

Conference speaker Dr. Robert Powitz addresses current educational needs in hazardous waste management.

NEHA'S 53rd Annual Educational Conference

A Special Section

M arketing professionals often preach that the success of any product or service has little to do with how it is promoted, but everything to do with whether or not it is what the customer wants. In the case of NEHA's 53rd Annual Educational Conference and judging by the many comments that attendees shared with the association, it would certainly seem that NEHA members got what they wanted! The mixture of education and fellowship, a lovely hotel and a beautiful location made NEHA's premier event of the year just that.

This year's conference featured more than 177 speakers. In addition, two outstanding pre-conference seminars were offered, the Applied Food Service Sanitation course, conducted by the Educational Foundation of the National Restaurant Association, and CareerTrack's "How to Make Presentations that Win Approval." It concluded with stimulating roundtable discussions which gave attendees the opportunity to sit down with colleagues from

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around the country to discuss issues of mutual concern.

This year's conference again featured two keynote speakers. On Sunday, Camilla Stivers addressed conference delegates on the controversial report, "The Future of Public Health." On Monday morning at the official opening session, NEHA had, as its very special guest, Dr. Wilfred Kreisel, Director of the Division of Environmental Health for the World Health Organization in Geneva.

Kreisel is regarded by many around the world as the leading environmental health authority. His stirring keynote address, a copy of which will be published in an upcoming journal, certainly enhanced his reputation with conference attendees.

Kreisel eloquently argued that environmental health is a global issue. In keeping with the conference theme, "The Nineties: A Decade for Change," he stressed that our environmental health problems will be solved only if major changes take place. Environmental health professionals, he said, have to be prepared to see issues in larger social-environmental contexts, to be advocates for more resource commitments, to work with colleagues in nonenvironmental programs that nonetheless affect the environment, to develop greater abilities to determine risk and implement intervention strategies, and to reorganize their own programs to be more effective.

Fellowship opportunities

Along with the intense education that spanned the five days of the conference, the AEC also provided its usual wealth of fellowship opportunities. NEHA has long believed that it is important to give conference attendees every opportunity to meet colleagues from around the country and around the world. As new relationships begin and as old relationships are renewed, shared information can lead to more effective ways to deal with environmental problems.

At this year's conference, the Washing-

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ton affiliate did an outstanding job of introducing people to the great Northwest. From the salmon bake at Kiana (sponsored in part by "Bugs" Burger) to the dinner at the Pacific Museum of Flight, the largest golf tournament ever conducted at an AEC, the NEHA fun run, the trip to Mt. Rainier and more, fun and fellowship was had by all who participated.

Changing of the guard

Each year the AEC marks the conclusion of one presidential term and the beginning of another. Horace E. Jones, Jr., under whose astute leadership major advancements for the association were achieved, passed the gavel to incoming president Harry Grenawitzke. It was noted that on behalf of NEHA, Jones had traveled more than 35,000 miles during the past year. That included the journey to the Soviet Union during which he was the leader of a visiting NEHA delegation.

Grenawitzke, at the concluding banquet, promised attendees that he would not only carry forth with all that had been achieved over the past year, but in addition, strive to further increase NEHA's growing membership base, and further ensure that NEHA's voice on important environmental issues would be heard.

Information exchange

In addition to the formal education and fellowship, the NEHA AEC offers an opportunity for attendees to visit with companies and organizations that have products and/or services that are on the cutting edge of solutions to today's environmental health problems.

At the Seattle exhibit event, attendees were able to visit with more than 90 exhibitors who offered products and services that covered virtually every aspect of the vast and complex field of environmental health. It was exciting as usual for the AEC attendee both to learn and to offer feedback to exhibitors regarding the development of improved products and services to help the environmental health professional.

Even more valuable information was exchanged among all conference participants during an afternoon of informal roundtable discussions. Fast becoming a popular AEC tradition, these roundtables will be offered again next year in Charlotte.

Special highlights

One of the truly special events to take place at an AEC is NEHA's Silent Auction. This year 37 NEHA affiliates, as well as a couple of individuals, four sustaining members and NEHA's Industry Affiliate contributed gifts for attendees at the conference to bid on. The proceeds from the auction represent one source for the funds that NEHA uses to bring the best possible speakers to its conferences. This year \$4,984 was raised! A special thank you has to go to Holland Cruise Lines, who in working with the Industry Affiliate, donated a round trip for two to Alaska. That item alone raised \$2,300 for the fund.

