



CEHA POINT SOURCE

SUMMER 2008

Colorado Environmental Health Association Senate Bill 194 Passes!

By Dr. Mark Johnson, MD, MPH,
Jefferson County Department of Health & Environment
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Health care reform usually happens in small, incremental steps, but one piece of health legislation that passed this year is truly revolutionary. When Governor Ritter signed Senate bill 08-194, health care in Colorado was fundamentally changed. Unfortunately, the changes may not be noticed at first, because they will take place deep in the foundations of health care, below the media's usual radar screen. But the public health system in Colorado is about to be revived!

Colorado's public health system really began on April 18, 1945, when a small woman with great passion for the health of the citizens of Colorado wrote to then-Governor John Vivian. She reminded him of the inadequate level of health in Colorado. During the war, Colorado had ranked among the worst states for having recruits rejected as "not physically fit for the Armed Services." The state had high rates of diphtheria, typhoid, dysentery, smallpox, and maternal and infant mortality. All of these conditions were preventable.

Causes of such statistics were not hard to find. Waste was discharged directly into streams, rivers and aquifers. Food handling, storage, transportation and preparation were unregulated. Good dietary principles were unknown to most citizens, and Colorado produce was alleged to cause outbreaks of intestinal diseases.

The woman behind the letter, Dr. Florence Sabin, recommended a study of public health in Colorado, which led to further recommendations: Colorado needed to organize public health with a strong state board of health, a non-political state department of health, and full-time local health departments with full-time health officers and staffs. It needed safe, potable water and sanitary sewage disposal. It needed a milk pasteurization law, health education, a tuberculosis hospital, and a school of public health. And to ensure success, these recommendations needed adequate funding.

Dr. Sabin was also politically astute. Working with the mothers of Colorado and the wives of legislators, she got the Sabin Health Laws passed in 1947.

The results of this landmark legislation have been mixed. The health of Colorado has greatly improved. Water systems, for the most part, are safe and potable. Sewage disposal is usually adequate. A new school of public health is scheduled to open this fall. Retail sales of unpasteurized milk are illegal. Great strides have been made in dealing with communicable diseases. But the Sabin Health Laws have never been adequately funded, and public health services are inconsistent around the state.

The public health system which Dr. Sabin envisioned has

provided, at best, a patchwork quilt of protection. While patchwork quilts may be beautiful, "patchwork" also describes collections of items or ideas that have been crammed together in a hodgepodge fashion with little, if any, logic behind them. It is this use of "patchwork" that best describes the inconsistencies of Colorado's current public health system.

This will change due to the General Assembly's work in 2008. Senate Bill 08-194, sponsored by Senator Bob Hagedorn and Representative Anne McGihon, passed with overwhelming legislative support, and had the backing of a broad range of public and private organizations.

This historic legislation directs the state board of health to ensure the development and implementation of a comprehensive, statewide public health improvement plan; establish a set of core public health services to be provided statewide; establish standards for public health services and qualifications for local public health directors and medical officers; and determine the basis for the allocation of state moneys to local public health agencies.

County commissioners will decide if their county's needs are best served by a county or a district public health agency. Once established, these agencies must assess their community's health needs and develop a local public health improvement plan that is consistent with the state's; provide or arrange for the provision of core public health services; and meet the established standards and qualifications for services and personnel.

This public health revitalization effort will provide a blanket of coordinated and consistent public health services across the entire state, while still allowing individual counties and districts to determine what additional services may best meet their unique local needs.

Dr. Sabin would be proud!

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Letter from the President	2
CSU Endowment Scholarship	2
The Ivory Cellar	3
53rd Annual AEC in Steamboat	4
Piercing with Darts	5
Annual CEHA Awards Nominations	6
CSU Students Abroad	7
Annual Science Fair	7
Plan Review Training	8
CEHA Board Nominations	8



Letter from the President



Dear CEHA members,

Although the new addition of a baby girl has kept me busy the last few months, CEHA was able to provide several valuable trainings and educational opportunities for our members. A successful Epidemiology training was held in early May. Later that month, CEHA sponsored a Sustainability seminar as well as a workshop on Wastewater and Biosolids Issues on the Western Slope. Special thanks to Danica England, Heather Savalox, and Richard Stenson for organizing the respective trainings. We can also look forward to a Retail Food Establishment Plan Review training coming in late July, thanks to the coordination efforts of Nicole Grisham.

