

2005 Annual Meeting & Technical Conference Summary

By
Doug Warden, TDEC, Conference Chair

This year's conference began on Tuesday, August 9, 2005, with the golf outing at the Hermitage Golf Course. It was a great success and thoroughly enjoyed by all who were able to participate despite the sweltering heat. Attendance was down a bit due to some last minute cancellations. A tremendous thanks to Environmental Science, URS, Waller Lansden, Jack Daniels and SECOR who donated prizes for the event.

The annual technical conference was held in Nashville, Tennessee at the Sheraton Downtown. The event was successful and very well attended by a mixture of environmental professionals. Over 180 attendees witnessed technical presentations concerning the media of air, water, and land, which blended perfectly into the theme of "Continuing to Explore Innovative Solutions" to environmental problems. The price of admission included continental breakfast and break beverages on all three days, lunch on two days, the evening reception, and afternoon snacks and drinks on two days.

The conference began with the welcome ceremonies led by Shari Meghreblian, Western and Middle Tennessee Chapter Chair and Adrienne Carolla, Executive Director from International. After Adrienne's motivational speech of the benefits of being an A&WMA member, the keynote address by the United States Attorney for the Middle District of Tennessee, Jim Vines, was conveyed and was immediately followed by a panel discussion consisting of Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation's Deputy Director, Paul Sloan, Jim Vines, U.S.E.P.A. Region 4's Director of the Air, Pesticides & Toxic Management Division, Beverly Banister, and Council to Assistant Administrator of U.S. E.P.A.'s Office of Air & Radiation in Washington D.C., Bill Wehrum. These panelists informed the audience how their respective areas are utilizing innovative ways to explore solutions. This session was well attended and considerable information was exchanged.

Concurrent technical sessions were held Wednesday afternoon where topical discussion was conducted relating to waste and air issues. Thursday, the concurrent technical session format continued which also

included issues related to water as well as wastewater. Over thirty-five presentations were given in the one and one-half days devoted to technical issues. The conference ended around noon on Friday after the regulatory update session. Regulatory representatives from states in the Southern Section gave an update on their respective states concerning both waste and air issues. The session ended with an update from E.P.A.'s Beverly Banister on the air side and Matt Robbins on the waste side.

Section business and timely keynotes filled the time devoted for lunch. Vince Adams, Chair, made a few announcements at the awards luncheon on Wednesday where Pleasant McNeel received his past chair's plaque. Student scholarship eligibility was given and the program moved into the keynote speaker. John Myers, Air Program Manager for TVA, addressed the audience and informed those listening about achievements TVA has made over the last few decades and how those trends are expected to last as they take a leadership role for the power industry. Thursday's luncheon brought Ray Tessier, General Motors Worldwide Facilities Group - Group Director for Environmental Services, to the head table and he delivered his message about the direction General Motors is going. He also relayed GM's support of recycling and their commitment concerning the environmental outlook on future generations of automobiles.

A presenter's breakfast and ready room was introduced in this year's conference, in which presenters could mingle with one another or use the time to polish their individual presentations. The breakfast was well received on all three days.

Exhibitors were present on Wednesday and Thursday. Discussion breaks led the attendees to the exhibition area where snacks and beverages were enjoyed. The exhibitors enjoyed the setup as it allowed them direct contact with attendees to promote their products and services.

After the conference was over on Friday, the customary

Board lunch meeting was held. A conference status was delivered and Phil Davis initiated plans for next year's conferences. It was announced the intended city is Point Clear, Alabama (Grand Hotel). Other general business was conducted which included an update about the Sections and Chapters Council discussion held in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

(Editor's Note: A copy of the power point presentations available from the meeting may be seen on the Southern Section web site, www.ssawma.org, in the near future.)

ADEM TO HOST 2005 CORRECTIVE ACTION STRATEGY MEETING

By

Chip Crockett, ADEM

In September 2003, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) finalized its Strategic Plan for the years 2003 through 2008 as required by the Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA) of 1996. One of the goals outlined in EPA's strategic plan is the selection of final remedies (cleanup targets) at 30 percent of RCRA baseline facilities by 2008. In addition, the EPA published in 2002 a document entitled, *Beyond RCRA: Waste and Materials Management in the Year 2020* (a.k.a. the RCRA Vision Paper), which outlined possible directions for the mid- to long-term future of the RCRA program. In what has been termed the "2020 Vision," the EPA proposed in the vision paper that, "by the year 2020, cleanup of existing contamination problems at RCRA-regulated facilities will hopefully, largely be complete, though some long-term remediation work may still be ongoing, and some mechanism for addressing releases that may occur in the future will presumably be needed." The **Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM)**, other State agencies, and industry representatives have worked with EPA for some time now to devise a strategy to achieve these goals.

