



WEHA Newsletter

Wyoming Environmental
Health Assoc.

February 2016

Inside this issue:

NEHA Update	2
WEHA AEC 2015	4
Upcoming Training & Conferences	9
Zika Virus	10
New Faces Around the State	10
Annual Award Nominations	11
WEHA Membership form	12

President's Message

By Tiffany Gaertner



Hopefully 2016 finds you all happy, healthy, and ready to conquer the next disaster that you encounter. In our ever changing world, Environmental Health Professionals face new challenges on a regular basis. From septic failures to emerging pathogens, we must always be prepared. We try to educate those around us with the latest scientific information as it becomes available while trying to minimize panic and defuse hostile situations whenever possible. Every day we work diligently to protect the lifestyle that the public expects to live. After the San Bernardino attack on our colleagues last year, we are now acutely aware that tragedy can occur in our own backyard. As stressful as our jobs can be, always remember to

stay safe and make sure to take the time to wind down, relax, and enjoy your own lives.

Thank you everyone who made it to our WEHA's 2015 AEC in Saratoga. Hopefully you all learned something from the excellent speakers and enjoyed the hot springs and the scenery that Saratoga had to offer.

This year the WEHA AEC will be at the Holiday Inn in Sheridan in the fall. Sue Mickelson and our AEC committee are busy planning an exciting conference and will get a Save the Date out as soon as we get

dates picked. If you have any ideas or suggestions, please let me or anyone on the committee know your thoughts. If you are interested in participating on the committee, please let me know. Volunteers are greatly appreciated.

Take time to visit with our colleagues that will be retiring this year and see what wisdom they have to share. Hopefully we can all learn from their past experiences and expertise in our profession. Thank you all for serving the public in the Environmental Health Profession!



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"I sent one of the donuts out to be analyzed. The yellow sprinkles are No-Doze, the pink sprinkles are Prozac, and the blue sprinkles are breath mints."

NEHA Update

by Roy Kroeger, Region 3 Vice President

**2018 AEC
Location
Chosen**

**The NEHA
Board of
Directors have
chosen
Anaheim
California for
the location of
the 2018 AEC.
The event will
be located at
the Anaheim
Marriott Hotel
between the
dates of June
21-29th.**

NEHA AEC Changes

NEHA is making some big changes to this year's Annual Education Conference. After losing money on the last three conferences including the very well attended Las Vegas conference, NEHA has decided to change things up quite a bit. Using survey cards from the last AEC in which participants were asked to give the Board of Directors ideas, it was decided to try some of the ideas from those comments. Some of the changes will include:

- Separation of the awards ceremony and the keynote address because many participants suggested the keynote was anticlimactic after sitting in attendance for an hour plus of awards and presentations.
- Addition of social events because many participants said that networking at the AEC was a top priority and the younger generation felt this was even more important.
- Elimination of the Presidents Banquet to save cost and because numerous participants had left early and not participated in the event. This event has also been very expensive with meals costing nearly \$100 per seat.
- Elimination of the networking lunch because of the expense, the limited amount of networking done comments made by past attendees.
- Elimination of sponsor bags and large paper programs is being implemented to reduce expenses and waste as well as to make the conference more green and sustainable.
- Addition of coffee breaks will be added to provide more time to question speakers after presentations or to network with members that have similar interest.
- Allowing retired and student attendees access to all events that others paying full registration fees get.

NEHA staff and the Board of Directors are hoping that attendees see these changes as positive and that NEHA is listening to member suggestions. The AEC will still provide an opportunity to participate in events serving food on each night.

Registration is open now, for more info please visit the AEC website at <http://neha.org/aec>



2018 AEC Location Chosen

The NEHA Board of Directors have chosen Anaheim California for the location of the 2018 AEC. The event will be located at the Anaheim Marriott Hotel between the dates of June 21-29th.

