GOT AUDIOLOGY?

WE DO!

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August 21-23, 2008
Lake Buena Vista, Florida
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Siemens Hearing Instruments proudly supports the Florida Academy of Audiology in its efforts to improve all aspects of hearing health care.
I have to think that naming our association’s magazine, the Audiology Advocate, was not just a contrite attempt by the FLAA founders at a whimsical cliché. I must think that the name emanates the desire of FLAA audiologists to be advocates for our profession and our patients. The thesaurus offers many words as appropriate substitutes for “advocate” – such as, supporter, promoter, believer, campaigner, activist, champion, etc. When viewing these firm adjectives, one may think that fulfilling this expectation is a bit daunting. Fortunately, there are so many opportunities available in our daily lives to show our advocacy.

Our clinics provide the obvious arena where patient advocacy is demonstrated on a daily basis. From the neonate to the centarian, our ability to provide accurate diagnostic examinations, appropriate aural (re)habilitation services, critical vestibular treatments, intense tinnitus therapies, and essential consultative expertise displays our action of advocacy. Not to mention, this supportive service trickles down to our clinic staff members as they work to assure appointments are organized/effective while confirming that our audiologic messages get delivered to the appropriate members of a patient’s medical community. One time, I even heard of a practice where the audiologist’s need to assure appropriate patient care dictated that all annual check-up appointments for hearing aid users must be scheduled on the day of the patient’s hearing aid delivery appointment – one year away – just to make sure the commitment was secured!

Advocacy must continue to be extended to the hearing impaired community directly and frequently. A great example includes the governor appointed Florida Coordinating Council for Deaf and Hard of Hearing that was created in 2004 to serve as an advisory body to recommend policies that address the public and private needs of all hearing impaired Floridians. And, of course, another example is seen with the Hearing Loss Association of Florida who recently hosted one of our Floridian campaigners – Dr. Charles Berlin - at their Board of Trustees meeting. Support for these and other local groups via volunteerism, financial endowments, and/or vocal support are always welcomed.
Show Your Advocacy!
by Suzanne Younker, Au.D., President

Mapping Out the Issue in this Issue
by Sharon Rophie, Au.D., VP Communications

Membership Needs YOU!
by Frederick Cobb, Ph.D., VP Membership

Treasurer’s Report
by Debra Shimon, Au.D., Treasurer

Ask the Advocate
by Janet Shelfer, Au.D., Secretary

Bill to Legalize Mail Order Hearing Aids in Florida Fails
by Fred Rahe, VP Professional Issues

A Brief “Hello” from Your New Executive Director
by Rachel Brooke, FLAA Executive Director

Got Audiology! 2008 Convention Highlights
by Ali Danesh, Ph.D.

2008 Convention Speakers

2008 Convention Agenda

2008 Convention Registration Form

For the latest Convention information, visit www.floridaaudiology.org.

We look forward to seeing you in August!
Welcome to the summer 2008 issue of The Advocate. This issue features our 12th Annual FLAA Convention, which will be at the Regal Sun Resort in Orlando August 21-23. Dr. Ali Danish has put together an exciting convention filled with a variety of topics and excellent speakers. You will have an opportunity to receive Tier 1 and Medical Errors hours. The convention also features fun social events such as the Golf Tournament, Trivia Bowl, and Opening Reception, as well as the annual Business Meeting and Silent Auction. Thank you to our sponsors for their continued support! Registration forms are included in this issue. Early registration ends July 31.

I would like to welcome Rachel Brooke, Director of Association & Meeting Services, to Association Source. Rachel joins Jody Rosen, Association Manager. They are hard at work at all the behind the scenes details for FLAA. You will have an opportunity to meet them at convention.

In this issue, FLAA President, Dr. Suzanne Younker, describes the many ways we show advocacy for our profession. Dr. Fred Rahe reports on recent legislation regarding the legalization of mail order hearing aids. Dr. Fred Cobb provides a membership update and encourages everyone to invite colleagues to join FLAA. Have any questions you would like answered in Ask the Advocate? Submit them to shelfer.janet@mayo.edu.

The Advocate is here for you and we would love to hear from you! We are interested in your contributions to The Advocate, including research articles, human interest stories, news items, or information about a program or activity of interest. Please email me at rophie.hearing@gmail.com. Looking forward to seeing you at convention!
Greetings academy members, we have 184 members with 173 fellows of the academy and 9 student members. We are in “convention mode.” Our membership will benefit from our usual outstanding meeting experience. Membership increases from this conference each year as colleagues new to FLAA and students attend. There is a little “bump” at this time as prospective members and students learn and re-learn the wonderful “FLAA experience” during convention.

This will be my first meeting with everyone as the academy’s membership vice president and I intend to take full advantage of that. I know the many academy benefits of our fabulous conventions: outstanding speakers with ABA-approved sessions, golf tournament, trivia bowl, silent auction, exhibitors, meet and greet get-togethers. I can’t wait! What I’ll be looking forward to is meeting you. I want to know how membership can be further assisted. I want to know what you consider the academy’s best features and what aspects of academy membership can be improved upon.

Membership brings great power to the academy. There is great power in one organization representing all of the practicing audiologists in the state of Florida. Legislative, licensing, insurance and other professional practice issues can be more quickly addressed when it is recognized that the organization presenting the problem also represents all of those concerned. “Strength in numbers” is not just a cliché, it is the fact for which many policies, definitions, mandates, and legislative issues find resolution. Those groups with the higher membership numbers are asked to sit at the head table which is exactly where I want you to be. Please encourage your colleagues to join FLAA in 2008 to add muscle to our formidable foundation.
## TREASURER’S REPORT

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Debra Shimon, Au.D.
Treasurer
Question: Is it necessary to measure the RECD on both ears? Sometimes I can only get my pediatric patients to sit for a RECD on one ear.

Answer: If the physical appearance of the outer ear and the middle ear status is the same for both ears, the RECD measurement from one ear can be used for the other ear. There is some data to suggest that if these conditions are met, the RECD values should be similar for both ears (Tharpe, Sladen, Huta, & Rothpletz, 2001).

