

AMERICAN NYSTAGMUS NETWORK



To improve the quality of life for all persons and families affected by nystagmus, through organized community support, education and public awareness.



2016 ANNUAL REPORT

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Nystagmus is an involuntary eye movement which usually results in some degree of visual loss. The degree and direction of eye movement, amount of visual loss and resulting impairment varies greatly from person to person.

President's Message

Welcome

The 2017 ANN bi-annual conference is coming!

We're thrilled to announce that the 2017 conference will be held in Minneapolis, MN at the Crowne Plaza Minneapolis Northstar Downtown, on July 28-30, 2017!

The conference, like our Facebook page and community, is a wonderful place to make connections and to build a broader perspective of experiences and stories as we move through life, regardless of whether or how we are affected by nystagmus.



We'd love to hear what you'd like to see and experience at the 2017 conference. Please visit our Facebook page and let us know.

And, like many of you, I have both good days, recognizing a friend on the street; and frustrating days, getting off the bus at the wrong stop because I couldn't read the street sign. Often, when I'm having a challenging day, it's thinking about the friends I've made at the conference, or other members in the nystagmus community who, almost like magic, can turn a frustrating experience into something that I actually look forward to telling others who I know will understand.

Speaking to the nystagmus community, "Perspective" is a theme that often comes up as a gift we receive from getting involved and making connections with one another on the Facebook Community, or at an ANN bi-annual conference, or through volunteering with one of ANN's many service committees.

Your involvement, your stories, your voice, and your service are the heart of ANN, and as we approach spring I encourage everyone to keep sharing, keep telling your stories, making your videos and fostering connections.

If you haven't been involved with ANN, there's never been a better time to make a donation or sign up to volunteer your skills, talents, and passion as, together, we continue to make the connections that help turn frustrations into triumphs and islands of experience into a thriving community.

Thank you,
Jim Conley

Thank You to our Donors

The American Nystagmus Network would like to thank the sponsors and donors who have generously supported both the 2015 conference and our mission.



DELTA GAMMA
FOUNDATION



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The American Nystagmus Network (ANN) is run by an entirely volunteer Board of Directors. Annual dues from members supports the day to day operations of ANN. However, donations become the backbone for additional services provided by the organization.

2017 ANN Conference



The ANN Conference Committee is pleased to announce that the 2017 conference will be held in Minneapolis, MN at the Crowne Plaza Minneapolis Northstar Downtown, on July 28-30, 2017. In addition to the polls conducted online (and thank you for all of you who participated!) many factors contributed to the selection of this city. Listed below are factors considered in the selection process, with a goal of seeing as many of you at 2017 Conference as possible!

- Hotel Cost. We were able to negotiate room rates at \$99/night, which includes internet access and parking (1st car).
- Airfare Cost. Minneapolis-St. Paul airport (MSP) is about 15 miles away from the hotel. MSP is a hub for Delta and Sun Country airlines. Additionally, the low cost carrier Southwest offers many flights per day from the east and west coasts and from points south.
- Transportation from airport to hotel – availability and cost. Conference attendees can catch the Blue Line light rail from Minneapolis-St. Paul airport that will take them downtown to one block from the hotel. Cost is \$1.75 one-way; the ride will take about 23 minutes.
- Location of hotel – downtown with attractions within walking distance and easy public transportation. A Blue Line light rail (METRO) stop is a block away from the hotel.
- Polls results – member and Facebook. Minneapolis placed 6th of 27 on the member poll and 15th of 31 on the FB poll. Although Minneapolis was not the top city on either poll, it had enough interest that it was not ruled out.
- Tourist city – Minneapolis is ranked 19th among the top big cities for tourism by Travel and Leisure in 2016.
- Weather – In the summer months, average high temperatures are in the low to mid 80s and low temperatures are in the mid 60s. Temperatures are comparable to other nearby metropolitan areas like Chicago.

We are very excited about this location, and feel it will be a great site for the 2017 conference! A bit of history: our second highest attended conference was in Minneapolis in 2001 (the highest was last year in New Orleans!). We look forward to seeing you there!

American Nystagmus Network, Inc.

Profit and Loss 2015

TOTAL INCOME

Donations	\$21,678.96
Total Income	\$21,678.96

EXPENSES

Accounting Software Services	\$ 447.15
Insurance D&O Liability	\$ 1,580.00
Event Insurance	\$ 761.00
Total Insurance	\$ 2,341.00
Webhosting	\$ 629.10
Mailbox Rental & Expenses	\$ 476.76
Membership Management	\$ 756.00
Supplies & Materials	\$ 180.00
Total Administrative Costs	\$ 4,830.01
Member Conferences	\$ 2,088.63
Conferences	\$ 2,088.63
Promotional/Awareness Supplies	\$ 460.00
Scholarships Scholarship Management Fees	\$ 1,274.00
Scholarships Awarded	\$ 5,000.00
Total Scholarships	\$ 6,274.00
Total Expenses	\$13,652.64

American Nystagmus Network at American Optometric Association

ANN had an exhibit booth at the annual American Optometric Association Conference in Boston, June 30 to July 2, 2016. In just two days we were able to speak with over 700 optometrists, paraoptometric professionals, and students to educate them on nystagmus, ANN, our mission, and to solicit their support and interest in ANN.

