



Keystone

For the Solid Waste Professionals of the Keystone Chapter of SWANA

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A Message from SWANA Vice President Hasemeier



During August of this year, President Chuck Raudenbush called upon me, former chapter president Bob Watts and

Director Tim O'Donnell to review Keystone Chapter expenses and revenues. This review was necessitated by recent events for the Keystone Chapter in which expenses have been exceeding revenues and the Board of Directors sought review and guidance to mitigate this problem now and make changes going forward.

Some of the significant decisions coming out of this review are apparent in this newsletter. The Board previously had determined that newsletters will no longer be mailed. The engineering firm Barton & Loguidice has agreed to assemble and produce the newsletter going forward in eliminating newsletter charges to the Keystone Chapter. The review committee also

recommended that Chapter sponsored events such as the Road-E-O include scholarship fund monies in their registration fee budget. Another expense the Board of Directors have agreed to remove from the chapter are the conference telephone call charges which are being donated by various members.

The Board of Directors has agreed to raise the Chapter surcharge fee from \$30 to \$40 and change the name "surcharge" fee to "administrative" fee. There has not been an increase in the Chapter fees since 1989. The change will be effective October 1, 2009.

The Keystone Chapter has experienced some difficult financial times during the latter part of 2008 to now and we believe that we have weathered the storm. Going forward, we expect to have another great Road-E-O event in May 2010 and a return to State College in September 2010 for the conference with the PWIA and PAHMI members.

From Kay Dougherty...Chapter Secretariat



In December of 2008, after 21 years of service, I retired from my position at

the Lancaster County Solid Waste Management Authority (LCSWMA). At that time the Board of the Keystone Chapter SWANA independently hired me as the Chapter's Administrative Secretariat, a position I held for more than 8 years. Logistical and technical accommodations were made to enable me to continue in this role while working from my home. As I look over the past 10 months, I believe this was a smooth transition

for both the Chapter and my husband. I have always enjoyed my association with the Chapter and look forward to the future. Going forward, please know that should you have any questions or concerns about your association with SWANA please feel free to email me.

Additional information about our chapter is available on our web site: www.keystoneswana.org

Please remember to send me your current email address as all future newsletters, as well as informational broadcast faxes and other communications, will only be sent via email.

I look forward to seeing you in person in the near future.

Contact information for Kay Dougherty, Chapter Secretariat:

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CCSWA Loses One of its Own

The Centre County Solid Waste Authority lost one of its employees last month in a

tragic accident. Samuel Sherman Boob, 29, worked at the Authority as Maintenance Supervisor for more

than 9 years. Sammy was a SWANA Certified Transfer Station Manager.

Sammy was a loving father who leaves behind four beautiful children; Emily age 10, Chloe age 6, Landon age 4, and Hunter 6 months. Donations can be directed to the Samuel S. Boob Trust Fund C/O Northwest Savings Bank, P. O.

Box 395, Centre Hall, PA 16828. This trust has been established in Sammy's name to provide for his four children.

Keystone SWANA Board members have voted to make a donation in the amount of \$100 to the trust fund.

Submitted by Amy Schirf, Centre County Solid Waste Authority

Covanta Energy to Buy Montenay Energy North American Assets

Covanta Energy has entered into an agreement with Montenay Energy to purchase most of Montenay's North American waste-to-energy (WTE) assets to include assumption of the York Authority operations contract and the purchase of the WTE facility in Montgomery County.

PROP Announces New Executive Director

The Professional Recyclers of Pennsylvania (PROP) announced today that **Mark Mehall** of South Bend, Indiana, will be joining the organization as Executive Director. Mark will be responsible for fiduciary management and forecasting, funds expansion, program development, supervision of staff, and building consensus amongst PROP's Board of Directors and a diverse membership represented by government, industry and other non-profit organizations.

"This is an exciting time for our organization and I am thrilled to have Mark join us as we move forward," said Lori Robson, President and Interim Executive Director. "I believe his combination

of experience in the industry and fiduciary management will take PROP in a great direction."

Mark Mehall has 22 years of experience in solid waste management which includes managing a municipal landfill, planning and implementing municipal recycling programs, creation of special waste programs, and operating a state agency promoting the advancement of commercial/industrial waste reduction programs and extended product/producer responsibility efforts.

Mark most recently served as Executive Director of the St. Joseph County Solid Waste Management District.

A native of Michigan, Mr. Mehall graduated from Central Michigan University with a Bachelor of Science and a Masters of Public Administration. He will relocate to Pennsylvania and be onboard in mid-October.

