



AEC...It's So Much More Than a Conference

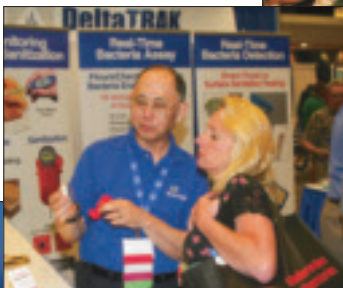
This past June in Columbus, Ohio, the 75th NEHA Annual Educational Conference (AEC) & Exhibition took place—a wonderful milestone that signifies the importance NEHA places on training and education for environmental health professionals. Over the years, certain expectations have been set in producing this event to ensure an expected customer experience is achieved. These expectations change over time and keep NEHA moving to create something new, different, and right for the times. We appreciate that we have a multigenerational workforce that is comprised of different learning styles and we understand that not all attendees' AEC needs will be the same.

As planning began for the 2011 AEC, the planning team took a step back and evaluated what the event now looked like as a whole. They realized that through gradual modifications and changes, the AEC has evolved into a multifaceted event. It has become so much more than a conference and serves as the nexus for environmental health training, education, networking, and advancement.

Some of the facets that make up a NEHA AEC include the following:

- Training,
- Education,
- Networking,
- Advancement,
- Motivation and Inspiration,
- Policy Involvement, and
- Enjoyment of the Destination.

Throughout the marketing literature for the 2011 AEC, these multiple facets were depicted and attendees were encouraged to



choose from among them to create their own customized learning experience at the AEC. By producing a multifaceted event each year, we try to address the different preferences attendees have in their learning experiences

while at the same time offering an event that continues NEHA's mission to advance the environmental health and protection professional for the purpose of providing a healthful environment for all.



National Environmental Health Association (NEHA) Annual Educational Conference (AEC) & Exhibition

Save the Dates

San Diego, California ◆ June 28–30, 2012

Start planning your attendance to the NEHA AEC.

For preliminary information and pricing visit neha2012aec.org.

Greening of the AEC

First Volunteer Community Event



This was the first time that NEHA held a volunteer community event in an effort to increase our sustainability efforts and reduce our carbon footprint. The volunteers worked at the Shepherd's Corner Farm and Ecology Center, where they planted crops and installed poles to grow tomatoes. In addition, attendees learned about the eco-friendly practices used on the farm to improve their sustainability efforts. Attendees got to enjoy being in the outdoors, socializing with their fellow NEHA volunteers, and giving back to the local community.

Green Initiatives for the AEC

- » Increased online registration and e-mail confirmations.
- » Collected a \$10 surcharge that was automatically assessed on any hard copy registration and donated the proceeds to TerraPass to offset the carbon emissions that result from paper waste. Also encouraged attendees to donate to TerraPass.
- » Held a volunteer community event to offset carbon footprint.
- » Used eco-friendly name badge ribbons.
- » Informed staff and volunteers involved in the on-site office of the environmental policy.
- » Continued to reduce the number of hard copy brochures sent to potential attendees by utilizing an online promotional strategy, which helped to cut waste produced by printing and mailing hard copies.

- » Eliminated the production of the conference CD for the second year by offering these resources through the Virtual AEC instead.
- » Printed program guides locally to reduce shipping and handling.
- » Improved on the "greening" of the exhibit hall by creating awareness and providing training to exhibitors about ways they can help reduce waste of many forms.
- » Reduced the number of cars rented by conference attendees by promoting the various alternative transportation modes offered by the city of Columbus.
- » Donated leftover food to a local charitable food distributor or used it in the employee cafeteria whenever possible.
- » Composted food waste.
- » Prepared a percentage of food for all meals as vegetarian or vegan.
- » Served condiments in bulk containers whenever possible.
- » Recommended car rental companies that have green initiatives in place and opportunities for attendees to purchase carbon offsets.
- » Recommended airlines that have green initiatives in place and opportunities for attendees to purchase carbon offsets.

Host Hotel Green Initiatives

- » Member of the Green Hotel Association.
- » Energy-efficient lighting throughout the facility.
- » Low-flow water fixtures.
- » Local food purchased whenever possible.
- » Recycling program.
- » 100% recycled and biodegradable carryout bags, cups, and lids.
- » Guest rooms consolidated to shut down entire floors during slow periods.
- » Thermostats adjusted and lights off in vacant rooms.
- » Green Team directs and promotes green efforts.

Grants, Partners, and Sponsors

Grants

- » U.S. Food and Drug Administration

Partners

- » Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
- » U.S. Food and Drug Administration
- » The Association of Pool and Spa Professionals
- » Uniformed Services Environmental Health Association

Sponsors

Tier II

- » Decade Software Company, LLC
- » Underwriters Laboratories, Inc.

Tier III

- » Food Safety News and Marler Clark
- » MindLeaders and Prometric
- » National Restaurant Association
- » NSF International

Tier V

- » Anua
- » Giant Microbes
- » TrackAssist-Online
- » XOS

Honorable Mention

- » American Academy of Sanitarians (AAS)
- » Center for Environmental Research & Technology, Inc. (CERTI)



TRAINING AND EDUCATION

The training and education lined up for this year's AEC continued to be outstanding in terms of both quantity and quality. Over 130 training and educational sessions covering 13 different areas of environmental health were offered along with two credential courses and exams, six preconference workshops, and two off-site field trips. Quality-wise, cutting-edge infrastructure including a Virtual AEC, return on investment (ROI) principles, and new educational tracks were integrated into the overall structure of the AEC. With so much information packed into three days, as one attendee stated, "The variety and quality of presentations were great. I personally was more interactive and that increased my overall experience and learning."

NEHA's AEC again implemented ROI principles into the training and education structure. ROI principles work to ensure that attendees can return to their workplaces with the ability to more than pay for their trip to the conference by using what they learned at the event. NEHA's AEC planning committee identified objectives that the 2011 conference aimed to meet. Examples of these objectives included providing training and education that was relevant to attendees' jobs and ensuring attendees met at least five new contacts in environmental health to call for professional suggestions or sharing of best practices. For a complete listing of all the ROI objectives the 2011 AEC was designed to meet, please visit www.neha2011aec.org/roi.html.

