

NHCA ARCHIVE REPORT: February 20, 2000 - February 24, 2001

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This document summarizes key activities for the time period commencing just subsequent to the 2000 Annual Conference (held in Denver, CO) and concluding just subsequent to the activities of the 2001 Annual Conference (held in Raleigh, NC). Hence, all activities at the 2001 Conference in Raleigh are included. Additionally financial data through the end of the fiscal year concluding in June 2001 are also included. The report contains the following sections:

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A. Executive Council, Committee Chairs, and Liaisons

At the 2000 Annual Conference in Denver, CO, the following individuals were installed or continued as officers and members of the NHCA Executive Council, Committee Chairs, and Liaisons:

Executive Council

President	Myrna Stephens
President Elect	Doug Ohlin
Vice President	Mary McDaniel
Secretary	Laurie Wells
Treasurer	Ted Madison
Member Delegates	James Lankford and Gregg Moore
PSO Delegate	George Cook, Jr.
Commercial Delegate	Brian Myers
Associate Delegate	Katherine Armstrong
Past President	Lee Hager
Historian	Elliott Berger

Committee Chairs

Bylaws	Linda Moulin
Ethical Practice	Sandra MacLean
Legislation	Randy Tubbs
Membership	Kathy Kerst
Nominations	Doug Ohlin
Program	Mary McDaniel
Public Relations	Julee Sylvester
Steering	Lee Hager
Publications	Rena Glaser
Scholarship Committee	James Lankford

Ad Hoc Committee Chairs

Employment Criteria for Hearing-Critical Jobs	Sandra MacLean
Employee Education & Motivational Techniques	Carol Stephenson
HCP Referral Criteria	Theresa Schulz and Ann Prohaska

Liaisons / Task Forces

ANSI S12	Alice Suter
ANSI S12/WG 34 (Methodology of HCPs)	Christine Dixon-Ernst
ASA Noise Coalition	Dan Johnson
Hearing Conservation/Education in Schools	Dorie Watkins, changed in November to Deanna Meinke

B. Management Firm Activities

A new staff person was added to focus primarily on issues relating to NHCA conference and seminar management. Her name is Sarah Hughes Focke.

C. Summer Executive Council Meeting (July, 2000, Denver, CO)

- Exhibitor and affiliate fees were changed and a new category of Association Sponsor was included. Member Exhibitor at Conf. - \$1000, Non-Member Exhibitor - \$1500, Non-Profit Affiliate - \$1500, Commercial Affiliate - \$2300, and Association Sponsor - \$5000.
- Dues were increased effect January 1, 2001 for full and associate categories (\$130), PSO (\$305), and Commercial (\$800). No change in Student Membership rates.
- Planning began for the fall Excellence Seminar and for the first time it was decided to make it a jointly sponsored event with the local section of the AIHA.
- A recommendation was made to set up a separate 501c3 charitable foundation for the scholarship funds.
- As a fund raiser Berger arranged for a special purchase by NHCA of 100 *Noise Manuals* to be sold to our membership.

D. Membership and Directory

No directory was published this year. Next directory to be published approximately June 2001.

Total paid members through June 2000 were 422 (as compared to 652, 459, 479, 447 in the four preceding years of 1997 - 2000. (All approved member applications after September 30 are placed in the following membership year.) That is the lowest membership in the past 4 years.

E. Excellence Seminar

The 11th Annual Excellence in Hearing Conservation Seminar was held on Nov. 1, 2000, in conjunction with the fall Council Meeting at the Adam's Mark Hotel, in Indianapolis, IN. It was co-sponsored by the Indiana section of the AIHA and there were nine affiliates [3M, CAOHC, Dalloz, E•A•R, Howard Leight, James Anderson & Associates, Larson Davis, Quest Technologies, and Safe@Work], 83 paid attendees (one of the highest turnouts ever), and 7 presenters on the following topics:

Jim Banach	A Dose of Dosimetry
Dennis Driscoll	Principles of Noise Control
Elliott Berger	Hearing Protection ... you said what?
Laurie Wells	Hearing Insurance = Education
Mary McDaniel	The Audiometric Database: Liable and Reliable?
Tom Thunder	Is Hearing Loss Work Related?
Laurie Wells	Answering the Questions and Questioning the Answers

Registration fees were \$140 for NHCA and AIHA members, \$180 for non-members, \$50 for students (3 attended), and \$550 for affiliates. The meeting produced a profit of \$4,206 as compared to \$3,100 and \$4,027 for the prior two years.

F. Fall Executive Council Meeting (November, 2000, Indianapolis, IN)

- It was decided that NHCA would no longer routinely confer the Threadgill and OHC awards each year, in order not to devalue them by over presenting them. In 2001 only the OHC award will be given..
- The details of the Association Sponsor category were discussed at length especially with respect to companies the sell products with more than one brand name.
- The Hearing Conservation/Education in the Schools task force was renamed Hearing Conservation Education for Children and Adolescents and a new chair, Deanna Meinke was assigned.
- The ED was authorized to explore 2-yr. hotel contracts for the annual conference.
- For the first time in many years the Nominations committee provided a full slate with at least two candidates running for all positions. See Section N of this report.

