



MEHA BULLETIN



**President
Dan Disrud**

**Winter 2013 Issue
Volume 42, No. 2**

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Presidents Address

Submitted by President Disrud

Who are we?

Our membership demographic is 54% female, 34% working for a local unit of government with 96% of those working in a delegated agency, 27% working for state government with 87% of those working for MDH, 1% Federal employment, 12% working for a private firm, 15% student, 4% academia, and 7% retired. But gender, the location where our good deeds originate, and who puts money in our bank account is not what defines us.

We are experts in food sanitation, water safety, indoor air quality, sewage treatment, solid and hazardous waste management, safe lodging, healthy housing, public health nuisances control, recreation safety, and creation of safe building conditions. We study and share concepts related to the interactions between humans, animals, insects, chemicals, bacteria, viruses, radiation, and prions. We explain toxicity, exposure, dose response, and susceptibility. We craft risk communication, enforcement techniques, mitigation, and community resources. We shape the knowledge and tools used by those who have or will have Environmental Health responsibilities. We are Jacks of all trades and masters of many.

We are at times pressured to focus our science to the food we eat, or the water we drink or play in, or the engineering used to treat, dispose, or recover the unwanted. All of these disciplines fall under the umbrella of Environmental Health and we are the premier advocating association for this in Minnesota. Responsibility for making safe all that we breathe, touch, drink, and eat requires us to embrace a broad role and mission.

Diversity and depth are MEHA strengths. I am fascinated by the unique talents that MEHA pulls together and am inspired by the ways we collaborate and support each other. This is show-cased at our education conferences. If you identify yourself as a food-guy, water gal, or waste chump and see an agenda that doesn't seem relevant, please reconsider and make MEHA a part of your life-long education. I would guess that any of our calculated degrees of separation from any topic is not more than 0.5.

**Minnesota Environmental Health Association
www.MEHAonline.org**

I am looking forward to the day when we attend our time capsule opening ceremony and reflect together on what ends up being relevant and discovered.

Who are we? We are a unified group of 370 members who are demonstrating commitment to the advancement of the environmental health and protection profession in Minnesota. This covers a lot of ground. No wonder I usually feel at about 46% by the end of a work week.

A Note from the Membership Committee

The membership committee needs your help.

You can review and correct your profile information at any time. Please take the time to correct the information. Please note: “preferred mailing address” refers to the street address you prefer. If something is incomplete or incorrect please make the changes. If you have trouble making a change let us know and we will help make the corrections.

When we ask from non-mean such as the MN res-list is not frequented.

If you have membership



the question about mail MEHA organizations we educational institutions, taurant association. The quently sent nor widely

any questions regarding please contact us.

facebook

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.

**Minnesota Environmental Health Association
www.MEHAonline.org**

MEHA's 2013 Opportunity of a Lifetime!

Attending NEHA's AEC in Washington, DC

The National Environmental Health Association (NEHA) holds an Annual Educational Conference (AEC) and this year, it's in Washington, DC from July 9-11, 2013, and one lucky person has the opportunity of a lifetime because they are a MEHA member! As a MEHA member, in good standing and actively involved in the field of environmental health, one lucky recipient may receive a stipend from the Minnesota Environmental Health Association to pay for one conference registration, coach-class air fare, ground travel, lodging and meals*.

In order to be considered for this stipend:

- complete the application and essay and submit by April 10, 2013
- be an active member of MEHA,
- attach a letter from your supervisor or agency giving permission to attend the AEC

Applicants who have participated on MEHA committees or have been active in supporting the organization are given preference. A member that has never attended a NEHA AEC or has not attended in the last five years also receives some preference.

In exchange for this fantastic environmental health travel and educational opportunity MEHA:

- Expects a **substantial article**, including photos for the MEHA newsletter after the conference.
- Encourages a report about interesting presenters who could be potential speakers for MEHA conferences.

More information about the NEHA conference can be found at: <http://www.neha2013aec.org/>
Previous articles can be found at: www.MEHAonline.org in the newsletters.

Applications are due Wednesday, April 10, 2013 by 1:00 p.m. The recipient (and an alternate) will be informed of their selection no later than April 17, 2012 in order to be able to book your accommodations before the early bird deadline ends. Submit completed application to Laura Huseby (laura.huseby@state.mn.us).

*This is the same level of reimbursement the MEHA President and President-Elect get when they travel to the AEC. Because we are a frugal organization there are some limits:

The stipend pays for conference registration at the early discount, NEHA member rate. This means you must book your lodging as early as possible to receive the discount. If you're not currently a NEHA member, you need to join at your own expense or be responsible for the difference between the two rates.

The Board expects the recipient to purchase their airline ticket in a manner and timeframe that minimizes cost.