This Ask The Expert Question was taken from an article previously published on Audiology Online entitled, “Learning the Art to Apply the Science: Common Questions Related to Pediatric Hearing Instrument Fitting”. See Bagatto and Moodie (2007) for additional information.


Question: What is known at this time about massive doses of beta-carotene in reduction of tinnitus?

Answer: For the patient, tinnitus - the name given to any head noise - is a problem. It can fluctuate or be constant. It can be interfering and in some cases, debilitating.

To the medical profession, tinnitus is a symptom. Something is causing the ear(s) to ring (or hum or any other descriptor assigned to it by the patient).

My first recommendation would be to consult your primary care physician (PCP) or ear, nose and throat specialist (ENT), as well as an audiologist, to determine the cause of the tinnitus. Once a cause is established, a treatment plan can be implemented.

Tinnitus relief can occur with the use of hearing aids (if there is a hearing loss associated with the tinnitus), tinnitus ‘maskers’ (ear-level worn hearing aid-type devices that generate a different sound), Tinnitus Retraining Therapy (TRT), the use of a noise generator at night to help you fall asleep, improved diet and nutrition, acupuncture, hypnosis and the use of non-traditional (herbal) therapies such as zinc or ginkgo biloba.

If a patient chooses to bypass finding the causal relationship or told “you’ll just have to live with it,” they are free to try any number of “over-the-counter” (OTC) products. Please keep in mind that the FDA does not require the stringent testing for efficacy and safety for OTC ‘natural’ products as it does with drugs. Therefore, the
manufacturer does not have to follow “Good Manufacturing Practice Guidelines” established by the FDA nor do they have to prove to the FDA its effectiveness. However, the contents must be listed on the label and should be accurate in their content percentages. Most of the time you will see two asterisks under the Percent of Daily Requirement column on the label with the note that “no minimal daily requirement has been established.” That comment is a red flag.

Keep in mind, if the OTC therapies really worked, it would make front page headlines because millions of persons have tinnitus in one form or another and would greatly benefit from this proven treatment.

I may have just given you more information than you requested, but it lays the foundation to my answer for your question regarding massive doses of beta-carotene in the reduction of tinnitus. Many advertised tinnitus pills claim that one of the active “tinnitus relieving” ingredients is Vitamin A. This is usually provided in the form of beta-carotene. Your body converts beta-carotene into Vitamin A, but only as much as needed.

I consulted with Kathy Campbell, Ph.D., at Southern Illinois University, who is an expert in otoprotective and ototoxic agents. I asked her if she knew anything on the effectiveness of Vitamin A and tinnitus. She stated, “If it worked it should be published.... Vitamin A (which is quite toxic at high levels) doesn’t usually appear in the vitamin supplement section.”

This is why beta-carotene is used in many supplements as it provides a safe method of providing Vitamin A. Any excess beta-carotene is either stored or excreted by the body. So, even though a person is taking large doses of beta-carotene, they are only getting as much Vitamin A as the body requires. Therefore, the use of “massive amounts” can be really wasteful, as you may be getting plenty of Vitamin A from other sources such as carrots, spinach, lettuce, tomatoes and other yellow, orange and green leafy fruits and vegetables.

I went ahead and performed a literature search on Vitamin A and tinnitus using the PubMed database of peer reviewed research studies (www.pubmed.org). I found several articles on the topic from the 50s and the 60s but there were not any abstracts listed, so I could not read the results. If Vitamin A would have worked back then, it would be common medical practice for treating tinnitus today. I did find one research study out of a German research journal from the early 80s (Brand, H. (1983) that looked at 96 cases of tinnitus treated with vasodilators and Vitamin A. The treatment method was reported as “unsatisfactory”.

Remember the articles that I mentioned above are published in scientific, peer reviewed journals. You may see other mentions of “research studies” that show the benefit of various pills or supplements to provide tinnitus relief. If the research (probably conducted by the company who sells the pills) has not been held up to the gold standard of peer review, I would not give these “research studies” much weight.

I would advise persons seeking OTC tinnitus relief to see at their PCP first to establish the cause and then implement a treatment plan that includes the services of an audiologist and then wait for the FDA to approve something that really works.

I hope this helps!


Robert M. DiSogra, AuD., FAA, is the Director of Audiology Associates of Freehold (NJ) and adjunct faculty member The School of Audiology at the Pennsylvania College of Optometry where he has taught the Pharmacology/Ototoxicity course.
An amendment was introduced in the last days of the 2008 Florida legislative session that would have legalized mail order sale of certain types of hearing aids. While first appearing innocuous enough as legislation to allow for the sale of hunters’ amplifiers, compression devices for shooters, and other assistive hearing devices, it became clear that it was a veiled attempt to allow for the sale of mail order and over the counter hearing aids. Fortunately, the amendment was not passed.

Apparently the amendment was introduced at the request of several manufacturers of mail order hearing aids. The word is that they are already planning on filing the legislation again next year, and have a team of high power lobbyists lined up to promote the change. We will be monitoring this activity closely, and will be collaborating with FLASHA and the Florida Hearing Aid Society in our efforts to make sure the sale of hearing aids is not de-regulated.

Now is the time to start thinking about any legislative contacts you may have in Florida. Also, any examples of consumers that were harmed or misdiagnosed as a result of purchasing hearing aids by mail order would be very helpful.

The legislation as introduced was as follows:

Notwithstanding any provision of law, “hearing aid” does not include and specifically excludes frequency specific enhancement devices used by sportsmen, hunting deafening devices, ear plugs, and other assistive listening devices of 30 decibels or less, which are not specifically and individually fitted for a hearing impaired person.
A BRIEF “HELLO” FROM YOUR NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Rachel Brooke
Executive Director

When Jody Rosen brought me on board with The Association Source in mid May, I was very excited to begin working with FLAA. While almost two months have already passed by in the blink of an eye, please let me take this opportunity to formally introduce myself; my name is Rachel Brooke and I am your new Executive Director.

A graduate of University of Florida (Go Gators!), I received my Bachelor of Science in Management and minored in Mass Communications. From there, I went on to work for several years in the association world, providing exposure to all facets of association management including education, special events, membership, governmental affairs etc.

Now diligently working with your Board of Directors on a day-to-day basis, I hope to utilize my background to introduce new and exciting ways of maximizing your member benefits and further the efficiency of the association as a whole.

