



MEHA BULLETIN



**President
Kim Carlton**

**Fall 2013 Issue
Volume 43, No. 1**

IN THIS EDITION

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Retirement***

President's Message Submitted by Kim Carlton

*Other rappers dis me; Say my rhymes are sissy.
Why? Why? Why? What? Why exactly? What? Why?
Be more constructive with your feedback, please, why?
Why?*

-Flight of the Conchords. "Hiphopotamus vs. Rhymenoceros."

I think there's an old saying that goes something like... "The trouble with asking people what they think is that they just might tell you." Late 2012, a survey was sent out to MEHA members as well as a small group of non-members, with the intent to collect feedback about our Association. Questions were asked about the importance of various membership benefits, including conferences, the MEHA website, the newsletter, as well as the likelihood of continuing membership, among other things.

The feedback was mostly positive, although we did receive some criticisms. Some were thoughtful and well-deserved, and some were perhaps less "constructive" than we had hoped. The Board of Directors and committee chairs have been making an effort to incorporate some of the suggestions that were received into our decision-making processes going forward. I would like to share a few of them with you here:

Conferences

The Conference Planning Committee has made a concerted effort to plan educational sessions using the suggestions from the survey. Naturally, for every "we need more food sessions!" comment, there was one "please, no more food sessions!" suggestion. The Committee has been working hard to offer a wide variety of environmental health topics at recent conferences, and yes – they are sensitive to the fact that not all MEHA members work in food. If you have suggestions for speakers or topics, please forward them to Jessica Jutz at JJutz@ci.bloomington.mn.us.

Minnesota Environmental Health Association
www.MEHAonline.org

One question asked about the location of conferences. Many respondents requested that we consider metro locations for the spring conference. The Committee starts planning the spring conference almost a year in advance. This year, per the survey suggestions, they received proposals from several venues across the state. Five hotels and conference centers were in the metro area, and eight facilities were outstate. Unfortunately, they discovered that the cost of hosting this event in the metro area is *much* higher than at a location in greater MN. For example, meeting packages at the Oak Ridge Conference Center in Chaska are nearly twice the cost of packages at Arrowwood in Alexandria. Hotels in the metro area also charge considerably more than the locations we have chosen in the past. After reviewing several proposals, and evaluating the cost of meeting rooms, meals, and lodging packages on various dates, the MEHA board voted to hold the 2014 Spring Conference at Arrowwood in Alexandria. We believe this location is a good value, as well as being centrally located. The MEHA board and the conference planning committee strive to keep costs low, and by holding the conference during the off-season, we receive a much better rate than we would if we were to hold it later in the spring or early summer. Our members live across the entire state (as well as in Wisconsin, Michigan, Nevada, and Arizona!), so in an effort to keep conference locations convenient for *all* members, we will continue to hold the winter conference in the Twin Cities, the spring conference in central Minnesota and the fall conference at various locations outstate.

Newsletter

Seventy-nine percent of the survey respondents responded that they find value in the quarterly newsletter, and a majority of respondents responded that they find the emails from the MEHA listserv to be “very important.” At our October meeting, the Board of Directors voted to change how information is shared with members. In an effort to make sure that members are receiving announcements in a timely fashion, starting in 2014 the MEHA Newsletter will only be published twice per year, in the spring and fall. To keep you up to date between newsletters, information about conferences, job postings, other events, announcements, and notable news will be disseminated via an email bulletin. It will look similar to the emails that members currently receive, but with standard formatting. To ensure that you receive the email updates, be sure to visit your membership profile at <http://meha.wildapricot.org/> and opt-in to the email subscription options.

Networking

Several respondents said that they would consider attending a non-educational social event such as a networking reception or happy hour that was hosted by MEHA. Keep your eyes open for an announcement/invitation in the near future.

Going Forward

The Board will be sending out another survey this winter. When you receive the invitation link to the survey, please take a few minutes to share your thoughts. This is your association, and the Board needs your input. To take it a step further, please consider running for a position on the Board of Directors, or participating on a committee. And as always if you have questions, comments, feedback, or criticism (constructive, please), please don't hesitate to email or give me a call.

Kim

MEHA NORTHSTAR SCHOLARSHIP

The Minnesota Environmental Health Association (MEHA) is seeking qualified candidates for the Northstar Scholarship. This scholarship was established using MEHA funds and is intended to attract top tier students to seek internship and employment in the State of Minnesota in the field of environmental and/or public health.