To facilitate continued progress towards achieving sound and timely cleanups of contaminated sites within EPA's strategic goals, ADEM will host a one-day meeting on **November 2, 2005** at the Auburn Univer-

sity of Montgomery's **Taylor Center in Montgomery, Alabama**. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss these issues as well as the general state of the corrective action program in Alabama. A final agenda is under development for the meeting to include presentations from EPA, ADEM, and industry representatives on these and a variety of other topics. In addition, an open forum discussion of cleanup issues of general interest will be included.

If you are interested in attending this meeting, please contact Chip Crockett of ADEM at (334) 271-7974 or via e-mail at vhc@adem.state.al.us. Also, please refer to the Department's website (www.adem.state.al.us) and click on "Land Division" for additional information.

(Editor's Note: A copy of the 2020 Vision publication may be obtained by visiting the following web site: <http://yosemite.epa.gov/ncepihom/nsCatalog.nsf/fe334be39822543485256fbf005fe5ec/add49b44017727178525705f005f7605!OpenDocument>.)

Editor's Notes

Justice Manning, P.E.

Those of you who were unable to attend the Annual Meeting missed an excellent meeting. Some very interesting sessions were presented. This was a better year than normal for waste topics, so I heard. The TN Chapters did an excellent job of encouraging and getting good speakers for both air and waste. Attendance was up quite a bit also, considering we were on "the northern edge" of the chapter's geographic area. For those of you who haven't heard, the Southern Section donated \$1500 to the Boy Scouts of America Jamboree held again in Fort A.P. Hill, VA in July. My

understanding is that they have to find another location for the next Jamboree in about 3 years. Nevertheless, in spite of the tragic accidents and other occurrences, many young scouts learned quite a bit about the environment, thanks in large measure to one of our own, John Hawkins. John also served the Section as Registrar for this year's Annual Meeting. Jim Ryckman, chair of A&WMA National Boy Scout Jamboree Committee, Education Council, sent a warm "Thank You" to the Section for the contribution through Mr. Hawkins, which was acknowledged at the

Thursday luncheon during the Annual Meeting. I failed to get a picture of the presentation. Nevertheless, a **picture** of the Association's new Executive Director with the Annual Meeting Steering Committee is **below**. Adrienne Carolla attended the Southern Section Annual Meeting as her first official trip after her appointment

the week the meeting began. The Association owes a deep debt of gratitude to Dick Sherer, outgoing Executive Director, who resigned primarily because of health reasons, for his guiding the Association back into a viable professional organization.



From Left: **Doug Warden**, AM Committee Chair; **Adrienne Carolla**, A&WMA Executive Director; **Shari Meghreblian**, W/M TN Chapter Chair; and **Vince Adams**, Southern Section Chair, 2005. The Trophy is the "Traveling Trophy" that is making the rounds to as many local meetings as possible prior to the 100th Anniversary Meeting of the A&WMA to be held in Pittsburgh in June 2007.

Other Meetings

(**Note:** You may obtain more information on these meetings by clicking on the links.)

GA Chapter: The GA Chapter is holding their **Annual Meeting** on **October 6-7** at Unicoi State Park in Helen, A. For more information contact one of the representatives on the Board from GA, or go to the GA Chapter web site, www.gaawma.org.

E TN Chapter: This chapter is holding their regular luncheon meeting on September 16, 2005 at the Sagebrush Steak House in Oak Ridge, TN. They have what appears to be a very interesting program on Dixon emission controls if that is one of

your interests. See the Section web site, www.ssawma.org, and click on E TN Chapter for more details and registration.

[Environmental Data Analysis: Assessing Health and Environmental Impacts, Developing Policy, and Achieving](#)

[Regulatory Compliance](#)

October 4-5, 2005 • Oak Brook, IL

[Diesel Exhaust: Partnering with Stakeholders to Reduce Emissions](#)

October 6-7, 2005 • Oak Brook, IL

[Mexico/U.S. Bi-National Waste Management Issues](#)

October 13-14, 2005 • San Antonio, TX

NOTICE

If you receive this newsletter via regular mail and have an email address, please notify me at jmanning1@mchsi.com. Thanks.

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