I look forward to seeing many of you at the 2008 FLAA Convention in August. Please feel free to contact me should you have any questions, comments, or just want to say hi!

Did you know...

- you can advertise with FLAA for as little as only $175 per issue?
- you can take advantage of our job posting service for as little as $100 for a 60-day posting?
- you can get involved and make a difference with FLAA by joining a committee?
Visit www.floridaudiology.org to maximize your membership!
Another exciting convention is on its way and I would like to personally invite you to this fabulous meeting. A variety of speakers have been invited to attend and present during our 12th annual convention. Your FLAA board members have worked hard to offer the finest lectures and topics by world class speakers for this year’s convention. The invited speakers come from famous laboratories and universities from different parts of the country. Many aspects of audiology will be discussed during our convention. This year, as previous years, I have made plans to make sure that we will hear and learn about the many diverse areas of audiology. Additionally, similar to the last year’s meeting; we will offer a tier 1 ABA approved course and a course on medical errors to meet the criteria for your board and licensing needs. Here are some of the topics that we will have this year:

1. Amplification and Audiologic rehabilitation: a variety of lectures related to amplification will enhance our knowledge about the current advancements in this branch of audiology. These will include lectures about open fittings, aural rehabilitation and practice/patient management.

2. Auditory Processing: Several lectures will cover many areas of auditory processing diagnosis and treatment. Scholars will share their expertise on how to manage patients with auditory processing disorders. This will include topics on both diagnosis and management of auditory processing disorders.

3. Tinnitus and Hyperacusis: Many audiologists are realizing the importance of the inclusion of tinnitus and hyperacusis management in their clinical services. Experts from well known tinnitus and hyperacusis clinics in the country will share their knowledge and expertise in the diagnosis and management of these disorders.

4. Clinical audiology and patient management: A variety of papers will address the issues of audiologic report development, infection control in audiology practices, and cerumen management.
5. Physiological and electrophysiological evaluation of auditory and vestibular systems will be another highlight of this year’s convention. Lectures will be presented on middle ear analysis, vestibular responses and auditory evoked potentials.

Thank you for all of your support in the past four years during my term as the VP of Education. It has been a great journey for me. I have learned a lot and have made great friends. The FLAA executive board is open to your suggestions and kindly asks you to share your concerns with us. I hope to see you at your own 12th convention on August 21-23, 2008, in Regal Sun Resorts, Lake Buena Vista/Orlando.
2008 FLAA Convention Speakers

**Edward Aleo, Ph.D.**

Bio: Edward Aleo, Ph.D, received his doctorate from Ohio State University. Dr. Aleo has served as an active member on several professional Boards such as the NY State Hearing Aid Dispensing Licensing Board and the Long Island Queens Audiology Associates. His book publications include “The Joy of Dispensing” and many articles in professional magazines on hearing aid fitting methods.

**Course Title: Abuse, Neglect, & Exploitation of the Elderly**

Audiologists and other hearing health care professionals have a civil and ethical responsibility to report any instance of suspected or confirmed elder abuse, neglect, or exploitation. These choices are difficult and warrant some guidance. This course addressed the key indicators of what constitutes abuse/neglect in the elderly population.

**Learning Outcomes:**
1. Identify symptoms of elderly neglect or abuse.
2. Identify the appropriate steps of reporting.
3. Identify the appropriate steps of prevention.

**Topic Area(s):** Client Satisfaction & Business Management

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**A.U. Bankaitis, Ph.D.**

Bio: A.U. Bankaitis is Vice President and General Manager of Oaktree Products, Inc of St. Louis, MO. Dr. Bankaitis earned her doctorate from the University of Cincinnati in 1995 where her funded research investigated the effects of HIV on the auditory system. She has held academic as well as various clinical positions throughout her career including serving as Director of Audiology at the St. Louis University Medical Center’s Department of Otolaryngology. She is the primary author of several books inducing the popular text and DVD series entitled Cerumen Management as well and Infection Control in the Audiology Clinic.

**Course Title: Infection Control For Audiology**

Audiology services are sought by diverse patient populations who are susceptible to potentially infectious microorganisms residing throughout the hearing aid dispensing environment. As providers of health care services, audiologists must take appropriate measures to protect patients, co-workers and themselves in clinical situations that may expose individuals to infectious microbes. Infection control involves the process of minimizing the risk of potential exposure to infectious organisms through careful manipulation of the clinical environment. The purpose of this course is to provide a rationale and practical guidelines for implementing infection control protocols in the audiology clinic.

**Learning Outcomes:**
1. Identify 3 reasons why infection control is necessary in the audiology clinic.
2. List 3 specific procedures for which infection control protocols must be implemented.
3. Generate a step-by-step infection control protocol based on individual and interactive group activities implemented during the course.

**Course Title: Cerumen Management (2 hour course)**

Audiologists and hearing instrument specialists provide a variety of services that require the patient’s ear to be relatively free of cerumen as significant amounts will interfere with diagnostic, rehabilitative, and/or hearing aid dispensing procedures. As such, cerumen removal has become a more important practice management issue as it is a critical component to the overall hearing health care management process. This course is designed to address core issues related to cerumen management including a review of ear canal anatomy and physiology, the pathophysiology of cerumen, instrumentation, equipment considerations, and cerumen removal techniques. This course will integrate portions of a 25 minute video illustrating proper cerumen removal techniques, exposing participants to observational experience in cerumen removal.

**Learning Outcomes:**
1. Identify 3 specific techniques available for removing cerumen, including removal strategies associated with each technique.
2. Identify 2 specific instruments and/or pieces of equipment associated with each cerumen removal technique.
3. Identify 2 specific cerumen removal strategy principles that must be followed during cerumen management procedures.

**Topic Area(s):** Infection Control & Cerumen Management
Douglas Beck, Au.D.

Bio: Douglas L. Beck Au.D. earned his master’s degree at the State University of New York at Buffalo (1984) and his doctorate from the University of Florida at Gainesville (2000). Dr. Beck became Editor-In-Chief of www.audiologyonline.com in 1999. Six years later he joined Oticon as the Director of Professional Relations. Dr. Beck is a prolific author and has edited, written, co-authored and/or “ghost written” hundreds of professional publications form news items and journal articles to trade magazine submissions and book chapters.

