



WEHA NEWSLETTER

Wyoming Environmental Health

January 2020

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President's Message By Stephanie Styvar



Greetings,

Hopefully everyone is getting a little bit of a breather after the busy year has passed. It seems each year gets busier and busier! I know that in most areas there has been an increase in the amount of mobile food vendors starting up new businesses. Seems this is a sign of the food truck trend expanding in Wyoming. I am assuming this trend will continue. Legislative season is just around the corner. It will be interesting to see what this session brings.

Another successful Wyoming Environmental Health Association Annual Education Conference is in the books. I hope you all enjoyed the conference and the great lineup of speakers we had and learned a little! It is always nice to get together and reconnect with everyone. Since no one got left out on the lake I think we were successful. Thank you again to the committee that made this all happen! We will be regrouping soon to start planning 2020 AEC in Casper. If you are interested in helping out please let me know.

Please remember that the Wyoming Environmental Health Association is your organization. If ever you have suggestions for the board/organization please do not hesitate to contact me.

Best wishes for prosperity in the New Year!

Respectfully,

Stephanie Styvar

WEHA President

NEHA Updates

NEHA/AAS Scholarship Application Now Open

NEHA/AAS SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION NOW OPEN Undergraduate and graduate students who are enrolled in an accredited college or university, with a dedicated and recognized curriculum in EH sciences, are invited to apply for the 2020 NEHA/AAS Scholarship. There will be two undergraduate scholarships awarded for \$2,250 each, and one graduate scholarship awarded for \$2,500. Applications must be completed online by March 1, 2020. Affiliate organizations are encouraged to help spread the word to your student members about this scholarship opportunity.



Updated Body Art Model Code

NEHA has announced the release of the updated NEHA Body Art Model Code (BAMC). The updated BAMC was created with input from environmental health and industry professionals, and addresses the ways body art impacts public health, both old and new. The BAMC is available for local and state agencies and other organizations to use as a resource to update their own body art codes and protect public health. Visit the NEHA Body Art page to read the BAMC and for more information and other resources.

Registration for the 2020 AEC Now Open!

FULL CONFERENCE

Includes access to all of the conference educational sessions and one admission ticket to Exhibition Grand Opening and A Bite of the Big Apple Event.

Member: \$630 early registration pricing until April 24, 2020 (\$800 after April 24, 2020)

Nonmember: \$805 early registration pricing until April 24, 2020 (\$975 after April 24, 2020)

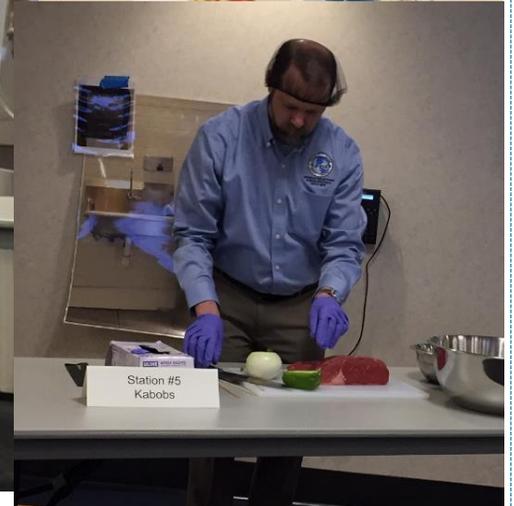
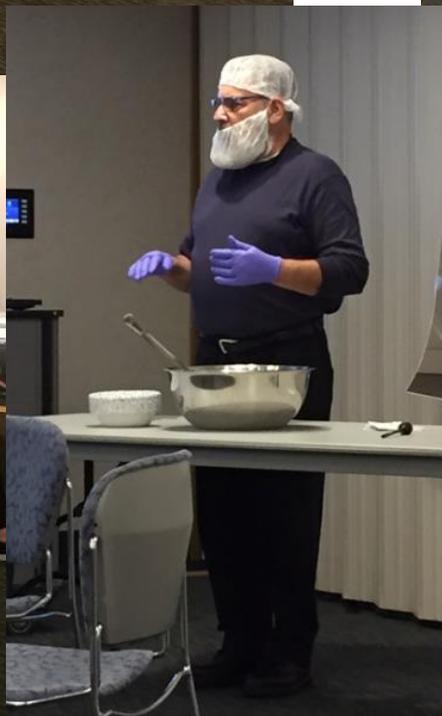
Recognition Through Awards

NEHA Affiliates are encouraged to nominate deserving individuals, or teams, for the following award opportunities

◆ **Walter S. Mangold Award:** NEHA's most prestigious honor recognizes individuals for outstanding contributions to the advancement of the environmental health professional. Nominations must be submitted to NEHA by March 15, 2020. The recipient will be honored at the 2020 Annual Educational Conference in New York City. The full nomination process is outlined [HERE](#).

