

## Printed Newsletter is Moving to Limited Printing

Due to the closure of the mailing company, this is the last printed newsletter that will be mailed to our members who have an email address. Members without an email address will continue to receive the printed newsletter, but we are moving to a print edition every other month. This is due to the additional labor and cost involved with self-publishing, addressing, stamping and tabbing each newsletter.

Please be sure to check your email for the monthly newsletter or other chapter events. You can also keep up-to-date by checking out our website and our Facebook page.

Web site: [www.hearinglosswco.org](http://www.hearinglosswco.org)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/HLAAWCO/>

«AddressBlock»

For more information, check out our  
website at [www.hearinglosswco.org](http://www.hearinglosswco.org)  
We are also on Facebook!  
<https://www.facebook.com/HLAAWCO/>  
Also check out the national website:  
[www.hearingloss.org](http://www.hearingloss.org)

Hearing Loss Association of America  
Western Colorado Chapter  
998 Crown Ct  
Grand Junction, CO 81505



**Western Colorado Chapter  
Hearing Loss Association of America Presents  
Free Monthly Meeting  
Saturday, November 2, 2019**

**What Works for ME!**

The program will be an open discussion about the attendees' real-life use of hearing technology. This will be an opportunity to learn from others about what works, or doesn't work, for them. If you have a story or experience that you want to share, or if you have a question about a type of technology, contact HLAAWCO@gmail.com.

**People of all ages and all types of hearing loss are welcome!**

This free meeting is accessible to people with all types of hearing loss. We offer real-time captioning and a hearing loop system. Family members and friends are invited to attend all meetings! Refreshments will be served.

**Saturday, November 2, 2019  
10:30 am - 12:30 pm  
Center for Independence  
740 Gunnison Avenue  
Grand Junction, CO 81501**

**For questions or further information contact:  
Amy Beckett: HLAAWCO@gmail.com\_Or 970-241-2592**

More about the Hearing Loss Association of America: [www.hearingloss.org](http://www.hearingloss.org)  
More about the Western Colorado Chapter: [www.hearinglosswco.org](http://www.hearinglosswco.org)  
More about the Center for Independence: [www.cfigj.org](http://www.cfigj.org)

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**Upcoming Meetings**

**December 7:** Ninth Annual Holiday Luncheon. This luncheon has become a fun tradition to enjoy fellowship while sharing experiences and developing friendships. This will be an opportunity get to know other people with hearing loss in an accepting environment.

Program planning is underway for future meetings. If you have a program idea or know of a speaker, contact the chapter at HLAAWCO@gmail.com.

January 4, 2020  
February 1, 2020

March 7, 2020  
April 4, 2020

May 2, 2020



**MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR UPCOMING HLA WCO MEETINGS!**  
**People of all ages and all types of hearing loss are welcome!**  
**All meetings are free to members and non-members, including family and friends.**  
Meetings are the first Saturday of the month, 10:30 – 12:30  
(No meeting in June, July or August)  
Center for Independence, 740 Gunnison Avenue, Grand Junction  
Contact Amy Beckett: HLAAWCO@gmail.com or 970-241-2592

### **Save-the-Date: HLAA2020 Convention in New Orleans!**

The 2020 national HLAA convention will be in New Orleans, June 18 - 21, 2020. The host hotel is the New Orleans Marriott, 555 Canal Street, New Orleans, LA 70130.

### **Center for Independence Given the Susan J Elliot Award**

On September 5th, 2019, the Colorado Commission for the Deaf, Hard of Hearing and Deafblind (CCDHHDB) held its quarterly meeting in The Center for Independence's (CFI) gymnasium. During the meeting, HLAAWCO leader Amy Beckett presented the Susan J. Elliot Award to CFI "In Appreciation of Outstanding Service to the Colorado Commission for the Deaf, Hard of Hearing and Deafblind." Denice Roberts, Technology Services Coordinator, accepted on behalf of Linda Taylor, Executive Director of CFI. Beckett is a CCDHHDB Commissioner representing the late-deafened and has served on the Commission since 2012. Envisioning a barrier-free Colorado, the CCDHHDB works to be an agent of change for a sustainable statewide network of resources, dedicated to cultural and linguistic equality.

