



Allen Named Association President

Robert Allen, Sanitarian III, of the Kanawha-Charleston Health Department, has been named president of the West Virginia Association of Sanitarians.

Other officers named at the September Health Conference are: Sam Argento, president elect; Stanley Mills, vice president; and Lee Thompson, secretary-treasurer.

Members of the Executive Committee are: Russ Rader, State Health Department; Stanley Walls; Norman Moore; and Paul Saunders, past president.

According to Allen, goals for the group this year include the area of State-Local Funding as set by the State Legislature; increased membership emphasis on quality of work performed; involving the Liaison Group in financial and legislative matters; and to stimulate members to develop leadership, initiative and technical competence and to encourage continuance of education.

The Association has scheduled the next Mid-Year Meeting for May 17-20 at Cedar Lakes in Jackson County.

Stanley Mills reported that \$100.00 has been spent for the purchase of zipper pouches for trainees at the Sanitarians Training Center.

A Logo Contest is being held to provide a suitable logo for the Association. The winner will be announced at the Mid-Year Meeting.

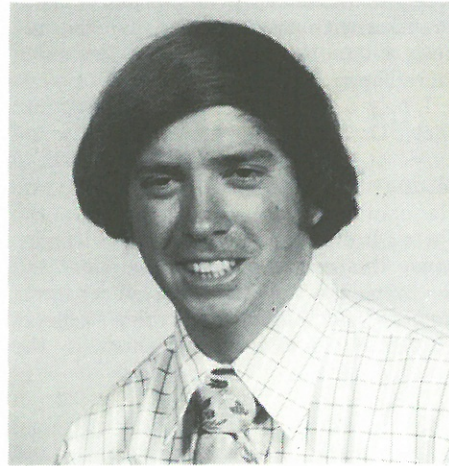
Committees of the Association are:

- Membership, Russell Rader
- Legislative, Robert Allen
- Nominating, Sam Argento
- Awards, Lee Thompson

Logo Contest Announced

There will be a contest for the best designed decal representing the Sanitarians Association. There will be four (4) designs picked from all entries received and of those four (4), one will be chosen at the business meeting at Cedar Lakes during our Mid-Year Meeting.

Please submit the entry on a maximum 8½ x 11 sheet of paper to Nancy Haught, Kanawha-Charleston Health Department, P.O. Box 927, Charleston, West Virginia 25323. The winner will receive one year's free dues in the West Virginia Sanitarians Association.



Robert Allen



Edwin DeBarr



John Brown



C. Russell Rader

Environmental Health Services Announces Three Appointments

Three appointments have been made by Robert Wheeler, PE, Director of Environmental Health Services of the State Health Department.

Edwin C. DeBarr has been promoted to Chief, General Environmental Health Division of the Office of Environmental Health Services. DeBarr has served as Acting Chief since 1978.

John H. Brown is now Chief of Training and staff Development Division. He has been Chief of Training for the Wastewater Division (Sewage) for many

years and now is coordinating training for all the divisions of the Office of Environmental Health Services.

C. Russell Rader has been named Assistant Chief, Wastewater Division, Office of Environmental Health Services. Rader has been District Engineer at Guthrie and now has moved into the central office.

These three appointments are the first under the Re-Organization Plan for Environmental Health Services and were effective, Dec. 1, 1981.

Editorial Comment

Every Sanitarian Should Know That . . .

**Patrons, Matrons and Public Health
in West Virginia**
by Robert Parkins, R.S.

Environmental News Digest (e.n.d.) is a publication that is to be touted as one that is good reading for Registered Sanitarians. From that publication (July-August, 1981 Edition) I was happy to learn that the State of Michigan has hired its first non-physician health officer for the state, Dr. Bailus Walker, Jr.

The significance of his having been hired lies, though, somewhere outside his being procured as the state director of health.

Throughout the country, county health officers, over and over again, have hired based on credentials outside their possession of an M.D. degree. Instead, they have been hired, and legislation has been promulgated based on qualification for administration, public health real knowledge, and other parameters.

Pulling no punches here, what I am saying is that public health knowledge does not, obviously, rest with the M.D. degree. In fact West Virginia Public Health Association, recently took fair stands against that very view when they objected to the appointment of Dr. Edward Hook as U.S. Surgeon General. Dr. Hook is an M.D. pediatrician and is well qualified as a doctor of medicine, but simply and obviously is not qualified as the public health leader of the country. The two are not synonymous, obviously.

Throughout counties in West Virginia, the law has required that the county health officer be an M.D. or a D.O. The joke of that requirement is exemplified by the case of a county in Central West Virginia where I once worked for the County Board of Health as a Registered Sanitarian. I read the county newspaper one Thursday only to learn in the real estate section that a new subdivision had been created and that lots were for sale which could contain septic tank systems (according to the ad.) The sub-division owner was a local doctor, and also the county health officer — my boss.