◆ **Joe Beck Educational Contribution Award:** acknowledges a member, or team of members, or an outstanding educational contribution. Apply online by March 15, 2020

2019 Class





AND THE
WINNER IS!....



Congratulations



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.

FOLLOWING THE CONFERENCE ETC. A WRITTEN REPORT MUST BE SUBMITTED FOR PUBLICATION IN THE WEHA.

Meet the Health Inspector



Hello, my name is Aubrey and I am the new Environmental Health Specialist with the Cheyenne Laramie County Health Specialist. A little bit about me, I moved to Cheyenne 8 years ago, and before you ask why, I'm from a military family and we go wherever they tell us. This last time, it happened to be here. Making this my eleventh and final move, at least as far as states are concerned. I moved to Laramie for school, and graduated with a Bachelor's degree in Biology from the University of Wyoming. I moved back here after school and started working for

the Air National Guard as an event planner, then I went to work at GameStop as the assistant manager, and spent last summer working at Starbase Academy as a teacher's assistant. Now that I'm here, I believe to have finally found a career I enjoy, and plan to be around for quite a few years. You have been warned (I'm kidding, I'm not that bad).

Mario Seminara



It's been a fast 17 years with the FDA as a Retail Food Specialist working from Day 1 with the state of Wyoming. The time came to move on after 31 years in regulatory work for city, county and state retail food protection programs.

I have learned so much and been witness to so much growth in retail food protection programs throughout WY. In 2002, retail food protection was in its infancy stage at Wyoming Department of Agriculture, with other regulatory programs being a priority.

Changes in leadership at the state brought new life to the state and local retail programs and the program continues to grow by adoption of the FDA Food Code, FDA and State standardization of Food Safety Inspection Officers, and enrollment in the FDA Retail Program Standards.

And, facing the challenges, WEHA has also grown and been active serving as a means for state and local retail food protection programs to keep up with the most current issues and offer training opportunities. FDA is pleased to have been invited to be a part of that growth to meet the challenges in retail food protection.

I want to thank the state and local health departments for embracing retail food protection, making FDA an integral part of their growth and forging a true partnership. You all have made my career in FDA a blessed one. I love my job as a FDA Retail Food Specialist not for what I have done, but for what you all have done.

I will miss being your FDA Specialist and having that partnership we enjoyed. Greg Abel, FDA Retail Food Specialist, will continue to provide FDA support to WY, and I know that he will keep the progress moving forward. If you take FDA retail courses offered through NEHA or AFDO, we may meet again as I am a contractor with them to be an instructor or our paths may cross through my consulting.

So, with heavy heart, and spring in my steps, I say till we meet again.

Respectfully,

Mario Seminara, R.S.



Gus Lopez



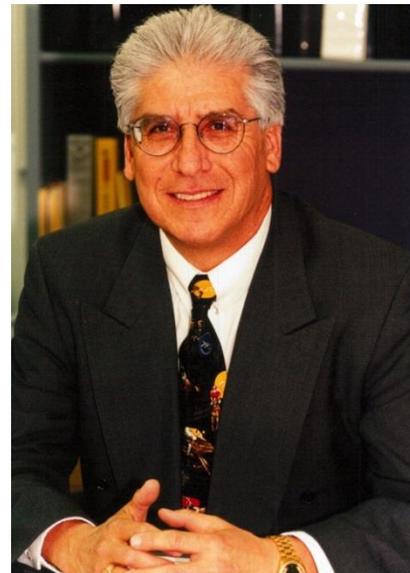
After 50 years of employment with the Cheyenne-Laramie County Health Department, Gus Lopez, Executive Director, has announced his retirement effective November 15, 2019. Gus joined the Cheyenne-Laramie County Health Department on May 2, 1969 as a mosquito technician. He spent a majority of his time in the Environmental Health Division where he became the Division Director. He spent 17 years in that position prior to being promoted to Executive Director in 2003.

Gus has been an active member in both the Wyoming Environmental Health Association since it started and the National Environmental Health Association since 1974. He has served as the Wyoming Environmental Health Associations President in 1979 and received the Outstanding Environmental Health Specialist award in 1975 and the Arthur Williamson Award in 2003.

