



# WEHA Newsletter

1250 McDougall Dr., Lander, WY 82520

Issue II

May 2004

## *President's Message*

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I hope that the New Year has given everyone a new energy to take on the challenges before them. As always, there seems to be more challenges than we would like, and often they are different than any we have seen before. It is these challenges, however, that keep all of us at our best. Life wouldn't be any fun if we did the same old thing everyday and just kind of went through the motions to get there.

One of the challenges that your WEHA Board has been working on is trying to get all of our paperwork together for submission to the IRS. Many of you know this feeling since tax day has just recently passed. I want to thank the other members of the board, as they have been a tremendous help in completing our application to the Internal Revenue Service.

Another challenge coming along this summer will be continuing to work with the planning committee to create the best AEC ever. This has been a little different than last year when a planner was hired to do all the work, and we only had to come up with speakers. Thanks again for all the volunteers who are helping to plan this year's AEC.

This summer will find most of us swamped with our workload and those above mentioned challenges, but, I hope each of you find time to keep those commitments I encouraged you to make in the last newsletter. It is so easy to say; "I have got so many things going on; maybe I'll wait till next year!" **Don't** fall into the trap again. I made my commitment years ago to get to Anchorage for this year's NEHA AEC and I will be there, even if I have to pay for it. I have wanted to return to Alaska since I was young and visited an uncle there. At that time, I was too young to remember much so now is the opportunity to see what I missed. My wife and I are going to attend the conference (me more than her) and then we are taking a couple of extra days to see the sights and relax under the midnight sun. This should fuel me up for the upcoming summer full of events!! I hope that each of you will be as dedicated to doing whatever it is you want to do or going wherever you want to go.

For those of you who don't get to attend I'll let you know how Alaska was and for those of you who do make it, I'll see you there. Until next time have a wonderful spring and we'll talk to you again in the summer.

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## Training Opportunities:

### CPO Courses:

|                   |    |  |                  |              |
|-------------------|----|--|------------------|--------------|
| Jackson Hole      | WY | May 12 <sup>th</sup> & 13 <sup>th</sup>    | Pat Kirk         | 307-680-7946 |
| Golden            | CO | May 19 <sup>th</sup> & 20 <sup>th</sup>    | Angel Scheuerman | 303-271-5763 |
| Golden            | CO | June 23 <sup>rd</sup> & 24 <sup>th</sup>   | Angel Scheuerman | 303-271-5763 |
| Golden            | CO | August 25 <sup>th</sup> & 26 <sup>th</sup> | Angel Scheuerman | 303-271-5763 |
| Golden            | CO | October 27 <sup>th</sup> & 28              | Angel Scheuerman | 303-271-5763 |
| Greenwood Village | CO | June 8 <sup>th</sup> & 9 <sup>th</sup>     | Erica Koth       | 303-761-1340 |
| Salt Lake City    | UT | June 8 <sup>th</sup> & 9 <sup>th</sup>     | Lisa             | 801-569-0120 |
| Salt Lake City    | UT | August 10 <sup>th</sup> & 12 <sup>th</sup> | Lisa             | 801-569-0120 |

### NEHA 2004 AEC:

May 9-12, 2004: William Egan Civic & Convention Center, Anchorage, Alaska

### Rocky Mountain Food Safety Conference and Golf Tournament

May 10-12, 2004: Red Rocks Amphitheater Visitors Center, Morrison, Colorado (West Denver)

### International Association for Food Protection (IAFP 2004):

August 8-11, 2004: JW Marriott Desert Ridge Resort, Phoenix Arizona

### CDC National Environmental Public Health Conference:

Dec 3-5, 2004: Hilton Atlanta Hotel, Atlanta Georgia



### Spring Training:

WEHA just completed our first spring training in many years. This year's training on Small Public Water Systems went off well enough that hopefully we can find another interesting topic and have this as an annual event. Over twenty people took advantage of this year's class. Speakers were from the EPA, Wyoming DEQ, Wyoming Groundwater Engineer's Office and elsewhere. The speakers all did a very good job, and the comments returned so far have been very positive.