With the budget and resource cuts that are being experienced across environmental health, NEHA also focused sessions and preconference workshops around the "new normal." Speakers and sessions addressed how best to go forward in government, academia, and the private sector of the profession as well as the opportunities to expand beyond the traditional roles of environmental health.

The learning environments of the Lectures and the more interactive Learning Labs constituted the main structure of the training and educational sessions again this year. Outstanding speakers from a vast array of disciplines in



Attendees "boldly went where no AEC attendee had gone before" and packed the room for the innovative and educational *Back to the Future with Inspector Spock* session.

environmental health presented on pertinent emerging topics. In the Lecture sessions, the keynote and presentations on the Food Safety Modernization Act and bed bugs drew large numbers of attendees. Likewise, the raw milk panel, the mock trial, and the *Back to the Future with Inspector Spock* sessions also proved quite popular. One attendee wrote, "The raw milk session was fabulous because I was able to meet someone that was horribly affected by a foodborne illness. Her speech on raw milk consumption was fabulous." Another attendee felt that the raw milk sessions "delivered real usable data on the subject locally and nationally and closed with a lively discussion with representation on both sides of the issue." Using roundtable discussion and hands-on activities in the Learning Labs, attendees gained practical hands-on experience. One attendee commented, "The Learning Lab on community bed bug management [was an] excellent hands-on training on how to inspect for bed bugs. Actually ripped a bedroom apart before our eyes!"

The six preconference workshops equipped attendees with valuable training in guidance on NSF plan review, foodborne illness response strategies, industrial hygiene, Virginia Graeme Baker pool compliance, and attaining sustainable fiscal health. Some of NEHA's well-regarded credentialing courses and exams, including the Certified Professional of Food Safety (CP-FS) and the Registered Environmental Health Specialist/Registered Sanitarian (REHS/RS), were also offered.

Other organizations that worked synergistically with NEHA to produce stellar training and education for the AEC included the Association of Environmental Health Academic Programs (AEHAP), the Association of Pool and Spa Professionals (APSP), NSF International, State Onsite Regulators Alliance (SORA), National Onsite Wastewater Recycling Association (NOWRA) and the Uniformed Services Environmental Health Association (USEHA).

Environmental Health Topics Covered

- Children's environmental health;
- drinking water quality;
- emerging pathogens;
- environmental health impact assessments, informatics, leadership, and management;
- food protection and defense;
- general environmental health;
- healthy homes;
- hazardous materials and toxic substances;
- international environmental health and climate change;
- nanotechnology and environmental health;
- onsite wastewater systems;
- sustainability;
- sustainability and health impact assessments;
- recreational waters;
- terrorism and all-hazards preparedness;
- uniformed services; and
- vector control and zoonotic diseases.

NEHA's Technical Section Chairs

- Air/Land—Co-Chair, Mary Hazard, REHS/RS, and Co-Chair, Robert Warner, CP-FS;
- All Hazards Preparedness & Terrorism Response—Chair, Lou Dooley, RS, MS-EH, and Vice-Chair, Lois Maisel, CP-FS, RN-EHSII;
- Children's Environmental Health/Healthy Schools and Institutions—Chair, M.L. Tanner, HHS;
- Environmental Health Impact Assessment, Informatics, Leadership, & Management—Tri-Chair, Thomas Crow, REHS/RS, Tri-Chair,

- Gregory Kearney, DrPH, MPH, RS, and Tri-Chair, Wendell Moore, REHS/RS, DAAS;
- Environmental Health Research Coordinator—Steve Konkell, PhD;
 - Food Protection & Defense—Co-Chair, Scott Holmes, REHS/RS, and Co-Chair, John Marcello, CP-FS;
 - General Environmental Health—Chair, Eric Pessell, REHS/RS;
 - Hazardous Materials and Toxic Substances—Co-Chair, Priscilla Oliver, PhD, and Co-Chair, Sheila Pressley, PhD, REHS/RS;
 - Healthy Homes/Healthy Communities/Indoor Air Quality—Chair, Vincent Radke, MPH, REHS, CP-FS, DAAS;
 - International Environmental Health/Climate Change—Chair, Ron de Burger;
 - Sustainability—Chair, Thomas Gonzales, MPH, REHS, and Vice-Chair, Mark McMillan;
 - Vector Control/Emerging Pathogens/Zoonotic Disease—Chair, Zia Siddiqi, PhD; and
 - Water/Wastewater/Recreational Waters—Tri-Chair, Tracynda Davis, Tri-Chair, Craig Gilbertson, RS, and Tri-Chair, Sharon Smith, RS.

Onsite Wastewater Systems Summit

For the first time, three associations combined expertise and audiences to create the Onsite Wastewater Systems Summit (OWS Summit). The collaboration included NEHA, the National Onsite Wastewater Recycling Association (NOWRA), and the State Onsite Regulators Alliance (SORA) and resulted in a three-day educational experience with two tracks taking place on both Saturday and Sunday. Educational sessions included everything from technology sharing and political landscape and budgeting to contractor training and research updates. Presenters came from all over the country from all professional aspects: federal, state, and local governments as well as private industry.

OWS Summit attendees were able to kick off the conference with a “Meet and Greet” party on Friday night that allowed regulators and industry to get to know each other in a less-formal venue. SORA, with the help from sponsors, was able to supply each OWS Summit attendee with a special backpack that included a key chain flashlight and snack pack.



Virtual AEC

NEHA recognizes that it is difficult for a number of environmental health professionals to get approval to attend events like the AEC. So for the second year NEHA invited all those who couldn't attend in person to access the AEC virtually—the next best thing.

This year's Virtual AEC complimented the one held in Columbus. With over 25 educational sessions streamed live, virtual attendees were able to view the sessions as they happened and ask questions of the speakers almost as if they were sitting right there in the rooms! Additionally, virtual attendees were able to connect with AEC attendees, speakers, and exhibitors through networking tools available in the Virtual AEC.

