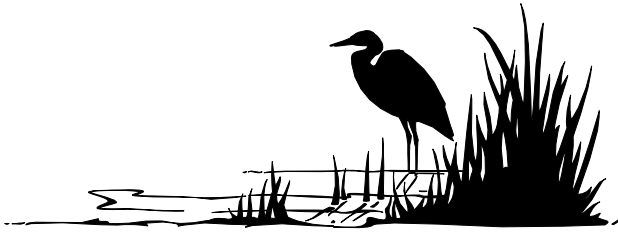


# Louisiana Environmental Health Association, Inc.



## LEHA Perspectives

*October, 2001*

### **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

Dear Friends:

As I sit here and think about what I can say about this organization and our jobs and the future of the State and all those other things that a president of this type of group should address, I can only think of the friends I have made throughout the years and reflect on the tragedies of last week.



As we all sat and watched the events unfold, I could only think of their loss (and ours) and how I would have been affected if I lost all of the people that I've met and the way all of them have made me who I am. With those thoughts, and on behalf of the Louisiana Environmental Health Association, I wish to express that our thoughts and prayers go to the families and friends of those in New York, Washington, D. C. and Pennsylvania. And also the kind thoughts and prayers for our own families and friends let us see how much we treasure each other.

So many things have been going on since our last newsletter that it's hard to keep up. Both

DHH and DEQ have undergone many new challenges with many more to come. Of course, this causes industry to undergo many changes in order to meet the ever-changing rules and regulations. In order to address some of these new challenges, Marian Aguiard and her crew have planned a wonderful conference for January 2002.

Also, Matt Vince has done a wonderful job with our website that is a must for these times. Please take a look for new things at the site and if you have anything that you want to share for the web pages, please let us know.

The National Conference held in Atlanta, Georgia at the end of June was very interesting. As I sat and listened to the speakers, I kept thinking that with all that is "wrong" with Louisiana, it is really no different than any other state. Each group I listened to and talked with has the same basic problems as we have (and some a lot worse). It was good to know that we can hold our heads up proudly and say we're from Louisiana and we're moving forward.

We must always move forward and upward to meet any new challenges that we face. Things and times are changing and we must make this State and the world a better place.

*'visions of environmental health'*

**LEHA**

**2002 Annual Educational  
Conference**

**St. Francisville**

**January 29-31, 2002**

The Louisiana Environmental Health Association is once again planning for our annual educational conference. This year's theme is "Visions of Environmental Health" and we will be meeting in St. Francisville at the Best Western St. Francis Hotel on the Lake, January 29-31, 2002. Mark your calendar; this is one conference you can't afford to miss.

The planning committee has developed a tentative agenda that includes an instrumentation workshop, a field trip to Riverbend Nuclear Power Station, national and Louisiana speakers, and a variety of technical sessions on current environmental health issues. We expect to have presentations concerning arsenic in drinking water, aquifer rights and issues, the new sewage rules, pesticide TMDLs, restaurant safety, health issues in the Felicianas, the new class of fishing vessels and their impact on sport fisheries, open burning, the black bear project, the Cat Island Wildlife Refuge, and LDEQ's RECAP program. Other topics are being pursued as well.

The Best Western Hotel in St. Francisville is giving us a special rate of \$55 per night. In addition, food service at the hotel is provided by Magnolia Café, one of the premier caterers in that area. We have pledged to make this conference the most interesting and most affordable conference available to Louisiana's environmental health professionals.

Everyone is invited to attend and sponsorship support is extremely welcome. The conference registration form, the list of our 2001 Sponsors, and a sponsorship support form are included in this edition of the newsletter. Mark your calendar and plan to be with us in St. Francisville.

Hope to see you there!!!!!!!

Marian Aguillard  
Vice President, LEHA

***LEHA APPRECIATES ITS 2001  
SPONSORS!***

***BENEFACTORS***

Entergy Services, Inc  
Exxon Mobil Chemical  
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Shell Chemical

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CLECO  
Dupont-LPC  
Harris, DeVille, and Associates  
Iberville Chemical Council  
Louisiana Farm Bureau  
LA Sugar Cane League  
Occidental Chemical  
Placid Refining Co., L.L.C.  
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***FRIENDS***

Browning Ferris Industries, Ltd.  
Kourco Environmental Services, Inc.  
In Memory of John Koury  
LA Association of Business and Industry  
Waste Management, Inc.

