



# Perspectives

a publication of

*Louisiana Environmental Health Association, Inc.*

March, 2003

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## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

*By: Marian Aguillard*

**I** am truly honored to serve as your President this year. After many years on the Board, I took the plunge year before last with the St. Francisville conference and here I am as President. This year is shaping up to be a real challenge for all of us. The 2004 Conference will be held in LaPlace, LA, January 27-29, 2004. Our new Vice-President, Robert Freeman, will be heading up the conference effort this year. Please let Robert and I know any news, suggestions, comments, etc. you have regarding the organization and the upcoming conference in LaPlace.

It is my sad duty to inform you that one of our members, Shelby Bartels, passed away on February 10, 2003. Many of you will remember that Shelby was rushed to the hospital from the Lafayette conference. Our prayers go out to his family and friends during this time of great sadness. Also, our prayers go out to the families of Paul Miller and Linda Gipson on the deaths of Paul's father and Linda's mother. We extend our most profound sympathy to you all.

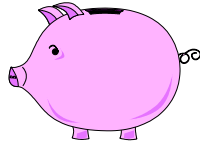
The NEHA conference in Reno, Nevada is going to be extraordinary. The educational sessions promise to be informative and on target with the latest concerns in the health and environmental communities. The Reno Hilton has offered a great rate and looks like a truly marvelous hotel. Check out the NEHA website for the latest information.

If you missed the Lafayette conference, you are in for a real treat! We will be posting most of the conference presentations on our website along with photos and highlights. It was wonderful conference!!! We almost had a quorum of legislators the second day!!! Congratulations and much thanks to Walter Pichon and his committee!!!

As always, please feel free to contact me with your concerns, ideas, and suggestions to make LEHA serve you better.

*Marian U. Aguillard*  
*President*  
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225-765-0270

## MONEY MATTERS FROM THE TREASURER –



By James D. Miller

The following are totals of funds available as of February 24, 2003:

**LEHA Checking Balance \$11,565**  
**Frank L. Dautriel Scholarship Fund \$32,783**

LEHA 2003 CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE	NUMBER IN ATTENDANCE
ATTENDANCE AT LARGE	4
AUX, L.L.C.	1
CITY OF BATON ROUGE-DPW ENVIR. DIV.	1
CITY OF BRADFORD, LONDON, UK	1
D.H.H./O.P.H.	8
DUPONT DOW ELASTOMERS	1
ENTERGY CORPORATION	2
HARRIS, DEVILLE & ASSOCIATES, INC.	2
KOURCO ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES	5
LA. D. E. Q.	45
LAFAYETTE CONS GOVERNMENT	5
LAKE AREA INDUSTRY ALLIANCE	1
LOUISIANA CHEMICAL ASSOCIATION	2
LOUISIANA STATE SENATE	1
NATIONAL HANSEN'S DISEASE PROGRAMS	1
SEMS, INC.	1
TULANE MED CNTR ENV HLT & SFTY	1
U. S. MINERALS MANAGEMENT SERVICE	1
U. S. PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES	1
UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD	1
URS CORPORATION	1
WASTE MANAGEMENT, INC	1



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## LEHA Welcomes New Members

We are pleased to have five new members join LEHA this year. They are:

- ◆ Kitty Hebert Jacob, an Environmental Specialist III with LA DEQ in New Orleans
- ◆ Robert Hannah, Deputy Secretary, LA DEQ in Baton Rouge
- ◆ Marian Mergist, Executive Assistant to the Secretary of LA DEQ, in Baton Rouge
- ◆ Ann Munson, a Geologist with LA DEQ in Baton Rouge
- ◆ Gary Leonards, an Engineer with LA DEQ in Baton Rouge

We are off to a great start this year in increasing our membership. Please help LEHA with recruiting more great new members.

Wouldn't it be fantastic if we could get at least five new DHH members and five new industry members in the next month to match these new DEQ members?

**MARK YOUR CALENDER!**  
**2004 LEHA ANNUAL CONFERENCE**  
**HOLIDAY INN**  
**LA PLACE, LA**  
**JANUARY 27-29, 2004**

## 2003 LEHA Awards

*By: Jodi G. Miller*

### 2003 Frank L. Dautriol Memorial Scholarship Awards

LEHA awards two educational scholarships per year in order to encourage outstanding students in the environmental health field. Two scholarships of \$1000.00 each are awarded, one to an undergraduate and one to a graduate student. Any LEHA member in good standing, or any official of an accredited university or college offering a degree program in Environmental Health may nominate students.

This year, the award recipient for the Undergraduate Scholarship was Candice Monique Spears. She is majoring in Chemical Engineering and is currently enrolled at LSU in Baton Rouge.



**Award Winners**  
**John Dale Givens,**  
**Jody Guidry**  
**and Candice Spears**

### 2003 Annual Outstanding Professional Awards

Each year, the Louisiana Environmental Health Association awards an Outstanding Environmental Professional Award and an Outstanding Registered Sanitarian Award in recognition of professional excellence and commitment to the protection and enhancement of the environment, and the health and welfare of the people of Louisiana.

