



## **April 2020    Volume 21, Issue 4**

**April Meeting: Cancelled**

**May Meeting?**

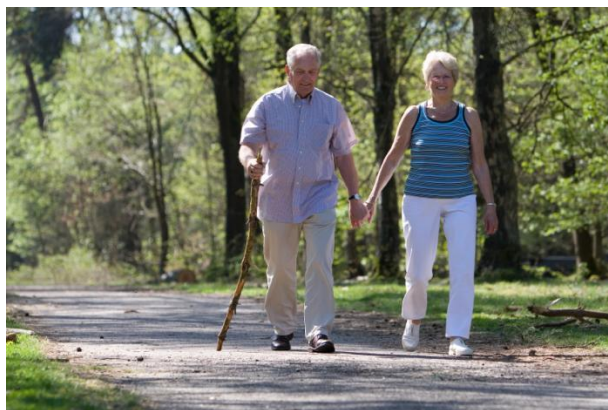
We are waiting to see how the fight against the Covid19 virus progresses.

We are hoping to know more when it's time to send out the May newsletter.

The Annual Integris Hispanic Health Fair, originally scheduled for April 18, 2020 at Moore Norman Tech Center has been postponed.

See **page 3** for more plans for future HLA activities.

We hope that all of our dear and wonderful members, friends and families stay safe and healthy!



**Any personal news, articles, etc., to be included in the newsletter are due by the 15th of the month!**

Email the editor, Elaine: [elains@cox.net](mailto:elains@cox.net)

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## OUR MISSION

The Mission of the Oklahoma City Hearing Loss Association is to open the world of communication to people with hearing loss by providing information, education, support and advocacy.

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*Volunteer: a person who performs a service willingly and without pay.*

**Good friends are like stars. You don't always see them, but you know they're always there.**

**Want to volunteer? Contact Venice Meade at [vmegade1@cox.net](mailto:vmegade1@cox.net), (405) 537-4907. We welcome you to join us!**

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# Thank You!

Thank you to everyone who has given me tips, advice, material and suggestions for the newsletter. The newsletter is very much a team project!

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### HLA Board Members

Charles Chastain, [c-chastain@sbcglobal.net](mailto:c-chastain@sbcglobal.net)  
Ana Covey, [okhearingloss@gmail.com](mailto:okhearingloss@gmail.com), Board Chairperson  
Pat Fennell, [pbreilh@att.net](mailto:pbreilh@att.net)  
Sylvia Frank, [sylviafrank43@gmail.com](mailto:sylviafrank43@gmail.com)  
Ron Hendricks, [ron-gmi@swbell.net](mailto:ron-gmi@swbell.net), Treasurer  
Sharon Hendricks, [sharonok@swbell.net](mailto:sharonok@swbell.net)  
Elaine Lains, [elains@cox.net](mailto:elains@cox.net), Editor  
Nancy Landrum, [nanlan@cox.net](mailto:nanlan@cox.net)  
Bob Quatro, [quatorora@cox.net](mailto:quatorora@cox.net)

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## *Looking Forward*

### **April Meeting**

**Third Thursday - April 16th: Cancelled**

### **May Meeting?**

We are waiting to see how the fight against the Covid19 virus progresses. We are hoping to know more when it's time to send out the May newsletter.

### **June and July:**

We usually do not have regular meetings in June and July. In the past we have had a game night and bingo night.

In the more recent past, we went on interesting "field trips" as a group.

Currently, we do not have firm plans for June and July.

This is an unusually uncertain time, but by the time we send out the May newsletter, we will try to have more information.

## **August**

### **Ice Cream Social!**

(We are assuming the pandemic will be at an end, but if it isn't, we will let you know of the cancellation.)

**When:** Sunday, August 3, from 2 to 4pm

**Where:** Will Rogers Gardens Exhibition Center, 3400 N.W. 36th St., Oklahoma City 73112

Bring your favorite ice cream, or cookies, or your favorite treat!



