President’s Message

On March 22, 2018 we held our monthly CEHA meeting at the Carousel Museum in Bristol so that we could have the opportunity to view the exhibit on the History and Ritual of Tattoo & Body Art. Following our business meeting we had the opportunity to observe the hands-on exhibit that traced the scope and history of tattooing. As Environmental Health Professionals in CT many of us are responsible for inspecting and regulating body art facilities and staying current with evolving trends within the industry such as micro-blading and permanent cosmetic makeup. We are often responsible for such a wide range of inspections from food facilities, septic systems, and swimming pools and can’t be expert in everything. That’s why CEHA formed a sub-committee this year to address cosmetology and body art issues. The Chairperson for this committee is currently reviewing the revised National Environmental Health Association (NEHA) Body Art Model Code and will provide comments to NEHA.

I attended the CT Private Well Conference in Hartford CT on April 11, 2018. The conference addressed a variety of private well water related topics. Included within this newsletter is the written testimony I submitted on behalf of CEHA on April 13, 2018, regarding the Connecticut State Water Plan as outlined in Public Act 14-163.

On May 1, 2018 CEHA sponsored a Well Water Workshop at the State of CT laboratory in Rocky Hill. I would like to thank Vicky Carrier of the CT DPH for organizing this workshop and working with our CEHA board regarding the agenda. One of the major topics of concern that many health departments in CT are dealing with is chloride in drinking water wells. A well water workshop is being scheduled for the fall of 2018 to focus on a more comprehensive presentation on chloride issues.

Thank you to CEHA board members Elizabeth Kavanah and Heather Oatis for the tremendous work they did with co – sponsoring a legislative breakfast on March 29, 2018. Please see the report from Elizabeth Kavanah included within this newsletter. Increased networking with other professional health associations within CT is such a great benefit to CEHA.

(Continued on page 2)
CEHA Merchandise, Facebook, and Twitter

Are you active on social media? CEHA is now on Facebook. Be sure to visit: [www.facebook.com/conneha](http://www.facebook.com/conneha)

We are also on Twitter. Find us at: [https://twitter.com/CTSsanitarian](https://twitter.com/CTSsanitarian)

This is where we’ll be sharing the most up to date information about our organization and upcoming events for your participation.

We’d also love to share your photos from CEHA events and field work. Send to heather.oatis@southwindson.org with a description to be shared!

President’s Message (Continued)

I am including part of an article regarding the history of our Environmental Health Profession. Recently I had a conversation with several colleagues about the evolution of our profession and the impact we have in creating healthier environments within the communities we serve. While doing some research I found this article to be very interesting;

“Environmental health programs being perfected today started during the industrial revolution of the 18th and 19th centuries following the mass migration of people from rural areas to the cities in search of jobs. Living conditions then became poor and outbreak of several communicable diseases with high morbidity and mortality became rampant. In 1842, Edwin Chadwick of Great Britain, a Lawyer by profession spearheaded the Poor Law Commission, which enquired into the sanitary condition of the labouring classes. The report of the Commission recognized the association between the general environment of the dreadful living conditions of the poor and the development of illness. This led to the enactment of the 1848 Public Health Act, which was borne out of the desire to control these environmental conditions and abate them.”

Finally I want to thank the CEHA board members for all the work that is being done for our membership. I am grateful to work with such a talented, dedicated group of environmental professionals. Personally, having gratitude reminds me of what is truly important in my life, which is family, friends and good health, among other things. Ultimately, we must have gratitude towards ourselves, we cannot learn to love, respect and cherish others unless we can do those things for ourselves.

I hope to see all of our CEHA members at our annual Summer Meeting in July 2018.

Phyllis Amodio, MPH, RS, REHS
The Time to Get Involved is Now!

Election season for the CEHA Executive Board is here and we are looking for the support of our Membership! Elections are a critical part of the democratic process and provide members a voice in running our organization. Whether you are a seasoned Sanitarian or new to the field, joining the CEHA Executive Board will be one of the best decisions of your career. The Public Health landscape is constantly evolving and there is no better way to stay informed and contribute to these changes than by serving on the CEHA Executive Board.

We are now accepting nominations for the positions of Vice President and Secretary for 2018-2019. The position of Vice President is a 3 year commitment. If this is your first experience serving on the CEHA board, this term would be used to become acquainted with what CEHA does and how it operates. The second year you will serve as President-Elect, and the third year you will serve as President. The Secretary position is a 2 year term and is responsible for recording and maintaining the minutes of the executive board, general and annual meetings, and maintain association records. The deadline for submitting a nomination form for the Office of Vice President and Secretary is May 8, 2018.

Scholarship Opportunities

Are you looking to further your education? In the process of earning your undergrad or completing an Environmental certification program? CEHA has awesome scholarship opportunities for you!

Marvin L. Smith Scholarship, Current Award $1500.00
Joseph Hock Yankee Conference Scholarship, Current Award $1000.00

DUE DATE FOR APPLICATIONS: JUNE 30th, 2018.

