Mike Bragg and Ian Florence are shown at Monday evening's NEHA new member reception hosted by the National Sanitation Foundation.

NEHA's 52nd Annual Educational Conference

A Special Section

From the beginning, it was a grand event. By the time NEHA's 52nd Annual Educational Conference, June 24-30 in Cleveland, had ended, more than 145 speakers had addressed conference attendees in 53 different educational sessions.

This year's conference featured two keynote speakers. U.S. Sen. Robert T. Stafford of Vermont paid tribute to environmental health professionals for their work on the front lines of the battle to protect public health and the environment. Progress has been made, he said, citing landmark clean air and clean air water legislation of the early 1970s. But even greater challenges lie ahead.

In many parts of the country, Stafford said, ozone levels often are such that breathing the air is tantamount to smoking tobacco. The need to respond to these and other threats to public health and the environment is urgent, he said.

Andrew McGuire, executive director of The Trauma Foundation at San Francisco General Hospital, delivered an inspiring talk on how to lobby for the environmental health cause. An expert himself in getting the job done, McGuire played a major role in advocating California legislation to keep drunk drivers off the road, to require automobile seatbelt use and to mandate motorcycle helmets.

Fellowship opportunities

In addition to the concentrated education it offered in abundance throughout the week, the AEC provided a variety of exciting fellowship opportunities. Members from around the country enjoyed the chance to meet with each other and to start or renew important professional relationships.

From the Night at the Races at the Gala Party to the rousing Beach Club Party...
sponsored by "Bugs" Burger, fun was had by all who attended.

A particularly exciting highlight of this year's annual conference was the opportunity to be among environmental health professionals from seven different countries. NEHA members had the chance to learn how professionals in England, the Soviet Union, Australia, Scotland, the Netherlands, Canada and Mexico cope with their environmental problems. They also discussed ways that professionals in different countries might work together to resolve environmental issues that transcend national boundaries.

A complete interview with NEHA's special foreign guests will be published in an upcoming issue of the journal.

Information exchange

This year's AEC again was able to provide a complete and comprehensive exhibition. In Cleveland, conference attendees had the opportunity to visit with more than 70 exhibitors and to learn about the latest in technology, products and services available for the professional in environmental health. The exhibit is a critical part of the conference not only because it brings provider and user together, but just as important because it keeps environmental health professionals up to date on how to do their jobs in the most effective way possible.

A recent but increasingly popular tradition now featured at NEHA's conference is the Wednesday afternoon roundtables, which give members the opportunity to meet and exchange ideas and information in informal sessions. Several exciting roundtables already are being planned for next year's AEC in Seattle.

Another new tradition featured again this year was a slate of pre-conference seminars. Many NEHA members (even husbands and wives together) attended the "Dealing with Difficult People" seminar. Other popular seminars were "Legal Enforcement Options in Environmental Health" and "Risk Assessment for Emergency Response and Superfund Cleanup."

Changing of the guard

An important event that occurs at the conference each year is the conclusion of one president's term and the beginning of another's. Diane Eastman, who led the association as president this past year and who served as a strong and ardent supporter of new programs and services, handed the gavel to Horace E. Jones, Jr., who expressed eagerness to move forward with an ambitious agenda again this year.

In his remarks at the Wednesday evening dinner banquet, the incoming president paid tribute to past NEHA leaders and expressed his determination to build on past successes, while steering the assoc-
Fellowship

utation in a way that meets its contemporary needs.

Special highlights

One of the truly special and exciting elements to the AEC is the Silent Auction, made possible by contributions from 27 NEHA affiliates. Attendees were given the opportunity to bid on various keepsake items at the auction, which raised almost $1,400. This money is reinvested in future conferences and provides one source for the funds that NEHA uses to bring the best possible speakers to its conferences.

Finally, no NEHA conference would be complete without the very last scheduled event, which is the NEHA Golf Tournament. In spite of a new set of clubs, practicing seven days a week and trying to rig the score card, Art Bloom still was unable to defeat this year’s NEHA champion, Bob Finn.

Finn, as many members will likely recall, was the AEC Conference Chairman for the 1986 Hartford gathering. It is interesting to see how well a person can perform once the pressures of this enormous conference, this grand event, have lifted!

