

LEHA Perspectives

AUGUST, 1999

Linda Gipson & Marian Aguillard, Editors

NEHA Conference a Great Success!!

by Sharon Parker, President

I can't believe summer is over! At least by the calendar it is over. Mother Nature hasn't gotten the message yet! The heat gets more and more unbearable each year!!

The NEHA Annual Conference was quite a success and had lots of good information. I participated in a focus group to brainstorm how the environmental health profession will be changing in the future. It seems that there is a national trend that is eliminating many of our knowledgeable sanitarians and public health professionals. Therefore, the future of the profession took on a bleak picture for the new millennium. Many states have not progressed in technology which makes information sharing and educational opportunities difficult. Budget shortfalls encourage the hiring of non-professionals to do public health management contributing to poor standards for the general public.

Due to this trend the NEHA is focusing on promoting education of the general public on what environmental health professionals do. The Education committee is planning a campaign focusing on primary and secondary school children. The campaign will develop a program on environmental health for teachers with emphasis on teacher conferences, resource material, and other areas. California has an activity book that I requested copies of so we could evaluate for our state.

There were several ideas to promote membership in the organization. I think we could institute some of them. There also is a service

with them that will track continuing education credits for members. Those of us who participate in a certification program can appreciate this. I encourage you as LEHA members to join NEHA. Membership has many other advantages that are valuable to participate in.

There were four resolutions adopted by the Council of Delegates. Resolution 98-6 is in support of public health principles and guidance for Brownfields policies and practices. Resolution 98-8 supports community water fluoridation. The last two were presented at the council of delegates meeting and pertained to tobacco use. One resolution recommends that the Federal Trade Commission require the cigar manufacturers to put a Surgeon General warning label on their products. The fourth resolution supports a global approach against youth tobacco use.

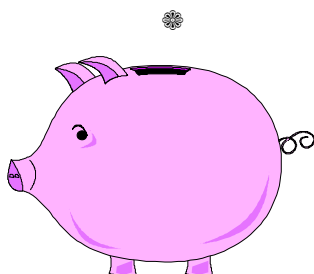
As you can see, Mike and I stayed very busy at the conference! However, we still "passed a good time"!



OUTREACH UPDATE

by Jay Pecot

WE NEED VOLUNTEERS FOR THE LDEQ SPONSORED BEACH SWEEP - CAPITAL LAKES (B. ROUGE) - SATURDAY, SEPT. 19TH.....CALL (765-2460) OR E-MAIL JAY FOR MORE INFO. Please let Jay Pecot know of any upcoming opportunities to spread the word about LEHA.



MONEY MATTERS FROM THE TREASURER - By George P. Gullett

A breakdown of the income and expenditures as of June 17, 1999 is as follows:

Balance as of July 1, 1998	\$6,662
Income	
1998 Conference	\$12,800
Membership	\$2,120
Miscellaneous	\$45
Total Income	<u>\$14,965</u>
Expenditures	
1999 Conference	\$13,537
Membership (HW Day)	\$329
NEHA Conference	\$2,193
Miscellaneous	<u>\$728</u>
Total Expenses	<u>\$16,787</u>
Cash Balance	\$4,841
Frank L. Dautriel Scholarship Fund	
Interest	\$2,579
Donations/Transfer	\$1,600
2 Scholarships@ \$800	-\$1,600
Federal Mortgage	<u>\$24,297</u>
Total	<u>\$26,876</u>

Louisiana Environmental Leadership Pollution Prevention Program (LaELP)

by Jodi Miller

The LaELP has developed an Advisory Group to determine consideration in participating in a national study on Environmental Management Systems. The national study was developed to demonstrate the effectiveness in improving environmental performance with Environmental Management Systems.

In the most recent LaELP Steering Committee meeting, Stephen Bainter with EPA, and Dugan Sabins and Gary Johnson of DEQ presented information on the Nutrient Reduction Voluntary Incentive Program (NRVIP). Nutrients from the Mississippi/Atchafalaya river system have been shown to be one of the causes of Hypoxia (low dissolved oxygen) in the Gulf of Mexico. Nutrient criteria for Louisiana waterbodies are to be promulgated in the state water standards by the year 2003. Because of these new criteria, most NPDES permits will be revised after 2003 to include nutrient limitations based on State Water Quality Standards.

