NEHA's 50th Conference

From beginning to end, the 50th Annual Conference for professionals in environmental health fulfilled its promise of camaraderie, education and stimulation for NEHA members and guests.

The many well attended sessions attested to the professionals' hunger for more and better information on which to base their daily decisions. Legal and technological answers to pollution and behavior problems were found in the sessions as well as the exhibition of approximately 50 companies.



Senator Chris Dodd

The Keynote General Session highlighted the need for better education of the public on environmental health issues and alternatives for their control. Senator Chris Dodd (D-Conn) spoke of Superfund, Acid Rain legislation, and Gramm-Rudman and said that environmental legislation is faring better today than in 1981. Connecticut Commissioner of Health, Douglas S. Lloyd, M.D., reiterated the need to educate the public about the relative risk of environmental problems and the wise use of technology. Steven U. McKane, Director of Health for the City of Hartford, recommended that all agencies collaborate to better educate the public.

Keynote Speaker, Dr. Anthony Cortese of Tufts University spoke mainly of Acid Rain, its sources and effects; however, coming through his remarks was the idea that something being done today to alleviate current environmental problems may be wrong tomorrow. An example was cited in the building of tall stacks to disperse plant emissions in the 1970's, which has increased the transport of pollutants, adding to the acid deposi-



Dr. Anthony Cortese

tion problem. The text of Dr. Cortese's presentation is published in this issue.



Alan Buzzetti, president of the Connecticut Environmental Health Association, welcomed attendees to the 1986 Annual Educational Conference during the Keynote General Assembly.

Host Affiliate

The hosting Connecticut Environmental Health Association carefully planned the activities, attended to the innumerable details during the conference and expertly manned the registration desk to accommodate members, guests and speakers, as well as families who enjoyed the historical and recreational offerings of Hartford and environs. Robert Finn, affiliate general chairman for the conference, his cadre of committee chairs and helpers, can be proud of their successful efforts.

Association Business

The Board of Directors adopted a resolution urging that a lead federal agency be assigned to coordinate indoor air pollution control programs (text published in this issue). A resolution was also adopted urging EPA to review the asbestos-in-schools program to more effectively meet public health goals.

Further business topics included revising credentialling requirements to recognize a B.A. degree if it encompasses the required sciences courses. The State of North Carolina was chosen to host the 1990 Annual Educational Conference in the City of Charlotte. The provision of high quality services, including the annual educational conference, annual regional "topical" conferences, and publications, was of major concern to association leaders.

Officers

During the final business meeting, the nomination ballot to establish the 1987 mail ballot resulted in two candidates for Second Vice President to vie for the beginning officer spot. George Kupfer, Director of Environmental Health and Consumer Protection for the City of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and Leon Vinci, Health Officer, City of Middletown, Connecticut, will campaign for election on the 1987 mail ballot. Others who will be on the ballot to move up through the chairs are Horace E. Jones, Jr., Fairfax, Virginia, who is current First Vice President and who will be the candidate for President-Elect; Harry Grenawitzke, Monroe, Michigan, current Second Vice President, will be the candidate for First Vice President. Current President-Elect, Diane Eastman, Ventura, California, will automatically become President during NEHA's Golden Anniversary celebration in San Diego in 1987.

Resolutions Adopted June 18, 1986

Title: Resolution on Federal Support of Indoor Air Pollution Programs

Whereas, Air pollution within institutional, office, commercial and residential facilities is now recognized as a major public health problem, and

Whereas, State and Local Health Departments are being increasingly requested to resolve questions of exposure to indoor air contaminants without the benefit of air quality criteria, pollution control guidelines or special funding for investigation and public education, and Whereas, Federal agencies have budgeted millions of dollars for indoor air pollution research while providing virtually no resources to implement indoor air quality goals,

Be It Therefore Resolved that the National Environmental Health Association favors the following:

- Designation of a lead Federal Agency to coordinate federal indoor air pollution control programs and to provide support services and funding to state and local indoor air pollution programs.
- 2. Development of recommended indoor air quality criteria, pollution control guidelines, standard inspection and sampling protocols, and educational materials by appropriate federal agencies.
- Adequate funding by Congress to support the above CEH activities including a new indoor air pollution control grant program to qualified state or local public health agencies.