While we continue to do our part to improve environmental and public health in Colorado, the 2008 legislative session saw the passage of a bill that is particularly pertinent to many in our membership. (See cover story). Senate Bill 08-194 addresses the reorganization of public health in Colorado. The complete bill can be accessed through the Colorado General Assembly website www.leg.state.co.us. Summarized, the bill declares that:

The public health system reduces health care costs by preventing disease and injury, promoting healthy behavior, and reducing incidents of chronic disease conditions.

Each community in Colorado should provide high-quality public health services. This can be accomplished by outlining a comprehensive public health plan on how quality public health services will be provided.

Each local public health agency should be organized under a Board of Health with a Public Health Director and other staff necessary to provide public health services.

A strong public health infrastructure is needed to provide essential public health services and is a shared responsibility among state and local public health agencies.

Development of this infrastructure requires coordination between state, local, and private public health partners.

As environmental and public health professionals, we should consider the implications that this bill is likely to facilitate. Some questions that come to mind include:

Will the declarations of this bill affect how your agency does business?

If so, how will the changes be implemented?

Will the quality of the public health services your agency provides be influenced by the bill?

Given the diversity of public health organizations around the state, I look forward to hearing how individuals and agencies adapt to the mandates of the bill. Some agencies may consider subtle changes to their operations, while others may need to take more drastic steps. Regardless of the degree of change, I am interested to learn how the implementation of this bill affects not only the day to day operations of public health organizations, but the outcomes of any potential adjustments. Please feel free to share your experiences with our membership!

Sincerely,

Carla Ostberg
CEHA President

CSU Endowment Scholarship

The CEHA Scholarship Endowment was created in 1986 by a \$5,000 gift to the Colorado State University Foundation. A scholarship is awarded annually as funds permit to a CSU student working to gain further expertise in the Environmental Health Profession. Students self-nominate through CSU Scholarship Application. A Scholarship and awards committee selects the successful candidate from the pool of applicants. Selection is based on student's good standing in the Environmental Health program; participation in student, state, or national Environmental Health organizations; and financial need. Applicants must be an undergraduate Junior or Senior, or a graduate student.



Tom Butts, CEHA Scholarship chair, with 2008 CSU Endowment Scholarship winner, Theresa Tonozzi.

This year's award recipient is Theresa Tonozzi from Glenwood Springs. She is looking forward to taking Water Quality, Toxicology and studying abroad in Spain during her junior year at CSU. She is a big enthusiast of outdoor activities such as hiking (with her dog Auggie), snowboarding, and biking. She and her sister (also in EH at CSU) have very similar interests, and her sister introduced Theresa to the Environmental Health major when she came to CSU. Theresa wants to pursue a career in health care by becoming a Pediatrician like her mom. She is also the Treasurer of the Environmental Health Student Association.



The Ivory Cellar Environmental Health Scientists or Just Detail Managers

By Ken Blehm, PhD
Colorado State University

Every day I try to train young people to be scientists: to gather data or observations, to sort and interpret them, to make decisions based on the data and interpretations, and to evaluate the decisions against desired outcomes that drove the decision in the first place. I would like to think that is what environmental health scientists do – they guide and inform policy and decisions about interactions with our environment.

However, I wonder if we do not too often allow ourselves to become detail managers who can arrange details when the policies are set by others; based on data and arguments advanced by others; in light of desired outcomes set by others. In fact, I wonder if we do not gravitate as professionals to detail management as opposed to environmental health science.

Allow me to provide a couple of examples. Remember the act called ASHARA, the Asbestos School Hazard Abatement Reauthorization Act? If you were involved in field activities, did you ever dutifully conduct your 3 samples per 1000 square feet of ceiling area; your penetrations through all layers of a roof structure in order to discover that there was asbestos present? You shared this information with your principals to later discover them spending millions to remove the asbestos when there was no discernable airborne threat; there was no documentation of elevated exposures; and there was a distinct possibility of long-term use of this facility with a reasonable management plan that would control and track the hazard in the interim period? If you inserted yourself in the decision process to point out the above points, were you ever called a baby-killer; an environmental whack-job; a greedy fool who just wanted to keep taking your \$50 air samples until the ‘kids all developed lung cancer?’ It was an interesting time.

