

WEHA NEWSLETTER



Summer 2009

WYOMING ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION

President's Message: by Joe Martinez

It's amazing how fast time can slip by. It does not seem like eight months ago my Presidency started. I would like to apologize to the members for the lack of newsletters; as it is ultimately my responsibility to be sure the newsletter is printed and sent to all members quarterly. I hope you can find it in your hearts to forgive me for failing to do so.

On another note, the 2009 AEC is fast approaching. The conference will be held September 22-24 in Sheridan, with a CP-FS exam scheduled on the afternoon of the 21st. Please reserve the dates. More information will be coming out.

This has been a busy year for me personally and professionally. We had a new baby boy, Alec Martinez, born on March 5th. I was voted in on the Hot Springs County School Board in February. Unlike what I expected, this board is very time consuming. However, it is still a very good thing in my mind. I have become more involved in this community, than I have ever been in any other community.

In May I had the opportunity to attend an FDA Seafood HACCP training in San Antonio, TX. It was an excellent course and I enjoyed it very much. Attending this training were people from Florida to California, Alaska and even India. I learned a lot about seafood and the requirements involved with it. If you are interested in seafood inspections or HACCP, ask me at the AEC in September. During the first part of June, WDA was in Laramie for Meat Processing training. It was also a very informative and practical training on HACCP and the inspection

and processing of cured meat products.

On June 20th, I traveled to Atlanta, GA for the 2009 NEHA AEC. I attended as the representative and voting affiliate member for WEHA. I will be sharing updates with you at our 2009 AEC.

Last year, we only had one award to give at our annual banquet. I encourage you to send in your nominations for the awards this year. The Donkey Tail Award is one of the funniest, so if you have a funny story involving one of our members please submit it for this award. We all have very busy schedules and trainings to attend and present, but I hope you all will be able to attend this year's AEC. We are having a joint AEC with WPHA. I think this will be a great opportunity to network with other organizations, members and associates.

As summer is a busy time for temporary food events throughout the state, please be informed of the new Cottage Food Rule, which will take effect July 1, 2009; which may affect some of these temporary events. For more information, please contact Dean Finkenbinder.

If you have an article that you would like to submit for publication in our newsletter please submit it to myself or one of our officers. Articles are always welcome from our members.

Thank you and have a great summer!

Joe Martinez

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Presidents points of Interest:

- 2009 AEC
- Community Involvement
- Awards
- Cottage Food Rule

NEHA Update, by Roy Kroeger

NEHA Update

Your NEHA Board of Directors and Staff have been working on a number of important issues and programs and I wanted to take this opportunity to let you know about some of them.

Membership – NEHA membership numbers increased slightly over the past year, total numbers of members increased by 37 from 2007 to 2008 with 4652 total members. Member numbers for Region Three decreased by one over the same time period with the losses all in one state. Region 3 has 298 total members. Wyoming numbers increased from 33 to 40 in 2008, a twenty-two percent increase.

2011 AEC Selection – The NEHA Board of Directors along with Nelson Fabian have been working to determine the location for the 2011 AEC. The conference moves back and forth across the country each year, and in 2011 the AEC is scheduled to be east of the Mississippi River. The selection is down to two sites, and a final decision will be made at the Spring Board Meeting in April, if not sooner. Remember the 2010 AEC is scheduled for Albuquerque, NM.

Decade to sponsor Scholarships to Atlanta AEC - Decade inspection software will be funding another scholarship program for this year's AEC. Decade will be contributing between \$10,000 and \$15,000 towards the AEC scholarships, which will be given out in Atlanta this June. These scholarships have made it possible for individuals to attend the AEC who otherwise would not have been able to.

NEHA Credential for Healthy Homes Practitioner – NEHA staff have worked with the American Association of Housing Inspectors to endorse our Healthy Homes Specialist credential and to actively encourage their membership (5,000 – 10,000 members) to acquire that credential. This could be a real boon to NEHA – both in terms of revenue and visibility.

NEHA Trademarks Credentials-Applications have now been submitted to trademark the following: REHS/RS, CP-FS, Registered Environmental Health Specialist/Registered Sanitarian, and Certified Professional-Food Safety. The four applications cost \$325 for an overall investment of \$1,300 to protect our credentials.

This should help prevent future issues that NEHA faced with the past CFSP credential.

NEHA working with FDA on Rapid Response Teams- FDA has created Rapid Response Teams (RRT) in the following six states: California, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, North Carolina, and Florida. FDA wants to educate them on all aspects of food-borne illnesses and also wants to implement team building strategies. Richard Barnes at FDA looked at what they have at their ORU for the training and decided that NEHA's Epi-ready classes will work best for this training. FDA hopes to have an RRT in each state.

