PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

By: Marco Palmeri

As one of the duties of the President, I was recently invited to speak about CEHA to students enrolled in the Environmental Health Training Program (EHTP) at SCSU. I was honored and excited to have the opportunity to meet with a class full of possible future Sanitarians and CEHA members, but I was also a bit nervous. I knew that many of these students were on the verge of making career decisions, and let’s face it, how many chances do we have to speak to over 50 college students who already have a vested interest in environmental health? So I wanted to make sure they all knew how vital a role CEHA plays in supporting and maintaining the educational requirements and professionalism of CT’s Sanitarians.

The pressure was on to take their interest to the next level. So I began preparing the most exciting presentation possible, hoping to create a stampede of students scrambling for the last of the CEHA membership forms I brought to class. But then I realized... I don’t need to make up some presentation to invoke interest to our profession and I certainly don’t need to brag about CEHA. I need only describe the careers that many of us have had and are still enjoying and how CEHA enables us to maintain the high standards we insist upon us. So I simply described a typical day on the job, which we all know isn’t
typical in any sense, which makes our profession so intriguing in the first place. I also identified and explained the many different certifications, credentials and licenses that are available to and commonly required of a professional Sanitarian in CT. I logged onto CEHA’s website and scrolled over all of the educational and training opportunities we offer, as well as those of NEHA and DPH. Before long, my hour was up and I hadn’t even mentioned our Summer Meeting yet. Thankfully, Dr. Faraclas, Director of SCSU’s EHTP, intervened and informed the students about CEHA’s generous scholarship opportunities and encouraged membership to our extremely supportive association.

This was truly one of the most satisfying experiences I have had as a member of CEHA. If I was able to encourage just one student to pursue a career in environmental health and/or to join CEHA, it was still worth every second. Besides, where else can one brag about being a certified “Odor Investigator” from Nasal Ranger Odor School? No Joke! And..... one student has already inquired about receiving that training. Success!

Thank you for giving me this opportunity and trusting me as your CEHA representative.

Respectfully,

Marco Palmeri
THE SEASONED (OR SEASONING) VETERAN

Kevin Mattia MS, Environmental Sanitarian 2, West Hartford-Bloomfield Health District

The role of the sanitation profession develops from infancy to the seasoned veteran. During this transition we begin as an entry level sanitation receiving experience on food certification, septic’s, lead, daycare, pool, and other daily public health tasks. The overwhelming excitement early in employment takes you through the first few years of the public health profession.

Though this vigor for our profession takes you through years of experience and career advancement, eventually you may feel like Bill Murray in Groundhog Day. Another example would be this endless snow of February 2014, skiers are excited about its continuance but it has become hard to differentiate one day from the next. In the private sector this also occurs, anyone see the movie Office Space? A staleness can occur as we inspect the same restaurants, daycare, pools, amongst other responsibilities year in and year out. Of course there is the unfortunate (for the kids) spice of the unknown with an EBLI, should Maven be working, or an odd housing case.

After some time in the profession, and a hopeful happy outcome to the struggle of the RS, there is the potential for some staleness to the sanitation career. I write this while continually seeking to invent a portion my time in the career to keep it exciting. Should your department require 25%, 50%, 75%, or 99% of your time inspecting, I recommend you consider utilizing a portion of that “free work time” time to explore a public health interest you may have. That may be involving yourself in CEHA, or researching a health department facet such as common day care/food/etc. violations. Whatever it may be, by continually involving yourself in areas of interest with in Public Health you may re-invest that excitement that brought you to our field. This is of course with your leadership’s approval.

I have found that by engaging yourself into your career you may remove some of that mundane ness. Through this venture and renewed passion you may develop new friendships while improving our public’s health. Whether it is the MPH, emergency preparedness, an exciting grant opportunity, there is much to explore for everyone as we grow in our sanitation roles. I hope this quick note helps you to energize your efforts in keeping your public health career exciting and enjoyable.
Upcoming Trainings

Save the Date

**Housing Training, May 1, 2014:** Don’t miss Judith Dicene’s (Supervisory Assistant State Attorney) talk on the legal aspects of housing enforcement and orders at the upcoming housing training at DEEP Sessions Woods. Along with Judith, Marian Heyman, DPH Environmental and Occupational Health Assessment, will be discussing moisture and indoor environmental quality, Steve Dahlem, DPH Asbestos Program, will be discussing responding to asbestos complaints and Todd Levine, CT Historical Commission, is presenting on implications of lead orders for historical properties. Morning refreshment will be provided. For more information or to obtain a registration flyer please contact Brian Falkner bfalkner@NewBritainCT.gov or Amanda Clark amanda.clark@ct.gov