As an environmental health scientist, I was reviled, name-called, discounted and ignored; but as a detail manager (take those samples, follow those protocols, keep your receipts, and file your reports that were devoid of interpretation) I generated sufficient income to finance multiple graduate student research projects in environmental health. I finally got out of this endeavor because I was in despair over the lack of science and was offended that a detail manager (asbestos buster as I sometimes pejoratively called them) wanted to equate themselves with one trained in the use of the scientific method to examine and address an environmental health issue – as opposed to following the checklist.

Lately, I wonder if environmental health professionals are not managing details when it comes to the squalid labs of the neighborhood “meth cooker.” Does the sheriff not determine that a hazard exists? Short of watching CSI and seeing those wonderful folks with their magic flashlights, I have not placed many environmental health science majors with local sheriff’s departments -- although I have placed some with large metropolitan police agencies. When the sheriff says the hazard exists (using whatever protocol they choose to

use), does not the property owner then retain an industrial hygienist to sample and determine the level of the contamination? Does the industrial hygienist not report back after a remediation with more sampling and then the local health agency officially tells the owner they can now inhabit or use the property?

Does the health agency determine the hazard (gather observations or fact)? No. Does the local health agency determine the exposure or level of hazard (threat assessment by quantitative means)? No. Does the health agency oversee the cleanup contractor qualifications, processes or procedures in a QA/QC scheme that they set and evaluate? No. Does the environmental health agency collect information from others and compare those results to a table or chart and then say, ‘you can use the property?’ Yes.

Thus the health agency has managed the details and said ‘yes/no,’ but I have seen little science: data gathering, interpretation, threat assessment, education or amelioration of the threat. In fact, I would be tempted to say that most folks trained in liberal arts or business or a variety of other disciplines that do not worship the scientific method could manage the details I have described. I imagine that these folks could then be called environmental health professionals because they are managing details that relate to something in the environment; and that is what we do, right??

I seem to see a gaping wound in my foot that has just been caused by my sidearm discharging while in my holster with my finger on the trigger. Good thing I left the pistol in the holster for if I got it out I may have pointed it at my back pocket rather than my shoe and inflicted my damage there.

Are you involved in gathering data, in doing surveillance, in performing interpretation to identify threats or severity of threats as a prelude to recommending a course of action? Or are you just waiting for a new set of tables or paragraphs from folks trained primarily in business or liberal arts (including the law) to pass another idea that looks good on paper and has little to do with rational threat recognition, assessment, response and evaluation?

Depending upon how you answered that last question maybe the next time we meet you can demand an apology of me for blaspheming your professional approach and competence or maybe I would ask the apology of you?

The answers and the way forward are not easy – but the way is not illuminated by allowing others to misuse the approach or tools of science to serve political, social or economic agendas and call those services best “from a scientific perspective.”

For you Harry Potter fans out there, remember what is carved into the stone over the entrance to Nurmengard - the final home cell block of Grindelwald¹.

As always, I welcome your comments or feedback at Ken.Blehm@colostate.edu

¹<http://harrypotter.wikia.com/wiki/Nurmengard>



Strengthening Our Profession Through Leadership, Visibility and Capacity 53rd Annual Education Conference in Beautiful Steamboat!

By Nicole Grisham, Education Committee Chair

The Colorado Environmental Health Association's Annual Education Conference will be held September 24-26th at the Sheraton Steamboat Resort. This year's plenary session, "Strengthening the Profession: Building Leadership, Visibility and Capacity," is sure to provide skills and inspiration to all attendees which can be applied in various work environments. Various topics such as the visibility of the environmental health profession, succession planning, environmental health accreditation, improving environmental health infrastructure, continuing education, systems thinking and leadership development are in the works for the agenda. These topics will be presented by fellow Colorado comrades as well as esteemed national environmental health professionals.

On both Thursday and Friday, the conference will feature a record-breaking four concurrent educational tracks. Thursday will include the tracks on Water & Wastewater, Food Safety, Sustainability & the Built Environment, and a new track to the conference, Air & Waste. Friday's tracks will include All Hazards Preparedness, General Environmental Health and the continuance of the Water and Wastewater session. Additionally, for the first time NEHA's Wastewater Installer Certification Course will be offered on Friday as well. The tracks will also include presentations from our student scholarship recipients on their experiences in working with wood stoves and air quality in Nicaragua to engaging with the World Health Organization in Geneva. Other exciting highlights include presentations on the response efforts with the Alamosa Salmonella outbreak, the response efforts with the Windsor tornado, successful local health department programs, the collection of sharps and medical waste, the association of traffic emissions and health effects, community based environmental health associated with the Colorado Browsable Foundation, utilizing GIS technology for environmental health programs, incorporating environmental health and land planners in building healthy communities, a nitrate ground water study correlating the impacts of onsite wastewater systems, wastewater treatment using timed pressure and dosed distribution to improve effluent quality, outcome based food inspection programs, interviewing skills for illness investigations, communicating with industry, collaborative efforts in establishing standards, recreational and swimming pool quality, local environmental health illness outbreaks and much more!