As expressed in a memo to each affiliate president, the silent auction not only offers

an element of excitement in the fun-filled and pressure-packed week of an AEC, but also reveals an underlying strength within the association. The participation of so many affiliates demonstrates members' shared commitment to this profession and what it stands for.

Another memorable highlight to the conference was the annual golf tournament, the best attended in NEHA history. Again this year, despite weeks of practice, three different score cards, sneezing at people in their backswing, and just in general being obnoxious, Art Bloom failed to win the NEHA Golf Tournament. The foursome that carried away the winning trophies was led by repeat champion Bob Finn and included Steve Tackitt and Mr. and Mrs. Stalcup.

Good luck next year, Art!

Business

B usiness meetings are another major component of a NEHA AEC. The NEHA Executive Committee and Board of Directors meet at AEC as does each NEHA Section, various committees and the Credentialing Board.

NEHA Executive Committee

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

1. The executive committee voted to award an \$800 scholarship next year for undergraduate study and another \$800



Above, Ron Spratt presents Horace Jones with NEHA's certificate of membership in the International Federation of Environmental Health. At right, attendees participate in a roundtable discussion cosponsored by NEHA and the Rural Community Assistance Corporation.

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Fellowship

scholarship funded 50/50 by NEHA and the American Academy of Sanitarians for a graduate scholarship.

2. The executive director reported that membership had increased for the fourth consecutive year with total membership now at 5,285.

3. The executive director reported that NEHA had been awarded a \$100,000 grant from EPA to administer a project designed to study water conservation in the Denver Metropolitan area.

4. Two- and three-year quantified objectives were adopted for NEHA's strategic plan.

5. The executive committee appointed Harry Grenawitzke, Leonard Rice and George Kupfer to represent NEHA on the International Federation of Environmental Health.

6. A new site selection process for future AECs was adopted. The executive committee will select a general area of the country where its wishes to hold an AEC. The executive director then will examine potential sites in that region and discuss with affiliates their possible interest in hosting a conference. The executive committee also agreed that it would target the south-central part of the nation for the AEC in 1994.

7. The executive committee unanimously voted to take the 1993 AEC to Orlando, Florida.

8. The executive committee decided against holding a midyear conference in Wichita in the fall of 1991.

9. A special committee was formed to examine all NEHA awards. This committee will seek to establish more consistency among existing awards and will consider new awards that might be given.

10. An administrative personnel and policy manual for the NEHA office staff was adopted.

11. The executive committee elected to recommend to the board that all national affiliates be represented by the NEHA first vice president, that New Mexico be placed in NEHA Region 5 and Montana be placed in NEHA Region 3.

12. The executive committee agreed that NEHA should encourage the use of the Drinking Water Additive Standards developed as NSF Standards 60 and 61.

13. The executive committee voted to establish a retirement plan for the NEHA staff.

14. NEHA's continuing education requirements (for REHS/RS) were modified to include some manner of attendance verification at a continuing education event.

15. The executive committee agreed to utilize the services of NEHA's Affiliate

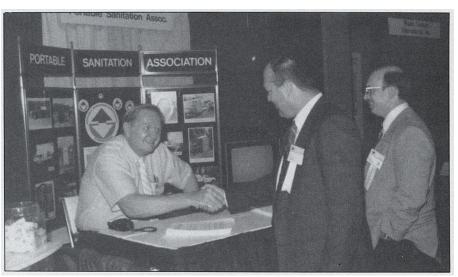
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Dr. Wilfred Kreisel, left, started the conference off with a stirring keynote address. Randall Peterson of Holland Cruise lines, below, presents Horace and Sally Jones with tickets on the Alaska cruise, which was donated by Holland and auctioned off to the highest bidder at NEHA's silent auction. Ted Anderson, executive director of the Portable Sanitation Association, bottom photo, greets attendees at the AEC exhibit event.

Photos by Mark Allen





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Nina McClelland, president of the National Sanitation Foundation, and outgoing NEHA president Horace E. Jones, Jr., top photo, are shown at the new member reception sponsored by NSF. Attendees, above, examine merchandise available at NEHA's Silent Auction booth. Harry Grenawitzke, right, assumes office as president.



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Assistant position to assist its Student Affiliate.

16. A major NEHA position paper dealing with infectious waste was sent back to committee for final refinement.

Board of Directors

Significant items discussed or acted upon by NEHA's Board of Directors included:

1. The board adopted a budget for next year of \$869,717. (This included a dues change for the regular active member from \$45 to \$50.)

2. The board was greeted by special guests who included George Gregg (from Nova Scotia), the president of the Canadian Institute of Public Health Inspectors, Eric Foskett (from England), the executive secretary for the International Federation of Environmental Health, and Ron Spratt (from Australia), the president of the International Federation of Environmental Health. Spratt presented the board of directors with a certificate of membership in the IFEH.

