
◊ Hear's the News ◊

The Official Newsletter of the Iowa Hearing Association

Winter 2020



IHA Spring Conference

April 3, 2020
West Des Moines Marriott
West Des Moines, IA

AAA Conference

April 1-4, 2020
New Orleans, LA

IHA Fall Conference

Sept. 25, 2020
Sheraton
West Des Moines, IA

IHS Convention

October 1-3, 2020
San Diego, CA

***Mark your
calendars now
and plan to attend***

From the President's Pen

Welcome to the future! I've been hearing that a lot lately; in fact, someone recently said they always thought we'd be flying around in the Jetsons' saucers by now!



I am your new president for the 2020-2022 term. I became a hearing aid dispenser in 1992 and an audiologist in 1995. I became interested in hearing aid dispensing through my father-in-law, Al Redman, who was a Beltone owner and dispenser in the Waterloo area and also was a long-term member of our organization of what was then called the Iowa Hearing Aid Society (IHAS). I joined IHAS right after passing my examination and Al made sure to introduce me to everyone in the group. A member once told me that Al was always easy to find at our conferences. There was usually a large group of other dispensers clustered around him laughing over the many stories he loved to tell! What a great group it was. It was unique in that audiologists and hearing aid dispensers got along very well and saw that what we had in common outweighed whatever our differences were. I believed then as I do now, we are always stronger and more of a force united than we are divided.

When I started there was much concern over the FDA director, David Kessler, who had chosen hearing aids as his personal cause and upended the industry to the degree that 1993 stood out as being one of the worst years ever for the industry. Not a good time to be a budding hearing aid dispenser. But I chose to persevere. The shared worries back then were over Medicare HMOs, the Songbird disposable hearing aid, the one-hour-while-you-wait hearing aid; indeed, I don't think in the almost thirty years of dispensing that there's ever been a time that we haven't had to be concerned about the future of our profession.

This makes it paramount that we need to stay united to whatever confronts us. The FDA has already delayed its November release on its rules for OTC hearing aids and now the *very earliest* the proposed regulations for OTC hearing devices would be available for public comment is January or February 2020. However, FDA has not yet made a public statement regarding the timeline. It's even possible, due

Continued on page 2

From the President's Pen Continued from page 1

to some of the complexities the Agency is facing on the issue, it may struggle to meet the deadline. The FDA's deadline for the proposed OTC hearing aid rule is August 18, 2020.

These are challenging times yet there is much opportunity as well. Our task before us is to stay informed and to ask questions of our leaders and in furtherance of this, we should become members of our national organization, IHS, the International Hearing Society, who is on the front lines fighting for our livelihoods.



The important thing is to remain vigilant, stay educated, stay involved and stay tuned!

Annette Redman
IHA President

Silent Auction at Spring Conference



Once again IHA will sponsor a silent auction at our Spring Conference. We ask members, venders, and manufacturers to donate items for the silent auction.

Need ideas? Items donated last year included hearing aids, a hearing aid cleaner, gift baskets, gift cards, a portable hearing loop, one night at a national chain hotel, a national conference package with free registration and much, much more.



Participants enjoyed this event and bids and donations brought our association revenues. The Silent Auction event was a success and will be a part of the 2020 Spring Conference.

Plan ahead! It's not too early to start considering what you may want to submit to the silent auction this year. For more information call the IHA office at 515-440-6057 or email apmsthomas@aol.com.

Welcome New IHA Members

Jessica Dimmick
Johnston, IA

Marcus Hanrahan
Moline, IL

Alexis Kritenbrink
North Liberty, IA

Robert Steger
West Des Moines, IA

Tyler Duraes
West Des Moines, IA

Lisa Jorgensen
Spencer, IA

Paulo Nascimento
Spencer, IA

Eric Wolvers
West Des Moines, IA

Ashley Hanson
Postville, IA

Christopher Kaufman
Joice, IA

Schuyler Moore
Davenport, IA

Patrick Hanrahan
Moline, IL

Wade Kimm
Tiffin, IA

John (Jay) Quinn
Omaha, NE



SMStoday.com

IHA Fall Conference

September 27, 2019

Sheraton Hotel · West Des Moines, IA



Outgoing President Cory Popelka, receives a plaque of recognition for his dedication and service to IHA



Annette Redman, incoming president and Monica Duve, a past president.



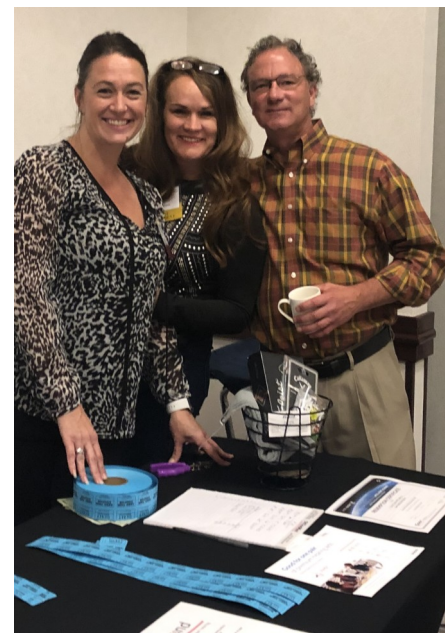
Steve Harrison, IHA treasurer, with Corey, outgoing president and Laura Popelka, board member



Speaker, Michael Page



New board member Amy Melik-Israyelyan



Robyn Ritchey, board member, past presidents, Helen Royer and Mike Smith



IHA lobbyist Susan Cameron Daemen and Kelly Meyers updated members on the legislative session.

