



WEST VIRGINIA ASSOCIATION OF SANITARIANS OFFICERS

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1-Year	Joseph Golebiewski

FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

by Keith Lyons

I am pleased with the efforts of several people, the Sanitarians' Newsletter is back! I hope to see everyone at the Mid-Year Meeting at Cedar Lakes May 1 - 3. An Environmental update and business meeting begins at 1:00 p.m. on May 1st, followed by the FDA Training Course on Temporary Food Service, and the alternative training on Current On-site Waste Water Issues. Also, we will have a picnic Wednesday evening with everyone welcome.

"NOTE FROM THE EDITOR"

By: V.J. Davis, R.S.



Well, the newsletter is back in publication. Our plans are to have a new edition every three months or so. The current edition is being mailed out to all Sanitarians, however, as you can imagine that can be very costly. Therefore we are going to try to have future editions of the newsletter available on the WVAS website. You will be able to visit the web page and print or download the current edition of the newsletter. When a new edition is posted, an email will be sent out to all county and district offices notifying Sanitarians that the new edition has been or will be posted and an approximate date.

We are planning to have some recurring columns in each newsletter. Tom Felton has agreed to write a light hearted column called "That Dam Health Inspector". Michelle Cochran will be

writing a column regarding Training and Education. Mark Whittaker will be writing a sewage update article. Ron Forren will be writing about current legislative news regarding environmental health issues. I am in the process of trying to twist the arms of some other people into writing columns as well.

As you know, the newsletter is only as good as the articles within it. Although we will be running the recurring columns, we do not want the newsletter to consist entirely of them. Therefore, we need your help. We would love to have articles from the district offices and county health departments. If you have any issues that are newsworthy or just plain interesting, please send them in. We would like to see each district in the state represented in the newsletter.

Editorials and Articles may be submitted to VJ Davis or Nathan Douglas, preferably by email.

Email: VJDavis@wvdhhr.org
NathanDouglas@wvdhhr.org

Snail Mail: VJ Davis, R.S.
Fairmont District Office
107-109 Adams Street, Room
Fairmont, WV 26554

"TRAINING CLASS OF THE PAST"

We will be including a picture of one training class from the past over the next few issues. We want to see who can identify the most Sanitarians, either still working or retired. Naturally, members of the training class cannot be the winner!



TRAINING AND EDUCATION

by Michelle Cochran, R.S.



2001-2002 Training Course

The 2001-2002 session of the Sanitarian Training Course has just drawn to a close. Thirteen trainees attended all or portions of the training class and twelve of them completed the course.

Welcome To All of Our New Sanitarians!

- Arletta Lancaster - Jefferson Co.
- Joe Lawson - Monongalia Co.
- Mike Dunham - Monongalia Co.
- Jeff Kiger - Monongalia Co.
- Susan Plum - Randolph and Pocahontas Cos
- Debbie Ellison - Cabell Co.
- Michelle Finney - Cabell Co.
- Susan Jordan - Lincoln Co.
- Carey Shortt - Putnam Co.
- Rob Knapp - Wood Co.
- Chad Meador - Summers Co.
- Steve Alenskis - Berkeley Co.
- Brad Buzzard - Ohio Co.

Here are the trainees who were braving the wind and cold to tour the on-site training center near Morgantown during the week of sewage. Rick Hertges is instructing the trainees on soils.



Sanitarian's Mid-Year Meeting

Time is once again approaching for our annual mid-year training meeting being held at Cedar Lakes Conference Center near Ripley from May 1-3. This year we will be hosting an FDA Temporary Food Establishments course with a registration fee of \$20. It is the first time that this course has been held in West Virginia.

Other highlights include an environmental health update, our WV Sanitarian Association business meeting, and annual picnic. And for those who are not able to attend the entire FDA course, alternative topics will be addressed on the afternoon of May 1st. A complete agenda for the course, room information and registration forms were sent to each Sanitarian and can be found on our website at www.wvdhhr.org/wvas. You must be a member in good standing with the WVAS to attend.

We hope to see many of you there!



This years' training class was altered to meet the required 300 hours. In addition to spending more time on the topics of food and sewage, several topics were added this year that have not been covered in the past. Some of those topics were: Sanitarian safety, investigation methods, and clean indoor air enforcement. A total of 10 field trips for hands-on practice were taken.