Title: Resolution on EPA Asbestos-in-Schools Regulations

Whereas, asbestos is a common component of many older buildings and may present a health hazard to occupants when the material is damaged or has been disturbed, and

Whereas, the survey requirements of the EPA Asbestos-in-Schools regulation fail to address categories of materials which pose potential asbestos exposure hazards including non-friable suspect material, materials with a detectable asbestos content of 1% or less, and materials not permanently attached to the building structure, and

Whereas, specific asbestos control measures are not required by U.S. EPA, and

Whereas, the response to required public notification of asbestos survey results is often out of proportion to the degree of risk actually present in the school, and Whereas, EPA enforcement criteria bear little relationship to either the actual asbestos exposure involved or the degree of good faith effort exhibited by educational agencies in the control of asbestos, Be It Therefore Resolved, that the National Environmental Health Association

urge the U.S. EPA to initiate a review of its asbestos-in-schools program, and that regulations, enforcement criteria, and implementation strategy be revised wherever needed to more effectively meet the stated public health goals of the program, and that such a review be accomplished in an expeditious manner and include opportunities for meaningful input from state and local Public Health Agencies and Educational Agencies.

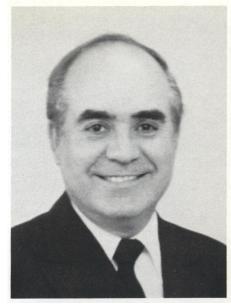
Recognition/Stimulation

One of the most important aspects of the Annual Educational Conference is to inject members and guests with the aura of professionalism. The Annual Awards Luncheon and Annual Banquet are two vehicles for this enriching experience. At the Awards Luncheon, members gather to recognize those persons who have made contributions at the affiliate level, to specific programs of NEHA, and to the nationwide improvement of specific technical areas.

At the Annual Banquet, NEHA recognizes a member for exemplary contribution to the professionalism of environmental health personnel as well as personal achievement through the Walter S. Mangold Award. NEHA and the National Sanitation Foundation joint Walter F. Snyder Award recognizes a person who has brought about the cooperation of various interests to achieve environmental improvement. The presentation and receipt of these professional awards provides inspiration for higher achievement and increased participation in the Association.

Walter S. Mangold Award

The National Environmental Health Association's highest honor, the Walter S. Mangold Award, was bestowed on Geswaldo A. (Joe) Verrone, Dr. P.H., Policy Review Coordinator in the Office of the Director, Indian Health Service, Rockville, Md. Prior to joining the Indian Health Service in 1962, Dr. Verrone had served as a Sanitarian with the U.S. Army and the Anne Arundel County Health Department, Annapolis, Maryland; as Medical/Entomologist/ Sanitarian with the World Health Organization in India, and the Malaria Program Development and Implementation for the U.S. Agency for International Development in Ethiopia.



Geswaldo A. Verrone, Dr. P.H., (better known as Joe) was proud recipient of the 1986 Walter S. Mangold Award presented by Dr. Monroe T. Morgan during the Annual Banquet in Hartford, Connecticut.

Verrone earned a bachelor's degree from the University of Pittsburgh, a Master's of Public Health from the University of North Carolina School of Public Health and a Doctorate in Public Health from Tulane University School of Public Health. His master's thesis, "On the Certification of the Professional Sanitarian," was used as a resource document and comparative guide by the American Academy of Sanitarians.

During his career with the Indian Health Service, Dr. Verrone has been instrumental in developing comprehensive environmental health programs, and has shown initiative and enthusiasm while carrying the responsibility for the total IHS Environmental Health Services program. His efforts increased the number of professional sanitarians, aids and technicians in the IHS, providing an avenue for employment and placement of sanitarians. He has also developed liaison with other federal and international health agencies. He is currently involved in improving and renovating the management structure of the IHS and serves as immediate advisor to the IHS Director. He has promoted the development of the professional sanitarian and has served on many committees and task forces at the local, state and national levels to achieve that end. We salute Dr. Geswaldo A. (Joe) Verrone.

