

# Nick Pohlit Resigns

## From Executive Director Position

### At Annual Conference in San Diego

Nicholas Pohlit, Executive Director of the National Environmental Health Association since 1956, relinquished his position as director of the Association's headquarters operation during the annual meeting held in San Diego, June 26-July 1. A new director is to be selected by the Executive Committee, and applications for the position are being sought. Pohlit had headed the national office since its move to Denver, Colo. from California, and was instrumental in its development to present status. One of his comments made to the banquet crowd was, "It is time for new blood to lead the organization to new heights." The action followed several months of deliberation and a leave of absence granted at the April Executive Committee meeting.

#### Farewell Message

It is indeed a pleasure to be with so many friends this evening and especially to have the opportunity to address you during the 41st Annual Educational Conference banquet.

I am sure you all realize that without the concerted and dedicated efforts of all of us, working together, the National Environmental Health Association could not have attained the national recognition it has throughout the years.

It is difficult for me to realize that 21 years have elapsed since the National Association of Sanitarians (now National Environmental Health Association) moved from Los Angeles to a nook at Denver University and asked me to help the membership develop an organization for sanitarians that would have major input into developing and implementing the nation's environmental health program and which would and could indicate the significant role that this professional must play on the public health team.

Toward this objective, we have

worked diligently over the past 21 years and have had many successes and a few failures. There is no question that the successes have far outweighed our failures as evidenced by the development and implementation of registration programs in a majority of the states in the nation, a headquarters staff of eight, four insurance programs for association members, an income of approximately \$400,000. The inclusion of the Sanitarian category in the Allied Health Professions Personnel Training Act provided approximately \$7 million to colleges and universities with curricula in the environmental science area. The American Medical Association, American Hospital Association, National Health Council, National Restaurant Association, National Sanitation Foundation are a few of the organizations with which we have developed working relationships.

The input into federal legislation and its implementation . . . recognition of the environmental health sanitarian as a professional and as an administrator, manager and educator . . . all this and much more has been accomplished during the past 21 years.

When we changed the name of the organization to the National Environmental Health Association and the publication from *The Sanitarian* to *Journal of Environmental Health*, we broadened our organization's objectives to provide a home for all environmental health personnel.

While we have come a long way during the past two decades, there is still much to be accomplished. From an administrative point of view, to be most effective, we must bring all environmental health organizations under one banner. I hope that at tomorrow's business meeting the Board will take the necessary action



Nick Pohlit and Dr. A. Harry Bliss take double bows on exit from offices.

to further implement the attainment of this goal. I am sure they will because we all recognize the importance and the weight that a single organization, representing all environmental health interests, can have on legislation and in dealing with official agencies.

It is also essential that the membership recognize that to maintain and enhance our strength we must, through continuing education and our accreditation program, keep abreast of and meet the new challenges that confront us today and will arise in the future. This is the only way we can maintain our professional status. The challenge to environmental health is just as great, if not greater, than it was when I started with the organization.

I feel that together we have made considerable progress, but as Dr. Harry Bliss has indicated, there is a need for new blood to come to the fore in leadership of this organization. He is retiring from his post as Editor of our Journal, but I hope not from the consultation he can provide the successors to his position.

In the same light, I feel it is time for someone with highly technical and administrative capabilities and experience to step into my position to help the association carry the banner forward and for me to take time for my personal business. Since my children are all grown and no longer need the daily care of my wife, Marian, I want to fill the gap in her life. Since taking my leave of absence, I have been in a business venture with her west of Loveland on U.S. Highway 34.

Also, I am now president of New World Resources, Inc., of which one of our initial projects is studying the feasibility of a technique using wind, sunlight and rainwater to produce hydrogen as a fuel source. The process, known as electrolysis, has the advantage of using light from the sun, a plentiful and essentially free source of energy along with wind to produce hydrogen, a fuel potentially available in an almost unlimited supply from water.

I also want to acknowledge and thank Marian for the years that she administered the Group Life Insurance program for the association, at very little cost to the association, and to thank my children who put up with my traveling during my employment with the association.

