It is once again time for the annual Mid-Year Conference to be held at Cedar Lakes Conference Center in Ripley, WV from May 1 through May 3. The conference will be kicked off on Tuesday with Environmental Health updates and the annual picnic. See WVAS website for full agenda and registration forms. If pre-registering, all forms must be received by Linda Whaley before April 25, 2012.

Come out for a GREAT training opportunity!!!

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**A NOTE FROM PRESIDENT ELECT: JUDY ASHCRAFT**

I had the great good fortune to be hired as a Sanitarian with the Mid-Ohio Valley Health Department in 2008. My preconception of what my job responsibilities would be did not even begin to cover the scope of knowledge I would need. It is a good thing I did not have Joseph A. Salvato’s textbook, Environmental Engineering and Sanitation where this definition is given. “The Sanitarian applies knowledge of the principles of physical, biological, and social sciences to the improvement, control, and management of man’s environment.” As Charlie Brown would say, AAUGH! As time passed, I realized that Mr. Salvato had only defined the tip of the Sanitarian iceberg. Aside from the chemistry, geology, geography, and computer sciences needed, we also serve as educators and a resource for the public and each other.

The West Virginia Association of Sanitarians has been in existence at least since 1970 (according to Clarence Christian, who is old enough to have been there and young enough to remember. I feel WVAS is in place to provide guidance and education to its members, as well as a platform to share concerns and problems. In one of the Executive Council meetings, our President Ryan Harbison, came up with a great idea, to develop a statement about WVAS’s purpose or mission. His preliminary suggestion is “To promote the integrity and professionalism among Sanitarians and Environmental Health Professionals in West Virginia”.

Let’s come up with a great mission statement! Do you think Ryan’s is enough, or what other suggestions do you have. The Association is here to serve YOU, please take some time and help define our purpose.
2012 Interstate Environmental Health Seminar

By David Thornton

It’s that time of year again to be thinking about attending the 2012 IEHS. We have a great program with a wide variety of topics planned which should be educational and interesting to all sanitarians.

They include the new Boy Scout Camp in Fayette Co., WV, Green Wastewater project in Lincoln Co., and Package Ice, along with many more topics. There are evening activities planned which you and your family will enjoy.

The Conference is being held this year at Fontana Village Resort July 18-20, 2012. Full details on the Agenda, Conference Registration Form, Lodging Information and more can be found on our website at www.wvdhhr.org/wvas/iehs. This info will be posted very soon.

Standardizations

Some of the Public Health Sanitation District Office Sanitarians have recently completed Retail Standardization along with one Local Health Sanitarian. Karol Wallingford and Penny Mangold from the Fairmont District Office have completed the field training, risk control plans, and flow charts. Suzzette Valach has completed the field training. Mike Waugh has begun the process of being Standardized. Rodney Melton from Cabell-Huntington Health Dept. has completed the entire program. They are all able to Standardize local health department Sanitarians. Folks going through the process for the first time must complete 8 field inspections, a risk control plan that identifies the hazards associated with a food, and a corrective action to prevent food-borne illness, along with a flow chart for a food item. They join Richard Wheeler, Ryan Harbison, Mark Uraco, Jessica Douglas and Linda Whaley as Certified Inspection/Training Officers.

Other Training Opportunities

1. April 18—Tri-State Inservice—Hoss’s Steakhouse—Wheeling
2. April 20—Tucker Co. Inservice—RSVP to Karol Wallingford
3. April 27—Putnam Co. Inservice—RSVP to Ryan Harbison
4. July—DIDE outbreak training—group exercises—be ready to participate
5. September 19-21 WVPHA Annual conference—Oglebay Resort and conf. center

Upcoming Sanitarian Training class—the agenda is on the OEHS website. An original college transcript and application must be submitted before the first week of class.
From the NewsPaper

Charleston Daily Mail

PARKERSBURG, W.Va. (AP) - Mister Bee Potato Chips Co. is resuming production with the help of a private investor. The Parkersburg company filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy last November. Since then, Mister Bee says it has restructured its organization and operations. Mister Bee says in a news release that production will resume in the middle of the second quarter.

The company didn’t identify the private investor. But it says the investor and others involved in Mister Bee are committed to keeping its operations in Parkersburg. The family-owned company was founded in 1951 by Leo and Sara Klein. It serves West Virginia, Ohio and eastern Kentucky.

Quiz Time

1. How many lifeguards are needed for a pool that is 50 meters long, 25 meters wide, and is being used by 150 people?

2. What does GRAS mean, who is it regulated by, and what year was the first list published?

3. In septic tanks, which baffle is longer and what is the maximum depth of the outlet baffle?

4. In what year was the first bi-monthly newsletter, The Sanitarian, published by WVPHA?

5. Tattoo Parlors are required to be permitted. What is the minimum number of registrations needed at a Body Piercing shop, what are they, and who issues them?
### Association Officers:

President: Ryan Harbison  
Vice-President: Elizabeth Green  
Secretary-Treasurer: Linda Whaley  
Members at Large:  
3 year: TJ Witten  
2 year: Jonathan Graziani  
1 year: Jeff Fowler  
News Editors: Linda Whaley and Jessica Douglas  

### Implementation Of New By Laws Change

There will not be an election of WVAS officers this fall due to the By Law changes that went into effect this year. The by laws were changed to hopefully encourage more members to hold office due to a shortened time frame for the elected position. Elections will return at the annual fall conference. So, please consider running for an office in 2013. Officers for the 2013 year will be: President: Judy Ashcraft—OEHS, VP-Liz Greene—Mid-Ohio Valley, 2 year Bd. Member-T.J. Witten, and 1 year Bd. member Jonathan Graziani. There are committee members positions to be filled each year. This is your organization, so work to support it!

### From the NewsPaper: Charleston Daily Mail

Restaurants will have to receive zero critical violations and fewer than six non-critical violations if they want to get an "excellent" rating under the Kanawha-Charleston Health Department's new system.

Environmental health director Anita Ray says the rating chart isn't official yet, since the restaurant rating system is still in a public comment period and Kanawha-Charleston Board of Health members haven't voted on it.  "We don't want people printing them out and saying, 'This is how it is,'" she said.  But Ray said the final chart probably would look similar to the health department's sample chart, now available at [www.kchdwv.org](http://www.kchdwv.org).

A board subcommittee voted in February to adopt a new three-tiered, color-coded rating system for restaurants that would rank the businesses as "excellent," "good" or "fair," depending on the number of critical and non-critical violations sanitarians find at the restaurants.

Health department personnel recently created a chart that will help sanitarians decide which rating best fits the restaurant. Looking at the chart, it appears businesses' rating under the new system would largely depend on the number of critical violations. Only businesses that earn zero critical violations would be listed as "excellent." rating, according to the chart.

### Answers:

1. 4  
2. Generally Recognized As Safe, FDA, 1958  
3. Outlet, 40% of liquid depth  
4. 1936  
5. 2, A Permit and a Body Piercing Technician Registration, the LHD and State of WV