

2018 AHMP National Conference – Reno, Nevada

Delegate Report (JRanslow)

Attending the 2018 AHMP Conference in Reno, Nevada was an exciting opportunity for me to learn about the organization and events in some cases not related to AHMP such as “Burning Man” in Black Rock Desert of Nevada. Flying from LAX into the Reno airport gave me pause to question if I was on the correct flight! During the quick 45 minute flight I observed many passengers with a fashion statement that reminded me of a time in the 1960’s of a musical event in White Lake New York! Anyway, to understand more, I struck up conversation with several passengers who were making the 5 hour trek from Reno to the Desert. Great conversations were had, a better understanding of the event was achieved and we all departed in different directions after we landed.

Attending the Delegate meeting Sunday was all encompassing about organizational structure and activities and a bit overwhelming at first until I realized most attendees were feeling the same. Topics discussed included; Professional Development by Mark Smith, Government Affairs by Carl Heinlein, and Leadership by Mike Maheux.

Michael Chuah, Esq. reviewed Records Retention and encouraged members to know and understand where documents are stored and confirm they are reviewed annually. It’s important to understand the Federal 501 (c) (3) along with each individual Chapter’s State Laws and comply with all filing requirements and follow all non-profit rules. It was recommended that each Chapter set up a separate email for business vs using the member business email to conduct NEACHMM work.

Additionally, a recommendation by Eric Johnson, AHMP President Elect, is that each Chapter provides a “Statement of Handoff” document from 1 board to another including but not limited;

- Articles of incorporation
- Corporate financial records
- IRS document – stating we are non-profit chapter

This document will provide consistency for the Chapter year to year and board to board.

During the delegate meeting, I had the opportunity to meet several members - some relatively new and other long term members of AHMP and CHMM certified. On a lighter note, my encounter with Rich Cartwright was rather interesting as he sent my husband, Ron, a LinkedIn request to meet with him at the conference because he has an impressive resume and highly professional background. My husband is not in the environmental field and does not know Rich. Instead, Rich reviewed my LinkedIn account but sent his request to Ron. Rich was sitting at the same table as I and after introductions we both laughed about the misstep.

Other delegates and members that I connected with include; Jan Marnicki of Hartford, CT Chapter, Erika Frank of PA Chapter, Pat Buley of IHMM, Erich Eyman of Grainger, Michael Bain of AGD Environmental,

Mark Baumgardner EH&S consulting in Ohio, Carla Givens BAE Systems, Allison King of Nexeo Solutions, Shivani Kesar of AECOM and all current Board members of AHMP.

Technical Sessions were interesting, diverse in topic but a common theme throughout several sessions was e-Manifest. The bottom line to everyone of e-Manifest is take a step back and let the process play out over the next 12 months. Perform your due diligence, generators need to obtain a user account from EPA, communicate with HW transporter – hybrid or hardcopy HW manifest.

The Risk Management Plan (RMP) Program (40 CFR Part 68 section 112 (r)(I) has been on again off again due to legislators in Washington. The DC District Court vacated the “Delay” rule of EPA RMP. A few proposed changes included in the proposed update are; reduce threshold quantity of anhydrous ammonia in list of Regulated substances, butane/propane used in fork lifts would be exempt from RMP, and Chlorine gas for water treatment (2 – 150 lb. cylinder) under threshold. Stay tuned for more to come in the CAA Statute.

Exposure Assessment for the Use of Spor-Klenz was presented by Mark Liffers of TEI. Spor-Klenz is used in Bio Research Labs and Pharmaceutical production for control of microbial contamination. During application process of peracetic acid, exposure monitoring & analysis has been a challenge due to minimal regulatory & compliance guidelines. Currently, French research data has been best source to compare samples.

Technical sessions “Understanding EPA’s New Generator Improvement Rule” presented by Ross Kellogg and “Nothing up my sleeve.....PRESTO!” presented by Steve Laughlin both discussed the 6/30/2018 launch by EPA of National System for tracking hazardous waste manifest electronically, e-Manifest. Receiving facilities have been granted extra time by EPA to submit paper manifests. TSDF’s will need to register and submit manifest to EPA if they accept waste from states that must submit manifests. Bottom line – let this program roll out over next 12 months.

Patricia Hlavka and Gregory Smith of Mayo Clinic presented “Case Studies: When Waste and Safety Meet, Challenges in Healthcare”. The presenters represented EH&S and Clinical offices of their organization and discussed examples of working together and achieving compliance on both sides. Together they used the Hierarchy of Controls to resolve issues; use of chemicals, generation of waste and laboratory cross contamination.

The key note speakers were Eric Lamoureux – Acting Deputy Director Response and Recovery Directorate State of CA Governor’s Office of Emergency Services and Lynne Barker, Sustainability Manager, City of Reno. Both presentations were dynamic and engaging in topic and thought.

Finally, thank you NEACHMM for providing me this wonderful opportunity to increase my professional development and business acumen in the environmental field.