

Newsletter

VOLUME 44, ISSUE 3

JULY, 2003

JAAx's to be Wood Lecturers at Annual Educational Conference



Colonel Jerry Jaax is one of America's leading experts on bioterrorism, in particular agroterrorism.

Along with his wife, Colonel Nancy Jaax, Colonel Jaax plays a heroic role in the best-selling book, *The Hot Zone*; and their work inspired the movie *Outbreak*, with Dustin Hoffman. In their best-known case, America faced a real life outbreak of the highly contagious Ebola virus, which kills by massive internal hemorrhage and is capable of jumping from one species to another. In a quarantine facility in the town of Reston, Virginia, the lethal virus broke out among recently imported monkeys.

Jerry led the team of space-suited Army soldiers who infiltrated the hot zone and successfully contained the outbreak. Meanwhile, back at the United States Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases (USAMRIID) in a top security lab, Nancy conducted emergency autopsies on the monkeys to determine the exact cause of their deaths. Their work drew attention to the dangers facing us as newer, deadlier viruses crop up.

Jerry retired from the Army in 1998 and is currently Associate Vice Provost and University Veterinarian at Kansas State University.

- Unmatched expertise in the most dangerous and mysterious diseases in the world.
- Deep knowledge of the science of bioterrorism
- A compelling voice in educating the public on the true nature of the bioterrorist threat

The Bioterrorism Threat

Few people in the world can match Colonel Jerry Jaax's expertise in the study and assessment of the bioterrorism threat. He has been on the front lines of the fight against Ebola, Anthrax, Congo Fever, and the many other deadly viruses that exist around the globe. The research and field work of he and his wife, Colonel Nancy Jaax, have helped to develop medical defenses against chemical and biological agents. In recent years Colonel Jaax has turned his considerable scientific expertise to the study of bioterrorism. He has been quoted as an expert in this area by the *New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, *USA Today*, and many other papers, as well as being interviewed on the subject by numerous local and national television shows. His compelling report on the state of the bioterrorism threat is essential for anyone interested in the safety and security of America and her allies.

The movie "Outbreak" will be available for your viewing
On Thursday night, September 18th
Prior to the Jaax's presentation on Friday morning.

NCPHA Annual Educational Conference
"Public Health: Called First—Expected to be the Best"
September 17-19, 2003
Adam's Mark Hotel, 425 North Cherry Street, Winston-Salem
Reservation Information: Single/Double: \$108/night
Reservations should be made no later than August 17, 2003

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- *Ron Levine Public Health Legacy Award Established*
- *Legislative Update*
- *Pride in Public Health*

President's Message

Debra Harris

I would like to say a big thank-you to the members of Eastern District North Carolina Public Health Association and Western North Carolina Public Health Association for the opportunity to speak at their annual educational conferences. It was a wonderful time to see old friends and meet new friends. I appreciate your hospitality.

WHAT DO I GET FOR MY MEMBERSHIP DUES!!!!!! This is one of the most often asked questions from potential members and members of NCPHA. Sadder still is when we, who have been members for a number of years, just stand there and go **DUH**. If we, as members, cannot answer their questions, how are we to expect them to join? The old excuse is if I can't go to the conference I am not going to pay my dues. The Educational Conference certainly is one of the most well known benefits for members, but there are other benefits that impact us in a greater way. It hits us where we live and that is to continue to strengthen the infrastructure of Public Health and ensure funding for Public Health Programs.

So, how does my being a member of NCPHA have a bearing on that? This year there has been a tremendous amount of legislation that impacts Public Health in many ways. Your membership dues support our Executive Director and her ability to be at the Legislature to monitor the bills that affect us. This is not NCPHA, but you as an employee in Public Health. Members have the very latest updates, when we need to call our representatives, and talking points to use when we call. Public Health workers have made a big difference this year in calling their representatives and asking them to vote for bills that help strengthen Public Health.

Your membership dues help us to support bills that promote healthier lifestyles. As a member your will receive legislative alerts keeping you abreast of what is going on in Raleigh and what you can do to help. Your membership dues ensure that we can continue our newsletter that has current information from across the state. By being a member in NCPHA, it demonstrates your pride in what you do. Membership in your professional organization demonstrates your commitment to Public Health and ensuring the safety and well-being of citizens in North Carolina.

The very best reason to join NCPHA is because we are a family. You cannot put a price on getting to know your peers from across the state and networking together to share ideas. I have been a member of NCPHA for more years than I am going to tell you, but I have never regretted paying my dues even if I could not go to the conference because of the other benefits that I gain from membership.

Sooooooooooooo, the next time somebody says **WHY SHOULD I JOIN NCPHA** don't stand there and say duh---tell them why it is important that become a member of the Public Health family. See you in September and looking forward to seeing a lot of new friends as well as old friends. Share this newsletter with your co-workers and encourage them to join NCPHA. You will not regret it!

I am proud to be a Public Health worker and equally proud to support my professional association

WNCPHA Annual Conference

Jenny Kirksey, President

The Annual Conference was held at the Holiday Inn in Hickory on April 30-May 1. Despite the many budget cuts the conference was well attended and enjoyed by all.

Casey Cooper, Executive Director of the Health and Medical Division of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, delivered the keynote address. The presentation began with a very moving history of the Cherokee Indians. He described a wealth of contemporary research that gave new insight into a number of public health concerns that affect a diversity of populations. Attendees were left with a new perspective on the determinants of health.

Some very special public health workers were recognized for their dedication and hard work during the awards luncheon.

Annual Educational Conference

David Stone, President-Elect

Work is progressing as we finish up the details for this year's Annual Educational Conference, to be held September 17-29, 2003 at the Adam's Mark Hotel in downtown Winston-Salem. Our theme for the year – "Public Health: Called First, Expected to be the Best" – reflects the work of Public Health in many ways. Bioterrorism, West Nile Virus and now SARS, now household terms, were not a worry for public health in North Carolina just a few years back. Now we must be prepared to meet the public health challenges that confront our citizens. Indeed, we are "expected to be the best" in tackling the tough issues that are now a part of our health care agenda.

The program committee has been working hard to develop an agenda and section educational sessions that will appeal to public health workers. Many are multi-disciplinary in approach. They also reflect the beginning transition as our Association revamps its committee and section structure.

This year we will again have the GlaxoSmithKline Child Health Recognition Awards on Wednesday. After lunch, we will begin the section meetings and educational session that go through Thursday. The Awards Banquet on Thursday is always a celebration as we recognize worthy public health professionals from across our state.

On Friday we are excited about our Wood Lecture presenters. We are pleased to have Colonel Jerry Jaax and Colonel Nancy Jaax join us at NCPHA. Colonel Jerry Jaax is one of America's leading experts on bioterrorism, in particular agroterrorism. Along with his wife, Colonel Nancy Jaax, Colonel Jaax plays a heroic role in the best-selling book, *The Hot Zone*; and their work inspired the movie *Outbreak*, with Dustin Hoffman.

Please plan on joining us in Winston-Salem in September as we showcase how Public Health is Called First and Expected to be the Best!

Ann F. Wolfe, M.D., MPH Trust

The North Carolina Public Health Association is proud to announce the opportunity for you to contribute to a new endowment that has been established through the estate of Dr. Ann F. Wolfe for the purpose of awarding annual mini-grants to aid local health departments in the reduction of infant mortality and enhancing child health program efforts. The association has chosen the North Carolina Community Foundation to be the administrator of this endowment. We have enjoyed a profitable relationship with this Foundation in our other two association endowments, The Wood Endowment and the Scholarship Endowment.

Please consider a contribution to this permanent endowment. You may give gifts as memorials or in honor of special people in your life.

Ann F. Wolfe, M.D., MPH Trust

PLEASE FIND ENCLOSED BY CONTRIBUTION IN THE AMOUNT OF: \$ _____

Please use my contribution in honor of _____ or in memory of _____

Please send acknowledgement of my gift to: _____

Please send receipt of my gift to me at: _____

Please clip this contribution card, make your check payable to the North Carolina Community Foundation for the Anne F. Wolfe, M.D., MPH Trust and mail it to:

North Carolina Community Foundation
Post Office Box 2828
Raleigh, North Carolina 27602-2828

Make sure you write on the bottom of your check Ann F. Wolfe, M.D., MPH Trust
Contributions are tax deductible

Establishment of the Ron Levine Public Health Legacy Award

Dr. Leah Devlin

Dr. Ron Levine was awarded the first Ron Levine State Health Director Legacy Award at the State Health Director's Annual Conference in January. We look forward to bestowing this award annually at this Conference to an outstanding individual whose contributions to public health are reflective of Dr. Levine's high goals and long-lasting accomplishments.

We are blessed in North Carolina to have had Dr. Ron Levine serve as our State Health Director for 17 years. Dr. Levine joined the public health staff in North Carolina in 1963--forty years ago. In 1981, he was not just "asked" by then Governor Jim Hunt and Secretary Sarah Morrow, not just "urged" to accept the State Health Directorship--rather they demanded that he accept. They would not let him say no. They knew that they and we needed Dr. Ron Levine in that capacity.

Over 17 challenging years there are many benchmarks that went into creating the public health legacy of Dr. Ron Levine. It takes time to create such a strong public health legacy-- it takes years to affect change in public health. Dr. Levine was known as "the Dean" among state health directors nationwide since his tenure as a state health director was and remains unsurpassed. He not only survived but thrived under both Democratic and Republic administrations creating a strong enduring tradition of public health in North Carolina.

Dr. Levine was a master in the General Assembly. He presented before countless committees, met with untold members of the legislature, built coalitions, sent them outlines of bills that they went on to pass making them their own. One of his greatest accomplishments was the rewrite and updating of our entire public health code making certain that North Carolina's public health statutes were broad, comprehensive, clear and understandable. When other states in 2002 scurried to update their laws to accommodate bioterrorism, North Carolina had to make relatively minor changes.

Dr. Levine brought an insistence on sound science to all of public health decision making whether it was in policy, program or service development. His first question when one brought forward an issue would predictably be, "what are the facts, what does the science tell us?" Toward this end, Dr. Levine greatly enhanced the environmental epidemiology function, which is still widely recognized by industry and environmentalists for the ability to determine potential impacts on health through modeling and an objective review of the scientific evidence.

Dr. Levine worked to institutionalize the partnership between state staff and local public health directors and their Boards. He believed in the local/state system and he insisted that state staff work through the Association of Local Health Directors committee structure to strengthen that partnership -- a practice that still continues.

Dr. Levine was very successful in using the powers of the State Health Director's Office to protect human health creating a tradition of proactive public health legal action. This tradition established credibility that enables the Office of the State Health Director to continue as a major force in advancing the public's health today.

Dr. Levine established a reputation as a leader whom business, industry and other Departments of state government could work with on issues of mutual concern. His stature in this greater community opened doors to public health for debate and dialogue that generated lasting solutions and created enduring avenues of communication.

Dr. Levine led not only the public health workforce but also the medical profession and community advocates through an intensive and controversial time in developing this state's policy on HIV/AIDS. These policies, laws and rules still provide the foundation today for all of our work as we continue to wrestle with this deadly epidemic. Dr. Levine established the Office of Minority Health and the Minority Health Advisory Council ten years ago. The challenge of eliminating health disparities continues on as one of public health's main goals.

Dr. Levine nurtured and strengthened the NC Commission for Health Services, which is the closest entity in North Carolina to a state-wide board of health. This Commission continues in 2003 as a strong, balanced and supportive force for public health. That just didn't happen by itself--the Commission flourished under the influence of Dr. Levine.

Dr. Levine--a pediatrician as well as an epidemiologist--made tremendous gains in North Carolina for infant and children's health. Under his watch the Healthy Start Foundation, Health Check, Maternity Care Coordination, the Child Fatality Task Force, the universal vaccination program, and strengthened family planning services all were put into place. These services and programs, which have dramatically reduced infant mortality and improved children's health, haven't always been available to families. It was under his watch and during his tenure that these services were put in place statewide to achieve the continually improving results for children today.

And last, Dr. Levine's legacy continues to grow in so many ways. He serves as a mentor to other new state health directors including North Carolina's. He is a regular, informal consultant to a wide number of staff. He most recently served on the Committee that drafted the Bioterrorism Bill that the 2002 General Assembly just ratified. So his influence and his legacy goes on.

2003 NCPHA Slate of Officers

We are pleased to announce the 2003 NCPHA Slate of Officers. All of these individuals have proven their leadership in public health and we are proud that they are willing to share that leadership with our association.

President Elect:

Tom Bridges - Henderson County Health Director. Tom has been a NCPHA member for many years having served as Vice President of Communication for NCPHA in 2001-02

Jenny Kirksey - Director, Community Health, North Carolina Baptist Hospitals. Jenny joined NCPHA when she first relocated to North Carolina to become Burke County Health Director. She is currently the Past President of the Western Public Health Association.

Vice President:

Karen Sigmon-Smith - Manager, BestHealth, Wake Forest University Baptist Medical Center. Has served as Section Chair of the Health Education Section

Deborah J. Warren - Nurse Practitioner, Harnett County Health Department. Deborah is currently serving as Vice President. She has been actively involved in NCPHA in numerous capacities over the years and was a Past President of EDNCPHA. She is seeking another term.

Secretary/Treasurer:

Sandi Baxley - Administrative Assistant, Guilford County Health Department. Sandi has served as Secretary/Treasurer for several years. She has been active in the Management Support Section of the Association in addition to serving as Secretary/Treasurer of the Association. She is seeking another term.

Helene Edwards - Nutritionist, Hoke County Health Department. Helene is currently serving as Member-At-Large East and has successfully lead the Nutrition Section in NCPHA as Section Chair

Southern Health Association Representative:

Dr. Sherman Kahn - Retired Forsyth County Health Director. Sherman joined NCPHA when he first relocated from Tennessee. He has been an active supporter of Southern Health Association, having been a member of that Association prior to relocating to North Carolina and having served as Treasurer of that Association. He is Past President of NCPHA.

American Public Health Association Representative:

Dr. Stephen Keener - Medical Director, Mecklenburg County Health Department. Stephen currently serves as Past President of NCPHA and has been a long time member of both NCPHA and APHA.

Member At Large East:

Nita Britt - Nurse Practitioner, Wayne County Health Department. Nita has been an active member of NCPHA for several years. She currently serves as President of EDNCPHA

Walter Council - DPH Washington Area Regional Immunization Consultant. Walter has been a member of NCPHA since beginning his career in public health. He currently serves as Member At Large for the Association and is seeking an additional term.

Member At Large West:

Ruth Jones - Public Health Educator, Transylvania County Health Department. Ruth has been an active member of NCPHA for many years. She is a Past President of WNCPHA

Pat McCall - Public Health Nurse and Maternal Outreach Worker Supervisor, Henderson County Health Department. Pat has served in numerous capacities in NCPHA including Nursing Section Chair and past Member At Large for the Association

Ballot

Please complete the election ballot, detach and return to NCPHA in the enclosed envelope no later than August 15, 2003, to vote for your new officers.

