

**NHCA ARCHIVE REPORT: February 24, 2002 - February 22, 2003**  
Elliott H. Berger (Historian) and Karen Wojdyla (Executive Director)

This document summarizes key activities for the period just subsequent to the 2002 Annual Conference (held in Dallas, TX) and concluding just subsequent to the activities of the 2003 Annual Conference (also held in Dallas, TX). Hence, all activities at the 2003 Conference in Dallas are included. Financial data through the end of the fiscal year concluding in June 2003 are also included. The report contains the following sections:

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**A. Executive Council, Committee Chairs, and Liaisons**

At the 2002 Annual Conference in Dallas, TX, the following individuals were installed or continued as officers and members of the NHCA Executive Council, Committee Chairs, and Liaisons:

Executive Council

President	James Lankford
President Elect	Tim Bailey
Vice President	Laurie Wells
Secretary	Tressie Waldo
Treasurer	Ted Madison
Member Delegates	Robert Dobie and Kevin Michael (replacing Dan Johnson, deceased)
PSO Delegate	Carolyn Tolley
Commercial Delegate	Katherine Armstrong
Associate Member Delegate	Ann-Marie Grusch
Past President	Doug Ohlin
Historian	Elliott Berger

Committee Chairs

Bylaws	Linda Moulin
Employee Education & Motivational Techniques	Carol Merry Stephenson
Ethical Practice	Sandra MacLean
Legislation	Randy Tubbs
Nominations	Tim Bailey
Program	Laurie Wells
Public Relations	(Mike Sterrett resigned); Jim Banach appointed
Steering	Doug Ohlin
Publications	Rena Glaser

Scholarship Committee	James Lankford
<u>Ad Hoc Committee Chairs</u>	
Audiometric Data Transfer	Richard Stepkin
Hearing Conservation in University Programs	Dick Danielson
OSHA Changes	John Elmore
<u>Liaisons / Task Forces</u>	
American Academy of Audiology	Mark Stephenson
ANSI S12	Kevin Michael
Audiological Ref. Criteria for HCP Professionals	Theresa Schulz and Roy Jackson
Hearing Cons./Educ. for Children and Adolesc.	Deanna Meinke
Website	Rob Pluta

**B. Management Firm Activities**

Sarah Focke left Great Western on March 15, 2002 moving out of state with her husband. No replacement was hired to take her place.

Karen Wojdyla, vice president of Great Western Association Management, Inc. purchased the company on January 1, 2003.

**C. Summer Executive Council Meeting (July, 2002, Denver, CO)**

- Rob Pluta reported on major revisions to the web site. See Section L below.
- It was decided that annually, 50% of the auction income at the annual conference be earmarked for the Scholarship Fund.

**D. Membership and Directory**

A 2002/2003 directory was published July 2002 sponsored by E-A-R.

Total paid members through May 2003 were 427 (as compared to 652, 459, 479, 447, 422, 418 in the six preceding years of 1997 – 2002). (All approved member applications after September 30 are placed in the following membership year.)

**E. Excellence Seminars and other 1-2 Day Events**

The 13th Annual Excellence in Hearing Conservation Seminar was held on October 16, 2002, in Chicago, IL. There were six affiliates [3M, CAOHC, E•A•R/Aearo, Howard Leight/Bacou, Quest Technologies, and Sonomax], 22 paid attendees, and 7 presenters on the following topics:

James Banach	Noise Measurement
Dennis Driscoll	Principles of Noise Control
Elliott Berger	Hearing Protection ... you said what?
Richard Stepkin	Loss prevention vs. OSHA compliance
Theresa Schulz	Education/Motivation
Thomas Thunder	Making Sense of Audiometry: When is Hearing Loss Work-Related
Tressie Waldo	Panel Discussion

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 (10 attended), and \$550 for affiliates. The meeting produced a loss of \$1058 as compared to a loss of \$1807 in the prior year and profits of \$4206, \$3100 and \$4027 for the three years before that.

Lee Hager arranged a no-frills 1-day training offering in Lehigh Valley, PA on April 23, 2002, co-sponsored by the Lehigh Valley Local Section of AIHA, with Dave Moyer (moyerds@apci.com, 610-481-5233) serving as local liaison. The list of speakers included:

Tim Bailey	Noise Measurement
Steve Roth	Noise Control Engineering
Eric Patton	Preventing Hearing Loss: New Issues, New Protectors
Rick Stepkin	Hearing Conservation Effectiveness
Doug Ohlin	Behavioral Obstacles to Effective Hearing Loss Prevention
Lee Hager	Hearing Loss Prevention Regulations

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 handled the logistics. These simplified procedures led to reduced costs. Registration fees were \$125/\$145. With paid registration of 34, the meeting produced a profit of \$1226 as compared to \$566 in the prior year.

Lee Hager was also involved in arranging another 1-day seminar with the AIHA Pacific Northwest local section at McMenamins Troutfield in Portland, OR on January 21, 2003. The contact was Katie Lavaty. The list of speakers included:

Rob Brauch	Noise Measurement and Instrumentation
Lee Hager	Standards and Regulations
Katherine Armstrong	Hearing Protection
Laurie Wells	Training and Motivation
Laurie Wells (fill in for Mary McDaniel)	Data Management
Rick Neitzel	Noise in Construction

Registration fees ranged from \$125 to \$170 depending on whether registrants were a member and their date of registration. Paid registration was approximately 55. The profit was \$3438.

A 2-day seminar entitled *Best Practices Workshop: Combined Effects of Chemicals and Noise on Hearing* was cosponsored by NIOSH and held in Cincinnati on April 11-12, 2002. Attendance was 58 including 14 speakers, with a profit of \$293.

