



**Redwood Empire Chapter
California Environmental Health Association**

February 1985

Volume 17 #1

The stuff that miracles are made of.

NEXT MEETING

Our Annual Meeting will be held February 28, 1985 at the El Rancho Tropicana Hotel in Santa Rosa, site of the 1986 CEHA Annual Educational Symposium. Elections of 1985-86 officers will be held. Our speaker will be Robert Harris, owner of Multi-Tech Laboratories. Topics will cover pesticides and residues in wine; analytical methods; and AB1803, the vastly expanded sampling requirements for public water systems. Our function will begin at 3:00 p.m. with meeting and speaker to begin at 3:30 p.m. in the Zinfandel Room. Dinner is at 5:30 p.m.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Fellow Members,

- My time as President of the Redwood Empire Chapter ends in April. Many thanks to those of you who actively helped me serve as both President and President-Elect. I've really enjoyed my terms of office and working with you. I will be continuing on the Chapter Board as Past President and also as Co-Chair of the 1986 CEHA Annual Educational Symposium (AES) to be held in Santa Rosa. I'm looking forward to working with many of you on this, our first AES.
- In addition, I would like to extend our Board's appreciation to the loyal Chapter Sanitarians who have retained their memberships over the years despite being often too busy to participate fully. As a last remark, remember, this is our organization. Next time the very natural thought "Someone else will do it..." rolls through your mind, try replacing it with "Maybe it's my time to help..." Thanks.
- Membership has risen 30% in the last year!
- Officer candidates for the 1985-86 term are:

President-Ted Walker, Sonoma County
President-Elect-Gerald Meshulam, Sonoma County
Secretary/Treasurer-Barbara Zett, Marin County
Member at Large-William Rowser, Napa County

Vote at the annual meeting on February 28. See you there.

Mike Treinen, President

NATIONAL AND STATE NEWS

- 1985 NEHA Annual Educational Conference at Las Vegas June 22-27, 1985. (If you would like to help on exchange for possible room or other benefits, contact Howard Schwarzer (702) 282-1265.)
- NEHA is working on a 50th Anniversary Environmental Health commemorative postage stamp.
- The new State Sanitarian Registration Certification Committee has been appointed and priorities are now being established which will influence Sanitarians for many years to come. One of those priorities may be specialty registration that may partially address the increasing vacancies in environmental health programs, especially toxics programs.
- Changes in the State Health area include new Food and Drug Chief, Stu Richardson, acting OLEHPS Chief, Wendell Phillips, and the departure of Director Peter Rank.
- The CEHA Educational Committee (Deborah Hanlon, et al) has put out an excellent Sanitarian Career Bulletin for use at schools, universities, health fairs, etc. A copy can be obtained from OLEHPS, who will also be sending copies to Environmental Health Directors. Please also answer and support Deborah's Speaker's Bureau Questionnaire in the latest CEHA journal.

1986 AES PROGRESS REPORT

- Your AES Committee is moving right along. A logo to identify the Redwood Empire as the place to be in 1986 has been developed; the wine grape seemed only natural. Accordingly, a Wednesday night social activity centered around wine tasting is being developed (perhaps an excursion to one of our more picturesque wineries). The theme for the Thursday night banquet is yet to be chosen.
- Speaking of themes, to those of you who submitted ideas (particularly Scott Miller and Dennis Kalson), the Committee says "Thanks!" We're still working on the educational program theme and will have an announcement by next newsletter. We are also still accepting written suggestions that include a "catchy" title, a description of how a program around that title could be developed, and several examples of speakers. Send to Diane Evans, % Sonoma County.
- The lifeblood of any successful AES is the EXHIBITORS! So think hard about local industries and businesses who might be interested in being a part of our symposium (three ideas per Chapter member shouldn't be that hard to come up with), and submit name of business, contact person, address, and phone number to Ted Walker, % Sonoma County.
- Last but certainly not least, we need volunteers to help in a booth promoting our symposium that will be set up at this year's AES in Ventura. If you'll be there and you have as little as an hour (hopefully more) that you can spare to hand out brochures and answer questions, but mostly to really promote coming to the Redwood Empire in 1986, please let the Committee know.
- In summary, as you can tell from all of the foregoing:

WE NEED YOU!

