

April 2015



Hearing Loss Association of America

North Shore of Long Island Chapter

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: 516-331-0231.

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

Wednesday, April 15, 2015

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

Topic: It's Time to Get Back What You've Been Missing!!

There will be CART (real-time captioning) at our meetings!

Life is filled with highs and lows...Don't miss out on the highs....

You may still be able to hear some sounds, but it has gotten harder to hear conversations in both quiet and noisy situations. You can still hear barks and honks, but you can't hear whistles and chirps. You may have a high frequency loss.

This type of hearing loss can cause you to miss the high-frequency sounds that allow you to distinguish words and detect emotion. Without them, words merge together, making what you do hear jumbled and difficult to understand.

Until now, hearing aids were the only option for mild to moderately severe high frequency hearing loss. The FDA has approved an implantable device which can help adults with this type of hearing loss. It is known as the "Hybrid" Cochlear Implant System and is covered by most insurance plans including Medicare and Medicaid.

About our presenter: Dr. Jaclyn Spitzer, PhD, is a Professor of Audiology and Speech Pathology in Otolaryngology/HNS at CUMC. She is Director of both the Audiology Division and the Cochlear Implant Team at Columbia Univ. College of Physicians & Surgeons.



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Chapter Planning Committee

HLAA North Shore Chapter of L.I.

Sal Sturiale

Charlie Kantor

Rosemarie Mignogna

Trudie Walker

Ruth Wiener

Hilda Drucker

MaryAnn Weeks

Voice: 516-331-0231
<http://hearingloss-longisland.org>
hlaalongisland@gmail.com

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

Money Talk

I always share my personal experiences in dealing with hearing loss with you. So, here we go again.

My wife and I are clients of one of the major financial institutions. Well, we have been going to their meetings and seminars in which they explain new financial investment opportunities. They generally hold these meetings at their New York City headquarters and provide a nice lunch and drinks.

From the first meeting I attended years ago until the last one last week, I have been asking the several people who handle our account, as well as the manager of the office, to consider using CART at these meetings. I generally get a blank look and after I explain to them what CART is, I'm told that they will look into it.

I am sure I am not the only one who is hard of hearing who has encountered the same issues with the companies they deal with. I would bet that people in our situation don't attend seminars about finance or estate planning which are offered because they don't want to be put in a situation that is frustrating and useless for them.

My suggestion is to notify the people who really make the decisions in these matters and try to make them understand that people with hearing loss can be valuable clients to them. I am not trying to lay blame on anyone. I see this as an opportunity to educate people who don't understand what hearing loss is. If we can get them to realize how important CART is to a large part of the population they do business with, we will all profit from it.

I'll keep you informed of my progress and would appreciate your letting me know how you feel about this issue.

Never give up,
Sal Sturiale

10th Anniversary Walk4Hearing



This year, the Walk4Hearing celebrates 10 years of Walking for hearing loss awareness. Since 2006, the Walk4Hearing has raised more than \$7.7 million and has become the largest walk for hearing taking place in cities across the United States.

Join us and walk together to make this our best year yet!
Donate and help us reach our 2015 fundraising goal of \$1.4 million

View our team page, the "North Shore Sandals": <http://bit.ly/1NMUg4v>

Join our team: <http://bit.ly/1NMUcBT>

Donate to our team: <http://bit.ly/19TtGYv>

For more information: <http://hlaa.convio.net>

HLAA Meeting March 18, 2015

Our well attended March 18 meeting was a collaborative effort between HLAA Long Island and the Long Island Jewish Hospital Hearing and Speech Center. The meeting was introduced by LIJ clinical social worker Dr. Linda Glazer and HLLA members. We were treated to a screening of the movie "Silent No More" as presented by members of the *No Limits Theater Group*. *No Limits Theater Group* is the *only* theater group in the nation for deaf children who are learning to speak and listen. The presenters were alumnus of the Long Island theater group. We were lucky to have 4 panelists from the original show narrating their stories and fielding questions from the audience. The panelists were part of the original "Silent No More" theater group of significantly hearing impaired or deaf children. They shared stories of coming of age as hearing impaired youngsters. They told us how they learned to speak and listen with the help of the theater group. The panelists ranged from high school and college students to working professionals and some parents.