IHA Fall Conference

September 27, 2019

Sheraton Hotel • West Des Moines, IA

Members
Networking at
the Round
Robin



Receive Benefits of 2020 Dues

Please remember to send in your IHA 2020 dues if you have not done so. The membership directory will be published in May.

IHA members receive discounted registration fees for Spring and Fall conventions.

IHA publishes a biannual newsletter and an annual membership directory. IHA also monitors the Iowa Legislature for legislation of interest to hearing health professionals.



Mark Your Calendars Now

**IHA Spring
Conference and
Auction**

April 3, 2020

**Marriott Hotel
West Des Moines**

IOWA HEARING ASSOCIATION
DISPENSER OF THE YEAR AWARD

- Nomination Form -

*Please submit this form by March 2, 2020 to IHA Office,
1001 Office Park Road, Suite 105, West Des Moines, IA 50265*

I wish to nominate the following person for Dispenser of the Year:

Nominee's Name _____ Business/Company _____

Address _____

Background on Nominee _____

Reasons for Nominating _____

Additional Outstanding Characteristics _____

Nomination submitted by: (Optional)

Name _____ Company or Business _____

Address _____ Signature _____

Need IHA Information?

Find conference
dates and registrations,
newsletters,
board members, members,
and more on the
Iowa Hearing Association
website:
iowahearingassociation.org

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, Jessup, IA 50648

All hearing aids are accepted with sincere appreciation.
(Your donation may be considered a tax deduction.)

**Nominating Criteria for
Iowa Hearing Association
*Dispenser of the Year Award***

The Dispenser of the Year Award is designed to honor an individual who has demonstrated distinction in the field of Hearing Aid Dispensing Services, regardless of how significant that contribution might be. The following criteria outlines the categories of distinction which should be considered when nominating an individual for this award.

Years of Service: Nominees should have at least 5 years of distinguished service to the field of hearing aid dispensing.

Performance: Nominees should have distinction in the performance on the job as well as service beyond the standard requirements of the job.

Leadership: Nominee's accomplishments should demonstrate how their contribution is notable and deserving of recognition by the Iowa Hearing Association. Nominees should have a record of providing service to the field such as: offices held, committee memberships, teaching roles, research contribution, special projects, community involvement and exposure, ease of access for patient care, or contributions to policy or the dispensing practice. The nominee should demonstrate knowledge, a positive image and offer distinguished representation to the field as a whole.

Standing: A nominee must hold an Iowa Hearing Aid License and should be a member in good standing of the Iowa Hearing Association. If applicable, Nominees should encourage their staff to be member of the Iowa Hearing Association. A nominee should never have any formal charges filed against them by the Professional Licensure Board.

No more than one award may be given per year. The Dispenser of the Year Award may be given posthumously.

One Dispenser of the Year Award may be presented during the Spring Iowa Hearing Association Conference. Once an individual is awarded this honor, that individual can still be eligible to receive another Dispenser of the Year Award.

To nominate an individual for this distinguished honor please submit a letter or email summarizing the nominee's accomplishments as outlined above, to the Executive Director of the Iowa Hearing Association, 1001 Office Park Rd., Suite 105, West Des Moines, IA 50265, (apmsthomas@aol.com). The Executive Director will submit all nominations to the Iowa Hearing Association Board.

Dispenser of the Year Nominations

Enclosed in this newsletter is a nomination form for the Dispenser of the Year Achievement Award, sponsored by IHA. If you wish to nominate someone, the name must be mailed by March 2, 2020, to the IHA Office at 1001 Office Park Road, Suite 105, West Des Moines, IA 50265. The committee will review the nominations and select the Dispenser of the Year. The award will be presented at the Conference.

Past Award Recipients

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1992	Don White	2006	Annette Redman
1993	Bob Klopp	2007	Jeff Smith
1994	Larry Baker	2008	Steve Sword
1995	Ken Lowder	2009	No Nomination
1996	Jerry Smith	2010	Greg Moore
1997	Paul Woodard	2011	Diane Kautzky
1998	Coral Jud	2012	Dotty Walters
1999	Patti Stark	2013	Monica Duve
2000	Dave Nelson	2014	Mike Smith
2001	Pat Gourley	2015	Anne Nerison
2002	Dean Kayser	2016	No Nominee
2003	Judy Smith	2017	No Nominee
2004	No Nominee	2018	No Nominee
2005	Leslie Whippen	2019	Jason Aird

Fall 2019 Exhibitors

A thank you goes to all exhibitors at our Fall Conference. They enhance our conference with introductions to updated products, knowledge of specialized areas, fun door prizes and sponsorship of our reception.

CaptionCall

Fuel Medical Group

Hearing Assess Solutions

Lions Bank/IHS

Midwest Special Instruments

Natus Medical

Phonak

ReSound

Starkey

Telecommunications Assess Iowa

Unitron

Widex USA



Calibration at Spring 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 spring conference.

Plan to Attend The IHA Spring Conference

April 3, 2020



West Des Moines Marriott • West Des Moines, Iowa

❖ Continuing Education

❖ Speakers

❖ Professional Networking

❖ Trade Show

Purpose of the Iowa Hearing Association

- To promote the welfare insofar as hearing is concerned, of the hearing impaired.
- To coordinate, promote and advance the program of this corporation and others in similar work.
- To provide a unified voice within and for those actively and principally engaged in the practice of selling and fitting hearing aids.
- To provide communications among members of the professions.
- To improve the methods of fitting and using hearing aids.
- To enforce among its members the Code of Ethics of the hearing aid industry and many state or federal laws and regulations that apply to the profession.
- To cooperate with the medical profession and all other ethical professional groups engaged in aural rehabilitation.
- To promote and encourage an effective program of public education as to benefits of the use of hearing aids.