The AEC Planning Committee is also very excited to present the return of the Tuesday night mixer! This preconference event which had its inauguration at last year's conference was a huge success and attendees demanded more. This year the mixer will be held at Steamboat's favorite, Slopeside Grill, and hosted by the Public Health Alliance of Colorado in partnership with the Regional Institute of Health and Environmental Leadership and CSU Environmental Health Student Association. All of the attendees feedback from last

year went into the planning of this year's mixer and it is sure to be a night to be talked about!

As another part of the pre-conference events, an 8-hour OSHA refresher course will be offered on Tuesday, September 23. Please contact Dan Collins at dan.collins@cehaweb.com for more information. Additionally, the REHS and CFSP exams will be offered on Tuesday as well. Please contact Dan Collins or visit NEHA's website at www.neha.org for more information.

On Wednesday we hope you will join us for the Annual Business Luncheon as the Board will welcome its newly elected members and our new president will take the reigns. CEHA encourages members to take advantage of the open Board positions and announce your candidacy today! See the article in this newsletter or visit our website for more information. The famed Exhibitor's Reception will commence on Wednesday evening. Come visit and socialize with environmental health industry representatives while learning what products and services they have to offer. Also be sure you have signed up your team for the exciting Environmental Health Knowledge Bowl with a registration for the 2009 NEHA AEC in Atlanta going to the winner.

Thursday evening will host the famed Annual Awards Banquet and will feature a cash bar, DJ, dancing, and, of course, the honoring of CEHA's Environmental Health award winners for the year. Please plan ahead if you wish to bring guests to the banquet as space will be limited. The banquet is one of the highlights of the AEC conference each year, so don't miss it!

Before the banquet be sure to include a visit to the thrilling Annual Volleyball Tournament and cheer for your favorite team. Who will go home with Wilson? Will our returning champs continue to hold the title?

The Silent Auction will also be continued this year, with all proceeds benefiting CEHA's scholarship funds. Please contact Laura VanWagenen-Birdsill at lauravwb@comcast.net to make a contribution to the Silent Auction showcasing your talents or your region of the state.

With so many excellent educational and networking opportunities at this year's conference, how could anyone pass up this event? Not to mention the fact that the conference is being held in one of the state's most enticing areas for fall colors, hot springs, biking, hiking and so much more! With room rates at a low \$119 through September 7th, we recommend attendees take advantage of the magnificent Sheraton Steamboat Resort. Plan a trip with the family or find some personal relaxation time at the hotel spa.

So mark your calendars and save the date because this is the conference of the year that you don't want to miss! Stay tuned for a special AEC edition of CEHA's newsletter to arrive when conference registration becomes available in late summer. We hope to see everyone there!



Piercing With Darts

Karl E. Schiemann

Denver Department of Environmental Health

It's spring, it feels like an odd edited page from Mel Brooks's screenplay *The Producers*. Somewhere, in a dusty box, in the back of a store room, are pages from a song with scratched out words that sing something about Springtime and Germans in Speedos.

About the end of April each year a colorful collection of body artists, piercers to be exact, converge in Las Vegas, Nevada, for conversation, friendship and discussion about safer ways to lead their industry. The 2008 Association of Professional Piercers (APP) Annual Conference & Exposition was my third visit in the last four years and my second visit as a speaker and roundtable moderator. I feel fortunate to be able to attend and participate in this wonderful experience. Not only does it provide a great opportunity to learn something new, it feeds my hidden sociologist with unique social interaction and observation rarely encountered in the daily world.

Interestingly, each year the APP shares the Riviera Hotel and Casino's Convention Center with a large group of dart throwers. The space becomes an odd mix of somewhat self aware, earthy, colorful and modified body artists with somewhat friendly, loud, semi-inappropriate, true bar flies. The convergence of these two groups results in a dance of differences where at any moment odd looks and audible comments of disgust or disbelief play out across both sides of the convention center; except, outside the back door where tobacco smoking seems to unite all flavors of people into the most agreeable tribe of humanity. In all, few problems arise and I think everyone truly enjoys the combined oddity of it all.

