

## LEHA Perspectives

**July, 2002**

### **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE by ED FLYNN**

#### **THEN AND NOW**

I am very pleased to serve this year as the 55<sup>th</sup> President of the Louisiana Environmental Health Association (LEHA). Many talented women and men have preceded me in this office and I hope my brief tenure adds some small contribution to the rich history of this distinguished organization.

My first involvement with LEHA took place on January 22, 1992 when I was invited to participate on a panel to discuss Louisiana environmental health issues at LEHA's 1992 annual education conference in Lafayette. I wasn't a LEHA member back then... I wasn't even sure what LEHA was all about. I had only been in Louisiana for two years at that point. LEHA helped introduce me to a world of people... policy makers and regulators from DEQ and DHH; elected officials and legislators; scholars from LSU, Tulane, NLU (now the University of Louisiana at Monroe) and other schools; lawyers and engineers; students; concerned citizens; and others. LEHA *then* was the organization where important environmental issues were presented, discussed, and debated. Different viewpoints were accommodated and ideas and opinions were exchanged.

Over the last ten years of my own personal involvement with LEHA, I've gained valuable professional information and knowledge about a host of DEQ and DHH regulatory initiatives. LEHA conferences have featured sessions on pesticides; coastal restoration efforts; environmental audits; human health risks at Superfund sites; water and air quality issues; endocrine and children's health issues such as cancer and respiratory implications from sugar cane burning; risk communication; lead;

environmental indicators; risk assessment and management; laboratory accreditation; etc.

In LEHA's May 1999 newsletter, Sharon Parker (one of my predecessors as President) wrote about growing concerns around bioterrorism and other various types of chemical, biological, and radiological terrorist activities that could happen in the United States. "Way back" in 1999, such ideas may have seemed far-fetched; today, of course, we're familiar with anthrax-laced mail, dirty bombs, and homegrown as well as international terrorism.

Your Board of Directors is working to make LEHA *now* still the organization where important and timely environmental health issues are identified and discussed. Water quality continues to be of concern to many in Louisiana; the quality and healthfulness of our air; the safety and security of Louisiana's industrial sector; community health and wellness; food inspection and safety; sanitary issues; infectious diseases and emerging pathogens; and of course the new challenges of this millennium, bioterrorism, disaster science, and other lessons learned from "9-11".

Planning is well underway for LEHA's 56<sup>th</sup> Annual Education Conference (see related article in this newsletter). I encourage you to bookmark [www.leha.net](http://www.leha.net) and visit it often... even to make it one of your "favorites". It is your best source of LEHA news and information. And please, spread the word about LEHA to your colleagues and peers. Encourage them to join; they will learn as I did how valuable (and enjoyable) it is to be a part of this organization.

# LEHA 2002 CONFERENCE A HUGE SUCCESS

Where to begin???? The setting was perfect. St. Francisville could not have made us more welcome! Mayor Aquilla gave us a delightful welcome, the Main Street Program prepared goodie bags for all participants, the hotel catered to our every need, and the weather was absolutely gorgeous (although it did make for a warm meeting room). Our sponsors made it possible to keep the registration cost low and to have the wonderful little extras like cookies and flowers! **THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS AGAIN!!** The hotel gave us a fantastic room rate! The food was wonderful from Magnolia Café! No wonder we had 133 registered participants!

The technical presentations were an outstanding success. Everyone was especially impressed with the young ladies from St. Joseph’s Academy. WOW, when did ninth graders become scientists? We had a wonderful array of distinguished speakers including state department heads, legislators, executive directors and chairmen of numerous boards and associations, recognized experts in numerous fields, and everyone a real winner with our audience! We managed to keep about 80% of the audience for the last session on Wednesday in spite of the warm room! Who could have predicted 80 degree weather in January????? Remember the year we had ice & snow???

If you missed it, check out the **photo album** and many of the presentations on the website.

**Special THANKS again to all the volunteers who helped make this year’s conference so memorable!**

Marian Aguillard  
President-Elect, LEHA



Speakers: Senator James David Cain and Representative William Daniel, IV



Cat Island Wildlife Refuge Field Trip

## **LEHA APPRECIATES ITS 2002 SPONSORS!**

### **BENEFACTORS**

**ENERGY SERVICES, INC.  
LOUISIANA CHEMICAL ASSOCIATION  
LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY  
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## **IT'S TIME TO GET READY, SET, GO**

### ***SAILING THE UNCERTAINTIES OF OUR ENVIRONMENTAL FUTURE***

LEHA 2003 ANNUAL EDUCATION  
CONFERENCE  
HOLIDOME, LAFAYETTE, LA  
JANUARY 28-30, 2003

By Walter G. Pichon, III

Time for what? . . . you may ask. Time to mark your calendar for the Annual LEHA Conference in January, 2003, at the Holidome in Lafayette, Louisiana.