## **2001 Frank L. Dautriel Memorial Scholarships Awarded**

LEHA awards two educational scholarships each 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. Students may be nominated by any LEHA member in good standing or any official of an accredited university or college offering a degree program in Environmental Health.

The Undergraduate recipient, Jill E. Matte was attending Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge, and the Graduate recipient, Angela R. Guidry was attending McNeese State University in Lake Charles at the time of the award. Both recipients were in New Orleans to accept the scholarships in January 2001.

## **2001 LEHA 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.

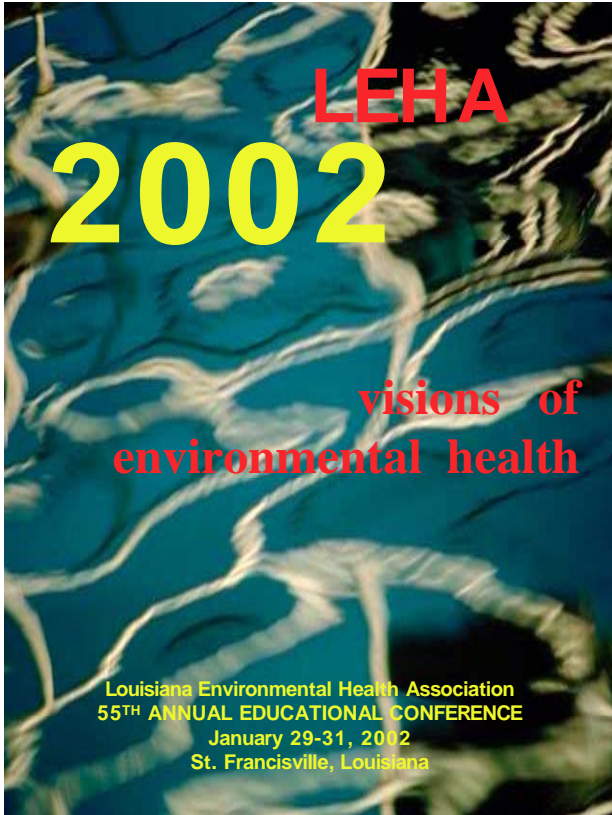
### **Outstanding Registered Sanitarian Award**

Walter G. Pichon, III, R.S. is the recipient of the 2001 Outstanding Registered Sanitarian Award. Mr. Pichon is married, and has four children. He received a degree in Biology from Dillard University in New Orleans in 1978. Walter is a 23-year veteran of the Department of Health, beginning his career as a Sanitarian with the Orleans Parish Sanitarian Services in 1979. In 1991, he accepted a promotion with the Food and Drug Unit as a Sanitarian Coordinator. In August 2000, he was promoted to a Sanitarian Program

Manager for the Food and Drug Unit, encompassing the Tanning Program which included commercial body art and piercing program. Walter has been very active in the commercial body art program and served as liaison for LEHA in the 2001 educational health conference in New Orleans. He has been a Board member of the Louisiana Environmental Health Association for many years.

### **Outstanding Environmental Professional Award**

James J. Balsamo, Jr., MS, MPH, MHA, RS, CSP, CHMM, DLAAS is the recipient of the 2001 Outstanding Environmental Professional Award. Mr. Balsamo has two sons. He is a 1967 graduate of Louisiana State University of Baton Rouge (BS in Pre-Med); 1969 graduate of Louisiana State University of Baton Rouge (MS in Dairy Nutrition Research); and 1973 graduate of Tulane University (Masters in Medical Care Administration) and 1996 graduate of Tulane University (Masters in Public Health and Tropical Medicine). Jim began his career as a Sanitarian and was promoted to Deputy Director of the Bureau of Personal Health Protection of the New Orleans Health Department. He has worked for Tulane University for 27 years, 20 of those years as the Director of the Office of Environmental Health and Safety. He has been interested in environmental health his entire career, as shown through his involvement in professional organizations at the state and federal levels, and having served on many committees and been elected as board member and officer on these organizations for many years. He is Past President of the Louisiana Environmental Health Association (1974 and 1984), and soon to be President of the National Environmental Health Association. Although his achievements are too numerous to mention, below are a few: Registered Professional Sanitarian (state and national), Certified Hazard Control Manager, Certified Hazardous Materials Manager, Certified Health care Safety Professional, executive level. Certified Food Safety Professional, etc.



