2018 FALL NEWSLETTER

The Purpose of OEHA is to provide assistance in creating a more livable environment through equipping its membership with the professional ability to accomplish this goal.

The OEHA Board meeting is open to all OEHA members. The Board typically meets on the third Thursday of every month from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm.

OEHA Board Members
President Bill Emminger
Past President Delbert Bell
President-Elect <OPEN>
Vice President Rick Hallmark
Treasurer John Mason
Secretary Kaline Chavarria
NW Regional Rep. Annette Pampush
Willamette Regional Rep. Phebe Howe
SW Regional Rep. Angela Scott
Eastern Regional Rep. Ramona Quinn

FOR MORE INFORMATION INCLUDING MEMBERSHIP AND REGISTERING FOR THE OEHA AEC, CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE: WWW.OREGONEHA.ORG
**ANNOUNCING the 2019 OEHA Annual Education Conference**

**DATE:** February 26-28, 2019

**PLACE:** Agate Beach Inn
3019 N. Coast Hwy (Newport, OR)

**COSTS:** Hillside $99 or Ocean view $109 rooms/night...

**NOTE—1/27/19 hotel reservation cutoff date!**

**CONFERENCE REGISTRATION = $175 OEHA MEMBERS,**
$215 NON-MEMBERS, $155 RETIREE/STUDENT, OR $165 DEQ AGENTS

**NOTE +$20 after 2/1/19**

Registration includes a welcome reception on Tuesday (i.e. appetizers and drinks), catered breakfast/lunch/dinner buffets on Wednesday, and catered breakfast buffet on Thursday.

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**VOLUNTEERS?!?**

OEHA is recruiting for volunteers to represent OEHA on the State Drinking Water Advisory Committee. Contact President Bill Emminger or a Board Member if interested!

**Other Committees:**

Ethics & Standards, Finance, Legislative & Resolution, Scholarship, Membership, Awards, Nominations, Education/Training, Website, Constitution & By-Laws, Communication
REMINDERS

- JOB OPENINGS CAN BE POSTED ON OEHA’S WEBSITE
- TRY ONLINE MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL (EXPIRES APRIL EACH YEAR)
- ONLINE CONFERENCE REGISTRATION ALSO AVAILABLE
- TAKE A LOOK AT THE AWARDS CRITERIA AND NOMINATE SOMEONE. AWARDS WILL BE PRESENTED AT THE CONFERENCE
- WELCOMING CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE NEWSLETTER

**email secretary@oregoneha.org**

It is with great pleasure that the Oregon Environmental Health Association (OEHA) can again support the 2019 Intel Northwest Science Expo (NWSES) regional and statewide science competition. This will make our 14th year of providing recognition and awards to high school science students who have done important work in a scientific endeavor that helps to promote the field of environmental health. This year OEHA is providing one award for each of the seven regional contest sites and one award for the statewide competition to qualifying students.

**How you can help:**

**The Intel Northwest Science Expo needs judges** - I am always impressed with the number of high school science projects related to the field of environmental health. If you are interested in committing to one day to serve as a judge at a competition site near you click on [http://nwse.org/?q=judges](http://nwse.org/?q=judges). You do not need to be an OEHA member to help judge at the Intel Northwest Science Expo.

Best Regards,

Bill Emminger, REHS
OEHA President
541-766-6841
Ever wonder why you should join the Oregon Environmental Health Association (OEHA)? What do you get for your annual fee?

Participating in OEHA helps build the collective voice needed to better advocate and promote the industry. The association also provides a pathway for which to lobby and introduce legislation supporting Environmental Health and protecting its practitioners. Through OEHA we can work toward increasing professional recognition, developing the future workforce and increasing wages.

Currently, of the 260 Registered Environmental Health and Waste Water Specialists in Oregon, only about 80 are members of OEHA. Increasing membership will help us maintain our professional integrity and ensure the future of the industry. Together we can make a difference for you, the environment and our communities.

Other OEHA member benefits:

• Professional Development
• Scholarships
• CEUs
• Conference & Consumer discounts
• Annual Educational Conference
• Affiliate Associations (NEHA)
• Legislation/Lobby
• Discounts for recent Grads

ONLY @ OEHA!
OEHA is on the cutting edge for providing training at our annual conference. Consider these “new” training novelties:
  • At OEHA you can look a speaker in the eye when you ask a question.
  • At OEHA you can talk to the speaker after the presentation and collect more insight.
  • At OEHA you can hear perspectives on each topic from fellow EHS.

