



Washington State Environmental Health Association Newsletter

Volume No. 41, No.4

Winter/Spring 2007

A New Look, A New Time And A New Place For the 2007 AEC

While the Northern Hemisphere emerges from its long winter, your association is busy planning for the 2007 Annual Education Conference / Joint Conference on Health. This year we are combining our resources with the Washington State Public Health Association (WSPHA) to produce a truly comprehensive public health conference. This is the 14th annual Joint Conference on Health and it will be held at the Yakima Convention Center October 8-10 2007, so save the dates!

You can still expect three to four concurrent tracks of environmental health presentations. You can also expect several nationally recognized environmental health experts as a part of our slate of plenary speakers. In addition, you can branch out and learn from speakers representing a broad spectrum of public health disciplines.

I am sure you are ... "What can I do to conference is the best asked. How about:

**Submitting an ab- tion. Share your pertise with your submittals are now www.wspha.org so of your conference.

**Recruit speakers. one who has done is a dynamic speaker twist their arm (gently) and encourage them to be a part of the conference.



Yakima Convention Center site of the 2007 Joint Conference on Health, October 8-10, 2007.

asking yourself make sure this con- ever?" I am glad you

stract for a presenta- experience and ex- colleagues. Abstract being accepted at step up and be a part

If you know of some- interesting work and

Continued on page 4.

Keep the Articles Coming!!

WSEHA is proud of the newsletter we provide to our members, but it only happens because of your contributions.

If there is news happening where you work let us know. Remember this is your newsletter, help us keep it coming!

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WSEHA Newsletter

Send newsletter submittals, article ideas, opinions (good or bad) to:
Jonathan Freed at
dodgerjon@hotmail.com

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Opinions expressed in articles published in the WSEHA newsletter should not be accepted necessarily as statements of policy or opinions of WSEHA

Next Newsletter Deadline:

Friday, June 10th, 2007

WSEHA Officers

President

Mike Vinatieri (360) 748-0378;
mvinatie@myhome.net

President Elect

Ned Therien (360) 236-4103
ned.therien@doh.wa.gov

Secretary

Ross Lytle (360) 337-5677
lytler@health.co.kitsap.wa.us

Treasurer

Carol Spaulding (360) 427-7772
cns@co.mason.wa.us

WSEHA Directors

Eastern Region V.P.: Vikki Brus
(509) 324-1475 vbrus@spokanecounty.org

Central Region V.P.: VACANT

Northwest Region V.P. Geoffrey Crofoot
(425) 339-5250 gcrofoot@shd.snohomish.wa.gov

Olympic Region V.P. Jodie Holdcroft
(360) 337-5629 holdcj@health.co.kitsap.wa.us

Southwest Region V.P. Bruce Scherling
(509) 427-3870 Bruce.Scherling@clark.wa.gov

Committees

Kathy Kondakjian, AEC Coordinator,
(425) 338-0830, Kathy@wseha.org

Tom Kunesh, AEC Speaker Chair,
(360) 676-6764, tkunesh@co.whatcom.wa.us

Richard Pedlar, Webmaster,
(360) 236-3116, rwpedlar@comcast.net

Frank Meriwether, International Health,
(360) 236-3036, frank.meriwether@doh.wa.gov

Presidents Corner: AEC, Education Committee, and More...

Last year at this time we were enjoying one of our best Annual Education Conferences (AEC) ever. The management and staff of the Clark County Health Department were wonderful. Having worked with these professionals for six years, I expected great things from them- and they delivered. Once again I thank you for a job well done. This year, we are not having a WSEHA-AEC. We have joined our efforts with the Washington State Public Health Association (WSPHA) to offer you an exceptional educational opportunity in Yakima, October 8-10, 2007. Mark your calendars. We will share speakers and facilities with upward of 800 public health professionals. There will be four or more Environmental Health Tracks over a three day period. You will be able to attend several concurrent Public Health Tracks in addition to the E.H. sessions. There will be at least five nationally known speakers presenting at the conference. WSEHA never has had the resources to offer the quality and quantity of experts we will have available in Yakima.

The training assessment survey tool is ready to be placed on the web page. This is your opportunity to assist the WSEHA Board and your Washington State Board of Registered Sanitarians in putting together training opportunities to meet the needs of our members. Your input will be critical. An email announcement will be made to key you in to the survey. You will know when, where, and how to provide us your input. The joint conference will have great presenters, but often we do not receive abstracts in some important aspects of E.H. This year, with your input, we will seek out presentations in "vacant" areas.

The Board is seeking nomination for Treasurer and President-elect. These new officers will take over at the joint conference in October. Ned Therien will become our new president and I will finally get to assume the most coveted position of all- immediate past president. Please help us find good candidates to fill these positions. And Central Region- You need a Regional V.P. as this post has been vacant almost two years!

