

Alabama Environmental Health Association, Inc.

Supporting Education in Environmental Health

<http://www.AEHA-online.com>

July 1, 2007

Greetings to all of you from Pickens County. I just can't believe I've done it again, but here I sit, in the same position I was in in 1995, the new President of the Alabama Environmental Health Association. Let me say thanks to the Board of Directors for the confidence they have shown in me by asking me to come back on board and filling the vacant position. I guess that means I did a pretty good job in 1995-96. I take it as an honor to be serving you, the membership, as your new president. I look forward to serving as we (the Board) strive to bring you the best educational training programs that we can in our chapter meetings. Having our organization continue to grow is another goal that I have. We have too many environmental health professionals in the health department who are not members of AEHA, and so we all need to work on these individuals to get them to join. In addition, I believe we need to push to get the environmental health professionals in other organizations, such as ADEM, to join ranks with us and become members. The more members we get, the larger we become, and a stronger organization we will be.

I have been working in environmental health with the Pickens County Health Department for 25 years now, and the changes I have seen since I began are vast. Also, the faces have changed! At the annual meeting in Mobile, I saw lots of familiar faces, those who have been working about as long, or longer than I have. But then, I saw many new faces, and some who I didn't even know their names. Times are a changing, and it doesn't wait for any of us. As Tim Hatch is now a new father, I'm a grandfather of a 1 year old girl. Man, do I feel old! But, then again, you're as old as you feel, and I feel about 25, or at least I'm told that's how I act! I guess that new motorcycle I have makes me young...

I want to take this time to congratulate our award winners at this years' meeting, Lem Burrell as our "Environmentalism of the Year" and Thad Pittman as our "Ansel Mullins Award" winner. Also, congratulations to all of those who were nominated for these awards. Just to be highly thought of by your peers and nominated says a lot about each one of you. And thank you to all those on the new Board of Directors who have agreed to serve. I appreciate that you would take the time from your busy work schedules to serve in this capacity.

I look forward to working with the new Board, and serving you, the members. I urge each and every one of you to get involved with AEHA. We are only as strong as our membership allows, so get involved. If you have any suggestions or constructive criticism, please let one of the Board members know about it. We are always open to new and exciting ideas.

Your President

Barry Ambrose

An Affiliate of the National Environmental Health Association

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