

NHCA ARCHIVE REPORT: February 19, 2006 - February 17, 2007

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

This document summarizes key activities for the period just subsequent to the 2006 Annual Conference (held in Tampa, FL) and concluding just subsequent to the activities of the 2007 Annual Conference (held in Savannah, GA). Hence, all activities at the 2007 Conference in Savannah are included. Financial data through the end of the fiscal year concluding in June 2007 are also included. It contains the following sections:

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A. Executive Council, Committee Chairs, and Liaisons

At the 2007 Annual Conference in Savannah, GA the following individuals continued or were installed as officers and members of the NHCA Executive Council, Committee Chairs, and Liaisons.

Executive Council

President	Theresa Schulz	PSO Member Delegate	Tim Rlnk
President Elect	Deanna Meinke	Commercial Delegate	Renee Bessette
Secretary/Treasurer	Jim Jerome	Associate Member Delegate	Karen Turner
Director of Communications	Beth Cooper	Past President	John Casali
Director of Education	Brian Fligor	Student Member Delegate:	Erin Keller
Director of Membership	Mike Santucci	Historian	Elliott Berger
Member Delegates	Kathryn Schmidt-Miller, Jennifer Tufts		

Task Forces/Liaisons

Leadership Advisory Team	John Casali
Legislation	Laura Kauth
Nominations	John Casali
Program	Susan Griest
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	Beth Cooper

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

NHCA Scholarship Foundation Board

President James Lankford
Secretary Jim Jerome
Treasurer Mary McDaniel
Directors John Casali, Vernon Larson, Susan Megerson
Student Member Erin Keller

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, 2007. After that audits will occur every three years.

Past President John Casali conducted the management evaluation. Overall, the Council was pleased with the services provided by Great Western. GWAMI proposed a renewed one-year contract that included a 3% cost of operations adjustment. Modifications in the contract were made to reflect current and projected activities.

C. Membership and Directory

Total paid members through May 2007 were 542. For priors years see the table below. This included 8 emeritus members and a large increase in student members from 113 to 188. 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	2006	542

D. Member Dues, and Affiliate and Exhibition Fees

Dues invoices for the 2007 membership year were mailed January 16, 2007. Dues amounts were increased slightly this year. 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
2007	155	155	No charge	890	360

Sponsor fees for the 2007 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	\$1125
Non-NHCA Commercial Members	\$1675

E. Communications (Web Site and Publications)

After reviewing alternatives the decision was made to stay with MemberClicks, though they have acknowledged the need to improve their service. 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).

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
2007	54	104	2	3	2	105	655	277	174	6	2

F. Executive Council Conference Call (Spring 2006)

- No spring conference call took place this year.

G. Executive Council Summer Meeting (June 20-21, 2006, Denver, CO)

- Concerns were raised over commercialism in presentations at conference. A new conflict of interest statement will be prepared to send to presenters.
- After much research the decision was made to continue using MemberClicks for web site services.
- A decision was made to start indexing all copies of *Spectrum* on the web site.
- Membership is increasing, but primarily due to many new student members.
- It was decided that the current \$50,000 CD would be rolled over for 6 months at maturity as well as setting up a new \$50,000 CD for another 6 months.

H. Executive Council Conference Call (December 4, 2006)

- The contract with GWAMI was signed with a 3% increase included that is average to below average for the industry. In also includes the purchase annually of convention cancellation insurance.
- A letter was sent to Dorothy Dougherty of OSHA regarding the need to update 29CFR1910.95 with respect to audiometric standards and insert earphone use.
- A partnership with NIOSH and NORA was discussed to recognize quality hearing conservation

- programs using criteria from NIOSH and NHCA. This is under consideration.
- Because Cliff Wolcott had been non-responsive, a replacement Commercial Member Delegate, Renee Bessette was appointed mid term.
- NHCA received a letter regarding noise levels at swim meets. John Casali asked Rick Neitzel to respond. Rick and Elliott Berger drafted a reply.

I. Executive Council Meetings at Annual Conference (February 14-17, 2007)

- Dave Byrne proposed that the *Spectrum* combine with *Noise & Health*, effectively making that latter journal, the journal of NHCA. Much discussion and works will be forthcoming to explore this topic.
- NHCA agreed to send a letter to OSHA in support of the ISEA petition to revise the regulation to include an 85-dB PEL and 3-dB exchange rate.
- Karen Turner reported on an Excellence Seminar she is planning for Winnipeg in Oct. 2007. NHCA agreed to cosponsor.
- The Council approved pursuing a trademark for the new logo
- NHCA continues to move forward to collaborate with the Am. Academy of Audiology. At the 2007 conference NHCA will create a Hearing Loss Prevention SuperTrack and provide speakers and topics.
- NHCA contracted with the Am. Inst. of Physics for press/media coverage for the conference at a flat cost of \$4,560 plus \$500-\$600 for press releases to internet-based newswires.
- A new logo was created and approved for NHCA.
- It was reported that we now have 165 student members.
- Michael Santucci agreed to donate his booth for NHCA to use at the AAA convention and to feature the new NHCA logo.
- NHCA received a request from the National Advisory Committee on Occupational Safety and Health (NACOSH) for nominations to their board.
- As the result of a complaint the Council received about a presentation at the 2007 conference the Council decided to look into changing the policy on commercialism/professionalism.

