

September 20, 2008
Volume 9 of 12

Hello INSERT\_FIRST\_NAME INSERT\_LAST\_NAME,

# Happy 20th Anniversary!

To celebrate the Academy's 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary, you will receive this special e-newsletter on the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month throughout 2008. We will feature meaningful stories from members, special events, and milestones in Academy history. Let us know if you have a story to share. We want to hear from you. Contact us at **publications@audiology.org**.

## A Moment in American Academy of Audiology History

This month's 20th anniversary e-mail is going to be a little different; it will highlight some of the activities and initiatives planned in October celebrating National Audiology Awareness Month and National Protect Your Hearing Month.

This October will mark a milestone in Academy history and we are depending greatly on the grassroots efforts of each individual member to help spread the word. Imagine if 10,000 members promoted audiology to at least 10 consumers. That would be 100,000 Americans who were more aware of audiology, audiologists, and the importance of protecting their hearing. Now, imagine if 10,000 members reached 100 people each; one million consumers would be more informed.

Review the downloadable and customizable resources available to you on the Academy's Web site.

Here are some of the planned activities and initiatives:

#### **NOVA Southeastern University**

At the NOVA Southeastern University (NSU) campus, they will publish information about audiology and hearing protection in the university-wide e-newsletter, SharkByte. The information will be featured in one of the e-newsletters, but will remain as a link off to the side for the whole month.

The audiology clinic on campus will be papered with the National Audiology Awareness Month and National Protect Your Hearing Month posters; and the audiology department is participating in the DisAbilities Expo on the NSU campus, promoting the month there as well.

Audiologists at NSU have taken it beyond the campus as well: the department chair Erica Friedland is going to have information placed into the PTA newsletters at the school her children attend, and Patricia Gaffney says they are working on reaching out to two local schools to have information placed in their PTA newsletters as well.

The NSU NAFDA students are planning on promoting audiology awareness and hearing protection around campus by giving away earplugs and talking to students around campus about the dangers of loud noise from iPods and bars.

#### 23rd Annual Youth for Tomorrow Country Fair and Auction

On October 4, 2008, in Bristow, Virginia, the Academy will exhibit in the health and wellness area of the 23rd Annual Youth for Tomorrow Country Fair and Auction. The Academy will bring the DiscovEARy Zone kids, who are fitted with audiometers so that kids and adults can see the decibel levels of their MP3 players. We will also pass out goodies, fact sheets on audiology and hearing protection, posters, and brochures. The country fair is hosted by Youth for Tomorrow Founder and NASCAR Owner Joe Gibbs, and is expected to draw thousands.

#### **Facebook and MySpace**

Facebook and MySpace are great social media tools to keep in contact with colleagues and old friends, but are also good ways to communicate with people who have common interests as well.

For those of you who do not know, the Academy has a MySpace and Facebook page, where audiologists and consumers can interact with one another. As part of these pages, the Academy has created groups to help promote National Audiology Awareness Month and National Protect Your Hearing Month. Academy members and nonmembers alike are logging on and telling us what they are planning in October to celebrate this significant month. Krissy Petrovich from Pittsburg, PA, is planning on setting up a hearing aid class at her local senior center.

### **Berks Hearing Professionals, LLC**

Mindy Brudereck of Berks Hearing Professionals, LLC, in Pennsylvania is excited to be running in a 5K for cochlear implant awareness on October 5. She is also working with the event coordinators to have a table at the race where she and co-workers can hand out information on audiology in celebration of National Audiology Awareness Month. They are also working on having a booth at the local senior expo at the end of the month.

#### Turn It to the Left® Reaches Educators and Classrooms

During the month of October, Turn It to the Left and information about noise-induced hearing loss will be featured in NEA Today, the leading magazine for teachers K-12 with a readership of 2.9 million. The information will guide readers to the soon-to-be-revised Turn It to the Left Web site, where educators, parents, and consumers can download fact sheets, classroom games, and teaching tools. Look for the new Turn It to the Left Web site (www.TurnItToTheLeft.com) coming soon!

The momentum is building and October is shaping up to be a great month for audiologists everywhere.

Send us your stories, activities, and initiatives on how you plan to celebrate in October.

#### Contest

To get an early start on October, can you name what three actions are recommended to protect your hearing on the National Protect Your Hearing Month posters? Be the first person to e-mail the answer to **Christy Hanson** and win a \$20 gift certificate to the Academy Store.

All entries must be received by October 3, 2008. Members who have previously won are not eligible. All winners must be current members of the American Academy of Audiology.

## **Congratulations!**



Andy Vermiglio, AuD, from California, has won a \$20 gift certificate to the Academy Store for being the first person to e-mail the correct year that the *Audiology Today* special issue "American Wartime Military Audiology" was published. The correct answer is: January 2002.

Andy Vermiglio is a senior research associate at the House Ear Institute (HEI) in the Department of Human

Communication Sciences and Devices. At HEI, Vermiglio has been involved in the development of the Windows-based Hearing in Noise Test (HINT) and the Source Azimuth Identification in Noise Test (SAINT). Prior to joining the Department of Human Communication Sciences and Devices at HEI, he worked as a clinical audiologist at the House Ear Clinic and the VA Medical Center in Long Beach. He has also worked as a research associate in the Department of Auditory Electrophysiology at HEI. Vermiglio is a former U.S. Navy musician and drum instructor for the U.S. Armed Forces School of Music. He has performed and recorded music with an impressive list of talented artists and continues to work as a freelance musician. He earned both a BA and an MA in communicative disorders at California State University, Long Beach, and received his doctorate from Central Michigan University.

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