxation. Mr. Connors has shared his estate planning expertise with innumerable churches, community centers, hospitals, and nursing homes. For the benefit of their employees, HBO filmed Mr. Connors' seminar, *Elder Care and the Law*. Mr. Connors also regularly appeared on the cable television show *Ask the Lawyer*, a production of the Prayer Channel (now NET). He has also appeared on CNN-NY1 News and ABC News. Mr. Connors has received numerous awards, including the Bay Ridge Community Council Annual Civic Award and he was selected as the 2010 Bay Ridge St. Patrick's Day Parade Grand Marshal. Mr. Connors served on the New York State Governor's Advisory Committee for the Aging for more than fifteen years and the New York State Ethics Commission Public Advisory Council for more than six years. He is the former Judge Advocate General for the Catholic War Veterans, Department of New York and also the Catholic War Veterans of the United States of America. Mr. Connors currently serves on the Board of Directors of The Civil War Round Table of New York and the Manhattan Chapter of Legatus.



Hearing Loss Association of America

North Shore Chapter of Long Island

Chapter Planning Committee

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Claire Fox
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*HLAA of North Shore Long
Island does not necessarily
endorse the opinions of our
speakers, goods & services.*

Our Chapter

The Holiday Party was great—if you missed it this year, make it a point not to miss it next year. There were 17 members at the party; a very nice-sized crowd to permit us to chit chat with each other. As always, the food was very good, the room comfortable for hard of hearing people and the mood very festive. I always enjoy the party and it's a nice way to get to know members that come to meeting but with whom you never get a chance to just sit down with and get to know.

Mark your calendar for next year: Every 3rd Wednesday of the month is for meetings (except July and August); June is always our Annual Picnic in the Park and December, of course, is the Holiday Party.

We have cards at each meeting which have been placed on your chairs and ask that you fill them out with suggestions of the type of meetings you would like us to have. Fill out the card and give it to me at the end of the meeting. You can also email (hlaalongisland@gmail.com) me with suggestions for topics you would be interested in.

Let's make an effort this coming year for all of you to get to as many meetings as you can. Reading the newsletter is the next best thing but meetings really give you the information and the essence of what HLAA is all about. You will be surprised that with just a little effort to get to meetings, the rewards will be greater that you can imagine.

Having CART (Real Time Captioning) at meetings is a big PLUS for many members who otherwise would miss much of the speaker's presentation. I myself find it very helpful. It seems I miss the key words in a sentence many times and if it wasn't for the captioning would not understand the meaning of what was being said.

CART is not free. It is costly, but we feel it is necessary for our Chapter to continue growing. We ask you again to keep current with your dues. The cost of each CART meeting is \$150. We are appealing for donations to cover the cost of continuing CART at our meetings.

We would like continue to do what HLAA was created for: Helping people with hearing loss help themselves through information, advocacy and education.

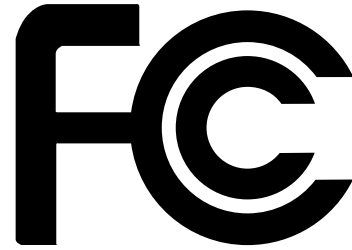
Happy New Year

Sal Sturiale

HLAA, Consumer Groups Meet with the FCC on Caption Quality Standards

Thurs., 12/19/2013

In a meeting with the staff at the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) December 6, 2013, HLAA, TDI, NAD, and ALDA expressed strong support for the creation of measurable standards that would ensure that programming produced for television has consistently good quality captioning. We urged standards that include non-technical standards for completeness (i.e., verbatim captions of spoken dialogue and audible events), accuracy, readability, and synchronicity, and technical aspects including, proper encoding, pass-through, and transmission. HLAA and other consumer groups have offered to work with members of industry and the FCC to see quality captions become a reality.