President Elect:

Tom Bridges
 Jenny Kirksey

Vice President

Karen Sigmon-Smith
 Deborah J. Warren

Secretary/Treasurer:

Sandi Baxley
 Helene Edwards

APHA Representative

Dr. Stephen Keener

Southern Health Representative

Dr. Sherman Kahn

Member At Large East

Nita Britt
 Walter Council

Member At Large West

Ruth Jones
 Pat McCall

2003 Annual Educational Conference Itinerary

Public Health: Called First – Expected to be the Best

Tuesday, September 16, 2003

10:30 – 1:00	NCPHA Governing Council
1:30 – 5:00	NC Association of Local Health Directors
2:00 – 5:00	Public Health Social Work Continuing Education Training and Advisory Committee
6:00 – 10:00	Hospitality Room

Wednesday, September 17, 2003

8:00 – 5:00	Registration
12:00 – 5:00	Exhibits
9:00 – 10:00	Opening Session
10:30 – 12:00	GlaxoSmithkline Child Health Recognition Awards Ceremony
12:00 – 1:30	Luncheon (Sponsored by GlaxoSmithkline)
1:30 – 5:00	Health Director Legal Conference <i>Legislative/Regulatory Update</i> <i>Overview of Mandated Services and Health Department Responsibilities and Options</i> <i>Liability of Removing Hostile Patients from Premises</i>
1:30 – 5:00	Train the Trainer Session: Dispensing by Public Health Nurses This session will provide an update for new and continuing nurse/pharmacist teams who serve as trainers in local health departments where public health nurses dispense medications. Updated training materials (both the Background booklet and the Self-Study guide) will be shared.
1:30 – 3:00	Management Support Section Workshop <i>Achieving Balance in Your Life</i> Cheri Britton, M.Ed.
1:30 – 5:00	Environmental Health Section Business Meeting
1:30 – 5:00	HIV/STD Control Section Workshop <i>Acute HIV</i> Peter Leone, M.D.
1:30 – 3:00	<i>Faculty Presentation</i> UNC Institute of Public Health
3:30 – 5:00	Child Care Health Consultation: Quality Improvement for Infants and Toddlers Jonathan Kotch, M.D., MPH
3:30 – 5:00	Management Support Section Business Meeting
3:30 – 5:00	New Member Orientation
8:00 – 12:00	Dance – “Band of Oz” (Sponsored by Gulf South Medical)

Thursday, September 18, 2003

8:00 – 2:00	Registration
8:00 – 12:00	Exhibits
8:00 – 5:00	Women and Children’s Health Silent Auction
8:30 – 10:00	HIV/STD Control Business Meeting

- 8:30 – 10:00 **Health Education Section Business Meeting/Breakfast** (pre-registered event, call Katherine Coggins 252-972-6958 to register) Sponsored by Cal-Maine Foods and Farmhouse Eggs
- 8:30 – 10:00 **Women and Children's Section Business Meeting, Continental Breakfast, Awards, and Workshop**
Legislative Update on Women's and Children's Health Issues
Chris Hoke, J.D. (pre-registered event, call Joyce Wagner 919-718-4640 to register)
- 8:30 – 9:30 **Dental Health Section Workshop/Breakfast** (pre-registered event, call Betsy Hardin 704-986-3034 to register) Sponsored by Patterson Dental
Oral Care of the Head and Neck Radiation Patient
Michael Lowder
Update on the therapy and challenges patients face as a result of oral cancer treatment
- 8:30 – 10:30 **Environmental Health, Nursing and Laboratory Section Workshop**
Institution Infection Control
Tobi B. Karchmer, M.D., Assistant Professor of Medicine
Infectious Diseases Section, Wake Forest University School of Medicine
- 8:30 – 10:00 **Nutrition Section Workshop**
Vitamin D Deficiency Rickets: A Resurgence of an Old Disease
Shelley Kreite, M.D., Wake Forest University
Etiology of vitamin D deficiency rickets; ;sources of vitamin D for prevention; Vitamin D supplementation available for breastfed infants through the WIC program and appropriate guidelines
- 10:30 – 11:30 **Dental Health Section Business Meeting**
- 10:30 – 12:00 **Environmental Health, Nursing, Physician Extenders and Laboratory Section Workshop**
Breathe Easier: Alamance's Approach to Child Asthma
Cindy Brady, Carl Carroll, Tammy Bailey, Cathy Hathcock – Alamance County Health Department
Raise awareness about child asthma and decrease asthma disparities among children
- 10:30 – 12:00 **Health Education Section, Management Support Section Workshop**
Message in a Bottle, "Do's and Don'ts of Public Health Legislative Advocacy
Panel Discussion
- 10:30 – 12:00 **Nutrition Section Workshop**
Nutrition/Dietetics – Protection and Regulation
Kim Dove, RD, LDN, Consultant
Participants will understand the purpose of the law and the duties of the NC Board of Dietetics/Nutrition and will be able to distinguish the differences between NCDA and NC Board of Dietetics. Will use case studies to demonstrate knowledge of scope of practice and code of ethics violations.
- 11:30 – 2:30 **Social Work Section Luncheon and Workshop** (pre-registered event, Call James Rogers 704-786-9181 to register)
The Changing Faces of Social Work Practice
Michael Clements, MSW, MPH, Director, Downtown Health Plaza of NC Baptist Hospital
To enhance awareness of issues associated with PHSW practice
- 12:00 noon **Laboratory Section Luncheon** (pre-registered event, call Susan O'Brien at 910-791-2234 to register)
Sponsored by Tarheel Physician Supply
Physician Extenders Luncheon and Business Meeting
(pre-registered event, call Portia Cole 919-718-4640 to register)
CHAT Section Luncheon and Business Meeting
(pre-registered event, call Kathy Oxendine 910-671-3200 to register)
Nursing Section Luncheon and Business Meeting
(pre-registered event, call Pat McCall 828-698-6019 to register)
Nutrition and Health Education Luncheon
(pre-registered event, call Helene Edwards 910-875-2298 to register)
Dental Health Section Luncheon (pre-registered event, call Betsy Hardin 704-986-3034 to register)
Sponsored by Patterson Dental
Environmental Health Section Luncheon
(pre-registered event, call Mike Cash 336-597-1789 to register)

2003 Annual Educational Conference Itinerary

Thursday, September 17, 2003

- 1:30 – 3:00 **Dental Health Section Workshop**
How to Survive Cancer Mentally and Physically
 Susan R. Maddox, B.A.
 A survivor's perspective of how we, as dental professionals, can help maintain quality of life for patients undergoing cancer treatment
- 1:30 – 3:00 **Women's and Children's Health, CHAT, Physician Extenders, and Nursing Section Workshop**
Adolescent Depression
 Dr. Thomas Irons
- 1:30 – 3:00 **Nutrition and Health Education Sections Workshop**
Policy and Environmental Interventions that Promote the Prevention of Childhood Obesity
 Frank Clawson
 Workshop will describe current programs available to prevent pediatric obesity, ways to improve existing programs that target childhood obesity and discuss factors that may inhibit healthy lifestyles with children
- 1:45 – 3:15 **Environmental Health Section Workshop**
Bioterrorism Preparedness
 Will Service
 Educate and inform environmental health and other professionals concerning North Carolina's plans for preparing and responding to a bioterrorist attack.
- 3:30 – 5:00 **Environmental Health Section Workshop**
New Trends in Advanced Wastewater System Technology for On-Site Systems
 Joe Pearce, PE, On-site Wastewater Section, DENR
 Explore and discuss new and innovative/experimental technologies for on-site wastewater treatment
- 3:30 – 5:00 **Laboratory and Health Education Section Workshop**
Agents of Bioterrorism
 Dr. James Kirkpatrick, Branch Head, DPH Bioterrorism Branch
 Dr. Lou Turner, Director, State Laboratory of Public Health
- 3:30 – 5:00 **Nutrition Section Business Meeting and Awards**
- 6:00 – 8:30 **Awards Banquet**
- 9:00 – 12:00 **Dance – DJ**
- 9:00 – 11:00 **A Night at the Movies: "Outbreak"**

Friday, September 19, 2003

- 8:30 – 9:30 **Wellness/Prevention Section Organizational Meeting**
- 8:30 – 9:30 **Community Health Planning Organizational Meeting**
- 8:30 – 9:30 **Epidemiology Organizational Meeting**
- 8:30 – 9:30 **Women's and Children's Health Organizational Meeting**
- 10:00 – 11:00 **Wood Lecture**
"Outbreak"
 Colonel Jerry Jaax and Colonel Nancy Jaax
 Colonel Jerry Jaax is one of America's leading experts on bioterrorism. Along with his wife, Colonel Nancy Jaax, Colonel Jaax plays a heroic role in the best selling book Hot Zone and their work inspired the movie Outbreak.
 Sponsored in Part by Division of Public Health Epidemiology Section, Bioterrorism Branch
- 11:00 – 12:00 **Business Meeting and Closing Session**

LABORATORY SECTION

Susan O'Brien, Chair

The Laboratory Section Program Committee has planned an outstanding program for the Annual Educational Conference to be held in Winston-Salem from September 17-19, 2003. We certainly would like for all of our Section members to be able to attend the entire conference as the educational opportunities will be great, but we are aware that personnel and budget constraints will make this impossible for many of our members. Keeping that in mind, the Section has planned for all of our educational sessions to be held on **Thursday, September 18, 2003.**

Our Section will be co-sponsoring again with Environmental Health two sessions: from 8:30 am to 10:00 am. A program on "Institutional Infection Control" and from 10:30 am to 12 noon a session on "Breathe Easier: Alamance's Approach to Child Asthma" Each of these programs will certainly have educational value to laboratorians.

The Laboratory Section Awards Luncheon/Business Meeting will begin at 12 noon and continue to 3:00 pm. At this time the Laboratorian of the Year award will be presented, new officers of the Section will be voted on and other business of the Section conducted. Once again thanks to the generosity of Tarheel Physician Supply, our annual Awards Luncheon will be provided free of charge to Laboratory Section Members. But I must hear from you no later than **September 11 if you plan to attend. I can be reached at (910) 791-2234 or s.m.obrien@worldnet.att.net.**

The Section educational offerings will conclude from 3:30 pm to 5:00 pm with a program on "The Agents of Bioterrorism" presented by Dr. James Kirkpatrick and Dr. Lou Turner. This session will be co-sponsored by the Health Education Section. Hopefully you will be able to attend this packed day of educational and fellowships sessions. Your Section needs your support.

At the Annual Educational in September in New Bern, Paulette Bellamy from the Brunswick County Health Department was the winner of the "Laboratorian of the Year" award. A most deserving winner she was. Paulette has over the years been a shining example of the consummate public health laboratorian. As last year's winner, she is the chairperson of the Awards Committee and she is accepting nominations for the winner for this year. I know that there are many working in public health laboratory medicine across our state that deserve to be recognized, so get your pen and pad together and write about one of your co-workers or colleagues. There is no greater joy than to be recognized by your peers for a job well done.

Also at the conference in New Bern, the Section created a new award, "The O'Brien Lifetime Achievement Award" named in honor of Susan O'Brien, long time Laboratory Director of the New Hanover County Health Department Laboratory. This award will honor those persons who retire from public health laboratory medicine with at least ten years of service. Lisa Ballance has taken on the responsibility for the time being to see that this award gets to those that qualify. If you have someone that is deserving of this award, please contact Lisa at (910) 486-4111 or lisa.ballance@ncmail.net.

We hope to see each of you in Winston-Salem in September.

Physician Extender Section

Portia Cole, Chair

Greetings to all! Now that we are finally thawing out from the cold winter and ice we have began to plan for the annual NCPHA educational conference. With the dissolution of our section in September, I hope our members have given thought to joining other sections. We have been invited to join the Women's and Children's Health Section, the Nursing section and the Epidemiological sections.

For our continuing education sessions at NCPHA in September we will be joining with the Environmental Health Section for a morning session on the Health Effects of Molds. For the afternoon session we will combine with the Nursing and Women's and Children's Section for our educational meeting. We have stressed the importance of obtaining credit hours to the other sections.

It would be nice for our section to get together as a section for one last luncheon if anyone knows of a willing sponsor please feel free to contact me anytime by email pcole@leecountync.com or telephone 919-718-4648 x 5358. I look forward to seeing everyone at NCPHA and welcome any comments, suggestions, or concerns from our members.

Environmental Health Section

Patricia Hawkins, Chair

Planning for the upcoming Annual Conference in Winston-Salem is almost complete! As in past years, the business meeting will be held the afternoon of the first day of the conference, Wednesday, September 17.

1. The By-laws Committee will be requesting a vote on changing the Manual of Operations to allow scholarships to be increased to \$300 from the current award of \$200 per recipient. More information on this will be included in the Environmental Health Newsletter.
2. Elections will be held. The Nominating Committee will present a slate of candidates and nominations will be taken from the floor. Remember, for this next year, there will be 4 elected officer positions: President, Vice-President, Treasurer and Secretary. **If you are interested in becoming an NCPHA EH Section officer**, contact the Chair of the Nominating Committee, Robert Bennett, Cumberland County Health Dept., at 910-433-3686, or your educational district president. (We especially need volunteers from the West.)
3. There will be an opportunity for committees and educational districts to report on their activities for the past year, learn the financial status of the section, and hear news from across the state.
4. **Scholarships will be awarded at the business meeting.**

Please note, the **EH section awards** (Rookie of the Year, EH Specialist of the Year, and Bill Broadway Award) will be awarded at the EH Luncheon to be held on **Thursday, September 18**.

The Program Committee has been working hard to plan an interesting and informative program for this year. All educational offerings will be held on **Thursday, September 18**. EH will again team up with other NCPHA sections including Nursing, Physician Extenders, and Lab. From Wake Forest University School of Medicine, Dr. Toby Karchmer will speak on the importance and methods of infectious disease prevention in hospitals and other institutional settings. EH and health care staff will present information on child asthma, disparities in asthma among children and Alamance's approach to child asthma. Will Service will speak on North Carolina's Bioterrorism Preparedness, giving us an update on preparing plans and responding to a bioterrorism attack. For on-site specialists, Joe Pierce OSWW Section, will explore and discuss new trends and technologies for innovative and experimental on-site systems.

This year, show your support for the NCPHA EH Section Scholarship Program and the SOP Committee by purchasing a raffle ticket. This year's profits will be used to help purchase much needed audio-visual equipment for use in our SOP workshops. Only 500 raffle tickets are to be sold at \$10 a piece. Five lucky winners will take home \$500 each! Tickets can be purchased at district educational meetings and SOP workshops OR from your educational district officers and any of this year's EH section officers. Not sure who has tickets? Call Robert Bennett, at 910-433-3686, or any of the other officers (Patricia Hawkins, Transylvania County; Michael Cash, Person County; Sheila Nichols, REHS, Children's EH).

We look forward to seeing you all at the conference, and welcome any and all suggestions or comments!

Health Education Section

Karen Sigmon-Smith, Chair

The Health Education Section is busy preparing for the upcoming Annual Meeting, as well as for the official merger with our public health colleagues through the consolidation of NCPHA member sections. In the spirit of partnership, our educational programs, to be held in September, are being planned and co-sponsored by various sections in the NCPHA family. To allow our members from across the state the ability to participate in our full program agenda, all Health Education activities will take place on Thursday, September 18th. We will hold our business meeting at 8:30am, host an advocacy workshop together with Management Support at 10:30am, join the Nutrition Section for a combined luncheon at noon followed by a childhood obesity workshop at 1:30pm, and join the Lab Section for a talk on Bioterrorism at 3:30pm. We invite all public health professionals to join us for these timely seminars that promise to enhance our understanding of public health issues, in light of North Carolina's current economic and social climate.

In addition to our focus on the Annual Meeting agenda and consolidation logistics, the Health Education Section is pursuing nominations for our annual section awards. The *Sparkle Project Award* recognizes a model health education project of two years or less duration or a one-time event in which a health educator was involved. Model health education projects of more than two years, in which a health educator was involved in its design and establishment, are eligible to compete for our *Golden Project Award*. We reserve the *Jeanne Palmer Excel Award* for an outstanding health educator in recognition of his/her contributions to promoting the health and well-being of North Carolina residents and/or the health education profession. More information and award-specific nomination forms are available from Karen Sigmon Smith at karsmith@wfubmc.edu. The deadline for nominations is August 15th and the presentation of awards will take place on September 18th, as part of our annual business meeting. We look forward to seeing everyone in Winston-Salem in September.

Women's and Children's Health Section

Brenda Dunn, Chair

The Women's and Children's Health Section invites new, old and prospective members to join us for Section activities during NCPHA's Annual Educational Conference in Winston-Salem. Our Business Meeting Awards Session will be held on Thursday, September 18, from 8:30—10:00 am. Chris Hoke will update attendees on legislative issues related to women and children and public health. Comments usually lead to lively interaction with all participants.