WSEHA is now the sole "owner" of the Swimming Pool Manual, having obtained most of the marketing rights from WSPHA. We have terminated our marketing agreement with NEHA and plan to begin a new marketing strategy for the manual this year. Sale of the manual is an important source of revenue for us and helps keep membership fees very affordable.

So, to recap:

- 1.) Please plan on attending the Joint Conference in Yakima, Oct. 8-10.
- 2.) Please complete and submit the training assessment survey as soon as it is available.
- 3.) Step up and get involved as our officer (Pres.-elect or Treasurer) or Regional V.P. We have committees that need your help, too. See Geoffrey Crofoot's article in this newsletter.

This is YOUR professional organization- **Celebrate it!**

P.S. The National Onsite Wastewater Recycling Association (NOWRA) has offered to provide a one day (pre-conference) training session on the model regulations they have been working on for septic systems. These regulations are performance oriented rather than prescriptive like our current regulations in Washington. Is there interest in such a day long session? Call me at (360) 748-0378 or email me to share your thoughts.

By Mike Vinatieri

A New Look, A New Time And A New Place For the 2007 AEC

“Partners Promoting Public Health”

**Volunteer to help plan the conference. We need energetic people to help plan field trips, social events and to help organize and run the conference. Contact Tom Kunesh (tkunesh@co.whatcom.wa.us) or Kathy Kondakjian (Kathy@wseha.org) to find out how you can help.

**Plan to attend in October. There will be no conference this April! It is by far the best single conference for obtaining Continuing Education Units (CEU's) in Washington, especially for us working in so many different program areas.

Tom Kunesh

AEC Speaker Chair



Remembering Tom Barton

When I began at the Health District in 1991, Tom Barton was the Director of Environmental Health and part of Tom Milne's management team. Tom Barton was instrumental in beginning the Mosquito Control District in the 80s. Besides his work as a young sanitarian for the tri-county district (Klickitat, Skamania and Clark) and his management of the division in later years, Tom became very involved in international rescue work, traveling to Africa and other areas to help people suffering from the devastation of natural disaster and war by instituting measures for sanitation and clean water. Some of you may remember Tom's slide presentations upon his return from these efforts. I do know that his efforts inspired others to follow in such humanitarian efforts. We will all miss Tom.

Julie Grimm

How the Joint Conference Came To Be

News flash, the Washington State Environmental Health Association (WSEHA) and Washington State Public Health Association (WSPHA) are working toward having a Joint Conference.

Did you know this? It's true.

Perhaps a little background is in order. As you likely know, one of the main missions of the WSEHA is to help educate the Environmental Health professional. Over the years, one of the most effective educational tools WSEHA has had in its quiver is the annual education conference (AEC.) In addition to being educational, conferences are also hubs of networking and fun. However, in recent years, WSEHA membership has declined. Attendance to the AECs has declined as well.

Setting the reasons for WSEHA membership decline aside, the board wondered why the lack of attendance at AECs? Perhaps it was the distances to the event or the food quality. Perhaps it was the lack of training money in your departments. Perhaps it was the lack of fun at the conference. Perhaps, perhaps, perhaps. There were many contributing factors but, the bottom line is that WSEHA can not afford to continue hosting poorly attended conferences. As a result, the board made several decisions in an effort to boost both membership and conference attendance. One decision was to make a commitment to hosting conferences in a central location, such as Yakima.

Another decision was to try partnering with a group that has had significant success with hosting well attended conferences.

This second decision seemed reasonable to the board for a number of reasons: WSEHA as an organization, would share the work, have the opportunity to realize a degree of monetary relief, and could gain much needed public exposure from a joint conference. Members would have the opportunity to meet and mingle with a wider variety of professionals and vendors. There would likely be an increased opportunity for networking and potentially interdisciplinary partnering. Finally, an increased size and more diverse conference audience penciled out to equal more fun at the end of the day when all the learning was done. For these reasons and likely more, the WSEHA board decided to try partnering with the WSPHA for 2007 and 2008.

Since that decision, I've heard worry on a number of different occasions that WSEHA will be swallowed up by WSPHA and cease to exist with its own unique identity. Truthfully, this outcome is a distinct possibility.

The fate of your organization lies with WSEHA members. WSEHA is comprised of Environmental Health professionals, like yourself, who must choose to be a part of the association. The choice comes in the form of your membership, your attendance, and your employer's willingness to recognize your professional value through sending you to WSEHA conferences. It is you that is the face of WSEHA and it is you that forms the body. Without you, the individual, there is no meaningful association.

With that said and, as WSEHA's Northwest Vice President, I invite you to participate in this new adventure. Come for the excellent continuing education. Come for the expanded networking opportunities. Come for the fun. Whatever your reasons are, please come to Yakima this fall and share a unique experience with WSEHA and WSPHA.