Public Health Conference

Plans are currently underway for the training session at the section meeting of the Public Health Conference. Bill Nestor, as the WVAS President-elect is responsible for coordination of the section meeting. Stan Mills has graciously offered to help arrange speakers from Marshall University on various topics. Look for more information to come about the complete agenda as details are worked out.

Did you know that you can get the newsletter online at the Association's website? Did you know the Association had a website? www.wvdhhr.org/wvas - check it out!

**LEGISLATIVE
UPDATE**

by Ron Forren



**On-Site Sewage
Update**

by Mark Whittaker



2002 Legislative Session

Except for the rules that were submitted to the Legislature for consideration, this year's session was light one as far as environmental health is concerned; in fact, some would suggest that this legislative session was an all around slow session. Perhaps this was due to this being an election year but more likely it was because the legislature was in special session so many times the previous year working with major issues such as video lottery machines and flooding.

Listed below are the bills related to environmental health considered this year:

- HB 3209**-----Regulating the practice of cremation of human remains.
*Did not pass
- HB 2143**-----Requiring food service workers to wear protective gloves.
*Did not pass
- HB 2286**-----Relating to the labeling of dairy products.
*Did not pass
- HB 2030**-----Prohibiting local governments from imposing additional requirements on sewage system installers.
*Did not pass
- HB 4205**-----"Bundle Bill" containing DHHR's rules.
 - rule repealing the swimming pool design standards.
 - rule amending requirements for recreational water facilities.
 - rule amending requirements for public water systems.
 - rule amending requirements for public water system operators.
 *PASSED
- SB 604**-----Proposes Legislative Rules regulating smoking in indoor public places(preemption bill).
*Did not pass
- SB 656**-----Prohibits the additions of additives to foods at salad bars.
Did not pass
- SB 568**-----Allows the BPH to require public water system evaluation.
*PASSED

I am really pleased that the Sanitarian's Newsletter has been put back into publication. I am sure that a lot of hard work went into getting it started again and those involved certainly need to be applauded for their efforts.

I attended the National On-Site Wastewater Conference last week in Newport, Rhode Island. This is an annual conference held by the Small Flows Clearinghouse for state sewage regulators to hear new technology, compare notes and truly discover that misery does love company.

In many respects, believe it or not, West Virginia is ahead of many states with regard to what is contained in the Sewage Rules and Design Standards. For example, many states do not have any type of installer certification program. If you have a backhoe, you can be an installer. Most states do not have any type of perpetual maintenance on home aeration units. It was very interesting to learn that in all states, the same problems are present such as high rock or water, poor soils etc, that we are struggling with here in West Virginia. So, misery truly does love company.

With respect to the Class V Injection Well Program with DEP, all appears to be going fairly well. Most Sanitarians are reporting that DEP is responding back to them in a timely manner and that they are quite helpful when questions arise. So, continue to send in your information sheets to DEP when you encounter a permit application for anything other than a single family dwelling. I appreciate your adaptation to the Class V program.

If you have any issues regarding the on-site sewage program, please contact me at (304) 367-2752 or e-mail me at mwhittaker@wvdhhr.org. So, fill next time, keep your boots on tight and your feet dry.....Mark

HEY, this is your Newsletter! Let us know your thoughts and comments.

We may not print them, because that we can do that, but go ahead and let us have it!



"THAT DARN HEALTH INSPECTOR"

by Tom Felton, R.S.

HISTORY OF THE BUBBA AWARD

Each year at the annual conference of the West Virginia Public Health Association, the West Virginia Association of Sanitarians bestows an award called The Bubba Award on an unsuspecting (we hope) recipient. The award is named after the director of the Public Health Sanitation Division, Ronald K. "Bubba" Forren. The criteria for the award is, simply put, having committed a major faux pas during the year. Although the award is basically presented to somebody who has made a blunder, it is thought of as an honor to win and relished by many. Most, if not all, of past recipients have their plaques proudly displayed in their office or some other conspicuous place.

Former recipients have committed misdeeds such as burning up a frying pan at a food service establishment, finding a dead body while investigating a sewage complaint, committed numerous transgressions with a state car, heaving on the sidewalk after investigating a home filled with dogs and cats and an abundance of fecal matter, licking beverage containers in an establishment where there had been a fire to determine if they had residue on them, etc.