Walter F. Snyder Award

Involvement, leadership, management, knowledge, vision, courage and action are words used to describe the 1986 recipient of the Walter F. Snyder Award. Albert H. Brunwasser, Deputy Director for Environmental Health Services, Allegheny County (Pennsylvania) Health Department, was praised for his strong, creative leadership and innovative programming. His credits include programs for local regulations of public drinking water supplies, solid and hazardous waste disposal, home accident and injury prevention, housing assistance, and prevention of lead poisoning in children.



Albert H. Brunwasser

Al's success in eliciting the cooperation of various agencies and organizations to achieve environmental objectives is evident in an impressive list of awards: The Dr. Martin Luther King Citizens Award, for implementing effective rodent/vector control; the Urban Reinvestment Task Force Award, for service on the Board of Neighborhood Housing Services in Pittsburgh (a recognized national model), and the Kluth Award, for outstanding achievement in community health.

Brunwasser's expertise and effective liaison with the public and the press have been exemplary in situations associated with flooding, sabotage of a public water supply, and waterborne disease epidemics.

Al Brunwasser is widely recognized as an exemplary administrator by his peers. He has chaired the NEHA Environmental Health Management Section and the National Conference of Local Environmental Health Administrators. He is an adjunct professor with the University of Pittsburgh Graduate School of Public Health, where he enjoys teaching courses in the environmental health sciences.



Certificate of Merit winners named by their NEHA Affiliates to receive national recognition receive acclaim from NEHA Awards Committee Chairman, Stacy Covill. Past President Rick Rowe joined in the presentation ceremony. Winners are listed in this report.

Certificates of Merit

Alabama — Larry G. Hayes California — Donald A. Johnson Colorado — Robert T. Bowland Connecticut - Alan Buzzetti Idaho — Brian Dixon Illinois — William A. Mellen Indiana - Robert Hackett Louisiana — John Koury Massachusetts - George A. Smith, Jr. Michigan — James Shifflet Missouri — Gregg C. Fast National Capital Area — Charles W. Felix Nevada — David Bullock New Mexico — Florence Higgins New York — Charles Reisberg North Carolina — Michael U. Rhodes Ohio - Harvey A. Hufnagel Oregon — Art Bloom Rhode Island — William A. lannucci South Carolina — Charles T. Claxton Virginia — Horace E. Jones, Jr. Washington — Joy Keniston-Longrie Wyoming — Tyrone L. Welty Uniformed Services — Capt. Webster Young

Food Industry Sanitarian

The Food Industry Sanitarian Award is presented annually to a member of NEHA who is employed by the food industry in recognition of outstanding contribution to the field of food protection and sanitation. Dora May Coleman has



Dora May Coleman accepts Food Industry Sanitarian Award during Awards Luncheon at 50th Annual Educational Conference.

responsibility for all research and development sanitation projects in Pillsbury's Food Processing Plants and Food Service. She has also been involved in the development of her company's training program in good sanitation and manufacturing practices. Ms. Coleman has been employed by Pillsbury in the Research and Development Microbiology unit for 30 years. One of her primary goals has been to "improve the working relationships between industry and the agencies which regulate it. Working together we can protect the public health by providing safe, high-quality food products at a good value.'

Dora May is currently Region 4 Vice President, NEHA, and has served as Food Section Chairperson as well as a member of several committees in NEHA. She was a charter member of the Industry Affiliate, and has served as president and Board member of the Minnesota Affiliate.

Past President's Award



Doris Snyder, widow of Walter F. Snyder who founded the National Sanitation Foundation, was recognized for her continued support of his goals and principles and her continued attendance at the NEHA meetings by the NEHA Past Presidents. The award annually recognizes an "unsung hero" who has made significant contribution to the association's goals and objectives.

