

NHCA ARCHIVE REPORT: February 26, 2017 – February 17, 2018

Elliott H. Berger (Historian) and Amanda Rewerts (Executive Director)

This document summarizes key activities for the period just subsequent to the 2017 Annual Conference (held in San Antonio, TX) and concluding just subsequent to the activities of the 2018 Annual Conference (held in Orlando, FL). All activities at the 2018 Conference are included. This report contains the following sections:

- A. Management Firm Activities
- B. Conference Sponsorship and Exhibition Fees
- C. Executive Council Spring Conference Call
- D. Executive Council Summer Meeting, including Strategic Planning Workshop
- E. Executive Council Fall Conference Call
- F. Executive Council Meetings at Annual Conference
- G. Annual Conference
- H. Webinars
- I. Position Statements/Regulatory Involvement
- J. Changes to Bylaws and Policy and Procedure Manual
- K. Slate of Candidates for 2017/2018

A companion to this narrative report is the NHCA Archive Data Report (ADR). It is an Excel file that includes the following: officers (current and prior), list of NHCA presidents and program chairs, Spectrum editors, awards, titles of and presenters of key talks such as the Gasaway Lecture, dues, membership, conference cities and attendance, historical financial information for both NHCA and the Scholarship Foundation, literature sales, and other historical information. It is regularly updated.

A. Management Firm Activities

Our management firm, Interactive Management Inc. (IMI), has been with NHCA for ten years, since September 8, 2008. The current Executive Director, Amanda Rewerts has been managing NHCA since January 2016.

The most recent financial audit was completed in July 2014 by Stephen L. Wenner, CPA, PFS of The Wenner Group, LLC at a cost of \$650. The auditors reported that NHCA's financial statements presented fairly the financial position of NHCA and were in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. It was recommended that the next financial statement audit be conducted in 5 years (2019), 60 days after the fiscal year-end (i.e., in August or September).

B. Conference Sponsorship and Exhibition Fees

Vendor Sponsorship Benefits	Platinum (\$9000)	Gold (\$6000)	Silver (\$4000)	Workshop Sponsor & Exhibitor (\$2,000)
6-foot tables in exhibit area	Four	Three	Two	Two
Exhibitor Full Conference registration	Four	Three	Two	Two
Logo with live link on the NHCA Conference website page	✓	✓	✓	
Logo with live link on the NHCA Conference Sponsor & Exhibitors listing page	✓	✓	✓	✓
Join Us at NHCA 2017 logo to include on your website and marketing materials	✓	✓	✓	✓
Podium Recognition	✓	✓	✓	
Ad in the Spectrum Supplement	Full Page	1/2 page	1/4 page	Business Card
Descriptor in the Spectrum Supplement	100-word	75-word	60-word	40-word
Hand-Outs for Registration packets	Three	Two	Two	One
One-year NHCA Commercial Membership	✓			
Give-away/swag item for New Members/Student Meet & Greet (typically has up to 50 attendees)	✓	✓	✓	✓
Invite to attend the New Members/Student Meet & Greet (typically has up to 50 attendees)	Two	One		
One give-away/swag item for each conference attendee	✓	✓	✓	
Banner ad on the NHCA website through Dec. 31, 2019	✓			
Logo with live link on the NHCA Conference marketing emails	✓	✓		
Logo with live link on the NHCA Conference Registration Confirmation email for attendees	✓			
Your NHCA Conference Related Email to Attendees, sent by NHCA	Two (Pre & Post)	One (Pre)		
Thank You Announcement of Sponsorship on NHCA LinkedIn	✓	✓	✓	
Thank You Announcement of Sponsorship on NHCA Facebook	✓	✓	✓	
Listing in Thank You Announcement for all Vendors on NHCA LinkedIn pre & post-conference	✓	✓	✓	✓
Included in "Sponsored By" list on NHCA Conference Press Releases	✓	✓		
Logo, Company Descriptor, contact info, active link on "NEW" conference app	✓	✓	✓	✓
Listing in Sponsor Thank You push notification in app - happens onsite at conference	✓	✓	✓	✓
"Hosted by" Sponsor signage on a Friday Night Event Activity	✓ (1st Choice)	✓ (2nd Choice)	✓ (3rd Choice)	
"Hosted by" Sponsor for a Friday Night Event Activity in event marketing materials	✓	✓	✓	
"Hosted by" Sponsor for a Friday Night Event Activity in app	✓	✓	✓	
Sponsor Thank You Announcement during Friday Night Event	✓			
Meeting room to host a New Product Focus Group outside of NHCA conference programing and special event hours.	✓			
Signage with logo	throughout	throughout	throughout	throughout