**REGISTRATION FORM**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_  
 State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

The Environmental Instrumentation Workshop will be held from 8:00 AM until 1:15 PM on January 29<sup>th</sup>. A box lunch is included with registration.

The field trip to Riverbend Nuclear Power Station will depart the Hotel at 1:30 PM on January 29<sup>th</sup>. Those not attending the workshop may purchase a box lunch to eat with the workshop participants from noon to 1:15 PM for \$12. There is no other charge for the field trip.

**Early Bird Registration Fee** for those applicants whose registration forms are received **by December 21, 2001:**

Member: \$75 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Nonmember: \$85 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Workshop: \$30 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Field Trip Box lunch: \$12 \_\_\_\_\_  
 (optional)

Registration Fee for those applicants whose registration forms are received **after December 21, 2001:**

Member: \$95 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Nonmember: \$105 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Workshop: \$30 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Field Trip Box lunch: \$12 \_\_\_\_\_  
 (optional)

**TOTAL FEE ENCLOSED:** \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE REMIT TO:**  
**Louisiana Environmental Health Association, Inc.**  
**P. O. Box 2661**  
**Baton Rouge LA 70821-2661**

**NOTE: A SPECIAL DRAWING WILL BE HELD FOR EARLY BIRD REGISTRANTS**

Is this your first LEHA AEC? \_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ No

For additional conference registration forms or information concerning membership please write us at the address above or contact us at our web site [www.LEHA.net](http://www.LEHA.net).



LOUISIANA ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION  
POST OFFICE BOX 2661  
BATON ROUGE, LA 70821

You are invited to Sponsor the

LOUISIANA ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION  
2002 ANNUAL EDUCATION CONFERENCE  
“visions of environmental health”

St. Francisville, Louisiana  
at the Best Western St. Francis Hotel on the Lake  
January 29-31, 2002

SPONSORSHIP FORM

July 18, 2001

Please type or print all information on this form to insure accuracy!

CONTACT NAME: \_\_\_\_\_  
COMPANY: \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

My organization would like to support the LEHA 2002 Education Conference as a:

BENEFACTOR (\$1000 or more) in the amount of \_\_\_\_\_

ASSOCIATE (\$500 - \$999) in the amount of \_\_\_\_\_

FRIEND (under \$500) in the amount of \_\_\_\_\_

**All sponsorships are tax deductible. LEHA Tax ID # 72-0863720.**

Please return a copy of this form and your donation made payable to LEHA to the following address:

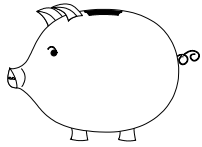
Louisiana Environmental Health Association

Attention: Mr. James Miller

Post Office Box 2661

Baton Rouge, LA 70821-2661

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!**



## **MONEY MATTERS FROM THE TREASURER –**

By James D. Miller

The following are totals of funds available as of July 31, 2001:

LEHA Checking Balance                      \$8,372

Frank L. Dautriel Scholarship Fund    \$29,899

### ***NOTICE***

*The LEHA Treasurer's Report and accounting mechanism is currently under revision to enhance the reporting process and clarity of financial reports. Also, the Legg-Mason investment holding for the Frank L. Dautriel Memorial Scholarship Fund has been liquidated through action of the fund limitations. The balance less a cash account has been reinvested to a higher yielding Certificate of Deposit with the Legg-Mason investment firm. Additional detail of these actions will appear in a later edition of the newsletter.*

### **LEHA BOARD MEMBER ELECTED TO NATIONAL OFFICE**

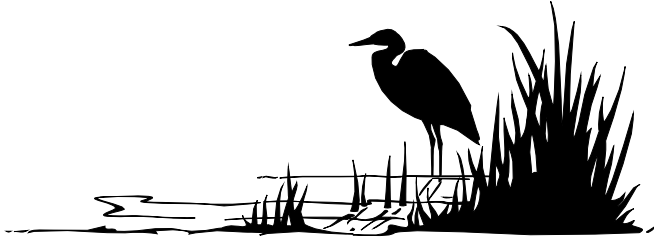
James J Balsamo Jr., Director of Environmental Health and Safety at Tulane University and Clinical Assistant Professor in the Tulane School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine, has been elected Second Vice-President of the National Environmental Health Association (NEHA). NEHA is an organization of over 5,000 environmental health professionals dedicated to the advancement of environmental health and environmental protection. NEHA members perform public and environmental health education and regulatory compliance activities in fields such as food safety, hazardous waste management, air and water pollution control, occupational health, environmental

health management, institutional environmental health and environmental health planning.