At the conclusion of the business meeting, the annual WCH Section awards will be presented. Help us celebrate achievements in our WCH family and spread the word in our communities regarding the winner's accomplishments and public health service. Consider nominating your staff/colleagues for one of three awards: 1) Child Health Team, 2) Women's Health Team, and 3) WCH Excellence Award. Contact Betty Cox in the Fayetteville Regional Office at 910-486-4013, or email at betty.a.cox@ncmail.net for nomination forms. Deadline submission is Wednesday, July 9, 2003.

The WCH Section is planning a silent auction for Thursday, September 18 in order to raise funds for its activities. Prizes will be donated by members of the Section, and it is anticipated that great buys will abound. It will be held in the exhibit area and is for all to participate, so bring extra cash!

WCH joins Nursing/Social Work/Physician Extenders Section in a multidisciplinary educational presentation on Thursday, September 18 from 1:30—3:00 pm. Dr. Tom Irons, Pediatrician, will present his perspective on Adolescent Depression. His presentation will be both informative and motivational. You won't want to miss it!

Please RSVP for WCH Section Business Meeting/Awards Presentation on Thursday. You can call me at 919-663-3717 or email me at Brenda.Dunn@ncmail.net

Pride in Public Health says:



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Honor

"Tie One On" at the Annual Meeting

Do you know that special person that exemplifies the Public Health Spirit?

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The medallion will have a place for their name and a personal message.

The medallions will be tied onto the Pride in Public Health Recognition Tree for all to see

Acknowledgements will be noted in the Pride in Public Health Registry.

NCPHA Annual Educational Conference Registration

SEPTEMBER 17-19, 2003
WINSTON-SALEM, NORTH CAROLINA

Personal Information: (Please print or type all information requested)

First Name _____ MI _____ Last Name _____

Work Telephone Number _____ Home Telephone Number _____

Employer _____

Position _____

ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

- Board of Health Member or County Commissioner
 NCPHA Life Member (No charge)

FULL CONFERENCE:*

- Pre-registration (Member) \$125.00
 Pre-registration (Non-Member) \$170.00
 On-Site registration (Member) \$125.00
 On-Site registration (Non-Member) \$170.00

ONE DAY: DAY MUST BE DESIGNATED:**

- Pre-registration (Member) \$ 85.00
 Pre-registration (Non-member) \$135.00
 On-Site registration (Member) \$ 85.00
 On-Site registration (Non-member) \$135.00

- Student & Retiree ½ OF APPROPRIATE FEE
 Awards Banquet* (Guest ticket) \$ 30.00

TOTAL ENCLOSED:

Participant Registration Fee \$ _____
Guest Banquet Ticket \$ _____

*Registration includes sessions, lunch on September 17th, Awards Banquet on Thursday, September 18th.

** One day Registration for Wednesday, September 17^h includes lunch; One day registration for Thursday, September 18th includes Awards Banquet.

Please indicate any special dietary requirements for banquet _____

FORWARD REGISTRATION FORM AND CHECK OR MONEY ORDER TO:

NC Public Health Association, PO Box 41487, Raleigh, NC 27629-1487

PRE-REGISTRATION DUE NO LATER THAN SEPTEMBER 1, 2003

NO REFUNDS AFTER SEPTEMBER 9, 2003

NCPHA Membership Application

Name _____ New Member Renewal

Home Address _____

Employer & Address _____

Change of Address Home Office Phone # _____ Fax # _____

Do you wish to receive correspondence at your home office Number of years of membership in NCPHA _____

Would you like to become actively involved in a committee run for office Preference _____

Please include me in your legislative email alerts: Email Address _____

Section Membership is optional. You must be a member of the Association, however, to join a Section. Please circle each section with which you wish to become affiliated. Include these dues with NCPHA dues

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Public Health Leadership \$3.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> Health Education \$5.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> Women/Children's Health \$5.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> HIV/STD Control \$6.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> Nursing \$4.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> Dental Health \$5.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Comty Hlth Assistant/Tech. \$3.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> Social Work \$3.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> Management Support \$5.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Environmental Health \$10.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> Physician Extenders \$5.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> Health Education \$5.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Laboratory \$4.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> Nutrition \$5.00 | |

ANNUAL DUES SCHEDULE

If your annual salary is < \$20,000, Your dues will be \$25.00 _____

If your annual salary is \$20,001 - \$35,000, Your dues will be \$35.00 _____

If your annual salary is > \$35,000, Your dues will be \$45.00 _____

If you are joining for the first time, deduct \$10.00 _____

If you are renewing prior to your anniversary date, deduct \$5.00* _____

If you are retired or a full-time student, deduct 50% _____

Subtotal _____

If you wish to join a section, add Section Dues _____

TOTAL DUES _____

**Please make check payable to NCPHA and mail to:
P.O. Box 41487, Raleigh, NC 27629-1487**

If you are a new member and were recruited by a member of NCPHA, you both are eligible for a cash drawing at the Annual Educational Conference. Please indicate the name of the individual who told you about NCPHA:

*Membership dues are on individual anniversary basis (shown on mailing label)

Legislative Update

On June 30, the General Assembly passed the 2003-05 Budget which the Governor signed immediately diverting a partial shut-down of State Government. The General Assembly failed to include the increase in cigarette taxes and alcohol taxes, which is a disappointment to NCPHA and many other public health advocates. Sixty-six kids start smoking every day in North Carolina—that equates to 24,000 a year. Increasing the tax would have made the purchase of cigarettes more cost prohibitive; thereby preventing some of these kids from ever buying the first pack. This tax would have provided the needed revenue for the state, but more important, it would have saved lives and future medical expenses that are attributed to tobacco use. The Senate included these taxes but were forced to remove these taxes when it became apparent that there was no support from the House and the Governor.

The Budget compromise did restore funding for Medicaid eligibility for 19 and 20 year olds (primarily foster children) and pregnant women and infants whose income is between 151% - 185% of the Federal Poverty Level. Health Choice was fully funded. People on Transitional Medicaid were not as fortunate—the funding for the additional 12 months of medical coverage for these adults and children after getting off welfare, was eliminated in the budget. Health Departments will also have to pay increased fees for pap smears at the State Laboratory for Public Health (still much cheaper than having done out-of-house).

In addition to the yoyo swing of the budget back and forth between the House and Senate, there were two other major pieces of legislation that were introduced that would have broad impact on public health in North Carolina.

H1094—A Bill to Clarify the Authority of Local Boards of Health to Adopt Rules to Protect Public Health

This bill would have reaffirmed the authority of local boards of health to adopt rules necessary to protect and promote the public health unless expressly prohibited by statute. It merely would have restored the authority that state law explicitly granted to local health boards for many years prior to the Supreme Court ruling in *Craig v. Chatham County*. Before the court handed down the Chatham County decision, local health boards were empowered to protect the public health via the adoption of more stringent rules by General Statute. It was intended to address the broad effects of the Chatham County decision that have resulted in paralyzing local boards of health from acting to address new health issues in their communities. Unfortunately, industry came out full force in opposition to the bill—saying that the economy would be adversely affected. The bill did not receive a favorable report from the House Health Committee. Though this bill is dead for this session, public health advocates need to embrace Representative Carolyn Justice (R-Pender) for her courage in sponsoring the bill and for her support of local boards of health.

S672—Strengthening Public Health Infrastructure

This bill has been revised many times since it was first introduced by Senator Fletcher Hartsell (R-Cabarrus) due to numerous conferences with state and local public health officials. Senator Hartsell has been open to hearing concerns and perfected the language. The bill directs the Secretary of Health and Human Services to work with local public health agencies in the development of a State Public Health Plan. The Secretary shall appoint a planning committee to assist in the development of the State Plan for Public Health Services. The planning committee shall include representatives from the Division of Public Health, the Division of Medical Assistance, the Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities and Substance Abuse Services in the Department, local health departments (including district health departments and rural and urban area health departments), boards of county commissioners, local boards of health, four legislators (2 appointed by President Pro Tempore of the Senate and 2 appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives) and consumers. The Plan must reflect local public health priorities that must be developed through a collaborative process at the local level. The Plan must address:

1. The vision and mission of the State Public Health System,
2. Strategies for strengthening and maintaining stability of the public health infrastructure,
3. Strategies for strengthening the competencies of the public health workforce,
4. Priorities and goals for the State Public Health System,
5. Provide for a plan to identify resources to provide adequate funding to provide essential public health services and functions
6. Develop an organizational plan for the effective integration and monitoring of public health and environmental health services
7. Provide a framework for local public health planning

The bill directs the Secretary to make a report of the Joint Legislative Health Care Oversight Committee no later than May 1, 2004 on the ability of the Department to implement the State Plan. It also requires the accreditation of State and local health agencies and allows the Secretary to use new and existing resources to fund these efforts.

As of the writing of this article, the bill has received a favorable report from the Senate Health Committee and has been referred to the Senate

Section Changes

Significant changes to the organizational structure of NCPHA are in progress. Changes include a major re-alignment of sections. The changes adopted will result in sections developed along functional lines rather than disciplinary lines. Under the "old" organization, there were eighteen (18) sections within NCPHA. Each section had its own business meetings, requiring its own space for the meetings at the Annual Educational Conference (AEC). Each section represented specific disciplines for its membership. Below is a list of the "new" sections with the "old" section names that would logically blend together to form the new sections. Note that the proposed section names may be renamed when the new sections are operationalized next year. There will be an opportunity on Friday morning at the 2003 Annual Educational Conference for new sections to have a business meeting to determine dues, officers, etc.

<u>New</u>	<u>Old sections that may blend into the new</u>
1. Administration	Public Health Leadership
2. Health Information Management	Management Support
3. Women and Children's Health	Children with Special Needs*
	Community Health Assistants and Tech.
	Physician Extenders
	Women's and Children's Health
4. Epidemiology	HIV/STD Control
	Statistics and Epidemiology*
	Community Health Assistants and Tech.
	Physician Extenders
5. Wellness/Prevention	Nutrition
	Health Education
	Health Promotion*
6. Laboratory	Laboratory
7. Oral Health	Community Health Assistants and Tech
	Dental Health
8. Environmental Health	Environmental Health
9. Community Health Planning	Public Health Leadership
	Nursing
10. Nursing	Community Health Assistant and Tech.
	Physician Extenders
	Home Health*
11. Social Work	Social Work

*These sections have been dissolved or are in the process of being dissolved due to inactivity and/or low membership

Under the new section arrangement, an individual will select the section(s) that best align with the individual's actual activities or interest. As before, an individual may join more than one section.

Bylaws Change

The Governing Council voted to return to a single slate of officers, who will be nominated by the Professional Development Committee and approved by the Governing Council and affirmed by NCPHA membership at the Annual Business Meeting of the Association. The action was taken to ensure that NCPHA captures leadership potential of all members and that the election process not be viewed as a popularity contest. This will be effective with the 2004 slate, if approved by membership, and will require a change in the current Bylaws. This serves as notification to the membership of a pending bylaws change that will be brought before the membership at the annual business meeting.

Article VI Officers

Current: Should a vacancy occur in the Office of President-Elect, the President shall reconvene the Nominating Committee for the previous year and charge them to nominate a minimum of two qualified individuals for the office of President-Elect. A special election would then be held by mail within thirty (30) days. Should a vacancy occur in the office of Vice-President, Secretary/Treasurer, Member at Large, APHA Representative or Southern Health Association Representative, it shall be filled by the Executive Committee in a reasonable time, but not to exceed thirty (30) days.

Proposed: Should a vacancy occur in the Office of President-Elect, the President shall reconvene the Professional Development Committee for the previous year and charge them to nominate a President-Elect which must be approved by the Governing Council in a reasonable time, but not to exceed sixty days (60) days. Should a vacancy occur in the office of Vice-President, Secretary/Treasurer, Member-At-Large, APHA Representative or Southern Health Association Representative, it shall be filled by the Executive Committee in a reasonable time, but not to exceed thirty (30) days.

NC Public Health Association

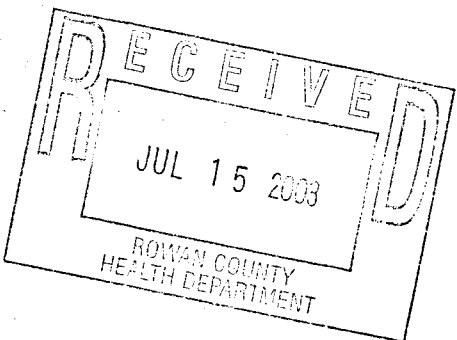
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CANVAS FOR SERVICE AWARD ELIGIBLES

TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR SERVICE AWARD CERTIFICATES/PINS, YOU MUST HAVE BEEN EMPLOYED IN PUBLIC HEALTH FOR THE FOLLOWING NUMBER OF YEARS AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2002:

NAME	PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT
Twenty-Five Years	
Thirty Years	
Thirty-Five Years	
Forty Years	

Return form by August 1, 2003 to:

David Stone, Chair NCPHA Awards Committee
Surry County Health and Nutrition Center
118 Hamby Road,
Dobson, NC 271017

Newsletter

VOLUME 44, ISSUE 2

APRIL, 2003

President's Message

CHANGE—That word usually makes the very hair on the back of our necks stand up. Change for some reason takes away our security blanket and makes us feel defenseless because we don't know what to expect. However if you think about it, change occurs everyday in some form. Change can be good or it can be not so good and make us step back and rethink. Anytime something forces us to re-evaluate, we find that there are indeed better ways of doing things. The old story of the Grandmother, Mother, and Daughter cutting off the end of the roast just because they had always done it sometimes sounds like organizations. Of course when at the end of the story we find out that Grandmother's pan was too short, and we all think how silly for a family to continue such a thing for no reason.

The Executive Committee and the Governing Council have been through two years of re-evaluation and looking at what we can do to keep NCPHA a functioning and growing Association and have adopted some new ideas that we feel will keep us fresh and current with things that are going on in Public Health. One of our goals is to be the voice of Public Health and to do that we will have to **CHANGE** some of the methods that we currently use. Think about this---ten years ago how many of us who were in Public Health would have thought that Smallpox and Bio-Terrorism would have become a priority within our system. And yet, here we are today, working out plans, defining those who would be on the front line of investigating these incidences. We have already had the Anthrax scare that many of our co-workers have been involved in. For many of us a food borne outbreak, a communicable disease outbreak or even working on reducing sexually transmitted diseases seemed to be the biggest incident that we were involved in.

For many years we have been sectioned off in our day-to-day work, but now because of **CHANGES** in our world, we find that we are working together with other disciplines and even working with non-traditional Public Health entities. For us to be able to do the tasks that are before us, education plays a critical role. Another critical aspect is to be able to work together and see what other folks can add to the mix. In this day, we have to **CHANGE** the way we are currently doing things. That's one of the main reasons we have undertaken a re-organization of NCPHA.

This change is not to destroy Sections, but to get us together, so that we can learn and be more creative in developing plans and goals for Public Health. We know that the Budget is still very tight and money will not be free flowing, but yet our Mission is to protect the Public's Health. How can we do that? By opening our eyes to a different way to completing our task. We are asking you to look at the new educational sections that seem to put folks together and find out which meets your needs. You may find that you belong to more than one of these groups. What we hope to accomplish is that we will offer workshops that will provides you with answers to your needs, help you develop plans for your county, and see what we can accomplish together with disciplines and other entities. We want you to be able to go back to your office and bring back useful information that will assist your department in being prepared to combat the serious problems that we are facing. While smallpox and all forms of Bioterrorism are high on our agenda, we must still continue to protect children's health, preventing unwanted pregnancies, and ensuring health babies. We still have environmental health concerns and all the other traditional Public Health functions, but we have had to **CHANGE** our way of meeting our goals.

It is my hope that bringing different groups of people together will result in a positive **CHANGE** and one in which we all feel that it was worth the effort, worth the time to come and that your County will see the results and feel that it was money well spent. We need your help to make this happen. Take this year to look at your job and see where you fit in with the educational sections. We know that change is often good and I think that this change is good and we will see that it has made us stronger and more able to meet the challenges ahead.

Don't fear **CHANGE**, embrace it and let it makes think and look for ways to become even better.