**NEHA REHS Exam Review Course**, May 20-22, 2014: The REHS/RS Review Course is a 2.5 day intensive review of 15 technical, legal, and administrative subject areas covered in the national REHS/RS and CT RS exam. Through a series of presentations, in-class testing, and students sharing experiences, your environmental health readiness for the exam (or the field) will be brought to the forefront. Motivated students have utilized this course to supplement their study efforts and work experiences to optimize their test taking strategies. Others have used it to align their personalized study program for a future exam. Registration is on TrainCT and the course fee is $350 for CEHA members and $399 for non-members. Registration deadline is April 17, 2014 and payment is due upon registering. For more information please contact, Vicky Carrier vicky.carrier@ct.gov

**Summer Meeting, Date TBD:** We will be announcing the date for the Summer Meeting at Hammonasset State Park in the very near future. The DPH Food Protection Program will be hosting a farmer’s market game show and Pam Scully, DPH Recreation Program, will be discussing the new pool regulation. Training will be from 10-11:30 with a picnic to follow. Know a good food truck or have any suggestions? Please e-mail Vicky Carrier vicky.carrier@ct.gov or Amanda Clark amanda.clark@ct.gov.
Annual Meeting, November 7, 2014:

At Anthony’s Ocean View in New Haven. This year’s meeting will be water themed and we will hear about DPH Private Well Program initiatives, backwash, treatment, cross-connections and well deficiencies. Watch your email for a flyer soon. Please e-mail Vicky Carrier vicky.carrier@ct.gov with any suggestions.

Want to get involved with trainings? Come to the next Education Committee meeting on April 25 at 1pm in the Colchester Town Hall. Please feel free to e-mail training topics to Vicky Carrier vicky.carrier@ct.gov or Amanda Clark amanda.clark@ct.gov.
UPCOMING HOUSING TRAINING EVENT

May 1, 2014

Sessions Woods, Burlington, CT
341 Milford Street (Rte 69), Burlington, CT 06013-1550
9:00 am - 3:30 pm (Registration at 8:30 am)
Morning refreshments to be served. Lunch is on your own

Come Hear About:

Legal Aspects of Housing Enforcement and Orders
- Judith Dicine, State’s Attorney’s Office

Implications of Lead Orders for Historical Properties
- Todd Levine, CT Historical Commission

Responding to Asbestos Complaints
- Steve Dahlem, CT DPH Asbestos Program

Moisture and Indoor Environmental Quality
- Marian Heyman, DPH Environmental & Occupational Health Assessment Program

Indoor Environmental Quality

www.CTEHA.ORG
REGISTRATION FORM
Housing Training Event

Presented by the CT Environmental Health Association

- Legal Aspects of Housing Enforcement and Orders
- Implications of Lead Orders for Historical Properties
- Responding to Asbestos Complaints
- Moisture and Indoor Environmental Quality

Date: Thursday, May 1, 2014
Time: 9:00am - 3:30pm (Morning refreshments provided)
Location: DEEP’s Sessions Woods Wildlife Management Area
341 Milford Street (Rte 69) Burlington, CT
Registration Fee: $40.00 for CEHA members and $80.00 for all others.

Your Name and Title:

Health Department:

Phone:

Mailing Address:

City: Zip Code:

E-Mail:

The fee is $40 for CEHA members and $80 for all others.
Mail completed form and check or money order (no cash can be accepted) payable to CEHA to:

Brian Falkner
New Britain Health Department
27 West Main Street
Room 404
New Britain, CT 06051
Scholarship Opportunities

Every day’s a learning day! If you’re headed back to the classroom to further your education or if you’re in the process of earning your undergrad or completing an environmental certification program, CEHA has scholarship opportunities. We could all use a little help with finances, and the Yankee Scholarship and Marvin L. Smith Scholarship offer just that, $1,500 and $1,250 to off-set the cost of learning.

