

NHCA ARCHIVE REPORT: February 25, 2001 - February 23, 2002

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This document summarizes key activities for the time period commencing just subsequent to the 2001 Annual Conference (held in Raleigh, NC) and concluding just subsequent to the activities of the 2002 Annual Conference (held in Dallas, TX). Hence, all activities at the 2002 Conference in Dallas are included. Additionally financial data through the end of the fiscal year concluding in June 2002 are also included. The report contains the following sections:

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A. Executive Council, Committee Chairs, and Liaisons

At the 2001 Annual Conference in Raleigh, NC, the following individuals were installed or continued as officers and members of the NHCA Executive Council, Committee Chairs, and Liaisons:

Executive Council

President	Doug Ohlin
President Elect	James Lankford
Vice President	Mary McDaniel
Secretary	Tressie Waldo
Treasurer	Ted Madison
Member Delegates	Daniel Johnson and Kevin Michael
PSO Delegate	Carolyn Tolley
Commercial Delegate	Katherine Armstrong
Associate Delegate	Ann-Marie Grusch
Past President	Myrna Stephens
Historian	Elliott Berger

Committee Chairs

Bylaws	Linda Moulin
Ethical Practice	Sandra MacLean
Legislation	Randy Tubbs
Nominations	James Lankford
Program	Mary McDaniel
Public Relations	Mike Sterrett (appointed July 2001 to replace Julee Sylvester)
Steering	Myrna Stephens
Publications	Rena Glaser
Scholarship Committee	James Lankford

Ad Hoc Committee Chairs

Employee Education & Motivational Techniques	Carol Merry Stephenson
HCP Referral Criteria	Theresa Schulz and Ann Prohaska
Audiometric Data Transfer	Richard Stepkin
Hearing Conservation in University Programs	Dick Danielson

Liaisons / Task Forces

American Academy of Audiology	Mark Stephenson
ANSI S12	Kevin Michael
ANSI S12/WG 34 (Methodology of HCPs)	Christine Dixon-Ernst
ASA Noise Coalition	Daniel Johnson
Hearing Conservation/Education in Schools	Deanna Meinke

B. Management Firm Activities

No activities to report.

C. Summer Executive Council Meeting (July, 2001, Denver, CO)

NHCA decided to work with NIOSH to hold a special chemical exposure and noise exposure workshop. The plan was to hold it in the fall of 2001 but due to the events of 9/11 it was delayed until April of 2002 (and will be included in next year's archive report).

D. Membership and Directory

A 2001/2002 directory was published in July 2001 sponsored by E•A•R / Aearo Company.

Total paid members through June 2002 were 418 (as compared to 652, 459, 479, 447, 422 in the five preceding years of 1997 - 2001. (All approved member applications after September 30 are placed in the following membership year.) That is the lowest membership in the past 6 years.

E. Excellence Seminars and other 1-Day Events

The 12th Annual Excellence in Hearing Conservation Seminar was held on October 17, 2001, in conjunction with the fall Council Meeting at the Sheraton Suites Hotel, in Philadelphia, PA. It was co-sponsored by the Philadelphia section of the AIHA and there were six affiliates [3M, Bilsom, CAOHC, Dalloz, E•A•R, and Quest Technologies], 35 paid attendees, and 7 presenters on the following topics:

James Detwiler	Basics of noise measurement
Dennis Driscoll	Principles of Noise Control
Elliott Berger	Hearing Protection ... you said what?
Richard Stepkin	Loss prevention vs. OSHA compliance
Thomas Todd	MSHA's health standards for occupational noise exposure
Stephen Harlen	Hearing loss and workers' compensation – case studies
Tressie Waldo	Problem audiograms – case studies

Registration fees were \$150 for NHCA and AIHA members, \$190 for non-members (both of these representing \$10 increases from the prior year), \$50 for students (3 attended), and \$550 for affiliates. The meeting produced a loss of \$1807 as compared to profits of \$4206, \$3100 and \$4027 for the prior three years.

Lee Hager arranged a supplemental 1-day training offering in Houston, TX on September 20, 2001, co-sponsored by the Gulf Coast AIHA Local Section, with Jan Koehn (jkinc@ghg.net, 713-664-1597) serving as local liaison. The list of speakers included:

Lee Hager, JAA	Regulatory Developments and Resources in HC
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Bill Murphy of NIOSH (via video tape)	Chemical Exposure and Hearing
Rob Brauch, Larson-Davis	Measuring Noise Exposure
Carolyn Tolley, ASI Health Services	Handling the Hearing Test
Dave Cmar, JAA	Noise Control
Katherine Armstrong, Bacou-Dalloz	New Developments in Hearing Protection
Theresa Schulz, USAF	Motivation and Education

There was no opportunity for affiliate exhibits. In lieu of a printed brochure, a simple one-page PDF was created and the local AIHA section and the Univ. of Houston handled the logistics. These simplified procedures led to reduced costs. Registration fees were \$125/\$145. With paid registration of 27, the meeting produced a profit of \$566.

