

NHCA ARCHIVE REPORT: February 26, 2005 - February 18, 2006

Elliott H. Berger (Historian) and Karen Wojdyla (Executive Director)

This document summarizes key activities for the period just subsequent to the 2005 Annual Conference (held in Tucson, AZ) and concluding just subsequent to the activities of the 2006 Annual Conference (held in Tampa, FL). Hence, all activities at the 2006 Conference in Tampa are included. Financial data through the end of the fiscal year concluding in June 2006 are also included. It contains the following sections:

- A. Executive Council, Committee Chairs, and Liaisons
- B. Management Firm Activities
- C. Membership and Directory
- D. Member Dues, and Affiliate and Exhibition Fees
- E. Communications (Web Site and Publications)
- F. Executive Council Conference Call (April 2005)
- G. Executive Council Summer Meeting (June 2005)
- H. Executive Council Fall Conference Call (November 2005)
- I. Executive Council Meetings at Annual Conference
- J. Annual Conference
- K. Annual Business Meeting
- L. Excellence Seminar and other 1-Day Events
- M. Position Statements/Regulatory Involvement
- N. Changes to Bylaws
- O. Slate of Candidates for 2006-2007 Ballot
- P. Year-End Financial Statement

A. Executive Council, Committee Chairs, and Liaisons

At the 2006 Annual Conference in Tampa, FL the following individuals continued or were installed as officers and members of the NHCA Executive Council, Committee Chairs, and Liaisons.

Executive Council

President	John Casali	PSO Member Delegate	Orland Purcell
President Elect	Theresa Schulz	Commercial Delegate	Cliff Wolcott
Secretary/Treasurer	Jim Jerome	Associate Member Delegate	Karen Turner
Director of Communications	Rick Neitzel	Past President	Laurie Wells
Director of Education	Brian Fligor	Student Member Delegate:	Rachel McArthur
Director of Membership	Mike Santucci	Historian	Elliott Berger
Member Delegates	Susan Griest, Kathryn Schmidt-Miller		

Task Forces/Liaisons

Leadership Advisory Team	Laurie Wells
Legislation	Randy Tubbs
Nominations	Theresa Schulz
Program	Greg Flamme
Public Relations	David Mayou
Publications	David Byrne and Kevin Michael
AAA Liaison	Mark Stephenson
ASHA Liaison	Ted Madison
ANSI S3 Liaison	Theresa Schulz
ANSI S12 Liaison	Kevin Michael
OSHA Liaison	Carol Stephenson
Website Liaison	Rick Neitzel

Task Force on Children and Noise Deanna Meinke
 Task Force on Music-Induced Hearing Loss Brian Fligor

NHCA Scholarship Foundation Board

President James Lankford

B. Management Firm Activities

The first audit of accounts since GWAMI took over as the NHCA office was conducted by CNC Accounting, Financial, and Tax Services Corp for the June 30, 2003 fiscal year. NHCA received a clean bill of health. The next audit will occur for the year ending June 30, 2006.

The management evaluation was concluded with the finding that GWAMI services fell within the range of "meets" or "exceeds" expectations. The "no opinion" column was changed to "no experience." GWAMI presented a 2005/06 contract that included a 7% cost of operations adjustment. It was approved at the Executive Council summer meeting.

C. Membership and Directory

Total paid members through May 2006 were 467. For priors years see the table below. This included 9 emeritus members and a large increase in student members to 113. All approved member applications after September 30 are placed in the following membership year. Beginning in 2004 the membership directory no longer existed in paper and became available online through the web site in a searchable format that is intended to be updated on a monthly basis.

Year	Membership	Year	Membership
1997	652	2002	418
1998	459	2003	427
1999	479	2004	399
2000	447	2005	467
2001	422		

D. Member Dues, and Affiliate and Exhibition Fees

Dues invoices for the 2006 membership year were mailed in December 2005. Dues amounts were not increased this year in contrast to a decision made in 2002 for ongoing annual adjustments. The dues history for the various membership categories are tabled below.

