



Central Atlantic States Association of Food and Drug Officials

SUSQI NEWS

Susquehanna Conference

October 2007

President's Message:

Greetings! As the crisp clean fall air returns and you settle into your back-to-school and work routines, be sure to pencil CASA onto your October calendar! We have some informative speakers lined up!! The agenda on **October 10th** includes presentations on **product recalls, consumer complaints, new technology from foodcertificates.org, personal and workplace safety, and the FBI's role in agro-terrorism**. The topics on **October 11th** include: **Terrorism and Bio-security in PA, Water and Bioterrorism, Crazy, Unusual, & Interesting Things from the PA Department of Agriculture Lab as well as Crazy, Unusual, & Interesting Things from the PA Department of Health**.

Thank you to those who helped organize the July 19th training at the Cabela's Store in Hamburg. Approximately 60 people attended the program and overall the feedback was excellent or very good from those who attended. A special thanks to Susquehanna Conference members, **Melissa Vaccaro and Martha Melton**, both with the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, for their presentations to the group. They did an excellent job!

As I was updating the Susquehanna Conference's directory information, I was impressed with the unique background and expertise of our membership. I am including the updated directory information below so that if you have any ideas or suggestions to offer, please feel free to contact one of the people listed below:

- President:** Barbara Allerton, PA Department of Health
ballerton@state.pa.us
- Vice President:** Garry Ritter, Allentown Bureau of Health
ritterg@allentowncity.org
- Secretary:** Suzanne H. Yeager, Paxtang Borough Health
syeager1945@comcast.net
- Treasurer:** Theodore J. Veresink, City of Easton Health Bureau
tveresink@easton-pa.gov
- Rep to the Executive Board:** Melissa Vaccaro, PA Department of Agriculture,
mvaccaro@state.pa.us
- Past President:** Lynn Roche, Susquehanna Township Health
lroche@susquehannatwp.com
- Associate:** Greg Lux, Giant Food Stores
glux@aholdusa.com
- Communications:** Ann Marie Karnick, US Food and Drug Administration
annmarie.karnick@fda.hhs.gov
- Constitution & By-Laws:** Jeff Stout, Allentown Health Bureau
stout@allentowncity.org

Drugs: Kim Dux, United States Food and Drug Administration
Kimberly.dux@fda.hhs.gov

Education and Member-At-Large: Sandy Deaven, Pennsylvania Department of Health
sdeaven@state.pa.us

Food: Melissa Vaccaro, Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture
mvaccaro@state.pa.us

Laboratory: Ann Rosenberg, Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture
arosenberg@state.pa.us

Membership: Suzanne H. Yeager, Paxtang Borough Health
syeager1945@comcast.net

Nominating and Elections: Ken Hohe, Retired
kenhohe@aol.com

Resolutions: Lynn Roche, Susquehanna Township Health
lroche@susquehannatwp.com

Water: Dawson Jenkins, Retired
dawjenkins@verizon.net

Mark your calendars:

December 13, 2007

Dr Karl Markiewicz, Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry

- Health Issues and Incinerators
- Vapor Intrusion and Indoor Air Quality

Dr Mark White, PA Department of Health

- Public Health Issues and Environmental Studies

May Dooley, Create Your Healthy Home

- Molds and Indoor Air Quality

Richard McGarvey, formerly with PA Department of Health's Press Office

- Working with the media on Public Health Issues

March 27, 2008

Control of *Listeria monocytogenes* in Retail Establishments

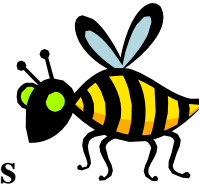
Dr Catherine Cutter, Pennsylvania State University

- Overview of Foodborne Illness and *Listeria monocytogenes*
- Sources of *Listeria monocytogenes* in Retail Environments
- Factors that Contribute to Foodborne Hazards and *Listeria monocytogenes* in Retail Establishments
- Control of Foodborne Illness and *Listeria monocytogenes* in Retail Establishments
- Maintaining a *Listeria monocytogenes* Control Program

Barbara Allerton
President
Susquehanna Conference

A call for candidates for election prior to the 2008 Annual Conference

As Chairman of the Nominations Committee, it is my duty to prepare a slate of candidates for the positions of Secretary and Representative to the AFDO Board of Directors. The Secretary's position is for a three year term; the Representative to the AFDO Board is for a four year term. If any one is interested in having their name placed on the ballot for the election to be held prior to the 2008 annual conference, please let Ken Hohe know by e-mail at Kenhone@aol.com by November 15, 2007.