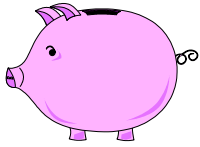
The title of this year's conference is "**Sailing the Uncertainties of Our Environmental Future.**" With all the terrorism of 9-11 and bio-terrorism which has occurred in our world in the last few years, the emphasis now throughout the United

States and the world is to take all precautions to protect our air, water, and land.

The educational sessions being lined up for the conference will be very much related to the protective ways we as environmental professionals will have to protect our water, food and health now and for the future.

The LEHA Conference will give not only educational information, but will give all of us a chance to get away from our everyday jobs to take a break for networking through the workshop, field trip, hospitality room, icebreaker, luncheons, and election sessions.

This will be one of the best conferences ever held. We will see all of you fellow environmental professionals and officials this coming January at the LEHA Conference in Lafayette.



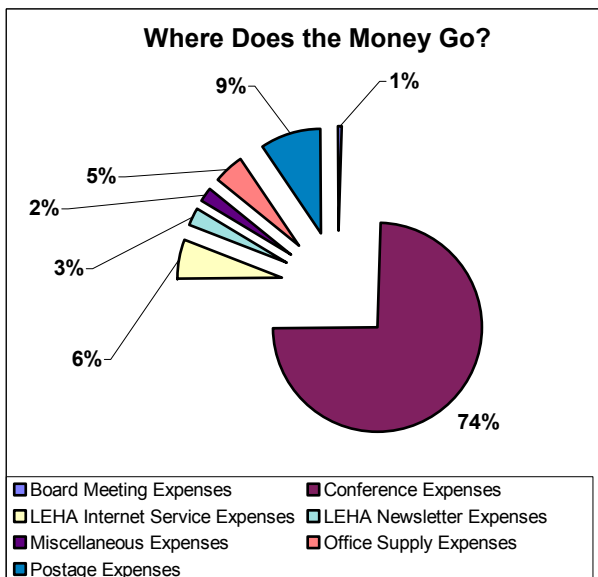
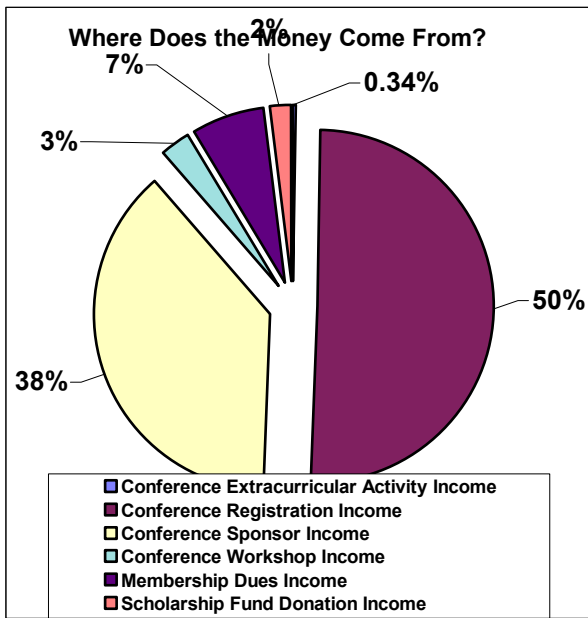
## MONEY MATTERS FROM THE TREASURER –

By James D. Miller

The following are totals of funds available as of July 27, 2002:

LEHA Checking Balance	<b>\$13,314</b>
Frank L. Dautriel Scholarship Fund	<b>\$31,085</b>

### “SHOW ME THE MONEY”



## 2002 Annual Awards Outstanding Professional Awards

Each year, the Louisiana Environmental Health Association awards an Outstanding Environmental Professional Award and an Outstanding Registered Sanitarian Award in recognition of professional excellence and commitment to the protection and enhancement of the environment, and the health and welfare of the people of Louisiana.