NEHA Establishes Presence in Washington, DC

NEHA added two new senior staff members in the Washington, DC, area: Sandra Whitehead, PhD, and Joann Zurcher, MPA. Whitehead will lead the research and development department of NEHA overseeing a staff of six, while Zurcher will serve a key role as NEHA's director of government affairs. We are extremely pleased to establish our presence in Washington, DC, not only because of the talent and leadership of these two individuals but also to recognize the critical role of environmental health in keeping our nation's citizens and its economy healthy. NEHA is searching for office space to house these two individuals who are currently working from their homes.

2015 America's Health Rankings

[This annual report on the health status of every U.S. state](#) celebrated meaningful progress—including declines in smoking and sedentary lifestyles—but warned that rising drug deaths, obesity, and child poverty are serious areas of concern. Review the report at the link above.



Report on the Adoption of FDA's Food Code

[FDA has released its latest update](#) on the progress of *Food Code* adoptions. The data contained in the report were collected by the Association of Food and Drug Officials.

NEHA Executive Committee visits San Bernardino

Following the January 15th Board of Directors meeting, the Executive Committee traveled to San Bernardino to meet with key staff at the Environmental Health Department. The executives spent about an hour with department officials, expressed condolences and presented them with a "A Living Tribute" certificate that will plant a tree for each of the victims on behalf of NEHA. The visit was well received and seemed to be much appreciated. The evening of our visit to San Bernardino Dr. Dyjack received a message from Corwin Porter, the Deputy Health Director and former EH Director, that said: "I wanted to say thanks again. It meant a lot to us to have you come and visit..."

Membership Dues!

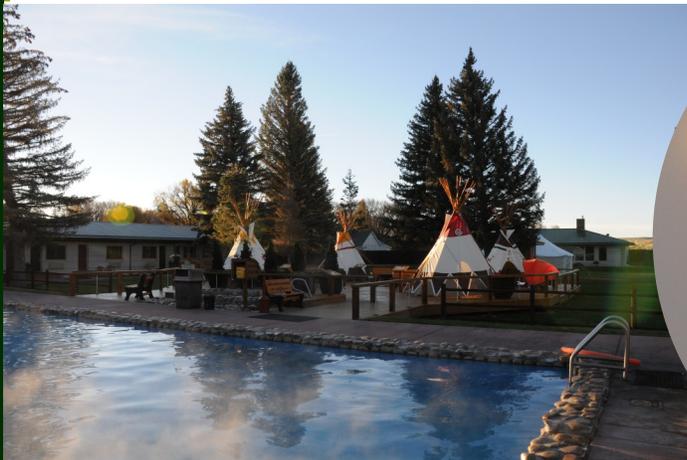
Don't forget to turn in your membership dues! The date for our annual dues is May 1, 2016. Membership applications were sent out via email earlier this year, but just in case a copy of the current application can be found on page 12 of this newsletter. Dues received before May 1 will be \$20 and those received April 1 and after will be \$30. If you are a new member, dues will be \$20. If you know of someone interested in joining WEHA, please send them a copy of the application. Please be sure to return your application and dues as soon as possible.



2015 WEHA AEC in Saratoga, WY



Photo by Paul Ng



Other WEHA Photos by Roy Kroeger
and a few by Sarah Cook, Jennifer Escobedo, and Tiffany Gaertner