Not only did he not understand that a subdivision waiver was required — he understood that a septic tank was something that was to be pumped out once it was full.

Moving right along, this example of a county health officer, although hopefully not typical in West Virginia, deserves some attention of the state legislature in relation to the law that requires that a county health officer be an M.D. or D.O.

I recently provided the Committee on Local Health Department Standards, (a

brainchild of Dr. Clark Hansbarger, Dr. Mel Henry and Bob Van Hook) with a copy of national survey on reaction and experience throughout the country of hiring non-physician health officers.

That survey indicates that the very essence of the idea is economical, proficient, and acceptable in the approximately 17 states which have elected to change this concept. Furthermore, those counties within those states which have been given the legal choices are even more happy.

I began this column by pointing out that Dr. Walker had been named Director of Public Health for the State of Michigan by Gov. William G. Milliken. He said he chose Dr. Walker, as the state's first non-medical health officer because "his record of accomplishment and his expertise in the field of environmental health ideally suit him to direct Michigan's public health effort in the coming years."

Dr. Walker has been Director of Health Standards for the Occupational Safety and Health Administration and before that was Administrator of the District of Columbia's Environmental Health Administration.

Many judgemental errors in the public health delivery system have been made in the past in West Virginia, but it really doesn't have to remain that way, as it has not in the State of Michigan.

I'm sure several counties have Matron and Patron Health Officers who cling to administration titles followed by the letters "m" and "d." Other letters behind one's name would suffice, at a lesser cost.

After all, if even the State Director of Health is not required by the West Virginia Code to be an M.D., why should county officials?

The Newsletter belongs to all members of the WV Assoc. of Sanitarians and as such will be accessible to any relevant articles written by an Association member.

However, it must be understood that any signed article is the responsibility of the person writing it and does not necessarily reflect agreement or endorsement by the Association Executive Committee, Officers or membership consensus.

Committee Report Defines Work Unit

A committee report on defining a work unit was presented at the December 1981 state/local Health Liaison Group meeting.

According to Randy Moodispaugh, Committee Chairman, the purpose of the work unit definition is for annual reports-program plans.

"The only real meaningful numbers that should be considered are numbers of inspections."

"If we obscure these figures with work units based on some time measure or inflated quantities, we have lost one of our most valuable tools in assessing program evaluations," said Moodispaugh.

He added that: "We have become preoccupied with gathering information to justify our existence rather than presenting factual information that would allow us to evaluate present programs and establish the need for expansion and new programs."

Annual Training Classes Held

The annual Sanitarians Training Class was held at the Guthrie Training Center from September through December.

Attending the class were:

Timothy Gleming of Monongalia Co.; W. G. Haikal of Putnam Co.; Stanley W. Harris, Jr. of Mason Co.; Kimberlee A. Lockwood of Logan Co.; William G. Morrison of Calhoun-Wirt Co.; Michael R. Powell of Taylor Co.; Richard K. Snaman of Cabell Co.; and Victoria L. Van Dyke of Doddridge Co.

Instructors were:

Edwin DeBarr, Stanley Mills, Dale Parsons, Randy Curtis, Jim Hodges, James Rosencrance, Victor Wilford, Robert Paul, Craig Cobb, Gary Epling, Ron Forren, Robert Lemley, Charles Drake, Evelyn Baskin and Bobby Pritt.

Legislature May Cut Funding

Health services in West Virginia will be sharply curtailed if the State Legislature doesn't provide funding for County Health Departments, according to Robert Parkins, President of the West Virginia Public Health Association.

Mr. Parkins, in a statement to the *Charleston Gazette*, also asked the legislature to provide legislation that would permit County health Departments to charge for some of their services.

In-Service Training Group Holds Session

A meeting of the Area I Sanitarians' In-Service-Training Group was held in Wood County in October.

Attending the meeting were the following:

James E. Sheets, Gary L. Hamilton, Doug Powers, Roger Amos, Earl Burgess, Jr., Richard Weigand and Gary Epling, all of Wood County.

Melvin O. Plymale of Wayne Co., Stephen Bayer of Pleasant Co., Don Jackson of Richie Co., Stephen Jones of Kanawha Co., Paul Saunders of Jackson Co., Gilbert Ball and W. G. Haikal of Putnam Co.

Vicky Van Dyke of Doddridge Co., Alex Jenkins, Blaine Malcolm, Stanley Mills and Lou Jackson, all of Cabell Co.

Ron Forren, Ken Marcum, Russell Rader, Mike Mower, Phillip R. Jones, Jr., William Bradford and Donald Kuntz of the State Health Dept.