By Geoffery Crofoot

Get To Know Your WSEHA Standing Committees

The Washington State Environmental Health Association depends on its standing committees to make things happen. Unfortunately, many of the committees lack the benefit of much member participation. The exceptions are the International Health Committee and the Annual Educational Conference Committee (this year the Joint Conference on Health Committee). Below is a status report on the other standing committees.

Publications Committee

This committee has the task of putting together a quarterly newsletter. According to the WSEHA Policy and Procedures Manual (PPM), this committee should have five or more members. It currently has only a chair, Jonathan Freed. In order to ease the task of this committee, the WSEHA Board of Directors has authorized that some of the Executive Secretary's salaried time be used to help format the newsletter. The newsletter was changed to a web posting in recent years to save assembly time and the cost of mailing.

Finance Committee

This committee has the tasks of developing the annual budget, providing support to the Treasurer, and devising ways to raise funds for operation of WSEHA. The committee is supposed to consist of three or more members selected at large. Currently, it has no members. The tasks of the committee are being done by the Board of Directors.

Education Committee

This committee has the tasks of devising ways of improving the professional standards of sanitarians, devising ways to educate the public about environmental health, collecting data on environmental health, and cooperating on the newsletter to get information to the members. The committee is supposed to have five members. There currently are none for the general committee. A subcommittee has the task of organizing the annual Swimming Pool Conference. The subcommittee is supposed to consist of three members. However, Gary Fraser is currently doing the task alone. The PPM also mentions that there should be a subcommittee of the Education Committee that tracks the CEUs obtained by members and provides annual reports listing CEUs received in the past three years. This function is currently done by the Washington State Board of Registered Sanitarians by contract with WSEHA.

Policy & Legislative Committee

This committee has the task of considering the basic policies and direction of WSEHA, including policy resolutions and changes to the Articles of Incorporation and the Constitution & By-Laws. It also has the tasks of reviewing proposed legislation and promoting laws and ordinances relating to environmental health. These last tasks are limited by WSEHA's status as a 501c3 organization. The committee is supposed to have five members selected at large. However, it currently has no members.

Continued on page 8

Activities of the State Board of Health

The State Board of Health was established by Article XX, Section 1, of the State of Washington's 1889 Constitution. Its powers and duties are determined by law. The Board is not part of the Department of Health but it partners with and receives support from the Department. The Board helps set state health policy by engaging the public in the process. The Board also has rule making authority, especially regarding subjects where the primary responsibility for enforcement falls on local health jurisdictions and statewide rules are beneficial. For some rules, a careful review of the statutes may be needed to determine whether the Board, the Department, or some other agency has the rule making authority on a public health issue. In any case, the Department is usually heavily involved in developing the rules of the Board.

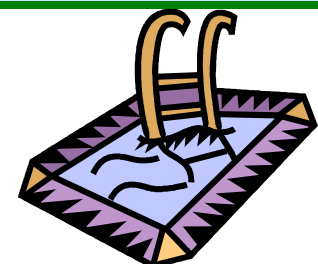
The Board consists of the Secretary of Health and nine other members appointed by the Governor for terms that run three years. The Chair of the Board is chosen by the Governor and may not be the Secretary of Health. The members are appointed according to the following criteria: four members experienced in matters of health and sanitation, one of which must be a representative of a federally recognized tribe; an elected city official also serving on a local board of health; an elected county official also serving on a local board of health; a local health officer; and two members representing consumers. The Board has developed its own by-laws. It elects a Vice Chair, who fills in when the Chair is absent. A list of the Board members can be found on the Board's web site: www.sboh.wa.gov.

The Board has two employees authorized by law, an Executive Director and a Confidential Secretary. Other staff members for the Board are assigned through the Department. Currently, they include three full-time and a part-time Health Policy Analyst. One of the full-time analysts serves as lead staff person for the Governor's Interagency Council on Health Disparities. The part-time analyst's primary duty is to prepare health impact reviews requested by legislators regarding the impact of proposed policies on health disparities. The two remaining analysts provide more traditional staff support to the Board for its policy and rule making activities under RCW 43.20.050.

The Board has a standing committee that reviews environmental health issues. Current members are Keith Higman, Karen VanDusen, and Vice Chair Mike Shelton. The committee has been very active during this decade under current members and former committee chair, Carl Osaki. Before I joined the staff of the Board in 2005, the environmental health committee developed reports on environmental justice, zoonotic disease control, and community environmental health assessment. It also worked on updates

A Guide For Safe and Healthy Operation of Swimming and Spa Pools

Manuals are available to Washington State residents for \$25 or \$20 when purchasing 10 or more. WSEHA member rate is \$20 per manual. Please make check payable to WSEHA and mail to:
4617 144th Place S.E., Snohomish, WA 98296-6916



for many of the Board's major environmental health rules.