3. New affiliates in Arkansas and Alaska were welcomed.

4. Affiliate presidents were invited to bid on the fall 1991 and winter 1992 midyear conferences. Affiliate presidents also were invited to offer various national credentials at state affiliate meetings.

5. Several resolutions listed following this section were adopted by the board.

6. The board voted to put into nomination for the office of second vice president for next year's spring ballot election the names of John Barry, who is currently the Region 7 Vice President, and Garland Gobble, who is currently NEHA's Region 8 Vice President.

7. The board approved the executive committee-recommended NEHA boundary changes, enabling the association to ask members in affected states if they are agreeable to the realignment in NEHA's regions.

8. The board of directors agreed to put on the spring ballot a bylaws change that would require, as a condition for affiliation, that both the affiliate president and incoming president (or whatever designation an affiliate uses) be NEHA members.

9. An invitation was extended to each affiliate president to contract for the services of the affiliate assistant at the Denver NEHA Headquarters office.

10. A petition for a new international section was submitted and accepted.

NEHA Credentialing Board

Among the most significant NEHA accomplishments during the past year was the work of its national credentialing board.

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This body, which oversees all of NEHA's credentialing programs, met in Seattle and gave preliminary approval to a draft operations manual. A final manual for the board and all of the committees that report to it will be approved by this fall. The board is chaired by Jack McGurk from California. It oversees all of NEHA's committees that are involved with credentials and credentialing activity.

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.

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 Boyd Marsh. In presenting the award, Nina McClelland, NSF President and Chief Executive Officer, noted that "some people have a record of accomplishment so substantial that professional recognition is the rule, not the exception. Boyd Marsh is one such person. His contribution to environmental and health concerns can be seen in the programs and publications which have grown from his wisdom."

She summarized various positions that Marsh has held during the course of his career. Presently, he serves as director of the Division of Environmental Health for the Summit County General Health District in Ohio. Marsh is the 18th recipient of this very special award which 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 to Oris Blackwell, currently professor and chair of the Department of Environmental Health Science at Eastern

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A ride aboard the Spirit of Seattle, right, to the Kiana Lodge island salmon bake was among the social highlights of this year's AEC.

Kentucky University. The award was presented by Dr. Trenton Davis, a previous award recipient, who paid tribute to Blackwell by noting that over his long and distinguished career in environmental health, he has earned respect and distinction for his work at the local, state, national and even internationl levels.

He added that Blackwell was one of the principal architects of the master's degree program in environmental health at East Carolina University, and that Blackwell, in addition to being a previous NEHA president, had established the first bachelor of science program in environmental health outside of the United States, at the American University of Beirut. More recently, in 1987, Blackwell led a public health delegation on a people-to-people exchange program in the People's Republic of China.

As was noted in the presentation papers, Blackwell is "generous in sharing ideas and unstinting in giving counsel. He has provided valuable assistance to students, medical practitioners, and agencies concerned with environmentally provoked disease and premature death."

Presidential Citations

Presidential citations were given at the awards luncheon by President Horace Jones to Robert Galvan, Mike Moon, Ken

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Hohe, Mel Monkelis, Phil Kirkwood, Monroe Morgan and the Iowa Affiliate. In presenting his citations, Jones noted that the extraordinary efforts of these people have immeasurably helped NEHA to progress and to be the professional society that its most ardent advocates seek it to be.

Certificates of Merit

In its determined effort to recognize excellence, NEHA also salutes outstanding achievements in each affiliate. Each year, every NEHA Affiliate is encouraged to submit the names of candidates 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 — Winfred Cotten Arizona — Randy Phillips California — William B. Treadwell Connecticut — Ernest Julian Florida — Dr. Kevin M. Sherman Idaho — Jeff Lappin Industry — Tom Chestnut Louisiana — Victor J. Montelaro Maryland — Richard Gebken Michigan — Robert J. Ceru Minnesota — Dora May Coleman Missouri — John G. Norris

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Excellence

National Capital Area — Robert F. Hendrickson

Nevada — Ed Bohdan New Jersey — Gary Moore New Mexico — Garth Graves New York — Monroe Beim North Carolina — Charles B. Snyder Oregon — Kenneth Kauffman Pennsylvania — John A. Messa, Jr. South Carolina — Richard Rowe Tennessee — David M. Roberts Uniformed Services — Joe Verrone Virginia — Michael V. Campbell Washington — Dennis K. Kroll West Virginia — Karen Hall-Dundas Wisconsin — Ronald Buege

Crumbine Award

Each year the Food Service and Packing Institute recognizes the outstanding food protection program in the nation. This year, on behalf of the institute and the Crumbine Jury, Charlie Felix presented the prestigious Samuel J. Crumbine Consumer Protection Award to the City of Albuquerque's Environmental Health Program, directed by Sara Kotchian.