The name "Northstar" was selected because it represents Minnesota being the outstanding leader in environmental and public health. MEHA is looking for academic 'stars' from the upper Midwest to contribute to the profession in the North Star State.

The Northstar Scholarship fund is a limited term scholarship for undergraduate students currently enrolled in a science-based program at a college or university within the NEHA Region 4 territory (MN, WI, IA, ND, SD, and NE), which will qualify them to sit for the RS/REHS exam. A list of appropriate courses can be found at: <http://www.health.state.mn.us/divs/eh/san/courses.html>

Recipients of the scholarships are required to be full time students, and must have a tie to environmental and/or public health in Minnesota; either through attending a Minnesota college or university or by working in the field of environmental and/or public health in Minnesota (example: internship experience in MN). Selection may be based on scholastic merit, demonstration of community service, involvement in student-faculty research, and/or intention to seek internship or employment in the State of Minnesota.

All applications will be reviewed by the Minnesota Environmental Health Association Scholarship Trustees. Selection will be in compliance with federal and state regulations and College/University policy regarding academic scholarships.

The scholarship will be presented at the 2014 MEHA Winter Conference. The conference fee will be waived if the recipient is able to attend.

This year's award will be \$1,000.

Submit the following, **by December 10, 2013**, to: Caleb Johnson, Hennepin County Environmental Health, 1011 1st St South, Suite 215, Hopkins, MN 55343:

- A letter of application that includes a brief description of the student's career goals in the field of environmental and/or public health, the student's educational or professional ties to Minnesota, and any plans for internship or employment in the State of Minnesota (a resume is helpful);
- A copy of the student's undergraduate transcript, and current school study plan;
- A letter of recommendation from their advisor or another professional representative who is familiar with their studies, community involvement, and/or plans for internship or employment in the State of Minnesota in the field of environmental and/or public health.

If you have questions about the application process, contact Caleb Johnson at: Caleb.Johnson@co.hennepin.mn.us

For more information on MEHA, visit our website at: <http://mehaonline.org/home>

If you would like to become a MEHA member sign up at: <http://meha.wildapricot.org/Default.aspx?pageId=1257473>



Sherry Engelman Retirement Announcement

After nearly nine years of service to the City of Edina, Community Health Administrator and City Sanitarian Sherry Engelman retired on October 1st. Sherry has skillfully managed Edina's unique delegation agreement with the State Department of Health to provide environmental and public health services to our residents and businesses. She has been active on a number of environmental and public health boards and committees, including acting as the Staff Liaison for Edina's Community Health Committee, and has cultivated a substantial network of health professionals throughout the state. Sherry's experience and expertise will be difficult to replace and we are currently deciding how to proceed with filling her position.

We wish Sherry well as she moves on to the next phase of her life!

MEHA thanks you for your service to the organization and wishes you well!



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Full schedule, registration and details at www.cposeminars.com

2013/2014 Schedule	Cost: \$250.00
August 21 & 22	8-5:30pm - Oakdale, MN
September 17 & 18	8-5:30pm - Waconia, MN
September 18 & 19	8-5:30pm - St. Paul, MN
October 2 & 3	8-5:30pm - Elk River, MN
October 16 & 17	8-5:30pm - St. Cloud, MN
October 23 & 24	8-5:30pm - Bloomington, WI
November 6 & 7	8-5:30pm - Duluth, MN
November 20 & 21	8-5:30pm - St. Paul, MN
November 20 & 21	8-5:30pm - Onalaska, WI
December 4 & 5	8-5:30pm - Mankato, MN
January 15 & 16	8-5:30pm - Alexandria, MN
February 5 & 6	8-5:30pm - Rochester, MN
February 19 & 20	8-5:30pm - Waconia, MN



Looking for additional education?
 Check out our Horizon Advanced Aquatic Education Seminars at www.aaeseminars.com or email aae@horizonpoolsupply.com



www.horizonpoolsupply.com

Announcement

MEHA membership awarded to new RS/REHS

The Minnesota Environmental Health Association (MEHA) is awarding a one year membership (**\$35 value**) to those who successfully complete the registration examination, as a way to support newly registered environmental health professionals.