Also, the LaELP is currently setting up associate member status for Publicly Owned Treatment Works (POTWs). For more information, please contact Dr. Al Knecht at (504) 626-8918.

IN SEARCH OF KNOWLEDGE

Linda Gipson, Marian U. Aguiard and Brenda Coon, Education Committee

We hope you enjoy this edition of our newsletter. Anyone interested in assisting, participating or otherwise helping the Education Committee is welcome. Please contact Linda Gipson to volunteer or offer suggestions at 765-0399.

**LOUISIANA ENVIRONMENTAL
HEALTH ASSOCIATION**

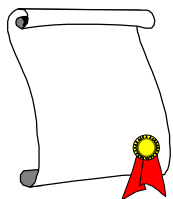
EDUCATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP

The Louisiana Environmental Health Association (LEHA) was conceived in 1947 by six charter members to address environmental concerns in the State of Louisiana. LEHA is also a state affiliate of the National Health Association (NEHA).

Its membership is made up of a varied group of people who study and/or work in environmental protection and public health areas. The group is presently made up of personnel from local government throughout the state, state government, academic institutions, industry, military services, and consulting agencies in all areas of environmental management who are dedicated to helping environmental health professionals meet demands for effective control of environmental issues.

Once per year, LEHA hosts a two-day annual conference to discuss environmental concerns and a one-day mini conference on a "hot" environmental issue. The annual conference is held in January and the mini conference is held in the early fall. Also, once per year, the LEHA sends two persons to the NEHA annual conference and one person to the NEHA mini conference.

LEHA awards two educational scholarships each year in order to encourage outstanding students in the environmental health field. Two scholarships of \$800.00 each are awarded, one to an undergraduate and one to a graduate student. Students may be nominated by any LEHA member in good standing or any official of an accredited university or college offering a degree program in Environmental Health.



NOTICES

The next board meeting will be Wednesday, September 15, 1999 at 9:00 a.m. at the DEQ Headquarters Building, 6th Floor Conference Room, on Bluebonnet in Baton Rouge. Any one from the general membership may attend the board meeting so mark your calendars.



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OUTSTANDING ENVIRONMENTAL PROFESSIONAL AWARD

PURPOSE: To honor exemplary accomplishments performed by a professional in the field of environmental health, protection, management or regulation.

CRITERIA AND QUALIFICATIONS

1. Employed within the field of environmental health, protection, management or regulation.
2. Demonstration of interest and accomplishment in the field of environmental health protection, management or regulation.
3. Represents an exemplary level of professionalism.
4. Nominee for the Award must be a person whose primary source of income is derived from the practice of environmental protection.
5. Must be a LEHA member in good standing.
6. Award shall be issued only once per individual.

NOMINATIONS

1. Nominations for the Environmental Professional Award must be submitted by a LEHA member in good standing.
2. Must be submitted to the Chairman of the Awards Committee prior to the last Board of Directors meeting of the year.
3. In the absence of nominations, the Board may nominate and conform without time limitations.
4. In any event the Board may elect not to confer the award.

SELECTIONS: The Awards Committee's first choice including documentation to be submitted to the Board of Directors at the last board meeting of the year for consideration and concurrence or rejection.

AWARD: In the form of an engraved plaque the cost of which to be derived from the treasury of LEHA and to be presented at the Annual Education Conference.

OUTSTANDING REGISTERED SANITARIAN AWARD

PURPOSE: To honor exemplary accomplishments performed by a registered sanitarian in the field of environmental health.

CRITERIA AND QUALIFICATIONS

1. Registered Sanitarian.
2. Demonstration of interest and accomplishment in the field of environmental health.
3. Represents an exemplary level of professionalism.
4. Nominee for the award must be a person whose primary source of income is derived from the practice of the sanitarian profession.
5. Must be a LEHA member in good standing.
6. Award shall be issued only once per individual.