My role as one of the analysts is primarily to provide staff support to the Board's environmental health committee. I have become involved with rule making regarding schools; food service; on-site sewage systems; dead animal disposal; drinking water; shellfish sanitation; human remains handling; HIV reporting; and other infection control and sanitation policy issues. One topic the Board asked me to work on starting in late 2005 was to promote awareness of the public health impacts of the built environment. Because of that, I helped organize a portion of the 2006 WSEHA AEC in Vancouver to touch on the topic.

During upcoming meetings, the Board will consider many issues of interest to environmental health professionals. In May, it expects to hear proposals from the Department for preventing another large outbreak of vibriosis from shellfish during the summer. In June, it expects to consider a rule proposal for dead animal disposal, hear about the health risk of copper in school drinking water, and discuss its response to a request that food service establishments provide nutritional information. In August, it will review proposals for revising the school rule.

Ned Therien
Health Policy Analyst
Washington State Board of Health

Nominations & Awards Committee

This committee has the task of canvassing the membership to get nominations for President- Elect, Secretary (even-numbered years), and Treasurer (odd-numbered years). It also seeks nominations for WSEHA awards and determines who will receive the awards. This committee is supposed to consist of eight members, including the President-Elect, the five Regional Vice Presidents, and two selected at large. Joe Graham recently volunteered to be the chair of this committee. This committee needs a sub-committee to help solicit nominations and select recipients of WSEHA scholarships in environmental health undergraduate and graduate studies.

Membership & Benefits Committee

This committee is supposed to conduct an annual membership drive to attract new members, devise ways to increase the number of sustaining members, develop a membership brochure, and investigate group benefit opportunities. The committee is supposed to be made up of five or more members, including all of the Regional Vice Presidents. Currently, not at large members are on the committee.

Please consider volunteering to help out on one of the WSEHA committees. Contact me at ned.therien@doh.wa.gov if you are interested in participating in one or more of the committees.

Meet your Southwest Regional Vice President

I quit high school in the ninth grade and started building custom cabinets and eventually had my general contractor license for residential and commercial construction. 14 years after leaving high school, obtained my GED, followed by Associate of Science in Coeur d' Alene, ID and Bachelors in Civil Engineering at the University of Idaho in Moscow. Eventually I was hired as a staff engineer for a small consulting firm. Responsibilities included designing alternative sewage treatment systems (sand mounds, etc). While one of my designs was being permitted by local health, the EH Director for the health department retired. Owners of the engineering firm suggested that I should apply. I did and stepped into public health as an interim EH Director in SE Washington. I was then "recruited" to fill a position for Skamania County to manage the county's Environmental Health program. Prior to being contacted, I did not know Stevenson, Washington existed. Six years later finds me excited, passionate and enjoying each and every day in public health. During the recent years following 9-11, several additional areas of responsibility have resulted in public health stepping from the quiet background shadows into an active and visible partner throughout the community. I am a generalist, wearing all possible hats of a local health jurisdiction in Washington State. I am responsible for the water programs, the on-site program. My plate is rounded out with solid waste, nuisance, food, CD outbreaks, WNV, vectors and Pan Flu response planning. My personal life includes being married for 27 years, raising five children (youngest is 19). I enjoy computers, being outdoors, the ocean, and fishing, as well as Ham radio. I just obtained my General License and now studying for the Extra Element. My off time includes being an active volunteer staff for the county's EOC. I accepted the nomination for the Southwest VP for WSEHA in early 2006. For all of you EH folks within the Southwest Region of Washington, I am eager to serve you and represent you at the state level. I am a phone call or email away. We can discuss what your thoughts or concerns are and I promise to have them considered at the next board meeting of the Washington State Environmental Health Association.

Later,
Bruce Scherling.

Meet your Northwest Regional Vice President

Hello from the Northwest Region, specifically Snohomish County. For some time now, I've been the Washington State Environmental Health Association's (WSEHA) Northwest Regional Vice President (VP). I am honored to serve in this capacity and look forward to any input folks in this area wish to give.

What makes me tick? For starters, I try to live a simplified life. Commuting to work and most shopping needs are all accomplished via my trusty, brown, Schwinn Collegiate five speed. I'm always amazed at how much stuff I can carry home while riding that bicycle. I live close to work and just a few blocks away from a great, express bus line to Seattle. So, getting into to work and away from home is easy. Now, if only I could figure out how to get to the mountains for my winter cross-country ski addiction without a car. Unfortunately, the old Schwinn just doesn't like the snow as much as I do. For fun and health, I ski, ride and sail. Finally, photography is my passion. I pursue it professionally via my business, Geofoot Photography and with regular exhibitions of my work.

Geoffrey Crofoot
Washington State Environmental Health Association
Northwest Regional Vice President

Nominations For New Officers And Awards Needed

The WSEHA Board of Directors is seeking nominations for the offices of President Elect and Treasurer. Please submit nominations to Joe Graham, Chair of the Nominations and Awards Committee, by **May 25, 2007**. Joe's e-mail address is

joe.graham@doh.wa.gov. Please make sure the person you nominate is willing to take on the duties of the position. Volunteer nominees should feel free to contact Joe and not wait for someone to nominate you.

