

VIRGINIA CONFERENCE OF CASA
CENTRAL ATLANTIC STATES ASSOCIATION OF FOOD AND
DRUG OFFICIALS

2008 July NEWSLETTER Number 2



July Newsletter- President's Message.

Hello CASA members! Hope you are all having a great summer. I am very honored to be serving as your Virginia Conference CASA President for 2008-2009 and am looking forward to a year of great training opportunities!

Please mark your calendars for **August 14, 2008**. Our next training will be held at **DCLS** and is being planned by Debbie Paul and Janet Pruitt. See attached agenda and registration form. Please don't miss this one, a great slate of speakers has been lined up.

Your new officers and board members for June, 2008 –June, 2009 are:

President:	Linda Cox	(VDACS)
Vice President	Kate Weakley	(VDACS)
Secretary-Treasurer	Rick Barham	(VDACS)
Executive Board Rep.	Erik Bungo	(VDACS)
Board Members	Frank Scherra	(VDH)
	Sean Hejja	(VDACS)
Newsletter Editor	Annie McCullough	(VDACS)

CASA is for YOU, the members, so if you have any ideas for future training topics or locations, please feel free to contact any of the officers or board members. We invite and welcome your input.

We would like to extend our gratitude to Chris Thackston, who has completed his eight year term as Executive Board Rep, and Dawn Collins, who has completed another year as President of the Virginia Conference. Even though they have stepped down from their positions, we will continue to seek their guidance.

Welcome to Erik Bungo as the new Executive Board Representative for an 8 year term. He brings enthusiasm and great ideas to the position. Thanks go to Erik, for taking on this task.

The two training meetings we have had so far this year have been great: Cuisine Solutions in Alexandria on March 27 was well attended. The presentations on sous vide technology and the plant tour were extremely informative. Lunch was provided by the firm, to demonstrate the result of their technology, and was outstanding! Thanks to Dawn Collins for arranging this training opportunity.

On June 5, Barboursville Winery hosted our meeting and gave us a presentation on wine making and a winery tour. Other topics included ozone sterilization in water bottling plants, expert witness testimony, and wine marketing. Thanks to Cynthia Trbovich for making the contact for this opportunity. Also, thanks go to all the members who attended these sessions and welcome to new members who joined.

Last week we sent out a call for volunteers for CASA committee chairpersons. This is a great opportunity to get more involved with and help shape the future of CASA. I hope you will consider volunteering to head up or join one of the committees.

CASA President
Linda Cox



SPECIAL PRAYERS
GOES OUT TO THE FAMILY OF
JOYCE GAVER.

ON Wednesday evening, July 16th, Joyce suffer a massive heart attack and passed this morning. Joyce was an active member of CASA and was selected this year as Broad member for the Va Conference. The Officers and members of CASA, along with her Co-worker at VDH (especially the VaBeach Team) has the Gaver Family in our prayers.



REMINDERS!

CASA has a New Address

Any dues or correspondence should now be addressed to:

Mr. William R. Kinder, CASA Treasurer

P.O. Box 488

Abington, PA 19001-0448

MEMBERSHIPS ARE GOOD

JANUARY-DECEMBER

PLEASE RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP NOW!!!!

Regulatory \$15.00

Associate \$35.00

**Virginia Conference of CASA
Division of Consolidated Laboratory Services Tour/Training
Thursday, August 14, 2008**

8:15 – 8:45 Registration

Conducting an Epidemiological Investigation
Speaker TBA, VA Dept. of Health, Epidemiology

Food Microbiology
Jennifer Sharp, Scientist Senior, DCLS

Food/Filth Chemistry Analyses/Contact Information
Janet Pruitt, Food Principal, DCLS

Chemical Terrorism
Dr. Tim Croley, Lead Scientist, DCLS

Bio-Terrorism Relating to Foods
Dr. Denise Toney, Lead Scientist, DCLS

MRSA-Hospital and Community Acquired Infections
Dr. Sandra Tallent, Emerging Infectious Disease Fellow, DCLS

Tour of DCLS labs, including Sample and Record Management, Metals &
Radiochemistry, Pesticides, Food Filth/Chemistry, Food Microbiology, Water
Micro

Lunch (Provided...Select from 3 choices on registration page)

Conclude at approximately 4:00

Come join us for up-to-date training on testing done at DCLS as well as how to conduct an Epidemiological Investigation. This will include information on tying clinical specimens such as stool samples to the foods that are implicated. DCLS has served several years as one of a few regional labs in the nation to analyze samples from Chemical or Bio-Terrorism. Our speakers will let you know about our capacity and also what we have learned from our experience so far. You will also have an opportunity to tour our beautiful state-of-the-art facility. Feel free to invite others with your agency who might wish to attend.

Due to security measures at DCLS which require pre-approval for visitors and the need to order lunches a week ahead of time, it will be necessary to receive registrations by Thursday, August 7. Please have your agency/organization or other government issued ID with picture available when you arrive and enter through the main door on 5th Str. This tour/training is limited to the first 50 who register. DCLS # is 804-648-4480.