G. Member Dues, and Affiliate and Exhibition Fees

Dues invoices for the 2001 membership year were mailed in December 2001. Dues amounts were as follows:

Member	\$130	Commercial Member	\$800
Associate	\$130	PSO	\$305
Student	\$25		

Affiliate fees for the 2001 Conference were \$2300 for commercial affiliates (2 free attendees, double exhibit space, 25% discount for 3rd and 4th registrants, 50% for additional registrants beyond 4) and \$1500 for non-profits (2 free attendees). Exhibition fees were:

Commercial Members	\$1000
Non-NHCA Commercial Members	\$1500
PSO Members	\$1000

H. Annual Conference

The 26th Annual Hearing Conservation Conference was held February 22 - 24, 2001 at the Sheraton Imperial Hotel and Convention Center, Raleigh-Durham, NC. There were 181 paid registrants (192 and 144, in 1999 and 2000), and 249 total participants (235 and 207 in 1999 and 2000). There were 4 Association Sponsors (3M, Dalloz, E•A•R, and Quest), 10 affiliates of which 5 were not for profit (designated by an asterisk) [AAA*, AIHA*, ASHA*, CAOHC*, CDC*, Deere & Company, Howard Leight, JAA, Maico, and Peltor,], and a total of 22 organizations and companies were represented in the exhibit hall (25 and 29, in 1999 and 2000). Sponsors were solicited for various events and elements of the conference in addition to the normal solicitation for luncheon and break support. Only one company participated as sponsor (student scholarship) for a total of \$175 in support. The Silent Auction was successful generating \$4,339 of income, and a new Live Auction was hugely successful in part due to the sales of CDs donated by the luncheon speaker. The Live Auction raised \$3,232. The meeting resulted in an amazing profit of \$47,827, which was \$19,402 over budget, in part assisted by very low banquet costs at this facility.

The faculty and program participants listed in the binder consisted of 43 names. The four workshops were:

- Accurate selection of HPDs - practical guides for the hearing conservationist
- Hearing critical jobs: decisions and analysis

Noise exposure assessment - sample strategy and data acquisition

OAEs: prediction of problems from noise

The Conference provided 2 Forums, 15 platform lectures, 4 practical pop-ups, the first-ever Don Gasaway Lecture, the first ever morning roundtable discussions (10 rounds in the dining area), a 90-min. concurrent session in which attendees had 3 options to choose from, and a luncheon lecture by Bernie Krause, "The importance of natural soundscapes to life on planet earth."

No film theater or President's Reception were held this year.

The following awards were presented at the Conference:

Outstanding Hearing Conservationist	Alf Axelsson
Outstanding Lecture Award (2000)	Carol and Mark Stephenson
Outstanding Poster Award (2000)	Leslie Baer, Madeleine Kerr, Matthew Arnold and Lori Johnson
Golden Lobe Award	Barbara Garrett, Kathy Kerst, Merlyn Lubiens, Deanna Meinke, Iris Langman, Andy Stewart
Media Award	none given this year

No student poster contest was held this year.

The Friday-evening Gala this year included the first-ever live auction, conceived of and organized by Deanna Meinke. It was a tremendous success. The auctioneer was John Balko assisted by Brian Myers and Ted Madison.

I. Annual Business Meeting

A brief Business Meeting was held at the conference reviewing the year's accomplishments.

J. Executive Council Meetings at Annual Conference

- The ED suggested that it did not appear that the dues increase had affected membership renewals.
- Plans were made for two Excellence Seminars in fall 2001, one in Houston in September and the other in Philadelphia in October, both to be cosponsored by AIHA chapters.
- The Scholarship Fund reached a landmark, breaking its goal of \$25,000, and the proposed bylaws for the Fund and its eventual incorporation were reviewed.
- The Steering Committee extensively discussed problems in our association and recommended that its task and that of the President should be to prioritize our goals and to develop a method of maintaining accountability to assure that commitments are met. Priorities were set as the web site and increased membership.
- An outcome of the Steering report was to institute a monthly ED Staff report for the Council.
- Web site is getting about 150 hits/week. It was decided to implement a Members-Only section.

K. Publications

NHCA published four regular issues of the Spectrum and one supplement (a Conference program) during this time period under editor Rena Glaser.

L. Position Statements/Regulatory Involvement

None this year.

M. Changes to Bylaws

Proposals, as yet to be balloted include allowing up to two members from the same company to serve on the Council simultaneously, reducing the membership required for a quorum from 40% to 30%, and

dropping references to the standing committees in the bylaws, thus allowing committees to be easily established and terminated by the Council.

N. Slate of Candidates for January 2001 Ballot

President Elect	James Lankford, Brian Myers
Secretary	Kathy Kerst, Tressie Waldo, Laurie Wells
Member Delegate	Dan Johnson, Kevin Michael
Commercial Delegate	David Adlin, Katherine Armstrong
PSO Delegate	Russ Hannula, Michael Sterrett, Carolyn Tolley

O. Year-End Financial Statement

The financial statements for the 7/1/00 - 6/30/01 fiscal year reflect a net income over expense of \$31,018 under the accrual method of accounting.