## 2003 NewsLetter

## October 2003

## NORTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF SANITARIAN EXAMINERS

Board Members: Dennis Salmen-Chair, Sanitarian-At-Large

Linda Sewall- Vice-Chair, Secretary NCDENR

Len Gilstrap- Sec./Treas., Eastern Sheila Nichols - NCDENR DEH Tim Green- Health Directors Eddie Pierce- Public-Spirited Citizen

Dicke Sloop- Piedmont Dr. Trenton Davis - Educator Mack Dendy- Western

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- 1. As of October 2003, there are 986 Registered Sanitarians (RS) and 66 Registered Sanitarian Interns (RSI) registered by the NC Board of Sanitarian Examiners (hereafter referred to as the 'Board').
- 2. Exam News-To date in 2003, 34 persons have taken the required National Environmental Health Association (NEHA) Exam to as part of the overall process to attain RS status. The last available Board-administered exam date in 2003 will be October 24<sup>th</sup> in Raleigh. NEHA has recently announced that they are soliciting bids for a NEW EXAM CONTRACTOR and this may involve the exam being modified. As information becomes available, it will be posted to the Board website www.rsboard.com.
- 3. The Board website, <a href="www.rsboard.com">www.rsboard.com</a>, is the information source on matters related to registration in North Carolina. In addition to basic information on registration, it contains:
  - Current approved continuing education
  - Exam information and dates
  - Board meeting dates and minutes

- Current forms, policies, and procedures
- Directory of registered persons
- Links
- 4. A Legislative Committee has been established within the Board to consider changes to the current rules and statutes. This committee will be soliciting input from various stakeholders within the environmental health profession on desired or needed changes. More information on this will be published on the website in the future.
- 5. Changing Times-Two Board members, Linda Sewall and Trenton Davis, retired in 2003 and their terms will soon be filled by 2 new appointees from the Governor's office. Tim Greene with the Alamance County Health Department joined the Board earlier this year as the new Health Director representative. In January 2004, the terms of Dennis Salmen and Eddie Pierce will expire as they will have completed two 4-year appointments. Board appointments are for 4 years and no Board member can serve more than 2 consecutive appointments.
- 6. The Board continues to spend an increasing amount of time on compliance issues with the State statutes and rules. The most common compliance issues have been:
  - Completing a public health law course within 4 years of the <u>date of employment</u>
  - Passing the exam process(NEHA/oral/essay) within **3 years of the <u>date of registration as an Intern</u>**
  - **Accurately** verifying and approving continuing education both of a non-traditional nature (GIS) and presented in non-traditional settings (e.g. Internet, videoconferences).

A Renewal Notice for annual registration is included on the other side of the Newsletter. Be sure to provide correct and sufficient information on the registration form, including continuing education hours completed. Ms. Bishop, the Board's Administrator, maintains an up-to-date list of all the approved continuing educational hours. The list is distributed on the environmental health list serve after every Board meeting where continuing education has been approved. If there are any questions regarding approved educational hours, don't hesitate to call the Board office.