Mr. Lopez is a native of Greeley, Colo., and a graduate of Cheyenne Central High School. He has an associate's degree in science from Laramie County Community College and pursued undergraduate courses through Chapman University.

He is a 30-year member of the Cheyenne Sunrise Lions Club. He also served as Wyoming Lions, District Governor of 15A in 1997-98 and is actively involved in numerous organizational/community committees. He and his wife, Linda, have four grown children and three precious granddaughters. They have several trips planned in the near future.

Gus will be greatly missed by the Department, the Board of Health and the community as he enjoys his retirement.



Linda Stratton



After 39 years with the Wyoming Department of Agriculture, Linda Stratton has retired.

She was one of the most knowledgeable and respected individuals in the environmental health field in Wyoming. She has worked very hard to gain the respect from those she inspects, her peers, supervisors, those she has supervised, colleagues across the country, and anyone she has crossed paths with. She has seen many changes over the years she has been here and she has been instrumental in insuring those changes were implemented. She has also taken it upon herself to make sure she has educated herself and armed herself with the proper knowledge to be able to keep up with the changing statutes, codes, rules and regulations within our field.

Linda started in Douglas Wyoming in May of 1980 with the grasshopper program and also conducting food and drug inspections along with tech services inspections (gas pumps, scale certification, grain warehouses etc.) and within a year she was moved to the Cheyenne area. Linda was promoted to Consumer Protection Specialist I in 2002 and was again promoted in 2006 to Assistant Manager to help Dean Finkenbinder lead the CHS division. In June of 2016, she was promoted to CHS Manager and is charged with leading the CHS Division and takes this role and responsibility very seriously. As a manager Linda leads by example and does her best to arm her employees with the tools they need to get the job done.

Linda has become an expert in every program she has been involved in including all types of food, dairy farms (including goats), dairy plants, manufactured food, meat program, grading of grain and potatoes, HACCP, and many other programs. People call Linda all day, every day to seek her knowledge and expert opinion, and she is always willing to take the time to share her knowledge with anyone despite her very high work load. If someone asks Linda a question and she is not sure of the answer, she will dig through all of her resources (because she never throws anything away) until she finds the answer. You can tell when she is on a mission to find an answer for someone when you walk into her office, and she has 10 binders out flipping through all of



them. Then you hear her say “I knew I had this somewhere” and promptly calls that person back to reveal the answer they had been looking for.

Linda has always been very involved with environmental health organizations and has held many offices and been on many boards with many of these organizations associated with our profession over the years including: WEHA, WFSC, NEHA, Governors Food Safety Council, Farmers Market Association, NASDA, AFDO, WAFDO, and many others. Linda has always been willing to step up to help and lead wherever she is needed for the good of the department and the environmental health field.

If you really want to see Linda come alive and get excited, just watch her conduct training. When it comes to training in any of the fields she gets involved in, Linda knows how to explain things to people in a way that makes them understand the concept and why it is important. When it comes to putting together new and innovative training she is all in. Linda was instrumental in the 1990’s leading HACCP studies. We had food safety trainings in the past called Going for the Gold, and this presentation had a lot of drawings and cartoons to teach food safety and we were starting to lose interest from our participants. Linda helped lead a team to update this training with pictures from actual establishments in Wyoming and update all of the training to reflect code changes and new statistics; this training was a hit across the state. Linda has always understood the importance and value with training in the environmental health field. When Linda was an inspector in the Cheyenne area, almost every new CHS inspector hired was sent with Linda to conduct inspections because of her knowledge, expertise, and the way she dealt with people.



Linda made numerous positive contributions in the environmental health field. She had a huge impact on environmental health in Wyoming and will be truly missed.



Gary Hickman

After forty-three years, Gary Hickman has retired. Gary had an amazing and full career, and he will be missed for his expertise of all things related to Environmental Health, his dedication, and his ease and sense of humor when dealing with what could otherwise be bleak and difficult situations. Gary always had time to lend a listening ear and always had good advice to give on any given subject. His familiarity with historical and current regulations, requirements and knowledge was almost encyclopedic in its vastness and it was always amazing how quickly he could recall something that would be helpful to solving whatever current problem we were dealing with.



Gary Hickman graduated with a Bachelor of Science Degree from the University of Wyoming. He started his career with the Cheyenne-Laramie County Health Department, Division of Environmental Health on September, 1976. He became the Supervisor of Environmental Health on June 1, 1996, Director of Environmental Health on November 1, 2003 and was also the Deputy Director of the Entire Cheyenne-Laramie County Health Department from July 1, 2018 on. He worked for the Cheyenne-Laramie County Health Department with Jurisdiction over Albin, Burns, Cheyenne, Pine Bluffs and all of Laramie County for the entirety of his Forty-three career.