Course Title: Electroneuronography: Introduction, Practical and Theoretical Matters
Electroneuronography (ENoG) is the only test that quantifies the physiologic viability of the facial nerve. Quantification of facial nerve status is extraordinarily useful in the evaluation of Bell’s Palsy and temporal bone fracture (as well as other disease and trauma-based etiologies). ENoG results and analysis are often the decision-basis for facial nerve decompression surgery. In this presentation, we’ll cover basic facial nerve anatomy, facial nerve grading scales, ENoG test protocol with respect to stimulation and recording parameters, as well as real life case examples.

Please feel free to bring an interesting (brief) case for presentation, as questions will be welcome throughout the presentation.

Learning Outcomes:
1. Describe the appropriate timing for ENoG testing, with respect to onset of facial nerve paralysis.
2. Describe and use the House-Brackmann facial nerve grading system.
3. Interpret and report ENoG results, consistent with medical & surgical need.

Course Title: Amplification & Aural Rehab for Patients with Severe-to-Profound Hearing Loss
Patients with Severe-to-Profound sensorineural hearing loss (SNHL) are not only disadvantaged with respect to their auditory abilities, but they face terrific hardship regarding socio-economic, educational, and recreational aspects of their lives. In this presentation, demographics of the severe-to-profound hearing loss patient will be revealed. Amplification strategies (including a brief discussion of meta-contols and their rationale) will be reviewed and explored and alternative fitting considerations (FM) will be presented. Aural Rehabilitation considerations and recommendations will be presented. A brief question and answer period will be offered.

Learning Outcomes:
1. Learn the financial disadvantages associated with severe-to-profound hearing loss.
2. Conversant in the need for, and the advantages of, meta-controls on modern hearing aids.
3. Learn the brief components of an effective aural rehabilitation program and the advantages associated with AR programs.

Cindy Beyer, Au.D.

Bio: Cindy Beyer is currently the Senior Vice President of HearUSA (a.k.a., HEARx). Cindy’s expertise includes managing the Quality Management Department, overseeing company performance monitoring, and coordinating professional growth. Cindy also orchestrates Benefits Management and Third Party Contracting and has published several articles in Audiology Today, Advance for Audiologist, Seminars in Hearing and The Hearing Journal on such topics as hearing aid benefit outcomes and reducing hearing aid returns through patient education.

Course Title: Preventing Clinical Errors in Hearing Care
Malpractice and Medicare sanctions can be either a result of a deliberate or a negligent act committed by a health care provider and audiologists are not excluded. Being knowledgeable and diligent in all audioligic practice activities is a necessity for the protection of the practitioner as well as the patient. This course will address specific audiology related requirements.

Learning Outcomes:
1. Differentiate between appropriate and inappropriate record keeping and billing activities.
2. Identify common audioligic practice errors in patient care.
3. Identify methods in reduction of medical errors in audiological practice.

Topic Area(s): Medical Errors
**Paul Davis, Ph.D.**

Bio: Dr. Paul Davis is an Audiologist with particular interests in Tinnitus, Hearing Aids, Counseling, Auditory Processing, Pediatrics and Indigenous Populations. He is the Inventor of the Neuromonics Tinnitus Treatment, and was part of the team that successfully brought it to market. He now is an Associate Professor of Audiology at Nova Southeastern university, where he aims to help inspire the next generation of audiologists, and help advance science with fresh new research.

**Course Title: Tinnitus Patient Triage: Management or Treatment?**

Tinnitus can be a pervasive and debilitating condition, so this presentation aims to assist the audiologist with practical solutions for helping those afflicted with it. The latest understanding of tinnitus and hyperacusis pathogenesis will be discussed.

Means of quantifying tinnitus severity will be outlined, as well as how to determine the individual needs of the patient. The use of an evidence-based rehabilitation program with structured follow-ups will be promoted. Until recently, most approaches have been attempting only to help patients manage tinnitus, but now there are several ways of treating it. The Neuromonics Tinnitus Treatment is clearly the fastest growing treatment available, so its principles and outcomes in both clinical trials and private practice will be reviewed. Candidacy for hearing aids and noise generators will also be discussed, and the role of effective counseling and active relaxation training will be emphasized.

**Learning Outcomes:**
1. Describe a recent model of tinnitus and hyperacusis pathogenesis.
2. Describe several means of quantifying tinnitus severity and patient triage for various forms of management or treatment.
3. Describe the underlying rationale for the Neuromonics Tinnitus Treatment and some typical clinical outcomes.

**Topic Area(s):** Tinnitus Management

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**Steve Eagon, Au.D. & Pierce Schubert**

Bio: Steve Eagon has been an Audiologist for 19 years and received his Audiology degree from Ohio University in Athens, OH. He has been with HearingPlanet for 8 years. During his career with HearingPlanet, he has seen all sides of Internet and hearing aid distribution, in addition to studying related consumer and sales behavior. Steve and his family reside in Nashville, TN.

Bio: Pierce Schubert manages the provider network at HearingPlanet. He was Territory Manager for Vivatone Hearing Systems prior to joining HearingPlanet. Pierce has consulted with hundreds of hearing professionals about various professional issues as they relate to their practices. He received his Bachelor’s Degree in Communications from the University of Tennessee.

**Course Title: Hearing Aid Distribution and the Internet – How Does This Affect Me As a Hearing Professional?**

The power of the Internet and the profound impact it has on our lives is not up for debate. The explosion in its use by Baby-Boomers and Seniors is remarkable. In the last 10 years, hearing aid marketing and distribution on the Internet has impacted Audiology and the Hearing Aid Dispensing profession immensely. This presentation will cover past and current trends with online hearing aid distribution as well as discussing how this affects the Audiologist.

**Learning Outcomes:**
1. Know the basics of online marketing.
2. Be able to counsel their patients effectively when confronted with different purchase options.
3. Be provided strategies on retaining current customers and how to keep new ones from “shopping around”.