The APP takes space for a week with about a thousand national and international attendees. Through the piercings, tattoos, scars, and sub-dermal implants it is hard to tell where anyone is really from. The dart throwers are there a whole week longer, when about mid week the national contingent of throwers is quickly replaced by the international contingents. Much like the piercers it is hard to tell the difference between the national or international throwers. Their language is the same, a litany of throwing lingo filled with conversation about brackets, sets, and some extraneous gambling strategy.

Nothing really tells you much about who is from where. From my hotel room I could watch people cross the courtyard of the hotel. In the early morning the throwers could be seen on their way to what I would expect to be a match, since they were already drinking beer and smoking their breakfast. Only by mid day, at the pool, can you kind of tell who is who among the throwers, for when the Germans hit the pool they seem to prefer to do it in a Speedo.

As a non-descript health inspector it is fun to be part of the wood work and watch the world in full color pass around me. And although it is Vegas, complete with all walks of humanity, I still manage to get some looks for being a plain wrapper. All in all, attending the conference has many a benefit, namely being on the edge of a little understood industry looking at the parts, pieces, and details that keep it ticking.

The APP conference is probably the best conference I have been to in fourteen years with Public Health. It isn't necessarily

better organized than others, they never provide cookies or lunch - yoga is free, some power point presentations are read line for line; but, for a science geek it lends to the details and the thirst for something completely different in public health. Sessions start late in the morning, but also go late in the early evening; it isn't uncommon for me to have at least one twelve hour day of back to back sessions. Non-stop two and a half hour sessions fly without one snoring. Conversations about metal composition and polish carry into the hall. Details of the best and safest placement of a genital piercing are discussed in small groups. I think I have heard more conversations about why a body part shouldn't be pierced than why it should. This is, for the most part, a government regulated group that has passion for the science of what they do, and in general they know their stuff really well. Experts in technique, glass, metal, jewelry making, sterilizers, wound care, every facet of the business show up year after year. Google a few names with the word piercing and you begin to realize the complexity of their experience: Fakir, Elayne Angel, Allen Falkner, Luis Garcia, Skye Renfro, and James Weber. They are the modern day experts in a body adornment trend that started in the gay community in the 70's, became overwhelmingly popular in mainstream culture in the late 80's thanks to body piercings exposure in music videos, and fills the spiritual and cultural needs of millions of practitioners.

Although the APP started out as a political action group in 1994 they quickly filled the need of providing health and safety education to a growing industry (www.safepiercing.org). They lead the way in piercing aftercare technique and partner with industry to make sure the equipment, tools, and jewelry are being manufactured to the safest of standards. The conference carries this same attention to detail. Each year new topics are explored and the latest standard of safety adopted. Piercing friendly nurses and doctors teach anatomy classes, jewelry manufacturers discuss metal composition and content; and experts in the manufacturing and maintenance of sterilizers share the latest table top autoclave information.

The APP has taken a stance to be health department friendly. They encourage our participation at the annual conference by making registration free; there is a roundtable for health inspectors to discuss concerns, trends, and to network. Thanks to that networking opportunity, I have, over the years, helped many departments across the country form new regulations, build better ideas about inspections, and find answers to the minutia. Those same contacts helped shape Denver and El Paso County's new rules on special tattoo events and spore testing and are helping build how Denver will treat apprenticeships in the future. The APP annually attends public health and nursing conventions, and they will be at the 2008 NEHA conference for the first time.

In sum, I just learned that the 2009 APP conference will be moving to a new location next year. Thus... no more dart throwers. I wonder what slice of humanity will be sharing that spring week with my colorful friends. And more importantly, will the Germans in Speedos miss us?



Annual CEHA Awards Nominations

The nature of the field of Environmental Health does not usually facilitate professional visibility, recognition, or kudos. As toilers in the field, we are rarely appreciated if we are doing our job well. How often have you heard somebody give thanks for their gastrointestinal health after consuming a meal out? When was the last time somebody sang your praises for helping to safeguard their drinking water supply? Chances are it's been a while! To recognize and honor those Environmental Health professionals whose dogged and persistent efforts protect the public and our environment, CEHA considers nominees for three awards each year. Please take advantage of the rare opportunity to recognize and support the passion of those individuals who dedicate their life's work to environmental health by submitting nominees for the following awards.