Debra Harris

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ELECTION

RESULTS:

NCPHA MEMBERS VOTED TO MAINTAIN AFFILIATION WITH SOUTHERN HEALTH ASSOCIATION

State Health Director's Annual Report 2002

Dr. Leah Devlin

The year 2002 proved to be a uniquely challenging and a historically rewarding time for North Carolina public health. We have successfully made significant gains in public health preparedness while also moving forward on other critical public health issues. The strong partnerships among the Division of Public Health, local public health departments and other community stakeholders have been the foundation of this success.

In the early part of the 20th century, Americans recognized the importance of public health because it did so much to make their lives livable. This role is illustrated in the words of then Governor Franklin Roosevelt, who said in 1932, "nothing can be more important to a state than its public health; the state's paramount concern should be the health of its people." Public health wiped out threats like polio, smallpox and whooping cough. Public health programs ensured clean drinking water and safe food, yet our society has grown complacent and we have come to take these successes for granted.

This complacency is not new--in fact it predates Governor Roosevelt's admonishment on the importance of public health. Alfred W. Crosby has written that "The 1918 Spanish influenza epidemic killed, at a very, very conservative estimate, 550,000 Americans in ten months; that's more Americans than died in combat in all the wars of this century, and the epidemic killed at least 30 million in the world and infected the majority of the human species. As soon as the dying stopped, the forgetting began."

While we have made great strides in addressing the new threat of bioterrorism, it is important to note that this strengthened capacity is critical in enabling public health preparedness for a wide variety of threats ranging from hurricanes to episodes of food-borne illness to yet another anticipated flu pandemic. We are aggressively bolstering the public health system's preparedness through the strategic investment of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) funding at an unprecedented amount of \$23.8 million this first year. We are committed to major system improvements and accountability for outcomes that will assure that public health responds effectively as a state and local system. We must assure that our society, its opinion leaders and decision-makers are not allowed to forget again the importance of protecting and improving the public's health by assuring a sound infrastructure.

Public Health Preparedness

Since January of 2002 the strategic investments that have been made in partnership with local health departments, hospitals, the School of Public Health and others include the establishment of the state Office of Public Health Preparedness and Response as well as the seven Public Health Regional Surveillance Teams. The Division has also strengthened its epidemiology capacity recruiting additional experts and strengthening relationships with Agriculture, universities and private labs. Because of its vital link in the state's ability to detect and respond to a natural or intended threat, the NC State Laboratory of Public Health is expanding its capacity centrally and regionally. Technological improvements to facilitate electronic disease reporting and the Health Alert Network notification system are two essential tools to improved communications. The comprehensive website (www.nchan.org) provides extension information for the public and others on disease control and bioterrorism. Also, the 2002 General Assembly passed the Public Health Readiness Act, which better defines the state's public health laws and ensures that state and local public health officials have the appropriate authority to protect the public's health. Over the past six months, the focus in preparedness has shifted to the planning and implementation of the NC Smallpox Plan. In this year, we have not only accomplished an astounding rebuilding of infrastructure but we have also created new models and demonstrated new leadership in our work together. All this in a fluid time of change, uncertainty and intelligent debate. We are a stronger team all around for it.

HIV/AIDS

We cannot allow society to forget the dual epidemics of HIV/AIDS and other STDs that are significantly and disproportionately affecting the South. The South has more people estimated to be living with AIDS than any other region of the country. The proportion of people living with AIDS in the South has also been increasing. In North Carolina the number of new AIDS cases rose by 16 percent in 2001 with 1,014 new cases--the first time we have topped over 1,000 new cases in a year. This marked the second year in a row of increases in AIDS cases for our state. As is true with other STDs, the racial disparity is significant with the epidemics disproportionately affecting minorities who are often also rural, female and heterosexual. In North Carolina, HIV disease is 11 times higher among African Americans than among whites, four time higher among Latinos and twice as high among American Indians. The same trend is particularly notable with syphilis where 8 of the states with the highest rates are in the South, North Carolina among them. Syphilis rates are 14 times higher among African Americans than among whites, 12 times higher among Latinos and 15 times higher in American Indians. The good news is that the five syphilis elimination projects in NC have reduced syphilis rates by 45.8% since 1997. Unfortunately, federal funding is lower per AIDS case in the south and the AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP) has the lowest eligibility criterion in the country at 125% of federal poverty level. The national average is 250%. It will take an additional \$13 million next year to serve people in need in North Carolina at the 250% level--this is a critical goal.

State Health Director's Annual Report 2002

(Continued)

West Nile Virus

West Nile Virus was first identified in America just three years ago. Since that time it has made its way across the nation. North Carolina reported its first confirmed case in a human on September 18, 2002 and its second case in October. The Public Health laboratory tested 800 birds and 861 human samples for the virus. An aggressive public awareness campaign is believed to have reduced the number of human cases in North Carolina. West Nile Virus is one example of emerging infectious disease that we must guard against. And we still must wrestle against "old" diseases such as tuberculosis, which is reemerging at increasing levels.

Tobacco Use

Tobacco still leads as the number one cause of preventable deaths in North Carolina. Currently 34.5% of children in grades 9-12 indicate that they use tobacco. The addiction begins often by age 14--if we can get people past age 21 tobacco free, they are not likely to be tobacco users. We know the science based strategies that work in tobacco--creation of tobacco free environments as the norm, making effective cessation services available, increasing tobacco taxes and working with the media. We need to do all of these in North Carolina--including rolling back the preemptive legislation and raising taxes.

Obesity

We have finally recognized and begun to address the problem of overweight and obesity in North Carolina. By 18 years of age approximately 25% of youth are overweight or obese and eventually 60% of adults are overweight. There was a 40% increase in children seen in local health departments aged 5-11 years between 1995-2000. Overweight and obesity are major contributors to many preventable causes of death and raise the risk of developing high blood pressure, high cholesterol, diabetes, heart disease, stroke, cancer and other illnesses. In addition, Type II diabetes formerly seen only in adults is now being diagnosed in children. The underlying risk factors are often a combination of physical inactivity and poor diet. In considering the leading causes of death, it is critical to remember that NC ranks 22nd in heart disease deaths, 23rd in cancer deaths, an abysmal 4th in stroke deaths and 15th in diabetes deaths. Cardiovascular disease is the leading cause of death in North Carolina accounting for nearly 40% of all deaths, killing 26,000 people in the state annually. The *Eat Smart Move More Plan* and the *Moving Our Children to a Healthier Weight Initiative* were both launched in 2001 offering comprehensive recommendations for community action to prevent overweight and obesity.

Seniors

North Carolina is also moving to meet the prescription needs of the state's senior population. The Senior Care Program was created to help low-income seniors who are coping with the rising costs of prescription medicine. Senior Care offers coverage for 60% of the first \$1,000 worth of the costs for prescription drugs for the treatment of cardiovascular disease, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease and diabetes. One or more of these diseases affects about 75% of North Carolina's elderly with about 150,000 seniors estimated to be eligible for this service. And the Division continues to promote awareness and education about arthritis and osteoporosis, which are leading causes of disability in the elderly.

Teen Pregnancy

Since 1990, adolescent pregnancy rates have declined by more than 30 percent in North Carolina. North Carolina has announced its lowest teen birth rate in more than two decades. In 2001, the state's pregnancy rate for all 15-19 year old girls was 69.3%, down nine percent from the 2000 rate of 76.1. The minority teen pregnancy rate also dropped to 96.1 per 1,000 girls from 122.9. The total number of teens aged 10-14 who became pregnant in 2001 was 458; the total number of pregnant teens aged 15-19 was 18,919. While we are improving in this indicator, North Carolina still ranks 12th highest in the nation for the 15-19 year old birth rates and also has the nation's highest birth rate among Hispanic adolescents. Teen birth rates in the US are the highest in the industrialized world.

Infant Mortality

While North Carolina also announced its lowest overall infant mortality rate in history at 8.5 deaths per 1,000 live births, the continuing gap between minority and white rates increased to 14.8 --a 2.8 percent increase. This increase was due to the fact that deaths remained approximately the same while the number of live births decreased slightly. The minority infant mortality rate is over twice that of whites which was 6.1 for 2001. The actual number of infants who died in North Carolina in 2001 was 1,005 down from 1,034. The five-year infant mortality rates from 1999-2001 are 15.0 for African Americans at 15.0, with Native Americans following at 11.3 infant deaths per 1,000 live births. Whites and Asians each had a five-year rate of 6.6 and the lowest rate was among Hispanics at 5.8. Overall deaths attributable to prematurity/low birth weight and to respiratory conditions that are commonly associated with pre-term birth declined in 2001, even though the percentage of low birth weight babies (less than 5.5 pounds) increased from 2000. Nine percent of North Carolina's babies were born with low birth weight in 2001 compared to 7.6 percent for all US babies. The percentage of births to women receiving no prenatal care, which is a risk factor for low birth weight and infant mortality, declined 15 percent. Based on 1998-2000 data, North Carolina ranks 47th in infant mortality behind Louisiana, South Carolina and Mississippi.

State Health Director's Annual Report 2002

(Continued)

Child Health

One area where North Carolina leads the nation is in age-appropriate immunizations. The state ranks consistently in the top three states in this vital public health measure. The universal vaccine distribution program is a major factor in this success. Another success story in children's health is that our state has one of the most successful Children's Health Insurance Program enrolling up to 100,000 children. The Department, in collaboration with the NC Institute of Medicine, will soon release a report on how to continue to maintain and improve the Program to enable the state to reach more children. Another vital public health service, the WIC Program, continues to be a major factor in improving children's health, including reducing infant mortality. And asthma remains the leading chronic illness of children with over 10% of the population reporting this disease. The transition of early intervention services to public health is a major but exciting challenge for the staff and the 10,000 children served in this program. Childhood death rates reached their lowest level in 2001 at 76.4 per 100,000 children up through 17 years of age.

Oral Health

Access to dental care remains a critical problem for 20% of North Carolina's children. The Division has worked in partnership with Medicaid to see that fluoride varnishes are provided through medical practices reaching young children who are most at risk for early childhood caries. The Division's oral health initiatives are increasingly focused on sealants, maintaining fluoridation and helping local communities with access to care issues. The oral health staff are critical team members in the renewed effort to create comprehensive school health services for children.

Environmental Health

Environmental issues continue to be a major concern for both the state and local level. Controversy was never too far afield whether the debate was over grade cards, arsenic in the drinking water, the level of groundwater in lots that have been modified, setting fees for services or the potential privatization of onsite systems. The health departments continue to struggle to deal with two state level agencies with the roles and responsibilities divided between DHHS and DENR.

Medicaid/Access II & III

Local health departments are increasingly finding themselves in the middle of the Medicaid crisis as both state and local governments are overwhelmed with the rising costs of this program. The local share is driving county governments to reduce health department budgets while at the same time the state reevaluates rates. Meanwhile the uncompensated care provided through the local health departments is underestimated, undocumented or not shared adequately with policy makers. The state's initiative in improving quality of care and controlling costs through implementing Access II and III is one that local health departments must quickly engage in as we plan to care for Medicaid patients in the near future.

Planning for 2003 & Beyond

In 2002 we identified or initiated a number of system changes, which will create the basis for much of our work together for 2003 and beyond. Our challenges in the coming years can only be met through improving our state and local public health system. Some very specific systems changes include:

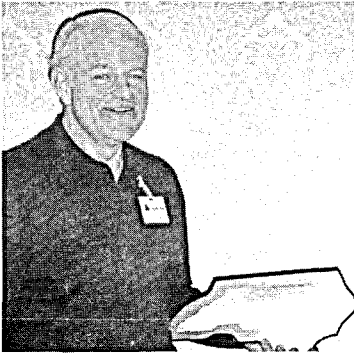
- restoring the authority of the local boards of health
- securing the family planning waiver
- creating a credible accreditation system
- replicating best practices across the state based on sound science
- fostering new collaborations across county lines
- embracing Access II and III
- focusing on eliminating health disparities--strengthening our work with community and faith based organizations, securing translation services, developing a culturally competent and diverse workforce
- achieving progress in Healthy Carolinians 2010
- documenting outcomes and holding ourselves accountable
- securing a tobacco tax increase and other revenues such as fees for environmental services
- establishing a comprehensive school health program
- continuing to build public health preparedness

2002 was a tough but a great year in public health in North Carolina. The continued focus, expertise and leadership of the public health workforce combined with our community partners and our appointed and elected officials will make our progress in 2003 even greater. Thank you for the vital contributions made everyday by each of you across the state to improving the public's health.

Let no one forget ever again for as in the words of Governor Roosevelt--"nothing can be more important to the state than its public health".

Health Director's Corner

The NC Association of Local Health Directors (NCALHD) held their Annual Awards Luncheon on January 29, 2003. George Bond, Buncombe County Health Director, was awarded the prestigious Ham Stevens Award. The North Carolina Association of County Commissioners was the recipient of the Public Health Partner Award. Senator William Purcell, M.D., received the first Legislator of the Year Award. Mr. Lee Kyle Allen, Craven County Commissioner and Board of Health member, received the Past President's Certificate of appreciation. Mr. Don Yousey, Brunswick County, received the prestigious Health Director of the Year Award earlier in the year.



George Bond



Ed Regan, NCACC

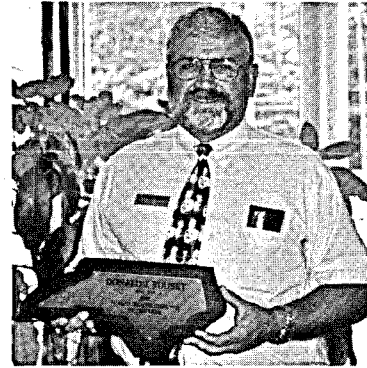


Senator William Purcell, M.D.



Lee K. Allen

The NCALHD Standards and Efficiencies Task Force continues to identify Best Practices in counties and Demonstrations of Partnerships between counties and/or community agencies. You can access some examples of Best Practices by going to our website, www.NCALHD.org. We will continue to update the listing and provide a contact name and telephone number if additional information is requested. The Task Force is also exploring different accreditation models throughout the nation to see if North Carolina would benefit from an accreditation process. Presentations of Best Practices and Demonstrations as well as a report on Accreditation will be presented at the NCALHD Spring Conference on April 24, 2003. All of this is being done in an effort to



Don Yousey

strengthen state and local public health services to effect improved health outcomes.

WNCPHA Annual Conference April 30-May 1 Holiday Inn, Hickory

Greetings from the West! We hope you will all make plans to attend our annual conference this year. The format has been streamlined and redesigned to better meet the needs of the members and to control costs. The theme for the program is "Diversity: Community, Health, Environment. What Great Gifts Public Health Has To Offer!". Casey Cooper, a Cherokee Indian, who is the Executive Director of the Health and Medical Division of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, is our keynote speaker. Casey is a nurse who has had many years of public health experience. Like last year, our invocation will be a special musical treat. The Holiday Inn is offering a phenomenal rate of only \$55.00 per night. It is a great opportunity to join your public health friends for a great educational experience! Contact Scott Sneed, President-Elect, or Judy Avery, Vice President, at 704-732-9034 for more information.

NCPHA Legislative Agenda

The North Carolina Public Health Association has long advocated for legislation favorable to public health and the promotion of public health of the citizens of North Carolina. Some of the initiatives in which NCPHA will be advocating in the 2003 Legislative Biennium include:

1. Provision of funding for local health departments to provide maternity services for low-income, Non-Medicaid women.
2. Reduction of health disparities by focusing on preventable conditions (stroke, hypertension, diabetes) in high risk populations.
3. Authorization for counties to set fees for local Environmental Health programs, including restaurant inspections
4. Provision of funding for interpreter and bilingual staff in health departments to improve access to health care for Latinos.
5. Support increase of cigarette tax to \$0.75 a pack.
6. Increase the number of school health nurses to one nurse per 1500 students, utilizing the public health nurse model when appropriate
7. Support voluntary Needle Exchange Program
8. Restoration of Medicaid eligibility criteria for pregnant teens by discounting parental income
9. Increased financial eligibility of the AIDS Drug Assistance Program
10. Reunification of the State Division of Public Health and Division of Environmental Health
11. Support the mandate of a physical education program as part of the curriculum for Kindergarten – 8th grade.
12. Support legislation to clarify rule making authority of Local Boards of Health
13. Provision of funding for Family Planning and Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention Programs.
14. Provision of Healthy Carolinians Program
15. Support the recommendation of the Institute of Medicine's Health Choice Task Force
16. Continued support of the Minor's Consent Law
17. Support increased funding and opportunities for healthier food choices in North Carolina schools

Call to Action—Increase in NC's Cigarette Tax

NCPHA and the NC Association of Local Health Directors (NCALHD) have joined a statewide coalition to promote policies for tobacco use prevention and cessation for a healthier North Carolina. This coalition, NC Alliance for Health, is a collective, independent group of public, private, professional and nonprofit organizations, service and citizen groups and individuals working together to coordinate tobacco use prevention and cessation efforts in North Carolina. This legislative session, the primary focus of the Alliance is increasing the cigarette tax by 75 cents. North Carolina's current cigarette tax is \$.05/pack. It is the third lowest in the nation, with Kentucky and Virginia being the lowest.