Those who attended the AEC in Columbus also have access to the Virtual

AEC—free of charge—as a valuable part of their registration package. Before heading off to Columbus, attendees were able to build their own personalized schedule of training, educational, networking, and advancement opportunities to take advantage of while at the AEC. Another major benefit for in-person attendees was the flexibility they had in their schedule to attend even more sessions. Thanks to the Virtual AEC, after returning home attendees could view some of the sessions they might have missed because they attended other sessions while on site. Plus, attendees can go back and continue to review the recorded sessions as many times as they'd like for a year!

Although the AEC is over in Columbus, the Virtual AEC continues to provide access to valuable educational content and networking opportunities.

You too can have access to these items by registering for the Virtual AEC. Visit neha2011aec.org/virtual_experience.html to **register today!**



POLICY INVOLVEMENT

General Assembly

The General Assembly was well attended this year. Attendees were treated to breakfast, which was generously sponsored by the National Restaurant Association. A moment of silence was observed at the beginning of the meeting to honor the passing of Nicholas Pohlit, former NEHA executive director. NEHA President Keith Krinn gave a report on the status of the association, which highlighted the many activities NEHA has been in

engaged in, as well as future programs and the financial health of the association. In addition, the only candidate for the position of NEHA second vice president, Bob Custard, was introduced and allowed to make a brief presentation. Managing Director Larry Marcum gave a presentation on the status of NEHA's grants and governmental affairs program. The floor was then opened up to any member comments and President Krinn closed the meeting by thanking all for attending.



NETWORKING

Exhibition

Each year at the NEHA AEC, the Exhibition provides a prime networking opportunity for professionals to connect with exhibitors who can provide the products, services, and knowledge needed for environmental health professionals and their organizations to continue to improve their programs and operations. This year over 80 exhibitors were on site in Columbus to meet face-to-face with attendees.

New in the Exhibition this year was participation from both State Onsite Regulators Alliance and National Onsite Wastewater Recycling Association. They participated in the "Onsite/Decentralized Wastewater Alley" within the exhibit hall with 30 other exhibitors. These exhibitors spiced things up in the "Alley" with a game to engage attendees called "Onsite Jeopardy." The grand prize was a trip for two to Mexico for each member of the winning team! The lucky winners of this fantastic prize were Nancy Deal and Timothy Kluchinsky, Jr.



A wide variety of exhibitors was in attendance at the AEC and provided attendees with an amazing opportunity to interact and learn about relevant products and services.

Other winners in the Exhibition were awarded prizes during the door prize drawings. The big giveaway was a Dell Duo laptop donated by Decade Software Company, LLC, and was awarded to an AEC first-time attendee. The



Through generous conference attendance scholarships sponsored by Decade Software Company, LLC, 15 deserving recipients were afforded the opportunity to attend the AEC.

other two fabulous door prizes included a NOOK™ reader and a digital picture frame. Many thanks to our door prize sponsors for their generous contributions!

Silent Auction

This year's Silent Auction was another success! Seventy-three items made their way to the tables from our very generous NEHA members, affiliates, exhibitors, and sponsors. The \$2,287.00 that was raised from this event will go to NEHA's speaker fund for the 2012 AEC.

- A sampling of this year's items included
- two Swarovski crystalline pens;
 - U.S. flag flown over U.S. Capitol building;
 - gift cards for Bass Pro Shops/Outdoor World, Best Buy, Divine Treasures Gluten-Free/Dairy-Free Bakery (online store), Omaha Steaks, and Taste of Chicago;
 - gift baskets from Alabama, California, Kentucky, Minnesota, and New Jersey;
 - bottles of wine from Illinois;
 - 18" turquoise necklace and earrings made by a Choctaw Nation artist;
 - Sony stereo digital voice recorder;
 - John Fielder's signed edition of *Colorado 1870-2000*;

- three Fisher space pens;
- Deepwater Horizon oil spill incident command challenge coin;
- handcrafted pottery from North Carolina;
- golf club and balls; and
- two windbreakers and a cooler.

Perhaps the most interesting Silent Auction item was a \$50 cash donation from one of NEHA's exhibitors who requested the cash be bid on. This was a first!

NEHA and NEHA staff also donated silent auction items. NEHA donated four blue 75th Anniversary shirts and a 2012 AEC registration, which ended up being the item with the highest bid. NEHA staff contributed a Microsoft wireless keyboard, a men's watch, several framed photographs of Colorado scenery, and some beaded jewelry and lanyards. In addition, 13 pieces of fashion jewelry were donated by NEHA during another silent auction fundraiser at the office on April 14. NEHA received several free pieces when staff purchased jewelry from a



Getting a bid in under the wire, AEC attendees vied to be the ones to take home the amazing items available in the Silent Auction.

catalog, and as a bonus, NEHA's board of directors contributed to the orders. Thanks again to NEHA's board! The total amount received for the jewelry was \$318.

NEHA thanks the generous donors and attendees who helped to make this year's Silent Auction a success!