If you successfully complete the RS/REHS exam after October 1, 2013, submit a copy of your Environmental Health Specialist/Sanitarian passing letter to Karen Casale at karen@karencasaleconsulting.com and you can sign up to become a MEHA member free of charge for one year.

If the newly registered Environmental Health Specialist/Sanitarian is already a MEHA member at the time of becoming registered, a credit for the one year MEHA membership can be used once the applicant's renewal is due.

If you have questions, please contact Nicole Koktavy at Nicole.koktavy@state.mn.us.

New Registered Sanitarians

Congratulations to the following candidates that passed the October 2013 RS Exam!

Hannah Davis

Travis Bistodeau

Ian Erickson

Sarah Johnson

Nathaniel Kelly

Rustan Krentz

Chanh Thach

Teegan Wydra



FOOD MANAGERS: ONLINE RENEWAL COURSE OPTION

Serve It Up Safely™ online course offers options to customize training. Choose four modules of interest:

- Cleaning/Sanitizing - Basics
- Cleaning/Sanitizing - Advanced
- Cooling Principles
- Emerging Trends I
- Emerging Trends II
- Personal Hygiene
- Preventing Foodborne Illness
- Ready-to-Eat (RTE) Foods

Updated 2013

What participants say about our course:

"I have practiced these guidelines for years. The material is good and a great review...very helpful for someone who wants exposure for the first time or the 200th time."

August 2013



For more information and to register at extension.umn.edu/food/food-safety/courses/

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SAVE THE DATE.....

The MEHA Winter Conference is quickly approaching, so make plans to join us on **Thursday, January 30th** for a day full of education and networking. Once again the conference will be held at the Continuing Education and Conference Center on the University of Minnesota's Saint Paul Campus. A new feature this year will be a poster session where students from the University of Minnesota's School of Public Health and the University of Wisconsin- Eau Claire's Environmental Public Health Department will present their research. Registration information is available at www.mehaonline.org. We hope to see you there!



Draft MEHA Winter Education Conference

January 30, 2014

University of Minnesota Continuing Education and Conference Center
 1890 Buford Avenue
 Saint Paul, MN 55108

<i>Thursday, January 30th</i>	
7:45 – 8:30 am	Registration and Continental Breakfast
8:30 – 8:50 am	Welcome & Announcements Kim Carlton <i>MEHA President</i>
8:50 – 9:40 am	How to Prepare a Bulletproof Outbreak Report Shawn Stevens <i>Gass Weber Mullins LLC</i>
9:40 – 10:30 am	TBD Craig Hedberg, PhD <i>University of Minnesota</i>
10:30 – 10:50 am	BREAK
10:50 – 11:40 am	Supplier and Manufacturer Food Safety at Target Laura Gutierrez Becerra <i>Target Corporation</i>
11:40 – 12:45 pm	LUNCH
12:45 – 1:00 pm	Presentation of the Mary Lauren Olson Scholarship Nicole Kuktavy <i>MEHA Scholarship Committee</i>
1:00 – 1:50 pm	Water in Milawi David Brown, PE <i>Blue Stone Engineering</i>
1:50 – 2:40 pm	Risk of <i>Cryptosporidium</i> Infection to Recreational Swimmers in Swimming Pools Laura Suppes, PhD <i>University of Wisconsin- Eau Claire</i>
2:40 – 3:20 pm	BREAK/ Poster session Check out the exciting environmental health research from students at <i>University of Minnesota School of Public Health</i> & <i>University of Wisconsin- Eau Claire Environmental Public Health</i>
3:20 – 4:10 pm	Pollen Spores, Combined Sewer Overflows and Spoiled Food: Impacts of Climate Change on Air Quality, Water Quality and Food Security Kelly Muellman <i>Minnesota Department of Health</i>

Minnesota Environmental Health Association
 Published Quarterly by the Minnesota Environmental Health Association
 P.O. Box 441
 Anoka, MN 55303
 President.....Kim Carlton



The MEHA Poster session is an excellent opportunity to network with professionals in environmental health and get leads on internships and full time positions.

**MINNESOTA ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION
WINTER CONFERENCE**

CALL FOR RESEARCH POSTERS

We invite students in environmental and public health to submit posters to be included at the poster session January 30, 2014 from 2:40-3:20. The event offers an opportunity to showcase your work and network with professionals in the field.