**BETHESDA, MD, December 31, 2019:**

HLAA, the nation's leading nonprofit organization representing people with hearing loss, is proud to partner with American Girl, the inspiring world of dolls and a subsidiary of Mattel. HLAA and American Girl are teaming up in honor of the company's \*2020 Girl of the Year, Joss Kendrick.

Hearing Loss Association of America partners with American Girl® to increase Education and Awareness of Hearing Loss. American Girl Donates \$25,000 to Support Hearing Loss Association of America in Honor of its 2020 Girl of the Year™, Joss Kendrick.

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When the Pandemic is over, visit the **Faye Donalson Hearing Helper Demonstration Room (HHR)** at 5100 N. Brookline, Suite 100. Assistive listening devices, sonic boom alarm clocks, telephones (also for visually impaired), bed shakers, smoke alarms, and more are available for **demo and short-term loan**.

**Hours are Mon-Fri 10am to 3pm.**

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**April Birthday**

*Linda Bryant*

**Happy Birthday!**

Please tell us your birthday month so we can celebrate in that month's newsletter.

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*Quote of the Month*

"There's nothing I believe more than this, that laughter adds time to one's life."

TV producer Norman Lear, age 97

(This quote appeared in the January/February 2020 AARP Bulletin.)

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Share the newsletter! Someone with hearing loss, their family member or friend may find just the answer or encouragement they need.

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Dear HLAA Community,

Let me start by saying that we are thinking about you and your family during this tough time. We were all surprised by this new threat and the board was sad to announce the cancellation of the member meetings in March and April. Please know that just like the National HLAA, we remain committed to our mission here in Oklahoma: to open the world of communication to people with hearing loss by providing information, education, support and advocacy. We will decide about future meetings and let you know through a press releases and online posts.

We have grown our member meetings into fun social events filled with great conversation and support. Social groups all over the state have cancelled and many churches have temporarily postponed services. Many of us who live with hearing loss are not new to isolation. We often feel excluded from conversations because of background noise and get so frustrated trying to decipher dialogue on the TV that we sometimes tune out making isolation even worse. I want you to know that we are here for you. Please reach out to us online anytime through the following ways:

• **Reach us through Facebook: @oklahearingloss**

Our Facebook page is the place to be for the most current update and information. We encourage our professional members to share their hearing loss information and we love to see your comments. Please share our Facebook page and posts with anyone who has hearing loss or a has a family member with hearing loss. We encourage

• **Reach us through our website at: [oklahomahearingloss.org](http://oklahomahearingloss.org)**

Our website is being updated weekly and will be the best spot for hearing loss help. There is a link to the national HLAA as well which is working with experts to help our members stay informed. Don't forget to share our scholarship page with any high school or college age kids with hearing loss. The deadline has been extended to May 20th this year.

• **Reach us directly through email at: [okhearingloss@gmail.com](mailto:okhearingloss@gmail.com)**

This is my direct email and I encourage you to email me anytime. I would love to hear your favorite stories about your family or what you are doing to keep busy. I would also love to hear your own hearing loss journey or the funny (or not so funny) situations where your hearing loss has affected you. I believe community is built on conversation and I'm all ears!

I also wanted to mention a few things that my mom and I are doing in regards to this Coronavirus:

• Our family is choosing to practice social distancing which is really hard. We talk on the phone much more to each other speaking clearly and slowly. We also have "front porch visits" where my parents stay safe inside and talk through the screen door. Our additional family rule is that everything, including food packaging, gets wiped down before coming in the house. I hope you too are practicing social distancing especially with family and friends who are still working.

• Many seniors have been targeted lately with scams claiming to provide money, medication or cures for the Coronavirus. Please do not be fooled. I encourage my mother to say "Please send it to me in writing" and then hang up. If they really know you, then they already have your address- so don't give it to them or verify it for them. Always tell your family or friends as well as your bank, doctor or pharmacist if you receive a strange call or letter.