Year	Member	Associate	Student	CM	PSO
1996	75	45	25	550	210
1997	95	65	25	635	225
1998	95	65	25	635	225
1999	95	65	25	635	225
2000	95	65	25	635	225
2001	130	130	25	800	305
2002	137	137	27	840	321
2003	142	142	30	882	335
2004	145	145	No charge	890	340
2005	152	152	No charge	890	357
2006	152	152	No charge	890	357

Sponsor fees for the 2006 Conference were \$5500 including 3 representatives who could also attend the Thursday workshops, three exhibit tables, a half page ad in *Spectrum Supplement*, plaque, registration at upcoming regional seminar. Affiliate fees were \$2415 for corporate affiliates (3 attendees, double exhibit space) and \$1575 for non-profits (2 attendees). Exhibition fees were:

Commercial/PSO Members	\$1103
Non-NHCA Commercial Members	\$1654

E. Communications (Web Site and Publications)

Continued upgrades were made to the website this year, though we are still looking for a replacement for MemberClicks that is not performing up to our needs. See comments in committee meeting minutes elsewhere in this report.

NHCA electronically published four regular issues of the *Spectrum* and one supplement (a Conference program) during this time period under editors Kevin Michael and David Byrne. Papers copies are no longer printed and have not been since July 2003 (Vol. 20, Issue 3). This process appears to be going well.

Sales on NHCA's various publications including the seven Professional Guides, the *Crank it Down* brochure, the *Noise Destroys* poster, the *Cochlear Landscape* poster, and our 35-mm slide sets are shown below. Sales are for calendar years, except 2006 which is for ½ year from January through June.

	PG1	PG2	PG3	PG4	PG5	PG6	PG7	Crank It Down	ND poster	CL poster	Slide Set
2004	364	214	12	48	410	326	972	880	319	14	6
2005	1828	1603	309	538	771	581	1867	1202	688	21	2
2006	102	152	27	52	1	21	371	2010	76	3	0

F. Executive Council Conference Call (April 12, 2005)

- A decision was made to upgrade all associate members to individual member status.

G. Executive Council Summer Meeting (June 23-24, 2005, Denver, CO)

- An investment strategy is still being crafted based on the one used by CAOHC.
- The priorities of the Leadership Advisory Team were enunciated as promoting the conference, driving people to the website, and developing content.
- Traffic on the web is up 50% and 800 sites link directly to NHCA.
- A decision was made to put all issues of *Spectrum* on our web site.
- A huge increase in student members was reported and two new categories of membership are now available – PSO-Additional and CM-Additional, for PSOs and CMs who have additional employees not meeting member criteria.
- Deanna Meinke reported that a \$5000 grant from CU-Boulder, Marion Downs Hearing Center was received to provide for training 25 substitute teachers and providing them teacher's kits for educating children on noise.
- Whereas NHCA used to pay an outside CPA to handle monthly financials, this is now being done in house. A CPA will be used for the annual tax return.
- It was decided that there would be no dues increase, and no increase in conference registration or exhibitor fees this year.

H. Executive Council Conference Call (November 16, 2005)

- The possibility was raised of creating an NHCA Lifetime Achievement Award; a policy would have

to be developed.

- John Casali represented NHCA at the National Academy of Engineering workshop in Washington, DC intended to establish a *Task Force for a Quieter America*.
- It was agreed to take \$101,368 out of the Key Money market account and move it to Vanguard Wellesley Income Admiral Fund as a long-term investment strategy.
- NHCA again participated in the AES conference in New York.

I. Executive Council Meetings at Annual Conference (February 15-18, 2006)

- An unusually high numbers of ballots were received for this year's annual election – 129.
- Two substantive changes were made to the Policy Manual this year, one on the Task Force on Children and Noise and another on the use of NHCA's logo and trademark.
- The Leadership Advisory Team recommended a date for summer 2006 for a new long-range planning session.
- It was reported that 47 first-time attendees were expected at the Conference.
- The Vanguard investment was revisited and instead it was decided to put 6-month roll-over CD while additional investigation is undertaken.
- The Program Committee was asked for a recommendation on how to address commercialism in presentations at the Conference.

J. Annual Conference

The 31st Annual Hearing Conservation Conference was held February 16 - 18, 2006 at the Hyatt Regency Tampa in Tampa, FL. Paid registrants, early full member registration fees, total participants and total exhibitors, appear in the table below. There were 4 Association Sponsors (3M, Bilsom/Howard Leight, E•A•R/Peltor, and Quest, 7 affiliates [AAA, AIHA, ASA, ASHA, Benson Medical Instruments, CAOHC, and NIOSH/CDC], and 12 exhibitors (Bio-Logic Systems Corp., Eckel Industries of Canada Ltd., EI, Inc., G.R.A.S.Sound & Vibration, Hearing Components, Larson Davis, Maico Diagnostics, Moldex-Metric, Inc., Occupational Marketing, Inc. (OMI), ResultGroup, Inc., Tremetrics, and US Army Healthcare) for a total of 25 organizations, companies, or brand names (Association Sponsor second brands also counted as organizations) represented in the exhibit hall. Sponsors were solicited for various events and elements of the conference in addition to the normal solicitation for luncheon and break support. Aearo, AIHA, Bilsom/Howard Leight, Eckel, Quest Technologies, Sonomax, and Westone sponsored Student Scholarships. E•A•R sponsored the tote bags, and Bilsom/Howard Leight sponsored the opening cocktail reception and awards luncheon, Bio-Logic Systems sponsored a conference break, and House Ear Institute sponsored the Friday luncheon.