I deeply appreciate all the years we have spent together and the many friendships we have developed, but there comes a time when it is best for the Captain of the Ship to turn over command. For me that time is now; however, you can depend on me to always be a member of the National Environmental Health Association and to provide whatever consultation is requested of me any place, any time. My address is 6124 W. Eisenhower Blvd., Loveland, CO 80537.

## Bliss Bids Farewell



Harry Bliss chats with up and coming environmental health professional, Mike Osterholm.

Dr. A. Harry Bliss, Editor of the *Journal of Environmental Health*, also ended a long tenure with the Association, receiving accolades and expressions of admiration and respect from both the National and California Environmental Health Associations. It was with great reluctance that the Journal staff and Association leaders accepted Harry's exit since he has been such a great influence in the development of the profession, the association and the Journal. His replacement is pending.

## Uhlman and El Ahraf To Run on 1978 Ballot

The Board of Directors nominated Helene Uhlman, Gary, Ind., and Amer El Ahraf, San Bernardino, Calif., to run for Second Vice President on the 1978 Mail Ballot. The primary election was held to narrow the field to two candidates.

## Treasurer Office on Line

Bylaws changes suggested by the Bylaws Committee to the Board of Directors were acted upon and some of them will appear on the 1978 Mail Ballot for members to decide. An important proposal would remove the office of Treasurer from one of elected office to appointed office with term limitation.

## Retirees Waived Educational Fees

The Board of Directors also voted to allow retired members to attend the annual conference without paying the educational fee, charging them only for the various social and meal functions they may wish to attend.

A resolution which would have included all past presidents of the Association as voting members of the Board of Directors was defeated. It was pointed out in discussion that affiliate presidents, regional vice presidents and elected officers represent the entire membership and that past presidents could conceivably outweigh the current elected representatives. Past presidents serve as non-voting ex-officio members of the Board.

## Technician Council Ok'd

A Council for Technician Certification was established. This Council will be involved in a certification for persons working in environmental health who have not obtained a baccalaureate degree but have either a two year degree or other appropriate training. Details will be forthcoming on this project.

## Unification Furthered

A motion was adopted to appoint an ad hoc committee to work out administrative details with the International Association of Milk, Food, and Environmental Sanitarians for a joint conference in 1980, to develop the technical program for that conference, and to work on details for a jointure of the two organizations and each step along the way. The committee is to explore details of a common staff to function for both organizations and to present a report at our 1978 conference. The Association is to keep the membership informed on progress throughout the year.

Non-organizational resolutions passed included:

## Certification Reciprocity To Receive Attention

*Action* to support and encourage uniformity in programs for certification of foodservice managers at a level of content and administration to facilitate reciprocity among regulatory agencies at all governmental levels and within the industry, and a measurement system for programs that will help achieve reciprocity.

## Noise Control Promoted

*Action* to promote expansion of federal funding to state and local community noise control programs by amending Section 19 of PL 92-574 and insistence by Congress on funding by state and local governments.

## Environmental Epidemiology Specialty Encouraged

*Action* to promote specific education, surveys and field studies in Environmental Epidemiology, development of specialty curriculums in this discipline, and a prerequisite study in environmental health.

A resolution on warewashing in foodservice was tabled for further study and proper wording.

## Ward Duel Earned Bliss Editor's Award

Ward Duel, McHenry, Ill., past president of the National Association and continuing enthusiast for promotion of the environmental health professions, received the A. Harry Bliss Editor's Award for service to the *Journal of Environmental Health* as a reviewer, consultant, and promoter of quality. Duel has long been involved in efforts to upgrade the professional quality of the Journal. His efforts were duly recognized as recipient of the first Journal award to carry the name of retired editor, Dr. A. Harry Bliss.



Ward Duel is recipient of A. Harry Bliss Editor's Award.



C.C. Johnson accepts Snyder Award from Robert Brown.