### Laramie County News:

In March, Ellen Southwell and Mike Carl both of the Cheyenne/Laramie County Health Department, successfully completed the National Environmental Health Association's, Registered Environmental Health Specialist Exam. They become only the seventeenth and eighteenth persons to pass the exam in the state of Wyoming. Those of you who have taken or are prepping to take the exam know how much work and studying is involved. Congratulations Ellen and Mike!!



## AEC 2004:

**Planning for this year's AEC is in full swing. The joint conference with the Colorado Environmental Health Association will be held at the Great Divide Lodge in Breckenridge, CO on September 29-October 1, 2004. A central theme has not yet been named but it will revolve around communicating the environmental health message. Wednesday will have one track and will be centered on the conference theme. Wednesday will also allow for open attendance of either the Environmental Health Conference or the Public Health Conference at the Beaver Run Resort a couple of blocks away. Thursday will have three tracks (small wastewater, food safety, and zoonosis/general environmental health). The Awards Banquet and dinner will follow a volleyball tournament on Thursday afternoon. Friday will be a half-day with two tracks (disease outbreaks and professional development). We are also looking at providing breakfast burritos for the Friday Break. If you have not been to Breckenridge don't miss this one, as it is truly a beautiful little town. Hotel rooms will be \$79.00 per night during the conference and a registration fee has not been set. The conference will include the tradition of the Silent Auction so please be thinking of ideas for those items. If you have questions or comments please feel free to call or email me at any time. I can be reached by phone at 307-633-4090 or by email at Roykehs@laramiecounty.com**

## Department of Agriculture's New Staff Members

Cathy Scott is our new inspector for Converse County. She is originally from Casper and will be relocating to Glenrock once school gets out later this Spring. Cathy will cover all inspection and education duties in Converse County and meat plant inspection duties in Casper.

Cathy grew up on a ranchette North of Casper and was actively involved in showing both pigs and riding whenever she could. She has a six-year-old son, Tristan whom Cathy says "runs her life."

Cathy graduated from UW with a Bachelor of Science degree in Math/Natural Science in 2002, and has worked the last two years as a lab technician for Energy Laboratories in Casper.

Rory McManus is our new inspector for Laramie. He is originally from Wheatland and was raised on a small family cattle ranch. Rory will cover inspection and education duties in Albany County as well as meat plant and daycare in Laramie.

Rory graduated from UW in May 2003, with a Bachelor of Science degree in Animal/ Veterinary Science. During summer breaks he worked for the Albany County Weed & Pest District and after graduation he worked for the Wyoming Department of Transportation in Wheatland. He likes being outdoors; hunting, fishing and helping his family on their ranch.

Both Cathy and Rory have strong roots in agriculture and Wyoming and as such, look forward to the opportunity to stay involved and work for the department.

Michelle (Chelle) Schwope is our new inspector for the Cody area and will conduct education and inspection duties in this area. She received a bachelor's degree in Animal Science from UW and is very close to completing her Master's degree in Food Science/Human Nutrition. While in Laramie attending college she worked as a UW graduate research assistant.

Chelle has an 8 year daughter, Mary. Both look forward to getting back to the Cody area as Deaver, Wyoming, is where her parents call home. She enjoys horseback riding and belongs to several professional organizations, including the Institute of Food Technologists, American Meat Science Association and Rocky Mountain Section of the Institute of Food Technologists.

Kevin Krouch is our new inspector for the Carbon County area and will be living in Saratoga. Kevin will cover all food & environmental health inspections and education in the Carbon county area. In addition, he will travel to the Rock Springs/ Green River area approximately twice per month to cover meat plant inspection duties in this area.