The Crumbine Award was instituted in 1954 to honor the memory of the public health pioneer who outlawed the common drinking cup in the 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 Paul Martin, who is Director of Educational Programs for the Educational Foundation of the National Restaurant Association in Chicago.

Martin was recognized for the highly acclaimed Food Service Sanitation Program, Food Service Manager Development Program and curriculum series of courses. Since 1978, Martin has helped develop the Applied Food Service Sanitation Program from a base of 10,000 people per year to a nationwide network of 350 program sponsors, 700 instructors and 30,000 people trained per year.

At the awards luncheon, George Morris presented the Past President's Award to Dennis Gearhart from California, who has given much to the association over the years. Outgoing regional vice presidents

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Oris Blackwell, top left, was this year's recipient of the Walter S. Mangold Award. Boyd Marsh, top right, received the Walter F. Snyder Award. Above, Sara Kotchian, director of the Albuquerque Environmental Health Program, Karen Tiggs and Daryl Bone accept the Crumbine Jury award. Conference chair Bob Howell, left, is shown with his wife, Gerrie.

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Michael Farnsworth and Dora May Coleman were recognized for their many contributions over their RVP terms.

The Hancor Award that recognizes excellence in the field of on-site wastewater management was given to Douglas Ebelherr. And the Uniformed Services Affiliate awarded a \$500 scholarship 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 rededicate to excellence.

No single event at the conference better captures these essential needs of the profession than does the awards 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. \Box

Resolutions

Water and Wastewater Problems in Small Communities

WHEREAS: The provision of safe drinking water and adequate wastewater disposal are regarded as two major healthful environmental objectives; and

WHEREAS: Many small communities and small systems in this country are failing to either meet safe drinking water act standards for water quality or adequately dispose of their wastewater; and

WHEREAS: These failures to meet critical healthful environment objectives are in many instances attributable to a lack of resources, financial and otherwise; and WHEREAS: The National Environmental Health Association believes that all residents of this nation should be afforded a healthful environment; now therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the National Environmental Health Association go on record in support of efforts to help small systems meet healthful environment objectives; and be it further

RESOLVED: That NEHA will utilize its resources to support the resolution of the environmental problems that these small systems face; and be it further

RESOLVED: That NEHA adopt as a position the stand that water and wastewater problems facing small communities must be adequately dealt with in order that the citizens residing in such areas might enjoy a healthful environment.

SUBMITTED BY: NEHA OFFICE

Recycling Resolution

WHEREAS: Recycling extends dwindling landfill space by reducing the amount of municipal solid waste; and,

WHEREAS: Recycling conserves natural resources and open public spaces, reduces the demand for both foreign and domestic raw materials; and,

WHEREAS: Recycling helps protect and improve land, air and water resources; and,

WHEREAS: Recycling conserves energy otherwise used in the securing, transporting and manufacturing of some products made from primary raw materials; and,

WHEREAS: Recycling generates revenues by selling many recyclables that otherwise would be buried or burned; and,

WHEREAS: Recycling demonstrates community commitment toward reducing solid waste and preserving the quality of the environment; and,

WHEREAS: Keep America Beautiful, Inc. supports and encourages the recycling ethic that has been established in this country and 70% of KAB System communities are actively involved in promoting recycling in varying degrees; and,

WHEREAS: The reclaiming of materials continues to be a viable and growing option in proper solid waste mangement; now therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the National Evironmental Health Association supports recycling as one of several solid waste disposal alternatives and pledges to work in cooperation with Keep America Beautiful, Inc. to continue public education efforts, promoting recycling across the nation.

RECOMMENDED BY: NEHA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

New Smoking Policy

WHEREAS: The smoking of tobacco products has been found to be a cause of disease in animals and humans; and,

WHEREAS: Tobacco product smoke often causes discomfort and irritation to nonsmokers in the immediate area of the smoker; and,

WHEREAS: The burning of tobacco produces pollutants to the general air; and,

WHEREAS: The U.S. Surgeon General has issued a warning concerning the use of tobacco products; and,

WHEREAS: Numerous state and local governments have implemented laws and regulations concerning smoking; and,

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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. Anyone who contributes \$25 or more is listed in this column for an entire year.