Business

Business much and fellowship. a part meetings, of the The of AE course, C Executive as are are fun as 4

Business much a part of the AE C as are fun and fellowship. The Executive Committee and the Board of Directors meetings are the most important of these. The conference also is an occasion for recognizing excellence in the profession, through the many awards that NEHA bestows. Complete coverage of these facets of the conference follows.

NEHA Executive Committee

Below is a listing of some of the more significant items that were discussed or acted upon at the June Executive Committee meeting:

1. The committee directed the executive director to continue to develop new membership benefits, including group professional liability insurance, dental and optical insurance and other benefits that would give individuals the buying power of the large NEHA membership.

2. It was reported that NEHA’s membership had climbed to more than 5,200. This represents an increase of almost 2,000 in the past four years and a 10 percent increase in the past year alone.

3. Support was offered for NEHA to continue in its program of an affiliate assistant position — a part-time pro-
Informal roundtable discussions, below, are increasing in popularity. In bottom photo, NEHA's executive committee is shown at its all-day meeting.

4. The committee expressed support for recent and proposed changes in the Journal of Environmental Health, designed to make it a more readable and professional publication.

5. A policy was adopted that from July 1, 1988, forward ends the practice of rebateing to an affiliate $50 of a sustaining member's dues in those cases where the affiliate did not recruit the sustaining member.

6. The principles of a retirement plan for the NEHA staff were approved.

7. The committee agreed to sign the AEC host contract with the Washington affiliate for the 1989 AEC in Seattle.

8. Support was given for moving forward with a week-long seminar in Colorado on hazardous waste training that would conclude with the offering of the "Certified Hazardous Waste Specialist" credentialing examination.

9. A small subcommittee was created to work on a training program and job description for members of NEHA's Board of Directors.

10. It was agreed that NEHA would send Horace Jones, president, Jay Walsh, past president, and Trenton Davis, technical editor of the Journal of Environmental Health, to the Soviet Union to represent the association at an upcoming environmental conference in Moscow and Kiev. This completes an exchange with professionals from the Soviet Union who attended the NEHA conference.

11. President-elect Jones, with the committee's approval, named Marsha Robbins, James English, Richard Swenson, Bruce Wilson, Trenton Davis and Richard Roberts to the new NEHA editorial publications board.

12. The committee agreed that routine screening of all credentialing applications could be done in-house by the NEHA staff.

13. One-, two- and three-year subscription rates for the Journal of Environmental Health were increased.

Board of Directors

Significant items discussed or acted upon by the board included:

1. The board was greeted by special guests from the Soviet Union and Great Britain, by Ted Anderson, executive director of the International Portable Sanitation Association, and by Carl Reeverts of the Office of Drinking Water, U.S. EPA.

2. New affiliates in West Virginia and Oklahoma were welcomed to the NEHA board.
3. An invitation to bid on the 1990 Midyear Conference was extended to each affiliate president.

4. The board approved a spring mail ballot that will run David McSwane and Chris Wiant for the NEHA office of second vice president.

5. The board agreed to allow two options for the name of NEHA’s environmental health credential. As per board action, members will be able to have on their credentials the title of either environmental health specialist or registered sanitarian.

6. Several resolutions, listed separately in this section, were adopted by the board.

7. A variety of bylaws changes that were mostly housekeeping in nature were adopted by the board. All bylaws changes will be presented for final vote on the spring mail ballot that goes to all NEHA members.

8. The board adopted a budget for next year (FY ’89) of $964,563.

9. Various committee and section reports were given. Special plaques honoring the work of each NEHA section chair were presented by Diane Eastman.

Continuing Education Committee
The Continuing Education Committee, after lengthy discussions, recommended that NEHA for the time being drop its program of CEU’s and instead encourage its members to obtain contact hours. It was recommended that the first step in establishing a legitimate, substantive and meaningful CEU program is to set into place a contact hour requirement for maintaining one’s national credential.

The subcommittee recommended that 25 contact hours be required to maintain a national credential in 1989. This recommendation will go before the executive committee for approval.