Exhibitors

AboveTraining Inc./StateFoodSafety.com
www.StateFoodSafety.com

AbTech Industries, Inc.
www.abtechindustries.com

Advanced Drainage Systems
www.ads-pipe.com

American Academy of Sanitarians
www.sanitarians.org

American Manufacturing Company, Inc.
www.americanonsite.com

Anua (formerly Bord na Mona)
www.anua-us.com

Aqua Test, Inc.
www.aquatestinc.com/index.shtml

Association of Environmental Health Academic Programs
www.aehap.org

Association of Professional Piercers
www.safepiercing.org

Atra Wastewater Technologies
b2bcconsultrade.com

Big Fish Environmental, LLC
www.bigfishenvironmental.com

Bio-Microbics
www.biomicrobics.com

CDC Environmental Public Health Tracking
www.cdc.gov/ephrtracking

Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition
www.fda.gov

Center for Priority Based Budgeting
www.pbbcenter.org

Chicopee/PGI
www.chicopeeproducts.com

Clarke
www.clarke.com

Clarus Environmental
www.clarusenvironmental.com

Clearstream Wastewater Systems, Inc.
www.clearstreamsystems.com

Clewer
www.clewer.com

Cooper-Atkins Corporation
www.cooper-atkins.com

CSI Controls
www.csicontrols.com

Custom Data Processing, Inc.
www.cdpehs.com

Decade Software Company, LLC
www.decadesoftware.com

Delta Environmental
www.deltaenvironmental.com

DeltaTrak, Inc.
www.deltatrak.com

Eljen Corporation
www.eljen.com

Esri
www.esri.com

Food Safety News
www.foodsafetynews.com

FR Mahony & Associates, Inc.
www.frmahony.com

Garrison Enterprises, Inc.
www.garrisonenterprises.com

Geoflow
www.geoflow.com

Glo Germ Company
www.glogerm.com

HealthSpace USA, Inc.
www.healthspace.com

Hoot Systems, LLC
www.hootsystems.com

HUD Office of Healthy Homes and Lead Hazard Control
www.hud.gov/offices/lead

Infiltrator Systems Inc.
www.infiltratorsystems.com

Input Systems, Inc.
www.sweepsoftware.com

Intertek
www.intertek.com

Jet, Inc.
www.jetincorp.com

Lamotte Company
www.lamotte.com

Mesa County Advanced Practice Center
www.health.mesacounty.us/mesaapc/

MindLeaders-ThirdForce
www.mindleaders.com

National Association of Local Boards of Health
www.nalboh.org

National Environmental Health Association
www.neha.org

National Library of Medicine
www.nlm.nih.gov

National Onsite Wastewater Recycling Association
www.nowra.org

National Registry of Food Safety Professionals
www.nrfsp.com

National Restaurant Association
www.restaurant.org

National Swimming Pool Foundation
www.nspf.org

NCEH/ATSDR
www.cdc.gov

NORWECO
www.norweco.com

NSF International
www.nsf.org

Ohio Environmental Health Association
www.ohioeha.org

Ohio State University-College of Public Health

Online RME, LLC
www.onlinermc.com

Orenco
www.orenco.com

Ozark River Portable Sinks
www.ozarkriver.com

Palintest
www.palintestusa.com

Paster Training, Inc.
www.pastertraining.com

PestWest Environmental
www.pestwest.com

Polylok
www.polylok.com

Portable Sanitation Association International
www.pesai.org

Presby Environmental, Inc.
www.PresbyEnvironmental.com

Prometric
www.prometric.com

RH2O North America, Inc.
www.rh2o.com

RMSYS, Inc.
rmsyscontrols.com/page/main.html

Salcor
www.sjcr.com

San Jamar Chef Revival
www.sjcr.com

SJE-Rhombus
www.sjrhombus.com

State Onsite Regulators Alliance and Captains of Industry®

www.nesc.wvu.edu/sora

Sure Aqua Corporation
www.sureaqua.com

The University of Findlay
www.findlay.edu

TrackAssist-Online
www.yaharasoftware.com

UL
www.ul.com

U.S. EPA Memorandum of Understanding Coalition

U.S. EPA Office of Wastewater Management

U.S. Navy Recruiting Command
www.navy.com

U.S. Public Health Service
www.usphs.gov

Wieser Concrete Products
www.wieserconcrete.com

XOS
www.xos.com

National Environmental Health Association (NEHA) Annual Educational Conference (AEC) & Exhibition

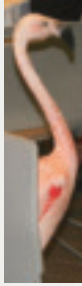
Do Business Here!

Visit neha2012aec.org for information.

Connect with Environmental Health Professionals needing your products and services: exhibit, sponsor, and/or advertise at the NEHA 2012 AEC & Exhibition.



UL Event



The Annual UL Event kicked off the AEC with a wild bunch of animals! No, we're not talking about the AEC attendees; there were literally wild animals from the world famous Columbus Zoo in attendance. These unusual guests included a baby kangaroo, flamingo, penguin, and a dingo. AEC attendees got to pet and interact with the animals as if they were household pets!

The event was held at the beautiful Grange Insurance Audubon Center. The Audubon Center serves as a model for sustainable design thereby promoting the economic, health, and aesthetic benefits of green building. The Center is a green facility of 18,000 net useable square feet built with recycled construction materials. In November 2010, the Center was awarded LEED Gold Status.



NETWORKING



The President's Banquet ended the AEC on a classy note. As is tradition, the passing of NEHA's presidency occurred as Keith Krinn passed the gavel to Mel Knight.



AEC attendees found networking throughout every facet of the conference. The General Assembly, Networking Luncheon, meetings, focus groups, discussions in the hallways, and after-hours relaxing enabled attendees access to numerous networking opportunities.



NEHA 2011 AEC photos by Terry Osner, Roy Kroeger, and Edward Briggs.



MOTIVATION AND INSPIRATION

Keynote

NEHA's selection of the keynote speaker is always intentional. This year, NEHA sought out an individual who could address the impact of dwindling budgets and resources in environmental health programs. How do environmental health programs survive, let alone thrive, in the economic world of the "new normal?" Theodore E. Wymyslo, MD, director of the Ohio Department of Health (ODH), provided some insight into that question. Dr. Wymyslo works with Ohio's 127 local health departments, along with public and private health partners across the state, to improve the health and wellness of Ohio's nearly 12 million residents. In his keynote address, Dr. Wymyslo reviewed the strategic goals and environmental health funding challenges of ODH. He highlighted the accomplishments of programs focused on reducing environmental and health risks for Ohio citizens, despite reduced funding. Dr. Wymyslo concluded his presentation with his advocacy of the *National Prevention Strategy—America's Plan for Better Health and Wellness* produced by the National Prevention Council. The strategy calls for moving the nation from a focus on sickness and disease to one based on prevention and wellness. Dr. Wymyslo encouraged environmental health professionals and their organizations to focus on the seven priorities of the *National Prevention Strategy*, despite funding challenges.

Awards & Honors

Walter S. Mangold Award

CAPT Craig A. Shepherd, MPH, RS/REHS, DAAS, USPHS (Ret.)

