



Newsletter

Summer 2010

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Upcoming 2010 Annual Meeting To Be Held in Vail

September 23, 24
Sign up on CO-SWANA website



President's Corner

by Cathryn Stewart

Sometimes, it's not just presidents who feel cornered! Don't give up hope! Sure, there is a plethora of volunteer tasks to accomplish before the 2010 annual meeting, not to mention accomplishing those paying tasks and life maintenance tasks. Greetings, fellow SWANA members, and welcome to summer. The annual meeting is coming together once again. I am amazed at the talents and energies of CO-SWANA Board of Directors members to manage the logistics – a venue – and the contents – the speakers – for our September 23 and 24 annual meeting in the Edwards/Vail area. Won't you join us? The Chapter's first-time offering of the SWANA Manager of Landfill Operations (MOLO) course is being offered on September 20 through 23. Is this course for you or someone you know?

The Gulf of Mexico oil spill/environmental disaster that we've been grappling with daily since April 20 is on everyone's minds and we wish it never happened and could be remedied instantly. At this point, there are but a few glimmers of hope. I hope that the experts in spill control are learning on a high curve to prevent a recurrence. I hope the workers on the front lines keep finding an abundance of energy to clean each brown pelican and turtle that comes their way! And I hope that we can search and find glimmers of hope. We are accustomed to relatively cheap and available petroleum supplies. But we are mostly unaware of the risks to explore, produce, and transport petroleum to points of use. In our petroleum-dependant world, were we this willing to sully the environment to obtain it? When oil and gas production facilities are out of sight and mostly out of mind, we are faced with the reality of our incredibly strong tie to petroleum for everything from energy to

chemical feedstocks to medicine to buttons. When the finger pointing finally stops, I hope we will have learned an amazing amount of information on optimizing dependable and safe oil and gas production techniques; appreciation for the challenges of oil production under even routine conditions; and when disasters happen, effective environmental clean-up routines. From these events of the past two months, we simply have to learn much from it.

The amount of oil and gas that has been spilled and that will not be heading to a refinery and to refueling our collective gas tanks is unfathomable. To those of us who are remotely and indirectly affected, here's how to keep the hope: Keep loving the planet as best you know how. From our narrow perspective of designing, constructing and operating the best landfills, MIRFS, and gas-to-energy facilities that we can; writing good environmental monitoring plans, collecting representative data, and writing the best reports we know how; and placing waste in the best place for it under today's technology, do it to show your love for the planet, for your small piece of real estate on it, and for everyone sharing the planet with you. See you in Edwards/Vail on September 23 and 24 to learn a few new things in the solid waste industry. Here's to hoping that the news from the Gulf is a whole lot better by then!!

Cathryn

2010 Colorado Legislative Report:

By Deb Barton

The 2010 Colorado legislative season has come to a close with several bills passing that will have impacts on the solid waste and recycling industry. Direct financial impact

bills include the continuation of the Recycling Resources Economic Opportunity Fund (RREOF) (HB 10-1052) and authorization to increase Solid Waste User Fees (HB 10-1329). The legislature also moved some of the Hazardous Substance Release Fund (HSRF) existing balance into other needs within the Department of Public Health and Environment and the Department of Law (HB 10-1311). Additional regulations or clarification of regulations occurred for waste tires (HB 10-1018), air quality permitting program changes for stationary sources (HB 10-1042), and Waste Grease from food preparation (HB 10-1125). The proposal to further regulate the scrap metal commodity purchase and sale was defeated (SB 10-048) as well as the prohibition on the delivery of white page directories in excess of one pound unless requested (HB 10-1068). The concerns for impacts on climate were addressed and passed in an incentive program for the production of biogenic gas which included landfills (HB 10-1363) and the promotion of Clean Energy Technologies (SB 10-177).

A stakeholders group has been developed and will be holding meetings for the next few months to discuss the plans to implement HB 10-1329, Solid Waste User Fees. For more information, contact Charles Johnson, CDPHE for more details on the stakeholder process and the scheduled meeting dates. In addition to the completed legislative season, there are three ballot measures that will be before the electorate this fall. They are Amendment 60 (Property Taxes), 61 (State and Local Debt Limit) and Proposition 101 (Motor Vehicle, Income and Telecommunication Taxes) which, if passed, may have varying degrees of impact on solid waste and recycling activities throughout the state. A table is attached summarizing each of the above ballot measures.

April Technical Session: Construction Quality Assurance Training

By Jerry Henderson

On April 28, 2010, SWANA and CDPHE hosted a technical training on Construction Quality Assurance (CQA) for Landfill Liners. This training was presented by Doug Ikenberry, a professional engineer with the CDPHE Solid Waste and Material Management Unit. Doug was the primary author of the CDPHE guidance on Construction Quality Assurance for Solid Waste Facility Liners and Leachate Collection Systems. During his presentation, Doug covered the elements of a good CQA plan, survey requirements, preparation of subgrade, compacted clay liner construction, test methods, the line of optimums technique, and leachate drainage layer placement. He also gave tips on reporting the CQA testing results so as to streamline the CDPHE review. If you missed the presentation and are interested in these topics, feel free to visit coloradoswana.org to view the presentation.