#### Outstanding Registered Sanitarian Award

**Jody Guidry, RS** is the recipient of the 2003 Outstanding Registered Sanitarian Award.

#### Outstanding Environmental Professional Award

**John Dale Givens** is the recipient of the 2003 Outstanding Environmental Professional Award. A native of Alexandria, Louisiana, Givens is married, has two sons and a grandson.

Throughout his 36-year career, Dale Givens has continually demonstrated his tireless dedication to the environment of the state of Louisiana. Over the last six and half years, under his guidance as Secretary,

the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality has moved to the forefront on the national level as an example for sound environmental management. His insight into information technology has led to major innovations within the department over the last several years and his "open door" management approach has provided access to all and has ensured strong working relationships for DEQ with EPA, the state Legislature, industry, and environmental groups. Dale's leadership and guidance set a consistent direction for the department during his tenure.

John Dale Givens served as Secretary of the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) from January 1996 until his retirement in August 2002. Givens is a career employee who worked for the state of Louisiana for 36 years and was with the DEQ since its inception in 1984. His tenure at DEQ included serving twice as Assistant Secretary for the Office of Water Resources. He also served as Administrator of the Technical Services Division and the Municipal Facilities Revolving Loan Program.

Givens received a B.S. in zoology in 1966 from Louisiana State University. He began his state career the same year with the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries as a biologist in the Water Pollution Control Division. He became Administrator of that division in 1979 and retained the position when the Water Pollution Control Division was transferred to the Department of Natural Resources in 1980. He has also served as the Executive Secretary of the Louisiana Stream Control Commission and as Technical Secretary for water with the Louisiana Environmental Control Commission.

He is a past President of the Association of State and Interstate Water Pollution Control Administrators and served as the Co-Chair of the Water Committee for the Environmental Council of States. He served as a Policy Advisory Board member on the Interstate Technology and Regulatory Cooperation Working Group and was Co-Chair of the Gulf of Mexico Program's Policy Review Board. He has also been a member of the Louisiana Environmental Health Association for 8 or more years, and has been a tremendous support to his staff working with the organization, and support of in-kind service to the association. He has also accepted our invitation and spoken to the group on many occasions.

He is a recipient of the Charles E. Dunbar, Jr. Career Service Award from the Louisiana Civil Service League, and the Professional Conservationist of the Year Award from the Louisiana Wildlife Federation.

He is an Executive Board Member of the Istrouma Area Council of the Boy Scouts of America, a Board Member of the La Capitol Federal Credit Union, a member of the Baton Rouge "Downtown" Kiwanis. Club, as well as other civic and governmental organizations.

2003 Citations by the President

Presidential Citation

James D. Miller, M.T. ASCP, CHMM, CPM is a recipient of the 2003 Presidential Citation. James is married and has three children.

He has done an outstanding job this year continuing to enhance the access database he created to maintain and track: finances, membership status, the Board of Directors positions and length of service for historical purposes; sponsorship and scholarship information, and many other items. He has also developed queries and specialized reports of his own design, and those requested by Board members throughout the year. Many nights and weekends were spent perfecting this database.

James helped Walter Pichon, Conference Coordinator with many items for the conference mail outs. He has continued to provide the workshop, conference, and speaker certificates, and nametags for the conference, as well as assemble the conference folders with personalized labels, and update the Presidential and Scholarship donation plaques.

**CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE!!!**



The 2003-04 LEHA Board

Presidential Citation

Jodi G. Miller, CHMM, CPM, is a recipient of the 2003 Presidential Citation. She is married to James Miller.

Jodi helped James assemble the conference packets, tags, and speaker plaques. She also updated the web information on scholarships and award recipients, and updated the scholarship mail out packet and form for 2002. She obtained the Award plaques for the 2003 Annual Awards Luncheon, and was responsible for all of the Conference equipment.

As the photographer for the conference and secretary, she stayed busy during the conference as well.

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**LEHA CONFERENCE 2003 "A GREAT SUCCESS"**

*By: Walter Pichon*

Well, I must say even I was pleasantly surprised during and after this years LEHA conference, by the many people who said how much enjoyment they got out of the speakers and that the subject matter was to the point with the current world issues.

Also, let's not forget our trip to Avery Island and McIlhenny Plant, the Gator Cove with the live Cajun band and the full buffet, the luncheon with the Cajun Humorist and the Hospitality Suite.

*We almost had quorum!!!*



*The fieldtrip to McIlhenny's was extraordinary! We got the royal treatment and a tour uniquely designed for environmental and health professionals.*



From the beginning with the Workshop on "Bioterrorism" through the last sessions with a number of our State Representatives, the information was clear and to the point for our theme "Sailing the Uncertainties of Our Future".

All aspects of the conference brought into play a lot of networking between different agencies and industry.



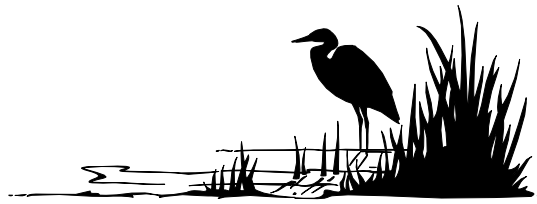
*The workshop was a real eye opener on bioterror.*



*Networking at the Awards Luncheon.*

So as one can see this 2003 LEHA Conference was a great conference experience!

**What a Success!!**



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