

SWANA

SOUTHERN NEW ENGLAND CHAPTER

Newsletter

March 2023

Volume 2 - Issue No. 1

Message from the President

You would think that during the winter months that a newsletter would have been published given that it is typically the slow time of the year for most of us. Unfortunately, I have to apologize to the members for not being able to get one published in a timely manner. Given that, man have we been busy. In December, our Chapter elected a slate of very qualified candidates to be our Board of Directors and we elected the Chapter Officers. I know that the returning and new Board members are excited to continue serving the Chapter and have a successful two-year term.

Part of our success will be getting greater involvement from the membership. We have been working hard to bring the members training and educational opportunities that we believe will offer greater insight into the state of our industry and allowing for the networking that always proves invaluable in our continued learning. We have partnered with the NNE and NYS Chapters, EBC and MA Recycle to bring greater content and diversity in the programs. We hope that you can continue to take advantage of the opportunities offered.

We have a busy 2023 planned with WASTECON coming to our area. Please take advantage of the opportunities to get involved that are explained later in this newsletter. Please enjoy this newsletter.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Shortly, our Chapter will be sending out information on how to apply for our annual scholarship. Each year we are fortunate to be able to give back to our members and their families to support them in achieving their higher education goals. Whether it be a new college bound student or a graduate student in the environmental field, please make sure that you take advantage of this program and submit your applications. Our dedicated scholarship

committee will review all applications and make recommendations for awards. Typically awards are given out at our annual golf fundraiser over the summer. This year, with WASTECON coming to Boston, we will not have our normal tournament and will invite our winners to the September event to receive the awards in person if they can attend.

BOARD ELECTIONS

Board elections took place in December at our Annual Business Meeting. The Board Members serve two-year terms once elected. This year we welcome three new members to the Board: Paul Shamoian – RIRRC, Youngmin Cho – GeoSyntec, and Mike Thomson - Republic. Each of these new folks, and our returning members, bring a unique approach to our industry and will be vital to our programming over the next two years. Please join me in welcoming them to the Board. In addition, we want to thank Greg McCarron – SCS, Joe Brennan – RIRRC, and Inga Lermontov-Hoit – RIRRC for their time over the past few years in serving on the Board.

REGULATORY UPDATES

RI: House Bill (H5502) is the new bottle bill being proposed to enhance recycling in the State. SNE takes no position on this bill, but is passing the information along so our members can review and comment as appropriate.

CT: Comprehensive Materials Management Strategy draft amendment was released on January 24, 2023. In addition an RFI was issued on February 9, 2023 for developing future infrastructure to meet the CMMS goals. Information can be found [here](#)

PFAS: The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is hosting listening sessions on concerns about enforcement under CERCLA for PFAS contamination. This relates to EPA's drafting a CERCLA PFAS enforcement discretion policy. Information can be found [here](#). SNE Chapter

encourages all our members to review these rules and submit comments as appropriate.

TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

The SNE Chapter, in collaboration with MassRecycle, has put together a unique training opportunity for the SWANA Zero Waste Management Course. This training will be a facilitated self-study course with weekly sessions facilitated by chapter members who are well versed in the topic. In addition, we were able to secure various guest speakers for each session to offer their insights into the real-world application of the course material. Our initial launch requires at least 10 registrants to make this a good interactive program. If interested please send an email to me or Phil Goddard and we will get you the information. In the meantime be on the lookout for registration information and dates in the near future.

Membership training – the SNE Chapter has purchased webinar credits that can be used by SNE members to attend live or recorded SWANA Webinars. For information on how to access these go [here](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

- 2023 MassRecycle Conference & Trade Show, March 23, 2023. In person location Marlborough, MA.
- SWANA – SOAR 2023 – April 17-20, Atlanta, GA. Join SWANA for this premier technical conference. Registration information [here](#).
- Northeast Resource Recovery Association (NRRRA) Recycling Conference, May 22-23, 2023, Grappone Conference Center, Concord, NH.
- NY Federation Solid Waste Conference, May 21-24, 2023, Sagamore Resort near Lake George, NY. Information can be found [here](#).

WHATS IN THE NEWS?