Year	Location	Paid Registration	Total Participants	Early Member Registration Fee	Exhibits
1996	San Francisco	160	225	325	26
1997	Orlando	179	231	395	29
1998	Albuquerque	158	227	395	27
1999	Atlanta	192	250	395	25
2000	Denver	144	215	395	29
2001	Raleigh	181	249	395	22
2002	Dallas	187	260	415	20
2003	Dallas	178	251	435	23
2004	Seattle	205	280	457	22
2005	Tucson	165	243	457	22
2006	Tampa	210	286	457	25

The Silent Auction, which was held by the NHCA Scholarship Foundation, was successful in generating \$4096 of income. The Foundation also held a raffle resulting in \$1440 in income and a Golf Tournament, netting \$2032. The meeting resulted in a profit of \$41,844.

The faculty and program participants listed in the program consisted of 54 names. The six workshops were:

Hearing Loss Prevention for Musicians (Michael Santucci and Thom Fiegle)
 Field Verification of HPD Attenuation (Brad Witt, Kevin Michael, Sigfrid Soli, and Lee Hager)
 Meet the Media (Aaron Patnode)
 Bettering Your Business (Jeffrey Goldberg)
 PSO Professional Issues (Timothy Rink, Richard Stepkin, Carolyn Tolley, Merlyn Lubiens)
 Hearing loss prevention – the Basics (Elliott Berger, James Jerome, Susan Megerson, Rick Neitzel, Nancy Vause, and Laurie Wells)

Additionally, there was a 4-6 pm public school workshop for local K-8 classroom educators with an attendance of about 40.

The Conference included 2 forums, 15 platform lectures, the Don Gasaway Lecture by Nancy Vause, 18 posters, Saturday morning roundtable discussions (23 rounds in the dining area), a 45-min. concurrent session in which attendees had 3 options to choose from, and a luncheon lecture by David D. Yager, "Insect Hearing."

The following awards were presented at the Conference:

Michael Beall Threadgill Award	Randy Tubbs
Outstanding Hearing Conservationist	Donald Henderson
Outstanding Lecture Award (2005)	Brad Witt
Outstanding Poster Award (2005)	Sabine Reinfeldt
Golden Lobe Award	Stephen Eberle, Greg Flamme, Jerry Jensema, Jim Jerome, Sandra MacLean-Uberuaga, Ted Madison, Susan Megerson, Rick Neitzel and Vickie Tuten
Media Award	Brian Fligor

No student poster contest was held this year. Susan Megerson did an excellent job of shepherding the Student Scholarship awards for the conference to make sure that students were present and participated. Cash awards of up to \$500 for expenses were provided to students Lovejoy Muchenje, Jeremy Slagely and Andrea Wagner, and a special luncheon sponsored by AIHA, Bacou-Dalloz, E-A-R, Eckel Industries, Examinetics, Peltor Company, Quest Technologies, Westone, and friends of NHCA was hosted for those students.

The Friday-evening Gala this year was a beach party on Clearwater Beach, including crab races.

K. Annual Business Meeting

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

L. Excellence Seminars and other 1-2 Day Events

There were no Excellence Seminars held during this time period.

M. Position Statements/Regulatory Involvement

NHCA continued to work with the OSHA Alliance.

N. Changes to Bylaws

None this year.

O. Slate of Candidates for 2006-2007 Ballot mailed in November 2005

President Elect	Theresa Schulz
Secretary-Treasurer	Jerry Jensema, James Jerome
Director of Education	Brian Fligor, Greg Flamme
Director of Membership	Laura Kauth, Michael Santucci
Member Delegate	Nancy Gallihugh, Kathryn Schmidt-Miller

129 ballots were returned this year.

P. Year-End Financial Statement

The financial statements for the 7/1/05 - 6/30/06 fiscal year reflect an estimated net income over expense of \$28,054. under the cash method of accounting, except for dues which are accrual. This makes 6 years in a row with healthy net revenue.