Hazardous Waste and Toxic Substances Section Advisory Committee
A number of significant actions were taken by this committee, particularly in reference to NEHA’s Certified Hazardous Waste Specialist Credential. The committee agreed to go into a second grandfathering program that would be more focused than the first. The intent is to credential a limited number of qualified people.

In addition, the committee dropped the CEU requirement for CHWS and instead established a requirement of 60 contact hours accumulated over a five-year period from the time a credential is obtained. Finally, arrangements were made to move into an annual update of the CHWS exam.

NEHA and State Registration Boards
The annual meeting of NEHA and State Registration Boards also was held. Among other items discussed, the group advised Professional Examination Service that...
more than one version of the Environmental Health Credentialing Exam was desired. In addition, the state R.S. Boards elected seven regional representatives who will work with the Denver NEHA headquarter's office to help disseminate information on environmental health credentialing.

It also was explained that NEHA's renewal policy on the national R.S. had been modified by the executive committee such that any individual who once was an R.S. but who did not renew would now have the opportunity to do so with an appeal letter. Finally, it was announced that California would be developing its own environmental health credentialing examination.

Among the many other meetings that took place at the conference were those of the NEHA section chairs, the International Committee, the Industry Affiliate and the Faculty Forum. Attendance at the Faculty Forum meeting and at the Industry Affiliate breakfast were at all-time highs. Attendees at the latter were treated to an outstanding presentation by Dr. Susan K. Harlander of the University of Minnesota who discussed what food was likely to look like and how it would be processed in the future.

Resolutions

Of 18 resolutions considered by the NEHA Board of Directors, only two were defeated.

One, on zero population growth, was believed to be contrary to the beliefs of many NEHA members because it advocated population reduction. The other, regarding pesticides in food, was defeated because it failed to account for regulatory differences between the FDA and the EPA.

Of the 16 resolutions that passed, 13 were resolutions of appreciation. Special recognition and thanks were conveyed to outgoing President Diane Eastman, the seven NEHA section chairs, the AEC affiliate chair, Fran Veverka, the host affiliate, the Ohio Environmental Health Association, the Stouffer hotel, and to Norweco and Waste Management for their generous contributions to the conference.

The remaining three resolutions follow:

Recognition of 50th Anniversary of U.S. Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act (1938)
WHEREAS, the U.S. Food and Drug Agency, known as FDA, is a recognized leader in the world concerning the preservation of public health; and
WHEREAS, the U.S. Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act was passed fifty years ago in 1938; and
WHEREAS, the Act was the most significant Food & Drug control law in the world at its time; and
WHEREAS, this regulation served as the basis for proper enforcement and promotion of wholesome food, drugs, cosmetics, and devices; and
WHEREAS, numerous NEHA members have been involved with this landmark in legislation since its inception through the present.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The National Environmental Health Association officially recognizes FDA on the occasion of this event and extends warm congratulations to FDA for reaching this 50 year milestone.

A.T.V. Use Education
WHEREAS, the general public is entitled to recreate in a safe and enjoyable manner; and
WHEREAS, there have been over 1,000 deaths associated with All Terrain Vehicles (ATV) from 1984 through December 1987; and
WHEREAS, forty-two percent of those deaths have been in children six years of age or younger; and
WHEREAS, the recent judicial action now prohibits the sale of (new) 3-wheel ATV's; and
WHEREAS, the public should be knowledgeable in the operation and safety needs of four-wheel ATV's;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the National Environmental Health Association support the ongoing need for consumer education for buying/operating ATV's; and

THAT, NEHA encourage its members to promote and provide data/information/education to the public concerning the hazards of and safety needed in using ATV's.

Resolution at the Conclusion of the Southwestern Regional Conference on Groundwater Concerns, Feb. 25-26, 1987, Albuquerque, New Mexico
WHEREAS, significant pollution of an aquifer requires, in combination, a contaminant source, pathways capable of transporting contaminants to the aquifer, and an aquifer which is vulnerable to pollution; and
WHEREAS, contaminant sources which may cause pollution include on-site liquid waste disposal systems, pumping-induced saline intrusion, mining operations, brine disposal from oil and gas operations, industrial and agricultural activities, treatment and disposal of municipal wastes (solid and liquid), and spills and leaks on the surface and from underground tanks; and
WHEREAS, contaminant transport to an aquifer may be greatly increased by artificial recharge resulting from seepage from pits, ponds, lagoons, irrigated fields, and arroyos; and

Support NEHA's Scholarship Fund

Helping students get the education they need to become effective professionals in environmental health is one of the functions of the National Environmental Health Association. Since the NEHA scholarship fund was established in 1983, members and friends have contributed more than $20,000 to a perpetual fund whose earnings provide the scholarships.