The DCLS laboratory is located at 600 N. 5th Street, which is just off the Interstate. The lab takes up the whole block between 4th and 5th and Leigh and Jackson Streets. Parking is available at Fifth and Marshall for ~\$13 per day, but may have an Early Bird rate of \$7 per day for entry before 9 AM. **Alternate lots** are located at Fifth and Broad; Third and Marshall; on 4th Street between Leigh and Jackson Streets (**"honor" park numbered spaces in the back, left portion near Leigh St.**), and at Jackson and 8th Streets (general public spaces toward the back.) The honor lots which require that correct change, either \$5 or \$4, into a slot corresponding with the number of the parking space. Therefore, you might wish to car-pool to the site.

**Registration Form
Virginia Conference of CASA
Division of Consolidated Laboratory Services Tour/Training
Thursday, August 14, 2008**

Pre-registration required by August 7, 2008

Name _____

Agency/Org _____

Address _____

Email _____

Phone Number _____

CASA Members.....\$20.00
Non-Members.....\$35.00

Mail Registration form to: Mr. Rick Barham
CASA Secretary-Treasurer
VA Dept of Agriculture and Consumer Services
1444 Diamond Springs Rd
Virginia Beach, VA 23455

Email: Rick.Barham@vdacs.virginia.gov

Boxed lunches will be catered by A Moveable Feast. Please choose one of the following lunches. Morning and afternoon breaks will also be provided.

_____Tarragon Chicken Salad with grapes on Sourdough bread with lettuce & herb mayonnaise; Fresh Fruit Salad

_____Baked Ham & Swiss on Rye with Dijon, herb mayonnaise, lettuce & tomato;
Lemon Dill Potato Salad

_____Meal Sized Caesar Chicken Salad with romaine and leaf lettuce, croutons, parmesan, tomato, sliced chicken, and Caesar dressing.

EXECUTIVE BOARD REPORT

I would like to first say thank you all for this opportunity to serve as the Executive Board Rep. for the VA Conference. I would also like to thank Mr. Chris Thackston for everything he has done over the previous eight (8) years as the Executive Board Rep. Chris has done an excellent job and I hope to continue to keep our conference strong and prosperous with the help of the conference officers.

Recently, I attended the 92nd Annual CASA Conference in Saratoga Springs, NY from May 6-9, 2008. The conference was well attended and there were many interesting speakers that gave presentations on topics such as: Hand Hygiene, Reduced Oxygen Packaging, The Castleberry Recall, Federal-State Relations, The FDA Import Life Cycle, Trans-Fat Regulations, Determining the Validity of Foodborne Illness Claims, Foodborne Outbreaks (The New York State Perspective), Raw Milk, Vending Machine "Terror", The "Ugly Tomato", Food Chain Security and Anitcounterfeit Technology, Where Have All the Bees Gone?, Ethnic Foods in Retail Food Establishments, MRSA: Epidemiology and Prevention. The "Gordon K. Brown" silent auction was also very successful and brought in \$1756.00 to the H. Thompson Price Scholarship Fund. At the Awards Banquet on Thursday evening it was announced that Ms. Glenda Christy received the 45th CASA Award and Mr. Jared Port received the H. Thompson Price Scholarship. At the end of the conference Mr. Howard Rabinovitch (Philadelphia Conference) struck the gavel on the podium and began his term as the next CASA President.

If you did not have a chance to attend the 92nd Annual Conference, you can visit www.casafdo.org and view some of the presentations on the topics listed above. Also, if there is anyone that has not joined or paid their dues for the year please do so as soon as possible at www.casafdo.org and pull up the document by clicking on the "join/renew" tab. Fill it out and mail it to the CASA Treasurer, Mr. Bill Kinder. We are also trying to recruit new members from government, academia and industry so please let all of your coworkers and colleagues know about the great educational and networking opportunities provided by CASA.

The 93rd Annual CASA Conference is scheduled to be held from May 11-14, 2009 in Philadelphia, PA with rumors of a one-day drug/pharmaceutical seminar. A planning session for this conference will be held from August 11-14, 2008 in Philadelphia with more information forthcoming. Mark you calendars/daily planners now!!!

I would like to thank all of the conference officers and members for making the VA Conference a success and remember we do need feedback from the members in regards to educational training desired. If there is anything you would like to see changed or improved please let us know. The 99th Annual CASA Conference will be back in VA so now is the time to increase membership and attendance. See you soon!!!

Mr. Erik Bungo
Executive Board Representative-Virginia Conference of CASA
[Erik.Bungo @vdacs.virginia.gov](mailto:Erik.Bungo@vdacs.virginia.gov)
804-382-0911

Committee Chairs

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Associate Committee	VACANT
Communications Committee	Annie McCullough Annie.McCullough@vdacs.virginia.gov 757-363-3909
Constitution & By-Law Committee	Steve Fuller (Retired) Sfuller10@verizon.net
Drug Committee	Brooke Seeman, FDA brooke.seeman@fda.hhs.gov
Education Committee	Frank Scherra Frank.Scherra@vdh.virginia.gov
Food Committee	Charlotte Wilkins, FDA charlotte.wilkins@fda.hhs.gov
Laboratory Committee	Janet Pruitt, Chairperson Janet.Pruitt@dgs.virginia.gov
Membership Committee	Joe Fabrizio Joseph.Fabrizio@vdacs.virginia.gov
Nominating & Elections Committee	Debbie Paul, DCLS Debbie.Paul@dgs.virginia.gov
Resolutions Committee	Chris Thackston Christopher.Thackston@vdacs.virginia.gov

**VIRGINIA CONFERENCE OFFICERS
JUNE 2008 TO JUNE 2009**

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