



May 2018 Volume 19, Issue 5

COME TO THE MOST INTERESTING MEETINGS IN OKLAHOMA CITY!

Evening Group: (Monthly) Second Monday; Lakeside Methodist Church, 2925 NW 66th Street, OKC, OK. Social period- 6:30 PM; Meeting- 7:00 PM. **May 14**

Speaker: Dr. Marcia Moore

Day Group: (Monthly) Third Thursday; Lakeside Methodist Church, 2925 NW 66th Street, OKC, OK. Social period - 1:00 PM; Meeting- 1:30 PM. **May 17**

Speaker: Eva Saffer, Audiologist (retired).

Topic: Telecoils

Meetings are **free!** **Everyone is welcome.** Bring someone with you. Come to any or all meetings. We look forward to meeting you!

Summer Activities!

Monday, June 11, 6:30pm: Instead of a meeting, Bingo Night! Please bring inexpensive white elephant gifts as prizes, and a donation of \$1.50 per person to help with the cost of the food.

July 9, 6:30pm Free Heart Healthy Cooking class at the Oklahoma Heart Hospital, at 4050 W. Memorial Rd, Oklahoma City 73120. Meet in the lobby.

RSVP! Space in this class is limited. Email to Ana Covey, ana@assist2hear.com, if you wish to sign up.

We will taste some great recipes and HEAR how to cook them. The room will have a hearing loop!

Fernando Acuna, of the Oklahoma Heart Hospital, is proud to invite the Central Oklahoma Chapter of the Hearing Loss Association to a private cooking show experience! Mr. Acuna is the Executive Chef and Director of Dietary at the North and the South Oklahoma Heart Hospital locations. He is also one of two certified Pritikin chefs in the state and has been in the food service business since the age of 15. He created the menu for the Oklahoma Heart Hospital, and, over the years, has also worked with some of the best chefs in the US to create many recipes for the American Heart Association.

His passion now is to make his patients healthier by teaching them to cook and eat using methods that can actually help reverse their heart disease or any other heart issues they may have. This event will be in lieu of our normal July meeting.

Saturday, August 4, 2pm-4pm: Ice Cream Social! Please bring either ice cream or cookies to share. We will be awarding our scholarships to the chosen recipients.

Best door prize ever!: The hearing aid company, GN Resound, is donating a pair of Linx 3D 9 hearing aids in whichever model the lucky recipient needs. This would be a \$6,100.00 value.

Becky Young, a C.A.R.T. operator, attends each of our chapter meetings to assist with our “listening skills”. The text of the speaker is projected onto the white wall, enabling everyone to read what is being said.

The group meetings are places where it is okay not to hear well.

Pati Burns	Evening Group Chair	548-4311
Pat Fennell	Day Group Chair	816-8408
Ron Hendricks	Treasurer	721-0757
Elaine Lains	Editor	317-5377

Any personal news, articles, etc., to be included in the newsletter are due by the 3rd Thursday of the month!

Email the editor (Elaine) at tlains@sbcglobal.net

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



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.

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.



HLAA Local Website and Forum

Visit 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 for the OKC-HLAA forum. Sharon Hendricks is our webmaster. We welcome your feedback and comments on our websites.



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 vmeade1@cox.net, 794-0240 or 537-4907.** We welcome you to join us!

Quote of the Month

It is not he who gains the exact point who scores most in controversy, but he who has shown the better temper. *Samuel Butler*

A photograph of a field of yellow daffodils in full bloom, with green grass and a blurred background of trees and sky.

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. The national headquarters is located at 7910 Woodmont Avenue, Suite 1200, Bethesda, MD 20814.

Quote by founder Rocky Stone: "*Hearing loss is a daily challenge you can overcome. You do not have to hide your hearing loss. You do not have to face hearing loss alone.*"



[April 5, 2018](#)

[The Power of a Mother's Advocacy](#)

[Hearing Loss & Tinnitus](#), [Hearing Loss Resources](#)

By Vicky Chan

Like most moms, Brandy has always been a champion for her three sons, Anthony, 12, Andersyn, 10, and Ayden, 7. Her sons are unlike most sons; each has bilateral sensorineural hearing loss and enlarged vestibular aqueduct syndrome.

Brandy's journey as a parent-advocate had a difficult start. She was completely unfamiliar with hearing loss in children before she became a mother, and accessing proper treatment for the trio was a challenge. Brandy juggled numerous audiologist appointments that were a five-hour round-trip drive from home. And, for her oldest child, Anthony, a hearing loss diagnosis came two years delayed.

Anthony had typical speech development and passed all his first- and second-year wellness and hearing checks by his pediatrician. When he was 2, Anthony fell and hit his head. Brandy suspected the trauma had caused either hearing loss or a cognitive disorder, but the doctors assured her Anthony suffered no permanent damage and took no action for him.