### **Hearing Assistive Technology Resources Fair was a Success!**

On October 5, members, guests, vendors, and speakers came to the Center for Independence for a wonderful, informative resources fair! Many thanks to everyone who attended to help contribute to the success of the event by visiting the vendors, sharing a story about hearing loss, trying new technology, or speaking with other attendees.

We had two great speakers. Joanne Hirsch, for the Colorado Commission for the Deaf Hard of Hearing and Deafblind presented the various devices available through the Commission's Communication Technology Program (CTP). Wynne Wyman, Leader of the Let's Loop Colorado! Project gave an update on the initial start-up of the project and its goals to have more use of current hearing loops and with more loops installed in Colorado.

Many thanks to our vendors. Please consider visiting them and thanking them for their attendance and support:

- Assistive Technology Devices - John Anderson
- Cochlear Americas - Todd Hallberg
- Colorado West Otolaryngologists Hearing Van - John Kelley
- Hearing Rehab Center - Brett Adams and Monique Terpstra
- Lucid Hearing - Shawn Langley

Special thanks to Center for Independence for sponsoring the event by providing free meeting space, publicity, and technical and operational staffing and support. And thanks to the planning team of Denice Roberts, Cheryl Morelli, and Amy Beckett.

Visit this link on the CFI website for a detailed write-up of the event.

<https://cfigj.org/hearing-technology-resource-fair-a-huge-success/>

## **A Letter from the Chapter Leader, Amy Beckett**

Dear Friends, I am announcing that I intend to step down as the Chapter Leader in May 2020. The Chapter volunteer work has been personally fulfilling since the inaugural meeting held in November 2010 and I have enjoyed the service and friendships over the past nine years. It is time for me to step down and allow other people to step up to lead the chapter in new directions. I will continue to attend chapter meetings and will help mentor new volunteers. But I can no longer perform the duties almost single-handedly.

I am listing the duties that keep the chapter functioning. Please consider giving of your time to help others.

- Meeting Planning: This can be the most fun job of all! Reach out to people with the knowledge and background to present material that is interesting and helpful to our meeting attendees. Arrange the speaking dates coordinate the publicity.
- Newsletter: The print version of the newsletter is being scaled back, but I am working to have a more professional-looking email version of the newsletter.
- Database: Keep the file with member's addresses and emails up-to-date. Enter new people's information after they attend meetings. Remove people upon request.
- State and Federal filings: Log in and file the annual and periodic reports that are needed to keep our non-profit status.
- Board Meetings: We have not had a Board Meeting in a couple of years. The Board helps determine the direction and activities of the chapter.
- Outreach: We currently have a state leader for the Let's Loop Colorado project. Any member can work on this initiative. If you have other outreach ideas, feel free to start advocating!

## **Thanks and Appreciation**

I am listing the many people who have helped with chapter activities over the years. My sincere apologies if I overlook anyone!

- Charter Application in 2011: Debbie Mohney, Robin Taber, Jim Potter, Deb Thompson
- Sending letters to new attendees: Betty Rauh, Jan Gladwell, and Brenda Kelley
- Refreshments: Jan Gladwell, Rachelle Larson, Cheryl Morelli, Deb Thompson
- Website updates and maintenance: Cheryl Morelli
- Facebook updates and maintenance: Denice Roberts
- Treasurers: Mesa State University volunteers Becky Jones and Xujing Xhang
- Chapter Support: The Center for Independence has been partnered with the chapter from its inception. We would not have a chapter without the CFI and its support.

And, of course, my dear, long-suffering husband, Dennis! He is the first person to answer that phone call that someone makes seeking assistance when they are feeling lost and vulnerable.

## **New Outreach Program: Let's Loop Colorado!**

Wynne Whyman, the leader of the Let's Loop Colorado! Program, has done a great job at organizing materials that can be used to reach out to business, local governments, and individuals for installing hearing loops. If you have ever experienced using a hearing loop, you know it makes a huge difference in understanding in a public setting. We need as many people as possible to get the word out about hearing loops! Go to the website for details: <https://www.loopcolorado.org/>