Although WSEHA will be participating in the Joint Conference on Health in October instead of having an Annual Educational Conference this spring, elections for new officers of the association will still be held in the spring.

Accepting a nomination for the President-Elect position requires a willingness to make a three-year commitment. The first year is as President Elect, the second is as President, and the third is as Past President. There are some duties each of those years. The President Elect's duties include helping the association's committees and the Regional Vice Presidents. The President presides over meetings of the association and oversees the business of the association. The President also represents WSEHA as the affiliate delegate at the annual conference of the National Environmental Health Association. The Past President fills in as needed, but mainly acts as advisor to the rest of the Board. The Treasurer position requires a two-year commitment. The Treasurer "keeps the books," manages all the financial affairs of the association, maintains bank accountants, and pays the bills. The association's current Treasurer, Carol Spaulding, has served for almost 6 years. She is willing to help a new Treasurer through the Joint Conference on Health in October 2007.

The Board of Directors meets at least once quarterly. Lately, it has been meeting more frequently. Travel expenses of officers are reimbursed by WSEHA, if requested.

In addition to seeking nominations for new officers, the Association is also asking you to nominate an Environmental Health Professional for a WSEHA award. There are many, many professionals who work faithfully to promote Environmental Health in our state who deserve to be recognized by their peers. Awards will be presented during the Joint Conference and the nominator (or a designee) should be at the Conference to present the winner to the Conference attendees.

Awards include:

- The John Nordin Outstanding Sanitarian Award, recognizing a member of the Association who has earned respect from his/her peers for outstanding service to the Environmental Health profession and goes beyond what is expected
- The Jack B. Hatlen Inspirational Award recognizes a WSEHA member who has given considerable time, commitment, and personal effort toward promotion of the Association (nominees for this award cannot be current WSEHA officers)
- The Environmental Health Professional of the Year Award, recognizing an Environmental Health Professional who *may or may not be a member* and within the past year, developed a program or project which contributed to the advancement of a specific Environmental Health field or displayed extraordinary leadership in responding to an Environmental Health issue or emergency
- The Rookie of the Year recognizes a WSEHA member who, as a new member of the Environmental Health profession, continually strives for excellence and goes beyond what is expected.

A complete list of awards can be found here: <http://www.wseha.org/nominations.htm>

N.W. Regional Vice President Speaks to Washington State Legislature about Public Health Funding

On February 7, 2007, I had the opportunity to speak to members of the Washington State Legislature regarding the importance of a secure, dedicated funding source for Public Health. What better way to spend a days vacation? Anyhow, I prepared a statement which I practiced down to two minutes. Needless to say, my first presentation had to be chopped in half. The second statement before members of the Senate had to be summarized in about 15 seconds. For your review, here is the full text of my prepared statement.

Dr. John Snow recognized that disease prevention was the key to protecting the health of the public. He identified a water pump as the source of germs responsible for the London Cholera epidemic of 1854.

Today, it is not so different. Modern environmental health professionals work to protect public health through disease prevention, health promotion and protection from environmental threats. My co-workers prevent food-borne illness through education and enforcement of food handling regulations in the restaurants you dine at everyday. They prevent water-borne disease by making sure there are no on-site systems within 100 feet of any water supply well. Part of my work is to prevent disease by evaluating chemically contaminated properties and ensuring that garbage is handled and disposed of in a manner that conserves as well as preserves our shared resources.

Public Health works to keep food and water clean and prevents wastes from contaminating the water and food supplies. Ladies and Gentlemen, this is disease prevention through sanitation; the foundation of public health

The temporary backfill revenues have only been a percentage of the original public health funding stream. As a result, my colleagues now spend time chasing fees instead of eradicating disease.

It is crucial to support and build the foundation of public health with a stable, permanent and substantial funding source.

As an Environmental Health Specialists, I am part of the preventative foundation that stands between the legions of disease which would impact public health, you and your family.

Remember, 153 years ago Dr. Snow recognized, that disease prevention was a key to protecting the health of the public. Realize, **today**, that establishing a stable, permanent funding source, will support the foundation of public health and will be a great successes in the yet to be written history of disease prevention.

Geoffery Crofoot

Welcome New Members!

WSEHA would like to thank its newest members for their support.