Diane Evans, General Chair

MENDOCINO COUNTY

- Mendocino County has two new employees. Jim Ehlers, R.S., a Registered Sanitarian from Butte County, now working in the Fort Bragg office and Barbara Reinking, Assistant Sanitarian, previously employed in Austin, Texas where she worked in the State Health Department, Division of Water Hygiene.
- All Sanitaricians in Mendocino County are now currently qualified to enforce the Sherman Food and Drug Laws thanks to Dick Rush's and Carl Castello's training seminar.



"Obviously, you aren't aware that your father is a public health sanitarian!"

As part of the training, an inspection was made at a damaged goods/food recycler to gain hands-on experience. Well, it turned out that the owner called his attorney, refused to sign the VD&D, and forced the county to take a large amount of damaged groceries from him as official samples. The owner just could not understand what was wrong with five year old baby formula which was extensively dented, pitted and swelled. "After all, no one has died in 30 years that he knows of and he has insurance."

Randy Leach, Reporter

SONOMA COUNTY

Take it or Leave it, but you better believe it!

- Two new R.S. pros have joined the force:

Ray Jensen from San Luis Obispo County brings us some south state, and nuke experience, and Jack Lee, originally with Marin County and then Ecology & Environment, Inc.; most recently an Associate Health Physicist at the Stanford Linear Accelerator Center.

Both Ray and Jack are helping Diane Evans get our Hazardous Waste Program going.

- With the increased staff, we have expanded our offices to the entire basement and split into two rooms, causing some communication problems, but giving us much more needed space.
- On the domestic front, Frank Dono has returned from a Florida and Caribbean holiday. Unlike his Cancun trip, he laid off the poisonous plants and came back tan. This reporter will be lucky to get as far as Point Arena.
- With the duck season over, Don Smith and Bill Pitcher are back to work until next October. The prospect of an end to duck call practice sessions has brought smiles to the rest of the staff.
- A bachelor party for Alex Schnieder came off smoothly and with only Don becoming ill afterwards. Tattoos, Ted?
- While most of the staff is dieting to rid themselves of excess post holiday poundage, Mike Vinatieri has the most radical approach--the Icy diet--I see it, I eat it. Obvious results.
- Many of the staff are already at work preparing for the 1986 AES. They have even decided to cut a record for sale during the symposium. With Harry Gerbasi on guitar, Jerry Meshulam on the recorder, the rest singing, "Those P.I.R. Blues" may be on the top thirty by Summer 1985.

Rich Lincoln, Reporter

LAKE COUNTY

- Since I am the new reporter for Lake County, allow me to introduce myself. My name is John L. Anderson. I enjoy backpacking, hiking, fishing, cross-country skiing and appreciate what nature has to offer. Oh yea, I'm single.
- I would like to welcome Russell Mull to the County of Lake. Russ has accepted the challenge of becoming the new Environmental Health Director. He moved here from Klamath Falls, Oregon where he was the Director of Environmental Health for eight years. Russ was active in Oregon with OEHA and served as Chairman of the State Environmental Health Directors Association. Since his start here in December, Russ has made substantial gains in initiating a new Sub-Surface Ordinance and is forming this department into a working team.
- A special thanks goes to Dave Long and Ken Stuart for assisting our department through the interim period. They both sacrificed a lot to help us out, and we couldn't have made it without them. If any county needs help don't call Dave Long, he's still trying to retire.
- Another welcome is forthcoming to Joy Ribardo. Joy is our new secretary. She is contributing greatly to the success of our department. Keep up the good work.

John Anderson, Reporter

NAPA COUNTY

- Napa County welcomes three new sanitarians, in training, to the Redwood Empire.
- On December 11, 1984, Tim Snellings joined the Environmental Health staff. Tim earned his B.A. from Sacramento State with a major in Environmental Science and a minor in Chemistry. Tim left a job as store manager for Sierra Designs, an outdoor equipment store in San Francisco. He also has taught classes in cross country skiing and avalanche, hypothermia, and frost bite safety. He has work experience in Environmental Health working on special projects for Sacramento Municipal Utility District and the Office of Appropriate Technology.
- Ruben Oropeza joined the Environmental Health staff on December 17, 1985 as a Sanitarian I. Ruben is a 1984 graduate of Sacramento State with a B.S. in Biology and Chemistry. Ruben has worked as a research assistant, laboratory aide, and an assistant manager of a 550 acre almond orchard.
- Henry Edmund McNeely, Jr., also known as "Kelly", joined the Environmental Health staff on January 2, 1985. If the name looks familiar, Kelly's father was a Napa County Deputy County Counsel a few years back and is now a local artist. Kelly earned his B.A. at Humboldt State in Zoology and Biology, has an M.D. from U.C. Davis, and is a graduate from Justin/Siena High School in Napa.