Give today so NEHA can help assure a qualified workforce for the future. Any one who contributes $25 or more is listed in this column for an entire year.

$25 or more was received from:
Robert W. Powitz, Ph.D., Grosse Pointe Farms, Mich. (10/87)
Sanford M. Brown, Ph.D., Fresno, Calif. (11/87)
Food Protection Report (11/87)
Illinois Environmental Health Assn. (12/87)
Robert Newquist, Bonita, Calif. (12/87)
E. Douglass Pushard, Las Vegas, Nev. (12/87)
Richard K. Rowe, Columbia, S.C. (12/87)
Ronald M. Buege, West Allia, Wis. (1/88)
Bruce Clabaugh, Denver, Colo. (1/88)
Hayes Evans, Renton, Wash. (1/88)
Michael J. MacDonald, Rancho Cordova, Calif., Mem. to Douglas C. Greg (1/88)
George H. Reed, Amherst, Mass. (1/88)
Peggy D. French, Royal Oak, Mich. (2/88)
Peggy D. French, Royal Oak, Mich. (2/88)
Dennis L. Kelly, Ph.D., Northridge, Calif. (2/88)
Fairfax County Health Dept., Mem. to G.F. Gobble (3/88)
Winifred Owen, Midland, Mich. (3/88)
San Diego Chapter, California Environmental Health Assn. (3/88)
Diane Evans, Santa Cruz County Environmental Health Services (4/88)
Herman G. Shoemaker, Alexandria, Va. (5/88)
George A. Kupfer, Milwaukee, Wis. (6/88)
Nelson Fabian, Denver, Colo. (6/88)

Mail to: NEHA Scholarship Fund, 720 S. Colorado Blvd., #770 South Tower, Denver, CO 80222.
WHEREAS, vulnerable aquifers often occur where the unsaturated zone (above the water table) is coarse-textured, thin, and/or fractured; and

WHEREAS, a large proportion of the contamination cases in the Southwest are attributable to the historical tendency to locate industrial, agricultural, and urban areas in environments exhibiting shallow water tables (i.e., along river valleys); and

WHEREAS, people can begin to act in an environmentally responsible manner only when they are aware of potential sources, mechanisms, and health risks associated with groundwater pollution, as well as proper procedures involving waste handling and groundwater protection;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the National Environmental Health Association recognizes these problems and strongly supports the comprehensive development and rigorous enforcement of aquifer protection programs which place adequate controls on contamination sources over vulnerable aquifers; recognizes the need for aggressive and consistent public education programs; and recognizes that locally imposed land-use-based aquifer protection plans may be needed in some particularly vulnerable areas.

Excellence

The NEHA Annual Educational Conference is special for many reasons. Chief among them is the opportunity that it gives the environmental health profession to recognize what excellence in this important line of work means. Pausing to reflect on excellence provides an occasion for members of the profession to rededicate themselves to the noble mission they serve.

A variety of meaningful awards are presented during the AEC. The two most prestigious, the Walter F. Snyder Award and the Walter S. Mangold Award, are bestowed at the concluding dinner banquet. The winners of these two awards will be featured at length in a future issue of the journal.

Walter F. Snyder Award

This year's Walter F. Snyder Award, jointly sponsored by the National Environmental Health Association and the National Sanitation Foundation, was presented to Mark D. Hollis. In making the presentation, Nina McLelland, NSF president and chief executive officer, saluted Hollis for a long and distinguished career that included service as Assistant Surgeon General, chief engineer and Director of Environmental Health for the World Health Organization, vice chairman for the Florida Environmental Regulatory Commission, and most recently as an environmental...
health consultant for Publix Supermarkets in Florida.

The Snyder award is presented to an individual who has achieved peer recognition for outstanding accomplishments in the field of environmental health.