F. Fall Executive Council Meeting (October, 2001, Philadelphia, PA)

- The nominations slate was particularly difficult to fill this year, with all positions having a single candidate running unopposed.
- In keeping with last year's decision a Threadgill awardee was selected, and it was decided that the Outstanding Hearing Conservationist award would be deferred till the following year.
- It was decided to offer prospective members of related professional organizations (RPOs) a special one-year membership to NHCA at a discounted rate of \$50.
- A decision was made to teach the Excellence Seminar at the front end of the AAA meeting in spring 2002. (However, publicity was handled poorly on this by AAA and there was insufficient registration, so the event was later cancelled.)
- To try and rectify the perpetual problem of lack of Council and committee activity between Council meetings, it was suggested that monthly conference calls be held between the President, Past President, President-Elect and Executive Director. The first was scheduled to take place in December.
- It was proposed that NHCA open membership to other than hearing conservation professionals. After much discussion the Council chose not to accept this recommendation.

G. Member Dues, and Affiliate and Exhibition Fees

Dues invoices for the 2002 membership year were mailed in December 2001. Dues amounts were increased slightly over the prior year in line with the new policy suggestions of Ted Madison that we plan on annual small increases instead of occasional large ones. The revised and prior dues (in parentheses) are shown below.

Member	\$137 (130)	Commercial Member	\$840 (800)
Associate	\$137 (130)	PSO	\$321 (305)
Student	\$27 (25)		

Affiliate fees for the 2002 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 27th Annual Hearing Conservation Conference was held February 21 - 23, 2002 at the Westin Park Central Hotel, Dallas, TX. There were 187 paid registrants (192, 144, and 181 in 1999 - 2001), and 260 total participants (235, 207, and 249 in 1999 - 2001). There were 5 Association Sponsors (3M, Bilsom/Howard Leight, E•A•R/Peltor, Quest, and Sonomax), 7 affiliates of which 6 were not for profit

(designated by an asterisk) [AAA*, AIHA*, ASHA*, ASA*, CAOHC*, CDC/NIOSH*, Maico], and a total of 20 organizations, companies, or brand names (Association Sponsor second brands) were represented in the exhibit hall (25, 29 and 22, in 1999 - 2001). Sponsors were solicited for various events and elements of the conference in addition to the normal solicitation for luncheon and break support. Only one organization (AIHA) participated as sponsor (student registration) for a total of \$250 in support expenses to attend the conference. The scholarship was not presented this year. The Silent Auction was successful generating \$2537 of income, and in its second year the Live Auction was hugely successful raising \$5170. The meeting resulted in a profit of \$32,504, which was \$10,692 over budget.

The faculty and program participants listed in the binder consisted of 47 names. The five workshops were:

- Hearing loss prevention – the basics (a special Excellence Seminar type offering)
- NIHL: Epidemiology, oxidative mechanisms and pharmacologic protective agents
- Comprehending workers' compensation: Practical aspects for hearing loss claims
- Resources for tinnitus patients
- Hearing conservation metrics

The Conference provided 2 point/counter point sessions, 11 platform lectures, 4 practical pop-ups, the Don Gasaway Lecture, a grand rounds, 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 Kent Menzel, "Orality and literacy."

This year the film theater became a media theater.

The following awards were presented at the Conference:

Michael Beall Threadgill Award	Merlyn Lubiens
Outstanding Hearing Conservationist	not given
Outstanding Lecture Award (2001)	Elliott Berger
Outstanding Poster Award (2001)	Susan Griest
Golden Lobe Award	Alberto Behar, Elliott Berger, Deanna Meinke, Kevin Michael, Rob Pluta, Laurie Wells
Media Award	not given

No student poster contest was held this year.

The Friday-evening Gala this year included the second annual live auction. The auctioneer was John Balko assisted by Brian Myers and Ted Madison.

CAOHC, for only the second time, arranged to have their spring Council meeting and CD workshop taught in conjunction with the NHCA conference.

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 Council, for the first time, decided not to hold an in-person council meeting in the fall, but to experiment instead with a conference-call meeting in order to reduce costs.
- The President confirmed that the monthly conference-call concept was viable and would be continued, and included on the annual calendar (see next item).
- The Executive Director began work on an NHCA calendar to make sure that the executive staff and council members can keep better track of all responsibilities and deadlines each year.

- The Council discussed holding the fall Excellence Seminar in the Chicagoland area.

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

NHCA signed on to support the AIHA position as OSHA continued to take comments on the ongoing, seemingly never-ending effort to finalize their recordability requirements for changes in hearing in an occupation hearing conservation program.

M. Changes to Bylaws

Three changes were approved to the bylaws.

- The quorum percentage for members at meetings was changed from 40% to 30%.
- The number of Council members permitted from the same firm/organization was increased to two.
- The NHCA committees were removed from the bylaws and instead will be established at the pleasure of the Council.

N. Slate of Candidates for January 2002 Ballot

President Elect	Tim Bailey
Vice-President	Laurie Wells
Treasurer	Ted Madison
Commercial Delegate	Robert Dobie and Kevin Michael for one position

O. Year-End Financial Statement

The financial statements for the 7/1/01 - 6/30/02 fiscal year reflect a net income over expense of \$21,495 under the accrual method of accounting.