



Notes from Nancy

From the Editor

Nancy Meilahn, CAPE, Inc.

Welcome to the YP Newsletter, version 2.0. New and improved for 2009! The YPAC has been working hard to provide interesting articles, useful information, tips and tools for the YP membership. We only want one thing in return – your time.

We're looking for you to get involved. You're invited to submit articles, requests for articles, information, comments, complaints, and generally otherwise provide feedback to your YPAC. You could even join the committee! (Okay, maybe all that counts as more than one thing).

We're still calling for bloggers and [podcasters](#). Please let us know if you'd like to do a guest interview on a podcast, if you have suggestions for interviewees, or if you'd like to see (or write) a blog on a topic relevant to YPs.

Meanwhile, back at the ranch...

Name that Newsletter

As promised, the YP Wire is already undergoing a makeover. In an effort to get you involved in creating the best news source for your needs, we're asking you to submit ideas for a YP Newsletter name. In return, you get a chance at one of these fabulous prizes! The Ontario Section generously donated a great prize -- an Airline Travel Tech Set! This six-piece set includes a carrying case, mini mouse, 3"x5" jot pad, Velocity Store-Away Earbuds, Pin Point USB Light, and Oxford Mini Twist pen. So send in your suggestions to YPAC@awma.org, and you too could be a winner!

ACE Corner

Mark your calendars now and plan to join us in Detroit for the Air & Waste Management Association's 102nd Annual Conference & Exhibition (ACE).



Don't miss your chance to network with top environmental professionals from around the world at ACE 2009. The Conference will feature a technical program boasting over 500 speakers, hundreds of

exhibitors displaying the newest products and services, social tours and networking events, and professional development courses taught by leading instructors.

Plus, for the first time, the Young Professionals Committee meeting at ACE will be available via conference call, for those who are unable to attend. The number will be published on the A&WMA website, so even if you can't be there in person, call in and lend your voice!

ACE is the premier education, networking, and solutions event for environmental professionals. Join us and be a part of a global conversation that will drive environmental progress.

Event Networking 101: Go With a Purpose and a Plan

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www.YourBenchmarkCoach.com

Elizabeth Jolliffe is a business and career coach for lawyers and other professionals after 19 years in a large Detroit firm as a business litigator. Jolliffe helps her clients build the practice and career they want and reach their full professional potential. She will be the featured panelist at "Shifting Gears" YP career presentation during ACE 2009.

Your annual professional conference. The Chamber of Commerce Spring party. An alumni association Thirsty Thursday. Your spouse's company summer outing. Do

thoughts of such upcoming events make you want to run and hide, feign illness, attend only with friends, talk only to friends and stay for the minimally acceptable time? Many of us often feel like this and act accordingly, but when we do, we may be missing great opportunities professionally and personally. Here are some simple tips for making the most of your next event, including enjoying it.



Before You Go:

1. Identify the returns before you go. Identifying and believing in the benefits will motivate you to make the most of the event. Ask yourself beforehand what you would like to accomplish professionally AND/OR personally by attending. New contacts, new friends, new knowledge, advice, self-confidence, even fun?

2. Practice your self-introduction. Practice it with other people. Ask for feedback. Incorporate energy, enthusiasm, interest, examples. If you don't like and believe in your own introduction, others won't either.
3. Read up on the day's news. Remember also that conversation starters can be as easy as commenting on the program, organization, venue, the food (only positively), or asking what drew the other person to the event.

Arrive Early:

1. Scan the nametags on the registration table. Look for names of people or companies you would like to meet or might be able to help.
2. Meet the organizers and hosts. This includes the people behind the registration table. Introduce yourself. Ask and listen to what they want to accomplish with the event. Consider how you can help the event be a success.
3. Put your nametag on your right lapel or to the right of where it would be. This makes it easier for people to read as they extend their hand and later when they need to sneak a peak during the conversation. Men tend to put their nametags on their chest pocket, too low to be easily read. You want people to know and remember your name. Make it easy for them.