**Topic Area(s):** Amplification & Business Management
David Fabry, Ph.D.

Bio: David Fabry, Ph.D., is Chief of Audiology at the Miller School of Medicine at the University of Miami in Miami, Florida. He is the Editor of Audiology Today and a Past President of the American Academy of Audiology. He was formerly Chief of Audiology at Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota, and was Vice President for Professional Relations and Education for Phonak Hearing Systems.

Course Title: “Audiology and The Crystal Ball 2008: You Make the Call”

In this interactive session, participants will make a variety of predictions via a live “polling” system to determine the most and least likely events in audiology’s future. Prospective topics will include OTC and internet hearing aids, third-party reimbursement, solar-powered hearing aids, hair cell regeneration, as well as a variety of other topics. Audience participation is required!

Learning Outcomes:
1. Identify the most --and least-- likely technology trends affecting hearing aids.
2. Discuss the impact of the Internet on the profession of Audiology .
3. Deliberate the likelihood of hair cell regeneration and the impact it will have on the profession of Audiology.

Topic Area(s): Audiology practice and research

Patrick Feeney, Ph.D.

Bio: Dr. Feeney is an Associate Professor and Chief of Audiology in the department of Otolaryngology at the University of Washington. He also conducts research in diagnostic audiology at the Virginia Merrill Bloedel Hearing Research Center. He is currently serving as the 2008-2009 President of the American Academy of Audiology.

Course Title: Recent Advances in Middle Ear Measurement: Wideband Energy Reflectance

Wideband energy reflectance (ER) is a new clinical tool for middle-ear assessment. This presentation will examine the theory and clinical application of ER. The difference between wideband ER and traditional immittance measurements will be discussed. Data will be presented on normative aspects of ER across the life span. Clinical studies will be presented that show the application of wideband ER in the assessment of middle-ear disorders, acoustic reflex measurement and newborn hearing screening.

Learning Outcomes:
1. Explain the general concept of energy reflectance measurements of middle-ear function.
2. Discuss the use of energy reflectance to assess middle-ear disorders.
3. Discuss the potential benefits of adding energy reflectance to the test battery for newborn hearing screening.

Topic Area(s): Middle Ear Reflectance

Sergio Guerreiro, Au.D. & Alexandra Dunn, Au.D.

Bio: Dr. Guerreiro received his audiology degrees from the University of South Florida and Pennsylvania School of Optometry. His area of interest is Adult Rehabilitation and Amplification. His Masters Thesis titled “The Effects of Intervention Strategies on the Self-Perception of Hearing Handicap” resulted in subsequent research activities in the benefits of intervention on the adult hearing impaired quality of life. He was a clinical supervisor at the University of Louisville AuD. program and joined the HearUSA staff in 2001.

Bio: Alexandra Dunn received her undergraduate degree from The University of Texas at Austin and her master degree from Lamar University. Ms. Dunn has been employed as a clinical audiologist with HearUSA since 2000.

Course Title: Marketing to Your Community: Worth the Effort

Patients often admit being confused about our profession. Today’s marketing arrays - both print and television - seem to add to this confusion. Does personal marketing in a neutral, non-threatening venue help to clarify to the laymen the purpose of our profession? Yes! And, results will be proven with increased patient referrals.

Learning Outcomes:
1. Identify community venues in ones own area.
2. Implementation of Educational Seminars and tracking of referral sources.
3. Identify and develop referral networks in the community.

Topic Area(s): Business and Client Management
James W. Hall, III, Ph.D.

Bio: James W. Hall, III, Ph.D. is currently Professor and chair of the Department of Communicative Disorders, College of Health Professions, University of Florida. He is an expert in the areas of Auditory Electrophysiology, Auditory Processing, tinnitus, and early identification of hearing loss. He has received numerous prestigious awards and has authored books, scholarly journal articles and book chapters. He is the author of the widely used textbook New Handbook of Auditory Evoked Responses.

Course Title: Hyperacusis: Mechanisms, Assessment & Management

Hyperacusis is real, and for some patients it hurts. Defined as intolerance to loud sounds, and usually experienced by persons with normal hearing, hyperacusis can be debilitating for children and adults. In this presentation current explanations and theories for the mechanisms underlying hyperacusis are first reviewed. Then, a clinically feasible protocol for audioligic assessment is presented, followed by guidelines for effective management. Main points are highlighted with original clinical findings and case reports.

Learning Outcomes:
1. List the disorders and diseases to be considered in the diagnosis of hyperacusis.
2. Define hyperacusis versus similar disorders (e.g., loudness recruitment).
3. Identify audioligic procedures used in the assessment of hyperacusis.
4. List effective strategies for management of hyperacusis.

Topic Area(s): Hyperacusis & Tinnitus

Leah Light, Ph.D.

Bio: Dr. Leah Light is owner of Children’s Hearing Associates in Cooper City, Florida. She is certified by ASHA and a member of AAA and FLASHA. Dr. Light’s work primarily focuses on the diagnosis and management of Auditory Processing Disorders and their impact on learning, social and emotional development in children.

Course Title: Steps for Diagnosing and Treating APD: from Brainstem to Cortex

Auditory Processing Disorders have moved to the forefront of the psychoeducational arena as a new “buzz word.” Although audiologists have known about APDs since the 1960s, the idea that neural pathways can be “retrained” has sparked new interest. A fresh perspective from a “whole brain” point of view will be discussed, outlining the importance of treating APD in a neuro-developmentally correct sequence from the brainstem, through the midbrain, and ultimately, at the level of the auditory cortex.

Learning Outcomes:
1. Recognize that there are specific auditory milestones that develop sequentially, similar to other aspects of development (motor, speech-language, cognition).
2. Discuss auditory tests and how they relate to auditory function at various levels in the brain.
3. Learn about specific interventions and techniques for developing deficient auditory processing skills and why audiologists should be actively involved in the treatment of APD.

Topic Area(s): Auditory Processing Disorders and Management

H. Gustav Mueller, Ph.D.

Bio: Dr. H. Gustav Mueller is Professor of Audiology, Vanderbilt University, and has a private consulting practice nestled between the tundra and reality in Bismarck, ND. He is the Senior Audiology consultant for Siemens Hearing Instruments and Contributing Editor for The Hearing Journal. He also holds faculty positions with Central Michigan University, University of Northern Colorado and Rush University. Dr. Mueller is a Founder of the American Academy of Audiology, serves on the Editorial Boards of several audiology journals, is the Hearing Aids Series Editor for Plural Publishing, and is one of the earGuys at earTunes.com.