We viewed a video with actors presenting monologues on what it was like to grow up deaf or significantly hearing impaired. Each presenter told a spirited narrative and fielded questions, giving a taste of what growing up was like for them and how they managed school, made friends, dealt with bullying and negotiated the world with their hearing aids and/or cochlear implants. Linda Davidson, parent of an alumni and an original founder of the Long Island group told how she got involved with the group and how she met Michelle Christy, the founder of *No Limits Theatre Group*. Linda told us how she worked with Ms. Christy to bring the program out to Long Island. Several of the kids who were part of the original group with Ms. Davidson and her daughter were our presenters. The original group grew to include children from New Jersey and Long Island. The kids participated in the *No Limits Theater Group* every summer

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Advocacy Updates From HLAA

A Win for Police Officers with Hearing Aids: HLAA Was There to Help



L-R: Stuart Seaborn, Disability Rights Advocates; Shelly Ann Quilty-Lake, Meenan and Associates; Rebecca Rodgers, DRA; Dan Carione, plaintiff; Jerry Bergman, HLAA NYC; Colleen Meenan, Meenan and Associates; and plaintiff Jim Phillips.

In 2010, HLAA received a phone call from New York Police Department (NYPD) Deputy Inspector Daniel Carione. He was being forced to retire from the NYPD. His crime? He purchased and used a hearing aid on the job. NYPD bans the use of hearing aids on the job, regardless of how well that officer does his or her job.

HLAA stood by Carione for the last four years, offering our expertise in hearing loss to help him and his legal counsel build his case. HLAA recently filed a friend of the court brief (amicus brief), drafted by attorneys at Cravath, Swain in New York City. The amicus brief was accepted into the record, and apparently had a positive impact on the court and the settlement process. The amicus brief covers several issues, including: the assumptions made about hearing aids by NYPD were outdated and flawed; NYPD is one of the few police departments that ban hearing aids; and the

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HAVE YOU HEARD?

OUR CENTER IS HERE TO SERVICE ALL OF YOUR HEARING HEALTHCARE NEEDS

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Additional Location

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practice is counterproductive, as it forces officers with hearing loss to hide their disability rather than address it, thus putting officers and the public at risk. Other organizations who signed on to our amicus brief were AARP, Veterans of Foreign Wars, and Veterans United for Truth. (Read more: <http://bit.ly/1yKlOyL>)

HLAA Joins Federal Communication Commission's New Disability Advisory Committee

The Federal Communication Commission (FCC) will hold the first meeting of its newly-formed Disability Advisory Committee (DAC) on March 17, 2015. HLAA is a charter member, serving as co-chair of the Video Programming subcommittee, and as a member of the Communications subcommittee. These meetings are open to the public and streamed with captions at: <http://www.fcc.gov/live>.

for about four or five years in a row. The movie was a result of their participation in the theater group and a summary of their friendships, efforts and struggles. Ms. Davidson announced that a new group is in the process of being formed. Flyers were circulated about the recruitment of new theater group members.

The 4 presenters eloquently spoke of their journeys through childhood, into their teens and young adulthood being deaf or severely hearing impaired. The support and friendships that they made in the group, along with the message of persistence they heard from friends, parents and the No Limits group was inspiring. These young people did not allow their disabilities to limit them; they told stories of hard work and determination. Their hearing impairments never limited their growth. Being active members of the *No Limits Theater Group* helped them accept their differences and grow with their strengths. Parents talked about setting a high bar and advocating for their children. Both groups cited the *No Limits Theater Group* as being an integral part of their lives, helping them to grow. During the Q and A, questions were asked about what it was like to grow up with a disability. Questions were also about current technology. The panelists explained how they used tools like Bluetooth, FM units, remote microphones, water-proof accessories, phone apps, and other electrical devices to help support them in their journeys.

We were left with inspiring messages from these young people. Messages indicating that hard work, friendships, setting goals and a "can do" attitude can help us all to better negotiate our world as hearing impaired individuals. We exited feeling that there truly are "no limits" to what we can do as hearing impaired individuals. Sometimes a hard journey can take you places you would never imagine! Thank you to all who made this exciting meeting possible!

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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!

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



North Shore of Long Island Chapter
<http://hearingloss-longisland.org>

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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Membership Dues

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Dues include Newsletter.

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HLAA of North Shore Long Island

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