# Hear's the News

The Official Newsletter of the Iowa Hearing Association

*Summer 2015* 

### Mark Your Calendar



### IHS Conference

September 10-12, 2015 Orlando, FL

## IHA Fall Conference

Sept. 25-26, 2015 Sheraton West Des Moines, IA

## **IHA Spring Conference**

April 15-16, 2016 Sheraton West Des Moines, IA

Mark your calendars now and plan to attend

### From the President's Pen

As I was sitting down trying to write this letter, I started to research again the most current issues affecting our field. Really, I didn't have to go much further than my email blasts. I was a bit overwhelmed by messages from IHS, ADA, ASHA, AO-HNS, CMS, and more. The field changes at a mind-boggling rate now and it can be overwhelming to try to keep up with issues. Still, it is important for all of us to be mindful of technology, legislation and service



delivery models changes that will affect how we move forward as a field.

Probably the most rapidly expanding innovation in hearing aids is wireless. Remember when wireless only meant binaural coordination of volume control or a fancy way to talk about a T-coil? Now it means better core processing within hearing aids, with abilities to better locate, isolate and follow dominant speech signals. It also means additional benefit via accessories. Now, I find myself immersed in a steep learning curve with accessories and "apps". I even find myself asking patients for training at times! With teamwork, it is possible to get a handle on all of this. Of course, we must work to continue to educate ourselves for the betterment of our patients. Wireless is the new standard already!

As legislative chair, I also find myself trying to better understand political agendas. It is a challenge to digest legislative language and really decipher where local and national memberships stand on issues. By the fall meeting, I plan to provide a more detailed summary of such legislation and stances. Also, based on survey results from the Spring 2015 conference, IHA has decided not to pursue changes in requirements for dispensing license at this time. Please continue to provide your input on such matters. The IHA board is here to represent whatever is in the best cooperative benefit of both our audiology and hearing instrument dispensing members.

Finally, the very landscape of hearing aid delivery is changing.....fast. People can obtain hearing aids through hospitals, private clinics, franchises, "big box" stores and even online. We must continue to

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## Spring 2015 Conference Exhibitors

A thank you goes to all exhibitors at our Spring Conference.

They enhance our conference with introductions to updated products, knowledge of specialized areas, fun door prizes and sponsorship of our reception.

**Advanced Bionics** 

**Audiology Systems** 

**CaptionCall** 

**Cochlear Americas** 

Hearing Access Solutions

Midwest Special Instruments

ReSound

Rexton

Siemens

**Starkey** 

Unitron

**Widex USA** 

#### From the President's Pen

Continued from page 1

navigate these changes in service delivery, being respectful of professionals who practice from a different approach. After all, it really is about ethics, right? Any of these service delivery models are viable if we continue to keep the patient's best interests at heart first. There is no one service delivery model that is totally right or wrong, as long as we keep the SERVICE as the focus.

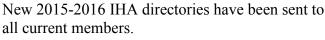
We all provide great technology, but it is the aftercare and lifelong support of our patients that really makes a difference. There is a place for all of us. In fact, 75% of hearing impaired people out there are unaided. We need to better educate, advocate and protect these patients in order for our field to grow. We can no longer think about our colleagues as competitors, but as representatives to enhance the stature of our field in general. Enjoy the rest of your summer! Remember, education leads to action! Thank you for your continued support in your IHA membership and conference attendance. Now excuse me, I have to get back to my emails.

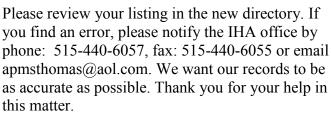
Monica Duve, AuD, IHA President

### **Board of Directors Positions**

The annual election of officers will take place at the Fall Conference to be held September 25 - 26, 2015. If you are interested in submitting your name on the ballot for the board election of officers, call the association office at 515-440-6057 and let Bev Thomas know.

## **Directory Update**







## **IHA Spring Conference**

April 9-11, 2015

Sheraton Hotel, West Des Moines, IA







## Welcome New Members

**Lisa Kirke** West Des Moines, IA

Amy Vodon

**Amy Yoder** Charles City, IA

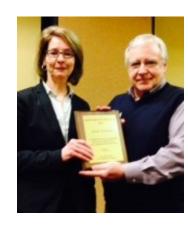
Emily Gutzmann Storm Lake, IA

> **Deb Rieks** Waterloo, IA

**Eric Wolvers**Des Moines, IA

Carrie Donney
Decorah, IA

Richard Drury Fremont, NE











## Anne Nerison Receives 2015 Dispenser of the Year Award

Each year at the Spring Conference a IHA member is chosen by his peers and receives the Dispenser of the Year Award. This award is presented in honor of outstanding characteristics and actions in the field of dispensing.

This years recipient of the dispenser of the year award is Anne Nerison. Anne is an audiologist who has been in private practice since 1989. Her business, Algona Hearing Center, serves Algona, Emmetsburg and Buffalo Center.