The following reports were given:

Alex Jenkins reported that efforts in the Cabell food program were being intensified and that a new sanitarian was being trained to work in the food program.

Gilbert Ball reported that Winfield had been hit with a water shortage due to little area rainfall.

Paul Saunders reported that the Jackson County Health Dept. sponsored a dinner party for members of the funding bodies which contribute to the Jackson County Health Dept.

Earl Burgess said that warrants and injunctions have been obtained against violators of food service and sewage regulations and that about 60 food-handler conferences are conducted a year.

Don Jackson of Ritchie County said he conducted a water well survey in an attempt to find a suitable replacement water supply for Ellenboro since the existing supply was reported to be having mineral problems.

Vicky Van Dyke of Doddridge County said plans were being prepared for replacement of a water plant which frequently floods.

Micky Plymale said that 13 school principals attended a Wayne County Board of Health meeting with complaints that the sanitarian staff was being too hard on the schools in the physical plant and food service inspections.

James Sheets told the group the next State Health Conference will be held in Wood County and suggested the sanitarians consider having a picnic at Blennerhassett Island Historical Park during the conference.

William Bradford gave a status report on the proposed sewage regulations and said that an engineer would be placed

at the Guthrie District Office as soon as possible to replace Russ Rader who has moved to the State Health Department as Assistant Chief, Sewage Disposal Division. Bradford also told the group that the present plan was to recind the mobile home park regulations in their entirety.

Stephen Jones reported that the Liaison Committee has formed one committee to study the need for, or improvement of food service workers training conferences and another committee was formed to come up with a definition of a work unit as used in annual program applications.

Paul Saunders reported the Interstate Seminar in Westminster, MD, was attended by twenty-nine (29) West Virginia sanitarians.

A description of the Kanawha County food vending machine program was given by Stephen Jones. Ronald Forren continued the discussion on food vending machines. He described several types of machines and some of the problems to look for during an inspection.

Phillip Jones gave an update on policy memoranda issued since the last in-service-training meeting and talked about information received at the Food Rating Officers Seminar in Ocean City, MD.

Donald Kuntz, Mike Mower and Ken Marcum presented proposed well drillers regulations.

It was announced that the next Area I In-Service-Training Group meeting will be held in Kanawha County.

Jail Standards Requested

James Barnhart has requested the State Office of Environmental Health Services to develop standards, guidelines and regulations pertaining to jail sanitation and/or construction.

The request was made at the December meeting of the state/local Environmental Health Liaison Group meeting.

Rich Hartman gave a report on the newly formed Regulatory Services Group.

Among topics discussed were: training needs of sanitarians, foodhandlers' training requirements, and the sewage requirements of large homes being converted to apartments.

Attending the meeting were: James Barnhart, Dennis Blair, N. Allen Dyer, M. D. Max Fisher, Stephen M. Jones, Randy Moodspaugh, Richard Puckett, Howard R. Pyle representing Dr. William Neal, M.D., Richard Wallace, Robert Wheeler and Ronald K. Forren representing Edwin DeBarr.

Guests at the meeting were: Russell Rader, Donald Kuntz and Melvin Plymale.

Registration Board Meeting

The WV Board of Registration for Sanitarians met in October with the following persons attending:

Chairman Charles R. Saber, E. L. Burgess, Jr., Perry R. Merritt, C. Robert Parkins and Ed DeBarr. Burgess of the Wood-Parkersburg Health Dept. was recently reappointed to the Board by Governor Rockefeller. DeBarr was representing Dr. L. Clark Hansbarger, M.D., State Health Director and secretary of the Board.

Items of business discussed were:

A financial report was given and it was moved that a budget be prepared and presented at the next meeting.

A roster of registered sanitarians and sanitarians-in-training will be prepared giving the date each sanitarian was first employed and the date each was first registered. The list will be distributed to each person listed on the roster. The name of any person who hasn't paid their 1981-1982 registration fee will be removed.

The possibility of providing plastic identification cards for all registered sanitarians.

A letter to Robert P. Wheeler, Environmental Health Services Director, will be written concerning training requirements for sanitarians-in-training and upgrading sanitarians salary scales.

Membership in the WV Assn. of Licensing Boards was approved.

The application of Robin J. Hassler for advancement from sanitarian-in-training to registered sanitarian was approved.

Applications for registration as sanitarians-in-training will be withheld for Michael R. Powell, William G. Morrison and George B. Megin, Jr., until they have completed the required training.

The Civil Service Commission's requirements of registration and the Registration Board's requirements for experience requirements as well as educational criteria were discussed.

Several revisions of regulations governing administrative procedures were discussed and recommended.