38.3% of NC high school students currently use tobacco products, exceeding the national average of 34%. 18.4% of NC's children in grades 6-8 use tobacco products, exceeding the national average of 15.1%. 26% of NC adults are smokers with the average age of initiation of the use of tobacco products being between 12-14 years old. 14% of pregnant women in North Carolina are smokers. An increase by \$.75 in the cigarette tax will result in a decrease in youth smoking and in smoking rates among North Carolina's pregnant women. Why? Because substantial increases in the cost of cigarettes prevents and reduces tobacco use.

Sixteen Boards of Health have passed resolutions calling for a tax increase up to the national level with is \$.62/pack. Five Boards of Health have passed resolution calling for the \$.75/pack and nine Boards of Health have passed other resolutions calling for a tax increase. The Association of North Carolina Boards of Health also passed the resolution calling for the tax increase up to \$.75/pack.

House Bill 254 calls for a tax increase of \$.70/pack which will raise approximately \$372 million in FY 2003-04, if passed. More importantly, this tax increase would result in a 16.1% decrease in youth smoking rates, preventing approximately 105,750 North Carolina children from starting to smoke and saving 33,750 from premature smoking-related deaths. Approximately \$4.75 billion in medical costs and lost productivity annually would be saved.

All public health practitioners are being called upon to support this initiative. You can do so by calling your legislator and letting him/her know how important it is to the public's health. Don't let this opportunity to make a difference slip by.

Bills of Interest

S55/H451 – Medicaid County Share: Phase-Out the county share of the nonfederal share of Medicaid Costs over a 5 year period. The nonfederal share, excluding administrative costs, borne by the counties shall be: 4%, effective 7/1/05; 3%, effective 7/1/2006; 2% effective 7/1/2007; 1%, effective 7/1/2008

S434/H411 – Medicaid County Share/Phase Out Tier Counties: Phase out the county share of nonfederal costs. County share would be: 9% for Tier one county 7/1/03-7/30/05; 6* for Tier One Counties 7/1/05-6/30/08; 12% for all counties EXCEPT Tier One counties effective 7/1/2005; 9% for counties EXCEPT Tier One effective 7/1/2007; 3% for ALL counties effective 7/1/2008; effective 7/1/2009 100% of nonfederal share shall be borne by State

H410 – Reduce Medicaid County Share/Tier Counties: Phase out county share of nonfederal costs for certain counties. County share effective 7/1/2003 would be: 3% for TIER ONE counties; 6% for TIER TWO Counties; 9% for TIER THREE Counties; 12% for TIER FOUR counties; and 15% for TIER FIVE counties.

S160 Delegation of Authority: An act to clarify existing delegations of authority to counties, cities and Boards of Health and to confirm flexibility in the execution of those delegated authorities

H530/S463 – Funds for Interpreter Services/Local Health Dept: Appropriates \$3 million for FY 2003-04 and \$3.2 Million for FY 2004-05 to be used to hire qualified interpreters based in local health departments in the state. Funds may be used by local health departments to provide incentives to recruit and hire bilingual staff.

H254 – Reduce Youth Smoking; Raise Tobacco Taxes: Raises tax on cigarettes to \$.75/pack and raises tax on other tobacco products at the rate of 30% (up from 2%). Funds are not designated.

H378 – Cigarette Tax Increase for Public Schools: Raises tax on cigarettes only by .02/cigarette; funds go to public schools and More At Four

S153/H273 – Adverse Reactions to Smallpox Vaccination – Ensures that state employees who volunteer for vaccination against smallpox incident to the administration of smallpox countermeasures by health professionals under Section 304 of the Federal Homeland Security Act of 2002 and any family members living in the homes of these vaccinated employees will be able to recover for any adverse medical reactions due to the vaccination.

H303 – Physical Education Required in Schools – requires all school children to receive at least 30 minutes of physical education activity during a school day.

H354 Child Lead Poisoning Prevention Program: Amends the law regarding the prevention and control of lead poisoning in children

H238 Regulate Body Piercing

S388 Update Cervical Cancer Screening Coverage

H493 Health Care Fundamental Right (universal health care)

S94 Osteoporosis Education Funds

S624 DENR/Local Environmental Health Specialist – an act to modify the enforcement of local sanitation and on-site wastewater programs by authorizing local environmental health officials to authorize local environmental health specialists to enforce program rules and to eliminate unnecessary reauthorization or retraining of certain environmental health employees with local health departments or with the Department of Environment and Natural Resources.

S672 Strengthen Public Health Infrastructure – an act to improve the quality and accountability of the public health system by strengthening the public health infrastructure, to improve public health outcomes and reduce health disparities by the development of state and local comprehensive public health plans, and to improve the public health workforce by enhancing collaboration with public and private sector entities and imposing performance standards for public health practice.

S907 Certification of Wastewater Site Evaluators – An act to provide for the certification of wastewater site evaluators

S927 Certify On-site Wastewater Contractors – an act to provide for the certification of on-site wastewater contractors and inspectors

Scholarships to be Awarded in September

The NCPHA Scholarship Committee is pleased to announce that scholarships will be available for members of the Association that fit the following criteria:

- A. Scholarships shall be awarded at the Annual Meeting in September towards that academic year to current or prospective workers in public health in North Carolina.
- B. Awards for public health training shall not be limited to study in a school of public health, but shall be for a regular academic program in an accredited educational institution which will advance the individual's competence in public health work.
- C. The applicant(s) must confirm in writing that it is his/her intent to work in a public health agency in North Carolina for at least two (2) years following completion of training. The applicant(s) need not be a resident of North Carolina at the time of application. Applications must be submitted to the Scholarship Committee by June 15th.
- D. The recipient(s) must be current paid members of NCPHA.
- E. The recipient(s) must be unconditionally accepted at an accredited educational institution. Confirmation will include either a copy of an acceptance letter with enrollment date or an unofficial copy of the applicants' transcripts.
- F. The following factors should be taken into account in selecting scholarship recipients(s):
 1. Potential contribution of service to the people of North Carolina.
 2. Reasons for seeking additional training and relationship of program of study to career expectations
 3. Financial need.

The following scholarship scholarships will be available. **It is imperative that all criteria be completed and submitted with application. Any omissions will void application.**

1. *The Robert S. Parker Leadership Scholarship:* \$1500.00. Given to an individual who has worked in the field of public health for at least five (5) years and is pursuing graduate-level training that would qualify him/her for a leadership position in public health. Criteria: Sections A-F
In addition, the individual must have been a paid member of NCPHA for at least two consecutive years. Applicants for *The Robert S. Parker Leadership Scholarship* must submit the following:
 - ❖ Completed Scholarship Application form
 - ❖ An attachment listing their complete work history and outlining job responsibilities
 - ❖ A typed, one-page explanation on how the applicant(s) expect(s) to apply the graduate training towards a leadership role in public health.
2. *The Undergraduate/Graduate Education Scholarships:* two (2) \$850.00 scholarships will be available for individuals pursuing an undergraduate or graduate degree with application towards public health practice.
Criteria: Section A-F
3. *The Associate/Technical Degree or Certificate Scholarship:* up to \$300.00 is available to individual(s) pursuing an Associates/Technical degree or certification with application towards public health practice.
Criteria: Section A-F

If any scholarship recipient fails to comply with the terms of the Scholarship Award, and this failure is brought to the attention of the Scholarship Committee Chairperson, he/she shall advise the recipient by registered mail that the scholarship money must be returned to NCPHA.

The application is provided elsewhere in this Newsletter. Please be sure that application is complete with all criteria included and mailed by **June 15** to:

Dr. Teme Levbarg, Chair
Institute of Public Health
UNC School of Public Health
CB # 8165
Chapel Hill, NC 27599-8165

APPLICATION FOR NCPHA SCHOLARSHIPS

Please type or word process an exact copy.

Name: _____ Home Telephone: _____

Home Address: _____

Employer's Name and Address: _____

Work Telephone: _____ Professional Discipline: _____

Current job title and responsibilities: _____

Highest Degree earned _____ Licensure/Certification: _____

Type of training planned (degree/field of study) _____

Expected goals in the field of public health.

I am attending _____ Plan to attend _____

in _____ as a Part Time _____ Full Time _____ Student
(Degree/Field of study)

Date(s) of enrollment: _____ Expected date of graduation/completion: _____

I am applying for a scholarship in the following category: (check one)

- Robert S. Parker Leadership Scholarship*(\$1500.00)
- Graduate/Undergraduate Scholarship (\$850.00)
- Associate/Technical Degree; Certificate Scholarship (up to \$300.00 Amount Requesting _____)

Please explain why you are requesting financial assistance.

Describe how the scholarship funds will be utilized:

What additional financial aid will be utilized?

What other NCPHA (including Section) scholarships have been applied for within the two years:

It is my intent to work in a North Carolina public health agency following the completion of the education for which I am requesting this scholarship Yes No

Signature _____

Date _____

→ Along with this application, submit at least two (2) letters of recommendation from persons who have knowledge of your public health work.

*For the *Robert S. Parker Leadership Scholarship* also attach a complete work history, outlining job responsibilities and a typed, one page explanation on how you expect to apply the graduate training toward a leadership role in public health.

Mail to:

Dr. Teme Levbarg, Chair
 Institute of Public Health
 UNC School of Public Health
 CB # 8165
 Chapel Hill, NC 27599-8165

APPLICATION DEADLINE: JUNE 15

It's Time to Recognize Your Peers!

Every year, NCPHA has the pleasure of recognizing the efforts of those promoting public health and/or years of public health service in North Carolina. Please take the time to look around you and gather some information on one of your peers that has made a contribution to our profession or made a difference in someone's life. We, in public health, are sometimes too modest to acknowledge our efforts in enhancing the lives of those living around us. Let's give credit where credit is due! Nominate your peers, nominate your program. All of you are doing great stuff...brag about it!

DESCRIPTION OF NCPHA AWARDS

REYNOLDS AWARD: The Reynolds Award is bestowed upon the individual member of NCPHA who has made the greatest contribution to public health in North Carolina during the past year.

NORTON GROUP AWARD: The Norton Group Award is given to a group for outstanding cooperation and service to public health in North Carolina during the past year.

RANKIN AWARD: The Watson S. Rankin Award is given to an individual in recognition of the outstanding contributions to public health in North Carolina over a period of several years.

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD: This award was established in 1953 to recognize individuals in other organizations or professions who have made significant contributions to public health in North Carolina.

CITATION OF MERIT: The Citation of Merit is conferred upon individual members of NCPHA who, by long years of noteworthy service or by lustrous enterprise within the recent past, have singularly advanced public health in the Tar Heel State.

PARTNERS IN PUBLIC HEALTH DISTINGUISHED GROUP AWARD: This award was established in 1998 to recognize other organizations and professions who have made significant contributions to public health in North Carolina.

NCPHA SPECIAL AWARD. This award was initiated in 2001 to recognize individuals who have contributed significantly to NCPHA.

Nominations shall be submitted on forms provided by NCPHA and may be obtained from the NCPHA Headquarters or the Chairperson of the NCPHA Awards Committee. They shall be addressed to the Chairperson of the Awards Committee and postmarked no later than **June 1st** of the calendar year for which the award is proposed. A person of group nominated in previous years and not selected, may be renominated by submitting current information on the appropriate forms. Supporting materials may be submitted. Remember that the Awards Committee will probably already know much about your nominee. Nominations need not be lengthy, but must be descriptive in outlining the reasons that the nominee is worthy of the award. We know that there are many deserving individual out there, but the Committee must choose the recipients based on the nominations received.

THE DEADLINE FOR ALL AWARDS SHALL BE JUNE 1, 2003. THE DEADLINE FOR SERVICE AWARDS IS AUGUST 1, 2003.

Please return to: David Stone, Chairperson, Awards Committee
NC Public Health Association
C/o Surry County Health & Nutrition Center
118 Hamby Road
Dobson, NC 27017

NCPHA AWARDS NOMINATION

Name of Award

Calendar Year

Name of Nominee

Title

Place of Employment

Business Address

Telephone

Home Address (if known)

Telephone

Nominated by

Reason nominee deserves this award

Please attach a resume of not over three pages, including this one. This should include public health experience (with dates, if possible), education, outstanding public health achievements, organizational affiliations, offices held, important boards and appointments and previous awards.

CANVAS FOR SERVICE AWARD ELIGIBLES

TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR SERVICE AWARD CERTIFICATES/PINS, YOU MUST HAVE BEEN EMPLOYED IN PUBLIC HEALTH FOR THE FOLLOWING NUMBER OF YEARS AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2002:

NAME

CLASSIFICATION

PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT

Twenty-Five Years

Thirty Years

Thirty-Five Years

Forty Years

Return form by August 1, 2003 to:

David Stone, Chair NCPHA Awards Committee
Surry County Health and Nutrition Center
118 Hamby Road,
Dobson, NC 27107

Physician Extender Section

Portia Cole, Chair

Greetings to all! Now that we are finally thawing out from the cold winter and ice we have began to plan for the annual NCPHA educational conference. With the dissolution of our section in September, I hope our members have given thought to joining other sections. We have been invited to join the Women's and Children's Health Section, the Nursing section and the Epidemiological sections.

For our continuing education sessions at NCPHA in September we will be joining with the Environmental Health Section for a morning session on the Health Effects of Molds. For the afternoon session we will combine with the Nursing Section or Women's and Children's Section or possibly all together for our educational meeting. Topics are in the process of being finalized as of this issue. We have stressed the importance of obtaining credit hours to the other sections.

It would be nice for our section to get together as a section for one last luncheon if anyone knows of a willing sponsor please feel free to contact me anytime by email pcole@leecountync.com or telephone 919-718-4648 x 5358. I look forward to seeing everyone at NCPHA and welcome any comments, suggestions, or concerns from our members.

Health Education Section

Karen Sigmon Smith, Chair

Moving Forward While Looking Back

While looking forward to the future and cherishing our past, the Health Education Section continues to build partnerships and to advance our profession. Our members are becoming increasingly active in networking, sharing programmatic ideas, and advocating for legislative issues and policy change that will benefit public health. Specifically, health educators across the state are making strides in areas of adolescent pregnancy prevention, tobacco taxes, and cardiovascular health-directed environmental change. Our role as critical members of multidisciplinary teams is becoming evident to other health professionals and our work is being appreciated and rewarded. As individuals, we have all benefited from being a part of this small but strong Section. We have recently welcomed four of NCPHA's life members into our Section and are honored to have such exemplary health educators in our fold. Those of us who have been around for a while recognize and have shared with others the invaluable contributions that these mentors have made to both health education and public health in North Carolina. Joining us as official members are Becky Bowden, Edna Hensey, Amin Khalil, and Emily Tyler. What assets and jewels! We also look forward to partnering with the Nutrition Section to expand our network of colleagues and friends and to offer exceptional workshops for our members at the Annual Meeting in September. We encourage all NCPHA members to learn more about our dynamic group. Karen Sigmon Smith may be reached at karsmith@wfbmc.edu or (336) 788-1493.