During the course of his career he was responsible for oversight of over twenty-one programs. He became a Certified Pool/Spa Operator, a Certified Professional of Food Safety, a Certified ServSafe Trainer, a Certified Pesticide Applicator, and obtained Certificates for being a Residential Radon Provider in addition to Lead Certification and Emergency Response coursework. He also completed a plethora of classes and trainings in order to obtain CEU's for his many certifications. Gary was in charge of the Laramie County Small Wastewater Program from 1976 to 1996. He received the Outstanding Environmental Health Professional in 1981, in 2011 he received the prestigious Arthur Williamson award.





Gary was part of many committees – including the Governor’s Task Force on Water and Wastewater, The Wyoming Environmental Health Association where he oversaw the By-Laws and Resolutions, Awards and Nominations and Elections committees. He was also a member of the Wyoming Food Safety Coalition from the beginning of the coalition. He additionally was a member of the National Environmental Health Association, Wyoming Mosquito Management Association and West Central Mosquito and Vector Control Association.

Gary was always a natural leader and teacher with a broad knowledge of many subjects. Throughout the years, he inspired many attendees of Food Safety, pool operator, small wastewater and vector control courses with that knowledge. He was well known for long meandering stories and graphic re-enactments that would often have the audience members and colleagues crying with laughter. Gary will be genuinely missed for his vast knowledge, his listening ear, his problem solving and his wit.



Thank you to the Department of Agriculture and Cheyenne Laramie County Health Department for the information and pictures provided.

From the Field



Hot dogs



Bird in grocery store

Picture credits go to Ralph Stanley, Noel Udell, Roy Kroeger, & Kimmie Burgess.



Light shield



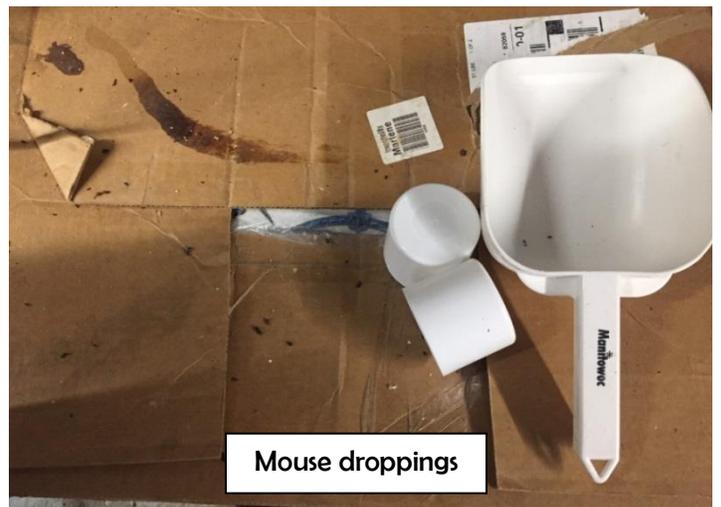
Ice buildup



Improper cold holding



Dirty slicer



Mouse droppings

CPO Training Schedule



City	Start Date	End Date	Course Type	Contact	Email	Phone
Cheyenne	04/21/2020	04/22/2020	English	Pat Kirk	Patkirk67@yahoo.com	(307) 680-7946
Casper	05/15/2020	05/16/2020	English	Pat Kirk	Patkirk67@yahoo.com	(307) 680-7946

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>.

Upcoming Training & Conferences

- **Environmental Health Training in Emergency Response Operations**
January 26-31, 2020 Anniston, Al
- **NACCHO 2020 Preparedness Summit** March 31- April 3 Dallas, TX
- **NEHA AEC 2020** July 13-16 New York, NY
- **NACCHO Annual 2020** July 7-9 Denver, CO
- **WEHA AEC 2020** September Casper, WY