## C.C. Johnson Honored By Walter Snyder Award

Charles C. Johnson, Jr., Washington, D.C., received the Walter F. Snyder Award, which is jointly sponsored by the National Sanitation Foundation and the National Environmental Health Association. Johnson has had a distinguished 30 year career in environmental health. He served for 24 years with the U.S. Public Health Service, ending in 1971, and has subsequently been associated with the American Public Health Association, the Washington Technical Institute, and is presently vice president and resident manager of the Washington office of Malcolm Pirnie, Inc., a national and international organization of consulting environmental engineers. He also serves on the APHA technical advisory panel on environmental hazards and in other advisory capacities. While he was in the USPHS, he served as a consultant to the government of Liberia in malaria eradication, hospital improvement and water supply and waste disposal. He worked in the PHS programs to develop sanitation standards for swimming pools, trailer parks, schools and migrant labor camps. He served also as chief of the office of environmental health

in the division of Indian Health. He was on temporary duty with the New York City Health Department in 1967 to assist in reorganizing the city's environmental health administration. He also participated in reorganization of the USPHS in 1968.



Baskin Robbins' representative receives Osborn Award.

## Baskin-Robbins Receives Osborn Industry Award

Baskin-Robbins Ice Cream Company received the E.B. Osborn Industry Award as the first Corporate-Sustaining member, and an industry member that has expanded the ranks of corporate-sustaining membership by actively recruiting co-industry memberships. By expanding corporate-sustaining memberships in California to 18, the company has increased the financial resources to the organization by \$4,500 in annual dues, benefitting the national, affiliate and local organizations. Baskin-Robbins was instrumental in forming a Business-Industry Advisory Council designed to involve and assimilate the corporate-sustaining members into the activities of the

National Environmental Health Association. The company has been instrumental in opening up communications lines between industry and professionals in environmental health, has worked on numerous committees particularly related to the food industry. The nomination was endorsed by the California Environmental Health Association's Board of Directors. George Rossi, National Store Planning Manager, accepted the Osborn Award for Baskin-Robbins. Osborn Award Committee members were John Entz, chairman; Monroe T. Morgan, Harriet Oyler, Hovey McClure, Dave Hartley, and Henry Drake.

## John Fish Gets Career Acclamation in Mangold A

Presentation of the Walter S. Mangold Award to John Fish, University of Washington Director of Environmental Health and Safety, was a testimonial to the quality of John's life, his integrity, his strong family ties, and his dedication to the environmental health profession.

John Fish has been active in the National Environmental Health Association for many years and has served as regional vice president, as a member of the Executive Committee, and on a number of committees. He is a reviewer for the *Journal of Environmental Health*. During the 1976-77 year, he was chairman of the Institutional Section. He was also chairman of the American Academy of Sanitarians during that year. He is active in other professional organizations, church and civic groups.

In accepting the Mangold Award, John called attention to his many advantages in life, particularly to the support he has always had from his wife, Peggy, and from his co-workers at the university, including Jack Hatlen and Karen Van Dusen.

John is a doer. He went to the University of Washington in 1962 as campus sanitarian, and in order to develop the program and gain the confidence of university officials, he tackled the most obvious problem, that of rodent control. Step by step, John has proved the value of a well rounded program at the university. In November, 1974, John was named Director of Environmental Health and Safety, acknowledgement of what he had attained. He had been deputy director since 1970. He is also an assistant professor in the School of Public Health at the University.



John Fish is proud recipient of Walter Mangold Award, an achievement shared with his wife, Peggy and youngest son, Joel. William Broadway, left was award presenter.

Before going to work for the University, John was employed by the Seattle-King County Department of Health for 13 years. As assistant director of environmental health, he was instrumental in the environmental health program during construction and operation of the Seattle World's Fair.

The nomination document submitted by the Washington affiliate contained a record of his achievements, recommendations from environmental health professionals, and a beautiful testimonial from his wife, which was read by Mangold Award presenter, William Broadway, who chaired the selection committee.