Hearing Aid Tax Credit Reintroduced in the US Senate

Wed., 11/20/2013

Senators Tom Harkin (D-IA) and Dean Heller (R-NV) reintroduced the Hearing Aid Tax Credit on November 13, and they plan to work to insure that the legislation is considered when Congress addresses tax reform. The bi-partisan bill is nearly identical to legislation introduced in the past, and it is similar to H.R.1317 that was introduced in the House of Representatives in February by Reps. Tom Latham (R-IA) and Carolyn McCarthy (D-NY). Both bills would provide a tax credit of \$500 per device to people of all ages who need a hearing aid.

Senator Harkin has been a long-time champion of hearing health issues since joining the Senate in 1985, and Senator Heller has emerged as the new Republican champion in the Senate after Senator Olympia Snowe (R-ME) retired in December. The reintroduction effort was supported by joint teams from HIA and HLAA during Hearing on the Hill (HOTH) earlier this year, as well as by HOTH teams from ADA, ASHA and IHS. For details on the legislation, and to contact your Senator to urge him/her to support the bill, visit www.hearingaidtaxcredit.org.

HLAA Brings Movie Captions to AMC Theaters in NY State

The Manhattan Chapter's Hearing Accommodation Task Force and the HLAA national office jointly announced an agreement with AMC Theatres to improve access for patrons who are deaf and have hearing loss. AMC committed to providing closed captioning devices at each of its 24 theaters in NY State by August 31, 2014.

The agreement has already led to captioning devices being available at AMC's Manhattan theaters, such as the Empire on 42nd Street and the Loews Lincoln Square on the Upper West Side. Captioning systems are being installed at other multiplex locations as their auditoriums are converted from film to digital projection.

Look for a "CC" notation in newspaper and online listings, including Captionfish.com, or call the theater to confirm the availability of captioning before you leave home. Not every first-run English-language film is made available to the theaters with captioning and not all auditoriums showing a captioned film have the captioning systems.

Hearing Conditions You May Not Know About

From HLAA Rochester NY Newsletter Dec 2013 (excerpt from Wisconsin Newsletter, winter 2013) (suggested by Ginny Koenig)

Meniere's Disease: If you experience vertigo that doesn't go away, it may be Meniere's Disease, a chronic inner ear disorder that affects balance and hearing. This is thought to be caused by improper balance of fluid in the inner ear.

Diplacusis: Individuals with diplacusis have double hearing. They experience a shift in pitch perception, causing them to hear one sound as two. Although musicians typically notice this condition more than others, it occurs frequently in individuals who have normal hearing in one ear and sensorineural hearing loss in the other.

Otitis Media: If you've recently had a cold and can't hear well, you may have otitis media – otherwise known as a good, old fashioned ear infection. While this condition is typically considered a childhood disease, it can strike people of any age.

Acoustic Neuroma: Although a rare condition, it's the most common form of brain tumor and affects roughly two of every 100,000 people. This slow-growing benign tumor develops on the eighth cranial nerve that connects the ear to the brain. Symptoms can include loss of hearing in one ear, ringing (tinnitus), dizziness (vertigo) and balance problems.

Usher syndrome: Usher syndrome is responsible for three to six percent of all childhood deafness and 50 percent of deafness and blindness in adults. Usher syndrome is inherited.

Source: Healthy Hearing 02/19/13.

NOTE: These conditions are not remedied with hearing instruments, and generally require medical intervention

Hearing Loops in the Long Island Area

(As of 11/22/13)

The following institutions have hearing loops installed. Most only have hearing loops in limited areas of the building.

Nassau County

Medical Facilities

Harmony Hearing & Speech Center, LLC
432 Gardiners Avenue, Levittown, NY 11756
516-731-5868
<http://www.harmonyhearing-speechcenter.com>
Portable table-top loops available.

**Long Island Jewish Medical Center
Hearing and Speech Center**
Department of Otolaryngology &
Communicative Disorders
430 Lakeville Road, New Hyde Park, NY 11042
718-470-8910
<http://www.northshorelij.com/NSLIJ/Hearing+and+Speech+Center+-+Progressive+Care>
The lower level conference room is looped.
The Long Island chapter of HLAA
<http://hearingloss-longisland.org/> meets here.