The Professional Recyclers of Pennsylvania is the state's official association representing recycling professionals and is dedicated to promoting and enhancing the interests of recycling, recycling programs, composting and composting programs in Pennsylvania through education, information exchange, technical support, applied research, and coordination of recycling industry initiatives.



Left to right are Deputy Secretary Dan Griffiths from PADEP, PA State Representative Glen Grell, Waste Management of Camp Hill District Manager, Tad Brown (speaking), from Keystone Biofuels, VP Ben Wootton, and Waste Management of Camp Hill's Fleet Manager Tom Hooks

Waste Management and Keystone Biofuels Partner to Convert Collection Trucks to Biodiesel

Waste Management of Camp Hill and Keystone Biofuels today showcased the technology used to convert diesel waste collection trucks to operate using bio-diesel fuel. The process, which uses a twenty percent

blend of biodiesel to regular diesel, is part of Waste Management of Camp Hill's strategy to building an entire "green truck."

"Our decision to make the switch to eco-friendly fuels is based on Waste Management's sustainability goals and to be a leader as a green

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business,” said Waste Management’s Senior District Manager Tad Brown. “The conversion is in keeping with our mission to act as stewards for the environment, and to demonstrate Waste Management’s commitment to preserving our Central Pennsylvania communities.” There are many benefits to using



PA State Representative Glen Grell

biodiesel. It has better lubricating properties, caloric values are approximately 9 percent less than ultra-low sulfur diesel, and it has shown no long-term use mechanical problems. For every one unit of

energy needed to produce biodiesel, 3.5 units of energy are gained. Tests sponsored by USDA confirm that biodiesel is safer than diesel and biodegrades as fast as sugar. Brown adds, “We have been working on this partnership with Keystone Biofuels for 4 years, evaluating biodiesel usage and gathering test data. Our biodiesel conversion throughout Pennsylvania includes more than 40 Waste Management vehicles. Worth noting as well, no money was spent to upgrade the equipment or change the infrastructure. We project future use to include our heavy equipment.”

Keystone Biofuels is also looking ahead. Ben Wootton, President of Keystone said “America’s biodiesel industry will add \$24 billion to the U.S. economy between 2005 and 2015, assuming biodiesel growth reaches 650 million gallons of annual production by 2015.” “And, biodiesel production will create a projected 39,000 new jobs in all sectors of the economy.”



PADEP Deputy Secretary Dan Griffiths speaking to guests at the showcase presentation

“We are extremely pleased to be celebrating this partnership with Keystone Biofuels at a time when renewable energy is receiving attention locally, throughout Pennsylvania and at the highest levels of our country,” said Brown. “This partnership reinforces our commitment to sustainability in communities and a dedication to providing the best service to our customers using state-of-the-art technology.”

Pine Grove Landfill Wins Award for Contributions to the Environment

Waste Management’s Pine Grove Landfill is improving the environment in Schuylkill County, and they have an award to prove it. The landfill was honored with the 2009 Forest Stewardship Award at the Schuylkill Conservation District’s Award Ceremony and Celebration earlier this summer. Pine Grove District Manager Sean Ryan accepted the

award on behalf of the landfill’s employees.

This recognition was initiated by Frank Snyder – not a Pine Grove Landfill employee, but a forester with the PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) - who has been working with the facility for the past few years.

Snyder’s nomination of Pine Grove Landfill for the Forest Stewardship Award brought the landfill’s many contributions to the community to the attention of the Schuylkill Conservation District’s environmental education coordinator, who is widely known as

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Chapter Directors Elected

At the SWANA Keystone meeting in Hershey in September, the following Chapter Directors were voted in for a two-year term:

Public Sector (Two)	Two-Year Term
Jennifer Cristofolletti	Term 2009 through September 2011
Timothy T. Hartman	Term 2009 through September 2011
Private Sector (Two)	Two-Year Term
George Barstar	Term 2009 through September 2011
Tanya McCoy-Caretti	Term 2009 through September 2011

The nominating committee also recognized current Board Director, Tom Imphong, for his service to the Board and expressed their appreciation for his contributions to the SWANA Keystone Chapter Board of Directors over the past 9 years.

Session Speakers and Topics were:

Build Me another Gas Pipeline: a Case History of a 9-mile Landfill Gas Project to Conestoga Landfill, Robert Hasemeier, Barton & Loguidice

Landfill Solar: An Innovative Application and Design, William Tafuto, ARM Group

The Importance of Public Outreach in an Effective Odor Control Strategy, Marc Levin, NCM Odor Control

PA Landfill Gas Utilization Project, Thomas Pullar, EarthRes Group

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“Porcupine Pat” McKinney for his dedication to wildlife.