NEHA's highest honor, the Walter S. Mangold Award—given for outstanding contributions to the advancement of the environmental health profession—was bestowed this year upon the very deserving CAPT Craig Shepherd. Please see the accompanying story on page 55, which details CAPT Shepherd's distinguished career and contributions to the profession.

Certificates of Merit

Certificates of Merit are awarded to affiliate members who make exemplary contributions to the profession of environmental health. Each affiliate sets its own criteria for recognition, so recipients do not need to be NEHA members. For 2011, the following winners were announced.

- Alabama—Cyndi Tereszkievicz,
- Colorado—Robert Wright,
- Illinois—Beverly Slaby,
- Iowa—Larry A. Linnenbrink,
- Jamaica—Dr. Henroy Perry Scarlett,
- Kentucky—Suann Jewell,
- Massachusetts—Alan D. Perry, RS,
- Minnesota—Angela Wheeler,
- Missouri—Chris Saxon,
- National Capitol Area—Arian R. Gibson,
- Nevada—Sylvia Labay, REHS,
- New Jersey—Jeanne Garbarino,
- Oklahoma—Tanya Harris,
- Texas—Steve Berry,
- Uniformed Services—LT Brian L. Jung, MSC, USN,
- Virginia—Marshall Boyd "MB" Sheppard, and
- Wyoming—Joseph Martinez.

A. Harry Bliss Editor's Award

Brad H. Baugh, PhD, RN, REHS/RS, RPIH

Dr. A. Harry Bliss was editor of the *Journal of Environmental Health* in 1969, the year this award was first presented. When he retired, the award was named after him to honor his 40 years of involvement in *Journal* production. NEHA often gives this annual award to outstanding writers and columnists, but the award may also go to individuals who, through other significant contributions made to the *Journal*, advance the cause and interests of both the association and the profession.

This year, NEHA is delighted to announce that the 2011 recipient of the A. Harry Bliss Award is Dr. Brad Baugh. Dr. Baugh has served as a reliable and efficient peer reviewer for the *Journal* for over eight years. He is thorough, timely, and highly invested in seeing that quality material that is relevant, diverse in topic, and purposeful appears in the *Journal*. While pursuing his own graduate studies as a nontraditional

student while maintaining his professional responsibilities as Environmental Health and Safety Coordinator for Washington State University, Dr. Baugh managed to donate a significant portion of his time to the *Journal*, reviewing more manuscripts than any other reviewer. In addition, he often is available to provide quality and thorough expedited reviews or act as a backup reviewer when the *Journal* department is unable to locate an available reviewer. Dr. Baugh is truly deserving of this award, as he is a tremendous asset to the *Journal* department.

NEHA/AAS Scholarship Awards

NEHA supports students in many ways. One way involves financial tuition support through a special scholarship program that is cosponsored by NEHA and the American Academy of Sanitarians (AAS). A special scholarship committee chaired by NEHA Past President Jim Balsamo manages the scholarship program. The following scholarships were presented on behalf of the committee:

- \$2,000 graduate scholarship to Celine P. Servatius from the University of Washington,
- \$1,000 undergraduate scholarship to Michael Ryan Przbyski from Eastern Kentucky University, and
- \$1,000 undergraduate scholarship to Megan M. Smith from Boise State University.

Walter F. Snyder Award

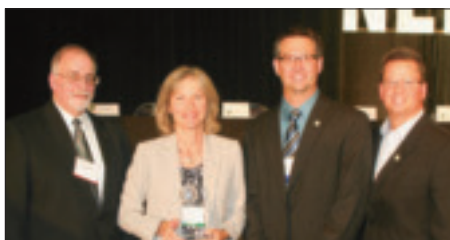
CAPT Gary P. Noonan, RS, MPA, DLAAS, USPHS (Ret.)

NSF International and NEHA honored CAPT Gary P. Noonan with the 2011 Walter F. Snyder Award. This award is given in honor of NSF's cofounder and first executive director, and it recognizes outstanding contributions to public health and the environment. Please see the accompanying story on page 56, which details CAPT Noonan's career and contributions to the profession.

Sabbatical Exchange Award

Julia N. Campbell

NEHA offers a wide-ranging opportunity for professional growth and the exchange of valuable information on the international level through its longtime Sabbatical Exchange



Gus Schaefer from UL (left) and Thomas Gonzales and Mark McMillan (second right and right), representing NEHA's sustainability committee, honor Perri Kittles (second from left) from the city of Coppell with the Excellence in Sustainability Award.

Program. The recipient of this award may go either to England, in cooperation with the Chartered Institutes of Environmental Health, or to Canada, in cooperation with the Canadian Institute of Public Health Inspectors. Underwriters Laboratories, Inc. (UL) currently sponsors the sabbatical.

The award jury this year decided that the sabbatical award should be given to Julia N. Campbell, program consultant II for the environmental health branch of the Georgia Department of Community Health. Julia will be conducting her sabbatical in England and will be studying the different approaches to landfill and brownfields management within the context of human health considerations. She also hopes to learn more about the role of climate on contamination migration.

Excellence in Sustainability Award

Now in its fourth year, the Excellence in Sustainability Award, which reflects NEHA's commitment to the promotion and practice of sustainability, is drawing an outstanding list of applicants from across the county. This year, the sustainability committee has chosen an exemplary program that "shows the way" for communities across the country.

The city of Coppell, Texas, received this year's award because its Eco Coppell initiative has been proactive in reducing impacts on the environment by initiating programs, ordinances, and infrastructure for a more sustainable future. These included construction of a new Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design (LEED)-certified Senior and Community Center, implementing a curbside and yard trimmings recycling program, a Household Hazardous Waste disposal program, and litter/neighborhood integrity ordinances. Decisions based on current as well as future environmental benefits included purchasing hybrid vehicles for city use, planting drought-tolerant landscape medians, installing central control irrigation, conducting facility energy



Student Research Presentation winners proudly pose with their plaques.

audits and retrofits, planting community gardens, promoting a farmer's market, and participation in regional planning. Their success in part is due to their belief that what they are doing is the right thing to do. They feel that it is their duty to set an example for their citizens and other organizations to follow.

UL generously sponsored a glass award and a \$500 honorarium to the winners of this year's award.

