

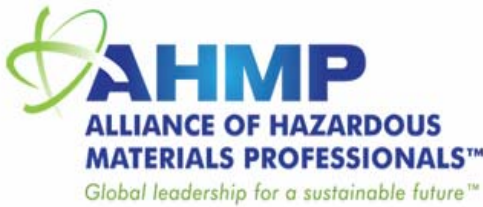


## EASTERN WASHINGTON CHAPTER OF THE ACADEMY OF CERTIFIED HAZARDOUS MATERIALS MANAGERS

Spring Issue - 2009

### EWC-ACHMM NEWSLETTER

## PRESIDENT'S CORNER



### Eastern Washington Chapter of the Academy of Certified Hazardous Materials Managers

1370 Jadwin, Ste 113  
Richland, WA 99352

<http://www.ewcachmm.org>

#### **Current Officers:**

President: Robbie Tidwell  
Vice President: Mike Schmoltd  
Secretary: Pat Wicks / Tom Ashley  
Treasurer: Mark Kerns  
Past President: Mark Riess

#### **Committee Chairs:**

Professional Development: Bruce Vesper  
Membership Development: Andrea Prignano  
Public Relations: Terry Winward  
Awards: Scot Adams  
Scholarships: Jim Jewitt  
Government Liaison: Harold Tilden  
Webmaster: Sebastian Tindall  
Education: Jim Jewitt  
Newsletter: Roni Swan/Rose Nipper  
Past President's Advisory Council:  
Chuck Mulkey, Rampur Viswanath and  
Andrea Prignano

#### **Past Presidents:**

2008—Mark Riess  
2007—Andrea Prignano  
2006—Robbie Tidwell  
2005—Michelle Y. Mandis  
2004—Chuck Mulkey  
2003—R. Terry Winward  
2002 – Rampur Viswanath  
2001 – Stan Jones  
2000 – Roni Swan  
1999 – Chris Brevick  
1998 – Robert Newell  
1997 – Delores Lutter  
1996 – Terry Ostrander  
1995 – Bill Holstein  
1994 – Brian Dixon  
1993 – Bruce Vesper

DÉJÀ VU! Yes, I am back in the driver's seat! I am honored to have been appointed as the first person to serve a second term as President in this Chapter since its inception. Our 2008 Vice President, Jeannette Hyatt, took a job at Savannah River, leaving a vacancy late in the year. The Chapter needed someone with recent experience to step up and keep the Chapter on track. With your support, I am anticipating a busy and successful year.

I am happy to announce that our Chapter will be participating in the 2009 Mid-Columbia Regional Science & Engineering Fair this year. The Fair will be held March 13 -15. Our Chapter is sponsoring two awards that include monetary and plaque donations. We received supporting funds from a CHMMunity Grant from our national organization, the Alliance of Hazardous Materials Professionals (read more in this newsletter).

It is the Chapter's plan to hold meetings consistently on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month. Our schedule is posted. In August, there may be a schedule deviation to accommodate our annual winery social event. All members, affiliates, and anyone from the public are invited to attend each meeting. We need your presence and your ideas to churn new paths for Chapter recognition and growth.

We invite your participation in our scholarship and award programs later this year. Please start thinking now of people and projects worthy of submission. The chairmen will be soliciting input for the programs at the appropriate time. Our annual awards banquet is already scheduled at the Courtyard by Marriott for December 10. Mark it on your calendar!

A line from an "old" song goes, "the times, they are a-changin'..." This is so true for our country in every aspect. We see evidence of change right here in our area. Our careers and backgrounds are evolving to fit tightened budgets and tightened regulations. Our associations as HazMat professionals serve to support and strengthen each other as each of us are called on to do more with less. We look forward to having you join us for job and educational opportunities, insight to developing regulatory changes, and networking.



## EWC is Looking for Earth Day Ideas!

If you have any ideas, please send an email to Robbie Tidwell at: [Robbie.tidwell@pnl.gov](mailto:Robbie.tidwell@pnl.gov)

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# Alliance of Hazardous Materials Professionals (AHMP)

In December 2008, the ACHMM membership voted to change the name of the organization to the Alliance of Hazardous Materials Professionals (AHMP). The new brand identity comprises the new organizational name; a modern logo; and a tagline: “Global leadership for a sustainable future™”.

Today with more than 4,000 members—represented by 56 chapters in 37 states—the membership association is focused on its vision of becoming the recognized global leader and resource for hazardous materials professionals.