In notifying Pine Grove that they had won the award, McKinney said, “Your time and talents have contributed much to furthering the goals of our conservation district that include environmental education, erosion and sediment control, watershed protection, AMD remediation, and farmland preservation. Waste Management has accomplished much to benefit our local wildlife and public education.”

“We are pleased to not only recognize Pine Grove Landfill on behalf of the Conservation District, but to also present this Certificate from State Senator David G. Argall, in recognition of your achievement”. Accepting the award, DM Sean Ryan thanked all those who help make the landfill’s efforts successful.

“Managing all the components of our Wildlife Habitat Council (WHC) projects and continuing to enhance our on-site education programs by utilizing our natural resources just wouldn’t be possible without the



Celebrating Pine Grove Landfill’s winning 2009 Forest Stewardship Award on August 18th are (l-r) Schuylkill Conservation District Manager Craig Morgan; Pine Grove District Manager Sean Ryan; Environmental Education Coordinator “Porcupine Pat”

ongoing dedication and commitment of our WHC community partners. We share this award with our fellow WM employees and habitat partners

who truly deserve this recognition,” Ryan said.

Pine Grove Landfill, in partnership with the DCNR-Bureau of Forestry, actively manages the almost 60 acres of woodlands and forested areas of the facility. In 2009, a Timber Harvest was conducted to promote new undergrowth and improve the natural diversity of the forest floor. At various stages of the harvest, students from Penn State University – Schuylkill Campus and the general public were provided with an in-depth look at sound forest management practices.

Pine Grove Landfill received its Wildlife at Work Certification from the Wildlife Habitat Council and became a DCNR-Stewardship Forest in 2006.

Reprinted from *WM Monday* September 7, 2009

Grand Central Sanitary Landfill Hosts 2009 Mid-Atlantic SWANA ROAD-E-O

Grand Central Sanitary Landfill may have hosted its first ROAD-E-O but there weren't any bulls at this landfill. Instead, solid waste truck and landfill drivers from across the Mid-Atlantic Region rode in to participate in the 2009 Solid Waste Authority of North America's (SWANA) ROAD-E-O. The Pennsylvania Keystone SWANA Chapter has been a part of the National SWANA ROAD-E-O event since 1987. In 2001, the Keystone Chapter invited the New Jersey and Mid-Atlantic Regional Chapters to participate in their annual ROAD-E-O. Then in 2003 the ROAD-E-O became a regional event taking the title of "Mid-Atlantic Regional ROAD-E-O." Since the formation of the Mid-Atlantic Regional ROAD-E-O the event has been hosted by Maryland, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania.

More than 10 companies and organizations were entered in this year's competition. Amongst those companies was Waste Management, who had participants from six different facilities. Nine Waste Management employees were among the 25 participants that won awards. Other companies that had award-winning

participants included, Modern Landfill Republic Services, Maryland Environmental Services, Pollution Control Financial Authority of Camden County New Jersey, Conestoga Landfill Republic Services, Wayne Township Landfill, Chester County Solid Waste Authority, Atlantic County Utilities Authority, and Lancaster County Solid Waste Management Authority.

The first and second place winners are now eligible to represent their Chapter at the International Road-E-O hosted by the City of Largo, Florida on September 18-19, 2009. The International Road-E-O promotes professionalism on the parts of the drivers and mechanics in the field of solid waste management and creates competition through chapters.

The ROAD-E-O features a competition that allows equipment operators to test and showcase their skill and expertise. This is a great opportunity for team building and a fun competitive spirit pervades the event. **Contestants participated in a pre-trip inspection of the vehicles**, as well as a hands-on driving skills examination following a

prescribed course that demonstrated the driver's abilities behind the wheel. This year, the ROAD-E-O included a mechanic's trouble-shooting contest. Selected mechanics were required to take a 50 question written test and then test their knowledge and skills in a troubleshooting contest performing actual diagnostic tests on available trucks.

The ROAD-E-O creates a spirit of competition and goodwill throughout the participating organizations.

There was a great story broadcast on National Public Radio's *Only A Game* program on August 7, 2009. The show covered SWANA's Mid-Atlantic Chapter 2009 Regional Road-E-O. Podcasts of the show are available at: <http://www.onlyagame.org/2009/08/saturday-august-7-2009/#7>

A video of the day's events can be purchased for \$5. Send check or money order to: Bob Watts, Executive Director, 7224 Division Hwy., Narvon, PA 17555, Phone 610-273-3771 x227.

Winners listed on the next page!