Student Research Presentations

Every year, the Association of Environmental Health Academic Programs (AEHAP) and CDC's National Center for Environmental Health (NCEH) sponsor and financially support undergraduate and graduate student research presentations. Thanks to a generous donation from NCEH, six students and their faculty mentors had the opportunity to present their research at the AEC.

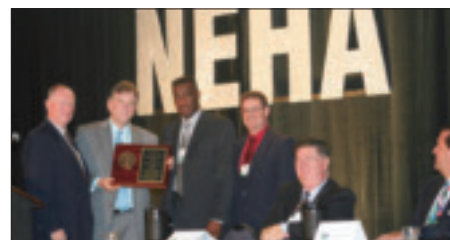
Presenting the student research awards were Dr. Dale Stephenson of Boise State University and LCDR Jasen M. Kunz of the U.S. Public Health Service/CDC/NCEH. Each student participant listed below received a \$500 award, a plaque, and a stipend of up to \$1,000 to cover travel and research expenses.

Analysis of Presence and Source of Fecal Contamination at Golden Gardens Park on the Puget Sound

Jamie Minick, Undergraduate Student,
Boise State University, Boise, ID
Faculty Mentors: Dr. Scott Meschke
and Dr. Dale Stephenson

Development of an Inhalation Exposure "Fingerprint" for Carbon Monoxide and Respirable Particulate Matter from Incense and Charcoal Combustion During Ethiopian Coffee Ceremonies

Quincy Coleman, Undergraduate Student,
Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green, OH
Faculty Mentor: Dr. Charles Keil



President Keith Krinn (second from left) presents the Crumbine Award to Toronto Public Health's representatives, Ron de Burger and Sylvanus Thompson (left and right of President Krinn), while NEHA BOD members Roy Kroeger, Mel Knight, and Brian Collins (left to right) look on.

Changes to Connexin Expression in Metallathionein-3 Positive and Negative Human Proximal Tubule Cells After Cadmium Treatment

Maggie McCoy, Undergraduate Student,
Dickenson State University, Dickenson, ND
Faculty Mentor: Dr. Lynn Burgess

Molecular Identification of Two Medically Important Mosquito (Diptera: Culicidae) Species That Were Previously Indistinguishable as Adult Females

Charles Sither, Undergraduate Student,
Western Carolina University, Cullowhee, NC
Faculty Mentor: Brian Byrd

Using an ATP Meter to Identify Cell Phones as a Possible Fomite for Bacterial Transmissions in the Workplace

Otto Rieck, Graduate Student,
Eastern Kentucky University, Corbin, KY
Faculty Mentor: Dr. Gary Brown

An Exploration of Spatial Analysis and Decision Assistance (SADA) Software and Its Support in Human Health Risk Assessments, Decision Making, and Risk Communication

Kristina Early, Graduate Student,
West Chester University, West Chester, PA
Faculty Mentor: Charles Shorten

Samuel J. Crumbine Consumer Protection Award

Toronto Public Health, Ontario, Canada

The Samuel J. Crumbine Award is a prestigious national award given annually to a local food protection agency that demonstrates excellence and continual improvement in a food protection program. The award is named in honor of Dr. Samuel J. Crumbine, a sanitarian, physician, and public health pioneer who was renowned for his innovative methods of improving public health protection. It is supported by the Conference for Food Protection in cooperation with the American Academy of Sanitarians; the American Public Health Association; the Asso-

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2011 Walter S. Mangold Award Recipient

CAPT Craig A. Shepherd, MPH, RS/REHS, DAAS, USPHS (Ret.)

NEHHA is proud to present the 2011 Walter S. Mangold Award, its highest honor, to Captain Craig A. Shepherd, MPH, RS/REHS, DAAS, USPHS (Ret.).

During a career that spans more than 30 years of dedicated and outstanding service, CAPT Shepherd has exemplified the finest tradition and spirit of a true environmentalist. He earned his BS degree in 1978 from the University of Maryland and soon after served as staff sanitarian for St. Elizabeths Hospital in Washington, DC, which at the time was the largest federally funded mental institution in the U.S. In this role, CAPT Shepherd's duties included among other things monitoring the food service operations, public water supply, ward sanitation, and conducting investigations of foodborne illness outbreaks.

In 1980, CAPT Shepherd began working as an investigator and milk/food specialist for the Food and Drug Administration's (FDA's) Baltimore district office. In this capacity, he worked with local, state, and other federal agencies on matters pertaining to FDA's regulated products and food sanitation codes. In 1984, CAPT Shepherd served as a key team member in evaluating the Virginia food service program. On many occasions, he also supervised and monitored food preparation at the request of the U.S. Secret Service for President Reagan, Vice President Bush, and other distinguished U.S. leaders.

CAPT Shepherd served more than half of his career with the Indian Health Service (IHS). As staff sanitarian at the IHS headquarters in Rockville, Maryland (1984–1988), CAPT Shepherd provided overall staff support for its national environmental health services program. His keen management ability allowed him to streamline the recruitment and selection process for the Junior Commissioned Officer Student Training and Extern Program (COSTEP); by doing so, it grew from being a relatively small program to one that saw approximately 30-plus college environmental health students participate in summer COSTEPs each year. CAPT Shepherd was also instrumental in coordinating the logistics of the first annual IHS American Indian/Alaska Native Safety Campaign. His experience with IHS led him to Alabama, where he served as the southern district sanitarian for the Nashville Area Indian Health Service (1988–1992). In this position, CAPT Shepherd worked closely as an environmental health consultant and technical advisor with eight federally recognized tribes in five states. While at this duty station, he also completed the requirements for an MPH degree from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. In 1992, CAPT Shepherd was promoted to the position of director of the environmental health services branch for the Nashville Area IHS. In this capacity, he was responsible for a program budget of \$600,000 that provided environmental health services to 24 tribes scattered from Maine to the Florida Everglades and westward into eastern Texas. He was also responsible for providing services to three urban programs in New York City, Boston, and Baltimore.