\$25 or more was received from:

Joseph Nicoloro Cambridge, MA (9/88) **Robert Powitz** Gross Point Farms, MI (10/88) Sanford M. Brown Fresno, CA (11/88) Paul F. Martin Warrenville, IL (11/88) Southeast Michigan Environmental Health Directors (11/88) Deuel & Associates, Inc. Albuquerque, NM (12/88) Richard K. Rowe Irmo, SC (12/88) Ronald M. Buege West Allis, WI (1/89) Dennis L. Kelly Northridge, CA (1/89)

Samuel H. Hopper Indianapolis, IN In memory of H.S. "Dick" Adams (1/89) Illinois Environmental Health Association (1/89) Corwin D. Brown Santa Ana, CA (2/89) Peggy Dawn French Royal Oak, MI (2/89) Heinz B. Russelmann Norman, IL (3/89) Winifred A. Owen Midland, MI (3/89) Nina I. McClelland In memory of Carol Slater (3/89) **Richard L. Roberts** Arroyo Grande, CA (3/89) Diane L. Evans Aptos, CA (3/89) Michael J. MacDonald Sacramento County Environmental Management Department In memory of Douglas C. Greig (4/89) Donald E. Gomsi Redlands, CA (6/89) NEHA Industry Affiliate (6/89) Nancy Larson Seattle, WA (7/89) Harry Grenawitzke Monroe, MI (7/89) Mail to: NEHA Scholarship Fund, 720 S. Colorado

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Blvd., #970 South Tower, Denver, CO 80222

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Business

WHEREAS: Employers, restaurants and other facilities have banned smoking from their premises; now therefore be it

RESOLVED: That during National Environmental Health Association conference meetings and deliberations, smoking is prohibited.

SUBMITTED BY: TOOELE COUNTY HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES DEPT., UTAH

RECOMMENDED BY: NEHA EXECUTIVE COM-MITTEE; REVISED BY (editing only): NEHA OFFICE

Before the Board of Directors of the National Environmental Health Association

WHEREAS: The National Academy of Science formed a 22-member committee to study the status of public health and, in October 1988, published the report, "The Future of Public Health"; and,

WHEREAS: The report concluded that state/local health agencies must have direct oversight and operational involvement of environmental health programs because removal of environmental health programs from health agencies has led to "fragmented responsibility, lack of coordination, fragmented services delivery, lack of accountability and agenerally weakened public health effort"; and,

WHEREAS: Comprehensive environmental health and environmental protection agencies in various localities throughout the nation have functioned as well as traditional health departments in the protection of the public's health and environmental matters; and

WHEREAS: The National Environmental Health Association strongly supports *any* organizational structure which provides a comprehensive program for the protection of the public, the environment, and the quality of life; now therefore be it

RESOLVED: The National Environmental Health Association, while recognizing the validity and findings of portions of the report, "The Future of Public Health," does not advocate any specific structure for the delivery of environmental health services to the public, as long as the program of delivery is efficient in its efforts, accountable to the body and the public it serves, and that it is based on sound public health principles.

Commissioned Corps Anniversary

WHEREAS: The Commissioned Corps of the United States Public Health Service (PHS) has compiled an exceptional record in efforts to improve national and international health by providing health services in the Coast Guard, Indian Health Service, the Centers for Disease Control, the Food and Drug Administration, the Health Resources and Services Administration, the National Institutes of Health, the Alcohol, Drug Abuse and Mental Health Administration, the Environmental Protection Agency, the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry, and the Bureau of Prisons; and, WHEREAS: The Commissioned Corps has maintained a mobile cadre of highly effective health and medical experts who have overcome great adversities in meeting the challenges of epidemics, emergencies and support of the general well-being of the populace; and,

WHEREAS: The Commissioned Corps employs nearly 300 environmental health officers (sanitarian category); and,

WHEREAS: The Commissioned Corps has improved the health of the public through environmental sanitation, has achieved eradication of such diseases as pellegra and smallpox, enhanced health through the control of tuberculosis and the development of protective vaccines; and,

WHEREAS: The Commissioned Corps will celebrate one hundred years of serving the public this year and will embark on its second century with goals aimed at furthering the public health and well-being through the prevention of chronic diseases and other preventable diseases, injuries and disabilities; therefore be it

RESOLVED: The National Environmental Health Association applauds the efforts of the USPHS Commissioned Corps; and be it further

RESOLVED: NEHA officially recognizes the Commissioned Corps on its 100th anniversary.

SUBMITTED BY: NEHA RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE



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