► Landfill Equipment Winners

Wheel Loader

1 st Place	Rodney Weitkamp	Modern Landfill Republic Services - PA
2 nd Place	Steven McCurry	Maryland Environmental Services - MD
3 rd Place	Gary Zingaro	Pollution Control Financial Authority of Camden County - NJ

Articulated Truck

1 st Place	Jane Leshar	Conestoga LF Republic Services - PA
2 nd Place	Chase Weise	Wayne Township Landfill - PA
3 rd Place	Matt Hartwell	Modern Landfill Republic Services - PA

Dozer

1 st Place	Frank Goad	Pollution Control Financial Authority of Camden County - NJ
2 nd Place	Kyle Young	Maryland Environmental Services - MD
3 rd Place	Steve Dunn	Chester Co Solid Waste Authority - PA

Compactor

1 st Place	Steve Dunn	Chester Co Solid Waste Authority - PA
2 nd Place	Adam Scott	Wayne Township Landfill - PA
3 rd Place	Tom Kostingo	Chester Co Solid Waste Authority - PA

► Mechanics Competition Winners

1 st Place	Dan Miller	Waste Management Telford - PA
2 nd Place	Brian Hentz	Atlantic Co Utilities Authority - NJ
3 rd Place	James Bonitz	Waste Management Dunmore - PA

► Trucks Competition Winners

Roll Off

1 st Place	Sam Madain	Waste Management Telford - PA
2 nd Place	Rodney Weitkamp	Modern Landfill Republic Services - PA
3 rd Place	Jesus Carrion	Waste Management Woodbine - NJ

Rear Loader

1 st Place	John Cieplenski	Waste Management Vineland - NJ
2 nd Place	Talbert Woodall	Atlantic Co Utilities Authority - NJ
3 rd Place	Christopher Zipfel	Atlantic Co Utilities Authority - NJ

Front Loader

1 st Place	Steven Everett	Waste Management Vineland - NJ
2 nd Place	Matt Effrig	Waste Management Telford - PA
3 rd Place	John Cieplenski	Waste Management Vineland - NJ

Recycle Truck

1 st Place	Christopher Zipfel	Atlantic Co Utilities Authority - NJ
2 nd Place	Kevin Diamond	Waste Management Gilbertsville - PA
3 rd Place	Roque Espinoza	Waste Management Dunmore - PA

Transfer Trailer

1 st Place	Joe Frymyer	Lancaster County Solid Waste Management Authority - PA
2 nd Place	Shaun Raudabaugh	Wayne Township Landfill - PA
3 rd Place	Brian Hentz	Atlantic Co Utilities Authority - NJ

Grand Central Wildlife

Wildlife Habitat Team and Community Members Hope to Bring Barn Owls Back to the Area

Bringing Barn Owls back to the area isn't going to be an easy task for the wildlife committee at the Grand Central Sanitary Landfill, but with some help from local Boy Scout Troop 33 and Jacobsburg Environmental Education Specialist, Rick Wiltraut as well as other avid birders and conservationists, the goal isn't unreachable. "In my opinion, the Barn Owl is one of the most beautiful and beneficial birds in the world, and it has been heartbreaking to witness their disappearance from the Lehigh Valley because of habitat loss and other man-made causes. Hopefully, grassland enhancement projects and strategic placement of nesting boxes will encourage them to return to the area," commented Wiltraut.



Energy Plant Manager Jeff Fors with Boy Scout Leader Chris Witmer putting up the box

Wiltraut and the boys from Scout Troop 33 of Pen Argyl helped Waste Management place a 34 x 23 inch

Barn Owl box near the Grand Central Environmental Education Center. Eagle Scout candidate Nick Policelli built and donated one of his Barn Owl boxes for the conservation project. The box was placed on a platform that Nick's fellow scout members constructed. Scout leader Chris Witmer, Armand Giroux, Patrick Leicht, and Austin Witmer all contributed their time and hard work to this project.

Waste Management's District Manager and employees dug a hole and placed a 30ft pole for the box to be mounted on. Energy Plant Manager, Jeff Fors, used a high-lift to fasten the platform and box to the pole. "It has truly been a team effort. We have all been working together the last year to plan the placement of this box," said Waste Management's Adrienne Borger.

Local Federal Bird Bander Paul Karner has been banding all sorts of birds for the last 20 years and remembers banding Barn Owls in 1982 near the PPL property. "In the 70s and 80s we had a small, but stable population here in Eastern Northampton County. Almost all of the active nesting sites (local barns) were either destroyed by fire or were removed and replaced by new metal ones (silo's) over the past 20 years."



Boy Scout Troop 33 just before the Barn Owl Box went up on the 30-foot pole

Many of the few nests that have been confirmed recently are located in Southeastern and Central Pennsylvania.