Hancor Award

Eanix Poole, Administrator, Environmental Health Program, Florida Department of Health & Rehabilitative Services, was recognized for his outstanding efforts in upgrading the septic tank program in his state. Over the past several years, Eanix has worked with industry to establish a training program in septic tank practice for industry and regulatory personnel. Hancor Inc., Findlay, Ohio, sponsors this award on behalf of NEHA's On-Site-Wastewater Management Committee.



Eanix Poole received Hancor Award presented by On-Site Wastewater Management Committee Chairman, William Mellen. President Jay Walsh added congratulations.

Presidential Citations

Presidential Citations issued by Joseph W. Walsh to people or organizations that particularly helped him accomplish his goals as president are:

The Beverly, Massachusetts Board of Health Staff

Robert Finn, Connecticut Douglas Heins, Michigan George A. Kupfer, Wisconsin Richard K. Rowe, South Carolina Harry Steigman, Pennsylvania

Editors' Award



George Kupfer, Director of Environmental Health and Consumer Protection for the City of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, was overwhelmed by Awards Luncheon presentation of the *Journal of Environmental Health's* A. Harry Bliss Editorial Award made to him by Editorial Director, Dr. Trenton G. Davis.



Robert Finn, right, receives a Presidential Citation from NEHA president, Joseph W. Walsh, for his exemplary work as General Chairman of the Conference. Bob was also advertising chairman and in this capacity exceeded any previous effort to obtain advertisers for the conference program booklet.



Bob Finn, left, kibbitzes on discussions by registration workers. Mrs. George Calkins, center, spent innumerable hours at the station, as did other wives of Connecticut committee members. The helpers were recognized at the Annual Banquet.

International Participants



Zhou Dai-Xing, Autonomous Prefecture, Southwest Ghizhou Province, China, is a medical practitioner in a rural health jurisdiction and traveled to Hartford, Connecticut for the 1986 Annual Educational Conference. Zhou is a member of NEHA, having published a paper on thallium poisoning in the May/June 1985 Journal of Environmental Health. His enthusiasm was unmeasureable.



Mike Bragg, president of the Canadian Institute of Public Health Inspectors (left), and Joseph W. Walsh, president of National Environmental Health Association confirm their commitment to cooperation between the two professional organizations.



Larry Eils, Public Health and Safety Counsel for the National Automatic Merchandising Association, Chicago, III., presented outgoing president, Jay Walsh, with a token of his term of office.



1937-87
50 Years of Professional Development

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NEHA President's Annual Report 1985-1986

Joseph W. Walsh, Jr.

Last year in Las Vegas, Nevada, I became NEHA's fifty-first president. The year was productive and the Association's agenda full. I have enjoyed being president and am now reporting on my activities in your behalf.

In September 1985, I met with Canada's leading public and environmental health professionals in Toronto to discuss how public and environmental health practitioners in the two countries could work together, exchange information, ideas, publications and possibly hold a joint session on issues of international significance. I was invited to return in May 1986 to introduce NEHA to the governing body of the Canadian Institute of Public Health Inspectors. We found that our membership bases have the same educational and employment backgrounds and similar environmental concerns and public health related issues, and determined that there is a common denominator upon which a viable relationship can be built.

My message, "The Now and Future Environmental Health Professional," appeared in the December 1985 issue of the CIPHI's Environmental Review, and we published CIPHI president Mike Bragg's message in our July/August issue of the Journal of Environmental Health—beginning the exchange of articles. I am to continue to represent NEHA as liaison with the CIPHI and will attend their fall educational conference to discuss and explore other issues of mutual interest.

Regional Conferences

With continuing education high on the Association's agenda, NEHA began a series of Regional Educational Conferences on a single topic of current concern with the Utah Conference on Environmental Health Concerns in Schools. The meeting, hosted by the Utah affiliate and co-sponsored by several western affiliates, provided education on school environments to approximately 200 attendees. Plans are underway for the second Regional Conference which will be held in the Washington, D.C. area early in 1987, dealing with environmental concerns in day care. NEHA's Region 8 affiliates will co-host. The third such meeting is tentatively set for the Spring of 1988 in the Southwest. These regional

conferences are to complement the Annual Educational Conferences.

