



SPRING 2007 NEWSLETTER

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Well, it's been a while since the last newsletter and a lot has certainly happened since then. Where to begin?

First of all, as you may have noticed, the newsletter is in electronic format. The Board of Directors voted last year to adopt this format in an effort to cut costs. We hope this is not an inconvenience to any of our members, and if it is, please let us know so we can prepare a list of those who would prefer to continue to receive a hard copy in the mail.

Secondly, I would like to congratulate the newest members to the PAEP Board of Directors who were elected in December: Edward Gabsewics, Deb Henson and Amy Altimare. As many of you may be aware, Ed was one the original founding members of PAEP and we appreciate his continuing contributions to the organization. Deb and Amy have also contributed their efforts to PAEP for several years and we appreciate their continued support.

I would like to update the membership on some changes to our professional support as well. In November, PAEP hired two new administrators to coordinate the organization's day to day activities (which seem to get more complicated every year). Welcome to Jeanmarie Kline and Terri Breon who will continue the effort, replacing Elaine Farrell, whom we were all very sad to see leave. Elaine was presented with another opportunity that was difficult to refuse. We wish her the best of luck and appreciate all of her contributions to the organization over the years.

This March, PAEP also hired a new webmaster. We would like to welcome Carole Backman who brings nearly 15 years of experience to the organization. Already, Carole has organized PAEP's website to make it more user friendly and updated many items that were in need of revisions. Please visit the new and improved website at www.paep.org as soon as you get a chance and take a look for yourself.

Last, but certainly not least, PAEP's Annual Conference is right around the corner. It will be held at the Atherton Hotel in State College from May 16-18. PAEP is proud to announce that Dr. Devra Lee Davis will be the keynote speaker this year. Her topic will be "Tales of Environmental Deception and the Battle against Pollution." Dr. Davis was a National Book Award Finalist for *When Smoke Runs Like Rain*, which documents a 1948 incident where toxic fumes killed more than 20 residents of her hometown, Denora, PA. She also directs the world's first Center on Environmental Oncology at the University of Pittsburgh Cancer Institute. Please visit PAEP's website under the conference section to read more about Dr. Davis and her contributions to the environment and health. Thank you to Eric Buncher, Betsy Stewart, and the conference committee for their efforts in producing a terrific line up of speakers and activities at this year's conference (take a look right now!).

Well, that covers the highlights. On behalf of the Board of Directors, thank you for your continued support of PAEP and we hope to see everyone at the conference in May!

Jeffrey Prawdzik



Figure 1 2007 Board Members (left to right) John Burglund, Jason Minnich, Amy Altimare, Brian Oram, Deb Henson, Ed Ga, Tammy Sherwin, Jeff Prawdzik, not pictured Jeff Luzenski

The Board of Directors held their annual retreat at the Ned Smith Center for Arts and Nature in Millersburg. The Board would like to thank the Center's staff for graciously hosting us again this year. Elections were held for executive staff: Jeff Prawdzik, President; Jason Minnich, Vice President; John Burglund, Treasurer; Tammy Sherwin, Secretary.

2007 PAEP Annual Conference Scheduled



The 2007 PAEP Annual Conference will be held in State College May 16-18. Kicking off this year's conference will be a panel discussion concerning environmental history in PA, Rachel Carson's influence and environmental issues today. The panel discussion will be followed by three tracts of speakers that will discuss issues ranging from green roofs to Indiana bats to stormwater. We are very pleased to announce that the Keynote Speaker this year will be Devra Davis, PhD, MPH. Designated a National Book Award Finalist for *When Smoke Ran Like Water* (2002, Basic Books), Dr. Davis directs the world's first Center on Environmental Oncology at the University of Pittsburgh Cancer Institute.

STAFFING UPDATES

In November the Board hired two administrative staff to replace [Elaine Farrell](#), who received an offer for a full time position she could not refuse. So after several years we say good-bye and good-luck to Elaine and welcome to Jeanmarie and Terri!

[Jeanmarie Kline](#), CMP, Administrator and Conference Coordinator-- works with hotels for conferences and workshops on space logistics, room block, food & beverage, A-V needs, any social activities, need for any outside vendors, etc. Is on-site for the conference to make sure everything runs smoothly as the primary interface with the hotel. Also does research on sites for future programs and conferences.