C. Executive Council Spring Conference Call (May 9, 2017)

- Plans were surfaced to show Gordon Hempton's 10-min film on sound and quiet at the conference in 2018 (this plan did not come to fruition).
- The possibility of virtual conferencing for the main session at the 2018 conference was discussed at costs of \$4000/day/room.
- Emails were sent to the 2015-16 members as well as non-member attendees of the 2017 conference to solicit membership.
- The joint webinar project with CAOHC was discussed with a goal of obtaining attendance of 200 at each webinar.

D. Executive Council Summer Meeting (July 24 - 25, 2017, Denver)

- The journal *Noise & Health* contacted NHCA seeking leadership and management of its operations. This would require an editor and a board of peer reviewers. The decision was to gather more information and explore further.
- Because of budget shortfalls many items were explored to both reduce costs at conference including the contract for the Int. J. Audiology conference supplement.
- We again discussed issues with many broken website links and items that require updating.
- Many creative social media suggestions were surfaced, especially with respect to creating content for use. None of these, thus far, have been implemented.
- There was much discussion of the cost of the Friday night event at conference and whether it should be retained.
- Planning continued on the CAOHC webinars with instructors selected. See Section H on webinars for additional information.
- Historian note: the minutes for this meeting were never finalized. I worked from a draft with numerous questions and markups.

E. Executive Council Fall Conference Call (November 6, 2017)

- Colleen reported that after further discussions and examination of the *Noise & Health* proposal, it was decided not to pursue this project any further.
- It was reported that current costs to produce *Spectrum* are \$750 per issue. It was recommended to retain 3 issues/yr but to only include task force/liaison reports in the 2nd issue each year to improve efficiencies and reduce redundancy.
- To better promote the conference for 2018 it was suggested that Florida CAOHC Course Directors, student organizations, peer organizations, and local news be contacted to gain attendance.
- Two CAOHC/NHCA webinars have thus far been presented with 30+ attendees at each. \$5,000 in sponsorships was raised.
- Significant menu changes are planned for the upcoming conference that should reduce costs by ~\$20,000.
- There was extensive discussion about the IJA supplement and whether NHCA's budget situation could support this for another year. The publisher, in a good-faith effort, moved forward even without a signed contract, and much effort has been expended. Colleen has taken lead on this project. NIOSH will be donating \$2500-\$3000, a \$1000 increase from prior years. We are also approaching the Hearing Center of Excellence. Please refer to the minutes for the details of this lengthy discussion.
- There was a heated discussion of the revised budget with the strong effort to make sure it would be in the black this year. The budget passed with a 6 to 2 vote, with 1 abstention and 1 not present.
- Subsequent to this meeting, the treasurer Sarah Mouser, stepped down from her position (and was not replaced until the 2018 Conference at which time Theresa Small was appointed).