ONLY @ OEHA!!!
At our annual conference, OEHA teaches best practices in professional communication. Consider learning these new and novel communication techniques:
  • At OEHA you can talk to someone rather than sending a text or email.
  • At OEHA you can remember how to shake hands or share a warm embrace.
  • At OEHA you can sit with another EHS at breakfast, lunch, dinner or a munch & mingle.

Jeff Freund, RS| Environmental Health Specialist III
DESHUTES COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH
2577 NE Courtney Drive | Bend, Oregon 97701
Tel: (541) 541-6563 | Fax: (541) 322-7604
Clean Team Handwashing Demonstration Trailer

_Borrow for only $50, and additional refundable deposit!_

**CONTACT:**

- **Craig Geddes MPH, REHS**  
  Malheur County (VALE, EASTERN OR)  
  541-473-5186, email = Craig.Geddes@malheurco.org
  
  **OR**

- **Angela Scott BS, REHS**  
  Douglas County (ROSEBURG, WESTERN OR)  
  541-440-3569 , email = adscott@co.douglas.or.us

**UPCOMING AFFILIATED MEETINGS/EVENTS:**

- Oregon Coalition of Local Health Officials (CHLO) meetings 3rd Thursday monthly, 9:30am - 1:30pm at Portland State Office Bldg

- 36th Annual Oregon Epidemiologists’ Meeting, Sponsored by Oregon Health Authority- Public Health Division; April 24 – April 26, 2019 @ Sunriver, Oregon

- OHA-PHD Food, Pool & Lodging Health & Safety _and_ Drinking Water Sections Co-AECs; May 7-9, 2019 in Bend, OR
CONGRATULATIONS
2018 RETIREES!!!

JUNE—SUSAN BURCH (KLAMATH CO.)
JUNE—MARK EDINGTON (COLUMBIA CO.)
JULY—CAROLYN STEGALL (MARION CO.)
NOVEMBER—JEFF LANG (LANE CO.)
WANTED:

We want to publish your QUIPS & ANECDOTES in the OEHA newsletter that show the unique EHS perspective on the world. Note that the editor does edit so be helpful in sharing stories that are respectful to the EHS profession and to those we regulate.

EXAMPLE:

“A Sticky Situation,” shared by Michael Meszaros, Retired EHS

Chapter 1: One evening after a day of inspecting, my wife and I went to a favorite restaurant to enjoy a dinner along with our two small children. While waiting in our booth for our meals to be served our squirmy children alternated back and forth between playing on the bench seats to the floor under the table. Thinking they were effectively contained from mischief or harm’s way I suddenly realized they were both chewing gum. At that moment I gained a little public health insight and decided I would start inspecting the undersides of tables in dining rooms.

Chapter 2: There are a few restaurant operators that are not satisfied with any cited violation without questioning the necessity of the violation. On such an occasion, I sat in the dining room reviewing the inspection report with the restaurant owner while allowing her to challenge the violations of her choice. She was particularly animated about the relevance of food safety with the “bubble gum under a table in the dining room” citation. At the conclusion of the interview I stood to leave. The restaurant owner likewise stood and we both observed from where her knee had been pressed against the underside of the table a string of recently chewed gum was attached to her slacks. Who would have thunk it?

Chapter 3: Mike Meszaros and his wife are restoring a hundred year old classic farmhouse among a few scattered homes overlooking an off the path small river valley. Along with the ongoing carpentry work, Mike takes care of the garden in the side yard by the house and a fruit orchard near the banks of the river. He enjoys the convenience of getting his fishing line wet. A few iconic memories of Mike’s most recent years as an EHS include: serving as the CLEHS treasurer for forever, leading the debate for fair funding from DWS for county work, bringing his guitar for evening entertainment at the Silver Falls Drinking Water Conference, being a solo sanitary for much of his Curry County career and doing a lot of water sampling with his fishing tackle – but that’s only a rumor.

Rick Hallmark, EHS
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541-266-6744 Office