2015 WEHA AEC in Saratoga, WY



2015 WEHA AEC in Saratoga, WY





Nancy Reike Award
DeWayne Hinz



Donkey Tale Award
Todd Denny



Arthur Williamson Award
Dean Finkenbinder

Outstanding Environmental Health Specialist

Dru Haderlie

CPO Training Schedule

CITY	START DATE	END DATE	COURSE TYPE	CONTACT	EMAIL	PHONE
Casper	4/26/16	4/27/16	English	Shauna Butler	shauna@atpcchemical.com	(406) 585-5636
Casper	5/5/16	5/6/16	English	Michael Robertson	michaelr57@hotmail.com	(573) 228-8173
Casper	5/17/16	5/18/16	English	Pat Kirk	patkirk67@yahoo.com	(307) 680-7946
Casper	9/13/16	9/14/16	English	Michael Robertson	michaelr57@hotmail.com	(573) 228-8173
Fort Collins	3/22/16	3/23/16	English	Dane Buckley	dbuckley@highcountrypools.com	(970) 226-2657
Cheyenne	5/9/16	5/10/16	English	Michael Robertson	michaelr57@hotmail.com	(573) 228-8173
Cheyenne	9/9/16	9/10/16	English	Michael Robertson	michaelr57@hotmail.com	(573) 228-8173

The classes listed above are only for those offered in Wyoming. For more information on where to find classes in other states, such as Colorado, visit the NSPF website at <http://nspf.org/en/CPO/CPOSchedule.aspx>. Online training is also available on the NSPF website. For more information, visit http://nspfcart.eproacademy.org/store/comersus_listOneCategory.asp?idCategory=25.



WEHA Scholarship Fund

PURPOSE: To provide stipends for WEHA Members to attend conferences, meetings, seminars, symposiums etc. which are beneficial to WEHA.

POLICY: \$1000 in scholarship funding for the purpose of stipends is available per year, with a maximum stipend of \$250.00, per WEHA member per calendar.

PROCEDURE:

1. Applicants must include a meeting agenda, registration form, and a written explanation of how WEHA and the member attending will benefit.
2. All applications will be reviewed by the Executive Board prior to approval.
3. Following the conference etc. a written report must be submitted for publication in the WEHA Newsletter.

Upcoming Training & Conferences...

- **NEHA AEC 2016** June 13-16 San Antonio, TX
- **Environmental Health Training in Emergency Response Operations** June 26-July 2 Anniston, AL
- **NACCHO Annual 2016** July 19-21 Phoenix, AZ
- **NACCHO 2016 Preparedness Summit** April 19-22 Dallas, TX.
Website: <http://preparednesssummit.org/2016-preparedness-summit/>
- **Rocky Mountain Food Safety Conference 2016** May 24-25 Denver, CO
- **World Aquatic Health Conference** October 19-21 Nashville, TN

- **CDC Environmental Public Health Leadership Institute**
<http://www.cdc.gov/nceh/ehs/ephli/>
- **Environmental Public Health Online Courses**
<http://lms.southcentralpartnership.org/scphp>
- **NEHA online learning courses**
<http://www.nehacert.org/moodle/>
- **Northwest Center for Public Health Practice**
http://www.nwcp.org/training/training-search#b_start=0&c5=course
- **FDA's Training and Continuing Education**
<http://www.fda.gov/Training/>
- **Environmental Health Training in Emergency Response**
<http://www.cdc.gov/nceh/ehs/elearn/eheter.htm>
- **NSPF Certified Pool/Spa Inspector**
http://nspfcart.eproacademy.org/store/comersus_listItems.asp?idCategory=42
- **NSPF Instructor Class**
<http://www.nspf.org/CPO/CPOInstructorTraining.aspx>

New Faces Around the State

BRETT BUNDERSON

I grew up in eastern Utah and completed a B.S. in Biochemistry at Utah State University. After completing the degree, I worked in the Environmental Toxicology Lab at Utah State University for four years. I left the lab for a job in Las Vegas, NV where I worked for two years as an Environmental Health Specialist in the Solid Waste and Compliance division. In September 2015 I joined Teton County Environmental Health.



KIMMIE BURGESS



Hi, my name is Kimberly Burgess, but you can call me Kimmie. I moved to Cheyenne from Dickinson, North Dakota at the end of August 2015. The Cheyenne-Laramie County Health Department has been a great place to work so far ;). I feel like I have found my people! I have my BS in Environmental Health and my MS in Food Safety. This is only my second job in the EH field. Prior to working in Cheyenne, I was the assistant manager of the local movie theater for 2 ½ years and a professor at Dickinson State University for 1 year, found out teaching is not my forte.