Other candidates for the association's highest honor were Ward Duel, Illinois; Joseph Walsh, Massachusetts; and Dr. Monroe T. Morgan, Tennessee.

John Fish joins the ranks of acclaimed professionals who are Mangold winners, including: Walter Mangold, 1956; Milton Miller, Colo., 1957; Harlan Kingsbury, Mass., 1958; Verne C. Reiersen, Ore., 1959; A. Harry Bliss, Calif., 1960; Jerrold M. Michael, Washington, D.C., 1961; Seymour

Barfield, Calif., 1962; V. Harry Adrounie, U.S. Air Force, and Frank A. Gohr, Calif., 1963; A.H. Crenshaw, Florida, 1964; Sam Reed, Wash., 1965; A. Clarke Slaymaker, Va., 1966; Frank Justice, Colo., 1967; Francis Goldsmith, National Capital, 1968; Dr. Ben Freedman, La., 1969; John Todd, Okla., 1970; Jack Hatlen, Wash., 1971; Dr. William Walter, Mont., 1972; William Broadway, N.C., 1973; Joseph H. Martin, Calif., 1974; Dale Treusdell, Uniformed Services, 1975; Sam Stephenson, Mich., 1976.

### Affiliates Honor Members

Certificates of Merit were received by nominees from affiliates who recognized their members for outstanding contributions to those organizations. They were Joseph Blair, Alaska; Roger Lee, Alabama; Stephen Lam, Louisiana; Bruce Reynolds, Michigan; Don McLean, Montana; Joseph Wright, New Jersey; Walton Youngblood, New Mexico; Charles Reisberg, New York; Roscoe Poovey, South Carolina; Lester Barnett, Tennessee; Frank Hodges, Texas and I.E. Scott, Texas (posthumously), Edgar Hayes, Utah.

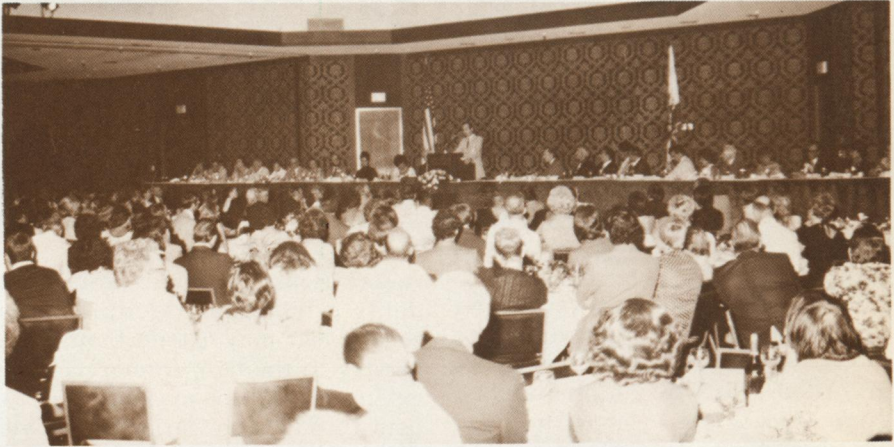


Ray Redmond of the San Diego Health Department, commanded local forces in programming and entertainment activities, making a successful conference.

Dr. Frank Arnold, president, accepted a resolution from the California legislature proclaiming the conference week as "Sanitarian's Week" in the state.

Pepsi Cola company hosted a reception in the hotel garden, followed by a barbecue beef supper on the beach. Conferees enjoyed the opportunity to visit in this informal setting. Mariachi band entertained.

Banquet crowd enthusiastically acclaimed those who were recognized.



C.B. Watson, charter member of the Southern California Chapter, was interesting tour guide for many of the ladies' activities. He's renowned world travel guide since retirement from environmental health career.



Mr. and Mrs. Paul Taloff (president-elect) and Mrs. and Mrs. Trenton Davis (regional vice president) relax and enjoy the Harbor Cruise along with 600 other conferees.

Colonel Edward Barnes, U.S. Air Force, gave an interesting keynote speech outlining the environmental health program of his branch of the Service.

