



## MAY, 2012 BULLETIN

### MAY MEETING

Wednesday, May 16 – 1:30 PM

#### How to improve your understanding and discrimination of sounds

Noel Crosby, Audiologist

The meeting will be held at the North Sarasota Library Meeting Room, 2801 Newtown Blvd. Sarasota (941) 861-1360  
Refreshments will be served following the program.

### Young Hearing Group (YHG)

NEXT MEETING--May 15th, 2012 Dr. Autumn Riley, FAAA, CCC-A & Dr. Victoria L. Moore, FAAA, CCC-A, BC- HIS, Doctor of Audiology, The Hearing Spa *'The Latest Advancements in Hearing Aid Technology'*

Meeting will take place at the Sarasota Herald Tribune, 1741 Main St., Sarasota in the Conference Room at 6 – 7:30 p.m. (Meet in the lobby next to front reception).

For more information contact Alexander Magnus Boakes by phone: 786-457-6205 or by e-mail: [alexboakes@msn.com](mailto:alexboakes@msn.com)

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE FROM ED OGIBA



I am very grateful that we have had such a large influx of new members this season and that so many of you are such a positive voice for hearing access in our community. It is so encouraging to hear from theatre managers that they are hearing so much favorable feedback from you about the hearing loop. In the isolated cases where one of you has an issue at a theater, it can often be a function of the hearing aid or t-coil, not the venue's loop. For the very few of you who any problems, we are very appreciative that most of you have reported these concerns first to your audiologist, one of the loop vendors or myself. If we keep thanking the theater managers as often as we can and keep dealing with any issues "internally", we will continue to promote loops at the greatest speed with the least confusion. Thank you.

Our regular 2011-2012 season of expert speakers comes to close at our May 16 meeting. Dr. Noel Crosby will be on hand to provide some valuable insight on how you can improve your hearing and listening skills. As demonstrated with very some powerful presentations of communication strategies and aural rehab at both the January and February meetings, you will be able to learn some sound discrimination techniques that can help to further improve your hearing. Dr. Crosby is also the founder of our chapter, so don't miss this wonderful opportunity to advance your listening abilities and to learn about our chapter's origins.

We will host a Rap Session in each of the summer months. These are sessions are a wonderful opportunity to chat about the issues and concerns that each of us has. There is no guest speaker, so we offer the time needed to get some in-depth insight on your specific needs from other members. There will be a meeting on June 13, July 18 and August 15 in our regular room at the North Sarasota Library. Please note the first summer rap session is a change of date and will be on June 13, not June 20, which conflicts with the HLLA national convention.

Next season's expert speakers schedule starts at the September meeting and we have a terrific roster in store for you. In the interim, we hope to see many of you at the May meeting and the Summer Rap Sessions.

Best wishes,  
Ed.

## Welcome New Members

Kathleen Celona,  
Esther Lee Howard  
Rhoda Rothschild

Please invite friends with hearing loss to our next meeting as we grow our support group and loop our SRQ corner of Florida.

## The Players -- May 4 With Captions

The Players are presenting "The Full Monty" and on May 4, the musical will be captioned on two large screens above the stage. The theatre at 838 N. Tamiami Trail is looped as well (rows A through K). Assistive listening devices and loop receivers are also available.

This is the musical version of the movie about 6 unemployed steel workers who decide to strip at a local club to meet expenses. (fair warning!)

Tickets are \$25 for adults and \$12 for students. Tickets are available at [www.theplayers.org](http://www.theplayers.org) or 941-465-2494.

## Let's Loop SRQ -- How Hearing Loops Work

Hearing Loop Systems are the ideal solution for people who wear hearing aids or cochlear implants to hear better in theaters, churches, banks, restaurants and so many other public places. A hearing loop is the only system that sends the sound of a voice or instrument from a

microphone directly into a hearing aid or cochlear implant for the clearest, most superior sound currently possible. Popular for over 40 years in many European cities, the system is starting to take hold in the U.S.