I enjoy traveling and exploring new places. I love to read and watch movies, which worked out great for working at a movie theater. I've recently gotten into sewing costumes for cosplaying and Halloween. I've been fortunate enough to travel to 3 continents and enjoy 3 different countries: Italy, Uganda, and China. I also took my first Caribbean cruise and have now fallen in love with cruises. I love to dance and you will find me dancing in some capacity to any music and sometimes that music is just in my head. I love animals and currently live with 2 cats (Fluffy and Mya) and 1 rabbit (Bubba).



ZIKA virus: Not prevalent in Wyoming

By: Gary Hickman



Above a recent headline in the Wyoming Tribune Eagle, what does it mean? First of all Zika virus is **not** in Wyoming. It may come to the Cowboy State if someone has picked it up from a recent trip out of the country and brought it home. However, the vectors that we know carry the virus do not reside in Wyoming. There is and will be a lot of speculation on Zika as it is the new "flavor of the year". It can be nasty for pregnant women's offspring if it is proven to be responsible for microcephaly. If it can be contracted through intercourse, another it has to be proven but may have occurred issue, it will be hard to mitigate. The disease could be difficult to control if it jumps to another mosquito vector which does reside in Wyoming. So what do you do?

Look it up. See where it resides and avoid that country, region, state, etc. if you can. Follow practices and procedures effective against all biting bugs. Avoid them, repel them, and eliminate them from your surroundings; drain standing water, empty containers that breed them, and dress to keep them at bay. When you travel, check CDC travel warnings, be aware of the situation and plan accordingly.





Annual Award Nominations

It's now 2015 and the WEHA AEC will be here before you know it! Please start thinking about who you would like to nominate for the annual awards presented at the AEC each year. Descriptions of each award and the nomination form are provided below so make sure you turn in your nominations as soon as possible.

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 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 1970s. He was a well educated and versed engineer working worldwide in the Centers for 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

The Donkey Tail

This award is presented when a written recommendation is submitted that includes an actual account of a humorous incident which occurred during the year while in the line of duty. The award is pre-





2016

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
	\$20.00	Before, May 1, 2016
	\$20.00	New Members
	\$30.00	May 1, 2016 or later
	\$5.00	Student Membership

Please complete form and return applications with dues to:

Dawn Helms
WEHA Treasurer
64 Summerhill Rd.
Riverton, WY 82501
307-856-3326

Please fill out forms completely. Thanks!



Wyoming Environmental Health Association

2219 Carey Avenue

Cheyenne, WY 82002-0100

Visit us on the web at:

<http://www.wehaonline.net/>

WEHA Board

President	Tiffany Gaertner	tgaertner@laramiecounty.com
Past President	vacant	
Vice President	Todd Denny	todd.denny@wyo.gov
Treasurer	Dawn Helms	dawn.helms@wyo.gov
Secretary	Stephanie Styvar	stephanie.styvar@wyo.gov

Committees

Food Safety	WEHA Executive Board	
Child Care	Stephanie Styvar	stephanie.styvar@wyo.gov
Pools & Spas	Chelle Schwope	michelle.schwope@wyo.gov
Water & Small Wastewater	Roy Kroeger	roykehs@laramiecounty.com
Public Relations	Roy Kroeger	roykehs@laramiecounty.com
Awards	Linda Stratton	linda.stratton@wyo.gov
Newsletter	Tiffany Gaertner	tgaertner@laramiecounty.com
Legislative	Dean Finkenbinder	dean.finkenbinder@wyo.gov
Archives & Scrapbook	Beth Wood	bwood@laramiecounty.com
By-Laws/Resolutions	Gary Hickman	ghickman@laramiecounty.com
Membership	WEHA Executive Board	
Nominations/Elections	Gary Hickman	ghickman@laramiecounty.com
AEC	WEHA Board	
Website	Todd Denny	todd.denny@wyo.gov