

NENY Voyager

Central Atlantic States Association of Food and Drug Officials

Fall 2006

Membership News

If you have not already paid your annual dues, please forward payment to Marianne Stone as soon as possible at PO Box 678, Albany NY or you can pay at our next quarterly meeting.

Payment can also be forwarded to CASA, PO Box 488, Abington, PA 19001-0488.

As of now, we still have several members who have not paid their 2006 annual dues. Dues are \$15 for Regulatory; Associates \$35; Retired \$10; and \$10 for Academic.

Did You Know?

FD&C Red No. 4 (also known as E124, Ponceau 4R, and Cochineal Red A, New Coccine, Acid Red 18, SX purple and Food Red 7) is a water soluble, red food color additive.

It is a synthetic coal tar and azo dye, {chemical name: trisodium salt of 1-(4-sulpho-1-naphthylazo)-2-naphthol-6,8-disulphonic acid.}

It is carcinogen in animals, and can produce bad reactions in asthmatics and people allergic to aspirin. Despite the fact this additive is banned in the United States, it has been found as a listed ingredient in imported items for sale in this country.

President's Message

Hello to everyone and welcome to the 2006 newsletter. I would like to thank all of you for your support of CASA. It is a great way to network with local members of several different government agencies as well as representatives from local industry. I invite you to introduce yourself to someone new at our next meeting.

This years 90th Annual CASA Conference was held May 16-19 in Gettysburg, PA . There were some fantastic speakers including Bill Marler, a lawyer who has represented the complainants in several high profile food borne outbreak cases; Gary Hagy of the Virginia Department of Health who spoke on their success with posting restaurant inspections on the internet; and Glenda Lewis from the FDA and Marisol Benesh from the USDA spoke on HACCP based school



lunch programs.

NENY will sponsor the 2008 Annual Conference and planning for this event is underway. Any suggestions for speakers or topics as well as any assistance that you can give would be appreciated.

I look forward to seeing all of you at our next local meeting. Invite your co-workers to join CASA and attend all of our local meetings with you.

Jack Parisi retires

G. Jack Parisi, Environmental Health Director for Schenectady County, retired in September after a long and distinguished career in public health, spanning some 35 plus years. Jack was a tireless champion of the CASA organization and NENY-CASA, his local conference.

During his long association with CASA he held almost every position for both CASA and NENY-CASA alike. Jack was president of CASA in 2000

and won the prestigious CASA Award a year later.

He spent his professional years in service to others, whether working for the Schenectady County Health Department or for CASA. He will be remembered for years to come and an example of service to CASA that current members can emulate.

Jack retired to Florida where he joins his wife Dawn, who has been working in that state for several years.

NEW YORK STATE REQUIRES FOOD SAFETY EDUCATION TRAINING

Food safety education training for certain retail food stores in New York State became law in June 2006. The Act, S6354, Food Safety Education Certification Program, passed the Legislature in September 2005, was amended in January 2006, and was signed into law by Governor George E. Pataki on June 7, 2006. The law is effective September 16, 2006.

The law pertains to retail food stores with gross annual income from food sales of three million dollars or more, and, food stores that are part of a network of subsidiaries, affiliates or other member stores, under direct or indirect common control, which as a group, has annual gross income from food sales of three million dollars or more. A retail food store is exempted if it has as its only full time employees the owner, his/her parent, his/her spouse or child and not more than two additional full time employees. A retail food store that has annual income of less than three million dollars, excluding petroleum products, is also exempted.

This new law requires that a qualified retail food store, (defined as an establishment or section of an establishment, licensed under Article 20-C, where food and food products are offered to the consumer and are intended for off-premises consumption), have an individual in management or in a position of control assigned to it who has been issued a certificate of completion from an approved food safety education

program. The Article 20-C Food Processing License application for a retail food store must be accompanied by a certificate of completion indicating that the requirement for food safety education has been met within the biennial license period. A copy of the individual's certificate of completion must be posted at the entryway of his/her place of employment. The certificate of completion will be valid for two years for the individual even if he/she changes places of employment. The retail food store is allowed up to thirty days to come into compliance where the person assigned to the retail food store who was certified as having completed the approved food safety education program separates from the retail food stores' employment.

Food safety education programs must be approved by the Commissioner of the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets and can only be offered by a federal or state agency, an accredited college or university, a chain store with ten or more retail units, a grocery wholesaler supplying twenty or more food stores, a franchisor with ten or more franchisees, a cooperative with twenty or more members or a trade association with fifty or more members representing the interests of retail food stores.