• Many grocery stores are offering special hours for seniors when the shelves are sure to be stocked and the store much less busy. Some stores are choosing to not to have senior hours to ensure that seniors aren't grouping together at the same time either. All Buy For Less Stores, Smart Saver stores, Sermercados, and Uptown Grocers have senior hours from 7:00am-8:00am. Crest stores are open 24 hours and do not have specific senior hours, but I spoke to several stores who said morning hours are best if you want to avoid crowds. Grocery stores can't really predict busy times, so just remember that you if you get to a parking lot and it's packed, just come back later.

If you have other ideas for staying safe, please let me know at [okhearingloss.org](http://okhearingloss.org). Stay inside and stay safe!

Sincerely,

Ana Covey, Chair



# 2020 HEARING LOSS SCHOLARSHIP

- ✓ UNIVERSITY
- ✓ CAREER TRAINING
- ✓ COLLEGE
- ✓ POST HIGH-SCHOOL  
INSTITUTION OF LEARNING

**APPLICATION  
DEADLINE:  
MAY 20, 2020**

Go to our website at [Oklomahearingloss.org](http://Oklomahearingloss.org) for complete rules and information.

Complete Application must be received by May 20, 2020 before midnight to qualify.

- 1 The Hearing Loss Association of America Central Oklahoma Chapter will award scholarships in the amount of \$1,500 to residents of Oklahoma who will be attending an Oklahoma institution of higher education(\*) the fall of 2020.
- 2 Submit an essay consisting of 1,000 – 3,000 words expressing your goals and telling your story of how hearing loss has affected your life
- 3 **Download application from [OklomaHearingLoss.org](http://OklomaHearingLoss.org)**

Contact **Scholarship Chair Sharon Hendricks** at [sharonok@swbell.net](mailto:sharonok@swbell.net)

The Mission of the Oklahoma City Hearing Loss Association is to open the world of communication to people with hearing loss by providing information, education, support and advocacy.





The Hearing Loss Association of America Central Oklahoma Chapter will award scholarships in the amount of \$1,500 to residents of Oklahoma who will be attending an Oklahoma institution of higher education(\*) the fall of 2020.

The applicant must:

- Present documentation of hearing loss; such as a copy of an audiogram or letter from a qualified professional (AuD or ENT)
- Provide copy of birth certificate or valid state ID, etc.
- Be resident of Oklahoma and submit residence address and phone number
- Submit a transcript or other document showing GPA
- Submit a copy of the Oklahoma institution of higher education's(\*) acceptance letter
- Agree to allow HLAACOC use of name & photo
- Submit completed application in writing by MAY 20, 2020
- Submit an essay consisting of 1,000 – 3,000 words expressing your goals and telling your story of how hearing loss has affected your life
- Agree to an interview of the Scholarship Selection Committee
- One application per student
- Scholarship recipients are selected by a Scholarship Selection Committee
- Recipient will be notified in writing
- Recipient must be willing to attend the August HLAACOC meeting to receive the scholarship certificate
- Funds may be used for tuition, fees and book expenses with scholarship funds paid directly to the institution
- Submit an article to be published about how the scholarship has benefitted you by January 11, 2021.

(\*) Higher education is defined as university, college, career training, or post-high school institution of learning



The Hearing Loss Association of America Central Oklahoma Chapter will award scholarships in the amount of \$1,500 to residents of Oklahoma who will be attending an Oklahoma institution of higher education(\*) the fall of 2020.

## Application for HLAA Central Oklahoma Chapter's Scholarship

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parents name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address (City, State, Zip): \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Institution attending: \_\_\_\_\_

Applications must be submitted in writing prior to **May 20** 2020 and mailed to:  
HLAA Central Oklahoma Chapter  
PO Box 42801  
Oklahoma City, OK 73123

**or delivered in person Monday through Friday 10AM -3PM to:**

Hearing Helpers Room  
5100 N Brookline, Suite 100  
Oklahoma City, OK 73112

Required Attachments:

Essay

Copy of audiogram or letter from an Audiologist or ENT

Transcript(s)

Copy of birth certificate or valid state issued ID





## **Honoring Nancy**

by Sharon Hendricks

Nancy Landrum is retiring from our Hearing Helpers Room effective March 31, 2020 after 28 1/2 years of volunteer service! Incidentally, she also has volunteered for about 48 years with the Integris Hospital.