WEHA AEC in Pinedale, Wyoming







WEHA Award Winners

Year	Art Williamson	Outstanding EH	Donkey Tail	Location
1975		Gus Lopez		
1976		Don Pack		
1977		Don Pack		
1981		Gary Hickman		
1985		Sandi Palmer		
1989		Paul Ng		
1990		Debbi Bonini		
1991				
1992		Bert Reinow		
1993	DJ Inman	Bud Anderson	Jon Cecil	Casper
1994		Laurie Leis	Bret Kraut	Sheridan
1995	Franklin Smith	Chuck Sykes	Stephanie Whitman	Laramie
1996	Howard Hutchings	Shirley Etzell	Jennifer Rucinski	Evanston
1997	Don Pack	Dean Finkenbinder	Roy Kroeger	Silver Creek Co
1998	Bill Locker	Neal Bloomenrader	Nola Evans/Sherry Maston	Thermopolis
1999	Chuck Higgins	Wayne Cook	Ron Ramsey	Casper
2000	Dick Worl	Linda Stratton	Neal Bloomenrader	Cheyenne
2001	Sandi Palmer	George Larsen	Jay Myers/Dean Finkenbinder	Casper
2002	<i>Not Given</i>	Roy Kroeger	Doug Krogman/Doug Evans	Gillette
2003	Gus Lopez	Doug Evans	Josh Sandlian	Cheyenne
2004		Doug Krogman	Sherry Maston	Breckenridge
2005		Jon Cecil	Rory McManus	Cody
2006	Jerry Olson		Joe Martinez	Saratoga
2007		Stephanie Malcolm	Dean Finkenbinder	Cheyenne
2008	None	None	None	Lander
2009	None	Jennifer Escobedo	Ben Metcalf	Sheridan
2010	None	Joe Martinez	Jennifer Escobedo	Mammoth
2011	Gary Hickman	Stephanie Styvar	Shane Thompson	Laramie
2012	Roy Kroeger	Sara Geoffre	Dawn Helms	Gillette
2013	None	Shawn Moore	Linda Stratton, Joe Martinez, and Jamie George	Teton Village
2014	Paul Ng	Tiffany Gaertner	Stephanie Styvar	Lander
2015	Dean Finkenbinder	Dru Haderlie	Todd Denny	Saratoga
2016	Linda Stratton	Cody Talbot	Dawn Helms	Sheridan
2017	None	Jamie Georg	Eric Avila	Cody
2018	Mario Seminara	Dawn Helms	Stephanie Styvar and Rebecca Dow	Cheyenne
2019		Erica East	Mykel Murray	Pinedale

**FOR ADDITIONS OR CORRECTIONS, PLEASE EMAIL TIFFANY GAERTNER AT
tgaertner@laramiecounty.com.

2020 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: _____

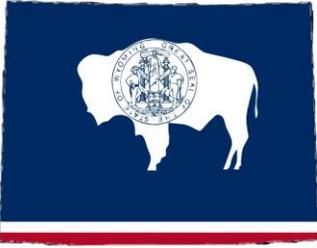
Are you a: Registered _____ Licensed _____ or Certified _____ Professional?

Are you a member of: NEHA _____ IAFP _____ Member of WEHA since: _____

Annual Dues: \$100.00 Sustaining Membership
\$20.00 Before April 30, 2020
\$20.00 New Members
\$30.00 May 1, 2020 or later
\$5.00 Student Membership

Please complete form and return applications with dues to:

Erica East
WEHA Treasurer
404 N Ste 103
Rock Springs, WY 82901
307-362-3331



Wyoming Environmental Health Association

2219 Carey Avenue

Cheyenne, WY 82002-0100

Visit us on the web at: <http://www.wehaonline.net/>

WEHA Board

President	Stephanie Styvar	stephanie.styvar@wyo.gov
Past President	Todd Denny	todd.denny@wyo.gov
Vice President	Dawn Helms	dawn.helms@wyo.gov
Treasurer	Erika East	erica.east@wyo.gov
Secretary	Shelby Reinert	sreinert@laramiecounty.com

Committees

Food Safety	WEHA Board Exec Board	
AEC	The WEHA Board	
Education & Food Safety	The WEHA Board	
Child Care	Stephanie Styvar	stephanie.styvar@wyo.gov
Recreational Waters	Chelle Schwope	chelle.schwope@wyo.gov
Water & Small Wastewater	Roy Kroeger	roykehs@laramiecounty.com
Public Relations/Facebook/Website	Roy Kroeger	roykehs@laramiecounty.com
Awards	Roy Kroeger, Sara Geffe, Jon Cecil	roykehs@laramiecounty.com
Newsletter	Tiffany Gaertner, Josie Prince	jprince@laramiecounty.com
Legislative	Jon Cecil	jon.cecil@wyo.gov
Archives & Scrapbook	Mykel Murry	mykel.murry@wyo.gov
By-Laws/Resolutions	Vacant	
Membership	Todd Denny & Erika East	todd.denny@wyo.gov
Nominations/Elections	Stephanie Styvar	Stephanie.styvar@wyo.gov