

Exciting Happenings at The Hearing Place

By Pat Fournier BC-HIS

Mike Michel Joins Our Staff

We are pleased to add Mervin "Mike" Michel to our staff. He started dispensing hearing aids in 1977 in Olympia, Washington. During the 18 years he operated that office he served as President of the Washington Hearing Aid Society, served on the Board of Directors of the Tri-State Hearing Convention, and taught Hearing Aid Technology at Bates Technical College in Tacoma, WA.



He also studied tinnitus at the Kresge Labs in Portland, OR. In 1991 he was appointed by Washington Governor, Booth Gardiner, to the Washington Council of Hearing Aids. In 1995 Mike sold his Olympia office and "retired". He was called to work in several offices around Washington until he had a family need in Montana.

He became a licensed Hearing Aid Specialist in Montana and has been serving the public in that capacity for the last 4 years. He was just appointed by Governor Schweitzer to fill a vacancy on the Montana Board of Hearing Aid Dispensers, our regulating body.

Mike's extensive technical experience is backed by his personal caring for his patients and genuine empathy for hearing loss. He has a hearing loss and has worn hearing aids for a number of years.

Mike is single, but he has a significant other. He enjoys hunting and fishing as well as dancing at the Elks, Eagles, Moose and wherever there is good music.

Mike specializes in Starkey products but has experience working with our other brands as well. His addition to our staff means there is always a licensed expert dispenser in the office to handle affairs while I am out of the office traveling to our remote service centers and appointments.

Starkey Launches S series



Starkey Hearing Laboratories has launched a new hearing aid product line called the "S" series. I don't know what the "S" stands for, but this is truly a superior group of new hearing aids. They come in all models from the tiny CICs to large full shells.



Receiver in Canal
(RIC)



Completely in Canal
(CIC)

They have improved their directional microphones and even improved their feedback control (no whistling) which was already the best in the industry.

They also have automatic switching (so you don't have to fiddle with a hearing aid when you move to a new acoustic environment) it is improved as well. But what makes this group of hearing aids truly impressive is its remote control.

Starkey has never offered a remote control with their hearing aids. They have been the only major manufacturer not to do so. Now they have, but you don't have to buy it. You already have it! You use your own telephone to change the volume or the focus program! The hearing aid recognizes the tones played by your phone's numeric keyboard and you adjust your hearing aid! You don't have to worry about forgetting your remote you can use any touch tone phone.



YES you actually can control your Hearing Aids with your cell phone or push button home phone.

Mike has been back to the Starkey factory to receive training on this product line back in May. This June, Mike and I received more training on the sophisticated software. We learn so we can do a better job fitting you. I will be going to Starkey in August to receive my factory training. Come into our office or call to get your demonstration of these exciting new hearing aids.