This proposed new name is expected to help enhance the Certified Hazardous Materials Manager® (CHMM) credential. The new name is expected to:

- Expand member professional development offerings to meet the changing needs of the evolving hazardous materials profession and professional;
  - Create a larger universe of hazardous materials professionals for you to network with; and
- Increase the organization's ability to influence regulations governing the management of hazardous materials.

This organization's niche is hazardous materials, however, its current name and market focus greatly limit its ability to attract hazardous materials professionals who do not hold the CHMM credential.

Through this new name, it is expected that the organization will attract more members and will gain more influence within state and federal governments and our industry. Our counterparts in other industries like safety and engineering are successful in influencing changes at the federal and state levels because their respective national organizations have large numbers of members. Simply put, there is strength in numbers and ACHMM currently does not enjoy that position; in fact, membership numbers are decreasing annually.

## Why a Name Change?

The motivation for this new name, quite frankly, is nothing more than the long-term survival of your organization.

An analysis of membership trends—non-renewing combined with new members—shows that over a two-decade period ACHMM membership would decline from today's 4,000 members to just 1,300 by 2028. This conservative estimate is based on a 5 percent annual member-

ship decline. In reality, this year ACHMM's membership dropped by 22 percent and in recent years it had declined by 20 percent or more each year (for comparison, the average annual attrition rate for an association is 15 percent).

Compounding this membership problem is that the number of individuals who are earning the CHMM credential has trended downward over the last four years. In 2004, 710 hazardous materials professionals earned the credential; in 2005 only 615; in 2006 only 571, and last year only 343. And, this troubling trend shows no signs of reversing any time soon.

## Benefits for You!

There are exciting, new benefits that you will receive through the broad-based membership group envisioned with this new name, including:

- Increased investments in professional development and educational opportunities;
  - Expanded networking opportunities with world-class experts;
  - Broad-based professional and technical information exchanges;
  - Enhanced influence in our industry; and
- Wider appreciation of our critical role in national and global safety by the public and regulators.
- With new and enhanced benefits like these it's easy to see how the renamed organization will greatly upgrade your overall membership experience.

## Retaining ACHMM

During the National Conference several members asked if this newly branded organization will retain the ACHMM name and logo, which are owned by the Institute of Hazardous Materials Management (IHMM). We have inquired about continuing our license to use the ACHMM name and logo and hope to receive a positive response from IHMM very soon.

Also, some members asked if the ACHMM name could be retained for use as a separate membership organization exclusively for CHMMs within the renamed organization. We are strongly considering this option and currently are studying the legality of such a move and a possible organizational structure to facilitate this arrangement.



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# 2009 AHMP Leadership Workshop

March 25-27, 2009

Sheraton Westport Chalet Hotel, St. Louis, Missouri

This year's Leadership Workshop offers three of the country's best leadership training experts, primed to help you fine-tune your leadership skills to make you more effective on the job. This event is complimentary to members. The workshop session will be hosted by leadership development consultancy firm **BRANTA Worldwide** co-founders Rodney Grieve and Robert Greenwood, with input from strategic partner Sherry Shaver.

- **Rodney Grieve**, an affiliate AHMP member, was a keynote presenter at the ACHMM 2005 National Conference and principal presenter at several Leadership Workshops. He has nearly 20 years of industry and consulting experience helping organizations, teams and individuals create an environment for success.
- **Robert Greenwood** has more than 25 years of experience in management and consulting, having counseled senior executives in a wide range of industries. Since 1993, he has consulted to clients ranging from high tech to biotech, manufacturing to information management, financial services to forest products.
- **Sherry Shaver** brings specialized expertise in leadership development, coaching and team effectiveness. She has worked with professional at all levels in client industries from broadcast news and entertainment, to medical products and technology.

Registration includes Wednesday evening Welcome Reception (light hors d'oeuvres & cash bar), Continental Breakfast Thursday and Friday, Lunch on Thursday, Workshop Materials/Handbook and Interactive Leadership Workshop on Thursday and 1/2 day Friday.

#### For More Information:

Leonore Jordan, CMP  
Director, Meetings & Business Development  
[ljordan@achmm.org](mailto:ljordan@achmm.org)  
Tollfree: 800-437-0137  
Phone: 301-634-7442

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## Lawmakers Discuss Amending TSCA

Lawmakers are expected to introduce the Kid Safe Chemical Act soon, amending the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA), while environmentalists and public health advocates are organizing a coalition to lobby for the legislation. Informed sources say the bill will be very similar to an earlier proposal to eliminate the exposure of children, workers and other sensitive groups to "harmful chemicals distributed in commerce" by 2020, partly by shifting the burden of proving chemicals' safety from EPA to industry. Several industry sources say they do not anticipate the bill to see real action for at least 12 months and that any early efforts are nothing more than "posturing."