Virus May Cause Colony Collapse in Honeybees

Scientists have identified a virus as one of the likely causes of honeybee colony collapses. The study, published in *Science*, suggests that the Israeli acute paralysis virus (IAPV) may trigger a mysterious condition currently called colony collapse disorder (CCD). Using the recently mapped honeybee genome, scientists collaborating on the study were able to identify genetic material from viruses and other pathogens in bees collected over the past three years from healthy and deteriorating colonies across the country. They found evidence of the virus in 25 of 30 affected colonies and one of 21 unaffected hives.

Researchers have replicated the virus and USDA researchers plan to inject it into healthy bees to see whether it causes similar conditions found in those suffering from CCD.

Beekeepers, scientists, and public officials have been searching for the cause of the disorder, which surfaced in 2004 and was formally recognized last year. Unlike other diseases that strike beehives, the collapse disorder leaves a colony without most of its worker bees despite the presence of plentiful food, a queen, and other adult bees.

It has devastated an industry that produces honey and pollinates lucrative fruit, nut, and vegetable crops such as almonds, oranges, and apples. The scientists who authored the paper emphasized that they have only begun to solve the puzzle and have yet to determine what causes a colony's abrupt decline. There is some belief that other factors, which may weaken the immune system contribute to a susceptibility of the hive to the disorder, making them more vulnerable to the virus, so other agents that may stress the hives are also being investigated.

Researchers have not been able to prove that the virus is the cause of the mysterious disease that has wreaked havoc on the bee industry. If the virus is the causal agent, another lead that researchers are investigating is that it may have been introduced by bees from Australia that were first permitted to be imported in 2004, about the same time as CCD was first recognized in the U.S. Diana L. Cox-Foster, a Penn State entomologist, is the lead author of the study. (Courtesy of NASDA)

Statewide Food Safety Certification Training

The Penn State Cooperation Extension, Division of Continuing Education, has schedules a number of Food Safety Certification training courses for September through November 2007. The locations, dates, contact persons, phone numbers and e-mail addresses are listed.

<u>Location</u>	<u>Dates</u>	<u>Contact Person</u>	<u>Phone Number</u>	<u>EMailAddress</u>
Carlisle	9-25-25;10-2	Karen Karnes	717-948-6536	ksk1@psu.edu
Chambersburg	10-15,22 & 29	Judy Mellott	717-709-0778	jam5@psu.edu
Gettysburg	11-12 & 19	Judy Mellott	717-709-0778	jam5@psu.edu
Lancaster	9-12, 13 & 26	Debbie Rubin	717-299-7667	dpr5@psu.edu
“ “	10-9,16 & 23	“ “	“ “ “	“ “ “
“ “	10-29,31: 11-5	“ “	“ “ “	“ “ “
Lebanon	11-28: 12-5	Karen Karnes	717-948-6536	ksk1@psu.edu
McConnellsburg	10-22, 29	Judy Mellott	717-709-0778	jam5@psu.edu
Middletown	10-9,10 & 16	Karen Karnes	717-948-6536	ksk1@psu.edu
Middletown (Chinese Language)	12-18, 19	“ “	“ “ “	“ “ “
New Bloomfield	10-22, 29: 11-5	Karen Karnes	717-948-6536	ksk1@psu.edu
Schuylkill Haven	10-12 & 13	David Holden	570-385-6221	deh18@psu.edu
York	9-24: 10-2	Annie Haines	717-771-4197	azh2@psu.edu
“	11-1,15 & 29	“ “	“ “ “	“ “ “