Walter S. Mangold Award
NEHA’s Walter S. Mangold Award was presented by former recipient Vernon Sloulin to Richard K. Rowe, himself a recent president of the association. In paying tribute to Rick Rowe, Sloulin noted that his leadership as the director of the Division of Regulation and Enforcement in the Bureau of Environmental Sanitation in South Carolina was instrumental in the development of a childhood lead prevention training manual and the amending of the state’s Rabies Control act.

Rowe also was cited for his long period of leadership in NEHA, which included a year as president.

The Mangold Award is presented to a distinguished member of NEHA who is recognized for superior achievement and attainment of the highest standards in the profession as set by Professor Mangold.

Presidential Citations
Presidential citations were conferred at the Awards Luncheon on 24 deserving individuals. In presenting these awards, President Diane Eastman thanked recipients for their help and for their efforts in making NEHA a stronger organization for today.

This year’s recipients were: Ann Anderson, George Barela, Roberta Boitano, Max Fisher, Larry Gales, Ken Hohe, Phil Kirkwood, George Kupfer, Dorine Little, Royce Maniko, Paul Martin, George Morris, Denny Murano, Don Pugh, Eldon F. Savage, Anjeanette Silvas, Gary Silverman, Susanne Smith, Harry Steigman, Fran Veverka, Jay Walsh, Dr. William G. Walter, Chris Want and Ray Williamson

Certificates of Merit
In its determined effort to recognize excellence, NEHA also salutes outstanding achievement in each affiliate. Each affiliate is encouraged to submit the name of a candidate deserving of recognition for work on behalf of the profession. Certificates of Merit were awarded this year to the following individuals, listed by affiliate:

Alabama — Britton Kelly
California — Thomas J. Gerace
Connecticut — Paul Hutcheon
Idaho — Dale L. Geaudrea
Industry — Marsha Robbins
Louisiana — Frank L. Dautriel
Maryland — Irwin L. Snyder, R.S.
Massachusetts — Paula Champagne
Minnesota — Dave Fridgen
Missouri — David Welde
Montana — Rick J. Larson
NANCO — Edward J. DiPolvere
National Capitol Area — Garland Gobble
NCLEHA — Charles E. Tesler
Nevada — Joseph L. Nebe
New Jersey — Bonnie Johnson
New Mexico — Karen Tiggs
North Dakota — Bob Hennes
Ohio — Larry Wiser
Oregon — Art Bloom
South Carolina — Patricia A. Wright
South Dakota — Jim Lawler
Texas — Janet Greenwood
Uniformed Services — LCDR Alan R. Schroeder
Virginia — John E. Benko, R.S.
Washington — Stanley V. Vendetti
Wisconsin — Tom Wittkopf

Crumbine Award
Each year the Food Service and Packaging Institute recognizes the outstanding food protection program in the nation. This year, on behalf of the institute and the Crumbine Jury, Charlie Felix and Al Brown presented the prestigious Samuel J. Crumbine Consumer Protection Award to the San Bernardino County (California) Health Department. The department was recognized for innovation in program design and for the overall effectiveness of its efforts.

The Crumbine Award was instituted in 1954 to honor the memory of the public health pioneer who outlawed the common drinking cup in his state of Kansas and who launched the nationwide campaign which eventually banished the common cup as a major source of disease transmission in the United States.

Food Industry Sanitarian Award
This award, given out by NEHA’s Food Section, is bestowed on a NEHA member employed in the food industry in recognition of outstanding contributions to the field of food protection and sanitation.
This year's winner was Harriet M. Oyler who has been a working sanitarian since 1970, first for a government agency and then for the food industry.

Oyler, who currently works for Nabisco, was praised as a professional who solves problems, trains others and gets the job done. She also was recognized as a NEHA leader who was instrumental in the formation of the Industry Advisory Committee and the Food Section's Food Processing Industry and Distribution Committee.

Dale H. Treusdell was the recipient of the Davis Calvin Wagner Award, from the American Academy of Sanitarians, Inc., for his accomplishments and commitment to advancing the profession. Truesdell, district sanitarian with the Division of Environmental Health, Indian Health Services, Yakima, Wash., was cited for significant contributions to the U.S. Public Health Service, particularly in training areas.

