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the American Academy of Audiology is the  
world's largest professional organization  
of, by and for audiologists.

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**March 20, 2008**  
Volume 3 of 12

AudiologyNOW!  
2008

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

## Happy 20th Anniversary!

*To celebrate the Academy's 20th anniversary, you will receive this special e-newsletter on the 20th 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](mailto:publications@audiology.org).*

### A Moment in American Academy of Audiology History

Nineteen years ago this April, the American Academy of Audiology hosted its first-ever convention. The original convention was held in Kiawah Island, South Carolina, and attracted 569 attendees. Since then the annual convention has grown substantially, boasting attendance as high as 7,321.

Since 1989, the annual convention, branded "AudiologyNOW!" in 2006, has seen many exciting events and started many traditions, from the first Trivia Bowl, held in 1990, to the initiation of the Audiology Awareness Campaign in 1994, to having Ben Jackson perform the Academy's "Turn It to the Left" rap in front of the general assembly. AudiologyNOW! has also seen many famous faces: Surgeon General C. Everett Koop in 1994, Heather Whitestone (former Miss America) in 1995, Rep. Ed Whitefield in 2000, Senator Bob Dole in 2003, Allison Levine in 2007, and many more.

Although seeing a famous face at the annual meeting is always fun, some of the greatest faces to see belong to children as they learn about hearing. At AudiologyNOW! in 2007, the Academy presented the DiscovEARy Zone, a free, interactive, and educational experience about the human ear and hearing loss open to kids in the local area. The display met with so much success that

the Academy will again host the DiscovEARy Zone this year in Charlotte.

The DiscovEARy Zone has grown in size since last year and will feature various activities designed to educate children in the Charlotte community on the anatomy of the ear, Dangerous Decibels, and how to protect their hearing. The DiscovEARy Zone will feature new interactive displays such as a manikin designed to gauge decibel levels from MP3 players. Kids can put their MP3 player headphones on the manikin and learn at what decibel level they are listening to their music. In partnership with Blue Tree Publishing, Dangerous Decibels, and Sensimetrics, the 2008 DiscovEARy zone promises to be a hot spot to visit during this year's AudiologyNOW!



Take a moment at AudiologyNOW! to stop by the DiscovEARy Zone, located on the second floor of the Charlotte Convention Center, next to the Grand Staircase.

## **Sound Effects**

*Academy members share stories from their lives in audiology.*

**My Fondest Memory of Audiology, by Pat Bishop**

I earned my master of communication disorders degree from LSU Medical Center School of Allied Health in New Orleans in 1983. At the New Orleans VAMC I gained valuable experience fitting veterans with hearing aids during a traineeship in 1982--83. My fondest memory occurred when I saw a veteran for a follow-up appointment after fitting him with a Telex behind-the-ear hearing aid. When I asked him how he was doing, he said with delight, "I can hear the birds again!" From that moment on, I was hooked on hearing aids! I knew I wanted to make audiology and hearing aid fitting my vocation. In the early 80s, audiologists were just beginning to fit hearing aids en masse in private practice. Many states, including Louisiana, required audiologists to obtain a license to fit hearing aids as well as an audiology license. I sat for my Louisiana Hearing Aid Dealer and Fitters examination and got my license to fit hearing aids before I earned my master's degree. (I think I was the first student at LSU to do so before graduation, though I am not certain.) After 20 years of working in hospital, ENT, and private

practice settings, I returned to the VA. I now work at the Rochester NY VA Community Outpatient Center. It is my privilege to work with veterans once again.



As a fellow member of the American Academy of Audiology, Pat Bishop has been an audiologist for almost 25 years. She received her AuD from the Arizona School of Health Sciences in 2004 and for the past four years has worked for the VA, where she enjoys every day she gets to work with her heroic patients. **Read full bio of Pat Bishop here.**

Be featured in the next 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary e-newsletter by sharing a memorable moment from your life in audiology. Send your submission to **[chanson@audiology.org](mailto:chanson@audiology.org)**.

## 19 Years of Conventions

In celebration of 19 years of conventions, this is your chance to win a \$20 gift certificate to the Academy Store. Simply name the year, chairperson, location, and attendance number of our largest convention. Be the first person to e-mail the correct answer to **[publications@audiology.org](mailto:publications@audiology.org)**.

All entries must be received by 4/7/08. Members who have previously won are not eligible. All winners must be current members of the American Academy of Audiology.

## Congratulations

Tom Quesnell won a \$20 gift certificate to the Academy Store for being the first person to e-mail the correct names of the Academy presidents over the past 20 years.

Tom has been a fellow of the American Academy of Audiology since 1995, when he received his MS in audiology at Purdue University. He currently works in a hospital setting providing comprehensive audiological services to patients of all ages, from newborn to seniors.

Tom says, "Variety and the opportunity to optimize hearing and communication abilities in our patients is the best thing about working as an audiologist in this environment. Kudos to all who have worked before and are working currently to enhance and optimize our profession."

## **20th Anniversary Events and Activities at AudiologyNOW! 2008**

Unique festivities celebrating the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Academy are planned for AudiologyNOW! 2008 in Charlotte, NC, April 2-5. If you have never attended AudiologyNOW!, this is the year to start. In addition to the once-in-a-lifetime events celebrating our 20 years as an association, you won't want to miss the excellent educational and networking opportunities that attendees have come to expect. **Register today.**

### **Tuesday, April 1, 8:30am (Shuttle Pick-up) 10:30am (Shotgun Start)**

#### ***“HEAR to PLAY” Golf Tournament***

Swing into action...network and have fun...tee off at the Raintree Country Club and start your spring off right. Registration fees benefit the AAA Foundation.

### **Thursday, April 3, 10:00am-11:30am**

#### ***General Assembly***

Don't miss a commemorative presentation of the Academy's first 20 years...the people, the events and activities, and the overall passion for the profession. We will also ceremonially seal a time capsule filled with collected Academy memorabilia.

### **Thursday, April 3, 12:30pm-2:00pm**

#### ***Founders' Luncheon***

Look back at the success of the Academy, show your appreciation, and meet the founders who gathered back in 1988 to organize the only national organization of, by, and for the profession of audiology. Additional fee.

### **Thursday, April 3, 7:00pm-10:00pm**

#### ***Celebrate Audiology Special Event***

Enjoy refreshments and good friends, while you celebrate 20 years of Academy success. Challenge yourself with whitewater rafting, climbing, or a rope course at the world's largest outdoor recreation center, the U.S. National Whitewater Center.

### **Saturday, April 5, 4:30pm-6:30pm**

#### ***Trivia Bowl: 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary-Style***

A battle of wits and memory... do you have what it takes? Students, researchers, and practitioners join in...gather your teams and “wow” us with your knowledge at this special anniversary event.

**Register to attend AudiologyNOW!** and take part in these special 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary events.

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