In January 2003, CAPT Shepherd began serving as a senior environmental health officer at the National Center for Environmental Health at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. His responsibilities in this position included serving as a technical advisor to environmental health services capacity building grantees throughout the U.S. and internationally; developing and maintaining a database documenting action taken to formally investigate and close environmental public health inquiries initiated by concerned citizens, congressional representatives, and private industry, as well as local, state, and federal governments; and leading the CDC environmental health response to natural disaster and significant national events. In addition to these responsibilities, CAPT Shepherd also served as the chief professional officer (CPO) for the environmental health category of the U.S. Public Health Service (USPHS) from 2005 to 2009. As CPO, he provided leadership and consultation on numerous commissioned corps projects that resulted in substantial progress in the ongoing PHS transformation efforts. CAPT Shepherd now serves as the emergency preparedness director for the Tennessee Department of Health, where he provides oversight and direction for the public health emergency preparedness and Tennessee healthcare preparedness programs.

Perhaps CAPT Shepherd's most notable achievement is his service as the officer in charge of 70 USPHS officers during the deployment of the United States Navy Ship (USNS) *Comfort's* four month training and humanitarian assistance deployment in 2007. The USNS *Comfort* deployment was ordered by President Bush with the mission to provide aid to the people of Latin American and the Caribbean. USPHS officers under the leadership of CAPT Shepherd provided medical aid and preventive health services to 12 host nations. He was ultimately awarded the surgeon general's Exemplary Service Medal for his accomplishments and leadership aboard the USNS *Comfort*.

CAPT Shepherd has made numerous contributions to the betterment and practice of environmental health science. In addition to his active involvement with NEHA, CAPT Shepherd has been active with the Environmental Health Accreditation Council in reviewing the curricula for several undergraduate environmental health programs, including serving as a team leader for the accreditation survey of the University of Georgia's environmental health program. He has also served as a member of the military environmental health initiative work group while assigned to the National Center for Environmental Health, which strived to facilitate the transition of military environmental health practitioners into state and local environmental health programs. In addition, CAPT Shepherd has been an active leader in promoting emergency readiness for the environmental health officer category of the USPHS, and led by example by responding to vari-

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2011 Walter F. Snyder Award Recipient

CAPT Gary P. Noonan, RS, MPA, DLAAS, USPHS (Ret.)

NSF International and NEHA presented the prestigious Walter F. Snyder Award to CAPT Gary P. Noonan at the 75th AEC in Columbus. This award, given in honor of NSF International's cofounder and first executive director Walter F. Snyder, is presented annually in recognition of outstanding contributions to the advancement of environmental health.

Noonan, who retired from the U.S. Public Health Service (USPHS) with the rank of captain (CAPT), is being honored for his 38-year career marked by significant public and environmental health achievements at the local, tribal, federal, and international levels. CAPT Noonan started his career as a sanitarian with the Jefferson County Health Department in Colorado, conducting general environmental health work, air monitoring, and representing the health department at planning commission meetings.

In 1978, he accepted a commission as a lieutenant, sanitarian officer in the USPHS and was assigned to the Indian Health Service (IHS) as district sanitarian in Minot, North Dakota. As district sanitarian for the IHS, CAPT Noonan served on three North Dakota reservations to train tribal members in maintaining and operating water and wastewater systems. His efforts to produce safe drinking water sources resulted in a notable reduction in gastroenteritis among the tribal members.

CAPT Noonan then worked for the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) as chief of the protective equipment section and acting chief of the injury prevention research branch, where he conducted research for respiratory self-contained breathing devices and respiratory protection equipment.

In 1992, CAPT Noonan transferred to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in Atlanta, where he worked as an industrial hygienist and ultimately as the acting chief of the childhood lead poisoning prevention program. In this capacity, he worked with several federal partners and consensus standards groups to reduce lead hazards and shared this expertise with scientists in foreign countries.

Since July 2002, CAPT Noonan has served as the associate division director for emergency response for the CDC, where he coordinates the division's epidemiologic response to chemical and radiological terrorism and the response to natural disasters. He also oversees cooperative agreements with the Pan American Health Organization and Mexico's National Institute of Public Health and serves as the division point of contact and project officer on a CDC/Federal Emergency Management Agency project that addresses health effects related to Hurricanes Rita and Katrina.

CAPT Noonan has served as a member of the NSF Council of Public Health Consultants since 2005 and chaired the council in 2010. His involvement in the consensus standards process includes serving on the National Fire Protection Association's technical committee on fire service protective clothing and equipment and contributing to a number of national standards on lead testing.

Kevan Lawlor, NSF International president and CEO expressed, "Gary Noonan's work and pioneering research in respirator standards and his leadership and contributions on the NSF Council of Public Health Consultants are greatly appreciated. Gary has career achievements that reflect the principles expressed by Walter F. Snyder and the public health mission of NSF International. The successes he has accomplished have advanced environmental health, making him an outstanding selection for this year's Walter F. Snyder Award."

"In the spirit of what the Snyder Award stands for, Gary has always made it easy for people to work with him and with each other. Gary brings a high level of expertise to his work and finds ways to excite people and make everyone feel as if they are a part of the team. Our association is delighted that Gary has won this award. His many friends in NEHA will undoubtedly be moved to see their good friend Gary recognized in this very special way," said Nelson Fabian, executive director of NEHA.

2011 Walter S. Mangold Award Recipient

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ous humanitarian and natural disasters, including humanitarian and health services rendered to Haitian and other entrants, Ft. Allen, Puerto, Rico (1982); Hurricanes Andrew (1992), Jeanne and Ivan (2004), and Katrina (2005); and the Midwest floods of 1993. His leadership and service throughout his stunningly successful USPHS career earned him the highest USPHS commissioned corps award, the Distinguished Service Medal—of course, this is just one of the many honor, service, and unit awards he earned throughout his impressive career.

Robert C. Williams, PE, DEE, writes, "I have known thousands of environmental health professionals; few have impressed me with their

high level of diligence, dedication, commitment, and exceptional selfless service like this remarkable man."