Eight to ten years ago, a Barn Owl was seen nesting in a barn just across the street from the Grand Central Sanitary Landfill. "Our hope for this project is to provide a nesting place for the Barn Owls and to repopulate the area with this declining species," said Ms. Borger. "Since 2005, Grand Central has been working with members of the community to establish a sustainable wildlife habitat for declining species such as the Barn Owl and grassland birds. Our wildlife habitat has grown to include a bird blind built by a local Eagle Scout, 70 Bluebird boxes as well as an education center that we hope to start utilizing more in the upcoming years."

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The Grand Central Environmental Education Center is the heart of the 200-acre certified wildlife habitat by the Wildlife Habitat Council at the Grand Central Sanitary Landfill. A 24-acre warm season grassland area and a 17-acre cool season grassland area surround the center for wildlife and habitat diversity. The Barn Owl nesting box will join other habitat projects created by local scouts and will develop the wildlife habitat further for cavity nesting birds. Grand Central's District Manager, Scott Perin, is a member and supporter of the wildlife committee at Grand Central. "The

progress and success of the wildlife habitat can be contributed to the willingness of all of the Waste Management employees as well as the community partners that have put in time to create and develop the project. It is that dedication that will yield positive results in wildlife conservation for the area. It is also that commitment that has grown a trial Bluebird box program into the Wildlife Habitat Council certified program that it is today," commented Mr. Perin.

"The wildlife team at Grand Central has been looking forward to



Energy Plant Manager Jeff Fors showing boy scouts how to keep track of banding birds.

completing a nest box project like this for several years, and now with the help of the local boy scouts and DCNR we have made it happen. I am extremely proud to be a part of this effort," said Jeff Fors.

Four American Kestrels Receive Bird Bands at Grand Central

Slate Belt residents and the employees at the Grand Central Sanitary Landfill assisted federal bird bander Paul Karner band four American Kestrels near the landfill's environmental education center in Plainfield Township on July 8th.

American Kestrels, often called Sparrow Hawks, reside in open habitats where it can be seen perched on utility lines hunting for birds, small mammals, and insects. These amazing birds are among the smallest in the Falcon family and are cavity nesters. For the last 30 years, Paul Karner has been providing homes for these falcons all across the Slate Belt. He bands more than 200 American Kestrels over the course of the nesting season. Paul also bands Eastern Bluebirds, Tree Swallows, and other cavity nesters in



Baby Kestrels banded at Grand Central

the area. Waste Management's Adrienne Borger and Jeff Fors assisted Paul in getting the baby Kestrels out of their box, which is about 12 feet up on a pole in Waste Management's Warm-Season Grasslands. "There is always something to learn about wildlife."

Grand Central was certified in 2007 for its 200 acres dedicated to wildlife habitat by the Wildlife Habitat Council. The Wildlife Habitat Council is a nonprofit, non-lobbying

organization dedicated to restoring and enhancing wildlife habitat. The organization was created in 1988 to help large landowners, particularly corporations, manage their unused lands in an ecologically sensitive manner for the benefit of wildlife. The employees at Grand Central have been working with Paul Karner and Jacobsburg Environmental Education Specialist, Rick Wiltraut, along with Scout groups and other organizations to develop and maintain certification and provide a diverse wildlife habitat for the area.

Grand Central has three American Kestrel boxes positioned around the 537-acre property. All three boxes have nested in the last 2 years and have fledged about a dozen Kestrels.

Grand Central Wildlife: Landfill remakes 200 acres as valuable wildlife habitat

Taking a group of high school students to visit a landfill, at first blush, seems like a good way to learn about recycling.

Taking a group of students to the Grand Central Sanitary Landfill in Pen Argyl, a 537.5-acre facility, has an added bonus: Students can learn about restoring wildlife habitat.

Instead of worrying about the old garbage-in, garbage-out philosophy, visitors to the environmental education center at Grand Central can learn how properly capped landfills can help create a natural habitat that, while not perfect, helps restore vegetation and wildlife to what used to be known as a garbage dump.

Grand Central, which is owned by Waste Management and accepts no hazardous waste materials at its Pen Argyl site, has built an incredible wildlife habitat on 200 acres of its facility to reclaim the land for native and migrant species.

The area already is home to a wide variety of birds and wildlife, and the facility has been adding a variety of bird boxes for different species since 2005, when it first built nine Eastern Bluebird boxes. Two weeks ago, the facility erected a Barn Owl box in a 17-acre cool-season grass field near a bird blind that was built as an Eagle Scout project.

Naturalists are working on identifying a potential blue grosbeak nest, which if found, would be the most northeastern blue grosbeak nest in the country.

One of the bragging points of the nature habitat is a 24-acre warm-season grass area planted in 2007 on a former corn field that includes switchgrass, black-eyed Susans, Indiangrass and a variety of others.