The American Chemistry Council (ACC) says that some consumers do not have confidence in the safety of some of the products in the marketplace and believe this lack of confidence is in part a reflection of their lack of confidence in the regulatory policy and structure.

Although ACC issued a statement of support for many aspects of the bill, they indicated that some of the measure's provisions may not generate the benefits intended by the legislation's authors. Among the revisions being proposed to TSCA will require EPA to demonstrate that a chemical poses an "unreasonable risk of injury to health or the environment" before it can prohibit or regulate the chemical. Many believe the current unreasonable risk standard is too high, permitting the entry of hazardous substances into commerce without regulation. These supporters are urging the industry to prove that chemicals are not dangerous or bar them from commerce. Several industry sources suggest that TSCA reform should include the Chemical Assessment and Management Program, which could be made more "robust."

## Upcoming AHMP Webinars

Call 800-437-0137 for details

March 6, 2009; 12:00 pm – 2:00 pm

Title: “The Lead in Your Life”

Attendees of this webinar will be able to:

- Enumerate the causes of lead hazards that can affect them personally
- Know where to go to get further information
- Understand how to work safely with lead and prevent lead hazards at home or the workplace

Speaker/Host: **Barry R. Weissman, Certified Safety Professional and a Certified Hazardous Materials Manager**. Barry has been dealing with lead chemicals for over 20 years. He was a technical advisor to the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development for two years during their lead inspection/risk assessment program for public housing. He is a certified Lead Project Planner Designer; Lead Supervisor and Lead Inspector/Risk Assessor for both New Jersey and EPA Region 2. Barry is a popular speaker and author, having made presentations at AHMP, ASSE, AIHA and local safety conferences. His articles have been published in Occupational Health and Safety Magazine, Industrial Safety and Health News and various ASSE local and national newsletters. In 2008, he won a Saxcie as the SafetyXChange.org Contributor of the Year.

Members - \$105.00

Non-Members - \$140.00

## What is a Webinar?

AHMP Webinars are seminars or courses that you can take from any place where you can access a computer with an internet connection\*, and a telephone.

Most AHMP Webinars include a lecture portion via telephone, with slides presented on your computer, followed by a question and answer session with the instructor. The Webinar is presented live, and is facilitated by a professional moderator. Login and call-in information is forwarded to Webinar registrants prior to the Webinar. All AHMP Webinar instructors are leaders in their subject fields. See individual Webinar descriptions for information on each instructor.

*\*A high-speed internet connection is best for viewing webinar content.*

## EWC Wins CHMMUnity®

### Grant Funds

The Eastern Washington Chapter (EWC) has been notified that they have been approved to receive funds from a CHMMUnity Grant Application. These funds will be used to help the EWC provide awards for the Mid-Columbia Regional Science Fair. Scot Adams and Robbie Tidwell submitted the grant application for the EWC. Raja Ranade shepherded the application through the Alliance for quick resolution.

This event will recognize student achievement with special awards. The awards will be chosen by established EWC criteria and presented at an award ceremony. Last year's fair was successful with 243 students from the Mid-Columbia region participating. Over 100 awards were given out to deserving students.

This year's fair will be held March 12<sup>th</sup> - 14<sup>th</sup> at the Columbia Center Mall. Judging will be completed on Thursday March 12<sup>th</sup>. The awards ceremony will be held at 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, March 14<sup>th</sup> at Chief Joseph Middle School Auditorium in Richland, Washington.

The CHMMUnity® Outreach Program is a national community service initiative established to encourage Certified Hazardous Materials Managers (CHMMs) to promote proactive environmental, health and safety management of hazardous materials in their communities. The CHMMUnity® Outreach Program aims to provide expertise to a deserving cause or locality. It serves to create meaningful connections and activities for CHMMs, chapter members, and the public. Additionally, the goal is to educate the public about environmental, health and safety concerns as well as hazardous materials issues.

## Upcoming EWC Meetings

**General Meetings** (Open to Public - Locations to be Announced)

- April 9<sup>th</sup> - Next General Meeting
- June 11<sup>th</sup> - General Meeting
- August 13<sup>th</sup> - General Meeting (may be rescheduled to accommodate the winery social)
- October 8<sup>th</sup> - General Meeting
- December 10<sup>th</sup> - Banquet

**EWC Executive (Business) Meetings:**

- March 12<sup>th</sup>
- May 14<sup>th</sup>
- July 9<sup>th</sup>
- September 10<sup>th</sup>
- November 12<sup>th</sup>