Past winners include current Sanitarians Bruce Jenkins, Brad Cochran, Lloyd White, Steve Trail, Phil Jones, Rob Campbell, Dan Parker, and Richard Wheeler.

Keep your eyes open for applicants for this prestigious award and nominate that deserving someone. Applications for all awards presented at the conference by the WVAS will be distributed this summer. While you are out in the field performing your duties this summer, please remember this: It's an unforgiving bunch of cohorts you have!

THOUGHTS ON MILK

by Phil Jones, R.S.

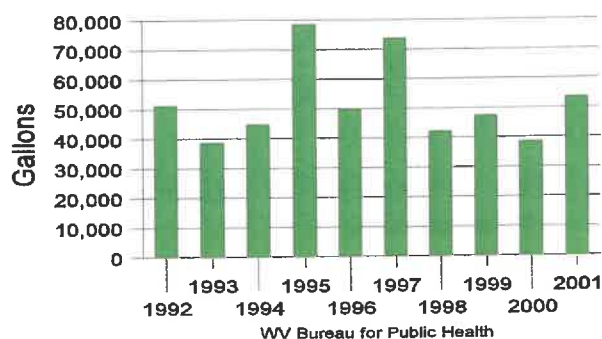
MILK ANTIBIOTIC TESTING

Animal drug residue contamination of Grade A raw milk continues to be a problem on dairy farms. Each year nearly 50,000 gallons of raw milk tested in West Virginia is required to be dumped into animal waste management facilities on farms due to contamination with Beta lactam family antibiotics.

Farmers use Beta lactam antibiotics such as penicillin cloxacillin, cephalosporin, ceftiofur, ampicillin and amoxicillin to treat cows for infection. Carryover of low levels of antibiotics in the milk supply can lead to bacterial resistance to the antibiotics over time in humans.

The good news is that since 1992 Beta lactam antibiotic testing has been required on all tank truck loads of raw milk entering a pasteurization plant. No pasteurized milk intended for retail sale and sampled by the state or local health departments in West Virginia has been positive for antibiotics since the tanker testing program began in 1992. Continued vigilance is necessary, however, to insure that the milk industry does not forget our commitment to an antibiotic free milk supply.

**WV Raw Milk Dumped Due To
Animal Drug Residue Contamination**



CONFERENCE FOR FOOD PROTECTION

by Linda Jones, R.S.

The Conference for Food Protection (CFP) will be held April 19 - 24, 2002, in Nashville, Tennessee. This biennial national conference is a partnership of regulatory, industry, academia and consumer professionals who formulate food safety recommendations which are ultimately submitted to FDA for the model food code. The CFP consists of three councils. Council I is Laws and Regulations. Council II is Administration, Education, and Certification, and Council III is Science and Technology. Issues are submitted to the appropriate council for discussion and debate. Each Council's final recommendations are subsequently voted on by an assembly of state regulatory delegates.

Linda Whaley and I will be attending the conference as West Virginia's voting delegates. More than 100 issues have been submitted, including recommendations to lower the hot holding temperature requirement for potentially hazardous food from 140°F to 130°F. This was a hotly debated issue at the 2000 CFP in Milwaukee. In fact, the recommendation lost by just ½ vote by the Assembly of Delegates.

Sanitarian Pay Committee

by Michelle Cochran, R.S.

The National Environmental Health Association (NEHA) recently published a nationwide survey of salary and benefits of their members. Several Sanitarians in West Virginia sent word of this survey's availability to me. (For those newly hired Sanitarians who don't know the history behind our plight, I worked on the committee to try and get Sanitarians salaries and pay scales changed back in 1996. Sadly, our work was not supported by everyone in the Bureau and the document we created was never promoted for action with the Division of Personnel).

When this new survey came out, Ron Forren ordered a copy for OEHS, which I borrowed when it arrived. Surprise, surprise, West Virginia was once again ranked near the bottom in every category. I took the survey results with me to the Sanitarians Executive Council meeting on February 21st. The executive council decided to reform the Sanitarians Pay Committee with Joe Golebiewski, Marshall Co. and myself as co-chairs.