Scholarship Committee

By Jerry Henderson

The Rocky Mountain Chapter of SWANA still has budgeted during the current year \$1,000 in scholarship awards for academic expenses incurred by a degree-seeking student, and \$500 in scholarships for continuing education. Members should keep in mind that the latter may be used to defer the cost of attending the annual meeting (see next article). Applications are currently being accepted and may be made online at coloradoswana.org.

**2010 ANNUAL CONFERENCE
Colorado Rocky Mountain
SWANA Chapter
September 23rd & 24th, 2010
Eagle County, Colorado**

By Tom Strickland

The 2010 Annual Conference will take place this September in **Eagle County**, Colorado. Technical sessions, luncheons and the Annual Banquet will all be held at the fabulous **Vail Cascade Resort & Spa**.



- Thursday, September 23rd will include a full day of technical sessions followed by the Annual Banquet in the evening.
- Friday, September 24th will include technical sessions in the morning and a tour of **the Eagle County Recycled Materials Recovery Facility** before lunch.

The conference agenda can be found online at www.ColoradoSWANA.org, but please note final details in the agenda are still in the development process. Registration information and online pay option for this year's conference is available at the same web-link.

Hotel lodging information can also be found at www.ColoradoSWANA.com. Only a limited number of guest rooms are on hold for our group, so please make your reservations early if you are planning to attend. To make a guest room reservation call the Vail Cascade at 1-800-282-4183. Make sure you identify yourself as in the "SWANA Annual Conference" group to receive the basic room rate of \$99 per night (+ tax and fees).

Sponsors don't be shy. Colorado SWANA once again needs your support to make this a successful event. For more sponsorship information visit the chapter's website or contact Neil Nowak at nnowak@weaverboos.com or 720-529-0132.

**SWANA International Board
Update
Midyear Meeting**

by Dick Sprague

On April 17th and 18th, SWANA's International Board (IB) met in Banff, Alberta. The mid-year meeting usually sets the stage for the Annual Meeting at Wastecon. This year, however, there was a substantive issue before the IB. SWANA staff, the Finance Committee and the Membership Committee (both committees of the IB) were proposing to increase dues for fiscal year 2011. These groups felt that the dues increase was necessary to balance the FY 2011 budget. Staff had cut back significantly, to the point that some membership issues were not being addressed in a timely manner. In addition, staff had postponed capital expenditures, including computer and other out-of-date equipment replacements.

The Finance Committee had evaluated two options for increasing dues: a \$7.50 dues increase; or a 4.2% dues increase. After

Careful consideration, this committee had recommended the \$7.50 per member dues increase. The Membership Committee had countered that a 4.2% increase would be fairer to public sector members.

These competing proposals were debated strongly in Regional Council meetings, then on the floor of the IB. Several directors pointed out that SWANA has approximately \$846,000 in reserves (a “rainy day” fund), and that some of these reserves could be used to balance the budget. Staff and Finance Committee leaders rebutted this approach because the IB had previously established a lower threshold for this fund, and that the reserves had not reached the threshold.

Several chapters, including your Colorado Chapter, stated clearly that this was the wrong time to implement a dues increase. Together with other chapters, we believe that a dues increase will decrease membership and at a time when we are trying to recruit more members. During a voice vote, a motion to implement a \$7.50 per member dues increase passed; however, I estimate that approximately 30% of the votes opposed an increase. Notable negative votes (besides Colorado) came from Illinois, Ohio and Oklahoma. I will know the exact outcome when the meeting minutes are published, but it is certain that the \$7.50 per member dues increase passed.

Please note that increase is in addition to a \$2.50 per member increase approved by the IB at the 2009 Annual Meeting. The \$2.50 increase is dedicated to SWANA’s scholarship fund, which was slowly dwindling down.

Because of the \$7.50 dues increase, some Colorado members may wish to renew their memberships earlier than normal. This might allow you to renew at the 2010 dues rate. Call Dick Sprague at (303) 898-3125 if you want to discuss this topic.

MOLO Training & Certification Exams

by Dick Sprague

The Colorado Chapter is planning a MOLO Training in conjunction with our Annual Meeting in Vail. The MOLO Training is scheduled to occur on Monday, September 20th through Wednesday, September 22nd, with the certification exam scheduled for early the 23rd. We are currently arranging to have a MOLO Faculty member in Colorado to teach this training, and have two volunteers from our chapter who will assist in the training so that they may become MOLO Faculty for future training here in Colorado.