For those of you who have visited the HHR, you know how helpful it can be! Although Nancy gives full credit for the vision of the Hearing Helpers Room to its founder, Faye Donalson, she was instrumental in making that vision come to life. After Faye's passing, Nancy took over as the Director and has kept the vision alive. She has been responsible for coordinating the scheduling of all health fairs and public awareness presentations. She has faithfully volunteered on "her day" to work each week and conducted monthly staff meetings for the volunteers. She has worked through several moves that the Hearing Helpers Room has made in those years. She has worked tirelessly to keep the clients and volunteers informed.

Her heart warms when she is able to help someone struggling with their specific hearing loss problem, whether it is with hearing over a telephone or television, or if the difficulty lies in hearing in large groups. Her career was in teaching and certainly the heart of the teacher comes out during her demonstrations. Many people have benefitted from her help.

Although we hate to see her leave the HHR, she certainly deserves a break. Nancy will continue her efforts with our chapter of HLAA-COC, so we will continue to enjoy her smiling face at meetings and outings with the group. ###

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## Change of Address - Mail or Email

Please let us know, so you can continue to receive the newsletter and other publications from the HLA Central Oklahoma Chapter. See page 2 for people to contact.

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The **Hearing Loss Association of America Central Oklahoma Chapter (HLAA-COC)** newsletter is published monthly by the Central Oklahoma Chapter. The views and ideas expressed herein are those of the editor and staff of the Hearing Loss Association of Central Oklahoma and may not always reflect those of Hearing Loss Association of America. For further information: Write to our chapter address: PO Box 42801, OKC, OK 73123.

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### *HLAA Local Website and Forum*

Visit [www.okchearingloss.org](http://www.okchearingloss.org) to view maps and schedules for our local chapter meetings and special events. Read about the services offered by the *Faye Donalson Hearing Helpers Room*. Visit [http://groups.yahoo.com/group/OKC\\_HLAA](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/OKC_HLAA) for the OKC-HLAA forum. Sharon Hendricks is our webmaster. We welcome your feedback and comments on our websites. For the Facebook page, search in the Facebook search box for **Hearing Loss Association of Central Oklahoma**.

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## Hearing Loss Association of America

If you are not yet a member of National HLAA, you are encouraged to join and take advantage of their services. The bimonthly Hearing Loss Magazine is full of treasures for anyone with hearing loss or the family and friends of such.

Founded in 1979, the Hearing Loss Association of America (HLAA), is the nation's foremost advocacy organization for people with hearing loss. It opens the world of communication to people with hearing loss through information, education, advocacy and support.

Information can be found at [www.hearingloss.org](http://www.hearingloss.org). The national headquarters is located at 7910 Woodmont Avenue, Suite 1200, Bethesda, MD 20814.

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**!! THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS !!**

**Our thanks to these sponsors for supporting the Hearing Loss Association - Central Oklahoma Chapter. Your support of our organization and its programs is greatly treasured.**

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BRONZE

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**Mail your support of an annual tax deductible donation to:  
*Hearing Loss Association of Central Oklahoma, Chapter Treasurer, PO Box 42801,  
Oklahoma City, OK 73123.***

**Platinum Level: \$500**

**Gold Level: \$250-\$499**

**Silver Level: \$100-\$249**

**Bronze Level: \$50-\$99**

**New Membership or Renewal:** Bring to a chapter meeting or mail to:  
Hearing Loss Association of America Central Oklahoma Chapter  
PO Box 42801, Oklahoma City, OK 73123

Please Print Clearly:

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Birthday Month \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

New to Hearing Loss Association – Central Oklahoma Chapter

Preference for your newsletter delivery:

email  Postal Mail

Are you a member of HLAA – National?  Yes  No

Annual chapter dues: \$10.00 per individual or \$15.00 per family.

Contributions are tax deductible. Amount of donation \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Membership is based on the calendar year: January through December.

**JOIN TODAY!**