Brandy's instincts were correct. When her second child, Andersyn, was diagnosed with hearing loss at birth a few months after Anthony's head injury, she insisted Anthony receive a detailed hearing evaluation. Born in 2005, Anthony never received a newborn screening despite the passage of the Newborn and Infant Hearing Screening and Intervention Act of 1999, which mandated the practice.

The legislation quickly improved the rate of newborn hearing screening. In 2005, 94.2% of babies in the U.S. were screened, but some states lagged behind. In Tennessee, where all

three of Brandy's sons were born, only 66.9% of newborns were tested—the lowest in the nation. Unfortunately, Anthony was among the 30.1% of Tennessee's babies not screened. However, by Andersyn's birth in 2007, the state's rate increased to 91%. It was only due to Brandy's perseverance that Anthony was ultimately given a comprehensive exam, diagnosed with severe bilateral hearing loss, and fitted for hearing aids.

Brandy's message is that newborn screening is vital. "If your child has hearing loss, it is best to start intervention as soon as possible and have your child fitted for hearing aids or cochlear implants if they need them."

With his hearing aids, Anthony was fascinated by all the new sounds he could hear—including the squishy sound of Brandy's flip-flops as the pair walked through a parking lot. At that moment, Brandy realized it was likely that Anthony, like Andersyn, was born with hearing loss, but it only became detectable to her after his head injury.

Andersyn was given a newborn hearing test so Brandy knew immediately that he had severe bilateral hearing loss. Later on, one audiologist suggested he wasn't benefiting from his hearing aids, but Brandy knew differently; with Andersyn's hearing aids turned up, a sound as subtle as crinkling paper near his ears would startle him. Andersyn now does exceptionally well with hearing aids, as does Brandy's third and youngest child, Ayden, who was also born with severe hearing loss in both ears. The boys' doctors have cited a genetic connection of unknown cause.

Today, hearing loss is an ordinary part of life for her three boys, thanks to Brandy's tireless advocacy. With help from FM systems and speech therapy, Anthony, Andersyn, and Ayden all receive a mainstream education. They enjoy baseball, basketball, hunting, swimming, riding four wheelers, and fishing. HHF's CEO, Nadine Dehgan, exclaims, "All three boys are incredibly fortunate to have Brandy, a devoted mother who has prioritized their hearing health."

The Hearing Loss Association of America, Central Oklahoma Chapter, offers a hearing friendly and 'safe' place for those with a hearing loss to learn more about living successfully in a hearing world -- and to have some fun. Visit the website to learn more: www.okcHearingLoss.org.

**A Thank You Note to the
Hearing Loss Association, Central Oklahoma Chapter
From Riley McElwain.**

Riley was one of 2017's
scholarship recipients:

Hello, Hearing Loss Association,

I am extremely thankful for the scholarship that you all have given to me last year. I just wanted to send you an update on how I am doing in school and what my future looks like. School has been wonderful! I am learning so much and even more than I can



imagine. Last semester has been a very successful semester. I received a 4.0, was accepted to the honors college, on the honors roll, became a member of Delta Delta Delta Sorority, and a member of the Human Sciences Student Council. I am making wonderful friendships and learning a lot of who I am as a person and what I want to do in the future. This summer I have the opportunity to work at a summer camp called New Life Ranch. I will be a camp counselor for half of the summer and in the kitchen for the other half. I am really excited to see what the Lord has in store for this camp this summer.

Thank you guys for all your love and support. I am praying that you all had a wonderful year.

Sincerely,

Riley McElwain

(and go Pokes!)

Grapevine News



- From Wanda Evans: I am moving to Bethany when my house sells, hopefully soon!
- From Vernice Meade: Shari Richard and I attended a Cochlear Advocate training session in Dallas, Texas at the end of March. It was a 2-day session, and very interesting.
- Sylvia Frank and Robert Prest are going to Shreveport, LA, on May 11, 12 and 13 to visit Sylvia's daughter and her family. It will be a special Mother's Day on Sunday the 13th.
- In 2 short months, the Burns family will officially have a daughter (in law) in their family. We are thrilled to finally see our son, Parker, marry his high school sweetheart, Caitlyn, on June 8th. They met on Bus #5 when they were 5 years old! It's also hard to believe that our youngest son, Owen, will be a senior at OSU and only needs 24 hours to graduate. He is doing an internship with the Oklahoma City Dodgers during the baseball season at the Bricktown Ball Park. If you see a cute, blond-haired, blue-eyed young man with a huge smile and even larger enthusiasm, that's Owen!
- Sharon Hendricks took her grandchildren, Deacon and Tiegan, to the zoo. We had a grand time. We found the new red pandas (not related to the giant

pandas). We saw a flock of beautiful pink flamingos, and sought out and located the Okapis. They are a cousin to the zebra - a very interesting animal.