Nutrition Section

Helene Edwards, Chair

The Nutrition Section Executive Committee has been diligently addressing the upcoming merger of the section into Wellness & Preventive Services Section in the fall of 2003. Reminder notices of the changes will be mailed to each section member in April 2003. Also, the Nutrition Section Executive Committee will be working closely with the other merging sections to preserve some of our section's unique characteristics and awards.

The Nutrition Section will continue its annual membership recruitment drawing. The deadline for new memberships or renewals will be May 15, 2003 and the drawing for a \$50.00 gift certificate will be conducted by June 1, 2003. We are encouraging each member to recruit at least one new or returning member. Good luck and remember the Nutrition Section needs you!

The Nutrition Section Executive Committee is presently planning the nutrition educational programs for the NCPHA Annual Educational Conference. Please mark Thursday, September 18, 2003 on your calendars for a day of networking, educational opportunities and celebration. The Nutrition Section will host its Annual Awards luncheon and will offer three educational programs. Stay tuned! In June, the Awards Committee will start soliciting nominees for the Bertlyn Bosley Award for the Excellence in Public Health.

If you have any questions or you would like to volunteer your time to assist with the Nutrition section, please email Helene Edwards at helfedwards@aol.com.

Environmental Health Section

Patricia Hawkins, Chair

Please take time to nominate a deserving individual for Environmental Health Specialist of the Year, Rookie of the Year or the Bill Broadway Award. If you are pursuing another degree, don't miss out on the *scholarship monies available* for practicing EHS's. For further information, contact your educational district officer or any of the NCPHA EHS officers for this year: Patricia Hawkins, President (Transylvania County Health); Michael Cash, Vice-President (Person County Health); Sheila Nichols, Secretary-Treasurer (Children's Environmental Health Branch); and Robert Bennett, Past-president (Cumberland County Health).

Environmental Health Section will hold a raffle again this year. Five lucky people will receive \$500 each; only 500 tickets will be sold. Bring \$10 (or \$20 or \$30!) to your next EH educational meeting---there will be someone there selling tickets! This year, show your support of SOP workshops and UNC-SPH. Proceeds from this year's raffle WILL BENEFIT Richard Dideriksen's A.V. fund.

If you attended last year's joint session on the Robeson County E. coli outbreak, you know how great educational sessions can be when sections put their resources together. Look forward to *two joint sessions* at this year's conference in Winston-Salem. Michael Cash and his program committee are working hard to make this year's program the best yet.

Linda Sewall is heading a stakeholders group to explore the role of private Soil Scientists in the OSWW permitting process, including representatives from the Supervisors Association, NCPHA, Health Directors Association, Soil Scientist Society, and Homebuilders Association. Your NCPHA EHS representatives on this committee are *Michael Cash*, Person County, and *Jason Conrad*, Gaston County. Soil scientists do not want to issue permits themselves due to liability issues. The committee members are exploring what level of review and verification of the work of soil scientists is adequate, how the review could be conducted, and the possibility of a credentialing process for individual soil scientists. *(Any changes from our current rules requiring local health departments conduct their own investigation and evaluation including site visits and soil borings/excavations in addition to any reports submitted by soil scientists would require legislative changes.)*

Longtime advocate and RS Board member, Dr. Trenton Davis, will be retiring in July 2003. EDNCPHA plans a retirement reception for Dr. Davis in conjunction with their annual business meeting in Sea Trails this May. Goodbye and thanks for your hard work on behalf of PH to recent or almost recent retirees: Worth Heath, Children's EH REHS; Charlie Jackson, Dairy/Food Protection REHS; Michael Rhodes, EH Services Section Chief; Clay Pennington, Dairy/Food Protection REHS; and Sonja Remington, SPIT REHS.

IMPORTANT DATES

Northeastern District (Greenville) – April 4

WNCPHA (Hickory) – Apr 30-May 1

EDNCPHA (Sea Trails) – May 7, 8, 9

Bill Broadway Nominations – May 15

EHS/Rookie of the Year Nominations – May 15

Mountain District (Harrah's, Cherokee) – May 22

Scholarship Applications – May 30

Interstate Env Hlth (West Virginia) – July 16, 17, 18

EHS Newsletter Deadline – July 14

CHECK OUT THESE WEBSITES:

RS Board: www.rsboard.com

New Software to replace HSIS: http://itsdev.enr.state.nc.us/Notebooks_draft/DEH/EHS/Daycare/Daycaremenu.htm

Nursing Section

Sharon Pigott, Vice-Chair for Communications

The Executive Committee of the Nursing Section met on Tuesday, March 4, at the Randolph County Health Department. We have set several goals for the Nursing Section this year, and have begun work on accomplishing them. We are looking forward to joining forces with the Community Health Assistants and Technicians, Physician Extenders, and Home Health Sections. Although the reorganization will not take place until after the 2003 annual meeting, we are already working on ways to welcome our new partners and make the transition as smooth as possible.

We have begun work on a complete revision of the Section Handbook. The Section Bylaws were revised in 2000, but the handbook was not brought into line with the changes made at that time. There are, therefore, some glaring inconsistencies between the two documents that we wish to eliminate. We are assuming, of course, that the Handbook and Bylaws will both need to be looked at again after the sections have merged, but we hope that by eliminating the current inconsistencies we will have a better starting point for coordinating with our new partners and expanding our membership base.

We will be reviving the periodic Section newsletter (currently called Nursing Notes). The newsletter will not only be sent to current members of the Nursing Section, but also to members of the sections that will be joining us in September. Look for the newsletter in late Spring.

We are actively recruiting members and nominees for awards and offices. A mailing focusing on the opportunities available and the Section's value to its members and to Public Health will be sent shortly to all local health departments for them to share with their staff.

We have begun planning for the section's luncheon and educational sessions at the annual meeting. Program suggestions are welcome, as are any other suggestions on how we can better serve our current and future members. Please feel free to contact any member of our Executive Committee with suggestions, questions, or concerns about Section activities.

Women's and Children's Health Section

Brenda Dunn, Chair

A top priority of the Women's and Children's Health Section (WCHS) of NCPHA is to enlarge and enhance the diversity of our section. A personal letter of invitation to join our ranks was mailed March 10, 2003 to each member of the CSHS, CHAT and Physician Extender sections. To ensure inclusion of all disciplines and a healthy expansion, we propose developing an ad hoc committee encompassing representatives from all merging sections. This committee will focus on suggestions for educational offerings and revision of by-laws, as well as the development of a mission statement.

We are committed to an open exchange of ideas. With renewed energy and enthusiasm resulting from expansion, we anticipate opportunities for both professional and personal growth to abound! Interested persons may contact any of the WCH Section officers for additional information regarding membership and/or upcoming activities: Brenda.Dunn@ncmail.net, Patricia.Ray@ncmail.net, Betty.A.Cox@ncmail.net, Jwagner@leecountync.com, DebbieE@apphealth.com. The Executive committee is in the throes of early planning for our educational offering in September. We will be offering a topic of interest to a diverse audience as delivered by a dynamic, knowledgeable speaker! Stay tuned for more!

Dental Health Section

Dr. Ron Venezie, Chair

Mark your calendars for the 2003 Annual Meeting of the NCPHA Dental Health Section on Thursday September 18. The Dental Health Section is looking forward to another great annual meeting in Winston-Salem, and the officers already are hard at work on preparations. In particular, Section Vice-Chair and Program Committee Chair, Betsy Hardin, is lining up speakers for both morning and afternoon continuing education sessions. Details are not yet finalized, but the theme of both presentations is expected to be treatment for oral cancer, which is an all-too-prevalent problem particularly among minority populations. Because oral health professionals represent a first line of defense in the detection and early treatment of oral cancer, the Section's Executive Committee hopes that this topic will be of broad interest to Section members. We also are working to secure corporate sponsorship that for the past several years has allowed Section members to attend the luncheon at no additional charge. Last year's luncheon was sponsored through the generosity of Patterson Dental Company, and we're hopeful that Past-Chair Angie Ellison can work her magic again this year!

February also was a busy month for Dental Health Section members for other reasons as well. In addition to celebrating National Children's Dental Health Month, dental professionals across North Carolina marked February 21, 2003 as *Give Kids a Smile! Day*. This was a first-of-its-kind, nationwide event conceived by the American Dental Association to bring increased attention to the crisis in access to dental care for low-income children. In our state, the North Carolina Dental Society took the lead in organizing *Give Kids a Smile! Day* with support at the statewide level from the NC Oral Health Section, NC Dental Hygiene Association, NC Dental Assistants Association, UNC School of Dentistry, and NC Partnership for Children. Two Dental Health Section members, Martha Taylor and Dr. Ron Venezie, served on the statewide steering committee. Many additional Section members played critical roles at the local level where *GKAS* events were organized by local dental societies, Oral Health Section staff members, local health departments, community colleges, and other individual volunteers.

First Lady Mary Easley served as the Honorary Chair for *Give Kids a Smile!* in North Carolina, and she was present at one of the signature events in Raleigh that drew other notables such as Congressman Bob Etheridge, NC DHHS Secretary Carmen Hooker Odom, Acting State Health Director Dr. Leah Devlin, and Oral Health Section Chief Dr. Rick Mumford. Early reports indicate that nearly 10,000 needy children across the state received free dental services provided by close to 2,000 volunteer – including dentists, dental hygienists, dental assistants and others. *GKAS* organizers hope that many more members of the NC General Assembly and other policy makers now are better informed about the need to solve the dental access crisis. Until that happens, *Give Kids a Smile! Day* is expected to become an annual event.

Please keep those membership renewals coming in. We need to focus continually on expanding our Section membership in order to maintain a strong voice for public health dentistry in North Carolina. If you know of someone new to public health dentistry or someone whose Section membership has lapsed, please ask them to join. Personal contact is the best tool to help our Section and NCPHA grow. If you need more information, contact Vinnie Baker, our Membership Chair, or Dr. Ron Venezie, Secretary-Treasurer. See you in Winston-Salem!

Management Support Section

Janice Jones, Chair

The Management Support Section has been busy planning their program for the annual meeting in September. Cheri Britton from Charlotte will conduct a workshop on Wednesday afternoon followed by our business meeting. A workshop on Thursday is still in the planning stages. The section's executive committee is working on ways to promote and encourage membership. If you are interested in joining our section or would like more information about the Management Support Section, please contact Sandra Wood at Franklin County Health Department. This year's officers are:

Chair	Janice Jones, Robeson County	Vice Chair	Vicki Cowan, Franklin County
Treasurer	Judy Avery, Lincoln County	Secretary	Joanie Belk, Lincoln County

Please plan to join our section and attend the annual meeting in Winston-Salem this September.

NC Public Health Association

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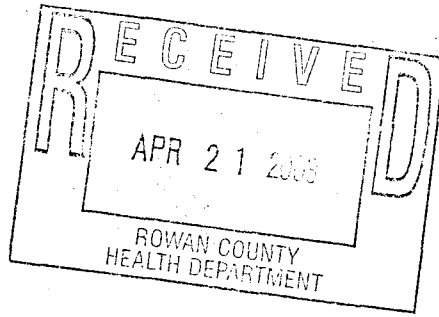
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Articles for July Issue
Due June 1, 2003

Send by email or disk to:
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NCPHA'S ANNUAL EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD SEPTEMBER 17-19-2003 AT ADAMS MARK HOTEL IN WINSTON-SALEM: \$108 SINGLE/DOUBLE RESERVATIONS: 336-725-3500

FULL REGISTRATION: \$125

ONE DAY REGISTRATION \$85.00

ITINERARY AND REGISTRATION INFORMATION TO BE INCLUDED IN JULY NEWSLETTER



Memory



Honor

Pride in Public Health says:
"Tie One On" at the Annual Meeting

Do you know that special person that exemplifies the Public Health spirit?
Why not show you care by purchasing a Public Health recognition medallion!
For a \$1 donation you can purchase a medallion in Honor or Memory of that
special someone.

The medallion will have a place for their name and a personal message.

The medallions will be tied onto the Pride in Public Health Recognition Tree for
all to see.

Your acknowledgement will also be noted in the Pride in Public Health
Recognition Registry.

Thank You for supporting NCPHA!

Public Health Newsletter

VOLUME 44, ISSUE 1

JANUARY, 2003

President's Message

I want to thank all the folks who had a part in planning the 2002 Annual Conference in New Bern in September. I think all of you who attended will agree it was a success. The city of New Bern made a beautiful backdrop for our meeting. Our theme was *Turning Up the Volume on Public Health* and that is exactly what we did. What a wonderful surprise to have as many attendees as we did. It was so good to see old friends and make new ones. The speakers and workshops were first rate and I appreciate all the time that went into the planning. One of the highlights was having the Southern Health Association meet with us. We got to meet and make new Public Health friends and they enjoyed meeting all who attended. For me, it once again made the point that we need to work together with all Public Health organizations to get the job done. The sharing and networking that was possible at the annual conference is worth the trip. We are all working to develop plans to fight Bio-terrorism before it happens.



Debra Harris, President

This year we will continue to have budget constraints and the outlook does not look favorable for improvement. Once again, each of us will be called upon to become more creative and looking for ways to increase revenues in our Health Departments. That is where having a large Public Health family plays an important role in our survival. By sharing what works and what doesn't, we are able to work together to continue to protect the Health of our Citizens.

The Executive Committee has looked at our Strategic Plan and graded ourselves on how well we were doing at putting this document into practice. We were pleased to see that we had made progress towards those outcomes. Some were met, others will take longer and we added some goals to reach. This is a living document and will never be closed out, because as we evolve, it will change and to continue to grow we must change. At the Governing Council in September, we voted on some changes that will create a somewhat new look in our Association.

We voted to collapse the Standing Committees into the following committees:

Professional Development:	Chaired by President-Elect
Public Advocacy:	Chaired by President
Public Awareness:	Chaired by Vice-President
Organizational Structure:	Chaired by Immediate Past President
Membership and Outreach:	Chaired by President

We felt that this would get the officers more involved and working with the committees. The Officer who chairs still may ask individuals on their committee to chair subcommittees. The Governing Council felt that this was a much better process of structuring and allowed more people to work on the committees. We hope this experience will encourage members to continue to grow in their leadership abilities and run for an Office.

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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- *NCPHA Membership to Decide Future Affiliation with Southern Health Association*
- *NCPHA undergoes transition and new location*
- *Dr. Ann Wolfe's estate sets up Child Health Trust*
- *NCPHA recognizes public health practitioners at Annual Awards Banquet*

President's Message (continued)

One of the most exciting differences is the combining of sections that do similar jobs within the Public Health system. This year at the Annual Educational Conference, we saw the results of diversity in the workshops. It was then that I felt that the action taken by the Governing Council was appropriate. You will be getting more information regarding this change. We agreed that it would take a year of transition and for members to decide which section best accommodates their needs and interest. We also hope that this may be more attractive to those outside the traditional Public Health system, but have a similar mission.

For us to succeed in our mission to become the voice of Public Health, it will take all Public Health employees to work together. Along with the Annual Educational Conference, there are many opportunities for us to work together. WE need committee members, folks to lead our Association, as well as advocates for Public Health either in the Legislature or in the private sector. We have to let the public know who we are and what we are about. As you talk to folks, whether they are citizens you serve or legislators, let them know how much Public Health saves in dollars. Start now to look at your outcomes and how well your department performs. It is more important to know how many successful Family Planning patients you had rather than how many visits were made. Start thinking outside the box and **TURN UP THE VOLUME ON PUBLIC HEALTH.**

Southern Health Association Affiliation Ballot in this Newsletter

Over a year ago, NCPHA Governing Council recommended that NCPHA no longer be affiliated with Southern Health Association (SHA). A vote taken at the 2001 Annual Business Meeting was deemed void due to votes being cast by Non-NCPHA members. Governing Council felt that NCPHA should honor its original invitation to have Southern Health Association meet with NCPHA at the 2002 Annual Educational Conference in New Bern, which they did.