So what do you need to do? Go to the website, cteha.org, download the application and submit NLT June 30th. The scholarships will be reviewed and scored based solely on the information you provide. So now is the time to “blow your own horn”. Tell us about your involvement in CEHA activities or other related organizations. Convince us that you should be selected as the 2014 Scholarship recipient.

Don’t wait until the last minute, start working on your application today. Good Luck and we’ll see you at the Annual Meeting Nov 1st where you will officially accept the scholarship!

For those of you currently taking a breather from the student role, you can still participate by volunteering to join the Scholarship Committee. If interested, send me an email: health@wallingfordct.gov. Get involved, make a difference!

Eloise Hazelwood, RS, MPH
Chair, Scholarship and Awards Committee
SAVE THE DATE
REVIEW CLASS
NEHA RS/ REHS EXAM
MAY 20, 21 AND 22

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Link to register on Train CT is here:

If you don’t already have a Train CT account, you will need to join first.

Course Date
This course will be held on May 20, 21 and 22, 2014 at the Calendar House at 388 Pleasant Street in Southington, CT.

Class size is limited. Please register as soon as possible but not later than April 17, 2014.

For questions on the training session or registration, contact Vicky Carrier of the Drinking Water Section at 860.509.7333 extension 7315 or vicky.carrier@ct.gov.

Cost
Cost is $350 for members and $399 for non-members. A $30 late fee will be assessed if you register after April 17, 2014. You can join CEHA for a $40 annual membership fee and SAVE. Membership applications are on our website: www.cteha.org.

Connecticut Environmental Health Association

NEHA RS/REHS Exam Review Class
May 20, 21 and 22, 2014

Sponsored by the Connecticut Environmental Health Association.
Save the Date

52nd Annual Yankee Conference on Environmental Health

“Moving Forward by Building Partnerships”

September 3-4, 2014
Radisson Manchester, NH

Visit nhhealthofficers.org for more information.
CONNECTICUT ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION

Nomination for Elective Office

The Connecticut Environmental Health Association (CEHA) is accepting nominations for elective office for this year's election period. The deadline for submitting a nomination form is June 11, 2013. Nominations must be made by a CEHA member and nominees must be CEHA members in good standing. CEHA members may nominate themselves for elective office if they so desire. Candidates must discuss their nomination with their employer and get approval to ensure that they will be permitted to fulfill the duties and responsibilities of the Office (see pg 2). Each nominee must submit a short biographical description along with an explanation of why they are interested in being elected to the office they seek and this information will be included with the Election Ballot. Prospective candidates are strongly encouraged to attend Executive Board meetings which are open to all members. They should review the by-laws and policies of the Association that are available on the CEHA website at www.cteha.org which provide an overview of the duties and responsibilities of each Officer of CEHA.

It is an honor and privilege to hold a CEHA elective office so please, get involved!

Candidate Nominated for the Position of:

☐ Vice President

Candidate Name: __________________________ e-mail: __________________________

Title: __________________________ Phone: __________________________ Fax: __________________________

Employer: __________________________

Mailing Address: __________________________

City: __________________________ State: _________ Zip Code: __________________________

☐ Treasurer

Candidate Name: __________________________ e-mail: __________________________

Title: __________________________ Phone: __________________________ Fax: __________________________

Employer: __________________________

Mailing Address: __________________________

City: __________________________ State: _________ Zip Code: __________________________

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Nomination submitted by: _________________________________________________ Date: ___________

Signature of Nominator: _________________________________________________

CEHA Nomination for Elective Office Mail Nomination Forms to: Phyllis Amodio, CEHA Nominations and Elections Committee

156 Peppermint Lane Bristol, CT 06010
CEHA Nomination for Elective Office to be completed by Nominee (additional sheets may be attached)

Nominee: 

Elected Position Sought: 

Employed by: 

Address: 

Candidate Biography:

Reasons Why Candidate Is Seeking Elective Office:

Candidate Signature: ___________________________ Date: ____________________

Please note:

The Vice President position is a multi-year commitment ultimately leading to President.

The Treasurer’s position is a two year elected commitment.

Statement by candidate’s supervisor:

I hereby acknowledge the candidacy of ______________________________

Name of Candidate

for the office of ______________________________

for the Connecticut Environmental Health Association.

Signed ___________________________ Date: ____________________

Mail Nomination Forms to: Phyllis Amodio, CEHA Nominations and Elections Committee

156 Peppermint Lane Bristol, CT 06010