The Colorado Chapter will be subsidizing some of the costs associated with conducting the MOLO Training. We expect the cost per student to be around \$500 to \$550, which is quite a discount from the \$815 charged by SWANA at national events.

During the certification exam period, we will be able to offer any of SWANA’s certification exams, including MOLO. We expect the cost of each exam to be \$100 (taken with the MOLO course) or \$150 (taken without a SWANA course).

Be watching for more information on the training and certification exams. Deadline for registering for the MOLO course and for certification exams is August 20th.

**Profile of New Director
Juri Freeman
Senior Environmental Analyst,
Skumatz Economic Research
Associates Inc.**

By Juri Freeman



I am happy to take this brief opportunity to introduce myself to the SWANA Rocky Mountain chapter members. I moved to Colorado in 1998 after growing up outside of Baltimore, MD. I became interested in the environmental (and waste

diversion) field when I was still in Maryland and I earned my BS in environmental science and economics from Bucknell University in Lewisburg, PA. My first job in the field was working for the Union County Conservation District while still in college, studying the potential impacts of a nuclear disaster on dairy farm watersheds. I have been at SERA since 2006 and in addition to serving on the SWANA Board I also serve on the Boulder County Resource Conservation Advisory Board.

As part of my position I work closely with clients across the North America ranging from waste haulers and recyclers, to material recovery facilities, local and county governments, state governments, and local and federal regulators. Recently, I have worked on such projects as the Boulder County zero waste plan, improving recycling and trash collection efficiencies in Westminster, program benefit/cost analysis for Teton County, WY, a national mandatory

commercial recycling project, and a project on advanced disposal fee feasibility and impacts in California. I am very excited to be serving on the SWANA board and see this as a great opportunity to contribute my knowledge and enthusiasm of recycling and diversion programs to the organization while also learning more about significant solid waste issues in Colorado. When I'm not working I spend much of my free time playing in a number of local bluegrass bands and exploring in the mountains.

Attachment from 2010 Legislative Recap Article

Number	Title	Ballot Question
Amendment 60	Colorado Property Taxes	<i>Shall there be an amendment to the Colorado constitution concerning government charges on property, and, in connection therewith, allowing petitions in all districts for elections to lower property taxes; specifying requirements for property tax elections; requiring enterprises and authorities to pay property taxes but offsetting the revenues with lower tax rates; prohibiting enterprises and unelected boards from levying fees or taxes on property; setting expiration dates for certain tax rate and revenue increases; requiring school districts to reduce property tax rates and replacing the revenue with state aid; and eliminating property taxes that exceed the dollar amount included in an approved ballot question, that exceed state property tax laws, policies, and limits existing in 1992 that have been violated, changed, or weakened without state voter approval, or that were not approved by voters without certain ballot language?</i>
Amendment 61	Colorado State and Local Debt Limit	<i>Shall there be an amendment to the Colorado constitution concerning limitations on government borrowing, and, in connection therewith, prohibiting future borrowing in any form by state government; requiring voter approval of future borrowing by local governmental entities; limiting the form, term, and amount of total borrowing by each local governmental entity; directing all current borrowing to be paid; and reducing tax rates after certain borrowing is fully repaid?</i>
Proposition 101	Colorado Motor Vehicle, Income, and Telecom Taxes	<i>Shall there be an amendment to the Colorado Revised Statutes concerning limits on government charges, and, in connection therewith, reducing vehicle ownership taxes over four years to nominal amounts; ending taxes on vehicle rentals and leases; phasing in over four years a \$10,000 vehicle sale price tax exemption; setting total yearly registration, license, and title charges at \$10 per vehicle; repealing other specific vehicle charges; lowering the state income tax rate to 4.5% and phasing in a further reduction in the rate to 3.5%; ending state and local taxes and charges, except 911 charges, on telecommunication service customer accounts; and stating that, with certain specified exceptions, any added charges on vehicles and telecommunication service customer accounts shall be tax increases?</i>

Colorado Rocky Mountain SWANA

Balance Sheet

June 1, 2010

ASSETS

Cash and Bank Accounts	
Checking	\$15,886.69
Savings	19,872.14
TOTAL Cash and Bank Accounts	\$35,758.83
Other Assets	
E-Business Loan	17,364.30
TOTAL Other Assets	\$17,364.30
TOTAL ASSETS	\$53,123.13

LIABILITIES & EQUITY

LIABILITIES	0.00
EQUITY	53,123.13
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	\$53,123.13

**Financial Statement
By Stephen Gillette**

Not much has changed from the first of the year but this is an opportunity to let all of our members know the financial condition of our Chapter. Look forward to seeing everyone at our annual meeting in Eagle County in September. If you have any questions concerning our financial information please let me know. sgillette@larimer.org

Stephen W. Gillette- Treasurer

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SWANA Newsletter

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