- Nancy Landrum: The teacher walk-out gave grandmas some unexpected time with their grandkids. Nancy had the pleasure of having her 8-year-old great-grandson, Jayce Young, with her for five days. They kept very busy going to the Science Museum, the Lake Hefner Children's Park, the movie "Sherlock Gnome", and even a Hearing Helper meeting with Grandma. They also made Jello; Jayce likes Jello, and they used up every box Grandma had on hand.
- Hearing Helpers staff enjoyed a week-long retreat in Branson, MO in March. The Hearing Helpers room was closed for the week while the volunteers enjoyed shows and other attractions. The most spectacular show was "Samson," which was based on the story of Samson in the Old Testament. The stage was enormous with huge props: rock formations, waterfalls, dwellings, a temple with pillars, all of which could be rotated around or out of view. Some of the features went beyond the stage and up the sides of the theater itself. Different songs were sung at certain parts of the play, and the actors all had very good singing voices. The Hearing Helpers went to one other show in Branson, which consisted of a musical review of the hit songs recorded by the group "The Four Seasons."

Pati Burns' Cream Cheese Dip Recipe (which has been a popular snack at the Evening Group meetings):

2 packages of cream cheese

1 can of Rotel Diced Tomatoes and Green Chiles

1 cup of cooked sausage.

Heat all ingredients in sauce pan and serve with tortilla chips.



**Kim Terry: Excellent Speaker at the HLAA_COC Day Group Meeting
April 19th**

Kim Terry, Marketing Director with the Oklahoma City Metro Library System enlightened all the attendees at the Day Group meeting about the many services the Metro Library System has to offer.

Libraries have undergone many important changes in the last fifteen years. They've gone digital! We can still go to the library as usual and browse for a book to borrow, but we can also go to the Metro Library's website, search for, and download books:

www.metrolibrary.org.

Explore the website and see the ebooks, audio books, magazines, and movies available for download. Members can download up to 10 books.

If a member still wants a physical book, but cannot always get to the library, once a month a newsletter is posted with a list of books that can be delivered through the Library's mail service.

Check with individual libraries to see what classes are offered, e.g. Tai Chi, Wellness, Genealogy, Spanish classes, Essential Oils, etc.

Most of the Metro libraries offer computer access to the internet. At the Warr Acres library, members can check out a Kindle Fire and use it as a hot spot for their own internet access.

In addition to the Metro Library System website, anyone can see the Library on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.

Check it out, and become a member of the Library!

About Town

Men's Health Fair

June 9th, 2018, 9:00am to 12:00pm

Metro Technology Centers - Springlake

Senior Day at the Fair

Wednesday, September 19, 8am - 5pm

Modern Living Building at the State Fair Grounds

Seniors have free admission at that time, but you will still have to pay for parking.

Hearing Helpers Recognition

Thursday, 2 – 5pm, Friday, September 7, 2018, Open House starting at 10am

We will be celebrating the 20th anniversary of the Hearing Helpers Room.





CHECK IT OUT!

Apps for your iPhone or Android

<http://www.captionfish.com/theaters/cinemark-tinseltown-usa-oklahoma-city>



- Cinemark Tinseltown—6001 N. MLK Blvd, OKC 73111
- Harkins at Bricktown
- Regal Spotlight Stadium 14 in Norman —Sony Glasses
- Starplex West End Pointe 8 in Yukon
- Warren Theater in Moore -Sony Glasses
- AMC Northpark Mall
- AMC Quail Springs Cinema 24 Theater—Quail Springs Mall
- AMC Penn Square Mall
- AMC Crossroads Mall
- AMC Springs Mall West

!! 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.

Platinum: Cochlear Americas, Hearts for Hearing, Hough Hearing and Speech Center, Integris Community Health Improvement, OG&E Energy Corp, Oklahoma ABLE Tech, Ramona Virgin, Hearts for Hearing

Gold: Nancy Landrum

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Sylvia Frank, Dave & Barbara Goodman, Sharon & Ron Hendricks, K. R. & Lois Hornbrook, Don & Joyce Keel, Terry L. Mock, Marcia S. Moore, Oklahoma Hearing Solutions, Suzanne & Bill Parker, John Rider, Marion Thompson, Young Reporting Services

Bronze: Pati Burns, Vernice Meade, Leon Nelson, Harold Simons, Ruth Louise Wallace

Mail your support of an annual tax deductible donation to:

Hearing Loss Association of Central Oklahoma, Chapter Treasurer
PO Box 4280
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!