NOMINATIONS

1. Must be submitted by a LEHA member in good standing.
2. Must be submitted to the Chairman of the Awards Committee prior to the last Board of Directors meeting of the year.
3. In the absence of nominations, the Board may nominate and conform without the limitations.
4. In any event the Board may elect not to confer the award.

SELECTIONS Nominee's criteria and qualifications to be considered cumulatively by the Awards Committee. The Awards Committee's first choice including documentation to be submitted to the Board of Directors at the last board meeting of the year for consideration and concurrence or rejection.

AWARD: In the form of an engraved plaque the cost of which to be derived from the Treasury of LEHA and to be presented at the Annual Educational Conference.

NOMINATION FORM

TO: Edward J. Flynn, CHAIRMAN
LEHA Awards Committee
c/o Louisiana Chemical Association
One American Place, Suite 2040
Baton Rouge, LA 70825

CHECK ONE: **LEHA OUTSTANDING REGISTERED SANITARIAN AWARD**
 LEHA OUTSTANDING ENVIRONMENTAL PROFESSIONAL AWARD

I, _____, a LEHA Member in good standing, hereby
nominate _____, a LEHA Member in good standing,
for above named award for the following reasons:

1. The nominee has demonstrated interest and accomplishment in the field of environmental health
in his/her field as evidenced by the following (attach additional documentation as necessary; curriculum vitae
is desirable):

2. The nominee represents an exemplary level of professionalism as evidenced by the following
(attach additional documentation as necessary):

3. The nominee is a member of the following organizations:

4. Other comments:

Submitted by:

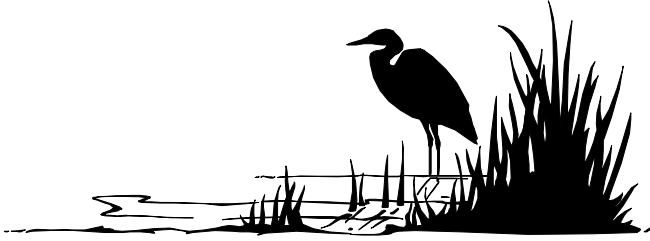
Environmental Professional or Current
Registered Sanitarian
License No. _____
On _____, 199__.

Recommended to the Board of Directors:

Awards Committee Chairman
On _____, 199__.

Confirmed by the Board of Directors for Award by:

_____, on _____, 199__.
Member of the Board of Directors



LEHA

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MEMBERSHIP

by Judy McCleary

Please the following new members so far this year:

Perry Hawkins, Air Products & Chemicals, Geismar
Curt Auzenne, Louisiana DEQ
Joette Kenaley, Louisiana DEQ
Rob Thomas, Louisiana DEQ
Stacie Merritt, Louisiana DEQ
Brett LeBlanc, Louisiana DEQ
Hoa Van Nguyen, Louisiana DEQ
Debra Dickson, Louisiana DEQ
David Burroughs, General Motors Corp., Shreveport

If you attended the LEHA annual conference this year you may have answered a questionnaire. As promised, the results are summarized below:

Results of Survey to Current Members

(52 members responded)

Almost half (24) had been members over five years, 45 were from a state agency, and 25% served on a LEHA committee, although half said they were interested in serving on a committee. The two top reasons for joining LEHA were networking (which

was also viewed as the primary benefit of LEHA membership), and professional development. 44 members had recommended joining LEHA to others, but only 8 members had never attended a LEHA conference before this year. Most members rated the conference good or excellent in most categories and all responded that they would attend another. About half showed some interest in either regular monthly dinner/luncheon meetings with speakers or one day, mini conferences.

Results of Nonmembers Survey

(13 respondents)

Ten were from a state agency and 3 were from business/industry. Only three had ever attended a LEHA conference before. Most gave the conference a good rating and all said they would attend another conference.

Several excellent suggestions and comments were provided in addition that the LEHA Board will consider in planning future conferences and activities.

**Louisiana Environmental Health Association
P. O. Box 2661
Baton Rouge, LA 70821**