She has been a long-time member of Iowa Hearing

#### **IHA Board of Directors**

#### **President**

Monica Duve Killean Aud. & HAC 1601 52nd Ave., Ste. 6 Moline, IL 61265

#### **President Elect**

Helen Royer Beltone Hearing Aid Centers 3717 Center Point Rd. NE, Ste 200 Cedar Rapids, IA 52402

#### **Treasurer**

Steve Harrison Royer Hearing Aid Center 3717 Center Point Rd. NE, Ste 200 Cedar Rapids, IA 52402

#### Secretary

Robert Larrance Hearing Unlimited 5806 Felber Street Ames, IA 50010

#### **Past President**

Bill Fletcher Abry Hearing Aid Center 4217 Center Point Rd. Cedar Rapids, IA 52402

#### **Director at Large**

Greg Moore Moore Hearing Clinic 1317 Center Point Rd NE Ste 200 Ottumwa, IA 52501

#### **Director at Large**

Cory Popelka Miracle Ear 4330 Czech Lane, Ste. A-4 Cedar Rapids, IA 52402

#### **Director at Large**

Kent Weaver Woodard Hearing Centers 4217 University Ave. Des Moines, IA 50311

#### **Director at Large**

Annette Redman Iowa Hearing Clinics 2055 Kimball Ave., Ste. 300 Waterloo, IA 50702

#### **Executive Director**

Bev Thomas 1001 Office Park Rd., Suite 105 West Des Moines, IA 50265 515-440-6057

Association and served on the Board of Directors and also as educational committee chair.

Anne received her Doctor of Audiology degree from Arizona School of Health Sciences.

Anne was the first woman president of the Algona Kiwanis Club. She volunteers at church, with the Kossuth Animal

Rescue League and Kiwanis.

Anne is known for her loyalty and determination to do outstanding work.

Congratulations, Anne, on becoming Dispenser of the Year.



LyJ Enterprises, LLC 15402 Prairie Avenue Urbandale, Iowa 50323 Phone: 515-518-6937

Website: http://www.hearyourway.com

Email: hearyourway@gmail.com

Janice Isley, Owner & Manager of LyJ Enterprises, LLC, is profoundly deaf. Who better to assist you than someone who understands your needs.

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Ask us about our free search assistance.



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## Year End Report to IHA Members

Greetings from the Iowa Lions Hearing Aid Bank! As I write this article the fiscal year for Lions is coming to an end. Overall it has been another great year for the Hearing Aid Bank. I have been able to spread the word about this program this past year by speaking at a couple of district conventions and handing out information at others and attending the Hearing Associations spring and fall meeting. The internet has expanded our reach as I am continually getting requests from individuals across the United States. I then refer them to their state office or Lions International as we only assist individuals in Iowa. On the positive side of the web, I also receive aids from all over the US because they found our web page. www.my.iowalions.org, then go to the Foundation tab/ We Serve tab and scroll down to Hearing Aid bank or google Lions Hearing Aid Bank and follow the links.

The good news is, we are reaching more people...the bad news is, we are reaching more people. Why is that bad news you ask. I have had two offices this year decide to drop out of the program because they felt it was no longer cost effective for them as there is little to no revenue from the Lions program. I understand, but it saddens me as there are some areas of Iowa that have lost dispensers and no longer have someone in their area. If you are reading this and thinking you might be interested in becoming a dispenser for this program, please do not hesitate to contact me for information. I can be reached at

ialionshearingaidbank@gmail.com or at 319/827-1395. I'll be honest, email will be the easiest to reach me as my job takes me out of my home most of the day. As the program grows we can't afford to loose dispensers, I am open to suggestions from your organization so we can work together to provide care for those that fall through the cracks.

**Thank you** to all who have collected hearing aids...a vital part of the program! Since July 1<sup>st</sup> 2014 I have received 2072 aids from clubs, individuals and audiologist offices. Of course, not all these go into my stock. There are aids that are too old, the wrong type or unrepairable, these aids are sent for salvage. Salvage

monies are vital to the program as those funds cover the cost of repairs and refurbishing of useable aids. I usually have around 200 aids in stock for the audiologist to choose from.

Thank you to the offices that have worked with individuals and Lions clubs to provide hearing aids for them. This past fiscal year Lions across the state have helped 194 people, with 41 offices doing the dispensing. The applicants range in age from teenagers to the elderly. People that couldn't hold a job because they couldn't hear, mothers, fathers and grandparents that felt like they couldn't participate in life because they couldn't hear. WE DO MAKE A DIFFERENCE!!

Chris Waring, Iowa Lions Hearing Aid Bank Coordinator 924 Dohrmann St., Jesup Iowa 50648

## Support the Iowa Lions Hearing Aid Bank

Used hearing aids may be given to your local Lions Club or mailed to:

Iowa Lions Club c/o Chris Waring 924 Dohrmann Street Jesup, Iowa 50648

319/827-1395 ialionshearingaidbank@gmail.com

All hearing aids are accepted with sincere appreciation.

(Your donation may be considered a tax deduction.)



## Calibration at Fall Conference



What could be more convenient - you're not at work,

and your audiometer needs to be calibrated - you attend the seminars and pick up your machine when the conference is over. Remember, you are required by the State Health Department to have your audiometers calibrated once a year. Bring your audiometers to the fall conference.

## Plan to Attend IHA Fall Conference

September 25 - 26, 2015

Sheraton Hotel • West Des Moines, Iowa

- Continuing Education
- Speakers
- **❖** Professional Networking
- **❖** Trade Show/Round Robin

The Trade Show time has been changed to Friday 12:00 Noon - 2:00 p.m. and will include one hour of CEU's