

April 2016



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.

Meeting News

Wednesday, April 20, 2016

Refreshments and Social Time begins 6:30pm.

Meeting begins 7:00pm.

Topic: All "Ears"

Sometimes we just need an "ear" for our concerns. An objective platform to address issues like performance expectations with hearing aids/implants, the attitudes and understanding of family and friends, and the general day-to-day challenges of functioning with hearing loss. Join us for a casual, interactive meeting that's all about you. Come prepared with your questions and concerns. No appointment necessary.

Speaker Bio: Gayle Sorrentino is a former Senior Speech-Language Pathologist at the Hearing and Speech Center of the Northwell Health System. She holds a Master's Degree from Ithaca College in Speech Pathology-Audiology. She provided therapeutic services for 43 years to a variety of clinical patients with a specialty in aural rehabilitative services to the deaf and hard of hearing population from infancy to adulthood. Her experience as an audiologist added to her interest and abilities working with this population. In addition to individual services, she has conducted group lip-reading classes for adults and continues to share leadership of a Parent Support Group for families of children with hearing loss at the LIJ Hearing and Speech Center. She supervised Clinical Fellowship students in fulfillment of their requirements for NYS licensing as well as national certification. She participated, along with other medical professionals, as part of the Cochlear Implant Team at the Apelian Cochlear Center at LIJ.



North Shore of Long Island Chapter

Chapter Planning Committee

HLAA North Shore
Chapter of L.I.

Sal Sturiale

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Rosemarie Mignogna

Trudie Walker

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

March Meeting Recap

By Claudia Block

Alex Lieberman, representing EZ Switch of Long Island presented at our March 16 HLAA meeting.

Alex has a background in computer science, software engineering, smart home design and alarm system installation. He gave an interesting talk about how we can increase safety and independence in our homes by upgrading a few items to make our homes user friendly and safer for hearing impaired people.

He came to his business through family; his grandmother had trouble hearing her in her home. Alex designed a telecoil loop system for his grandmother to help her hear TV and radio.

A simple induction loop system can reduce stress and increase independence at home by giving more control to hearing impaired users. Properly installed telecoil loop systems, in conjunction with a telecoil setting on a hearing aide or cochlear implant can help modulate sources such as TV, computer, telephone radio so that the sounds are clear and the volume is acceptable to all residents! By using his extensive background, he created a better home environment for his grandmother. His interest in these products grew into Alex's involvement in his business, EZ Switch Installers.

Alex demonstrated how we can make our homes "smarter" and safer with a few adjustments. He showed us how we can modify our home systems to gain independence, be safer and to hear more clearly by installing or upgrading our various home alarm systems or by installing a few simple switches.

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7 Misconceptions About People With Hearing Loss

By Janice S. Lintz

There are many more misconceptions. These are just a starting point for a conversation.

1. Everyone with a hearing loss uses sign language.

Hearing loss is a spectrum, and people with hearing loss don't all communicate the same way. How a person communicates depends on a variety of factors, such as the person's degree of hearing loss, whether a hearing aid or cochlear implant is used, the age the person lost his/her hearing, the level of auditory training received, and the nature of the listening situation. The majority of people with hearing loss do not use sign language, but it is still important to those whose communication depends on it.

2. Increasing the sound volume will enable a person with hearing loss to understand what is said.

There is a point where increasing the volume begins to distort the quality of the sound. To obtain sufficient clarity, people with residual hearing may require sound to be transmitted from the microphone directly to their ear via an assistive listening system such as an induction loop. Sitting close to the speaker can assist the listener but is not a substitute for an assistive listening system. Yelling and over-articulating distorts the natural rhythm of speech and makes lip reading more difficult.

3. Hearing aids and cochlear implants restore hearing to normal.

A person does not obtain "normal" hearing by wearing a hearing aid or cochlear implant. It is not the same as wearing glasses. Hearing aids increase the volume but do not significantly improve clarity or bring the sound closer to the person. Hearing ability in cochlear implant recipients varies from almost normal to only perceiving environmental sounds and depends on such factors as the individual's hearing history, age of onset and length of deafness, and age of implantation.

4. People with hearing loss are dumb, stupid, mute, have intellectual limitations, and are unsuccessful.

People with hearing loss have the same range of intelligence as the general population. People with untreated, or inadequately treated, hearing loss may respond inappropriately since they may have not heard what was said.

Speaking to the companion of the person with hearing loss, instead of directly to the person, reinforces this attitudinal discrimination.

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5. People with hearing loss are older adults.

Of the 48 million people with hearing loss, only about 30 percent are 65 or older.

6. When people with hearing loss miss something, it's OK to tell them "It's not important" or "I'll tell you later."

It is frustrating to people with a hearing loss not to have something repeated when they miss part of the conversation. Saying, "It wasn't important" compounds the frustration. No one should tell a person with hearing loss what is important.

7. People with hearing loss are rude and pushy.

People with hearing loss may interrupt a conversation because they didn't hear the speaker and not because they are rude. They may also position themselves toward the front of a group or in a room so that they are closer to the speaker, making it easier for them to hear and lip read. This is sometimes perceived as being pushy.

Janice S. Lintz is the CEO of Hearing Access & Innovations, which is the only company dedicated to helping the world's businesses, cultural institutions and government agencies improve their accessibility for people with hearing loss.