AFDO Award Applications

The attachments below include the AFDO Scholarship Award Nomination and Application and the AFDO Achievement Award Nomination and Application:



AFDO Scholarship
Award Nomination An



AFDO Scholarship
Application 2008.doc



AFDO Achievement
Award Nomination An



AFDO Achievement
Award Application 201

All nominations must be submitted to Dr. Joanne Brown, Chair AFDO Awards Committee by **Friday, February 1, 2008.**

**MYTH
BUSTERS**



**SUSQUEHANNA CONFERENCE OF CASA
TWO-DAY, QUARTERLY TRAINING MEETING**

Wednesday, October 10, 2007 and Thursday, October 11, 2007

Training Site: Sysco Food Services of Central PA, LLC
3905 Corey Road
Harrisburg, PA 17109
717 561-3265 www.syscocentralpa.com

Directions: To reach Sysco take the Union Deposit Road exit from I-83.
If going north on I-83, turn left at exit. If going south on I-83, turn right at exit. Turn left at the traffic light at the McDonald's Restaurant – Briarsdale Road. Go appx. 3 blocks, turn right onto Corey Road. Continue on Corey Rd to "3905" Sysco will be on your left. A photo ID is required for visitor sign-in at Sysco.

Agenda:

Wednesday, October 10, 2007

- 8:30 – 9:00 Registration/ Welcome
Barbara Allerton, President, Susquehanna Conference CASA
- 9:00 – 10:00 Product Recall Procedures
Speaker - TBA, from Sysco Food Services
- 10:00 – 10:15 Break
- 10:15 – 11:15 Retail Perspective on Consumer Complaints
Speaker - TBA, major retail food company
- 11:15 - 12:00 New Technologies & Application
Les Gentry, Foodcertificates.org
Track, trace, authenticate systems coalition of companies dedicated to the safety of food supply and bio-security globally.
- 12:00 – 1:00 LUNCH - provided by Sysco
- 1:00 – 2:00 Personal & Work Place Safety
Trooper Asbury, PA State Police
- 2:00 – 2:15 Break
- 2:15 – 3:30 FBI's Role in Agroterrorism
Gary Legore, FBI

Thursday, October 11, 2007

8:30 – 9:00 Registration/ Welcome – Barbara Allerton, President, Susquehanna Conference CASA

9:00 – 10:00 Terrorism and Bio-Security in PA
LT Andrew Ashmar, Cdr, Criminal Intelligence Center
PA State Police

10:00 – 10:15 Break

10:15 – 11:15 Crazy, Unusual, & Interesting Things from the PDA Lab
Ann Rosenberg, PA Dept of Agriculture Lab

11:15 – 12:15 Emergency Communications
Ram Nambiar, MD, Bioterrorism Epidemiologist, PA Dept of Health

12:15 – 1:15 LUNCH - provided by Sysco

1:15 – 3:30 Interesting Food Safety Issues from the PA Dept of Health Perspective
Andre Weltman, MD, Infectious Disease Epidemiologist, PA Dept of Health

3:30 Critiques/Closure

Pre-registration CASA Quarterly Training Meeting
Wednesday, October 10, 2007 and Thursday, October 11, 2007

Deadline: October 8, 2007

NAME _____ Agency/Firm _____
Address _____
Email _____ Phone _____

Registration fee: \$10, payable at training, Check payable to: CASA, Susquehanna Conference

REGISTRATION CHOICES:

Email to: tveresink@easton-pa.gov

Fax to: 610 250-6607

Mail to: CASA, Susq Conference c/o Easton Health Bureau, 1 S Third Street, Easton, PA 18042

Questions – contact Ted Veresink @ 610 250-6765

Membership Renewal – IF YOU HAVEN'T RENEWED FOR 2007, GO TO: www.casafdo.org,
print a renewal form, mail as instructed, or bring to the 10/10 – 10/11 meeting.

WE NEED YOU AND YOU NEED CASA !!