How to Apply for CEHA Scholarships:

Go to our website, cteha.org or https://ceha.wildapricot.org/ and download the application to become a member of the Connecticut Environmental Health Association. Once membership application is submitted you can then download the application packet and apply to the scholarships applicable to you. Please take a moment to view the listing of past recipients on the website, along with scholarship criteria. All applications will be reviewed and scored based solely on the information you provide. Now is your time to wow us! Do you deserve to be the next 2018 Scholarship recipient? Do not wait until the last minute, start working on your application today. Good Luck!
Legislative Committee Update

Connecticut is divided among five congressional districts for the United States House of Representatives. Our representatives are John Larson, Joe Courtney, Rosa DeLauro, Jim Himes, and Elizabeth Esty. Connecticut’s Senators are Richard Blumenthal and Christopher Murphy.

The following link takes you to the site to look up your local legislator: https://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/menu/cgafindleg.asp

During the 2018 legislative session, CEHA partnered with the Connecticut Public Health Association, Connecticut Association of Directors of Health, and Connecticut Association of Public Health Nurses to co-sponsor a legislative breakfast on March 29th. Jeremy Stein, Executive Director of Connecticut Against Gun Violence, spoke to raise awareness of important public health bills. A big thank you to Heather Oatis for coordinating.

Elizabeth Kavanah spoke on behalf of CEHA during the opening address to the group. She has shared her speech with us:

“Good morning Committee chairs and legislators. My name is Elizabeth Kavanah, I am delighted to address you on behalf of the 300 or so professionals of the Connecticut Environmental Health Association. We are an affiliate of the National Environmental Health Association.

Our profession has long had an interest in causes of death related to environmental health. We represent an array of trained microbiologists, soil scientists, chemists, biologists, natural resource specialists, epidemiologists, environmental engineers, food scientists, Registered Sanitarians.

Our environmental health association members work for local, state government, soveign nations, as well as private industry. We conduct restaurant inspections, enforce laws to keep rodents away, we do swimming pool safety inspections, and enforce septic system and drinking water regulations to keep sewage away from people!

Epidemiology provides data to demonstrate that a problem exists, and scientific inquiry demonstrates causation so that appropriate interventions are put in place, but without the will to reduce risk, we can’t have healthy children and families, and sustainable neighborhoods and liveable communities. For instance, the epidemiology of lead paint levels in housing where children reside has motivated legislation and funding for federal, state and local health departments to work towards making every dwelling lead safe. It’s possible that our most vulnerable communities and neighborhoods could experience less violence if their environments include pest free dwellings and yards, green space, trees, parks, recreation programs, and development of self-efficacy.

We feel very strongly that the time is right to recommit to our collaboration and cooperation with public health entities that share values and strive towards the same goals of protecting our environment and creating and implementing strong public health policy. We look to the legislature for continued support and funding to help us reduce and eliminate all manner of disease.

Thank you.”
Get to Know the town of Darien Health Department

(L-R) David Knauf, Elaine Kilbourn, Mindy Chambrelli, Paula Sutcliffe
Not Pictured—Steve Brueski

David Knauf, Director of Health
David has been working in Darien since September of 2008, but his total time in public health is strictly confidential. Hint—his RS number is 270. David’s first real job after graduating from UConn was at DPH in the Environmental Health Section. His first job in local health was assisting with the formation and growth of the Farmington Valley Health District as it grew from 3 to 10 towns. David is food certified, septic certified, and has his REHS/RS. David was the CEHA President in 2000, Sanitarian of the Year in 2001, and CADH President in 2013-14. He is most proud of his smart and wonderful daughter. David enjoys listening to and performing bass and acoustic guitar, you can enjoy a performance here—www.youtube.com/watch?v=zNkf-f-iiLk.

Mindy Chambrelli, Registered Sanitarian
Mindy has a degree in Public Health from Southern Connecticut State University with a minor in Biology. Prior to the five years she’s worked in Darien, Mindy has worked for the West Haven Health Department, CRA Health District, and Meriden Health Department. Mindy has her RS/REHS, lead certification, subsurface phases 1 and 2 certifications, and extensive FEMA training; she participated in training in Anniston, Alabama at the Center for Domestic Preparedness. Mindy enjoys DIY projects, wine tasting, vegetable gardening, lazy summer days at the beach, and living room dance parties with her four year old to Bruno Mars. She is most proud of becoming a mother, completing her degree, and moving out of the heartland. Mindy also plays the saxophone and loves acoustic live music.
Connecticut Environmental Health Association

Summer Annual Meeting

Thursday, July 19th 2018
9:30 am - 4 pm

Hammonasset State Park
Meig’s Point Pavilion
(Shelter #4)

*VEHICLES WITH CT LICENSE PLATES PARK FREE! *

The Connecticut Environmental Health Association would like to announce its Annual Summer Meeting!

Food Contact credit will be given towards Food Inspector recertification to those who register and attend.

Training event will be from 10:00 to 11:30 am. Business meeting will be from 11:30 to 12:00 am. Lunch will follow the meeting.

Complete your registration on Wild Apricot Today!
Go to https://ceha.wildapricot.org/

Please register by July 6, 2018.

In order to receive your food contact training hour, you must be registered in Wild Apricot.

Payment will be accepted on the day of the event or in advance.
All attendees will be given proof of payment, if applicable.

Questions about registration may be directed to Heather Oatis
Via Email: heather.oatis@southwindsor.org