See our website for agenda and registration information if you would like to attend but not participate in the poster session.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION,
PLEASE CONTACT**

.....
JESSICA JUTZ
Conference Planning
Committee Co-chair
(952) 563-4525
jjutz@ci.bloomington.mn.us

JANUARY 30, 2014 | www.mehaonline.org

U of M Continuing Education and Conference Center
St. Paul, MN



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MEHA is on Facebook! Visit our page and join the group! Please "Like" us so we can share MEHA news and other interesting Environmental Health info with you in a timely manner.



Announcement of the 2014 Biennial Conference Meeting

The biennial meeting of the Conference for Food Protection (CFP) will be held May 3 – 7, 2014 at the Buena Vista Palace Hotel and Spa in Orlando, Florida.

This meeting is of vital importance to:

- Federal, state, local and territorial retail food regulatory officials,
- Retail food industry trade associations, restaurants, grocers, and suppliers,
- University and college food science faculty, and
- Consumer group representatives.

The biennial meeting offers an opportunity for each participant to be heard on matters affecting retail food safety. This year the Conference is proud to present an Educational Workshop entitled “**Regulations, Scientific Issues and Food Safety Impacts to Seafood.**”

Conference and Workshop registration, a tentative program, and a hotel reservation link are available online at <http://www.foodprotect.org/biennial-meeting/>. Issues to be considered at the meeting may be submitted online until January 21, 2014.

Visit the organization's website at www.foodprotect.org for further information about the meeting and the Conference for Food Protection. Questions about the CFP and biennial meeting may be directed to:

Lisa Wright, Executive Assistant
858-536-8030 or ewright1@san.rr.com

OR

David McSwane, Executive Director
317-696-0573 or by dmcswane.cfp@gmail.com

Retail Food Safety is the Focus of Conference for Food Protection Biennial Conference Meeting

Hot button issues associated with food safety in retail food establishments will be deliberated by industry and regulatory experts, academicians, and consumers at the biennial meeting of the Conference for Food Protection to be held May 3 – 7, 2014 at the Buena Vista Palace Hotel and Spa in Orlando, Florida.

Participants at the meeting represent a broad spectrum of food safety professionals including:

- Federal, state, local and territorial retail food regulatory officials,
- Retail food establishments, service providers for the retail food industry, and industry trade associations,
- University and college food science faculty, and
- Consumer group representatives.

The biennial meeting offers an opportunity for each participant to be heard on matters affecting food safety in all types of retail food establishments as well as companies that provide services for these operations.

Scheduled to speak at the opening session on Saturday, May 7 are Michael Taylor, Deputy Commissioner for Foods, US Food and Drug Administration; Adam H. Putnam, Commissioner, Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (invited); and representatives of the Food and Drug Administration, United States Department of Agriculture, and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

During the meeting, three councils will consider dozens of issues concerning food safety at the retail level. The Conference will culminate in a number of science-based recommendations for improving food safety that will be put forth to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, United States Department of Agriculture, and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Each recommendation must be approved by an Assembly of State Delegates composed of representatives from State Departments of Health and Agriculture across the US and its territories. Past Conference recommendations have resulted in changes to the FDA Food Code, a national model for retail food safety laws that has been adopted by numerous state and local governments throughout the country.

For more information about Conference and Workshop registration as well the full agenda and Issues, check online at www.foodprotect.org or contact:

Lisa Wright, Executive Assistant
858-536-8030 or ewright1@san.rr.com

OR

David McSwane, Executive Director
Phone 317-696-0573 or by dmcswane.cfp@gmail.com

January 30, 2014

MEHA Winter
Conference
U of M Continuing
Education and
Conference Center
St. Paul Campus

May 1-2, 2014

MEHA Spring
Conference
Arrowwood Resort
Conference Center

MEHA Board and Members,

It is truly with a heavy heart that I have to resign as President-Elect. I have accepted a new position that comes with a large learning curve that just won't allow me to give MEHA the time and attention you deserve.

I have had the most amazing two years serving on the board. I have made so many new friends and learned so much. I absolutely believe in this association and all it can give its members. If you haven't given thought to serving on the board, please do so. You will be overwhelmed at all it can give you.