### Outstanding Registered Sanitarian Award

**Susan L. Welch, RS, CIH, CSP** is the recipient of the 2001 Outstanding Registered Sanitarian Award. Susan received a B.A. degree in Spanish/ Microbiology as well as a B.F.A. in Graphic Arts and a MSPH in Environmental Health Science from Tulane School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine.

Susan began her career as a Communicable Disease Investigator the Louisiana Dept. of Health. For 10 years, she worked at Tulane performing health and safety and sanitarian duties at the Office of Environmental Health and Safety, the Medical Center and University Hospital and Clinic, School of Public Health, and the Tulane Primate Center. Four of those years, she was Manager of The Tulane Occupational Health and Safety Services. Presently, is on the adjunct faculty of the Tulane School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine, lecturing in environmental health courses and teaching the Principles of Industrial Hygiene Course.

She also worked for Texaco Corporation as an Area Coordinator in the Environmental Health and Safety/IH Division, and later began a consulting career in environmental health and industrial hygiene, which has taken her from Louisiana to Alaska, South America and Central America performing her industrial hygiene, safety and Sanitarian activities.

Susan holds Sanitarian License # 786; National Registration through NEHA (R.S. # 83179.); and is a Certified Safety Professional and Certified Industrial Hygienist.

She has served for many years as Secretary and Editor of the LEHA newsletter and the Constitution and By-Laws committee; participated in NEHA as a national member; having attended many Annual Educational Conferences where she gave platform presentations for the Institutional Environmental Health Section.

Susan is a member of the Louisiana Environmental Health Association; the American Industrial Hygiene Association; the National Environmental Health Association; and the Deep South Chapter of the American Industrial Hygiene Association.

## Outstanding Environmental Professional Award

**Roger W. Gingles** is the recipient of the 2001 Outstanding Environmental Professional Award. He is married and has two children.

Roger has played a key role in drafting and promulgating numerous environmental regulations which have directly enhanced public health and the natural environment in our state. Key accomplishments have included the LDEQ Regulatory Development Procedure (1989), Louisiana Solid Waste Regulations (1993), the Louisiana Subtitle D Application allowing Louisiana to become the first state in EPA Region 6 to have an approved municipal solid waste landfill program (1993), the LDEQ Risk/Cost/Benefit Analysis Guidance Document (1996), the LDEQ Laboratory Accreditation Rule (1997), and the Louisiana Voluntary Remediation Regulations (expected). He is currently active in the Brownfields issues.

Roger represented LDEQ on the Louisiana Comparative Risk Project task force (1990-91), Solid Waste Regulations citizens advisory committee (1990-93), the USEPA/ASTSWMO Industrial Solid Waste Steering Committee and Task Force (1994-95), and was the liaison for the Office of Solid and Hazardous Waste to the 1993 legislative session.

A past president of LEHA, Roger was an active Board Member for many years and served many offices in LEHA. During his presidency, LEHA celebrated its 50th anniversary with numerous special activities at the annual conference, including a recognition ceremony for all past presidents. Roger continues active involvement in LEHA and is currently serving on the Board of Directors. In 2001, Roger was the editor of the LEHA newsletter, and currently works on the committee.

## 2002 Citations by the President

### Presidential Citation

**James D. Miller, M.T. ASCP, CHMM, CPM** is a recipient of the 2001 Presidential Citation. James is married and has three children. He has done an outstanding job this year creating an access database that is now fully automated to maintain and track: finances, membership status, the Board of Directors positions and length of service for historical purposes; sponsorship and scholarship information, and many other items. He has also developed queries and specialized reports of his own design, and those requested by Board members throughout the year. Many nights and weekends were spent perfecting this database.

James helped Marian Aguiard design the conference brochure cover, and he designed the workshop, conference, and speaker certificates, and name tags. He purchased the conference folders, stamps for mail outs, plaques, and other associated items; printed all of the certificates and name tags, and assembled all of the speaker plaques and the name tags, complete with

ribbons; and was responsible to obtain equipment for the conference.

All of this was done while collecting the mail, and performing normal treasury duties of depositing the money collected, tracking and maintaining the finances, and entering pertinent information to track membership, workshop, conference, and sponsorship funds.

### Presidential Citation

**Marian U. Aguiard, P.E.** is a recipient of the 2001 Presidential Citation. Marian is married and has three children and four grandchildren. She has done an outstanding job this year coordinating the annual educational conference. Marian was organized from the start, developing her team, a working budget, and working out the details to bring the conference to a new location, St. Francisville. No detail was left unthought of or undone, down to the hospitality room, speakers plaques, and volunteer gifts.

