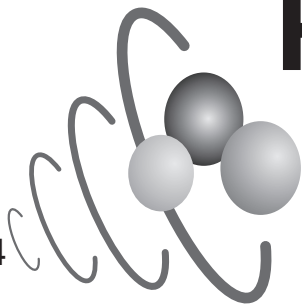


February 2014



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 February 19, 2014

Refreshments and Social Time begins 6:30pm
Meeting begins 7:00pm

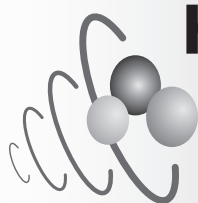
Topic: "Meet The Experts"

We're thrilled to present one of our most popular meeting formats for our chapter—we've had several of these "Meet the Experts" forums in the past, and they are always exciting and informative!

The "Experts" are the members of our chapter. You'll be surprised at how much our members know about hearing loss and all the various issues related to it.

We'll cover such topics including: cochlear implants, hearing aids, new technology devices, and a host of other topics as you, the audience, ask questions.

So join us for this exciting meeting, and bring a friend! We always have room for one more.



Hearing Loss Association of America

North Shore Chapter of Long Island

Chapter Planning Committee

HLAA North Shore Chapter
Voice: 718-479-1098

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Sturiale@verizon.net

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Newsletter Editor

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Meeting Reporter

Hilda Drucker
Events

Fred & Ruth Wiener
Publicity

Silvia & David Siegel
Hospitality

Charles Kantor
Technology

Members:

Ruth Dunitz
Claire Fox
Hilda Polonet
Helmuth Mooreman

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

Our Chapter

Our January meeting was a very informative one. The topic was related to financial planning and protecting your assets. The speaker, Michael Connors, whom we have had speak at a meeting in the past, was right on target on so many issues that people are interested in today. You can tell from the question and answer period if the topic was of interest to the membership. I assure you, this topic was.

Some things you should know about our chapter: we are growing. More members are getting involved with programing, membership, technology, and working to get HLAA out to as many people as we can. If you know of someone with hearing loss who could benefit (and everyone can) from joining a support group, please bring them along to a meeting. We are glad to see new faces and meet new people. If you would like to get more involved with the chapter and join our board please let me know. The board meets on the Wednesday following the regular meeting. In February it will be on the 26th and held in the same meeting room. Hope to see you there.

LIJ Hearing and Speech Center, where we have our meetings, is now becoming involved with our chapter. This is a center where hearing is of the utmost importance to whoever comes. They provide hearing testing, dispense hearing aids, do repairs, have a Cochlear Implant Center and in general, take care of all issues related to hearing loss. There will be speakers from the center in the near future. These are all professionals and have a vast knowledge of information to pass along to us.

We send out the newsletter by email to over 200 people. I hope those of you who receive the newsletter enjoy it. We now have many members from other chapters that have had to close down for various reasons. Your support of those chapters in the past show that HLAA has had a positive effect. We at North Shore would like to continue that relationship with you. Your support of our chapter through membership and, if possible, attending meetings will further aid what we believe—which is that all people with hearing loss or any other disability should have equal access to everything that is available to people without a disability. Join our chapter. Be a part of the future. Make a difference.

Sal Sturiale

Study Reveals Potential Breakthrough In Hearing Technology



Computer engineers and hearing scientists at The Ohio State University have made a potential breakthrough in solving a 50-year-old problem in hearing technology: how to help the hearing-impaired understand speech in the midst of background noise.

In the *Journal of the Acoustical Society of America*, they describe how they used the latest developments in neural networks to boost test subjects' recognition of spoken words from as low as 10 percent to as high as 90 percent.

The researchers hope the technology will pave the way for next-generation digital hearing aids. Such hearing aids could even reside inside smartphones; the phones would do the computer processing, and broadcast the enhanced signal to ultra-small earpieces wirelessly.

Conquering background noise has been a “holy grail” in hearing technology for half a century, explained Eric Healy, professor of speech and hearing science and director of Ohio State’s Speech Psychoacoustics Laboratory.

The desire to understand one voice in roomful of chatter has been dubbed the “cocktail party problem.”

“Focusing on what one person is saying and ignoring the rest is something that normal-hearing listeners are very good at, and hearing-impaired listeners are very bad at,” Healy said. “We’ve come up with a way to do the job for them, and make their limitations moot.”