We hope that the idea of specific NEHA Regions sponsoring, with the Association, Regional Educational Conferences will continue to grow and become another national mechanism for the local practitioner to obtain continuing education.

Certification

The issue of certification and certification renewal has sparked considerable discussion during the recent Executive Committee meetings. The Credentialing Board was directed to review the Association's past, current and future credentialing activities.

New Technical Section

This year the Board of Directors approved a seventh Technical Section — The Hazardous Waste Section. This Section's members assisted NEHA in applying for and receiving a substantial EPA grant to develop a competency examination for hazardous materials specialists. During the Hartford meeting the Section began its organization, developed goals and objectives, and made plans for the future.

Membership

Membership now exceeds 4,200 after several years of building. Approximately 650 new members have joined the Association during the past three years, and our current renewal rate is 87%, showing the confidence of our professional colleagues in NEHA's status as the country's premier environmental health organization. Let's set a modest goal of 5,000 NEHA members before 1990 — Ask a colleague to join.

50/50

A review of our affiliate roster indicated that several states are not currently affiliated with NEHA. Looking forward to NEHA's Golden Anniversary in 1987, I appointed a committee to review the affiliates and set the goal of 50 affiliates for 50 years. We have been successful in getting new affiliates in Kansas, Alaska, North Dakota, and have accepted the National Association of Noise Control Officials as an affiliate.

Other states we are working with include West Virginia, Tennessee and Oklahoma

With a strong affiliate membership base this year, we did not have to notify a single state that they were disaffiliated for lack of sufficient members. The Association is celebrating its Golden Anniversary in California next year. It would be nice if, when we called the roll of the many states, we had 50 affiliates for the 50th Anniversary of our organization.

Fifty Year History

NEHA is celebrating a milestone next year during the California Annual Educational Conference — its Golden Anniversary — and I appointed an Archives Committee, chaired by Dr. William G. Walter of Bozeman, Montana, to develop a 50 year history which will be published before the 1987 conference. Dr. Walter has been working on the history for several years now and is taking charge of the effort.

The Association will have its 50 year history available during the 1987 San Diego AEC to celebrate the organization's 50th Anniversary.

Visits to Affiliates

The NEHA president annually visits as many affiliates as possible. During my term, I visited 19 cities in 12 states (six of our nine regions), as well as Canada on behalf of the Association. This is a beneficial and important function of the president if NEHA is going to continue to represent its members. It is the means of becoming aware of the grassroots environmental health practitioner's concerns and needs. I urge you to invite the NEHA president to attend your state meetings.

Communications

During the year, I was in constant communication with Executive Director, Nelson Fabian, and our conversations revealed the untiring efforts of the head-quarters staff to achieve the goals of the Association. The continued modernization of our office system is necessary as well as the expansion of our office space if we are to continue our excellent pattern of growth. The staff continues to

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develop new and energetic initiatives for the betterment of our Association.

I encourage each and every member of NEHA to communicate with your Regional Vice President and with headquarters to find out just what NEHA can do for you and how you can be an involved member. Two of my main concerns are credentialing of practitioners and professional liability insurance. I believe these are vital to our profession. I feel that without national credentialing and liability protection, the environmental health professional of the future will be denied the basic tools for personal protection and a proven level of professional competency which will be prerequisite for employment.

Of the myriad projects that we undertook during my tenure, I would like to be remembered for three specifically:

- 1. Credentialing of the Environmental Health Practitioner (Sanitarian) and Environmental Health Technician. The Credentialing Board's business agenda has been firmly established.
- 2. Development of the Regional Educational Conferences concept and the successful implementation of the concept in the Utah conference in February 1986. When we celebrate the AEC's seventy-fifth birthday, let's celebrate the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Regional Educational Conferences.
- International liaison with our colleagues, the Canadian Institute of Public Health Inspectors.