[Terri Breon](#) – Business Manager - handles the central office operations, including managing the databases for membership records, dues invoicing, all registration processing and preparation of attendee packets for conferences and other events; broadcasting materials prepared by Board of Directors and members; tracking emails, faxes, and mailing addresses for mass communications.

In March the Board also hired [Carole Backman](#) to replace [Kevin Quirk](#) as webmaster for our website. Carole Backman, a native of Alabama, has a BS in Agronomy and formal training in Computer Sciences. She brings a wealth of experience in website design projects. She has designed some very impressive Ag Extension sites in addition to numerous educational and non-profit organization websites. We are looking forward to working with her as we continue to make PAEP and its web presence more in tune with these changing times.

PAEP SECTIONS

EASTERN SECTION

Co-chairs Deborah Poppel and Marc Radell are working on several exciting new programs for 2007. On April 17, the Red Barn Trading Company will discuss DEP's new water quality nutrient trading program in conjunction with a networking lunch. Other programs for 2007 include a field visit to a wetland mitigation site and a soils program hosted by Wilkes University. Notification of each activity will be e-mailed to Section members two or three weeks before the event. Deborah and Marc encourage other PAEP and P2E2 Roundtable members to join the Programs Committee. Please contact them at Dpoppel@ensr.com or marc_radell@urscorp.com to ensure that our programming activities meet your professional needs.

WESTERN SECTION

The Western Section is in the final stages of planning the Annual Conference, scheduled for May 16-18, 2007 in State College, PA. The committee has put in a tremendous amount of work to organize what promises to be a great opportunity for networking, learning, and reconnecting with friends from across the state.

Upcoming events for the Western Section are: Whitewater Rafting at Ohiopyle State Park on the Youghiogheny River; a presentation by the Nine Mile Run Watershed Association about their urban stream restoration project in Pittsburgh; and a Pittsburgh Pirate baseball game. The Western Section Planning Committee is always looking for ideas for section events. Please contact John Burglund at (724) 981-0155 if you have any ideas.

CENTRAL SECTION

The Central Section held a brainstorming session on March 8th at the Appalachian Brewing Company in Harrisburg. Several great ideas for training and social events resulted from the meeting. Training and informational sessions discussed included: Section 4(f), Phase 1 Environmental Site Assessments, Wetlands I&D, Cultural Resources, and Permits. Social events discussed included: rafting, a Senator's Game, Geo-Caching, and horseback riding in Gettysburg. Currently we are working hard to secure a few of these events for late spring early summer. Keep posted for upcoming dates and times.

If you have any ideas for the Central Section or would like to be notified and participate in planning section events please contact either Jason Minnich jaminnich@state.pa.us or Amy Altimare aaltimare@ascgroup.net. Thank you to all that participated in the March 8th meeting.

P2E2 Roundtable

The group's February 15 meeting that was cancelled has been rescheduled to **1 May**. The group is planning events for August and November. Please check the PAEP Website for registration information www.paep.org.

Conservation Heritage Committee

From Pennsylvania Heritage Society (abridged version)

For more info, contact Beth Hager, Development Officer, 717-705-8640, bhager@state.pa.us

Walter Lyon Appreciation at the Pennsylvania State Archives

The Pennsylvania State Archives honored noted civil engineer Walter Lyon for donating his personal and professional collection at a ceremony and reception on March 12, 2007. Hosted by the Pennsylvania Heritage Society, several of Lyon's colleagues and friends, as well as Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission (PHMC) staff, attended the event at the State Archives facility in Harrisburg. PHMC Executive Director Barbara Franco and State Archives Bureau Director David Haury presided at the ceremony, which also included remarks by environmental historian Vogel Keller and Pennsylvania Association of Environmental Professionals Conservation Heritage Committee Chair Wayne Kober.

The Walter Lyon Papers, Manuscript Group 472, have been processed and are open for research at the Pennsylvania State Archives. Lyon generously donated the bulk of the collection in 2002, which contains over one-hundred archival boxes of materials relating to his life and work. A full inventory of the Walter Lyon Papers is available for viewing on the State Archives website at: <http://www.phmc.state.pa.us/bah/dam/mg/mg472.htm>.