- SWANA – reported an increase in worker fatalities in 2022 in the United States and Canada as compared to 2021. Worker safety is a key strategic goal of SWANA and a main focus of our 5-year plan moving forward.
- CT – Governor discusses food waste management associated with legislation proposal. See [video](#)

WASTECON 2023

WASTECON is officially coming back to Boston in 2023. The event will be held September 27-29, 2023 at the

Hynes Convention Center. As the Host Chapter, we look forward to welcoming our peers to our great area for this Premier Leadership Experience. Our Board has created a committee to help plan, organize and execute on this event and we are actively locking in details. We will be looking for volunteers to help at the event, which could provide you free registration. If interested in helping out, please reach out via email and provide your contact details.

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

SNE Chapter Member Selected for SWANA 2023 Young Professional Leadership Academy

Anthony Novelli, Southern New England (SNE) Chapter member, was recently selected as one of nine SWANA members from around the US to participate in the 2023 SWANA Young Professional Leadership Academy (YPLA). The program is designed to help young professionals increase awareness of solid waste issues, learn specific skills necessary to handle industry issues, and discover personal leadership qualities and potential.

Originally from Leominster, MA, Anthony joined SWANA, and the Greater New Bedford Regional Refuse Management District as Project Manager, in December 2022. Prior to this, he spent 6 years living in St. John, USVI where he worked as Operations Manager for Island Green Living Association, a non-profit created to transform the USVI into a net zero waste, carbon-neutral territory. Anthony was the first full time employee at Island Green Living Association and started the island's first recycling program and reuse store through the non-profit.

Anthony said "I am thrilled to be a part of the 2023 Leadership Academy and am grateful to SWANA and the Greater New Bedford Regional Refuse Management District for this opportunity. I have a passion for developing solutions to environmental issues and look forward to collaborating with some of the best and brightest minds in the resource management industry to move towards a more sustainable future."

The YPLA includes a two-day retreat in March 2023 with program instructors and invited speakers. At the conclusion of the retreat, a class project is introduced for participants to work on throughout the program. Participants will complete individual and group assignments including case study reviews, reading assignments, and homework and join monthly conference calls with instructors and peers. YPLA will attend graduation at WASTECON in Boston in September 2023.

Chapter Officers and Board of Directors

Officers

Brian N. Card, P.E. **President**
WIN-Waste Solutions

Lindsey Welcome, P.E. **Secretary**
Brown and Caldwell

Ron St. Michel, P.E. **Vice President**
Sanborn, Head & Associates, Inc.

Paul Shamoian **Treasurer**
RI Resource Recovery Corporation

Phil Goddard **Past President**
Town of Bourne

Board Directors

Barry Van Laarhoven, P.E. **Director**
Civil & Environmental Consultants

Amy Knight, P.E. **Director**
Civil & Environmental Consultants

Katie Scott **YP Rep**
Brown and Caldwell

Jackie Caceci, P.E. **CT Director**
Tighe & Bond

Mike Thomson **YP Alternate**
Republic Services

Youngmin Cho, P.E. **Director**
GeoSyntec Consultants

Scott Alfonse **Director**
Greater New Bedford Refuse District

SNE SWANA Chapter Committee Members

Membership

Brian Card (C) bcard@win-waste.com
Ron St. Michel

Programming (see below)

Brian Card (C) bcard@wtienergy.com
Jackie Caceci - CT Program
Lindsey Welcome - MA Program
Paul Shamoian - RI Program

CT - Program Development

Jackie Caceci (C) jmcaceci@tighebond.com

Amy Knight

MA - Program Development

Lindsey Welcome (C) lwelcome@brwncald.com
Youngmin Cho
Amy Knight
Scott Alfonse

RI - Program Development

Paul Shamoian (C) pshamoian@rirrc.org
Barry VanLaarhoven

Young Professional

Katie Scott (C) kscott2@brwncald.com
Mike Thomson
Aaron Wilker

Scholarship

Ron St.Michel (C) rstmichel@sanbornhead.com
Scott Alfonse
Katie Scott

Audit

Scott Alfonse (C) scott.alfonse@gnbrmdistrict.com
Phil Goddard
Youngmin Cho

Advocacy / Legislative

Phil Goddard (C) pgoddard@townofbourne.com
Barry VanLaarhoven