Kevin recently graduated from UW with a Bachelor's degree in Microbiology. He previously worked as a meat department manager for a large retail grocery chain. He is very active in the Boy Scouts of America organization and feels one of his greatest accomplishments was earning his Eagle Scout status. Kevin like's outdoor activities, including fishing, camping and sports.

Laurie Leis

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## WEST NILE VIRUS UPDATE

The Wyoming Department of Agriculture Emergency Insect Management Committee met on April 20, 2004 to decide the fate of much of the money in its budget. At least 31 agencies/communities had applied for emergency bug control grant monies. Of those agencies, most asked for mosquito grant money, and 2 applied for grasshopper grant money. The panel approved 28 of these applications for the strengthening of local mosquito and grasshopper control programs. Because of the number of grant applications that were approved, the committee has already depleted most of its funding by giving away more than \$1.2 million of its \$1.69 million from its biennium budget. The grant money will be given to local officials' right away, as mosquito season is already well underway. Because the future of the disease and its impact in our state is unknown at this point, more money may be needed by next season for mosquito control programs throughout Wyoming. It will be determined by the 2005 legislative session, whether or not this funding will be provided or not.

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### Outbreak of Gastrointestinal Illness Associated With Events at a Hotel in Cheyenne Excerpted from Infectious Disease Report March 2004

In late February, the City of Cheyenne-Laramie County Health Department and the WDH began investigating an outbreak of gastrointestinal illness among people who had recently attended functions at a Cheyenne hotel. Initial case finding and data gathering revealed that 124 people with illness that may have been associated with this outbreak. A case-control study was conducted which included 209 people, consisting of 107 cases and 102 controls. Diarrhea was present in 101 (95.3%) and vomiting in (63.8%) of the cases. The date of onset ranged from 2/20 to 2/27, with 66% having a date of onset of either 2/24 or 2/25. The median duration of the illness was 2 days (range <24 hours to >5 days).

Exposures that were found to be statistically associated with increased odds of illness were eating at least one meal or snack that was prepared or served by the hotel (OR 7.7, 95% CI 1.7-34.9), and drinking a beverage from the hotel bar (OR 2.4, 95% CI 1.4 – 4.2). All 15 stool specimens that underwent bacterial culture were negative for bacterial enteric pathogens. Seven stool specimens underwent testing for human calicivirus (Norovirus), and 6 were positive (3 hotel patrons and 3 hotel employees).

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### Wyoming Food Safety Coalition Announcements:

The Wyoming Food Safety Coalition convened on May 3, 2004 for its 2<sup>nd</sup> quarterly meeting of the year. During the meeting a couple of decisions were made in regards to ServSafe. First, since costs for the course materials continue to rise, it was decided that an increase in price was necessary in order to recoup some of the associated expenditures.

It was decided during the meeting to raise the price from \$100 to \$127 for the course. Any newly scheduled ServSafe courses will be collecting this rate. Secondly, it was decided to approve a One-Day ServSafe Recertification Class. The class will not be designed for those people who have never taken a ServSafe course, but strictly for those

who have taken the class in the last five years and are due to be recertified.

2004  
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION  
WYOMING ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Business Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Work Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: Home \_\_\_\_\_ Office \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

Position/Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Agency: \_\_\_\_\_

Counties/Cities Assignment Area: \_\_\_\_\_

Position Duties/Specialty Areas: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Are you a: Registered \_\_\_\_\_ Licensed \_\_\_\_\_ or Certified \_\_\_\_\_ Professional?

Are you a member of: NEHA \_\_\_\_\_ IAFP \_\_\_\_\_ Member of WEHA since: \_\_\_\_\_

Annual Dues: \$100.00 Sustaining Membership  
\$10.00 Before March 31, 2004 or any new members  
\$15.00 April 1, 2004 or later.  
\$ 5.00 Student Membership

Please return completed applications with dues to: Doug Evans, Treasurer  
2701 Dogwood Ave  
Gillette, WY 82718

**Please fill out forms completely.**

Minutes  
Wyoming Environmental Health Association  
Executive Board Meeting  
19 March 2004  
Conference Room, Cooperative Extension Office, Wheatland, WY

An executive board meeting of the Wyoming Environmental Health Association was held Friday, 19 March 2004 in the Conference Room, Cooperative Extension Office, Wheatland, WY. Present were Sherry Maston, Roy Kroeger, Doug Evans, and Bryan Grapes.