Karen Valenzuela M.A., M.P.A., Program Policy Specialist, WSDOH

Bonnie Meyer, M.A., Health Services Consultant, WSDOH

Meet Your Executive Secretary: Kathy Kondakjian

Kathy Kondakjian attended the University of North Dakota, Grand Forks 1984-1985. She also attended the Area Vocational Technical Institute 1985-1987 in East Grand Forks, MN. In late 1987 Kathy moved to southern California and began working for Computer Software Analysts in Camarillo, C.A. as a code writer in RBase for developing databases used for tracking missile guidance systems for Pacific Missile Test Center, Pt. Mugu, C.A. In 1989 Kathy moved to Washington and declined a job offer from Boeing as a Systems Analysts in order to pursue a less stressful line of work. She began working for Management Advisory Services in Seattle as a Contract Manager in the Financial Software Sales Department (non-sales position). In 1993, Kathy worked a short time for Paul Allen at Asymetrix Corporation in Bellevue before deciding to start a family. In 1994 Kathy found part-time work closer to home at the Snohomish Health District where she worked supporting the Environmental Health Division's Child Care Program and Group B Water Systems Program. From 1995 - 1996 Kathy attended evening classes at Everett Community College to further her goal of obtaining a degree in Finance. In 1995, Kathy began working part-time for the Washington State Environmental Health Association while still working for the Snohomish Health District and going to school. In 1999 she quit work at SHD and picked-up another contract with the Washington State Public Health Association and began working from home full-time. She has worked for WSEHA the last ten out of twelve years as their Executive Secretary and the last three years as their AEC Coordinator. Kathy has also worked for the last eight years for WSPHA as their Association Manager and Joint Conference Coordinator. During all of this she's had 3 beautiful children and is a busy wife, mom and business owner.

Regional Update:

Olympic Region(Clallam, Jefferson, Kitsap and Mason Counties)

Thanks to Teri King of the Washington Sea Grant Program, the Olympic Region has co-sponsored a series of workshops on water quality subjects in the past year. It is now time to meet and discuss future education wants and needs for this region, and discuss possible topics and events for the Joint conference in Yakima. **A free business meeting will be held at Pat's restaurant from 6 to 8 PM on April 18th.** Pat's is located at 3561 Wheaton Way in Bremerton. Please bring your ideas or just plan to chat with other environmental health professionals at the meeting. Hope to see you then.

Jodie Holdcroft

Annual Pool Operators Training

Course Contents Include:

- Water Chemistry
- Pool Equipment
- Health and Safety
- Water Quality Testing

Class Times: 8:30 - 4

Cost: \$40 for WSEHA members
\$50 for Non members

Class Dates:

March 26th - Tukwila Community Center
March 27th - Clark County Public Works Shop
March 28th - Clover Park Technical College
April 2nd - Snohomish County Admin. Bldg. E.
April 5th - Richland Federal Bldg. Auditorium
April 6th - Moses Lake Convention Center

To sign up contact Gary Fraser: (360) 236-3073 or
Email: Gary.Fraser@doh.wa.gov



The REHS/RS Test: Could you pass the test again?

- While mixing margaritas in a kitchen (to celebrate the successful passing of the REHS test of course) a sanitarian with two blenders going that each give off 90 dBA of sound is exposed to a sound intensity level of
 - 90 dBA
 - 93 dBA
 - 99 dBA
 - 180 dBA
- Anaerobic bacteria grow only
 - In the presence of oxygen
 - In the absence of oxygen
 - In the dark
 - In the lab
- All poultry should be cooked to a minimum of
 - 145 F
 - 155 F
 - 165 F
 - 180 F
- Which of the following is not an EPA characteristic of hazardous waste.
 - Carcinogenic
 - Reactivity
 - Corrosivity
 - Toxicity
- Which of the following soil types has the slowest percolation rate (min/in)
 - Fine sand
 - Sandy loam
 - Gravel
 - Clay loam
- At general use pools how high must the fence around the pool be?
 - 3 feet
 - 5 feet
 - 6 feet
 - 10 feet
- When eating shellfish all of the following are concerns EXCEPT:
 - Paralytic Shellfish Poisoning
 - Vibrio parahaemolyticus*
 - Domoic Acid
 - Q fever
- Which of the following organisms is responsible for Paralytic Shellfish Poisoning?
 - Alexandrium catenella*
 - Coxiella burneti*
 - Plasmodium vivax*
 - Sarcoptes scabiei*
- What is the EPA recommendation of the maximum amount of Arsenic in water?
 - 10 ppm
 - 1 ppm
 - 10 ppb
 - 1 ppb
- Carbon monoxide is a problem because
 - It displaces oxygen in the air
 - It displaces oxygen in the blood
 - It causes inflammation of the lungs
 - It is flammable

Answers: 1.B 2.B 3.C 4.A 5.D 6.C 7.D 8.A 9.C 10.B

WSEHA President Represents Affiliate At NEHA Conference

The Washington State Environmental Health Association is an affiliate of the National Environmental Health Association (NEHA). One of the responsibilities of the affiliate is to have a representative attend the NEHA Annual Educational Conference. WSEHA usually sends its President. In June 2006, I filled in for Mike Vinatieri and went to San Antonio.