Lodging coverage is for a single accommodation in a standard room, preferably at the Hyatt Regency Crystal City at Reagan National Airport or at a comparable establishment.

Shuttle-type ground travel between the airport and the hotel is covered, unless it's provided by the hotel.

For the meals not included in the Conference registration you will be reimbursed up to the CONUS amount for the meeting location.

Minnesota Environmental Health Association
www.MEHAonline.org

Annual Awards Nominations Needed

Each year at the MEHA Annual Educational Conference, awards are given to deserving individuals for their service to the Association or Environmental Health. Awards are given in the following categories:

Frank A. Staffenson Environmental Health Professional of the Year Award

This award is presented to the MEHA member who has performed an outstanding accomplishment that significantly contributes to the development, expansion, or advancement of environmental health or performed a service that has produced a positive benefit to the profession as a whole. This individual must have been an active member of the Association for at least five years and have been active in the field of Public Health for at least ten years. A list of past award recipients is available at <http://www.mehaonline.org/members/awards-committee/frank-staffenson-award>.

Emerging Professional Award

This award is presented to the MEHA member who has earned the respect of peers for outstanding service in the promotion of and contribution to the Environmental Health profession. The candidate must have less than five years professional experience in Environmental Health.

Certificate of Merit

This award is given to an individual or individuals for outstanding service to the Association. This award can also be given to an individual for long term service to the Association and its members.

Nomination forms for the awards can be found at

<http://www.mehaonline.org/members/awards-committee>.

Please submit nominations to Angie Cyr, Awards Committee Chair, by **February 20, 2013**.

MEHA would like to extend our deepest sympathy to the families of Ed Eberhardt and Jack Caldwell who both recently passed away.

Mr. Eberhardt was employed with City of Saint Paul Public Health from 1955 to 1987 including past Director of Public Health. Also involved with many health organizations, including; past President of Environmental Health Association, past Vice President of the National Environmental Health Association and involvement with the World Health Organization for AIDS. Dedicated his work-life to improve the quality of health for Saint Paul residents, he was especially proud of starting the first programs in Saint Paul in the early 70s and 80s for Hmong refugees and HIV patients.

Mr. Caldwell was employed at Glenwood-Inglewood Co. from 1948-1992, achieving Exec. Vice Pres., Director, Sec'y, and General Manager. Also an officer of King-Fruen Inc., director of Pioneer Power Co., and director/sec'y of Affiliated Investors Inc. Civic Activities included Jr. Chamber of Commerce, Director, officer and President, 1955-56. Director Mpls. Acquatenial, Director Amer. Red Cross, Officer Mayor's Comm. On Human Relations; Officer Emerson Ave. Church; Director Mpls. Chamber of Commerce; Director and President Memorial Blood Centers, Director MN United Nations, Director MN Environmental Health Ass'n. Member of Sigma Chi; Nat'l Ass'n Cost Accountants, and published author. Mr. Caldwell was one of the Trustees for the Mary Lauren Olson Scholarship fund.

STEM SUMMIT
Submitted by Hank Schreifels, Stearns Co.

On January 31, 2013 St. Cloud State University hosted the 5th Annual Stem Summit. The summit is a component of the SCSU initiative to promote advanced Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) coursework to St. Cloud and Minnesota students. The STEM Summit brings business, higher education, local government and communities together to motivate and prepare our students for an increasingly competitive global marketplace.

The STEM Summit provides real connections for students—real people talking about real opportunities, motivating and challenging good minds to become great minds. This year the summit had 1500 students attend in grades 7-12 from many of the surrounding schools in the St. Cloud area. MEHA had a booth at the Summit, which demonstrated a typical day in the life of a health department. Environmental Health professionals from the City of St. Cloud, Stearns County and the Minnesota Department of Health answered questions about what we do.





UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
EXTENSION

**Food Service Training
January—June 2013**

Food Manager Initial Certification—ServSafe®

- Little Falls, January 17
- Rochester, February 7
- Marshall, February 28
- Bemidji, March 7
- Mankato, March 13
- Moorhead, March 20
- St. Cloud, April 9
- Cloquet, April 23
- Worthington, April 24
- Alexandria, May 9
- St. Paul, May 23
- Thief River Falls, June 12

Classes are 9 AM-4:30 PM, exam following

Classes in Spanish are available. For more information call Claudia Diez at 651-487-6219.