I want to thank everyone who believed in me enough to vote me in, I hope by me leaving, I am not letting anyone down. I especially want to thank Kim Carlton for being not only an extraordinary mentor, but also a very good friend.

Thank you all for enriching my career and my life.

Erin Smilanich

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For the latest information and educational materials about Food Irradiation, Beef Safety, Modern Beef Production, and Consumer Topics relating to Beef contact:

www.mnbeef.org
www.beeffoodservice.com

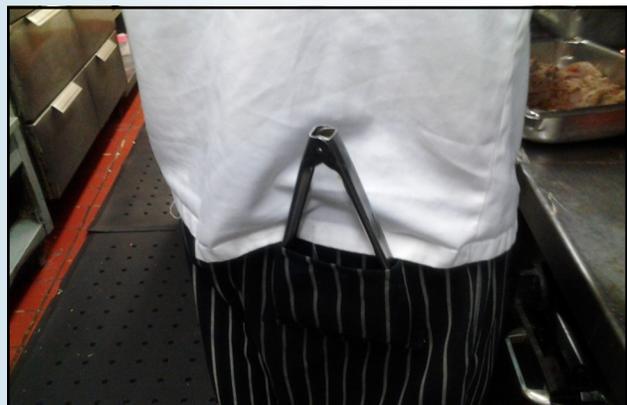
Colleen Zenk
Director of Consumer
Information

Minnesota Beef Council
2950 Metro Drive, Suite 102
Minneapolis, MN 55425
952-934-4468
colleen@mnbeef.org

**MEHA Would Like to Welcome
the Following New Members:**

Greg Abel
Alexandra Barber (student)
Austin Bell (student)
Jane Bergquist (student)
Carmen Bernn (student)
Erik Bryz-Gornia (student)
Erica Bye (student)
Jianji Chen (student)
Donna Coetzee (student)
Eliza Cowan (student)
Nathan Cress (student)
Michael DeMars
Cesar Omar Dominguez Marquez (student)
Ana Ebbert (student)
Lindsey Englar (student)
Aaron Gertz
Emily Gilbertson (student)
Nicole Gryska (student)
Shaine Hartmann (student)
Marlo Henry (student)
Paul Herr
Erin Hodgins
Jenna Johnshay (student)
Christopher Kim (student)
Mary Kosuth (student)
Olaoluwa Lediju (student)
Kelly McCormick (student)
Zeke McKinney (student)
Ryan Lee
Yuan Shao (student)
See Lee
Tonye Sylvanus (student)
Marijke Schwarz-Smith
John Weidner
Stephanie Gretsch
Emily Anderson

**Photos from the Field....
Can you name the
violation?**



MEMBER UPDATES

WELCOME : The City of Minneapolis is excited to announce the addition of two new inspectors: Graham Miller joins Food, Lodging & Pools with past experience with the City of St. Paul and Buffets Inc. William Kass joins with past environmental health experience in St. Paul, Rochester and Duluth.

CONGRATULATIONS to new supervisor at MDH Crystal Theis and Sanitarian III's Mindy Lang and Charles Dierker.

WELCOME to new MDH Sanitarians who will be doing food, lodging and pool inspections out of the St. Paul Office: Josh Schaack, Marijke Schwarz Smith, Aaron Gertz, See Lee, James Noyola, Diane Olson, Ryan Lee, Lee Renneke, Jesse Hennes and Lindsey Mittendorf.

CONGRATULATIONS to Manny Camilon who is celebrating 35 years with the City of St. Louis Park!

ON THE MOVE... Calvin Matthews from MDH to MDA.

ON THE MOVE... Amanda Strommer from Washington County to Pope County as Director of the Land and Resource Management Department.

OUR SYMPATHY to Sherry Engelman on the loss of her father.

Thank You to the following people who contributed to this newsletter: Jessica Jutz, Kim Carlton, Karen Casale, Solvei Wilmot, Dan Disrud, Sadie Pulk, Nicole Koktavy, Manny Camilon and Tracie Zerwas.

Request From The Editor

An important part of the newsletter is the human element—what is going on with MEHA members. Please let the editor know about any comings and goings, births, weddings, honors...

Deadline for the next issue is

March 1, 2014

Send to:

Lori Green, R.S.

St. Paul-Ramsey County Public Health
2785 White Bear Avenue N., Suite 350
Maplewood, MN 55109-1320
651-266-1172