Course Title: Before the hearing aid fitting: Are there pre-tests that help?

Unfortunately, not all hearing aid fittings result in optimum benefit. Many hearing aids are returned because of “lack of benefit” and 12-15 percent of people who own hearing aids never use them. Moreover, those who do use them report low satisfaction in many important areas. If often is questioned if pre-testing prior the fitting will provide information that will assist with the fitting itself, and post-fitting counseling. This course will talk about tests that can be used. For example, we’ll talk about the use of traditional speech measures, loudness discomfort measures, speech-in-noise tests (e.g., QuickSin, HINT), the Acceptable Noise Level test, and the Performance-Perceptual test. How do you do these tests? Do any of these tests have predictive value? What do you do with the results? We’ll review case studies of how the results of these tests might be helpful.

Learning Outcomes:
1. Describe appropriate procedures for conduction speech tests.
2. List important considerations regarding the selection of the hearing aid’s MPO.
3. Describe how pre-tests can be used to impact patient counseling.
H. Gustav Mueller, Ph.D. (contd.)

Course Title: Clinical Issues Related to Open-Canal Fittings
In the past few years open canal technology using mini-BTE instruments has become a popular alternative fitting. Recent surveys suggest that audiologists are very enthusiastic regarding this product, and in some clinics, this style is over 75% of all fittings. As with any new technology, however, many questions still remain. Who is a candidate? What is the fitting range? Is the occlusion effect really eliminated? Should the receiver be in the aid or in the canal? How is the maximum power selected? What prescriptive fitting method should be used? Is it okay to use traditional prescriptive methods? How should these products be verified? What changes need to be made to traditional probe-mic measures? Does directional technology and DNR work okay with these products? We'll answer these questions and more, and provide some practical fitting guidelines.

Learning Outcomes:
1. Describe the differences between OC products with receiver in canal versus hearing aid case.
2. List important considerations regarding the selection of the hearing aid’s MPO for OC fittings.
3. Describe what procedures are required for conducting probe-mic measures with OC fittings.

Topic Area(s): Amplification

Frank Musiek, Ph.D.

Bio: Frank Musiek, Ph.D., of the University of Connecticut was the recipient of the 2007 James Jerger Career Award for Research in Audiology. His recent book With Gail Chermak; Central Auditory Processing Disorder, VOL.1 : Neuroscience and Diagnosis Plural Publishing, Central Auditory Processing Disorder, VOL.2 : Intervention won the 2007 Book of the Year Award from the Speech, Language and Hearing Bookshelf. He has the over 170 articles and 8 books to his publication credit.

Course Title: Across the Corpus Callosum: Implications to the diagnosis and treatment of CAPD (ABA Tier 1 Course)
In the past 2 decades there has been a marked increase in the understanding of the functions of the corpus callosum. Many of these functions related to new information in the management and diagnosis of CAPD. This presentation will highlight these recent advances including anatomy, physiology, dichotic listening, pattern perception and related intervention techniques such as dichotic interaural intensity difference (DIID) training.

Learning Outcomes:
1. Appreciate the functions of the corpus callosum as it relates to CAPD.
2. Formulate diagnostic approaches to dichotic listening tests in individuals with interhemispheric transfer problems.
3. Outline key clinical approaches to using DIID training.

Course Title: Auditory evoked potentials in the diagnosis and management of (C)APD and other aspects of Neuroaudiology
Though they have for sometime held much promise for their potential role in (C)APD auditory evoked potentials (AEPs) are not utilized as much as they probably should be.. Highlighted in this presentation will be how these AEPs can be utilized in a variety of clinical situations. In addition, lines of evidence for clinical use of AEPs will also be addressed. The ABR, MLR, N1-P2 and P300 with both speech and non speech signals will be presented in reference to both diagnostic and management utilization for (C)APD.

Learning Outcomes:
1. Discuss the key aspects of early, middle and late auditory evoked potentials (AEPs).
2. Formulate solid rationales for utilizing AEPs with various CAPD populations
3. Read and interpret early, middle and late AEPs.

Dana Ulmer, Au.D. & Scott Griffiths, Ph.D.

Bio: Dana Ulmer is a recent graduate of the University of Florida Doctor of Audiology program. Her clinical interests include pediatric audiology, auditory processing, hearing aids and aural rehabilitation. During her graduate studies, Dr. Ulmer served three terms on the National Association of Future Doctors of Audiology (NAFDA) board of representatives and served as the organization’s National Treasurer during the 2007-2008 term. Dr. Ulmer is also a sign language interpreter in the north central Florida area and has been signing for over 15 years.

Bio: Dr. Griffiths is associate professor within the department of Communication Sciences and Disorders at the University of Florida. He has served as Graduate Coordinator for the department since 1994 and is currently also Director of the University of Florida’s Doctor of Audiology program. Dr. Griffiths’ research interests include the physiology of hearing and balance, speech perception, and attention.
Dana Ulmer, Au.D. & Scott Griffiths, Ph.D. (contd.)

Course Title: Sign language and the Au.D. curriculum
This project examined the use of sign language within Audiology and the potential need for sign language courses within Au.D. curricula. The membership of NAFDA and a random sample of AAA members holding the Au.D. degree were surveyed. Results from 337 NAFDA members and 80 AAA members are discussed in terms of experience with sign language, student/professional status and perceived use of sign languages and need for sign in the Au.D. curriculum.

Learning Outcomes:
1. Identify the potential need for a sign language course(s) in the Au.D. curriculum.
2. Discuss the need for sign language skills in audiologic practice.
3. Determine potential benefits and/or costs of the introduction of sign language to the Au.D. curriculum.

Topic Area(s): Sign Language

Angela Flores Pool, M.S.

Bio: Angela Flores Pool received her undergraduate degree and Master of Science in Audiology from the University of South Alabama. She worked in the Audiology departments at Mayo Clinic Rochester and Mayo Clinic Jacksonville for approximately eight years. Ms. Flores Pool is currently employed as the Training Manager, Eastern Region for Siemens Hearing Instruments.