My message to welcome new members during the AEC in Hartford expressed my satisfaction in attending the Annual Educational Conferences and urged them to attend local educational meetings, regional and national conferences. Continuing education will one day be mandated, and those individuals who routinely attend continuing education sessions will be more professionally secure. I advocated national registration as the benchmark of professional competency, and cited technician certification as a needed credential for that level of professional expertise. These remarks reiterated what my president's messages have advocated throughout the year. Professional education and personal growth are both necessary ingredients for a successful entry into the twenty-first century.

My president's messages throughout the year have stressed continuing education and credentialing as necessary ingredients if one is to achieve a certain degree of professional excellence. Today, NEHA can, and in the future will, routinely provide two sides of your professional growth triangle. However, individually, you must have the ambition and drive to achieve a maximum degree of professional excellence.

NEHA will provide the primary tools for professional competency. It is up to each of us, individually, to seek his or her inalienable right to the ultimate degree of accomplishment in our chosen profession whether our plateau is as environmental health technician, environmental health practitioner, environmental health scientist or beyond.

NEHA is an association of members,

and each of you, individually, your continued support and dedication to our profession, are the primary reason that our Association continues to gain national stature as the environmental beacon for our membership. The beacon's clarion call during the next decade will thrust NEHA into the country's limelight as the nation's environmental voice.

I have enjoyed being NEHA's fifty-first president and note that during my term I gave every issue (and there were many) my full attention, total support and "best available shot" with the Association's reputation of paramount concern... I end my report to the membership quoting from an old Bob Hope movie, "Thanks for the memories..."

NEHA's Second Annual Golf Tournament



Participants in NEHA's Second Annual Golf Tournament held June 19, 1986 in Hartford, Connecticut are standing, I-r: Robert Hunt, Horace E. Jones, Jr., Dave Rogers, George Calkins, Martin Winston and Gil Roberts. Front row, I-r: First Prize trophy winner, Robert Finn, Connecticut; other trophy winners: Nelson E. Fabian, NEHA Executive Director; Steve Olson, Minnesota and Webster Young, Jr., Rockville, Maryland.



Jackson Browning, vice president, Union Carbide Corp., addressed the Yankee Conference, Connecticut Environmental Health Association awards luncheon on the industry and chemical issues, during the 1986 Annual Educational Conference in Hartford, Connecticut.



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Exhibitors Provide Education

The 53 participants in the Exhibition during the 1986 Annual Educational Conference in Hartford, Connecticut provided a full measure of technology update for attendees. The picture in the exhibit area was one of enthusiasm and interest in technology and innovation.

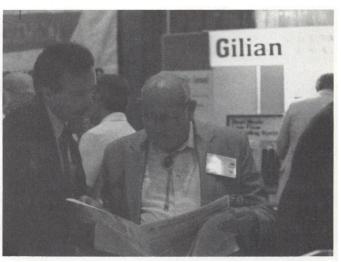












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Butterworth Publishers Stoneham, Mass.

CRC Press Boca Raton, Fla.

FIsevier Publications Cambridge, England

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Van Nostrand Reinhold Company New York, N.Y.

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Literature Exhibitors

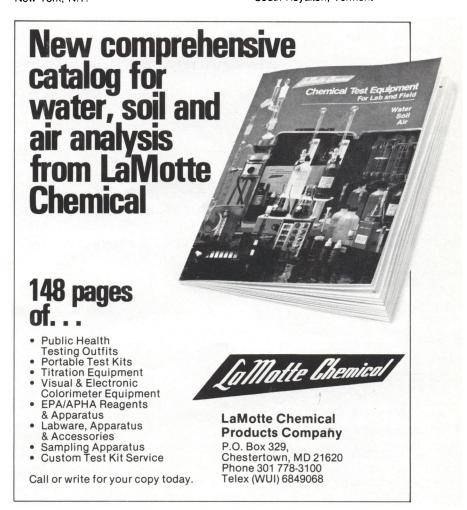
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International Association of Milk, Food & Environmental Sanitarians Ames, lowa

Santa Barbara Control Systems Santa Barbara, Calif.

Professional Ambulance Service Middletown, Conn.

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