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Safety is a very important issue for those of us who have trouble hearing everyday sounds like the phone, doorbell, baby monitors, smoke and carbon dioxide detectors or even alarm clocks. Continually stressing safety in the home Alex demonstrated various "alert" systems that we could buy on line or from his company and install to help us be safer in our homes. The products ranged from simple items like vibrating alarm clocks and bed shakers, timed switches to more complex central alarm systems that work well, alert home residents and are connected to central fire and police stations. Very important!

For anyone interested in upgrading their home alarms, being safer at home or in hearing better with an induction telecoil loop system, I suggest looking into some of the products that were demonstrated to us during our March meeting. Safety, better hearing, control and independence are all important issues. Our home environment can be upgraded with new and not so new technology. As technology increases, we will all be living in "smarter" homes so that it was good to hear what is out there for now and the future.

Once again, there is something for us to learn to help us improve our lives and to keep us safe in our homes by listening, sharing and by coming to HLAA meetings.

Annual NYC Walk4Hearing

The Hearing Loss Association of America (HLAA) Walk4Hearing is the largest walk of its kind. Every spring and fall thousands of walkers—children and their families, young adults, young at heart and everyone in between—raise money and walk together to increase public awareness about hearing loss, help eradicate the stigma associated with it and raise funds for programs and services.

Walk Details

Date:

Sunday, September 25, 2016

Schedule:

9am - Registration/Check-in
10am - Walk begins

Walk Chair:

Suzanne D'Amico
sdamico@hearingloss.org

Location:

Riverside Park,
W 97th St & Riverside Drive
New York, NY

Distance: 5K (3.1 miles)



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



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Email: membership@hearingloss.org
Website: www.hearingloss.org



HLAA opens the world of communication to people with hearing loss through information, education, support, and advocacy. HLAA is a 501(c)(3) organization.

MEMBERSHIP FORM

I'd like to: ☐ Become a member of HLAA ☐ Renew my membership ☐ Give a gift membership

My Membership/Renewal

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Country: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____ - _____ - _____

Chapter I belong to: _____

How did you learn about HLAA? _____

Gift Membership

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Country: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____ - _____ - _____

| | Annual USA Membership Fees | Annual Non-USA Membership Fees |
|-------------------|---|---|
| Individual | <input type="checkbox"/> \$35 (1 year) <input type="checkbox"/> \$95 (3 years) <input type="checkbox"/> \$140 (5 years) | <input type="checkbox"/> \$45 (1 year) |
| Couple/Family | <input type="checkbox"/> \$45 (1 year) | <input type="checkbox"/> \$55 (1 year) |
| Professional | <input type="checkbox"/> \$60 (1 year) | <input type="checkbox"/> \$75 (1 year) |
| Library/Nonprofit | <input type="checkbox"/> \$50 (1 year) | <input type="checkbox"/> \$75 (1 year) |
| Student | <input type="checkbox"/> \$20 (1 year) | N/A |
| Corporate | <input type="checkbox"/> \$300 (1 year) | <input type="checkbox"/> \$325 (1 year) |

My membership fee is \$ _____

Plus I'm adding a tax
deductible donation of \$ _____

My total is \$ _____

3 Ways to Join, Renew or Give a Gift Membership

1. Return this form to your chapter with your check made payable to HLAA.
2. Mail or fax this form to the HLAA office at the address above with your credit card information.
3. Visit www.hearingloss.org/content/join and use your credit card online. (this is a secure website)

Credit Card Payment Information: ☐ American Express ☐ Discover ☐ MasterCard ☐ VISA

Card Number: _____ Expiration Date: _____ Security Code: _____

Name: _____ (as it appears on card)

Signature: _____ (Include your billing address if different than membership address above.)



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*Certification of hearing loss by a hearing-care or healthcare professional is required to participate.

Hearing Aid Recycling



Donation Information

HAAA Lakeland Chapter in Florida is sponsoring a Hearing Aid Recycling Program. The purpose of this program is to collect new/used hearing aids, clean/repair them, and offer them (at no cost) to those who are financially challenged in our community.

Hearing aids can be shipped in a small box. Carefully wrap the hearing aid in cotton, bubble wrap or other soft material, or put in a pill container.

First, fill out the form here: <http://www.hla-lakeland.org/donate/hearing-aid-donation> and print out the receipt you will get. Then mail the hearing aid(s) and the printed receipt to:

**Hearing Loss Association – Lakeland Chapter
Hearing Aid Recycling Program
3020 Lakeland Highlands Rd.
Lakeland, Florida 33803**

Trudie Katz Walker

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North Shore of Long Island Chapter
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Hollis Hills, NY 11427

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



June 23–26
Washington Hilton
1919 Connecticut Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20009 US

Early-bird Registration is Open!

Discounted registration rates are good through January 31, 2016. Register by the deadline to be entered in a drawing for an iLuv Smartshaker, a wireless alarm controlled by your smartphone (iOS and Android). Smartshakers will be awarded to 15 lucky early-birds! In addition, early-bird registrants of the Full-activity package will be eligible to select their table at the Capital banquet starting in February (the next opportunity will be in April).

Host Hotel – Washington Hilton

The Washington Hilton is just a short walk to restaurants, shopping and nightlife. Enjoy all the nation's capital has to offer as the hotel is only four blocks to the Dupont Circle Metro (Red Line), providing easy access to the National Zoo, Smithsonian museums, the National Mall, and more.

Convention Updates

Be sure to check this page frequently for Convention news as well as on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/HearingLossAssociation>) and Twitter (@HLAA, @nmacklin #HLAA2016).

For more information, visit: <http://www.hearingloss.org/content/convention>