NEHA to Sponsor Collaborative Meeting- NEHA, with great assistance from John Marcello, has been asked to sponsor a "summit" meeting of CDC, FDA, and USDA to occur at our AEC in Atlanta. They are going to get together to talk about how they can work together. The agencies could have met anywhere, but they chose to meet at NEHA's AEC!

NEHA BOD Encourages Focus on Sustainability- NEHA's Board of Directors would like to encourage our profession to better understand what it means to be sustainable as well as the implications of going "green." NEHA provides e-Learning opportunities for members to obtain more information on sustainability issues as well as CEU's for your time. At the AEC in Atlanta, a separate track specific to sustainability will be presented this year.

The field of sustainability is growing by leaps and bounds and may in fact be the fastest growing part of the US economy over the next few years. The new president has announced that renewable energy will be a focus of the economic stimulus package; local governments across the country are hiring sustainability coordinators, and even at the 2009 International Builders' Show in Las Vegas, almost half of the exhibitors are focusing on sustainable building practices.

Continued on page 3:

NEHA News Continued:

NEHA is looking for volunteers who want to help the Sustainability Committee support the critical role Environmental Health practitioners play in the 'greening' of our communities; if you are interested, contact Denise Devotta Don't forget the **NEHA Excellence in Sustainability Award**, nominations deadline is April 17, 2009. For more information on the award and all of NEHA's sustainability efforts, please check out the webpage at: <http://www.neha.org/sustainability/index.html>

Kindest Regards,

Roy Kroeger, R.E.H.S.
Region 3 Vice President
Representing Colorado, Utah,
Montana and Wyoming



NEHA Events :

- * NEHA's 73rd AEC June 21-24, 2009 in Atlanta Ga.
- * IAEP AEC July 12-15, 2009 in Grapevine Texas
- * 2009 CDC National Environmental Public Health Conference in Atlanta GA, October 26-28, 2009

**"When your
work speaks
for its self,
don't
interrupt"**
Henry Kaiser

WEHA Meeting Minutes Oct. 2008

Wyoming Environmental Health Association

General Membership Meeting

Wednesday, October 8, 2008 11:45 PM

Lander Inn

Lander, Wyoming

Call to order

- a. The meeting was called to order at 11:59 AM by President Doug Evans
- b. Secretary's Report
- c. Ben Metcalf made a motion to dispense with reading of the minutes.
- d. Roy Kroeger seconded the motion.
- e. Motion passed.
- f. Treasurer's Report
- g. Terri submitted a report stating that the Association had \$ 21, 424.24 in all accounts.
- h. Sherry Maston made a motion to accept the report.
- i. Kevin Krouch seconded the motion.
- j. Motion passed.
- k. Committee Reports
- l. Awards Linda (chairperson) stated that because there were no submissions there would not be an award for Outstanding Professional and the Arthur Williamson award. To present an award, the Awards Committee must have submissions. Paul Ng was also asked to be on the committee as a county HD representative.

Education

- a. Food Safety No report
- b. Child Care No report but that the new DFS rules were recently published.
- c. Small Water Systems Doug Evans, President, stated the there would be a class being held in April or May in conjunction with the EPA.
- d. Pools – Chelle Schwope said that are new laws relating to anti-entrapment drains that would be in effect in December. Also that CHS should write rules regarding Water Activity Parks.
- c. By Laws No Report
- d. Public Relations No Report
- e. Legislative Dean Finkenbinder, chair, relayed the progress of the limited processors rule and with the requirements for licensing. This would take some interaction with the legislature and would require more amendments to the state statute.

WEHA Minutes Continued:

- f. Newsletter Ben Metcalf said that the newsletter was published last month.
 - g. Library Jamie George No Report
 - h. Archives Lea Zeitlin Stated that the old photo albums are on the tables for personal review.
- Membership Joe Martinez and Terri No Report

5. Old Business

- a. Shawn Moore stated that there was a surprising lack of exhibitors at this conference. There was a general discussion that the committee did invite suppliers to this conference but there was no reply to any of our letters.

2009 AEC

- 1 There was a general membership discussion that we should have a joint conference with the Wyoming Public Health Association and contacts will be made with Kelly Weidenbach. Jackson was also mentioned as a possible site if we work with the PHS contractor George Larsen.

6. New Business

Elections

The general election was moderated by Dean Finkenbinder.

- a Dean entertained a motion to elect Joe Martinez as the next President.
- b Sherry Maston made a nomination of Joe Martinez as President. Neal Bloomenrader seconded the nomination.
- c Joe Martinez was elected President by the general membership.
- d Neal Bloomenrader was nominated for President-Elect by Joe Martinez. Jamie George seconded the motion. Discussion. Neal Bloomenrader was elected President-elect by the general membership.
- e Terri Leichtweis was re-elected as WEHA Treasurer.
- f Tiffany Metz was elected WEHA Secretary.