Course Title: Sixth generation digital technology—What does it look like and what can it do for our patients
This session will provide a brief overview of the latest digital technology innovations from Siemens Hearing Instruments and how those innovations may provide benefit to the hearing impaired listener. A completely new form factor for hearing instruments will be introduced.

Learning Outcomes:
1. List which electroacoustic component changes are achieved via SoundLearning.
2. List the current limitations of Bluetooth technology and how the current digital system from Siemens helps to alleviate some of these limitations for hearing impaired listeners.
3. Counsel their patients on the current digital instruments that are available and compatible with Bluetooth technology.

Topic Area(s): Amplification

David Zapala, Ph.D.

Bio: Dr. Zapala is an assistant professor in the Mayo School of Medicine and a Senior Consultant in Audiology at the Mayo Clinic in Jacksonville, Florida where he specializes in auditory and vestibular diagnostics. Dr. Zapala is a graduate of The University of Memphis. Prior to joining the Mayo Clinic, he worked for 11 years at Methodist Hospitals of Memphis. Dr. Zapala’s current research interests include (1) evaluating new techniques in balance assessment - specifically the VEMP; (2) Case selection effects on the efficacy of vestibular rehabilitation; (3) Mathematical modeling of hearing performance.

Course Title: Documentation in Audiology...The best marketing you can do
Documentation in Audiology is often approached as a necessary evil. This presentation will review how documentation practices reflect clinical decision making and how well written reports reflect doctoral level care. It will also touch on how information management practices can be used to support quality improvement efforts and clinical research. By understanding the principles in this introductory presentation, the audiologist will be well on their way to becoming a sought after contributor to patient care in their local health care system.

Learning Outcomes:
1. Describe the clinical process and how decision making in this setting differ from those in research.
2. Identify the necessary elements for documenting a problem focused or extended problem focused patient contact.
3. Organize a written report for any audiology encounter.

Course Title: Macular Tests and Laybrinthine Syndromes
Vestibular evoked myogenic potentials and unilateral centrifugation are tests of the vestibular macula. They contribute to the standard audiologic and vestibular evaluation by allowing the clinician to stratify patients into vestibular syndromes. The talk will review common vestibular syndromes, and show how syndrome type correlates with presenting symptoms and diagnoses.

Learning Outcomes:
1. Correctly identify five vestibular syndromes based on VEMP, audiological and caloric test results.
2. Identify which vestibular syndrome is most likely to herald an acoustic neuroma.
3. Identify three causes of enlarged vestibular evoked myogenic potentials.

Topic Area(s): Audiology and Vestibular Evaluation
Gap Detection Thresholds (GDTs) were measured using three sub-tests of the PC-based Adaptive Tests of Temporal Resolution (ATTR) with two sound cards (Lynx Studio Technology, LynxOne; Montego 7.1 Dolby Digital Live, Turtle Beach). Participants were 30 young adults with normal hearing. GDTs did not differ significantly between sound cards for any sub-test, suggesting that both higher-end and lower-end sound cards are appropriate for use with the ATTR. Acoustic analysis was also completed.

Title: Audiologic Test Findings in an APD Battery

We analyzed subjective and objective auditory data for over 400 school-age children who underwent an APD evaluation in a medical facility. More than half met accepted diagnostic criteria for APD. Relationships were observed between screening and diagnostic auditory processing test measures, as well as objective and subjective audiometric procedures. We describe the implications these relationships have for APD test selection, administration, analysis and interpretation.

Learning Outcomes:

1. Identify tests of temporal resolution.
2. Differentiate between screening and diagnostic auditory processing test battery.
3. Identify different tools in evaluation of auditory processing disorders.
Florida Academy of Audiology Convention Schedule
Got Audiology!
August 21-23, 2008
Regal Sun Resort, Orlando, FL

Thursday, August 21, 2008

8:00 a.m.  
**Golf Tournament at the Club**

10:00 a.m. -1:00 p.m.  
**Exhibit Set Up -Horizons Ballroom (Salons 1-6)**

12:00 p.m. -7:00p.m.  
**Registration Desk Open (At Entrance to Horizons Ballroom in Foyer)**

1:30 p.m.-7:00 p.m.  
**Opening of Convention in Exhibit Hall**

2:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m.  
**Electroneuronography: Introduction, Practical and Theoretical Matters**  
*Douglas Beck, Au.D.*  
(Salon 7)

2:00 p.m.-4:30 p.m.  
**“Audiology and The Crystal Ball 2008: You Make the Call”**  
*Lecture has a break from 3:00-3:30 p.m.*  
*David Fabry, Ph.D.*  
(Salons 9, 10, & 11)

3:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.  
**Break in Exhibit Hall**

3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
**“Abuse, Neglect, & Exploitation of the Elderly”**  
*Edward Aleo, Ph.D.*  
(Salon 7)

4:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.  
**Break in Exhibit Hall**

5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.  
**Sign language and the Au.D. Curriculum**  
*Dana Ulmer, AuD. & Scott Griffiths, Ph.D.*  
(Salon 7)

5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.  
**Hearing Aid Distribution and the Internet – How Does This Affect Me As a Hearing Professional?**  
*Steve Eagon, M.A. & Pierce Schubert*  
(Salons 9, 10, & 11)

6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.  
**Opening Night Reception in Exhibit Hall**  
*Generously Sponsored by Sonic Innovations*

7:30 p.m. - 8:45 p.m.  
**Third Annual FLAA Trivia Bowl**  
*James Hall III, Ph.D. and Fred Rahe, Au.D.*  
Enjoy food and drinks while learning and having fun!  
(Salons 8, 9, 10, & 11)  
*Generously Sponsored by Starkey*
Friday, August 22, 2008

8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. Registration Desk Open (At Entrance to Horizons Ballroom in Foyer)

7:30 a.m. - 8:30 a.m. **Breakfast in Exhibit Hall**
Generously Sponsored by Starkey

8:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. **Infection Control for Audiology.**
*A.U. Bankaitis, Ph.D.* (Salon 7)

8:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. **Hyperacusis: Mechanisms, Assessment & Management**
*James W. Hall III, Ph.D.* (Salons 8, 9, 10, & 11)

10:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. **Break in Exhibit Hall**

11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. **Recent Advances in Middle Ear Measurement: Wideband Energy Reflectance.**
*Patrick Feeney, Ph.D.* (Salon 7)

11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. **Amplification & Aural Rehab for Patients with Severe-to-Profound Hearing Loss**
*Douglas Beck, Au.D.* (Park Lake/Bay Lake)

12:00 p.m. - 1:20 p.m. **Academy Business Luncheon** (Salons 8, 9, 10, & 11)
(Presentations by FLAA President **Suzanne Younker, AuD.**, **Ali Danesh, Ph.D.**, Vice President of Education, and **Patrick Feeney, Ph.D.**, AAA President.) All Fellows & Associates are invited to attend.

