

Let's Loop Tucson Update – January 2013

By Lou "Loopin Lou" Touchette

This past year saw a tremendous increase in the "Looping" movement across the country. Patterning after our "Let's Loop Tucson" initiative, Seattle Washington has followed our lead. I was invited to be a guest speaker at their kickoff event in April along with a follow-up appearance in August. Santa Barbara California has similarly followed suit. Meanwhile here at home Charles Spencer, Skip Spackeen and I have continued full steam ahead with looping of various venues. Home installations continue to keep us busy as well. I continue to give looping demonstrations and/or presentations upon request. I also continue to teach Loop Installation classes to those who wish to do installations. To be scheduled for a class, contact Loretta in the ALOHA office (520) 795-9887 or info@alohaaz.org.

A large area loop installer Rob Clarke of Tech-Unique in Phoenix recently looped the Loft Movie Theaters in Tucson. Most other theaters in Tucson and Green Valley have come on board by providing both Audio and Visual enhancements to aid deaf and hard of hearing patrons. When patrons connect their neckloops to the audio receivers they are in essence, "In the Loop" because telecoil equipped hearing aids provide the same pristine sound as found in the full room looped venues. Those who don't have telecoils can simply use headphones to hear. If that isn't enough, some theaters have open captioning while others use a cup holder reader that can be positioned under the movie screen.

Local newspaper and radio coverage of our efforts continue. Several recent articles can be read on-line at:

1. http://www.gvnews.com/news/local/in-the-loop-hearing-aid-technology-grows-but-are-you/article_662f2d1e-2566-11e2-b95a-0019bb2963f4.html (***In the loop: Hearing aid technology grows (but are you using it?*** Posted: Sunday, November 4, 2012 5:27 am).
2. Another article "**Loud and Clear**" provides a wonderful coverage of theaters and use of hearing assist devices is at http://www.gvnews.com/sahuarita_sun/news/theaters-offer-deaf-hard-of-hearing-a-better-experience/article_4424f164-59ea-11e2-adf4-001a4bcf887a.html