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

President Roy Kroeger called the meeting to order at 9:25 a. m.

**II. SECRETARY'S REPORT**

A motion to suspend the reading of the minutes was made by Sherry. Doug seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**III. TREASURER'S REPORT**

Doug reported:

Smith -Barney Account \$ **6,779.76**

Community First National Bank checking account \$ **12,516.90**

Total WEHA funds are \$ **19,296.66** as of 19 March 2004

Check to WPHA for the Annual Education Conference was \$ **5,351.10**.

Sherry moved to accept the treasurer's report as presented. Bryan seconded the motion. Motion passed.

**IV. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Child Care - Jerry Olson**

No report

**Pools and Spas - Neal Bloomenrader**

No report

**Library - Roy Kroeger**

No report

**Public Relations - Linda Stratton**

Not much to report. Mailing list updated.

**Newsletter – Jennifer Escobedo –**

The deadline for articles to be put in the newsletter is April 15.

**Awards - Neal Bloomenrader –**

No report

**Legislative - Laurie Leis –**

House Bill 37, which proposed moving the Consumer Health Service from the Department of Agriculture to the Department of Health, did not get introduced.

**Archives / Scrapbook - Sherry Maston –**

No report. Bryan delivered award from IAFF.

**By-Laws / Resolutions - Gary Hickman –**

No report

**Small Wastewater - Roy Kroeger –**

A Small Water Systems class will be held in Casper, 6 April 2004 at the UW Outreach Center at 8:45 a.m.

**Membership - Doug Evans –**

Discussed dues

**Election Committee - Gary Hickman –**

No activity

**V. BUSINESS**

**OLD BUSINESS**

Non-profit status – Roy has the forms needed. A special meeting/workshop will be held on April 9, 2004, in Douglas at 9:30 a.m. Sherry will secure a location. Meeting will be held to fill out the volumes of paperwork for federal government.

**NEW BUSINESS**

2004 AEC – Breckenridge, CO. will be the site for the 2004 AEC held jointly with CEHA and WEHA. The AEC will be at the Great Divide Lodge from 29 September – 1 October 2004. More information is available on the web site. Bryan will contact Susan Mickelson to see if she will speak at the AEC about the Foodborne outbreak of Salmonella in Sheridan 2002.

NEHA Annual Meeting Stipend for Presidential Travel Expense – Bryan moved that a stipend of \$400.00 be awarded to Roy for registration at the NEHA Annual Meeting in Anchorage, AK. Doug seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Small public water supply class – We will hold class April 6, 2004 to provide training for people in local governments who might be affected around the state, as well as regulatory personnel. Fees: \$15.00 for members – \$25.00 for non-members.

All members of the board received a letter requesting auction items for International Association Food Protection. Sherry moved to donate item. Doug seconded the motion. Motion carried. Item will be selected at April workshop.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

Next meeting of the executive board of the Wyoming Environmental Health Association will be Friday, 21 May 2004 in Douglas at 10:00 a.m.

***VJ. ADJOURNMENT***

Motion made for adjournment at 10:20 a.m.

Submitted by  
Bryan J. Grapes. Secretary  
Wyoming Environmental Health Association



Environmental Onsite Wastewater Solutions<sup>SM</sup>

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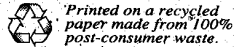
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Inspirational Words

*"You are not here merely to make a living. You are here in order to enable  
the world to live more amply, with greater vision, with a finer spirit of  
hope and achievement. You are here to enrich the world, and you impoverish  
yourself if you forget the errand."*

Woodrow Wilson