Balsamo assumed office at the annual NEHA Conference this past June in Atlanta. The office will lead to the Presidency of NEHA in 2004 when the Association holds its annual conference in Anchorage, Alaska. Balsamo has been an active member of NEHA since 1975 and has served on the NEHA/American Academy of Sanitarians Scholarship Committee. He has chaired the Institutional Environmental Health Technical Section and has received the NEHA Journal Technical Editor's Award. **Balsamo is a past-President and current Board Member of the Louisiana Environmental Health Association (LEHA), the state affiliate of NEHA. Earlier this year, Balsamo received LEHA's "Outstanding Environmental Professional Award".**

Balsamo also recently received the Davis Calvin Wagner Award from the American Academy of Sanitarians (AAS) at the AAS reception in Atlanta. The award is in memory of Dr. Wagner who worked to give guidance and support in the professional development of Sanitarians. Balsamo received the award for his resourcefulness and dedication in promoting the improvement of the public's health through application of environmental health and public health practices and for his dedication to the education and professional advancement of Sanitarians. Balsamo is a Diplomate Laureate of AAS, has served on its Board for many years, and is the immediate Past-Chair of the Academy.

Balsamo, who has lived in New Orleans for the past 32 years, was born in Monroe, Louisiana where his mother and sister still reside. He has two sons James III, a U.S. Customs Criminal Investigator and Jude Thaddeus, a recent graduate from The University of Denver Law School. Balsamo is a 30-year employee of Tulane University.



# LEHA

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## OFFICERS

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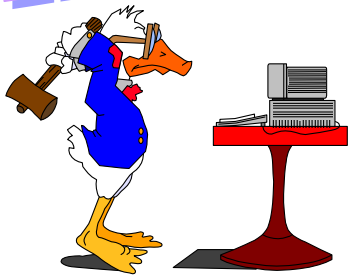
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[lindab@deq.state.la.us](mailto:lindab@deq.state.la.us)

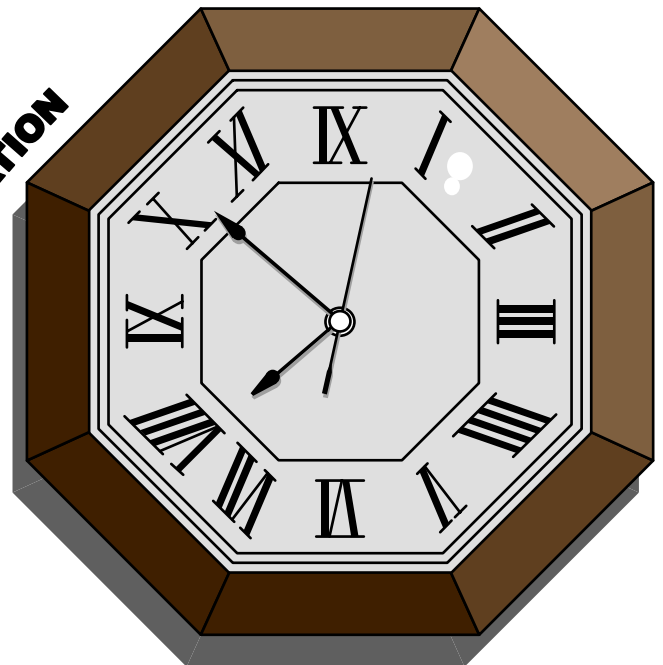
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Association, Inc.  
P. O. Box 2661  
Baton Rouge, LA 70821

Photos and History

**LEHA.net**



**MEMBER APPLICATION**



Why be frustrated??? The door to environmental information is just a click away at LEHA.net.

**CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS**

**Time flies!**  
**Dec 21st is early birds deadline!!**  
**Get your 2002 Conference Registration form at our website!!!**