Hearing Loop Systems are very affordable and require no maintenance. The system simply entails an amplifier that is hooked up to an existing microphone or sound board that connects to an induction loop which is placed around the perimeter of the theatre, meeting room or area where an audience or congregation sits. The magnetic field created projects the sound directly to a T-Coil, a wireless receiver that acts a loudspeaker inside a hearing aid.

(Our 40 looped venues will be listed next issue)

## Meet HLAS Member

This month, we profile HLAA founding member and HLAS longtime active member **Barbara Chertok**. Barbara grew up in Boston. She lost her hearing suddenly in 1957 at age twenty-one. She learned 35 years later the cause was Cogan's syndrome, an autoimmune disease. She wore one hearing aid for 40 years to make use of a small amount of residual hearing in that ear but relied mainly on reading lips to communicate. An instant lipreader, she became a lipreading teacher and taught the subject to hard of hearing adults from 1985 to 1995 at Montgomery College and other Maryland locations where she lived at the time. That same year, she began freelance writing for A.G. Bell's *Volta Voices*, HLAA's *Hearing Loss Magazine*, and other publications.

In 1988, Barbara was selected as the first juror with hearing loss in Maryland and the first juror to use an Oral Interpreter in the courtroom anywhere. She was permitted to sit in the jury box with her interpreter whose lips she read for the four- day duration of the trial. She was featured in the *Washington Post* and on television.

One year after moving to Florida in 1996, she received her first cochlear implant. A miracle device, it allowed her to hear on the phone for the first time in 41 years. Eleven years later in 2008, she received her second cochlear implant in an ear that had not heard a sound in 54 years, yet when this device was activated, she was able to understand words without lipreading. Barbara founded two Cochlear Implant Support Groups in Florida: One in Boca Raton is still active and another in Sarasota which she merged with the HLAS chapter.

Barbara is active in many organizations and serves on several program committees. She was the first editor of the HLAS Bulletins, and for a number of years, provided the HLAS chapter with many of its monthly speakers.

Barbara serves on the Board of the American Hearing Research Foundation. She was widowed in 1981 and has a daughter, a son and four grandchildren.

## HLAS at Downtown Sarasota Farmers Market

### Saturday May 26 - 7 AM to 1 PM

Our monthly information and support booth offers an opportunity for people to learn how to address their hearing loss. If you have a friend who needs help and cannot make one of our

meetings, please suggest they visit us here. Our booth is normally on Lemon Avenue on the west side, one block North of Main.

## **Hearing Loss Association of America Convention in Providence**

David G. Myers, Ph.D. will be the keynote speaker at the 2012 HLAA Convention on June 20-24. Dr. Myers, a social psychologist at Hope College in Holland, Michigan is the driving force for the greater use of hearing loop technology in the United States. He is the leader of the campaign, "Let's Loop America".

The convention will have a multitude of educational workshops; a special presentation by John Hopkins University entitled "How the Brain Makes Sense of the World of Sound" as well as over 50 companies in the Exhibit Hall showing the cutting edge technology to improve our quality of life."

If you have the occasion to be visiting or returning to the northeast this summer, be sure to schedule a visit to this convention, if even for a day to take advantage of the exhibits information.

Flo, Joan, Ed and several other HLAS members will be there to assist in making the attendance an enjoyable experience.

Details on registration, accommodations at the host hotel, The Westin can be found at [www.hearingloss.org](http://www.hearingloss.org).

## **May is Better Hearing Month- Get a Free Screening or Repair**

For Better Hearing Month, the Silverstein Institute is offering free hearing screenings and free in-house repairs on hearing aids. An appointment can be scheduled at 941-951-0440. Watch your e-mail of other offers as we learn of them.

## **Humor of the Month**

An 85 year-old man who was hard of hearing went to the Doctor to get a physical. A few days later the Dr. saw the man walking down the street with a gorgeous young lady on his arm.

A couple of days later the Dr. talked to the man and said, "You're really doing great, aren't you?"

The man replied, "Just doing what you said Doctor, 'Get a hot mamma and be cheerful."

The Doctor said, "I didn't say that. I said you got a heart murmur. Be careful."

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