Food Manager Certification Renewal

- Little Falls, Jan. 17, 9 AM- 1 PM
- Rochester, Feb. 7, 9 AM- 1 PM*
- Marshall, Feb. 27, 1- 5 PM
- Bemidji, March 6, 1-5 PM
- Mankato, March 13, 9 AM- 1 PM *
- Moorhead, March 19, 1-5 PM
- St. Cloud, April 9, 9 AM- 1 PM
- Cloquet, April 23, 9 AM- 1 PM
- Worthington, April 23, 1- 5 PM
- Alexandria, May 9, 9 AM- 1 PM
- St. Paul, May 23, 9 AM- 1 PM *
- Thief River Falls, June 11, 1-5 PM

*At these locations, participants will attend four hours of the Certification Course.

Pre-registration strongly recommended at least two weeks in advance for all classes.

Manager Certification and Renewal classes are also available online.

For more information contact: Connie Schwartau at 507-337-2819 or schwa047@umn.edu or go to extension.umn.edu/food-safety



Horizon CPO Seminars
Certified Pool and Operator Course
651.917.3075 • 800.969.0454 • 651.917.3087 (fax)



This two-day course is designed to provide the skills and knowledge necessary to safely and efficiently manage and operate swimming pools and spas, and meet the mandatory State Health Department requirements for pool operator certification. For more information visit us online at www.cposeminars.com.

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

2013 Schedule

Cost: \$250.00

February 20 - 21	8-5:30pm - Bloomington, MN
March 13 - 14	8-5:30pm - Eagan, MN
March 19 - 20	8-5:30pm - Duluth, MN
March 27 - 28	8-5:30pm - Eden Prairie, MN
April 10 - 11	8-5:30pm - St. Paul, WI
April 10 - 11	8-5:30pm - Eau Claire, MN
April 17 - 18	8-5:30pm - Chaska, MN
April 23 - 24	8-5:30pm - Baxter, MN
May 8 - 9	8-5:30pm - St. Paul, MN
May 8 - 9	8-5:30pm - Bemidji, MN
May 14 - 15	8-5:30pm - St. Cloud, MN
June 12 - 13	8-5:30pm - St. Paul, MN
July 10 - 11	8-5:30pm - St. Paul, WI

Looking for additional education?

Check out our Horizon Advanced Aquatic Education Seminars at www.aaeseminars.com or email aae@horizonpoolsupply.com

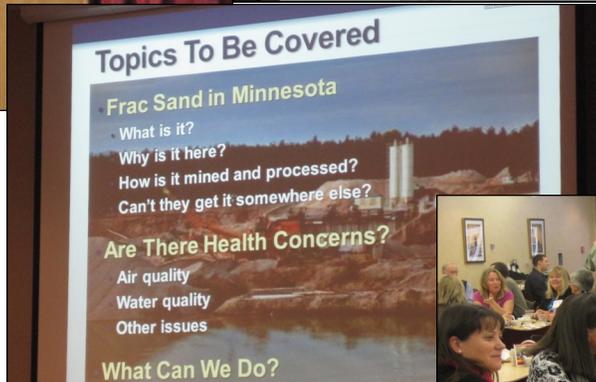


www.horizonpoolsupply.com

MEHA Winter Conference

MEHA Winter Conference

U of M 2013



2013
2013
Mary Lauren Olson Scholarship Recipient
Mary Lauren Olson Scholarship Recipient

This year's recipient of the Mary Lauren Olson Memorial Scholarship is Jason Kunz. Jason is currently in the Master of Science program in Environmental Health Sciences, at the University of Minnesota, focusing on Industrial Hygiene. He was a 5 time member of the Dean's list at Bemidji State University, where he received a BS degree in Biology, and a minor in Chemistry. His career goals include prevention and reduction of noise induced hearing loss in the manufacturing environment.

Jason's background consists of a variety of professional experiences, leadership and volunteer activities. He is currently working at 3M in the corporate industrial hygiene group with their hearing conservation program and is using the data from his work for his Master's project. He has taken on numerous projects with 3M and has gained valuable experience and knowledge relating to Industrial Hygiene. He has also received a number of awards and honors due to his work at 3M. In addition to his work experiences, Jason has spent many volunteer hours in his faith community and as a youth mentor and leadership program coach. He also helped coordinate donations for needy families.

Jason was highly recommended for this scholarship by one of his professors who wrote, "Jason has a strong potential for outstanding achievement in his field...and is a dedicated and passionate student who has a refreshing combination of intellectual curiosity and pluck, which is rare".

Jason Kunz is, and will continue to be a leader in the field of Environmental Health. The Mary Lauren Olson Scholarship is well deserved. Jason was introduced by Nicole Koktavy at the MEHA winter conference on Thursday, January 31, 2012.



Minnesota Environmental Health Association
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President.....Dan Disrud

**Minnesota Environmental Health Association
www.MEHAonline.org**

Greetings MEHA members!