Environmental Achievement Award

Each year, CEHA considers nominees for an Environmental Achievement Award that is awarded to an Environmental Health professional working in the field of Environmental Health, but not employed in an administrative position. Recipients must be a member of CEHA and will be selected on the basis of their helpful, courteous and professional service in working with the public and fellow professionals; their service should also bring credibility and respect to the field of Environmental Health.

Industry Environmental Achievement Award

An Environmental Achievement Award is presented to an industry, company, or organization that has made a significant contribution to the field of Environmental Health in Colorado.

Milton M. Miller Award

Milton M. Miller was a Public Health Service Officer in the 1930s and 1940s. He specialized in dairy plant inspections and dairy pasteurization operations. He developed the model dairy code for the state of Colorado. After WWII, he went to work for Denver University, where he established a school for sanitary science training. During his tenure at Denver University Mr. Miller was heavily involved with the Colorado Environmental Health Association (CEHA), at that time called the Rocky Mountain Section of the National Association of Sanitarians and the National Association of Sanitarians. Mr. Miller was CEHA's fourth president from 1950-1951. He organized the first ever Annual Educational Conference held at Denver University in 1954. Mr. Miller was editor of the Journal of Environmental Health in the 1950s, at that time called the Sanitarian which was published by the National Association of Sanitarians (now called NEHA). Mr. Miller also served on the NEHA Board of Directors as the Region Vice President in the 1950s. His long and distinguished career was recognized by NEHA. He received their highest honor, the Walter S. Mangold Award, in 1957. Each year CEHA honors one of its own members with the prestigious Milton M. Miller Award. This award is given to an outstanding Environmental Health Professional in the state of Colorado.

Nominations are now being accepted for this prestigious award. To be eligible a nominee must:

1. Be a member in good standing of the Colorado Environmental Health Association.
2. Have performed professional duties in the field of environmental health above and beyond the usual employment requirements so as to elevate the professional status of the environmental health professional.
3. Exemplify the characteristics and principles for which Milton Miller stood.

If you wish to nominate someone for any of the above awards, please submit a short narrative describing the nominee's qualifications by

August 5, 2008 to:

CEHA Nomination Committee

ATTN: Carmen Vandenbark, Chair

P.O. Box 460726

Glendale, CO 80246

Email: carmen.vandenbark@cehaweb.com



CSU Students Receive CEHA Funding for EH Work Abroad

Earlier this year, the Board of Directors received a funding request from several CEHA members who are CSU students in the Environmental Health program. After reviewing the requests, the Board of Directors awarded some funds to support six students working in Nicaragua for the summer and two more students working in Geneva, Switzerland.

The students in Nicaragua are working to collect baseline data for an indoor air quality study examining the effect of replacing poorly ventilated indoor cook stoves in the homes of locals with eco-stoves which are vented to the outside. The students are looking at baseline health measurements this summer such as the incidence of asthma and carbon monoxide pulmonary disease, and they're also collecting baseline data for indoor air quality contaminants with the pre-existing stoves. The study will last three to five years, and in addition to deriving valuable health data, the students will also be helping the

local community by improving indoor air quality with the replacement stoves. CSU EH Student Advisor Erin Reichert explained that the students are "making such a huge difference in that community."

Another student was also awarded funds to help offset costs for work being done in Geneva, Switzerland with the World Health Organization (WHO). Phoenix Mourning-Star is interning with WHO from May through August, and is working on the global estimation of exposure to lead (Pb) for the 2010 Global Burden of Disease Project.

Interested in learning more about what these students are doing abroad? Read their blogs by visiting <http://www.cvmb.colostate.edu/erhs/undergraduate.htm> and selecting the "EH Students and their internships" link.

Annual Science Fair Judging at CSU

Dale Dunnells and Tom Butts from your CEHA Board of Directors judged the Colorado Science and Engineering Fair at CSU on April 10, 2008 with students competing at the junior high and high school levels from across the state. Each year, CEHA presents a special award to a project in each division with focuses on an Environmental Health issue. There were many very interesting state finalists in both the Junior and Senior Divisions which made the day of evaluating and discussion both interesting and very challenging for a couple of first time judges.