San Antonio was not on my list of must see cities, especially in late June. However, the opportunity to go to a NEHA conference was not something I would turn down. Besides, my wife saw it as an opportunity for her to travel to some place...any place. Ultimately, we both enjoyed the trip. We saw the Alamo, spent most evenings at the River Walk, and hung out with other environmental health folks. While I attended the conference and NEHA business meetings, she enjoyed the hotel pool. The San Antonio Health Department and Texas affiliate were great hosts.

My duties as the affiliate representative resulted in me attending about six hours of business meetings. There was a meeting to brainstorm environmental health personnel involvement in pandemic flu response. There was an informal affiliate presidents' meeting for about two hours where we discussed the universal problem of promoting the environmental health profession to attract new people. The consensus was that low salaries are the problem, but no one at that meeting gave a success story on how they had solved that. NEHA representatives seemed to think national professional registration is the best way. We also discussed strategies to invigorate our state associations. Examples included making first year membership to the state association free; holding annual conferences in the summer in fun locations so that attendees would think them appropriate for a family vacation; giving everyone access to the state association newsletter for free to promote the organization. (The WSEHA Board decided to try the last of these.) Then there was the official Council of Delegates meeting where there was an interesting presentation from a professor at a college in Kentucky who has made environmental health a hot major by promoting it in high schools.

I look forward to the next NEHA AEC this June in Atlantic City where I again will represent WSEHA, probably have fun, and maybe learn something.

Ned Therien



Pictures from last year NEHA Conference including the Alamo (left) and San Antonio river walk (right).

WSEHA International Health Committee: Janconuño, Boliva

Every year since 2000 the International Health Committee of WSEHA has held a silent auction at the WSEHA Annual Education Conference. Proceeds from the Seventh Annual Silent Auction last year went to construction of water and wastewater facilities at a school in the high mountains of the Andes in Janconuño, Bolivia. A total of \$2831.10 was raised and provided to the private nonprofit organization Save the Children, who is implementing a variety of needed improvement programs with indigenous populations in this remote area. Save the Children is an ongoing presence in the area, working with locals to improve health and living conditions for the people.

Janconuño is a village of about 450 people. The name means “white breast” in the Aymara language. The school is named “Elizardo Perez” after a famous Bolivian school teacher, and has 118 school children, some of whom walk several hours from smaller villages around Janconuño. It is a public school from first to eighth grade. There are nine teachers, one director and a house-keeper in the school. The school has eight classrooms, one for each grade. In grades one to six, teachers have implemented a “hygiene corner” for hand-washing, tooth brushing and combing.

**A total of \$2831.10
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organization Save
the Children**

The village had a potable water system installed in 2001, which depends on electricity for pumping the water to the distribution tank. Unfortunately the electrical system does not work consistently; hence the water supply is erratic at best. Only one of the four sealed wells with hand pumps in the village is functional. Due to these conditions, most families get their water from open ponds.

Prior to this project, the Elizardo Perez School did not have any functional water connection. And there were no faucets or hand washing facilities at the school. Children washed their hands in a nearby pond. They either drank the water brought from home or didn't drink at all. The school has six dry latrines with simple platforms, three for boys and three for girls. The house-keeper is in charge of cleaning the latrines, but without water the cleaning is infrequent.



The water system pump at the Elizardo Perez

The project provided funds for Save the Children to upgrade portions of the existing drinking water system, in order to provide a consistent source of water to the school, and install hand-washing facilities for the school. In addition these funds provide for new latrines to be built that are safer to use and easier to maintain. With these improvements the school teachers will also be able to provide better hygiene instruction in each of the classrooms in grades one to six.

The WSEHA IHC worked with the Senior Manager for Corporate Partnerships in the U.S. to implement this project. Proceeds from the silent auction were received by Save the Children at the beginning of June 2006. Approximately 50% of the project was complete by early September 2006. The water and sanitation facilities at the school were completed by October 2006.

The 118 children at the Elizardo Perez School thank you who helped bring them a clean supply of water, and usable latrines. Your help made a big difference in their lives. IHC will host the next silent auction at the 2007 Joint Conference. We hope to see you there. In the meantime, please consider making a donation (goods, services, or donation) to the health project recipient of proceeds from our next silent auction. Your contribution is very important to someone in a developing country. Thank you.



Building the latrines at the Elizardo Perez School. Delivery of material for the building of the latrines. The outline of the base is in the foreground (upper left). Forming the foundation (upper right). The latrines start to take shape as a few layers of brick and mortar are finished (right).

A Message from your NEHA Region 1 Vice-President

On June 18 -21, 2007 over 1500 EH Professionals will gather in Atlantic City, New Jersey to attend the 71st National Environmental Health Association Annual Educational Conference and Exhibition.

Those EH Professionals attending will find over 175 sessions in 21 technical sections at the conference to gain the knowledge and information to help them continue to be aware of state of the art EH practices. If you would like to register go to <http://www.neha.org/AEC/2007/conferenceinfo/index.html>. You will also find an updated conference brochure with the latest up-to-date information.