Warm-season grasses are crucial for ground foraging and nesting birds. These grasses reach deep into the ground with their root systems and can sustain extended drought and wintering.

Switchgrass in particular provides ideal cover for ground-nesting birds such as pheasants, although that isn't the priority of the nature habitat.

So far, the nature habitat has drawn a wide variety of butterflies and birds thanks to the abundant mix of foliage and bird boxes. Local Boy Scouts have built 67 bluebird boxes, three American kestrel boxes and two wood duck boxes.

The facility also is home to tree swallows, Savannah sparrows, grasshopper sparrows, and other birds, including of course the area's biggest scavenger, the turkey vulture.

According to Adrienne Borger, the community relations coordinator for

the facility, Hawk Mountain Sanctuary banded some of the turkey vultures and found out the ones that frequent Grand Central are the fattest birds in the area, not because they gorge themselves on the refuse, but because they hover on the rising heat created by the gas-to-energy Green Knight Energy Center. The updraft from the heat allows the birds to be less active to remain airborne; less active means fatter birds.

Since 2006, more than 2,300 people have completed educational programs or attended nature events at the facility.

In 2007, the landfill received Wildlife at Work certification by the Wildlife Habitat Council and has since been recognized by the state Department of Conservation and Natural Resources for the implementation of a grassland management plan and the creation of its environmental education center. The completion of that center allowed Grand Central to receive Corporate Lands for Learning certification from WHC last year.

Grand Central provides tours of its nature facility for schools and community groups. To learn more about the tours, call Borger at 610-863-2398.

From themorningcall.com August 25, 2009, by Gary Blockus. Submitted by Adrienne L. Borger, Grand Central Sanitary Landfill

News You Can Use... WASTECON 2009 - Long Beach, California

By Bob Watts, International Director

This was my second meeting (Landfill Symposium in Savannah was my first) as the International Director for the Keystone Chapter. The International Board (IB) meets the Sunday before the opening day to discuss the business of operating SWANA. One of the biggest changes before the IB was to add the Chair of each Tech Division to the IB (Previously all Tech Divisions had one representative on the IB). The IB approved this by-law change and moved it on to the general membership for a vote.

Just to give you a taste of some of the details of running an organization like SWANA, SWANA will have its Secretary and Treasurer to review the organizations IRS 990 filing due to new government rules. The IB has been reviewing updates to the policy that define when a Chapter is in good standing.

Policies that will be reviewed in 2010 include Whistle Blower and Conflict of Interest. It was also approved to add \$2.50 to the annual dues dedicated to pay for Scholarships (there may be additional increases added to 2010 dues). SWANA is committed to giving \$20,000 in Scholarships in 2010. SWANA is also trying to compile a history of SWANA and is looking for your help. There is a

link on the bottom right corner of their home page for this project.

Monday morning of WASTECON items were voted on from discussions had on Sunday. This gives us time to review the information, but I had to miss one of my favorite things at WASTECON and that is the facility tours. Monday was a nice southern California day so I took a long walk around Long Beach.

At breakfast Tuesday morning the first act was comedian Tim Clue. Tim did his homework on our business and had everyone laughing as he poked fun at our line of work. Tom Szaky, CEO of TerraCycle was a Keynote speaker at the opening breakfast. His company is based just across the Delaware River in Trenton, NJ. His company "up-cycles" products like juice pouches into backpacks and other items. Tuesday morning the show floor opened and we all had a great time looking at new equipment and talking to vendors. Tom's company is at www.teracycle.org and is always looking for people to collect items to be up-cycled.

T. Boone Pickens was the Presidential Keynote Speaker this year. His main theme was for SWANA members to work with him and others to reduce our dependence on foreign oil. He is working on major wind farms in the

central part of the country and one of his companies, Clean Energy, is operating natural gas fueling stations. He said he is working with long distance trucking companies to try and switch their fleets over to natural gas. Mr. Pickens is supporting a \$65,000 per truck tax credit to help defray the costs of switching to natural gas.

John Hadfield became the SWANA President for 2010 and our very own Jim Warner was sworn in as Treasurer. Anne Germain of the Delaware Solid Waste Authority became Secretary.

The technical presentations were very good and were both on the show floor and in meeting rooms. SWANA continues to find ways to keep people coming to WASTECON. They had comfortable couches and chairs in the middle of the show floor. They had ice cream and cash giveaways throughout the show floor. They were giving \$25 gift certificates at each technical session to those that stayed for the entire presentation (I won one, but did not get the \$100 for the final session!).

Remember next year WASTECON is co-located with American Public Works Association's annual meeting in Boston starting August 15, 2010.