Read more here: <http://bit.ly/1b9zUn2>

The FCC and Captioned Telephone Services

(CAPTEL CAPTIONCALL WEBCAPTEL)

Sep 24 2013

On August 26, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) adopted the final Order regarding IP CTS (Internet Protocol Captioned Telephone Services). The new rules change the way consumers get the phones and use the phones. The rules include:

- Captions will not appear on the phone until the consumer turns the captions on, with exceptions made for people with documented physical or cognitive disabilities
- **Consumers are required to pay \$75** or more for a captioned phone, unless the consumer receives the phone from a state equipment distribution program
- Apps (software applications) for mobile phones will cost \$75 or more, unless the consumer already has an IP CTS phone
- Consumers must register with the provider of the phone
- Consumers must certify under penalty of perjury that they have a hearing loss which requires the use of a captioned phone
- Consumers must certify that they will not permit anyone who is not registered to use their captioned phone

The FCC also asked questions about the way captioned services should work, and have provided an opportunity for stakeholders to weigh in through their Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (FNPRM). Some of the questions they asked:

- Should the FCC turn over all Captioned Telephone Services (CTS) to the states?
- Should the FCC establish mandatory minimum performance requirements (speed, delay, accuracy)?
- Should there be any other exemptions to the requirement that the captions must be off until the registered user turns them on?
- What are the most effective ways to educate consumers about IP CTS?

HLAA will be filing comments once again with the FCC, based on the information we have at hand, and what we gather through our online surveys. Comments on the FNPRM are due October 18, 2013.

But it's essential that the Commission hears directly from you. You can do that by emailing or writing the FCC anytime with your feedback on how IP CTS is working for you – or not.

Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW, Washington, DC 20554
Phone: 1-888-225-5322

<http://apps.fcc.gov/ecfs/proceeding/view?z=8lwa7&name=13-24>

We encourage you to let HLAA know as well. Knowing what works for you will help us in our fight for equal telecommunications access for all consumers who have a hearing loss. For more information email advocacy@hearingloss.org.

Gershwin Theatre Installs Hearing Loop from Listen Technologies

by BWW News Desk November 6 <http://www.broadwayworld.com/article/Gershwin-Theatre-Installs-Hearing-Loop-from-Listen-Technologies-20131106>



Broadway's celebrated Gershwin Theater is providing a more immersive experience for all its patrons by installing a hearing loop system from Listen Technologies. The hearing loop system enables audience members who need assistive listening to receive crystal clear audio signals directly through their T-Coil hearing aids, cochlear implants or Hearing Loop receiver.

Bill Register, director of facilities and theater management for Nederlander, which operates the Gershwin Theater and eight other theaters in New York said, "The Gershwin Theater recently underwent a renovation with new seats and carpet. With

the 10th anniversary of 'Wicked' upon us, we felt now was an opportune time to provide a different kind of upgrade to the theater. Being installed under the carpet, the hearing loop is invisible to the eyes, but for our patrons with hearing loss, the giant leap in clarity of sound is literally music to their ears."

In order for hearing loops to be effective, an audience member must have a hearing aid equipped with a telecoil or "T-Coil," which at the press of a button receives a signal. Nearly 70 percent of hearing aids today are equipped with a T-Coil and all new cochlear implants come with T-Coil. The entire Gershwin theater, including the orchestra and upper mezzanine, is looped so no matter where a patron is seated in the theater, the signal will be as clear—or even better—than if they were sitting in the front row.

The hearing loop system from Listen Technologies was installed by Leo Garrison of Metro Sound Pros, who has installed several other hearing loop systems throughout New York including museums, tour busses, taxi cabs and other Broadway theaters. The hearing loop installation also enables the Gershwin Theater to be compliant with the current ADA requirements for assistive listening. Three technologies are available for venues to meet ADA compliance: radio frequency (RF), infrared (IR) and hearing loop. RF and IR systems transmit signals over radio waves or infrared signals to an individual through a receiver and earphones. Hearing loop systems, however, are becoming the preferred technology for assistive listening because no receivers or earphones are required to obtain the signal, it's transmitted directly to an individual's T-Coil equipped hearing aid or cochlear implant.

Continued on Page 6

Hearing loop systems are ideal for a number of venues including:

- Airports
- Ticket counters and information booths
- Banquet halls
- Board rooms and large meeting rooms
- Court rooms
- Cruise ships
- Doctors' offices and pharmacy counters
- Drive thru and pick up windows
- Elevators, trains and buses
- Museums
- Places of worship
- School auditoriums
- Sports facilities
- Theaters and performing arts centers



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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 lgazer@nshs.edu



HLAA of North Shore Long Island

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

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