You can reserve your room at the Tropicana Atlantic City Casino and Resort for \$119 per night in the North, South and West Towers at <http://www.neha.org/AEC/2007/hotel/index.html>.

In addition to the regular conference sessions The Environmental Health Services Branch of CDC's National Center for Environmental Health will be offering free pre-conference workshops!

- Biology and Control of Insects Workshop
 - Environmental Health Training in Emergency Response-Level 1
- National Environmental Public Health Performance Standards Workshop: Building Local & National Excellence.

CDC IS LOOKING FOR EH VOLUNTEERS

CDC is looking for environmental health volunteers to test an interactive, computer based case study titled *Salmonella* in the Caribbean. This case study is the fourth study in the Foodborne Disease Outbreak Investigation Series. The pilot test will help identify problems in the program and collect data needed for continuing education approvals. The test is tentatively scheduled for April and will take 5 – 6 hours. If you are interested in participating e-mail Jeanette Stehr-Green at jstehrgreen@att.net. Please provide your name, mailing address, e-mail address, telephone number and profession/title.

By Dave Riggs

Eastern Region Vice President: Vikki Brus

Hello my name is Vikki Brus and I am the Eastern Region Vice President for WSEHA. When I took over this position I did not realize how hard it would be to have a meeting. Boy was I wrong. It has been a challenge to get a meeting going. So I am asking all the Eastern Region members to give me some guidance in what they would like to see out of a meeting, so when I have a meeting it can be a success. I am hoping to have a meeting in Spokane in the near future (possibly a dinner meeting so people can meet each other). More information to come in the near future. I am currently working for Spokane Regional Health District in the Food Program. I have been there for 4 years . I have a wonderful fiancé — Vince and 2 wonderful children — Ashley (7) and Ryan (3) that keep me busy during my time off. I enjoy spending time with my friends and family, hanging out at the park, or something outdoors, especially with the nice weather just around the corner. I am working with the Joint Conference on Health Planning Committee, trying to come up with some interesting field trips for the Joint Conference. If anyone has suggestions or comments please feel free to e-mail or call me.

Washington State Environmental Health Association, Inc. Membership Application

The Washington State Environmental Health Association (WSEHA) is a nonprofit professional and educational organization. It was established in 1946 to provide a forum for dialogue and a vehicle for advanced training opportunities. WSEHA enhances individual and collective expertise, promotes professional growth, and revitalizes Environmental Health endeavors. The Association is enriched by the diversity of ideas and orientations of its members, who represent both the public and private sectors. For a copy of the WSEHA code of Ethics visit the website at www.wseha.org or contact Kathy Kondakjian at kathy@wseha.org.

Categories of Membership *(please mark next to the category that applies).*

Regular Membership - Persons who are active in the field of environmental health or related educational activities, who have a minimum of a bachelors degree from an accredited college or university. (\$50/yr.)

Associated Membership - Persons who are active in the field of environmental or related activities, but do not meet the minimum requirements of regular membership. (\$50/yr.)

Student Membership - Persons who are working towards a bachelors or higher degree in sanitary science, public health, environmental health or related academic field. (\$5/yr.)

Subscribing Members - Persons residing outside of the state of Washington whose principle membership benefit is receipt of the WSEHA Newsletter and other generally distributed information. (\$20/yr.)

Affiliate Membership - Professional or civic organizations which share the goals and objectives of WSEHA and wish to improve communications and coordination of mutual programs. (\$75/yr.)

Emeritus Membership - May be awarded by the WSEHA Board of Directors to persons who have been active in the field of environmental health for at least twenty years, including at least five years as a member of WSEHA, and who have retired because of age or disability. (No charge.)

**Memberships no longer expire October 1st!
Join or renew your WSEHA membership now and receive a full year of membership.**

First	MI	Last	Degree(s)
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Job Title	Agency/Organization
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Work Address	City	State/Zip
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Work Phone	Fax Number	Email Address
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Home Address	City	State/zip
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Use as my primary mailing address: () Work () Home

Alternative Email Address _____

Major Interest Areas: (Please circle all that apply)

- | | | | | |
|----------------|-----------------|---------------------|----------------------|------------------------------|
| Air Quality | Food Protection | Occupational H&S | Hazardous Waste | Vector Control |
| Wastewater | Housing | Land/Use Planning | Noise Pollution | Recreational Facilities |
| Law & Process | Water Quality | Radiological Health | International Health | Bioterrorism/Emergency Prep. |
| Administration | Solid Waste | Institutional EH&S | Occupational H&S | General Public Health |

Please make check payable to WSEHA and mail to: WSEHA, 4617-144th Place S.E., Snohomish, WA 98296-6919

I have read and agree to abide by the WSEHA Code of Ethics. Signature _____ Date _____ 18