Previous committees and Ad Hoc Committees have questioned the benefits of affiliating with Southern Health Association, not because SHA is not a vital organization, but because of NCPHA's economic priorities. In these austere times, choices have to be made as to the priorities of the Association. NCPHA has experienced two major hurricanes, September 11th disaster, and major travel restrictions that have greatly affected our attendance at the Annual Educational Conference in the past six years. This has caused a severe financial strain which resulted in the decision to take the affiliation issue to the membership for a vote. Governing Council felt that funds that have been traditionally budgeted for affiliation in SHA may be better spent supporting local advocacy groups that affect change/progress in public health in North Carolina. NCPHA has strived for the last several years to be more active in advocating for public health in North Carolina. A large part of advocacy is partnership with other state organizations/associations and coalition, many of which need financial support. Because of these coalitions, we have been successful in the creation of a foundation to fund health programs through any future conversion of Blue Cross-Blue Shield to a for-profit company. We were a major contributor to the creation of the Health and Wellness Trust Fund from the multi-state tobacco settlement. We must continue partnering with other North Carolina advocacy organizations to get desired results.

Though our dues to SHA range from \$650-\$850/year, that is not our total cost to support the affiliation with SHA. AS an affiliate, we elect a representative to serve a three year term. We financially support this representatives' attendance at the SHA annual conference as well as their mid-year Governing Council meeting in Atlanta, Georgia. This support can total an additional \$900-\$1200/year. We can elect to not send our representative to save money, but that does not serve the purpose of affiliation which is to share ideas/concerns.

The cost of affiliating with American Public Health Association (APHA) is consistent with SHA; however, APHA advocates for public health on a national level. Governing Council felt that NCPHA should continue to financially support this advocacy role in Washington, DC.

Approximately 35 public health practitioners from Southern Health Association met with NCPHA in New Bern. We enjoyed our time with members of SHA. They brought enthusiasm, new ideas, shared visions and experiences, contacts and friendships to NCPHA. Their attendance brought new exhibitors to our conference. In a spirit of cooperation and unity, SHA changed their usual financial agreement to meet with NCPHA in an effort to make this conference a cost neutral conference for both associations.

It is now time for the membership of the association to decide whether to continue our affiliation with this multi-state association. On the following page, you will find a narrative by the 2001-02 SHA President, Richard Funderburk, as to the benefits of affiliate membership. You will also find a ballot on the last page of the Newsletter that you need to complete, detach and mail in the enclosed envelope to be received by February 17, 2003. Please take the time to study this very important issue before you vote. If the decision is made to remain an affiliate of AHS, we will actively support that association with our time, talent and financial resources. If not, those resources will be diverted to local advocacy groups. If you have any questions, please call Deborah Rowe, NCPHA Director, at 919-250-9276.

Benefits of Affiliate Membership in Southern Health Association

Learning Opportunities:

Affiliate membership in SHA provides each association the opportunity to learn of various legislative trends, which are occurring around the Southeast. By learning of these trends, we are more able to effectively deal with issues, which may come to light in our home state. Through the various meetings with representatives from the other states, we are able to share what has worked in regards to a particular public health issue that we may be facing. Alone we are limited in what we can accomplish, but by sharing ideas and successes, we are able to accomplish much more. We live in a unique part of the country. As such, we face the same sort of problems, concerns, and issues. It is helpful to have a Regional Organization which can speak to these common problems, concerns and issues from a broader scope than just one state. Resolutions that are passed by SHA are key in getting this shared opinion to the Governmental Leaders of the various states. SHA does not pass a resolution unless we truly believe in what the resolution calls for. When we look around the Southeast, we see common trends, by hearing and studying these trends, your association, county, state, may look to adopt policies and procedures which have worked in other states. None of us know it all, but by working together, we can have a major impact on improving the health of our citizens. SHA affords the states the opportunity to learn how other states deal with crises and public health threats. There is always room for improvements. Networking is one of the keys to being successful; members in SHA provides you with the opportunity to develop contacts, through which you have access to public health expertise from the other states.



*Richard Funderburk, SHA President
2001-02*

To Your Annual Meeting:

Revenue to support our various public health associations is key to our success. AS we meet around the Southeast, your state representative has the opportunity to meet new exhibitors, who can be courted to exhibit during your annual meeting. By attending different meetings, your association has the opportunity hear excellent speakers, which otherwise, you might have never heard. Affiliate membership provides your association an avenue to getting your members and legislative leaders recognized for their contributions to public health. During the year SHA jointly meets with a host state, you see increased numbers of attendees. We offer financial support for your program and agree to sponsor one general session, which saves your association that cost.

To Your Association:

Learn about membership recruitment efforts that have worked in other states and how they may be adapted for your state. All of us are seeking ways to increase membership. Since this is a common concern, we are able to share ideas and success. Networking: (each state does not operate in a vacuum) what is happening in your state is influenced by your neighboring states, therefore, it is important to build contacts with those states. When we look around the Southeast, we see common trends. By discussing these trends, your association can learn of policies and procedures which would benefit you as you face the same issues. Avenue for leadership development, by taking an active part in SHA and seeking election to an office of such. In dealing with a national organization such as APHA, because of the common public health issues within our region, we can rally together at the national level, which is more effective than acting independently.

What NCPHA brings to Southern Health:

Knowledge, we are weaker without you. Not only in terms of membership numbers but in terms of influence. NC is a vital part of the Southeast. NC has much to bring to the other Southeast states. NC is on the cutting edge of Public Health and thus can offer a lot to the other SHA States. NC has been a member of SHA since we were formed in the early 1980s. You are family, in unity we can accomplish a lot. I like to think of us a fingers on a hand, when all of the fingers are there the hand functions properly, when some are missing, the hand does not function as it should. Without North Carolina, part of the family will be missing.

Financial:

I understand that North Carolina, as are some other states, are facing some difficult financial times. SHA has never and will never seek to place a financial burden upon any Affiliate Member. SHA ask each affiliate to pay a membership fee, which is 75 cents per member of that State Association. Based upon your year ending membership for last year of 844 this comes to \$633. It is important to remember that SHA offers each state a financial contribution of \$250, each year, to sponsor a part of your annual meeting, which comes to about 40% of what your affiliate dues would be for this year. The only other out of pocket cost to each affiliate is the cost associated to send their representative to one mid-year governing council meeting and one annual meeting per year. Depending upon the location of the annual meeting this cost could be up to \$1,000.

Summary:

United we can have a regional organization which all of us can be proud of. But in order for this to happen, we must have active affiliate state membership. We feel like the benefits noted in the presentation is far more valuable than what would be an annual cost to North Carolina to remain an active member of Southern Health. I would urge you to vote no on the proposed changes to your By-Laws and to remain an integral part of the Southern Health Association.

NCPHA---Evolution in Progress

Malcolm Blalock

Significant changes to the organizational structure of NCPHA are in progress. Changes include a major re-alignment of sections as well as formation of new standing committees. An Ad-Hoc Organizational Structure Committee met over a year's time to study the organizational structure of NCPHA. At the conclusion of the meetings, a report with recommended changes was given to the Governing Council for its consideration. The recommendations were voted upon and accepted at the AEC in New Bern. The changes adopted will result in sections developed along functional lines rather than disciplinary lines.

Under the "old" organization, there were eighteen (18) sections within NCPHA. Each section had it's own business meetings, requiring it's own space for the meetings at the Annual Educational Conference (AEC). Each section represented specific disciplines for it's membership. Below is a list of the "new" sections with the "old" section names that would logically blend together to form the new sections. Note that the proposed section names may be renamed when the new sections are operationalized next year. There will be an opportunity at the 2003 Annual Educational Conference for new sections to have a business meeting to determine dues, officers, etc.

<u>New</u>	<u>Old sections that may blend into the new</u>
1. Administration	Public Health Leadership
2. Health Information Management	Management Support
3. Women and Children's Health	Children with Special Needs*
	Community Health Assistants and Tech.
	Physician Extenders
4. Epidemiology	Women's and Children's Health
	HIV/STD Control
	Statistics and Epidemiology*
	Community Health Assistants and Tech.
5. Wellness/Prevention	Physician Extenders
	Nutrition
	Health Education
6. Laboratory	Health Promotion
7. Oral Health	Laboratory
	Community Health Assistants and Tech
	Dental Health
8. Environmental Health	Environmental Health
9. Community Health Planning	Public Health Leadership
	Nursing
10. Nursing	Community Health Assistant and Tech.
	Physician Extenders
	Home Health
11. Social Work	Social Work

*These sections have been dissolved or are in the process of being dissolved due to inactivity and/or low membership

Under the new section arrangement, an individual will select the section(s) that best align with the individual's actual activities or interest. As before, an individual may join more than one section.

In addition, the standing committees within NCPHA are being reorganized. The numbers of standing committees are being reduced to acknowledge that there are currently severe travel restrictions at the local and state level that likely will be in place for some time to come. Fewer committees should result in better participation by those who can travel. Below are the new standing committees with the old committees and functions that will be folded into the new ones:

1. Professional Development (Chaired by President Elect) combines Program Planning, Awards, and Scholarship
2. Public Advocacy (Chaired by President) combines Policy and Planning and Resolutions
3. Public Awareness (Chaired by Vice President) combines Publicity and Pride in Public Health
4. Organizational Structure (Chaired by Past President) combines Nominating, By Laws and Elections
5. Membership/Outreach (Chaired by President) combines Membership and Organizational Outreach (new area)

The changes make for an organization that is more streamlined and focused on functional areas of concern. It is the belief of those in leadership of NCPHA that these changes will result in an organization that will better serve the members who work daily to protect the health of the people of North Carolina.

Dr. Ann Wolfe Child Health Trust

NCPHA paid a special tribute to Dr. Ann Wolfe, deceased Director of Maternal and Child Health, at the Annual Awards Banquet in New Bern on September 26, 2002. Her daughter and son-in-law were present to witness a moving presentation and reflection on Ann's work and life.

Dr. Stephen Keener, NCPHA 2002 President, announced the bequest of Dr. Wolfe to establish a trust fund to aid local health departments in the reduction of infant mortality and enhancing child health through a grant process. Funds from her estate will be deposited in a community foundation selected by NCPHA.

A steering committee composed of NCPHA leadership, DHHS peers and personal friends have been working to formulize the selection of the community foundation and the criteria, application process and selection process of the grants.

The applications approved for funding will be announced each year at the NCPHA Annual Educational Conference Awards Banquet. NCPHA is working toward having the first grant awarded in Winston-Salem on September 18, 2003.



Dr. Ann Wolfe

NCPHA Awards Scholarships

NCPHA was honored to award scholarships to the following NCPHA members:

Graduate Scholarship (\$850 each)

Tina Nance, a nurse with the Robeson County Health Department, is pursuing a BSN

Kimberly Lindsey, a nurse with Henderson County Health Department, is pursuing a BSN

Robert S. Parker Leadership Scholarship (\$1500)

Dr. Corliss Jean Furbert, a Pediatric Dentist with Wake County Human Services, is pursuing a MPH (Dental concentration)

GlaxoSmithKline Scholarship (\$1000)

Judith Jordan, a nurse with Johnston County Health Department, is pursuing a BSN

2003 Scholarship Applications will be available to all NCPHA members in the April Edition of this Newsletter.

NCPHA MOVES AGAIN!!!

Effective January 1, 2003, NCPHA will have a new address. Deborah Rowe, Administrative Director, will be working from her home office. It is anticipated that this move will save NCPHA approximately \$2000 per year.

You can contact Ms. Rowe by calling her home at 919-250-9276. Fax number is 919-250-6109. You can also contact Ms. Rowe via email at deborah.rowe@ncpha.com.

The new mailing address is: NC Public Health Association

P.O. Box 41487

Raleigh, NC 27629-1487

Please make these changes in your directories



**NCPHA Special Award
Deborah Rowe**

Dental Health Section

Dr. Ron Venezia

The NCPHA Dental Health Section enjoyed a fun and productive meeting in New Bern despite budget woes that continue to affect the entire public health family. More than 40 section members attended the annual meeting held on Thursday September 25. The day's events included two continuing education presentations. The morning CE session was delivered by NCPHA member Kelly Haupt, RDH, who serves as Project Coordinator for Into the Mouths of Babies (IMB), North Carolina's innovative dental screening, education and fluoride varnish project to prevent early childhood tooth decay. Kelly was joined for the presentation by Dr. Graham Barden, a New Bern pediatrician who participates actively in the IMB project. Kelly and Dr. Barden provided an overview of current IMB program activities and accomplishments. The afternoon CE presentation was delivered by Nancy St. Onge, RDH, a dental hygienist who is a staff member of the UNC Department of Pediatric Dentistry in Chapel Hill. Ms. St. Onge's presentation was entitled *Improving Children's Oral Health: An Overview of Children's Oral Health Throughout Their Development*.

Section Chair, Vinnie Baker, RDH, led the meeting which included reports from officers and standing committee chairs. Dr. Leah Devlin, Acting State Health Director, offered brief remarks and thanked Section members for their excellent dental public health efforts for the people of North Carolina. The Section also voted on revisions to its Bylaws that had been approved previously by the NCPHA Governing Council. A highlight of the Section's business meeting was presentation of the annual Dental Health Section Awards to recognize NCPHA members who have made important contributions to dental public health in our state.

The Award winners were as follows:

- **Betsy Hardin, RDH** –Becky S. Bowden Award for Outstanding Dental Hygienist
- **Kelly Haupt, RDH** – George G. Dudley Award for Dental Health Education

Ronald Venezia, DDS, MS – Ernest Branch Award for outstanding contributions to public health dentistry in North Carolina

The business meeting concluded with new officers assuming their leadership roles for 2002-2003. Section officers include: Chair – Johanna Irving, DDS, MPH; Vice-Chair – Betsy Hardin, RDH; Secretary-Treasurer – Ronald Venezia, DDS, MS; and Immediate Past Chair – Vinnie Baker, RDH. The following Section members will chair standing committees for the upcoming year:

- Audit Committee – Gary Kushner, DDS, MPH
- Awards Committee – Angie Ellison, CDA
- Bylaws Committee – Carol Reid, RDH
- Legislative Committee – Martha Taylor, RDH
- Membership Committee – Vinnie Baker, RDH
- Nominations Committee – Vinnie Baker, RDH
- Program Committee – Betsy Hardin, RDH

Patterson Dental Company graciously sponsored this year's Dental Health Section luncheon. Section members and officers express their gratitude for Patterson's continuing generosity.

Social Work Section

The Social Work Section of NCPHA met September 26, 2002 at the Sheraton Hotel in New Bern for our annual fall educational conference. The section had scheduled two workshops which were "Strategies for Marketing Public Health Social Work" by Mike Newton-Ward and "Marketing Through Hospitality: From "Hello" to "See You Next Time" by Linda DeShaza.

Kelly Spangler, Chairperson presided at our Business/Award Luncheon. Members and guests present did a brainstorming session on Public Health Social Work Advocacy and the importance of being proactive in this time of budget restrictions and lost of programs. We know that in the year 2003 it will be important for each social worker to advocate for public health. The 2003 Section officers are: Chairperson- Barbara Stelly, Chairperson Elect-James Rogers, Treasurer-Robert Sykes, Treasurer Elect-Mary Linker, Secretary-Sonja Boyd, Membership-Sylvia Wagoner, and Historian-Karen Carraway.

Barbara Stelly, Awards Chairman presented the 2002 Awards to:
 Beverly Hester-Outstanding Achievement in Public Health Social Work
 Mike Newton-Ward-Outstanding Contribution in Public Health Social Work
 The 2002 Raffle winner was Mildred Council of Greenville, N.C.

As the year 2002 comes to a close, we would like to express our sincere appreciation and thanks to our public health peers for advocating and supporting public health social workers. We have many dedicated and committed local social workers that try every day to make a difference in their communities. March 2003 is National Social Work Month. Please show your thanks for the work they do and tell them you appreciate them. The past year has been one of crisis in public health, and the coming year will have even more obstacles to cross. However, personal as well as professional growth is the process of responding positively to change. Whatever comes our way in the year 2003, let us all find meaning and value, and not give up on the power of one to make a difference in us all.