#### **F. Fall Executive Council Meeting (October, 29, 2002, Conference Call)**

- As a cost saver this Council meeting was held via conference call instead of in person.
- The Treasurer reported a \$30,000 contribution from the estate of Phyllis Rasmussen; \$10,000 was placed in reserves and \$20,000 in the Scholarship fund.
- In spite of the contribution the Treasurer was concerned about a future financial crisis and the need for reserves. A finance committee was formed.
- It was decided not to print a conference brochure for the 2003 annual conference in order to save money.

**G. Member Dues, and Affiliate and Exhibition Fees**

Dues invoices for the 2003 membership year were mailed in December 2002. 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 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

Sponsor fees for the 2003 Conference were \$5,500 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 \$2300 for corporate affiliates (3 attendees, double exhibit space) and \$1500 for non-profits (2 attendees). Exhibition fees were:

Commercial/PSO Members	\$1050
Non-NHCA Commercial Members	\$1575

**H. Annual Conference**

The 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Hearing Conservation Conference was held February 20 - 22, 2003 at the Westin Park Central Hotel, Dallas, TX (for the second year in a row). Paid registrants, early full member registration fees, total participants and total exhibitors, appear in the table below. There were 5 Association Sponsors (3M, Bilsom/Howard Leight, E•A•R/Peltor, Quest, and Sonomax), 5 not-for-profit or government affiliates [AAA, AIHA, ASHA, CAOHC, CDC/NIOSH], and a total of 23 organizations, companies, or brand names (Association Sponsor second brands) were 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. AIHA sponsored a Student Scholarship, ASI and the Center for Hearing Health sponsored the opening reception, E•A•R sponsored the tote bags, and Eckel and ResultGroup sponsored refreshment breaks.

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

The Silent Auction was successful generating \$2,071 of income, and in its third year the Live Auction (auctioneer Ted Madison), although abbreviated and part of the evening reception on Thursday, was hugely successful raising \$5,050. The success was assured by a single purchase by Nancy Green of \$1000 for a copy of the AIHA *Noise Manual*. The meeting resulted in a profit of \$42,750, which was

\$5,400 over budget.

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

- Hearing Conservation Training and Outreach Showcase
- Chemical Exposure and NIHL
- Family Business Partners
- Human Factors Principles in Auditory Warning Signal Detection
- Hearing loss prevention – the Basics (a special Excellence Seminar type offering)

The Conference provided 3 forums, 13 platform lectures, the Don Gasaway Lecture, Saturday morning roundtable discussions (13 rounds in the dining area), a 90-min. concurrent session in which attendees had 3 options to choose from, a poster session, and a luncheon lecture by Diana Deutsch, "Musical Illusions and Paradoxes."

A planned media theater did not occur because materials were lost in shipment and did not reach the conference in time.

The following awards were presented at the Conference:

Michael Beall Threadgill Award	Mary McDaniel
Outstanding Hearing Conservationist	Mead Killion
Outstanding Lecture Award (2002)	Ted Madison
Outstanding Poster Award (2002)	Chanda J. Campbell
Golden Lobe Award	Ann Anderson, Elliott Berger, Lee Hager, Susan Megerson, Deanna Meinke, Rick Neitzel, Laurie Wells
Media Award	not given
Special Recognition	Rena Glaser

No student poster contest was held this year, however Susan Megerson did an excellent job of shepherding the Student Scholarship awards for the conference to make sure that students were present and participants. Four cash awards of \$150 each were provided and a special luncheon sponsored by AIHA, Eckel Industries and Quest Technologies was hosted for those students.

The Friday-evening Gala this year was a Mad Scientist reception at the Dallas Science Place.

**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**

- An agreement for an alliance between OSHA and NHCA in which NHCA provides consultation and education was reported on and should be completed within the year.
- Discussion of the Silent and Live Auction proceeds suggested that it is important for now to put the proceeds in the general operating fund instead of directing them solely to the Scholarship Fund as was done in the past.
- The paperwork authorizing the NHCA Scholarship fund is almost complete and it was reported that plans were afoot to announce to universities the availability of \$1500 scholarships.
- The Steering Committee presented plans to move from a printed to electronic *Spectrum* on a trial basis.
- It was suggested that it was time to organize a new strategic planning meeting.

**K. Publications**

NHCA published four regular issues of the Spectrum and one supplement (a Conference program) during this time period under editor Rena Glaser. After five years of service Rena stepped down (her last issue was April 2003) and was replaced by Kevin Michael and David Byrne.

The *Crank it Down* brochure was completed and posted on the web site.

**L. Web Site**

This is a new section of the archive report because of the growth of the importance of this communication vehicle. A new maintenance agreement was signed with web master Margaret A. Martin.

A new members only area was established on the web site that is password protected. It contains conference handouts, draft guidelines, and other materials deemed as member benefits.

A moderated listserv was also established.

**M. Position Statements/Regulatory Involvement**

See section J re the OSHA alliance.

**M. Changes to Bylaws**

None.

**N. Slate of Candidates for January 2003 Ballot**

President Elect	Ted Madison
Secretary	Bob Millier
Member Delegate	Tom Thunder, Nancy Vause
PSO Delegate	Scott Hengen
Commercial Delegate	Jean Nicolas Laperle

Ninety-seven (97) ballots were returned this year.

**O. Year-End Financial Statement**

The financial statements for the 7/1/02 - 6/30/03 fiscal year reflect an estimated net income over expense of \$35,000.00 under the accrual method of accounting. This makes 3 years in a row with a healthy net revenue.