



# HEAR FOR YOU

Education | Outreach | Information

## President's Pen

Welcome! The HLAA West Valley Board has been busy this summer, planning new activities to reach out to individuals to provide them with information and support for hearing loss and hearing health. We will be sharing with you information we received from attending National HLAA2023 Convention in New Orleans this past June.

We want members and guests to know about the truly accessible and transforming event a national convention can be for individuals with hearing loss. We are getting the word out now, early, and often, because the HLAA 2024 Convention will be right here at the Wild Horse Pass Resort in Phoenix, AZ. This is an event you will not want to miss.

Also, please consider becoming more involved. Let me know if you are interested in learning more about the available volunteer positions. Welcome back!

*Melanie O'Rourke, President*

## Chapter Meeting Schedule

### A new addition to the meeting

This summer your board members met to plan the upcoming season. One outcome of that planning session was the creation of a meeting timeline to help attendees understand the flow of our meetings. We also wanted to find a way to connect with each other. *"We really wanted to take advantage of what we were already experiencing, which was our members talking and connecting before the actual meeting began,"* said Shannon Tyree, chapter secretary. Many of you come ahead of the planned start of the meeting, now we would like to invite you to come and bring your "brown bag" lunch so we can talk and engage before the meeting and presentation begins.

Starting in October, join us at noon, with your lunch, or not, and sit with us as we get to know one another through conversation. *"We may show a TED Talk and talk about it afterwards, or we may play a conversation game, like Would You Rather, or maybe we provide some hands-on time with technology, so be sure and bring your smart phone,"* explained Shannon. Here's a rundown of the meeting timeline for 2023-2024:

12:00	Doors open.
12:00 - 12:45	Brown Bag lunchtime
12:45 - 1:00	Clean up for on-time meeting start
1:00 - 1:10	Chapter business and presenter introduction
1:10 - 1:45	Presentation
1:45 - 2:00	Presentation questions and answers
2:00 - 2:30	H.O.P.E. sharing time.
2:45	Meeting ends and doors close.

We have a great line up of presenters for the season and we look forward to seeing you.

## Chapter Events

### Save the Dates:

#### Walk4Hearing Annual

**Fundraiser:** Saturday,  
November 4th 8:00 a.m.

**Riverview Park**, Mesa, AZ

#### West Valley Readers Book

**Group:** Monday, September  
18th at 2:00 p.m. on Zoom.

The group will likely be meeting the first and third Mondays of the month.

#### HLAA National

##### Convention:

June 26 - 29, 2024. Great news, the next National HLAA convention is being held in Arizona. **Sheraton**

**Grand at Wild Horse Pass**

No airfare needed!

#### Future Meeting Dates:

- ◆ October 10, 2023
- ◆ November 14, 2023
- ◆ December 12, 2023
- ◆ January 9, 2024
- ◆ February 13, 2024
- ◆ March 12, 2024
- ◆ April 9, 2024
- ◆ May 14, 2024

Need information about our chapter? Check out our website:

[www.hlaawestvalleyaz.org](http://www.hlaawestvalleyaz.org)



### Vacant Positions Available

Like everything in life, things change. We have had a few of our wonderful volunteers move out of state, leaving gaps in some necessary positions. The following areas need help if your chapter is going to remain vital. Please consider helping.

- Meeting set up and take down.
- Board member
- Membership committee
- Scholarships committee

Reach out to any board member to learn more about these positions. We really do need your help. Thank you!

### Book Group set to meet September 18th

It's back... with a twist! The book group originated during the unfortunate Covid time that kept us from meeting in person. Since then we've read nine books all related to hearing loss. This season, beginning Monday, September 18th, we are going beyond books and into other realms such as showing a TED Talk, then using our time to discuss it. This is an exciting new way to connect with each other, and with our hearing loss.

Please join us! We meet on Zoom the first and third Mondays of the month. Contact Vice President, Fred Williams, [vp@hlaawestvalleyaz.org](mailto:vp@hlaawestvalleyaz.org) for the Zoom link. See you there!

#### Four Fun Facts...

Your ears never stop working, even when you are sleeping.

Ears are essential for you to maintain your balance.

Ears self-clean.

Ears have the smallest bones in your body.