The positions were vacant because of the departure of Richard Lyon and Dave Osugi and a newly created position in the 84/85 budget.

- Dave Osugi, R.S. has left Napa to join the staff of East Bay MUD as a Wastewater Control Representative. (Rumored salary of \$2700 monthly). Dave will be working with Jim McCarthy, R.S. former Napa County Sanitarian (1975-1980), who left Nevada County in favor of East Bay MUD. Good luck Dave and Jim!

Trent Cave, Reporter

MARIN COUNTY

- First, the most important news is we received a 5% increase for all Sanitarians thanks to Ed Stewart's hard work and the fact that there are so many vacancies.
- We have a new recruit from Placer County, Janet L. White. She says Marin is too cold! Ha!
- We are still looking for the mysterious senior sanitarian for our septic tank program.
- Art Marthinsen has been monitoring the only ultraviolet system in Marin and is now being evaluated by N.S.F. Art says it looks good!

Armando Alegria, Reporter

HUMBOLDT-DEL NORTE COUNTIES

- After more than a decade of service to Humboldt-Del Norte County Health Department, John Dolson, R.S. retired effective September 19, 1984. John served during a period which saw a significant change in the role of the Health Department. John's most notable and trying experience was the change and upgrading of Humboldt County sewage regulations. During John's tenure septic tank approval process went from a simple counter permit issued with no review, to the current permit which includes a thorough site evaluation.

John also had a strong interest in occupational health issues and noise control. John was also involved in upgrading and maintenance of the small water system inspection program.

The Health Department will miss John's experience and knowledge of the community and much effort will be expended in attempting to replace these missing facets of our review process. At last report John was seen heading south with his wife Ellen to enjoy the Southern California sun and traffic.

- In the wake of John Dolson's retirement, Dennis Kalson has been appointed as Senior Sanitarian responsible for land use issues, on-site waste disposal and small water system enforcement. Dennis, who has been with the Department since March 1981, has previously worked in Kern County, Mendocino County and served as a Sanitation Advisor to the United Nations in Thailand. Dennis will leave the Consumer Protection Team where he was primarily responsible for Eureka food establishment inspection, to assume his Senior Sanitarian duties.

- Kevin Metcalfe has been appointed to the Humboldt-Del Norte County Consumer Protection Team to replace Dennis Kalson. Kevin is a June 1984 graduate in Environmental Health from the Oregon State University. Kevin is a native of Portland, Oregon. The Health Department is excited to welcome Kevin who reports that he enjoys running, cycling, backpacking, river rafting and other outdoor activities.

Jeff Arnold, Reporter

SOLANO COUNTY!

- Al Garson, Supervisor, is retiring after 22 years of service at the Solano County Health Department.
- Solano County will be recruiting for two new staff health inspector (Sanitarian) positions. Call Brian Zamora (Director) for details at (707) 553-5251. Salary range is not bad (but always could be more).
- Sometime in the near future, the Department will be moving its office from Vallejo to Fairfield.

Ron Schenffler, Reporter
(as told to Ted Walker)

EDITORIAL

- To all reporters, "THANK YOU!" Without each county reporter this newsletter would not be, but as you can see this issue is a lengthy one, as all reporters had news.
- It appears that there are new Sanitaricians in each County. Let's welcome them aboard and introduce them to the Redwood Empire Chapter. Maybe they'd like to help with the 1986 AES.
- Welcome "back" to Solano! If you have ideas/news/comments "Letters to the Editor" are encouraged. Special thanks to Mike Treinen for distributing this issue while I'm in Tahoe on my honeymoon.

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President-Elect-Ted Walker
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