Marian enhanced the effectiveness of sponsorship solicitations from industry by personally creating, editing, and publishing greater amounts of literature sent to potential benefactors. In addition, she was the first to seek and obtain agency authority (LDEQ) to underwrite the conference as a Benefactor.

Marian was also successful in engaging participation from legislators, some by speaking and others by attendance. The presence of the legislators at the conference was beneficial to educate representatives of our state by enhancing LEHA's presence, and by networking with members of the Louisiana Legislature. Marian has been a very dear friend to the President and the organization, and was been a source of encouragement to the President during her term.



CHELSEA WADE AND EUGENIE ROBICHAUX,  
ST. JOSEPH 'S ACCADEMY, PRESENT THEIR  
ALLIGATOR BAYOU PROJECT

LOUISIANA ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION  
POST OFFICE BOX 2661  
BATON ROUGE, LA 70821

You are invited to Sponsor the

LOUISIANA ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION  
2003 ANNUAL EDUCATION CONFERENCE

“Sailing the Uncertainties of Our Environmental Future”

Lafayette, Louisiana  
at the Holidome  
January 28-30, 2003

SPONSORSHIP FORM

July, 2002

Please type or print all information on this form to insure accuracy!

CONTACT NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

COMPANY: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

My organization would like to support the LEHA 2002 Education Conference as a:

BENEFACTOR (\$1000 or more) in the amount of \_\_\_\_\_

ASSOCIATE (\$500 - \$999) in the amount of \_\_\_\_\_

FRIEND (under \$500) in the amount of \_\_\_\_\_

**All sponsorships are tax deductible. LEHA Tax ID # 72-0863720.**

Please return a copy of this form and your donation made payable to LEHA to the following address:

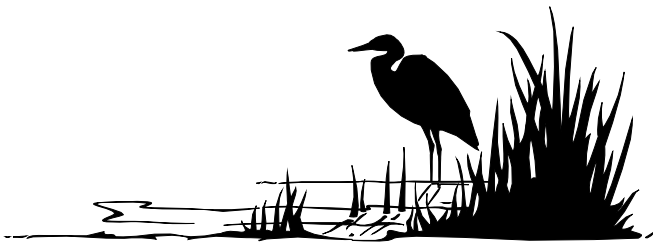
Louisiana Environmental Health Association

Attention: Mr. James Miller

Post Office Box 2661

Baton Rouge, LA 70821-2661

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!**



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

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

2003 LEHA ANNUAL CONFERENCE

***SAILING THE UNCERTAINTIES OF  
OUR ENVIRONMENTAL FUTURE***

HOLIDOME – LAFAYETTE, LA

**JANUARY 28-30, 2003**

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**All-Expense-Paid Training Opportunity in  
IAQ/Asthma**

NEHA is providing a comprehensive, two-day training course that is designed to reflect the new national priorities in addressing Indoor Air Quality and health impacts resulting from IAQ contaminants. **NEHA will select up to thirty (30) people for training in Washington, DC, with all expenses paid.** This would include round-trip air fare (coach with a Saturday night stay over), lodging and a per diem allowance for meals. Travel to Washington, DC, will be on Wednesday, November 20, 2002. Departure will be on Sunday, November 24, 2002.

**[www.leha.net](http://www.leha.net)**

**CHECK OUT THE WEBSITE!!!! PHOTO  
ALBUM AND PROCEEDINGS FROM THE  
2002 CONFERENCE COMING SOON!!!!**

**Louisiana Environmental Leadership  
Program**

**Governor's 2002 Environmental  
Leadership Awards**

**Wednesday, July 10, 2002, 2:00pm**

**State Capitol Press Room (4<sup>th</sup> floor)**

**2002 Frank L. Dautriel Memorial  
Scholarship Awards**

LEHA awards two educational scholarships per year in order to encourage outstanding students in the environmental health field. Two scholarships of \$1000.00 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.

This year, we received scholarship applications from several well deserving individuals, however, because the applicants did not meet the scholarship requirements, the scholarships were not awarded. PLEASE HELP US TO AWARD THESE SCHOLARSHIPS NEXT YEAR BY NOMINATING DESERVING, QUALIFIED STUDENTS. The scholarship requirements are listed on our website.