President’s Message

Along with the spring comes the legislative session which always provides thought provoking bills which are presented that directly impact local public health. Of the bills this year, one in particular was created to develop a hoarding workgroup given the task to generate standard operating procedures in working with these types of cases. In a response to this need, CEHA is sponsoring the May 4, 2015 “When a House Is Not a Home” educational conference. With meeting our maximum capacity of 300 attendees quite quickly it has highlighted the need for guidance on this issue statewide. Putting together this conference exemplifies the best of what CEHA has to offer in terms of training and educational opportunities. Also coming in the not too distant future is the Summer Annual Meeting (July) as well as the Soils Training Workshop (October).

As one of the duties as CEHA president I was recently invited to SCSU’s Environmental Health Training Program (EHTP) to discuss who we are and what we do as an organization. Being a graduate of SCSU from the Public Health program, I was excited to speak to individuals who are beginning their career. I discussed how Sanitarians fit into the larger puzzle in Public Health and the many components that make up health departments as we know it in Connecticut. I also focused on how CEHA as an organization plays a role in local public health in terms of training and education. I further expanded on how we are a key component to ensuring quality of life standards as a silent partner in the community. It was a great experience to be a part of and I think we may obtain a few more members after the presentation.

I am very optimistic about the future of CEHA and all of the training opportunities that are in the early stages of planning that will benefit our membership. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank all the members of the board for all their hard work and dedication to the organization.

Sincerely,
Stephen Civitelli
CEHA President
CEHA NEEDS YOU!
Phyllis Amodio - Nominations and Election Committee

The CEHA Executive Board Election season is here and we need the support of our Membership!

Elections are a critical part of the democratic process and provide members a voice in running our organization. Over the years I have seen so many changes in environmental health with added responsibilities to our profession. As part of the Executive Board of CEHA, I guarantee you will gain a greater knowledge of the field of environmental health in Connecticut. If you would like to become more involved, nominate yourself for one of the open positions: Vice President or Treasurer.

The Vice President is third in line of officers of CEHA. If this is your first experience serving on the CEHA board, the term would be used to become acquainted with what CEHA does and how it operates.

The Treasurer is responsible for maintaining the financial records of the Association and keeping the Executive Board apprised in regards to the Association’s financial status.

The deadline for submitting a nomination form for the Office of Vice President and Treasurer is June 1, 2015

CEHA is holding a special election and accepting nominations for Vice President for the 2014-2015 election period. Due to a vacancy in the office of the President Elect, the Vice President has assumed duties of that office. The deadline for submitting a nomination form is MAY 20, 2015.
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 1, 2015. 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: __________

************************************************************************
Nomination submitted by: __________________________
Signature of Nominator: __________________________ Date: ___________

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 Treasurers 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
The Connecticut Environmental Health Association (CEHA) is holding a special election and accepting nominations for Vice President for the 2014-2015 election period. Due to a vacancy in the office of the President Elect, the Vice President has assumed duties of that office. The deadline for submitting a nomination form is MAY 20, 2015. 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: __________

************************************************************************

Nomination submitted by: __________________________________________

Signature of Nominator: __________________________________________ Date: __________

CEHA Nomination for Elective Office

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

156 Peppermint Lane Bristol, CT 06010
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._

_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
Odds and Ends

Award Nominations

Robert C. Perriello
This award, established in 1970 by the Yankee Conference Board of Directors is presented in tribute to Robert C. Perriello for his many years in public health and academic service in Rhode Island and New England. This award recognizes the professional achievements made by a registered sanitarian and local affiliate (CEHA) member. This most prestigious award is given by the Yankee Conference Board of Directors to an individual who first must be chosen by their own affiliate’s Board of Directors. This is a highly respected honor and is presented to a most outstanding member for their contributions to CEHA, the Yankee Conference, and environmental health.

Raymond Brunelle "Connecticut Sanitarian of the Year"
This award, established in 1971 by the CEHA Board, is presented to a deserving member in recognition for outstanding service. This high honor is also referred to as the "Connecticut Sanitarian of the Year" award. Raymond Brunelle was a dedicated sanitarian, the first president of CEHA, and did a great deal to promote environmental health throughout Connecticut. It is a privilege to receive this high recognition for outstanding service and be honored by ones peers.

Please download the award nomination form from our website and submit your nomination today!

Save the Date

The Yankee Conference on Environmental Health is at the Hawthorne Hotel in Salem, MA, and the dates are September 16 & 17, 2015.

CEHA Summer Meeting on July 24, 2015

Scholarships

One of the aims and objectives of CEHA is to encourage and actively promote the personal and educational development of the membership through the pursuit of higher education. Additionally, the Association wishes to assist undergraduates with gaining an education in a course of study which could lead to employment in the field of environmental health. Furthermore, the Association seeks to assist members with children pursuing higher education. To this end, CEHA has awarded scholarships to deserving persons.

Presently there are two such means of obtaining scholarship assistance from CEHA. One is through the CEHA Marvin L. Smith Scholarship fund ($1500), and the second is from the CEHA portion of the Yankee Conference Board of Directors' Scholarship Fund ($1250).

Money is raised by CEHA for these awards through donations to the Association from contributions and gifts, and CEHA's success in hosting educational conferences. To date, over $55,000 has been granted to deserving recipients. Please download the scholarship application packet from our website and submit your application today!
The FDA Model Food Code and Listeria monocytogenes

By Matthew Payne

There has been a lot of talk regarding Connecticut and adoption of the FDA Model Food Code. During routine food inspections I have even started dialogue with owners and managers that this is something in the near future. The first response I hear from them is “how will this impact us?” and many others are asking this same question. For those that teach classes like ServSafe or Thomson Prometric, students and prospective restaurateurs often are amazed or shocked to hear that for the purpose of the class they must know numerical measurements of light in their kitchen, different temperatures, and even about variances or HAACP but once they complete the class there are different requirements. The best example of this is when people hear that the temperature danger zone is 135°F to 41°F but after the exam they are expected to know 140°F to 45°F. Not many people are aware of the risk assessments that have been done to determine why those numbers are now 135°F and 41°F. No, they were not just picked out of the air by some bureaucrat or policy maker. The FDA food code is updated based off of sound research and data. Given the ongoing Listeria outbreak regarding Blue Bell Ice Cream it may be worth mentioning that the U.S. Department of Health and Human Service, Food and Drug Administration’s Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition (DHHS/FDA/CFSAN) did a study in 2003 regarding Listeria. As a result of that study the FDA notes:

The Healthy People 2010 goals for national health promotion and disease prevention called on federal food safety agencies to reduce foodborne listeriosis by 50% by the end of the year 2005. Preliminary FoodNet data on the incidence of foodborne illnesses for the United States in 2001 indicated that the incidence of infection from *Listeria monocytogenes* decreased between 1996 and 2001 from 0.5 to 0.3 cases per 100,000 people per year. The level then reached a plateau. In order to reduce further the incidence to a level of 0.25 cases per 100,000 people by the end of 2005, it became evident that additional targeted measures were needed. The *Listeria monocytogenes* risk assessment was initiated as an evaluation tool in support of this goal.

It should interest many in our field to see the level of detail and research put in to determine ways to prevent and decrease cases of Listeria monocytogenes across the country. Currently we are not meeting the guidelines to help reduce the frequency of this specific disease. This is just one of many reasons why Connecticut needs to adopt the FDA Model Food Code. I encourage anyone who seeks a better understanding to review the study, which can be found at

http://www.fda.gov/Food/FoodScienceResearch/RiskSafetyAssessment/ucm183966.htm.