1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. **Cerumen Management**
*A.U. Bankaitis, Ph.D.* (Salon 7)

1:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. **Steps for Diagnosing and Treating APD: from Brainstem to Cortex**
*Leah Light, Au.D* (Park Lake/Bay Lake)

2:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. **Documentation in Audiology...The best marketing you can do.**
*David Zapala, Ph.D.* (Park Lake/Bay Lake)

3:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. **Break in Exhibit Hall**
Generously Sponsored by Hear USA

4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. **Before the Hearing Aid Fitting: Are there pre-tests that help?**
*Gustav Mueller, Ph.D.* (Salons 9, 10, & 11)

4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. **Auditory Evoked Potentials in the Diagnosis and Other Aspects of Neuroaudiology.**
*Frank Musiek, Ph.D.* (Salon 7)

5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. **Student Research Forum**
*Jennifer Lister, Ph.D.*, Coordinator. (Salon 7)
The development of an adaptive clinical test of temporal resolution: Sound card differences.
*Danielle DeBiase, USF* - Mentors: *Jennifer Lister, Ph.D.* & *Jean Krause, Ph.D.*
Audiologic Test Findings in an APD Battery
Brittany N. Sakowicz, UF - Mentor: James W. Hall, III, Ph.D.

6:00 p.m. White Coat Ceremony - (Park Lake/Bay Lake)
Keynote Address by AAA President Patrick Feeney, Ph.D.
Generously Sponsored by Widex

6:30 p.m. White Coat Reception (Park Lake/ Bay Lake)
Generously Sponsored by Sonus Network

7:30 p.m. Dinner on Your Own

Saturday, August 23, 2008

8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Registration Desk Open (At Entrance to Horizons Ballroom in Foyer)

7:30 a.m. - 8:30 a.m. Breakfast in the Exhibit Hall

8:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. Clinical Issues Related to Open-Canal Fittings
Gustav Mueller, Ph.D. (Salon 7)

8:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Across the Corpus Callosum: Implications to the Diagnosis and Treatment of CAPD
Frank Musiek, Ph.D. (Salon 9, 10, & 11) TIER 1 ABA Approved Course

10:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Break in Exhibit Hall

11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Sixth Generation Digital Technology - What does it look like and what can it do for our patients?
Angela Flores Pool, M.S. (Salon 7)

12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. Box Lunch in Exhibit Hall

1:00 p.m. Exhibit Hall Closes

1:15 p.m. - 3:15 p.m. Macular Tests and Laybrinthine Syndromes
David Zapala, Ph.D. (Salon 7)

1:15 p.m. - 3:15 p.m. Preventing Clinical Errors in Hearing Care.
Cindy Beyer, Au.D. (Salons 9, 10, & 11)

3:15 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. Break

3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. Marketing to Your Community: Worth the Effort

3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. Tinnitus Patient Triage: Management or Treatment?
Paul Davis, Ph.D. (Salons 9, 10, & 11)

4:30 p.m. Adjournment ~ See you in August 20-22, 2009!
PGA National Resort & Spa, Palm Beach Gardens
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FLAA Member: Entire Meeting          □ $300          □ $350
One-day registration*: Which Day? ______________          □ $225          □ $275

Non-member: Entire Meeting          □ $450          □ $500
One-day registration*: Which Day? ______________          □ $275          □ $325

Golf Tournament (registration deadline 8/5/08):          □ $ 90          □ $ 90

Guest (Access to All Social Events excluding the Business Luncheon and Box Lunch)          □ $150          □ $150
(Academy by-laws state that membership as a Fellow requires Audiology License)

Membership fee for New Members and Renewals          □ $150          □ $150

Social Events (please check those you will be attending. There is no cost to attend these functions):

Thursday: ________ President's Reception  
Friday:       ________ Breakfast in Exhibit Hall  
             ________ White Coat Ceremony  
Saturday: ________ Breakfast in Exhibit Hall  
           ________ White Coat Reception  
                   ________ Trivia Bowl

* One-day registration includes provided meals and continuing education credits for the day selected

Payment Total: $ ____________________

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Questions: Contact FLAA at (561) 477-8100 or jrosen@associationsource.com

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- **Acousti-cal**
  Two Sears Gift Cards (Value - $200 each)

- **GN Resound**
  1 Set of Dot30 (Value - $5400)
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- **Jay Hall**
  Book

- **Oaktree Products Inc.**
  Cerumen Management Book 9 DVD Set
  (Value - $70)
  Set of 3 Books:
  Infection Control in the Hearing Air Clinic,
  Infection Control in the Audiology Clinic,
  and Infection Control for Speech-Language Pathology
  (Value - $105)

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  1 Delta 8000 Hearing Instrument (Value - $4700)

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  1 Set of Hearing Aids

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  Duffel Bag of Rayovac & Remington Items
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Thank you!

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2008 GOLF TOURNAMENT

- **Date:** Thursday, August 21st
- **Time:** 8:00 a.m. Shotgun
- **Location:** MetroWest Golf Club
  2100 S. Hiawassee Rd.
  Orlando, Florida 32835
  Just a short drive from Regal Sun Resort.

Registration is only $90.00 per person.
Absolute registration deadline is Wednesday, August 6th.

For more information, please contact
Rachel Brooke at 561.477.8100 or
rbrooke@associationsource.com,
or Fred Rahe at rahe@me.com (subject: FLAA Golf).
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