David Rutstein, MD, MPH, writes, "CAPT Shepherd is a rare individual. He is blessed with a keen intellect, a calm manner, consistent professionalism, and a proven ability to produce meaningful outcomes while being of service."

Robert G. Blake, MPH, REHS, writes, "By his numerous and distinguished achievements over the course of his career, CAPT Craig Shepherd has exemplified the character of Walter S. Mangold."

Thus, it is a privilege and an honor for NEHA to present this award to CAPT Craig A. Shepherd, a man who exemplifies the philosophy, ethics, and dedication expressed through the life of the late Walter S. Mangold.

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ciation of Food & Drug Officials; the Foodservice Packaging Institute, Inc.; the International Association for Food Protection; the National Association of County and City Health Officials; the National Restaurant Association Solutions; NEHA; NSF; and UL.

The award selection jury was impressed with Toronto Public Health's innovative and new ideas in the realm of consumer protection with technically savvy items like a phone application for consumers and the DineSafe program for restaurateurs. The jury was also impressed with the department's transparency with daily Web site posts of enforcement actions. Finally, they felt that Toronto Public Health is an internationally recognized program with strong impacts felt across the U.S. and elsewhere. The award-winning submission can be found at

www.fpi.org. Sylvanus Thompson, quality assurance manager, and Ron de Burger, healthy environments director, accepted the plaque on behalf of Toronto Public Health.

Past Presidents Award

Each year, the Past Presidents group, comprised of former NEHA presidents, identifies a hero for the profession who accomplishes much on behalf of environmental health, but who does a lot of work behind the scenes. This year, the presidents identified a longtime NEHA member and friend who has made enormous contributions to the field of environmental health. This year, they were happy to publicly recognize Dr. Sharunda Buchannan from CDC's NCEH.

Presidential Citations

A Presidential Citation is a special award given to individuals who have made exemplary con-

tributions to NEHA during the president's term of office. President Keith Krinn presented presidential citations to the following individuals.

- Decade Software—Darryl Booth, Jill Dodson, Meghan Graham, and Kevin Delaney,
- Dr. Herman Koren,
- Thomas Gonzales, El Paso County Public Health,
- Roy Kroeger, Cheyenne/Laramie County Health Department,
- Bob Custard, Alexandria Health Department,
- John Marcello, FDA,
- Ken Pearson,
- Brian Collins, City of Plano Health Department,
- James Dingman, UL,
- Tracynda Davis, National Swimming Pool Foundation, and
- Christina Wilson, Columbus Public Health.

FDA Scholarship Recipients

NEHA received funding from FDA to provide 34 full conference registration scholarships and one student scholarship to attend the AEC. A special thanks to FDA and congratulations to the scholarship recipients listed below. For more information on this program, please contact Vanessa De Arman at 303-756-9090, ext. 311, or at vdearman@neha.org.

Mohammad Alam	Raymond Herbst	Dianne McCormick	Heidi Scott	Varas-Johnson
Rhonda Albarkat	Cindy Hochhalter	Custodio Muianga	Chelsey Slone	Lisa Vealey
Larry Beard	Larry Holbert	Rachel Munshower-Fox	Karen Solberg	Kris Vellema
Karen A. M. Brown	Stephen Hughes	Erin Murphy	Jamie Stamey	John Wagner
Kimberly Burgess	Don Hwang	Kenneth Priest	Douglas Turnbull, II	Justin Waldrep
Zak Habib	Uzma Kashi	Janet Rittenhouse	Denise Tyree	Scott Withington
Robert Hanrahan	Soheila Khaila	Mignon Lott	Miriam	Beth Wood
				Jodi Zimmerman

U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)/Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) Scholarship Recipients

NEHA received funding from USDA/FSIS to provide full conference registration scholarships to seven attendees of the "Epi-Ready: Foodborne Illness Response Strategies Team Training" workshop to also attend the AEC. Recipients participated in the Epi-Ready preconference workshop and attended the full AEC. A special thanks to USDA/FSIS and congratulations to the scholarship recipients below. For more information on this program, please contact Elizabeth Landeen at 860-357-2097, or at elandeen@neha.org.

Dale Baker	Douglas Hamernik	Tyler Pigman	Alan Whyman
Marcia Dreiseidel	Carrie Kamm	Mary Salimbene	

Decade Scholarship Winners

As part of an initiative to give back to the environmental health community and to broaden the reach of NEHA's AEC during a time of shrinking budgets, Decade Software Company, LLC sponsored scholarships to 15 deserving recipients. After diligent evaluation of the essay submissions by the selection committee, President Keith Krinn, President-elect Mel Knight, and Decade's sales and marketing team, the following recipients were notified of their \$700 scholarship award, which included conference registration fees and contribution to travel and per diem costs.

Jennifer Bennett	Amie May	Duane Schneider	Mark Werner
Justin Frazier	Lisa McGiveron	Jessica Shreve	Stacy Wilson
Sarah Leach	Wendy Ringgenberg	Anton Shufutinsky	Charles Yet
Zack Lustgarten	Art Rodriguez	Oliver J. Toigo	

Student AEC Travel Scholarship Recipients and Donors

NEHA received donations through its new Student AEC Travel Scholarship fund to provide five students with travel stipends to attend the AEC. Congratulations to the recipients and thank you to all of the donors! For more information on this program, please contact Vanessa De Arman at 303-756-9090, ext. 311, or at vdearman@neha.org.

Scholarship Recipients

Bryan Deskins	Stephine Sedlack
Jacob W. Gerke	Donald Skenandore
Hailee A. Raker	

Scholarship Donors

- Association of Environmental Health Accredited Programs
- Brian Collins, MS, REHS, DAAS
- Robert W. Custard, REHS, CP-FS
- Nelson E. Fabian, MS
- Keith M. Johnson, RS
- Keith L. Krinn, RS, MA, DAAS, CPHA
- Adam London, RS, MPA
- Thomas I. Lovey, REHS
- David F. Ludwig, MPH, RS
- National Capital Area Environmental Health Association
- Terry Osner
- Kenneth Priest
- Kristen Ruby
- Karen Solberg, RS/REHS
- John Todd, DrPH, RS
- Thomas R. Ward 