For approval, food safety education program providers must submit to the Department of Agriculture and Markets, Division of Food Safety and

Inspection a program that consists of at least eight hours of food safety training over a biennial license period. The program must cover one or more of the following topics: New York State Food Safety Statutes and Regulations, food microbiology, food borne illnesses, HACCP (Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point), cleaning and sanitation, personal hygiene, temperature control, food security, and pest control. A non-refundable fee of two hundred dollars must accompany each application for program approval, and must be renewed biennially with a two hundred dollar non-refundable fee.

The law will have immediate impact on several thousand retail food stores whose food processing license expires in November 2006. Retail food stores that do not submit proof with their food processing license application that management or a person in a position of control has been certified as having completed the approved food safety education program will not be issued a food processing license. Retail food stores conducting food processing operations without the proper license are subject to the assessment on penalties for each day of operation without a license.

Announcements

We are pleased to announce that David Stich, son of Cathy and Steve Stich (NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets) is this year's scholarship winner.

David is studying at Ellis Hospital School of Nursing in hopes of pursuing a degree as a Registered Nurse with a minor in Spanish and to begin the Aviation program at Schenectady County Community College. CASA wishes David all the best in his college years and in his chosen career.

Training

If you have any ideas or topics that you would like to hear about or suggestions for speakers, please let one of our officers or e-board members know. All ideas are appreciated.

CASA Website

This is a reminder that CASA's website is up and running. Please visit us at: www.casafdo.org.

All membership renewals and news updates will be sent via email, so if you have not already done so, please register your email address(es) so that you do not miss out on current information.

Officers and E-board

The current slate of officers for 2006 is as follows:

- Erin Sawyer, President, NYS AG & MKTS
- Darby Greco, VP, NYS Department of Health
- Secretary/Treasurer, Marianne Stone, Albany County Department of Health;
- Dominick DiCarlo, Past President, Schenectady County Department of Health.

Members of our e-board are:

- Andrew Suflita, Eboard representative, Schenectady County Department of Health;

- Tara Becker, Columbia County Department of Health;
- John Arnold, NYS AG & MKTS;
- Clarence Davis, NYS AG & Mkts;
- Marcia Lenahan, Albany County Department of Health;
- Mary Finn, FDA, Albany; and
- Kendall Dunham, NYS Department of Health.

We would like to include an associate member on our E-board. If interested, please contact a member of the eboard.

Holiday Greetings From CASA

The Executive Board would like to wish all members of the Northeast New York Conference of CASA a blessed and safe holiday season and a productive and happy 2007. The members of NENY-CASA are the conference's heart and soul. Your officers and Executive Board would like you to know that conference membership is dwindling – now at its lowest level in years.

The conference needs a shot in the arm which members can provide. If you have not renewed your membership in NENY-CASA now is the time to do it. We have enclosed a membership application for you to print out and send in. However, we are asking for more than that. **We challenge NENY-CASA members to try and recruit at least one new member for the 2007 year.** A strong base can be made stronger with an influx a new members and ideas.

What can you expect in return? Your officers and executive board pledges to redouble their efforts in 2007 to provide you with the highest quality training opportunities on the most current topics in public health today. Activities in 2006 were varied and included presentations on Legionnaire's Disease, Vibrio parahaemolyticus, and the importance of communicating your public health messages. Additionally, the conference sponsored food service training for Chinese restaurant owners and managers in the Capital District in Mandarin. Members also participated in the production of a USDA meat slaughtering video and the conference awarded its scholarship to a deserving member of a NENY-CASA family.

We are hoping that 2007 will bring new members into the NENY-CASA fold – with lots of new ideas. They will certainly be welcomed. Please complete and send in the CASA application on the next page. You'll be glad you did!

CASA Membership Application & Dues Information

CENTRAL ATLANTIC STATES ASSOCIATION OF FOOD AND DRUG OFFICIALS

Please complete and return to:

William Kinder

Treasurer/CASA FOOD & DRUG OFFICIALS

P.O. Box 488

Abington, PA 19001-0488

- Regulatory \$15 Annual Dues
- Associate \$35 Annual Dues
- Academic \$10 Annual Dues
- Student \$10 Annual Dues
- Retired \$10 Annual Dues

Make check payable to CASA

Local Conference Membership is included with payment of dues in all categories;

Check appropriate conference affiliation below:

- | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Baltimore | <input type="checkbox"/> Philadelphia |
| <input type="checkbox"/> New York | <input type="checkbox"/> Pittsburgh |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Niagara Frontier | <input type="checkbox"/> Susquehanna |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Northeastern New York | <input type="checkbox"/> Virginia |

Name _____

Agency _____

Address _____

Telephone _____ FAX _____

Email _____

CASA is a regional affiliate of the Association of Food & Drug Officials (AFDO)