Also at the Awards Luncheon, the Past President's Award was announced by Jay Walsh and awarded to Dr. Eldon Savage from Colorado State University. Bruce Clabaugh was recognized for his two terms as a regional vice president. Named as recipients of NEHA's two $850 scholarships were: David Williams, Western Carolina University; and Debbie Gluckman, California State University-Northridge.

The HANCOR Award that recognizes excellence in the field of onsite wastewater management was given to Charles Purcell from Texas. And the Student National Environmental Health Association recognized East Tennessee State University as the outstanding student chapter.

The Uniformed Services Affiliate, meanwhile, has approved a resolution awarding an annual $500 stipend to SNEHA to help defray the cost of sending one or more of its officers to the AEC.

On an individual basis, the AEC means many things to many people. For the profession as a whole, however, the annual conference provides an opportunity for professionals working in environmental health to reaffirm their collective identity, recommit to their critical mission and recommit to excellence.

No single event at the conference better captures these essential needs of the profession than does the award ceremonies. Congratulations to all award recipients. In addition to inspiring your peers, you have shown us by your example what the path to excellence in our important work looks like.

The NEHA AEC — a GRAND event, indeed! □
Letters to the staff:

From an exhibitor

It was a pleasure to meet you at the recent conference in Cleveland and I certainly felt that the show was productive.

Moyer Diebel Corporation does approximately 35 trade shows throughout the country dealing with all segments of the food service industry. In the time that I have been in this industry and including the three major corporations I have worked for, I have never run into a group such as yours. Overall, I would have to say they are the most friendly, courteous and polite people that I have met.

In addition to that, I think that they should be congratulated on the amount of common sense, down-to-earth professionalism that they exhibited in their conversations with us. If the people we met at this show typify the quality of membership of your organization, I am impressed. Both myself and Alan Gershenson, my Regional Manager in the East, found the show not only productive, but downright fun.

You are a terrific group and I wish you all the success in the future. If there would be any way possible to pass along my comments to the association, I would feel very privileged if you would do so.

Sincerely,
Mark J. Eister
General Manager, U.S. Operations
Moyer Diebel Corporation

From a foreign delegate

I thank you for your recent letter and for the kind sentiments conveyed therein. I am particularly thankful for the Certificate of Appreciation and I am impressed. Both myself and Alan Gershenson, my Regional Manager in the East, found the show not only productive, but downright fun.

You are a terrific group and I wish you all the success in the future. If there would be any way possible to pass along my comments to the association, I would feel very privileged if you would do so.

Sincerely,
Mark J. Eister
General Manager, U.S. Operations
Moyer Diebel Corporation

From an award winner

I greatly appreciate being awarded a NEHA Presidential Citation. It truly comes as a complete surprise. Frankly, I believe that I am at the point in my career where I should be increasing my involvement with NEHA, rather than celebrating past contributions. However, I will be pleased to use this award as additional incentive.

The Cleveland conference was a great success. Participants were interested in the educational sessions, and the exhibits were particularly outstanding. As usual, perhaps the greatest benefit that I gained from the conference was the opportunity to again meet with colleagues and discuss strategies for the year.

Again, thank you for the award. I am looking forward to seeing you in Seattle at the next conference, if not sooner.

Sincerely,
Gary S. Silverman, D.Env.
Bowling Green State University

From a scholarship recipient

I wanted to express my deep appreciation at being chosen recipient of the NEHA Scholarship for 1988. It is very gratifying to be recognized for one’s accomplishments, especially by those you hope to soon call peers.

As much as I cannot be there to thank the committee in person, I would like to so in the form of this letter. I would be remiss if I did not also thank Joe Beck, my friend and advisor, without whom I would not have known about the field of environmental health and the possibilities it offers, both as a career and a way to serve one’s fellow man. I am indebted to all of you.

In closing, allow me to relate to you how excited I am about entering the environmental health workforce and to promise you that I will prove to have been a good choice for the scholarship. It has provided even greater incentive to excel not only this next year in school but as a professional as well. You’ll be hearing from me.

Sincerely,
Donald B. Williams, Jr.

Yours sincerely,
Ian F. Florence, senior vice president
The Royal Environmental Health Institute of Scotland