J. Annual Conference

The 32nd Annual Hearing Conservation Conference was held February 15 - 17, 2007 at the Hyatt Regency in Savannah, GA. 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, ASHA, Benson Medical Instruments, CAOHC, NIOSH/CDC, and NIDCD), and 7 exhibitors [down from 12 last year] (Eckel Industries of Canada Ltd., Etymotic Research, Inc., G.R.A.S. Sound & Vibration, Hearing Components, Larson Davis, Moldex-Metric, Inc., and Tremetrics) for a total of 18 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. 3M, Aearo, AIHA, Bilsom/Howard Leight, John Casali, Examinetics, James and Vera Lankford, Quest Technologies, Shure, Sonomax, and Workplace Hearing sponsored Student Scholarships. E•A•R sponsored the tote bags, and Bilsom/Howard Leight sponsored the opening cocktail reception and awards luncheon (note one less break and one less luncheon than sponsored in prior year).

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
2007	Savannah*	176	218	460	18

* Because of weather issues affecting attendance at this year's conference, the Council voted that all no shows would receive a one-time 25% discount off of the conference rate for 2008 or 2009. The 218 does not include the 26 no shows.

The meeting resulted in a profit for NHCA of \$21,623. The Silent Auction, which was held by the NHCA Scholarship Foundation, was successful in generating \$4,843 of income. The Foundation also held a raffle resulting in \$1,762 in income and a Golf Tournament, netting \$3,957.

The faculty and program participants listed in the program consisted of 60 names. The six workshops were:

Build Your Own Multi-Media Resources for Effective HC Training (Beth Cooper)
 Bettering Your Business (Jeffrey Goldberg and Howard Raphael)
 Hearing Loss Prevention – Beyond the Basics (Dennis Driscoll and James Jerome)
 Work-Relatedness in Reference to the OSHA 300 Log (George Cook)
 Bone Conduction Mechanisms and Applications (Stefan Stenfelt)
 Hearing loss prevention – the Basics (Elliott Berger, Rick Neitzel, Timothy Swisher, Cindy Bloyer, Laurie Wells, Nancy Vause, and Lynnette Bardolf)

The Conference included no forums this year, 17 platform lectures, the Don Gasaway Lecture by James Lankford, 11 posters, Saturday morning roundtable discussions (23 rounds in the dining area), a 45-min. concurrent session in which attendees had 4 options from which to choose, and a luncheon lecture by Charles D. Ross, "The Use of Acoustical Phenomena to Make Strategic and Tactical Decisions During the Civil War."

The following awards were presented at the Conference:

Michael Beall Threadgill Award	James Lankford
Outstanding Hearing Conservationist	G. Richard Price
Outstanding Lecture Award (2006)	Brad Witt
Outstanding Poster Award (2006)	Chandran Achutan
Golden Lobe Award	Elliott Berger, Brian Fligor, Nancy Gallihugh, Pam Graydon, Susan Griest, Jim Jerome, Ted Madison, Rick Neitzel, Deanna Meinke, Michael Santucci, Andrea Wagner
Media Award	Billy Martin, Robert Folmer, Susan Griest, Linda Howarth, Judy Sobel

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. Award winners were Benson Davis (scholarship and travel award), Sara Gill (scholarship), Elizabeth Baum and Khaled Alali (travel). A special luncheon sponsored by 3M, Aearo, AIHA, Bilsom/Howard

Leight, John Casali, Examinetics, James and Vera Lankford, Quest Technologies, Shure, Sonomax, and Workplace Hearing was hosted for those students.

The Friday-evening Gala this year was held at historic Old Fort Jackson on the Savannah River.

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

NHCA assisted in cosponsoring a NIOSH conference on *Barriers to Effective Use of Hearing Protection*, held in Cincinnati, Aug. 9-11, 2006, and on *Noise-Induced Hearing Loss in Children at Work and Play*, held in Covington, KY, Oct. 19-20, 2006. The children's conference had 115 attendees with representation from 5 countries. NHCA allowed use of their name by Univ. of Washington for a best practices seminar that was held May 15, 2007 in Seattle.

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 2007-2008 Ballot mailed in January 10, 2007.

President Elect	Deanna Meinke
Director of Communication	Beth Cooper
Member Delegate	Jennifer Tufts
PSO Delegate	Timothy Rink
Commercial Member Delegate	Renee Bessette

103 ballots were returned this year.

P. Year-End Financial Statement

The financial statements for the 7/1/06 - 6/30/07 fiscal year reflect an estimated net income over expense of (\$67,217.00).under the cash method of accounting, except for dues which are accrual. The adjusted deficit is (\$47,415.65) due to receipt of NIOSH funds in the prior year expensed in 2006-2007. The lower than anticipated attendance at the Savannah conference resulted in 34% less net income over budgeted expense. The deficit will be covered by reserves and the Executive Council is looking at ways to increase income and decrease expenses.