



# Perspectives

a publication of  
**Louisiana Environmental Health Association, Inc.**

December, 2003

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## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

*By: Marian Aguillard*

**F**inal preparations are underway for the upcoming Conference. We will be "Charting Our Environmental Future" in LaPlace, LA, January 27-29, 2004. The registration form, latest agenda, sponsor information and hotel information are posted on the website. This promises to be a most exciting conference. We have several speakers covering the very latest environmental issues. We have kept the cost to the absolute minimum and hope you will join us in LaPlace.

Preliminary arrangements have started for the 2005 conference to be held in St. Francisville, January 25-27, 2005. We are really excited to be going back. We will be holding our meetings in the large room this time and plan to set up classroom style with the long skinny tables for everyone's comfort.

Those of us in state government are preparing to welcome a new administration just before the 2004 conference. Hopefully we can share some of the new visions and goals of Mrs. Blanco's governorship with you in LaPlace.

The 2004 NEHA Conference will be held in Anchorage, Alaska. Please visit the NEHA website to get all the details. You can link to their site from the LEHA website. Our own Jim Balsamo will become President of NEHA at the Alaska conference. Congratulations, Jim!!!

Christmas is just around the corner. The lights are going up, the stores are crowded, and everyone is getting ready to celebrate with friends and family. Steve and I hope this festive season brings joy and blessings to you and your family. We wish you all a very safe Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

As always, please feel free to contact me with your concerns, ideas, and suggestions to make LEHA serve you better.

*Marian U. Aguillard*  
*President*

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225-219-3438

## **A REPORT ON NEHA**

*By: James J. Balsamo, Jr., President-Elect of NEHA and LEHA BOD Member*

By the time most of you get this newsletter, I will be in Denver for a NEHA Office Review and Board of Directors Meeting. Many exciting things have been happening at NEHA the past few months. NEHA is proud to boast that our relationship with CDC, ASTDR, FDA, and EPA have never been stronger and this has lead to Annual Educational Conference Support for activities of mutual interest from FDA and CDC. Also these agencies have provided NEHA with unprecedented grants for which NEHA must produce such things as "Course Curriculum for IAQ Education for Environmental Health Professionals," and "The Basis of Bloodborne Disease Epidemiology." NEHA has continued to educate and provide credentials for those in IAQ, especially in the areas of Radon Risk Reduction and Asthma Awareness. ASTDR has provided funds for

the development and presentation of workshops designed to raise the level of awareness of Nuclear, Biological, and Chemical Preparedness issues for Environmental Health Professionals.

If you take time to visit the NEHA website which is linked to our LEHA Website, you will find a truly remarkable document, nearly 80 pages, that addresses the issue of environmental issues related to the collapse of the Twin International Trade Towers in New York on 9-11. This document covers the activities of Environmental Health Professionals during this time. It was funded by a generous gift from our public and environmental health colleagues from Great Britain, who were having their national educational conference on the day of the attack. It is called "Messages in the Dust." Read it! (*Continued on page 2*)

(“A report on NEHA” continued)

NEHA now has a Washington presence by way of a NEHA employee whose job is to make NEHA known to the powers to be in Washington and to participate in meetings where issues concerning our membership and profession are discussed. Special emphasis will be on activities and relationships with the new Homeland Security Department, after all we want our members to be the best trained professionals should, God forbid, another tragedy like 9-11 or worse might occur. We want our Environmental Health Professionals to be “Public Health Ready” through appropriate training and preparation and planning for these unthinkable events.

Lastly the 2004 Educational Conference (AEC) planning and preparation are well under way. This year’s conference will be held in Anchorage, Alaska. We have received a record number of abstracts from potential speakers and this bodes well for a large attendance. Also we have been making plans to welcome some 250 plus Alaskans to our conference, in addition to our normal attendees. The airfare costs are not really high if you plan early. Hotel prices are about what we have been used to in the Continental U.S. The quality of papers is very high and we probably will have to up-size our Poster Presentation Program to accommodate all the presentations. Also there will be some fun trying to find the little ball in the white snow “Golf Tournament.” NEHA is planning to sponsor a “Fishing Expedition” for a small fee into the wilderness of Alaska. There is also planned a very reasonably priced (from \$850 per person) post-conference “Inside Passage Cruise” from Seward to Vancouver, B.C.