F. Executive Council Meetings at Annual Conference (February 14 - 17, 2018)

- Prior to the Council meeting there was a special meeting to review the IMI contract and competitive bids. No decision was yet made as NHCA had still not received an updated proposal from IMI.
- Since neither the financials or the prior-meeting minutes were circulated ahead of time, discussion and approval was deferred to the post-conference meeting.
- The IJA supplement conversation continued. NHCA was finally able to raise \$3000 per organization from NIOSH, CAOHC, and DoD HCE. Colleen stressed that in 8 years of supplements there have been 15,000 views for articles, and 600 citations in Google Scholar. It was decided to continue the IJA for 1 more year, but competitive quotes will be obtained from both IJA and Ear & Hearing.
- Obtaining reports from some of the liaisons and Task Force (TF) chairs continues to be difficult. Colleen reported that she had similar problems in the past. Some TFs were eliminated after discussion with the TF chairs.
- No contract has yet been signed for the 2019 conference. Elliott renewed his long-time request that NHCA should have conferences signed and sealed at least three years in advance, for planning, posting on the website, and potentially also for better contracts.
- All NHCA brochures except for the *Crank it Down* have been updated at this time.
- Current profit on the CAOHC/NHCA webinar series were reported at \$7200 that have been split between the two organizations.
- The plans to obtain local support for the conference, discussed at the prior Council meeting did not succeed. Emailing organizations was a challenge with some organizations unable to distribute information and others not responding to email contacts.
- Heather Malyuk is working on an exciting possibility of a large grant/sponsorship from Ford. She is in the process of revising an initial letter to send to them.
- Thais Morata reported that Safe in Sound will include CAOHC in the partnership moving forward to make it possible to extend the lifetime of the funds that have been awarded for this program.

G. Annual Conference

The 42nd Annual Hearing Conservation Conference was held February 15 - 17, 2018 at the Caribe Royale All-Suite Hotel and Convention Center, Orlando, FL. Paid registrants, total participants, early full member registration fees, and total exhibitors, appear in the ADR.

Sponsors and categories were:

- Platinum (1 @ \$9000): 3M
- Gold (@ \$6000): None
- Silver (@ \$4000): None
- Workshop Sponsor and Exhibitor (@ \$2000): ViAcoustics, Tremetrics, Shoebox, Westone, NIOSH, Sensidyne, CAOHC, CDC, NIDCD, Logistics Health, Benson Medical, Etymotic

The meeting resulted in a profit for NHCA of \$47,544

The Conference comprised 20 platform lectures, including the Keynote Lecture by Jeremie Voix, the Don Gasaway Lecture by Michael Santucci, as well as two sets of concurrent sessions, one being a 60-minute session with 3 sets of 3 parallel talks, and the other an 80-minute session with 2 sets of 4 parallel talks. Also included were 31 posters, Saturday morning roundtable discussions, the Safe-in-Sound Awards session, and a luncheon lecture by Charles Spence. The seven workshops included:

- Hearing Loss Prevention: The Basics
- Forensics and Expert Witnessing for the Acoustician
- The Art of Presentation
- The Audio Technologies of Hearing and Hearing Conservation Explained
- Hearing Protector Fit Testing

- PSP Workshop
- Suppressors, Hearing Protection and Hearing Conservation

The following awards were presented at the Conference:

Outstanding Hearing Conservationist Award	Deanna Meinke
Outstanding Lecture Award (2017)	Siobhan McGinnity
Outstanding Poster Award (2017)	not presented
Golden Lobe Awards	Sarah Mouser, Michael Santucci, 3M, Honeywell, Moldex

The Friday-evening Gala, was held at the Splitsville Luxury Bowling Lanes, Orlando, FL.

H. Webinars

The NHCA cosponsored a webinar series with CAOHC running from 2017 through 2018. The talks included:

		Attendance
Hearing conservation overall	Vickie Tuten	58
Hearing conservation regs. and best practices for prevention	Laurie Wells	68
Noise measurement	Charlie Moritz	72
The audiogram	John "Andy" Merkley	64
Education & training	Carol Snyderwine	58
Hearing protection	Elliott Berger	77
Recordability issues	D. Bruce Kirchner	128

I. Position Statements/Regulatory Involvement

NHCA issued a position statement on Prevention of Music-Induced Hearing Disorders.

J. Changes to Bylaws and Policy and Procedure Manual

No changes were made in this time period.

K. Slate of Candidates for 2017-2018

Ballots were electronically distributed November 17, 2017 with a due date of December 15, 2017. Total number of voting ballots received was 65.

President Elect	Amy Blank
Director of Education	Rachel Bouserhal
Director of Membership	Jillyen Curry-Mathis
Director of Marketing and Public Relations	Kathy Gates
Member Delegate	Michele Alexander, Elizabeth Masterson