News You Can Use...Legislative Report - October, 2009

National

Senators John Kerry (D-MA), Chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, and Barbara Boxer (D-CA), Chairman of the Committee on Environment and Public Works introduced a climate change bill that exempt waste-to-energy facilities from carbon restrictions under a greenhouse gas cap-and-trade system in late September.

The EPA published a report linking waste-to-energy and other materials management practices such as recycling to a reduction in the country's greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency in beginning of OCT finalized a mandatory reporting rule (MRR) for greenhouse gases that will require entities, such as waste-to-energy, to monitor and report the amount of greenhouse gases released. <http://www.paenvironmentdigest.com/newsletter/default.asp?NewsletterID=646>

Pennsylvania (as of late September) (See back page for listing of SWANA Technical Updates)

BILL #	Description	Status
H.B. 80 (S.B. 92)	Creates a carbon sequestration network and expands the Alternative Energy Portfolio Standards.	Removed from table for fourth time. September 18, 2009 (on September 30 calendar)
H.B. 594	Provides a PA DEP program for home-generated medical sharps.	Passed House June 6, 2009. Referred to Senate Public Health and Welfare Committee June 11, 2009.
H.B. 961 (S.B. 886)	Extends \$2.00 per ton recycling fee through December 31, 2015.	Incorporated with H.B. 1768. Referred to Senate Appropriations Committee. October 1, 2009
H.B. 1069 (S.B. 887)	Authorizes a per ton MSW fee of up to \$4.00 for participating counties.	Recommitted to Appropriations Committee May 6, 2009.
H.B.1447	Prohibits solid waste facility siting within 2,400 feet of a public water supply.	Referred to Environmental Resources and Energy Committee May 6, 2009.
H.B. 1577	Increases maximum annual household hazardous waste collection grants to \$150,000 for counties with populations of 250,000 or more.	Referred to Environmental Resources and Energy June 2, 2009.
H.B. 1768	Extends \$2.00/ton recycling fee through 2020. Provides \$1.25 from recycling fund for tire remediation. Adds "adjacent municipality" designation for requesting municipalities within one mile of landfill or Resource Recovery Facility footprint with inspection, training, reporting receipt and benefit fee negotiation rights.	Referred to Senate Appropriations Committee October 1.
S.B. 92 (H.B. 80)	Establishes a carbon sequestration network and expands the Alternative Energy Portfolio Standards.	Referred to Environmental Resources and Energy Committee March 19, 2009.
S.B. 547	Provides additional penalties for repeat violations of landfill regulations and requires compliance certifications for permit modifications and expansions.	Referred to Appropriations Committee June 23, 2009.
S.B. 886 H.B. (961)	Extends the \$2.00 per ton recycling fee through 2020 and authorizes \$1.25 million from the fund for used tire remediation.	Incorporated with H.B. 1768. Referred to Senate Appropriations Committee October 1, 2009.
S.B. 887 H.B. (1069)	Authorizes up to a \$4.00 per ton MWS fee for participating counties.	Referred to Environmental Resources and Energy Committee May 27, 2009.

News You Can Use...Stray Gas Workshop

Here is information on the upcoming **Stray Gas Workshop, scheduled for November 4-6, 2009, in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.** This is being shared with SWANA membership as a potential knowledge builder.

This workshop will focus on the scientific basis for assessment of, and various types of geochemical analyses for, stray or fugitive gases. Stray gases can originate from a variety of sources and accumulate in natural and man-made spaces where

dispersion and ventilation are inadequate. Gas accumulation can lead to problems where the fugitive nature of gases is a major safety concern. Tools and strategies for investigating stray gases, along with case studies, will be presented by scientists and specialists whose work has focused on the origins, migration, and accumulation of gases. The workshop is co-sponsored by the U.S. Geological Survey and Pittsburgh Geological Society, with support from the Office of Surface Mining and the Pennsylvania

Department of Environmental Protection. Additional information on the workshop, including a call for abstracts and an on-line registration form, can be found at http://pa.water.usgs.gov/stray_gas/ This conference examines impact issues and tracking methodologies associated with migrating methane gas.

The registration fee is \$150 and was due September 30, 2009.

