

LEHA Perspectives

MAY, 1999

Marian Aguiard, Editor

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE - SHARON PARKER

Welcome to a new year in the Louisiana Environmental Health Association! I hope this year we will explore new territories, set new goals, and gain more visibility with our professional peers! There is a lot going on in the environmental health arena. Ginger Gist, our NEHA president, talked with us at our annual education conference in January about Emerging Foodborne Diseases. She stated that "in the past 20 years, we have seen a startling number of new foodborne pathogens emerge in the United States." Several factors have contributed to these situations that impact the environmental health profession. NEHA has recommended that human resource, equipment, and facility needs be identified and addressed. Training needs should, also, be identified and addressed. Education of the general public as well as the food industry must be developed, emphasized, and continually enhanced. These efforts are very necessary and important to wage the war against these new diseases that we are experiencing. The world population is much more mobile and is being exposed to many more new disease sources. You have heard the old saying about it being "a small world"? Well, it is getting smaller each day, and we are getting sicker with new diseases.

There is also the concern about bioterrorism. One of our own members, Jim Balsamo, holds this near to his heart. He will be a speaker at the NEHA conference being held in Nashville, TN, July 6-9, 1999. He will be speaking in the educational session titled bioterrorism. The sessions will prepare local

environmental and public health professionals, health officers, and sanitarians for the various types of Chemical, Biological, and Radiological (CBR) terrorist activities that could possibly befall their communities. Can you even imagine this happening in our state!? We should be prepared for anything these days! Our state would be very susceptible with all the industrial activity we have, but it is mind boggling to me that someone would think of doing this.

On a lighter note, I would like to encourage our members to participate in the national education conference. I thoroughly enjoyed it last year and am looking forward to it this year again. As I mentioned before, the dates are July 6-9, 1999 in Nashville, TN. You may obtain a registration form from the Internet at www.neha.org, phone: 303-756-9090, fax: 303-691-9490, or mail NEHA, 720 S. Colorado Blvd., Ste. 970-S, Denver, CO 80246-1925. The Renaissance Hotel and Nashville Convention Center are the headquarters for the 1999 conference. Reservations must be made by June 4, to receive the room rate of \$99 for one or two persons. The number is 1-800-327-6618, and be sure and mention NEHA.

On the horizon for our association, we are planning an Internet site of our own!! I am very excited about this and have asked Michael Vince and Rene Mire' to work on this project. We have several great ideas for items on the web page, but if you have a suggestion please send it to any of our board members. We are planning to supply a refreshment booth for the Baton Rouge

Household Hazardous Waste Day and Paint Swap on Saturday, May 8, 8 a.m. -12 p.m. If you have a similar event in your city and would like to offer the workers the same thing, contact Jay Pecot to find out about arrangements. We want our peers to see that LEHA is working for them, and hopefully they will want to become members, too.

In closing, let me encourage all of the members to know that they are welcomed to any of the board meetings that we hold. You may contact any board member to find out when the board meetings are scheduled, and eventually that will be something on our web site! We want your input and your participation. I hope we have a great year, and I am looking forward to leading this association into the new millennium!



OUTREACH UPDATE

by Jay Pecot

ATTENTION!! ATTENTION!! ATTENTION!! LEHA is supplying refreshments to the volunteers working the Household Hazardous Waste Day being held on the Morning of May 8. We need volunteers to help serve at this event. Please contact Jay Pecot by e-mail or by phone at 225-765-2460.

Karen Fisher-Brasher, the coordinator of the Household Hazardous Waste Day, is very interested in locating organizations or individuals who have a use for the 'recovered' paint... scouts, churches, schools, Habitat groups, etc. The paint must be picked up by 11:30 AM the morning of the event. Efforts will be made to fill advance requests by color and type. Fax advance requests to Karen Fisher-Brasher at 765-0299.

Please let Jay Pecot know of any upcoming opportunities to spread the word know about LEHA.



MONEY MATTERS FROM THE TREASURER - By George P. Gullett

Since February 1995, LEHA has had 558 members. Each year through attrition and transfers we have maintained a steady

membership of approximately 200. Last year at this time we had 203 paid members and this year we have 209 members. We hope this is a growing trend and with the programs initiated this coming year we hope it will be even better next year. We have a strong active board of directors with strong financial backing. However, an organization is only as strong as its membership. Our dues are low and the potential for new members is great, so do what you can to promote LEHA membership this coming year.