In an effort to continue to provide quality conferences for our members, the Conference Planning Committee would like your help. Environmental Health is an expansive field and we as practitioners wear many different hats and have different areas of expertise. The Conference Planning Committee members know food, water and hazardous waste but realize EH is much more. Are you a subject matter expert in other areas of EH such as air quality, emerging pathogens, healthy homes, recreational water, or wastewater? If so we need your help.

We are looking to put together a panel of individuals similar to NEHA's Technical Advisors to assist us in obtaining speakers for our educational conferences. Perhaps you attend other conferences and have seen excellent speakers there. We would like to know about them! Please consider volunteering a small portion of your time to your professional organization. You would be in charge of suggesting not more than 6 speakers per year.

This is a great opportunity to get involved in MEHA and influence the scope of the conferences. Please contact Jessica Jutz at jjutz@ci.bloomington.mn.us if you are interested in being an advisor.

We look forward to hearing from you!
Jessica Jutz, Laura Schmidt and Sharon Smith
MEHA Conference Planning Committee

State Science Fair Volunteers Needed!

MEHA will once again be providing Special Awards for The Minnesota Academy of Science State Science and Engineering Fair. We are looking for a handful of members to volunteer to serve as judges for the event. Judging will take place Monday, April 8 at the Doubletree by Hilton in Bloomington, MN. For a list of last year's MEHA Award winners and links to their abstracts, click here and scroll down to the MEHA category http://mnmas.org/sites/default/files/pages/Aug_2012/www.fair.mnmas.org-Stats.asp-xYear%3D2012.pdf.

There are some **very** bright and talented middle and high schoolers in Minnesota. Let's encourage them to pursue a career in environmental health! For more information, or to volunteer, contact Kim Carlton kim.carlton@state.mn.us 651-201-4511.

**Minnesota Environmental Health Association
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Make plans to attend the NEHA AEC in Washington, D.C.

The AEC will take place July 9-11, 2013. This year's keynote speaker will be Dr. Graham Allison. Dr. Allison will speak to the topic, "What Do the Cuban Missile Crisis and Environmental Health Have in Common?" For a wealth of information about the AEC including location, registration, and "why should I go to this?," check the AEC website: <http://www.neha2013aec.org/>

There are multiple opportunities for financial assistance in attending the AEC. MEHA offers a stipend to one lucky member each year (see ad in this newsletter). Additionally, Decade Software offers several scholarships. For more information, click here: http://www.decadesoftware.com/neha_aec_2013



You may have noticed that email announcements to the MEHA membership look slightly different. At the end of 2012, we discontinued using the traditional Listserv for general communication. The vendor that we use for membership and conference registration offers an email list at no additional charge.



Going forward, announcements about job opportunities, conferences, and other information will come from "Minnesota Environmental Health Association." Please add MEHA@wildapricot.com to your Whitelist so that these messages do not end up in your junk or spam folders.

If you have an announcement that you would like sent to the membership, please contact the technology committee or use the [Contact page](#) on the MEHA website. Thank you!



April 1-5, 2013



MEHA has partnered with the U of M School of Public Health to bring you a *free* film about the lasting effects of the Union Carbide gas disaster in Bhopal, India in 1984.

Thursday,
April 4th



5:00 P.M. Doors open | 5:45 P.M. Expert Introductions Q & A Post-Film

Mayo Memorial Auditorium, 425 Delaware St. SE, Minneapolis

For more information check out

www.sph.umn.edu/filmfest

Calendar of Events

April 18, 2013
Sanitarians Exam
St. Paul

May 9-10, 2013
MEHA Spring Conf.
Ruttger's Bay Lake
Lodge
Deerwood, MN

May 8, 2013
Mary Lauren Olson
Memorial Scholarship
Golf Tournament
Ruttger's
Deerwood

July 9-11, 2013
NEHA AEC
Washington DC

**September 23-27,
2013**
NEHA Region 4
Conference
LaCrosse, WI



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

MEMBER UPDATES

WELCOME to Travis Bistodeau, Assistant EH Director for the City of St. Cloud

WELCOME to Sarah Covelli to the City of St. Cloud

WELCOME to Bill Kass to the City of St. Paul

ON THE MOVE... Dan Opsahl from the City of Brooklyn Park to the City of St. Paul

ON THE MOVE...Matt Finkebiner from LeSeur County to MDH

CONGRATULATIONS to Lowell Rushmeyer, Director of Stearns County Environmental Services, on his retirement after 39 years of service.

CONGRATULATIONS to Bill Adler, MDH Rochester, on his recent retirement.

CONGRATULATIONS to Clarine Northey, MDH (formerly of Lake Co.) on her recent retirement.

Thank You to the following people who contributed to this newsletter: Hank Schreifels, Jessica Jutz, Kim Carlton, Larry Carlson, Karen Casale, Angie Cyr, Lisa Schreifels and Sharon Smith.

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, 2013

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