SWANA Pennsylvania Keystone Chapter Calendar

Information about Keystone Chapter officers and calendar can be found at the Chapter's website <http://www.keystoneswana.org/>. Some events to plan for include:

JANUARY 2010

- Email mini-technical seminar announcement
- Email 8th Annual Mid-Atlantic Regional Road-E-O announcement (LOOKING FOR SPONSORS)
- Program Committee initiates planning for Annual Fall Conference (looking for presenters)

FEBRUARY 2010

- Mini-Technical Seminar/Forum with PADEP *TENTATIVE* (date and time to be announced)
- Submit articles for spring newsletter

APRIL 2010

- Announce Chapter Scholarship awards

MAY 2009

Nominating Committee presents slate of Officers and Directors for election

JUNE 2010

- Email registration announcement for Annual Fall Conference
- Review annual budget
- Reception for 7th Annual Mid-Atlantic Regional Road-E-O participants and judges (location and time to be announced)
- Friday, Annual Mid-Atlantic Regional Road-E-O (with Mid-Atlantic, New Jersey and New York Chapters) at Conestoga and Lanchester Landfills

AUGUST 2010

- 8/14 - 8/18 - WASTECON 2010 Boston, Massachusetts (Co-locating with the American Public Works Association's Annual Congress and Exhibition)

SEPTEMBER 2010

- 9/8 - 9/9 - **PWIA/SWANA/PADEP/PAHMI Annual Fall Conference**, Penn Stater, State College, PA
- 9/8 - **Chapter Annual Business Meeting and Election**, Penn Stater, State College
- Submit articles for fall newsletter

Geosynthetic Institute: Course #1 Dec. 7, 2009 and Mar. 22, 2010 Geosynthetics in Waste Containment Liner and Cover Design

Goal: This one-day course is focused on the proper design, analysis, and testing of geosynthetics used in liner and cover systems for landfills, surface impoundments and waste piles and heap leach pads. Included are the following geosynthetics:

geomembranes • geotextiles • geonets •
geogrids • geosynthetic clay liners •
geocomposites, and • geopipe.

Course Benefits: The course provides the latest information on design, analysis, and testing of geosynthetics in solid waste containment. Included are considerations regarding both hazardous and non-hazardous materials. The thrust is design-by-function that leads to the determination of a factor of safety. Numerous examples are utilized to illustrate different design procedures. Thus, a quantitative approach toward proper design of geosynthetics in this important environmental area is presented. Course notes are provided.

Instructors: Bob and George Koerner

Targeted Audiences: Federal, regional, and state EPA regulatory agencies; Dept. of Defense and Dept. of Energy personnel with abandoned (and new) sites involving solid waste disposal problems; private and municipal landfill owner/operators; consulting engineers and testing laboratories servicing these organizations; academic and research groups; manufacturers and representatives of geosynthetic materials; contractors and installers of geosynthetic materials; citizens groups and others desiring technically related information on liners and covers for landfills, surface impoundments, waste piles, and heap leach mining.

Geosynthetic Institute: Course #2 Dec. 8, 2009 and Mar. 23, 2010 Quality Control/Quality Assurance of Geosynthetics Installation

Goal: This one-day course is focused on the quality control and quality assurance of geosynthetics as placed in permanent and/or critical applications. Specifications and testing are emphasized. It focuses on both the manufactured geosynthetics and on the installation processes. Applications are mainly in the waste containment area, i.e., landfills and surface impoundments, but applicability to walls, slopes, dams, canals, mining, etc., will also be discussed. Included are the following geosynthetics:

geomembranes • geosynthetic clay liners •
geosynthetic drainage systems (geotextiles
and geocomposites) • vertical cutoff walls •
ancillary materials and appurtenances

Course Benefits: The course provides the latest information on manufacturing and installation of all types of geosynthetics. It follows closely the 2nd Edition of U.S. EPA Technical Guidance Document (EPA/600R-93/18) of the same title as this course. The guidance document has been updated in 2007 by

the course presenters. The updated information is included. Included are manufacturing QC and QA, as well as construction QC and QA. The course is very descriptive with numerous example situations and case histories. It is illustrated by current test methods and procedures. Course notes are provided.

Instructors: Bob and George Koerner

Targeted Audiences: Manufacturers and representatives of geosynthetic materials; as well as installers and contractors; manufacturing and construction quality assurance organizations; owners of facilities; engineering consultants; federal, state and regional agency personnel (both environmental and transportation).

Go to
[www.geosynthetic-
institute.org](http://www.geosynthetic-institute.org)
for further information
and registration.

► This publication is for the Solid Waste Professionals of the Keystone Chapter of SWANA

If you have ideas for future articles, updates, or general suggestions for The Keystone, please contact **Diane Roskos** at Barton & Loguidice, Newsletter Secretariat Production Services, or any member of the Newsletter Committee listed below:

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- Chapter members: please feel free to share this info with others that you work with or are interested in waste news in PA.
- The following SWANA Technical Policies updates were approved September 25, 2009. For PDF copies of these documents, please go to www.keystoneswana.org:

T-3.4, Ownership of Municipal Solid Waste Management Programs

T-5.2, Flow Control of Municipal Solid Waste