Joe Martinez said the next WEHA Board Meeting will be held in Casper the 27 of January 2009 at the Oil & Gas Commission at 10:00 AM.

Motion to adjourn. Adjournment 2nd Motion carried. Adjourned at 12:49.

***Needed!* WEHA Award Nominations**

It is that time again to submit nominations for the WEHA awards to be presented at the Annual Education Conference in October. There are 3 different awards complete the application form

Outstanding Environmental Health Professional – Nomination can include the following

- Performance of assigned duties and job description
- Cooperation with fellow workers and peers
 - Willingness to take constructive criticism and offer the same to others in a tactful manner
- Educational background including special training or education
- Published or articles written or presented by the nominee relating to his/her profession
- Outline the areas in which the candidate has made a significant recognizable contribution to WEHA
- Recommendations should be signed by the individual or individuals recommending the candidate

Arthur Williamson

Arthur Williamson was director of water quality before the Department of Environmental Quality became an agency. He did outstanding work in the State of Wyoming from 1960 throughout the 1970's. He was a well educated and versed engineer working worldwide in the Centers of Disease Control on catastrophes in foreign countries, while always promoting public health.

-The criteria for a nomination can include the same outline as the Outstanding Environmental Health Professional except:

Recipient need not be a member of our organization

Candidate must be a person who has performed exemplary accomplishments in the Environmental Health field

Donkey—Tail

Is a humorous award presented to any member of the association who is recommended in writing on the award form by another member. The written recommendation should include an account of an actual humorous incident which occurred during the year while in the line of duty.

Wyoming Environmental Health Association

Award Nomination Form

Nomination of the award of:

Outstanding Environmental Health Professional Arthur Williamson Donkey Tail

Date of nomination: _____ For the year: _____

Candidates full name: _____

Title: _____

Immediate organization: _____

Agency: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone (office) _____ Home: _____

Years on the job: _____

Descriptions of Duties: _____

Describe the one or more specific achievement's or sustained high level of performance for which this candidate is being nominated. (If needed, add one page only.)

Nominated by: _____ Signature: _____

Nominations must reach Awards Committee a minimum of 60 days prior to the AEC.

*For award information refer to WEHA Procedures Manual, Section 5.

Forward nominations To Linda Stratton, 2219 Carey Ave., Cheyenne, WY 82002

With the summer approaching one of the high risks according to the Centers for Disease Control is skin cancer here are some tips that the CDC recommends to help prevent Skin Cancer

Protect Yourself from the Sun cdc Control and Prevention:

Summer is a great time to have fun outdoors. It's also a time to take precautions to avoid sunburns, which can increase your risk of skin cancer.

Skin cancer is the most common form of cancer in the United States. Exposure to the sun's ultraviolet (UV) rays appears to be the most important environmental factor involved with developing skin cancer. During the summer months, UV radiation tends to be greater.

To help prevent skin cancer while still having fun outdoors, regularly use sun protective practices such as

- **Seek shade**, especially during midday hours (10 a.m.–4 p.m.), when UV rays are strongest and do the most damage.
- **Cover up** with clothing to protect exposed skin. A long-sleeved shirt and long pants with a tight weave are best.
- **Get a hat** with a wide brim to shade the face, head, ears, and neck.
- **Grab shades** that wrap around and block as close to 100% of both UVA and UVB rays as possible.
- **Rub on sunscreen** with sun protective factor (SPF) 15 or higher, and both UVA and UVB protection.

It's always wise to choose more than one way to cover up when you're in the sun. Use sunscreen and put on a shirt... Seek shade and grab your sunglasses... Wear a hat, but rub on sunscreen too. Combining these sun protective actions helps protect your skin from the sun's damaging UV rays.

UV rays reach you on cloudy and hazy days, as well as bright and sunny days. UV rays will also reflect off any surface like water, cement, sand, and snow. Additionally, UV rays from artificial sources of light, like tanning beds, cause skin cancer and should be avoided.

Most forms of skin cancer can be cured. However, the best way to avoid skin cancer is to protect your skin from the sun. For more information, please visit [Basic Information about Skin Cancer](#) and [Skin Cancer Questions and Answers](#).
http://www.cdc.gov/cancer/skin/basic_info/howto.htm

WEHA Board

President:	Joe Martinez; 2219 Carey Ave, Cheyenne, WY 82002
Past President	Doug Evans; 2219 Carey Ave, Cheyenne, WY 82002
President - Elect	Neal Bloomenrader; 2219 Carey Ave, Cheyenne, WY 82002
Treasurer	Terri Leichtweis; 100 Central Ave, Cheyenne, WY 82007
Secretary	Tiffany Metz; 100 Central Ave, Cheyenne, WY 82007

Thanks to all of our sustaining members!

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