As of July 1, 1998, our cash balance was \$6,662 and our current balance is \$4,906. The Frank L. Dautriel Scholarship Fund balance is \$26,792. Because of our strong scholarship fund we were able to pay \$800 scholarships to two deserving students. A breakdown of the income and expenditures is as follows:

Balance as of July 1, 1998	\$6,662
Income	
1998 Conference	\$12,800
Membership	\$2,090
Miscellaneous	<u>\$35</u>
Total Income	\$14,925
Expenditures	
1999 Conference	\$13,612
Membership	\$149
NEHA Conference	\$2,192
Miscellaneous	<u>\$728</u>
Total Expenses	\$16,681
Cash Balance	\$4,906
Frank L. Dautriel Scholarship Fund	
Interest	\$2,565
Donations/Transfer	\$1,600
2 Scholarships@ \$800	\$1,600
Federal Mortgage	<u>\$24,226</u>
Total	\$26,791





Now, what did we do?

1999 Annual Educational Conference

- by Michael Vince

The 1999 Annual Educational Conference was held at the Pennington Conference Center in Baton Rouge on January 20-21. The conference, entitled "Embracing the New Millennium", was attended by over ?? environmental and public health professionals. The conference began with welcoming remarks by Baton Rouge Mayor Tom Ed McHugh. Dr. Ginger Gist, Ph.D., D.A.A.S., and NEHA President, started off the technical portion of the conference as the keynote speaker.

There were nearly twenty different speakers on a wide variety of timely issues dealing with environmental and public concerns. One of the highlights of the conference occurred on the morning of the second day when attendees were provided with tours of the Pennington Biomedical Research Center.

Michael Vince would like to take this opportunity to thank those association members who assisted in the development of the conference agenda, selection of speakers, design of conference materials, and most importantly selection of the caterer and the food items. Many positive comments were received on the food functions . . . thanks to Sharon Parker and Patsy Deaville for their palates!!

It is hard to imagine that we are a mere eight months away from our 2000 Annual Conference. Joan Adams and her team continue the hard work to ensure that the next educational conference – to be held in Lafayette – is a big success.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE 1999 CONFERENCE

CONSTITUTION & BY-LAWS COMMITTEE

by Jim Balsamo & Susan Welch

Susan Welch and Jim Balsamo reviewed the need to make changes to the Constitution and By-Laws in light of the actions taken this past year by the Board and it was felt that no changes were needed at this time. Also no requests for changes have been submitted for review. If anyone feels that either the Constitution or By-laws needs any particular changes, please let me know by calling 504-584-2872 or you may e-mail me at jbalsam@tmcpop.tmc.tulane.edu. This is the substance of the Committee's activities to date.



1999 ANNUAL EDUCATIONAL



CONFERENCE

by Mike Vince

Louisiana Environmental Leadership Pollution Prevention Program

1999 Governor's Awards

by Jodi G. Miller

Each year, the Louisiana Environmental Leadership Pollution Prevention (LaELP) Program accepts applications for the Governor's Environmental Leadership Awards. On April 7, 1999, Governor Mike Foster presented the following awards:

Outstanding Achievement Awards for Pollution Prevention

Chevron's Oronite Additives Division, Oak Point Plant (Belle Chasse)
DuPont Dow Elastomers, Pontchartrain Site (LaPlace)
Exxon Chemical Americas, Baton Rouge Chemical Plant
Marathon Ashland Petroleum (Garyville)
Monsanto Company (Luling)

PPG Industries, Lake Charles Facility
Scapa Rolls, Minden Plant
Uniroyal Chemical Company (Geismar)
Vulcan Chemicals (Geismar)

Special Citation for Pollution Prevention Achievement

BP Oil Company, Alliance Refinery (Belle Chasse)
Cameco Industries (Thibodaux)
Joint Readiness Training Center (Fort Polk)
Koch Pipeline Company, Ammonia Division
Lockheed Martin Michoud Space Systems (New Orleans)
Rubicon Incorporated (Geismar)

Outstanding Community Outreach Achievement

Barksdale Air Force Base
Georgia Gulf
Shell Norco
PPG Industries, Lake Charles Facility

Special Citation for Community Outreach Achievement

Koch Pipeline Company, Ammonia Division
Vulcan Chemicals (Geismar)

Outstanding Multi-company Community Outreach Project

Household Hazardous Materials Day – St. Charles and St. John Parishes (DuPont, DuPont Dow, Marathon, Monsanto, Montell, Motiva, Nalco, OxyChem, Shell Chem, Stockhausen, and Union Carbide)

Special Citation for Multi-company Community Outreach Project

Earth Day Paint Recycling (Lake Area Industry Alliance (LAIA) submitted by Condea Vista)

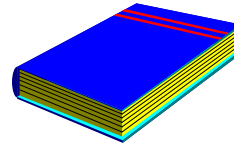


MORE CONFERENCE
HIGHLIGHTS

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ANNOUNCING NEHA'S 1999 AEC AND EXHIBITION



Linda Gipson, Marian U. Aguillard and Brenda Coon, Education Committee

National Environmental Health Association 63rd AEC and Exhibition

NEHA is proud to announce the 1999 AEC and Exhibition, July 6 - July 9, 1999, in Nashville, TN. By conducting ongoing market research and

July 6-9, 1999

Exhibit Dates: July 6-7, 1999

Renaissance Hotel and Nashville Convention Center, Nashville, TN

analyzing previous attendee survey responses - we can guarantee that you will find the education that *you need and want* at the 1999 AEC and Exhibition.