We connected with two schools of Optometry and provided them information to share with their students. We also had dinner with the Executive Director of Noah (National Organization for Albinism and Hypopigmentation) and shared strategies for managing successful non-profits.

One of the goals of ANN is to spread awareness of nystagmus and ANN. We look forward to exhibiting at future conferences for eye care professionals.

Cost of exhibiting was covered by a grant from Delta Gamma Foundation.

Thank you Delta Gamma for providing us the opportunity to reach so many eye care professionals!



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ANN Scholarship Recipients

We wanted to take this time to recognize our 2016-2017 American Nystagmus Network scholarship recipients. These young people have nystagmus, but despite this have made a commitment to continue their education and ANN is glad that we were able to assist in realizing those goals by providing monetary support. Read below to learn a little more about this year's recipients. ANN sends congratulations to all our scholarship recipients!



Caitlyn Faulhaber

Caitlyn, from Houston, Texas is a student at Centenary College of Louisiana and is majoring in Accounting. In addition to her studies she is a member and co-captain of the Centenary ladies

swim team where she has won many conference medals. She enjoys lifeguarding, practicing Tae Kwon Do, and volunteering at the Animal Shelter. ANN wishes Caitlyn another successful school year!



Nathan Heaton

Nathan is from Springfield, Missouri and currently attends Missouri University of Science and Technology. This year Nathan will be starting his freshman year

and majoring in mechanical engineering. This past May, Nathan graduated from Willard High School Summa Cum Laude where he was active in Science Club and the National Honor Society. We wish Nathan the best as he starts out his first year in college.



Julie Larson

Julie is from Carmel, Indiana and is in her third year at the University of Indianapolis. She is majoring in exercise science and is pre-occupational therapy.

During her time at University, Julie has been on the Dean's list and has participated as a writing labor tutor and women's mentor. In addition to her activities at school she is active at Grace Church and participates in the LIFT Ministry. Congratulations, Julie on all your accomplishments!



Victoria Syracuse

Victoria is from Webster, NY and is currently attending Keuka College where she is studying occupational therapy. She will be starting her second year at Keuka and plans to graduate in May 2019. During the summer, Victoria participated in

Camp Smile, a free summer day camp for children who are blind or visually impaired. While in school, she founded her school's chapter of Circle K, an international collegiate service organization. Congratulations on all your outstanding work in the community!



Joseph Weisensee

Joe is from Limon, Colorado and started as a freshman at the University of Northern Colorado this fall studying Physics. Prior to starting at University, Joe was on the academic honor roll for four years at Limon High School. Joe was a member of the National Honor Society and Phi Theta Kappa.

He participated in many sports including football, basketball, and track. John was also FFA treasurer for two years. Congratulations on your many successes and we hope for many more in the future.

How to Apply

See ANN website for scholarship eligibility and application date.



We Need Your Help!

The American Nystagmus Network relies 100% on volunteers and donors for our services and programming.

Whether you're a parent or relative of a child with Nystagmus, an educator or clinician who wants to get involved, or someone with Nystagmus who wants to connect and contribute, ANN is seeking volunteers.

We're especially looking for support with our various committees including:

- The 2017 Conference Committee
- Social Media & Marketing Committee
- Major Donors & Fundraising Committee
- Resources & Research Committee
- Volunteer Coordination Committee

Please consider lending your talents, enthusiasm and passion to the American Nystagmus Network. You can contact us with your interest at info@nystagmus.org.

The American Nystagmus Network thanks you for your support and invites you to get involved as we celebrate today's achievements and tomorrow's possibilities.

Call for donors and sponsors.

As an all volunteer organization, ANN relies on contributions to fuel our mission and to allow us to provide programs and services for the Nystagmus Community, like the ones outlined in this report.

Right now, we have two exciting ways to contribute to ANN:

- Consider becoming a sponsor of our 2017 Conference. We have sponsorship levels and details available on our website
- Consider making a donation to ANN to help fund future scholarship and other programming and services. You'll find a "donate" button on our website, or checks may be sent directly:

Make check payable to:
American Nystagmus Network
PO Box 754 San Leandro, CA 94577