The committee consists of 12 members and we had our first meeting on March 27th at the OEHS conference room in Charleston. The committee members are:

Joe Golebiewski, R.S., Marshall Co.
Michelle Cochran, R.S. Fairmont Dist. Offc
A. Jay Root, S.I.T., Mineral/Hampshire Cos.
Ryan Harbison, S.I.T., Wayne Co.
Maryanne Kraynanski, S.I.T., Cabell Co.
Marlan Zwooll, S.I.T., Roane/Calhoun Cos.
Susan Jordan, R.N., S.I.T., Lincoln Co.
Christina Mickey, R.S., Monongalia Co.
George Sobota, R.S., Wheeling Dist. Offc
Anthony Laposta, R.S., Hancock Co.
Gary Epling, R.S., Wood Co.
Nathan Douglas, R.S., OEHS Central Offc.

The committee has asked Lee Thompson, WVAS Sec/Treasurer to purchase one of the NEHA surveys for our use. We agreed that it is important to split the issue into 2 tasks, getting pay increases for those currently working as Sanitarians and changing the job descriptions/associated pay scales.

One of the first tasks that we want to complete is a survey of all Sanitarians in West Virginia. The survey will ask you for information about your salary, your tenure and your job duties. You can expect to receive it in the mail in the near future. **Please, please, take the time to complete the survey and return it to us. Without accurate, complete information we are not going to be able to adequately prepare for our fight for YOUR RAISE!**

If you have questions or suggestions for the committee you may direct them to any of the committee members, or you

can direct them to Joe Golebiewski at 845-7844 or Michelle Cochran at 367-2753.

TRANSITIONS UPDATE

by Fred Barley, R.S.

A system of networking resources is in place at Central Office to assist local health departments find Sanitarians. Any LHD that is interested in hiring a contract Sanitarian should contact Fred Barley at 558-2981. Any Sanitarian that is interested in working should also contact Fred. If you are in doubts as if your registration is current, contact Ron Forren at the same number.

The Program Plan for fiscal year 2003 is almost ready to be distributed. It will be similar to last years in that it will be in electronic format.

REMINDERS & NOTES

If you did not receive a Sanitarians' Newsletter then you haven't paid your Association dues this year, so go check out the Association website at www.wvdhhr.org/wvas and print off an application and send it with your check to Lee Thompson, and we'll see you at the Annual Meeting at Cedar Lakes!

Also, just as a reminder. This will be the last issue of the Newsletter that is printed, at least in color. We are going to have the Newsletter available on the Association website and will send an email to all local health departments to let you know when there is a new newsletter available. This is being done to save the Association money on printing and postage. However, if you still wish to receive a hard copy of the newsletter contact VJ Davis or Nathan Douglas.

Don't forget to send in your articles, comments, and questions. We will be adding a section on Sanitarians' Questions in the upcoming editions based on information you ask, and we'll be looking to hear some helpful hints and answers from the membership.

We hope you enjoy the new Newsletter!

INTERSTATE ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SEMINAR

by David Thornton, R.S.

The South Carolina Interstate Environmental Health Seminar Executive Committee extends a hardy invitation to one and all to attend this year's conference in beautiful Mt. Pleasant, South Carolina (located outside Charleston). The meeting will be held from July 17th through July 19th, 2002.

The program has not yet been finalized, but scheduled topics include:

- Bioterrorism
- Designing PowerPoint presentations
- Food safety & HAACP
- Incident command center setup
- Media relations
- Molds & mildews
- National small flows on-site systems project
- North Carolina Rainbow Gathering
- NSF structure
- Recreational water testing
- Sushi
- Underground sewage injection
- West Nile Virus

Look for the registration application on the Association website soon! The registration deadline is June 15th. If you need a registration form before it is available on the website call Nathan Douglas or David Thornton at the central office. Mail registrations to: SCHEA, P.O. Box 142, State Park, SC 29147

Checks should be made payable to SCHEA.

One evening activity will be a "Pig Pickin" at the pool. There will also be a wine tasting competition. If any local wineries would like to enter their wines in this competition, contact: Rebecca Gray-Causey at causeyrj@hotmail.com for details. They would be required to provide three bottles of each type submitted.

Hotel information:

Holiday Inn Charleston - Mt. Pleasant
250 Johnnie Dodds Blvd.
Mt. Pleasant, South Carolina 29464
(843) 884-6000, 1-800-290-4004

Room rates are \$99.00 + 11% tax single or double with a full breakfast buffet included. Rates are effective 7/14 - 7/20. When making reservations, use Group Code "DHC." There are several other motels close to the conference hotel as well.

If you have any other questions or comments please contact Dave Thornton at the Central Office.