Lyon was a civil engineer who held a variety of administrative positions in both state and federal government from 1950–1983. Born in Cologne, Germany, in 1924, he immigrated to the United States during childhood and served in the U.S. Army during World War II. After the war, he received a bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering and later a master's in Sanitary Engineering, both from The Johns Hopkins University. Eventually Lyon came to work for the Commonwealth, holding a number of civil service posts during a crucial time in Pennsylvania's, and the nation's, environmental history. Most notably he served as the director of the Bureau of Water Quality Management, under the old Department of Environmental Resources, from 1971–1979. In addition to heading the water pollution and drinking water programs during his tenure with the commonwealth, Lyon was responsible for overseeing the state's Environmental Master Plan, as well as Pennsylvania's Recreation Plan. He was also involved in federal environmental and resources legislation and policy analysis before his retirement from public service in 1983. Since then he has taught several Systems Engineering courses at the University of Pennsylvania, and served as a consultant in environmental engineering and water resources for various public

various public and private organizations.

The Pennsylvania Heritage Society is a non-profit organization supporting the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission (PHMC), the official state agency charged with preserving and interpreting the Commonwealth's heritage and culture. The Pennsylvania State Archives is a bureau of the PHMC and is the official custodian of the permanently valuable records of Pennsylvania state government as well as a repository for papers and records of individuals and families, businesses, and organizations that have statewide historical significance.



Figure 2 Walter Lyon Appreciation, Pennsylvania State Archives, March 12, 2007: (Left to right) Walter Lyon, PAEP Conservation Heritage Chair Wayne Kober, Gene Koontz and Rich Pugh of PHMC/PAEP Conservation Heritage Initiative funder Gannett Fleming, and PAEP President Jeffrey Prawdzik. Photo by Don Giles, Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Rachel Lengle Govelovich, P.E., has been named Young Engineer of the Year by both the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE), Central Pennsylvania Section, and the Central Pennsylvania Engineers Week Council (CPEWC). Govelovich was recognized for her academic and occupational achievements, professional and educational excellence, engineering and technical accomplishments, and citizenship.

With more than six years of engineering experience, Govelovich is an assistant project manager in the Environmental Resources Division of Gannett Fleming, an international planning, design, and construction management firm.

NEW MEMBERS



Jill M. Vovaris

Wilkes University Department
of Environmental Engineering &
Earth Sciences

For the past 6+ years Mrs. Vovaris has worked for Mackin Engineering Company in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Prior to working at Mackin Engineering Company, Mrs. Vovaris was employed by PPG Industries in the Industrial Electrocoat Department. Mrs. Vovaris is a Senior Environmental Scientist with Mackin Engineering Company and a graduate of Duquesne University (MS, 2005) and The Penn State University (BS, 1997). She is married with 1 son named Nico and is an active member and volunteer with the Roaring Run Watershed Association and the Pittsburgh Race for the Cure.

Wilkes University is a private university located in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania. It has over 2,200 undergraduates and over 2,200 graduate students (both full and part-time). The Department of Environmental Engineering and Earth Sciences (EEES) at Wilkes offers undergraduate programs in environmental engineering and earth sciences. The environmental engineering program is accredited by the Engineering Accreditation Commission (EAC) of the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET). The program emphasizes the fundamental principles of environmental engineering and how they are applied to solve environmental resources problems in their technical, ecological, economic, social and ethical contexts.

To become more involved in the organization or if you have an idea for ways to make the organization better please contact one of the section chairs or email it to info@paep.org.

PAEP is currently working to add links to all our corporate sponsor's websites to PAEP's Website. PAEP will also be asking corporate members to add a link to the PAEP website to their websites. Please forward questions about this process to info@paep.org.



NAEP Launches Ambassador's Program

The NAEP Ambassador's Program is now official. You want to reduce your dues in NAEP? Now is the perfect time to do it. When you sign 3 qualified NAEP members in one calendar year, you will get your membership in NAEP extended by one year. The program is open to every general member in NAEP and has no expiration. To qualify, the NAEP National Office must get a verifiable email or referral name on the online application from the new member for you to get the credit for signing them.

NAEP Begins Talks with American Planning Association

The American Planning Association Environment and Natural Resource Division began discussions with NAEP Board of Directors to forge a new and synergistic relationship. NAEP members can expect to see more collaboration with APA and will be invited to submit articles to the APA Newsletter and APA members will get a similar benefit. Web site links will be exchanged for easier web communication and talks will begin about partnering on legislative and policy committee activities between the groups. In the future, NAEP hopes to reduce dues for members who hold dual membership in these organizations and extend conference speaking and attendance benefits between the two organizations.

If you have any thing you would like to include in the next newsletter please email Jason Minnich at jaminnich@state.pa.us.