Only at the NEHA 1999 AEC and Exhibition will you find educational sessions that cover all areas of environmental health and protection! The conference will include topics ranging from food protection, onsite wastewater, geographic information systems, global positioning systems, bioterrorism, management, indoor air quality, hazardous waste, emerging pathogens, drinking water, and **much more**. You will receive hands on experience from experts in the environmental health and protection field. You may even get the opportunity to take a tour of a facility/site relating to your field! Check out NEHA's website at www.neha.org for the latest conference information.

Save money by registering early! If you sign up by June 18, 1999, you will receive the special full conference rate of \$379 for members and \$489 for non-members. This is a \$50 savings over the onsite registration fee!

For further information please contact a NEHA Service Specialist at 303-756-9090, extension 0.

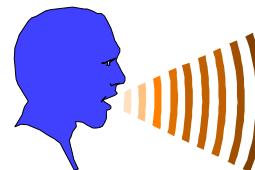


IN SEARCH OF KNOWLEDGE

The Education Committee is again taking on the task of producing the newsletter. Let us know how you like it. We would very much like to hold a workshop this fall. Please let us know what topics you would prefer and/or any speakers or groups which might be available. Last year we received some interest in the student chapter idea and we hope to pursue it this year. We can use a lot of help in this area.

Anyone interested in assisting, participating or otherwise helping the Education Committee is welcome. Please contact Linda Gipson to volunteer or offer suggestions at 765-0399.

NOTICES



The next board meeting will be Thursday, June 17, 1999 at 9:00 a.m. at the DEQ Headquarters Building, 6th Floor Conference Room, on Bluebonnet in Baton Rouge. Any one from the general membership may attend the board meeting so mark your calendars.



JOB OPPORTUNITIES

This section of our newsletter is for our members to notify one another of potential private, industrial or government job opportunities. Contact Marian Aguillard at (225) 765-0557 if you have job opportunities that you would like to advertise.

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LOUISIANA ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Regular membership is available to anyone employed in the environmental health field or a related educational activity.

(Please print or type)

Name _____	(First, Middle, Last)
Home Address _____	(Street or P. O. Box)
_____	(City, State, Zip)
_____	(Area Code, Telephone,)
_____	(E-mail address)

Employer _____	Job Title _____
Business Address _____	(Street or P. O. Box)
_____	(City, State, Zip)
_____	(Area Code, Telephone,)
_____	(E-mail address)
Job Function: Administrative Technical Research Testing Other	
Total Years of Environmental/Health Experience _____	

PREFERRED MAILING ADDRESS	~ Business	~ Home
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PROGRAM AREA(S) OF SPECIAL INTEREST	
~ Air Pollution	~ Radiation Safety
~ Food Protection	~ Underground Storage Tanks
~ Hazardous Substances	~ Recreational Areas/Water
~ Housing/Shelter	~ Sanitary Engineering
~ Institutional Environmental Control	~ Solid Waste Management
~ Land Use/Reuse ~	Vector Control
~ Noise Control	~ Waste Water Management
~ Occupational Safety & Health	~ Other (Specify)

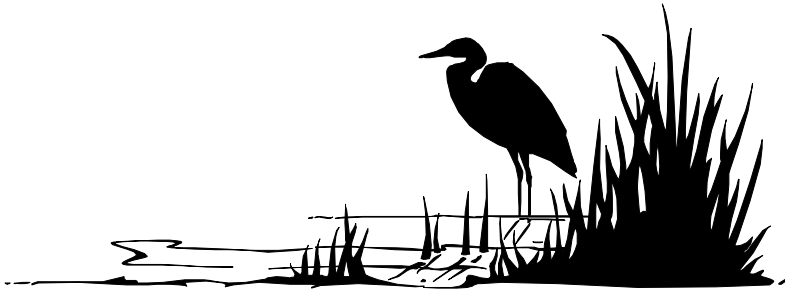
Annual Membership Dues are \$10 for the period February 1 – January 31. New applications must include annual dues.

Please return this application to:

**LEHA Treasurer
P. O. Box 2661
Baton Rouge, LA 70821**

\$ _____ Dues
\$ _____ Scholarship Donation
\$ _____ Total Paid

SPONSOR (if any) _____
SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____



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