It was moved that a sanitarian in the state be recommended by Mr. Saber to take the Professional Examination Service for Sanitarians in order to determine a possible passing score.

Sanitarians Honored

The staff of the Harrison-Clarksburg Health Department honored the Sanitarians of the Department at a luncheon in November.

November 16 was declared Sanitarians Day and the luncheon was hosted by Dr. L. H. Mills, Health Officer; Agatha Sigley, Nursing Supervisor; and Mary Ann Capozza, Chief Clerk.

Association Membership Dues

January is here and it is time to pay your Association membership dues.

Russ Rader, chairman of the Membership Committee of the West Virginia Sanitarians Assn., reports that many sanitarians are not paying their dues.

"Many people pay their dues at the mid-year meeting or the State Health Conference," says Rader.

Rader added that the Association has year-long obligations so it is important to pay your dues at the beginning of the year.

1981 Paid Members

F. L. Adkins; R. A. Allen; R. B. Amos; A. Andrick; S. J. Argento; W. D. Bassett; S. R. Bayer; C. E. Bright; J. R. Brown; E. L. Burgess.

C. W. Burton; G. Cantley; M. G. Chase; R. M. Clelland; J. R. Cooper; J. Curia; E. DeBarr; W. E. Deem; R. DeHaven; J. A. Dienst.

C. J. Drake; M. K. Eltzroth; G. L. Epling; M. R. Fisher; R. Forren; R. L. Frost; K. J. Hall; G. L. Hamilton; D. J. Hansen; S. R. Harmon.

R. R. Harr; W. C. Harvey; G. Harris; N. B. Haight; F. M. Hawley; R. J. Hassler; J. Heater; D. L. Jackson; A. J. Jenkins; L. Jones.

P. R. Jones; S. M. Jones; G. Katsakis; J. E. Kay; D. Kincaid; E. W. Kurre; J. S. Leffman; L. W. Lewis; K. A. Lockwood; B. W. Malcolm.

M. S. Malik; K. R. Marcum; S. B. Mills; R. Moodispaugh; N. L. Moore;

W. E. Nowell; R. Parkins; J. Parsons; P. Pashkevich; R. L. Perry.

W. P. Pinnell; M. O. Plymale; G. Powers; B. G. Pritt; H. Pyle; C. R. Rader; R. J. Rader; J. Rice; J. Rosencrance; C. R. Saber;

P. R. Saunders; P. Sawyers; J. E. Sheets; R. Snaman; P. Sullivan; L. Taylor; R. Thomas; L. K. Thompson; D. Thornton; A. Turner.

J. Wallace; R. L. Wallace; J. S. Walls; K. R. Ware; W. H. Warner; J. R. Woodford; J. A. Wyatt.

"Considering there are about 175 registered sanitarians, 30 sanitarians-in-training, 17 engineers, 5 chemists, 10 sanitarian-aides, and 5 non-health department affiliates, we have a poor representation in the Association," Rader says.

"If we are going to have a stronger, more representative and more influential organization, we are going to have to have more members."

"If you have any questions, problems or complaints concerning the association, please bring them to the association board's attention when returning the membership application."

"Hopefully, all interested individuals will receive a copy of the first newsletter. After that, only paid members will receive the newsletter and be eligible for participation in the association's functions and festivities," according to Rader.

Two Seminars Scheduled

Two seminars on cross-connection controls have been tentatively scheduled for March, according to John Brown, Training Officer of the State Health Department.

Jim Hodges of the State Health Department Water Division will conduct both of the seminars.

The first seminar will be held Tuesday, March 23, in Beckley at the Raleigh County Vocational Technical Center at 410 1/2 Stanaford Road.

The second seminar will be Tuesday, March 30, at the Clarksburg-Gore Vocational Technical Center at Gore, WV.

Exact times have not been established yet but the seminars will be no earlier than 8:30 a.m., no later than 9:30 a.m., and will conclude no later than 4:30 p.m.

John Brown said that cross-connection control is essential in protecting potable water supplies and that local and state sanitarians and water plant and waste water plant operators should try to attend the seminars.

For specific details on the seminars, contact John Brown or Chet Fleming at the State Health Department.

WEST VIRGINIA SANITARIANS ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP - 1982

Name _____

Address - Home _____

Address - Business _____

Date(s) of Employment with Health Department. _____

Signature _____

Attach a \$10.00 check payable to:
WEST VIRGINIA SANITARIAN ASSOCIATION
and return to:
LEE THOMPSON
c/o HARDY COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT
MOOREFIELD, WEST VIRGINIA 26836

WV Sanitarian's NEWSLETTER
c/o Mary Chase
Monongalia County Health Department
Van Voorhis Road
Morgantown, WV 26505