Plan to come and enjoy the wildlife, scenery, educational opportunities, and great fellowship in Anchorage, Alaska in May 2004. Hope to see you there!



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**CHARTING OUR ENVIRONMENTAL FUTURE  
LEHA 2004 Annual Education Conference  
LaPlace, LA January 27-29, 2004**

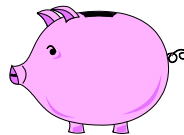
The Louisiana Environmental Health Association is once again planning for our annual educational conference. This year’s theme is “Charting Our Environmental Future” and we will be meeting in LaPlace, La at the Holiday Inn. We are excited to have the Honorable Senator Heulette “Clo” Fontenot, Louisiana State Senate District 13, Vice-Chairman of the Senate Environmental Quality Committee as our Keynote Speaker.

The planning committee has developed an agenda that includes a wastewater treatment workshop with Dr. A. J. England, Jr., a field trip to the Bonnet Carre Spillway, and a variety of technical sessions on current environmental health issues: Louisiana’s Black Bear, Mariculture Potential in the Gulf, Homeland Security, SARS, Louisiana’s Make-a-Map GIS system, and Air Quality issues including Ozone Problems and reformulated gasoline. The Holiday Inn in LaPlace is honoring the state rate of \$65 per night for all LEHA attendees.

Everyone is invited to attend and sponsorship support is extremely welcome. The conference flyer, the list of our 2003 Sponsors, and a sponsorship support form are posted on our website, [www.leha.net](http://www.leha.net). A registration form is included in this edition of the newsletter. Mark your calendar and plan to be with us in LaPlace.

**Marian Aguiard  
President, LEHA**

**MONEY MATTERS  
FROM THE  
TREASURER –**



By: James D. Miller

The following funds are available as of  
December 1, 2003:

LEHA Checking Balance **\$10,369**  
Frank L. Dautriel Scholarship Fund **\$34,484**

On September 18, 2003, the LEHA Board approved annualized membership fee renewal and complimentary membership for paid registrants of the annual conference. Starting in February 2004, all active members who have not attended the annual conference in January will be sent a membership renewal statement.

# CHARTING OUR ENVIRONMENTAL FUTURE



**LEHA 2004 ANNUAL EDUCATION CONFERENCE**  
JANUARY 27-29, 2004, HOLIDAY INN  
LAPLACE, LA

## REGISTRATION FORM

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

Affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

The Workshop will be held from 8:00 AM until 1:00 PM on January 27<sup>th</sup>. A box lunch is included with registration.

The field trip to will depart the Hotel at 1:30 PM on January 27<sup>th</sup>. Those not attending the workshop may purchase a box lunch to eat with the workshop participants from noon to 1:00 PM

for \$12. There is no other charge for the field trip.

Will you attend the field trip?    yes    no  
(Please circle correct response)

Conference Registration Fee includes a complimentary one year membership in LEHA for the year 2004.

## FEES

Conference Registration: \$90 \_\_\_\_\_

Workshop (incl. box lunch): \$40 \_\_\_\_\_

Field Trip Box lunch: \$15 \_\_\_\_\_  
(optional)

**TOTAL FEE ENCLOSED:** \_\_\_\_\_

Substitutions Allowed. No Refunds After Jan 15, 2004. Payment Must Accompany Registration Form. Workshop is not included in Conference Registration fee.

Space for the conference is limited. Walk-in registrations will be accepted only if space permits. Due to the cost of food, last minute arrangements, etc., walk-in registration will be \$130.00.

**PLEASE REMIT TO:**  
**Louisiana Environmental Health Association, Inc.**  
**P. O. Box 2661**  
**Baton Rouge LA 70821-2661**

Is this your first LEHA AEC? \_\_\_Yes \_\_\_No

For additional conference registration forms or information concerning membership please write us at the address above or contact us at our web site [www.LEHA.net](http://www.LEHA.net).



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