We selected Alexis Shinn from Merino Jr/Sr High School as our CEHA Junior Division Special Award. Her topic was *Bacteria, Is It What's for Dinner? Bacterial Growth on Grocery Store Produce*. Alexis was quite knowledgeable and enthusiastic about her materials and had a solid understanding of what she presented. She evaluated the presence and quantity of some indicator bacteria on vegetables and in the water/shelving systems and identified some interesting information.



CEHA Board of Directors member Tom Butts pictured with CEHA Award winner Chance Carver.

In the Senior Division, we selected Chance Carver, 11th Grade of the Merino Jr/Sr High School for the CEHA Award. His topic title was *The effects of Bisphenol A from Polycarbonate Plastics on Lumbriculus variegatus*. Chance evaluated the quantity of Bisphenol A transferred from several containers to the water in them under varying conditions of temperature. He then evaluated the effects of the waters with various concentrations of Bisphenol A to evaluate reproductive effects using the freshwater oligochaete, *Lumbriculus variegatus*. It may be used to vividly illustrate a wide variety of biological phenomena such as: patterned regeneration of lost body parts, blood vessel pulsations, swimming reflex, peristaltic crawling behavior, giant nerve fiber action potentials, and sublethal sensitivity to pharmacological agents or environmental toxicants.

Both the selected students and many others addressed a wide range of environmental health issues from water and wastewater, biofuels, microbiology/food safety to pesticide use in the environment.



CEHA Offers Plan Review Training on July 28th

This all-day training will provide expertise and skills in the areas of menu review, kitchen flow, equipment evaluation, ventilation assessment, plumbing concepts and new guidance materials for hot water systems. The course will also aid the reviewer in assessing adequate equipment and facilities for push carts, mobile units and caterers. The course will be offered at NETI West, at 12345 W. Alameda Parkway in Lakewood, and the cost of registration is \$35 for CEHA members and \$60 for non-CEHA members. Lunch will be provided.

Who Should Attend?

The course will provide information relevant to those environmental professionals performing plan reviews and inspecting retail food establishments at all experience levels.

Sustainable Registration Process

In an effort to promote sustainability at this training, please register online at <https://secure.onlineprocessing.biz/2/calpho/index.php?s=7&item=43>. The online registration system is managed by the PublicHealth Alliance of Colorado. Payments can be made electronically using a credit card or, if preferred, checks can be made payable to CEHA and sent to P.O. Box 460726, Glendale, Colorado, 80246.

Nominations for CEHA Board Positions

Have you ever thought of running for a CEHA board position? Now is the time to be working on your short biography to be placed on the ballot or to recruit your colleagues to run for a position. You have the ability to set the direction of the Association and the Environmental Health profession in Colorado through your participation on the CEHA board. This is your opportunity to be involved in your CEHA!

The following board positions will be up for election this year:

President-Elect

Northeast Representative

Nominees for the President-Elect position must be members in good standing who have served on the Board of Directors for at least one year. Nominees for the Northeast Representative position must be active members in good standing for at least a year. If you are interested in running for one of these positions, please submit a biography that is up to 200 words for inclusion on the official ballot. Please mail your submissions by August 5, 2008 to:

CEHA Nomination Committee
ATTN: Carmen Vandembark, Chair
P.O. Box 460726
Glendale, CO 80246
Email: carmen.vandembark@cehawebsite.com

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CEHA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION 2008

Classes of membership

Active: Any person who is employed in any environmental health field, any registered environmental health specialist or any individual with a general interest in the objectives of CEHA is eligible to become an active member **\$25**

Student: Any full time college or university student working toward a degree with an interest in the association and its objectives is eligible for student membership **\$10**

Life: Any person who is an active member for at least one year is eligible for life membership. A life member pays a prescribed membership fee which will entitle them to all the rights of membership for life without paying any further dues. A life member shall receive a certificate recognizing their life membership **\$250**

Retired: Any person who has been an active member of CEHA for five or more consecutive years, and who has retired is eligible for retired membership **\$15**

Sustaining: Any business, company, corporation or association of such firms with a general interest in CEHA and its objectives, and which has a desire to contribute to its success shall be eligible for sustaining membership. **\$225**

Please complete the bottom portion of this form and return with payment to:

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Thank you for your interest in being a CEHA member. Membership will assure that you receive the CEHA Point Source Newsletter; membership registration rate to all CEHA training and CEHA Broadcast email messages with timely information. If you have any questions concerning membership, please contact Debbie Polelli at debbie.polelli@cehawe.com.

Name _____ Title _____

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