Places of worship

Manetto Hill Jewish Center
244 Manetto Hill Road, Plainview, NY 11803
516-935-5454
<http://www.mhjconline.org/>

Temple Judea of Manhasset
333 Searingtown Road, Manhasset, NY 11030
516-621-8049
<http://www.temple-judea.com/>

Public Facilities

Levittown Library
1 Bluegrass Lane, Levittown, NY 11756-1292
1-516-731-5728
<http://www.nassaulibrary.org/levtown/index.php>
Hearing loops have been installed for patrons who are speaking with library staff at the reference, media and circulation desks.

Merrick Library
Multipurpose room
2279 Merrick Avenue, Merrick, NY 11566
516-377-6112
<http://www.merricklibrary.org/>
Multipurpose room has a hearing loop installed

North Hempstead LI Town Board Room
220 Plandome Road, Manhasset, NY 11030
516-869-6311
<http://www.northhempstead.com/>
Hearing loop has been installed.

Oceanside Library
30 Davison Avenue, Oceanside, NY 11572
516-766-2360
<http://www.oceansidelibrary.com/>
Meeting room has hearing loop installed.

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Suffolk County

Public Facilities

Harborfields Public Library

31 Broadway,
Greenlawn, NY 11740-1382
631-757-4200
<http://harborfieldslibrary.org/main.html>
Meeting room has a hearing loop.

Middle Country Public Library, Centereach

101 Eastwood Boulevard,
Centereach, NY 11720
631-585-9393
<http://www.mcpl.lib.ny.us/help-for-the-hearing-impaired/>
Community room has a hearing loop.

Peconic Landing Retirement Community

1500 Brecknock Road,
Greenport, NY 11944
888-273-2664
<http://www.peconiclanding.com/>
The auditorium has a hearing loop.

Smithtown Public Library

1 North Country Road,
Smithtown, NY 11787
631-265-2072
http://www.smithlib.org/page_hearing_loop.asp
Community meeting room has a hearing loop;
headsets are available for those without t-coil
enabled hearing aids.

Assistive Listening System

Available for the Hearing Impaired

Parkside

Memorial Chapels, Inc.

To reach all branches - (718) 896-9000 - 24 hours a day

Queens - 98-60 Queens Boulevard

Brooklyn - 2576 Flatbush Avenue

Nassau - 175 Long Beach Road, Rockville Center & 8000 Jericho Tpke., Woodbury

In Florida call:

Dade County - (305) 864-3774

Broward County - (954) 472-2821

Palm Beach County - (561) 655-6844



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We Welcome All Donations

Please make checks payable to: HLAA North Shore of L.I.

Mail to: Sal Sturiale
8038 212 Street
Queens Village, N.Y. 11427

Be sure to designate who to acknowledge for your donation. For example: "this donation is: In Memory of; or In Honor of; or Happy Birthday; or Congratulations to..."

And please let us know who to send the acknowledgment to.

Thank you!

Stay Connected

Make sure you're on our chapter email list, so we can quickly notify you of important and time-sensitive information, such as meeting changes, etc. Send us a note at: hlaalongisland@gmail.com.

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 lglazer@nshs.edu



HLAA of North Shore Long Island

Sal Sturiale
80-38 212 Street
Hollis Hills, NY 11427

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Membership Dues

Stay abreast of pertinent news and information. Send in your dues today.

Dues include Newsletter.

Make check to:

HLAA of North Shore Long Island

Dues: \$15.00 (for the year)

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Email Address: _____

PLEASE COMPLETE
and mail check to:
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80-38 212 Street
Hollis Hills, NY 11427



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You can either send in this form or
join online at www.hearingloss.org

Mail Check to:

Hearing Loss Association of America
7910 Woodmont Avenue, Bethesda, MD 20814

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone number: _____