Nutrition Section

Helene Edwards, Chair

The Nutrition Section would like to welcome all new members and thank everyone who attended the 2002 NCPHA Annual Educational Conference in New Bern. There were 13 section members present for the nutrition educational programs and the annual Awards luncheon held at the Chelsea Restaurant. **Doris Jefferson**, WIC Director of the Alamance County Health Department, was presented the Bertlyn Bosley Award for Excellence in Public Health during the luncheon.

The speakers for the educational programs were spectacular and the attendees received 6.0 CPE hours through the Commission on Dietetic Registration. Mindy Andrus, RD, LDN, CDE, of the ECU School of Medicine, stimulated the minds of the attendees with her "Diabetes Nutrition Update" presentation. This program was a comprehensive review of current techniques used to develop medical nutrition therapy care plans for people with diabetes. She introduced some new diabetes educational materials for practitioners to use with clients. Healthcare professionals who were curious about why soft drinks were available in the schools attended the "Soft Drinks and School-Age Children: Trends, Effects, Solutions" program. Kathy Andersen, MS, RD, of the NC Nutrition Education Training Program, provided this dynamic and interactive presentation. Dr. Marcia Herman-Giddens, a Child Maltreatment Consultant, enlightened attendees with a program entitled "Too Much, Too Soon: Earlier Puberty and Its Relation to Food, the Media, and other Environmental Factors". This year's educational programs had a large attendance due to the partnership with the Health Education Section. (The educational sessions averaged 30 attendees.)

The annual business meeting was conducted after the Awards luncheon on September 26, 2002. There were no candidates for the vacant offices.

The 2002-2003 NCPHA Nutrition Section Executive Committee Officers are as follows:

Chair	Helene Edwards	Hoke County Health Center
Secretary	Janelle Kent	Stokes County Health Center
Treasurer/Membership	Annette Furr	Raleigh Regional Office
Member-At-Large	Janice Latour	Wilson Co. Cooperative Ext.
Legislative Committee Rep	Deena Strickland	Robeson County Health Dept.
Nominating Committee Rep	Cassandra Harris	Lee County Health Dept.

During the 2002-2003 year, the Nutrition Section will continue to increase membership and strive to organize educational programs of enrichment for the 2003 NCPHA Annual Education Conference. If you want to become more active within in the section, please call **Helene Edwards** at (910) 875-2298.

Health Education Section

Karen Sigmon Smith, Chair

The activities (both formal and social) of the Health Education Section at the 2002 Annual Educational Conference in New Bern were WONDERFUL. We teamed up with the Nutrition Section to plan and sponsor two of our three workshops. We heard Kathy Andersen talk about soft drinks in school-aged youth, Dr. Marcia Herman-Giddens spoke about environmental and social influences on adolescent growth and development, and Jo Morgan inspired us with a discussion of how to capitalize on the qualities that make health educators unique.

Among other things, our business meeting included a discussion about the consolidation of NCPHA member sections. There were a few concerns about logistics, transition, and attrition but our dedicated Executive Committee vowed to remain active and advocate for our section. Members were, overall, very positive about the change and feel confident that our membership will remain strong. While we all have professional interests in NCPHA and our section, even more rewarding and critical are the friendships that we all share. We remain optimistic that the future of NCPHA will have positive outcomes for the association and for our section.

We also recognized our award winners at the business meeting in September. The competition was tough this year, as we had more nominations than we have ever had. The Sparkle Project Award went to Garnet Angelos of the Rockingham County Health Department for *Healthy, Happy, Helping Hands*. The Golden Project Award went to Susan Clifford of the Orange County Health Department for *The Child Health Awareness Project*. The Jeanne Palmer Excel Award went to Denise Brewster of the NC Breast Cancer Screening Program at UNC-Chapel Hill. We are proud of our winners and appreciate those who nominated these exemplary health educators. We are especially grateful that all winners were surprised by their awards ----- those facial expressions and speechless reactions were priceless!

We recognize that the coming year will be one of transition and strengthening, which can be a tricky combination. However, we have a dynamic and dedicated Executive Committee and we welcome our newest officers, as well as our new committee chairpersons:

Vice Chair and Program Committee Chair	Katherine Coggins
Secretary/Treasurer	Garnet Angelos
Member-at-Large 2002-2005	Connie Lawson
Awards Committee Chair	Doranna Anderson
Legislative Committee Chair	Leigha Jordan

What a great year this will be!

Environmental Health Section

Patricia Hawkins, Chair

The 2002 Annual Education Conference Business Meeting in New Bern, North Carolina, was well attended with several important matters discussed and approved:

1. Proposed by-laws changes were discussed, voted upon and approved. Beginning with the elections at the 2003 business meeting, there will be 4 officers serving the membership: President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer. Please give thought to whom you would like to serve as your officers in 2003.
2. The pilot grade card program was discussed. The membership voted to not endorse the compromise grade card proposed by the Division and Health Directors Association. The membership voted to support the current grade card system.
3. Elections were held with nominations from the floor as well as the slate of candidates submitted by the nominating committee. Elected as your officers for 2002-2003 were: Patricia Hawkins, President (Transylvania County Health); Michael Cash, Vice-President (Person County Health); and Sheila Nichols, Secretary-Treasurer (Children's Environmental Health Branch, DEH).

Scholarships were presented to two Eastern Carolina University Students, Brian Neal Tuttle and Christa Leigh Alexander. Ms. Alexander attended to accept her scholarship, and Dr. Trenton Davis accepted Mr. Tuttle's scholarship check. Three scholarships went unawarded this year, each of these scholarships could have been awarded to a practicing EHS! If you are in school, please apply for the next academic year (by May 15, 2003).

Awards this year were presented at the annual business meeting, with each of the recipients being totally surprised by the recognition. The J.M. Jarrett award was presented by Linda Sewall to Michael P. Bell, P.E., Regional Engineer and Supervisor, Public Water Supply Section, DENR. Mr. Bell has worked for over 30 years in North Carolina serving to protect our potable water supplies. He is active in American Waterworks Association, NC Public Health Associations, and his own community.

The Bill Broadway Award was presented to Clay Pennington, Regional EHS, Western NC, and Team Leader for the Food and Lodging Program. His career in Public Health began in 1976 at the local level. Clay has been actively involved in WNCPHA and NCPHA, serves on NCPHA EHS Interstate Seminar Committee, SOP Committee, the 2-point Committee, and has been instrumental in protecting public health in North Carolina over the life of his career.

The Rookie of the Year was presented to Daniel Horn of Forsyth County Health Department. Environmental Health Specialist of the Year was presented to Malcolm Blalock, recently retired Deputy Director of the Division of Environmental Health. This was a great sendoff for Malcolm with well-deserved recognition for his contributions and service to public health in North Carolina.

Special recognition awards were presented to Dr. Trenton Davis, Eastern Carolina University, for his long support of Environmental Health and NCPHA. Dr. Davis has served on many NCPHA committees and the RS Board during his tenure at ECU and is instrumental in promoting NCPHA EHS scholarships at ECU. Also recognized was Richard Dideriksen, UNC School of Public Health, a long time advocate of Environmental Health through his leadership and involvement in the State of Practice Committee and the excellent educational opportunities offered through SOP. Thank you both for your past and continued support.

Congrats to all our award and scholarship winners. Plans for next year's conference including committee assignments and program planning are already underway. Please feel free to contact any of this year's officers with any concerns or questions. We welcome your input and suggestions.

Nursing Section

Victoria Smith, Chair

I am looking forward to serving as your chair this year. This will be a pivotal year with the combination of sections. We would welcome having members from the Community Health Assistants and Technicians, Physician Extenders and Home Health Section to merge with the Nursing Section. Hopefully we will get together at the beginning of the new year to decide on how we will merge. Please feel free to contact me by e-mail vsmith@brunSCO.net or telephone 910-253-2260 with any suggestions and concerns that we need to address this year. The best to you.

NCPHA Presents Annual Awards in New Bern

Congratulations to the following NCPHA Award Recipients



**Rankin Award
Angela Ellison, Retired
Guilford County Dental Health**



**Reynolds Award
Dr. Steve Cline, Chief
DHHS Human Ecology & Epidemiology**



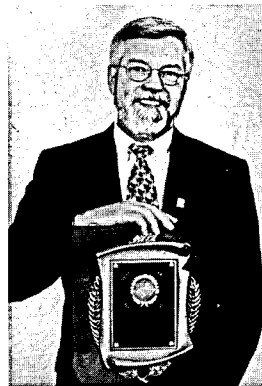
**Citation of Merit
Doug Urland
Caldwell County Health Dept.**



**Distinguished Service Award
John K. Williford, M.D.
Harnett County**



**Norton Group Award
Richmond County Health Dept.**



**Partners in Public Health Distinguished Service
Award
NC Association of Local Health Directors**

Public Health Service Awards and Life Membership

25 Years

Alvin Harris Cagle	Barbara Prim	Wanda J. Elliott	Betty Maine
Pam Douglas	Mary Burgess	Job Hopkins	Louise Rising
Maggie Royal	Reba Clontz	Gary W. McDonald	Ralph Fossett
Shirley Wallin	Curtis A. Oden Jr.	Carol Hipps	Barbara Fracaro
Gary W. Simmons	Jessie M. Oglesby	Stephen R. Jones	Anna Jenkins
Danny Soles	Alice Black	Ruby McNair	Nellie Smith
Marvin F. Parker	Larry A. Bunn	Larry J. Bryan	Robert Whitwam
Linda Darr	Jennifer B. Robinson	Helen Salsburg	Betty Worthy
Barbara Dover	Judy Parnell	Patsy Sellers	Mitchell T. Arnold
Alice J. Bradsher	Edith Jones-Akin	Kathryn B. Humphries	James K. Kelly
Carolyn M. Morton	Mildred B. Oakes	Ann B. Wilkins	Daphne Coley
Patricia K. Kooztz	Robert D. Weant, Jr.	Cathy A. Kenny	Ora Mae Morehead
Wayne Raynor	Robert C. Wood	Debbie Hyatt	Harriett Harvey
Pat McCall	Sara McCrain	Diane Stepp	Mary Turner
Ellen Harrison	Vendella Bryant	Linda Harrison	Kathy Burrows
Jacqueline Glenn	Toni Swinson	Richard G. Steeves	William W. Hill, Jr.
Charles McKenzie	Mildred A. Council	Beverly Bizzell	Georgena Chandler
Elizabeth Cranford	Susan Agee	Jona Medlin	John Neal
David L. Hughes	Alexandra Reid	Linda Starr	Carol M. Davis
Ann Catino	Garry Freeman	Denise Gilliland	Janet Henley
William J. Smith	Dale T. Crowder	Donna J. Ellis	Joyce G. Huff
Sallie B. Laway	Carolyn H. Thurman	Margie Ayers	Hal Robinson
Wayne Cooper	Susan Gregory	Barbara Chavious	Carson Helms
Nilla (Dicke) Sloop	Nina Silverthorne	Kathy Smith	Annette Evans
Ray Hudnell	Gilda Tucker		

30 Years

William Gregg Allison	Gerold Elliott	Nancy Gatewood	Betsy Charlene Willis
Grace Stephenson	Mike Kirby	Gary G. Cole	Sandra B. Wood
Judith W. Preddy	Jerry B. Chance	Nancy Linvengood	Barbara Smith
Bette Edwards	Fannie Buchanan	Polly Baker	Diane Boyd
Peggy Ellis	Reba Helms	Beverly Rochester	Carol M. Whitford
James D. Reed, Jr.	Cherry Horn	Linda B. Wall	Bradley Jenkins
Hugh Cole	Lorey H. White Jr.	Craig Turnbull	Ben King
Chester Best	Loutricia Redding	Gayle R. Brown	Flora Pemberton

35 Years

Trenton Davis	Fred G. Overstreet	Shirley Bell	Peggy Montalbano
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40 Years

Lacy Williams	Tucker Daniel	Myrtle Taylor
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45 Years

Barbara Carter

Life Membership

Camille Bishop	Delance Ellis	James (Bill) Lynch	Lacy Williams
Judy Wright			

North Carolina Public Health Association Membership Application

Name _____ New Member Renewal

Home Address _____

Employer & Address _____

Change of Address Home Office Phone # _____ Fax # _____

Do you wish to receive correspondence at your home office Number of years of membership in NCPHA _____

Would you like to become actively involved in a committee run for office Preference _____

Please include me in your legislative email alerts: Email Address _____

Section Membership is optional. You must be a member of the Association, however, to join a Section. Please circle each section with which you wish to become affiliated. Include these dues with NCPHA dues

- Public Health Leadership \$3.00
- HIV/STD Control \$6.00
- Comty Hlth Assistant/Tech. \$3.00
- Environmental Health \$10.00
- Laboratory \$4.00
- Nutrition \$5.00
- Health Education \$5.00
- Nursing \$4.00
- Social Work \$3.00
- Physician Extenders \$5.00
- Home Health \$No Fee
- International Health \$5.00
- Women/Children's Health \$5.00
- Dental Health \$5.00
- Management Support \$5.00
- Health Education \$5.00
- Children w/Special Needs \$5.00

ANNUAL DUES SCHEDULE

If your annual salary is < \$20,000, Your dues will be \$25.00 _____

If your annual salary is \$20,001 - \$35,000, Your dues will be \$35.00 _____

If your annual salary is > \$35,000, Your dues will be \$45.00 _____

If you are joining for the first time, deduct \$10.00 _____

If you are renewing prior to your anniversary date, deduct \$5.00* _____

If you are retired or a full-time student, deduct 50% _____

Subtotal _____

If you wish to join a section, add Section Dues _____

TOTAL DUES _____

**Please make check payable to NCPHA and mail to:
P.O. Box 41487, Raleigh, NC 27629-1487**

If you are a new member and were recruited by a member of NCPHA, you both are eligible for a cash drawing at the Annual Educational Conference. Please indicate the name of the individual who told you about NCPHA:

*Membership dues are on individual anniversary basis (shown on mailing label)

NC Public Health Association

P.O. Box 41487
Raleigh, NC 27629-1487

Phone: 919-250-9276
Fax: 919-250-6109

Email: deborah.rowe@ncpha.com

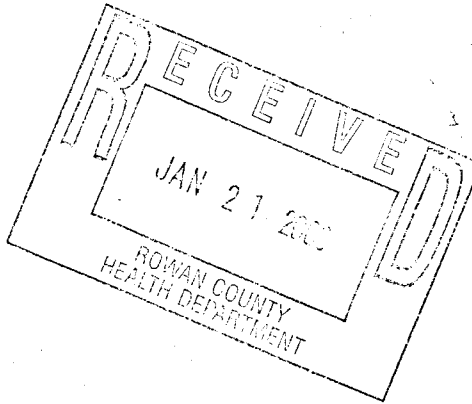
Please note change of address
and telephone number

*Public Health:
Everywhere,
Everyday, Everybody*



Articles for April Issue
Due March 1, 2003

Send by email or disk to:
Deborah J. Warren
Harnett Co Health Department
307 Cornelius Harnett Blvd
Lillington, NC 27546
djwarren@harnett.org



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2003 NCPHA New Officers Installed

Left to Right: Sylvia Wagoner, Member-At-Large West; Debra Harris, President; Deborah J. Warren, Vice-President; David Stone, President-Elect; Sandi Baxley, Secretary-Treasurer; Helene Edwards, Member-At-Large East. They are joined by other officers, Dr. Stephen Keener, Past President; Dr. Sherman Kahn, SHA Representative; Bill Smith, APHA Representative; Dr. Teme Levbarg, Member-At-Large East; Kelly Spangler, Member-At-Large West; Walter Council, Member-At-Large East; and Debbie Edwards, Member-At-Large West

Southern Health Association Affiliation Ballot

Please read the articles on affiliation with Southern Health Association on pages 2 and 3 of this Newsletter before voting on this important issue. If you have any questions or concerns, please call Deborah Rowe at 919-250-9276. All ballots are to be received no later than February 17, 2003.

- Yes, NCPHA should continue affiliation with Southern Health Association
- No, NCPHA should not continue affiliation with Southern Health Association

Please clip and mail in enclosed envelope in time to be received by
February 17, 2003