During the Event:

1. Focus on others instead of yourself. Stop thinking about yourself and try one of the following attitudes and related behaviors. Think of it as helping the room rather than working it!
 - a. Act like a host. Go up to those standing alone, as uncomfortable as you may feel, rescue them and make them feel at ease. They will be grateful.
 - b. Connect people with others in the room, including with one of your friends, or with someone you know who is not there. Mention them, what they may have in common, etc.
 - c. Have energetic conversations. Ask the other person questions to engage them into talking about something that interests them. For example, how did you first get started in this business? How would I know if I am speaking to a potential client of yours? What is your biggest challenge right now?

d. Listen well. Listen at least twice as much as you speak. Do not spend the time thinking about your next point. Acknowledge what the other person said by reflecting it, and after you speak, be conversational with another question.

2. Always smile and say hello. Do this whenever you see someone, even if you are just passing them. You never get a second chance to make a first impression.
3. Spend time getting to know new people and keep meeting more people. You can talk with your friends and colleagues another time.
4. Get the business cards of those people with whom you feel a strong connection. Keep in mind your purposes for attending the event. You do not have to get cards from everyone.

After the Event:

1. Ask yourself what you would have done differently. Consider your purpose and plan, how you did and use your own feedback for doing things differently next time.
2. Record notes about and the contact information for those people with whom you felt a connection. Follow up with them in timely, appropriate ways.

You can even use these new behaviors to be more effective in everyday situations as well. Try some for your next department group meeting.

Remember, if you want something you have never had before, you must do something you have never done before!

Things To Do In Detroit

Bob Doyle, (ACE 2009 YP committee)

As a Detroit, I really enjoy bringing friends and family to my hometown. It only takes them a short time eating at a great restaurant, viewing the amazing art at the Detroit Institute of Arts, enjoying a Detroit Tigers game or walking along the riverfront for any misconceptions that they may have previously held about the city to disappear. The D is the place to be! I look forward to the thousands of A&WMA professionals and students embarking on my city to show you what a wonderful place it is as well.



I hope you have some time while you are in Detroit to experience all of the great things to do. Stay an extra day if you can! You can start planning your trip at

www.visitdetroit.com. I can't list them all here, but here are a few of my favorite things to do in Detroit:

- Walk along the riverfront – The Renaissance Center (www.gmrency.com) is at the foot of the riverfront. Take a break from the conference and step right outside the Winter Garden and enjoy the outdoors! The new riverfront walkway (www.detroitriverfront.org) stretches from Joe Louis Arena past Hart Plaza to Rivard Plaza, eventually linking to Belle Isle (www.fobi.org), a 985 acre urban park in the Detroit River.
- Have lunch at Campus Martius – Detroit's gathering place is Campus Martius Park (www.campusmartiuspark.org). With tall office buildings on all sides, it is a great place for business people to eat outdoors and enjoy the fountain and lunch-time music. It hosts different festivals throughout the year and has an ice skating rink in the winter.
- Be amazed at the DIA – The Detroit Institute of Arts (www.dia.org) has one of the top art collections in the world. The Diego Rivera "Detroit Industry" mural is a must see. Other great museums in the Midtown cultural area include the Detroit Science Center (www.detroitsciencecenter.org), the Detroit historical museum (www.detroithistorical.org), the Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History (www.maah-detroit.org) and the Museum of Contemporary Art Detroit (www.mocadetroit.org).
- Eat a great dinner – There are many great restaurants to enjoy after a full day at the conference. Some favorites include Small Plates (www.smallplates.com), Vicente's Cuban Cuisine (www.vicente.us), Angelina's Italian Bistro (www.angelinadetroit.com), or Mosaic (www.mosaic-detroit.com) in Greektown.
- Cheer for our teams – There is nothing more I love then going to a Detroit Tigers baseball game at Comerica Park. The Tigers have a weekend series against the Milwaukee Brewers Friday, June 19th – Sunday, June 21st.
- Enjoy a night out – One of my favorite places is a jazz club called Cliff Bell's (www.cliffbells.com) with great music and drinks. Centaur (www.centaurbar.com) is a swanky martini bar, and a wine bar recently opened up next to Campus Martius called Enoteca Campo Marzio (www.enotecadetroit.com). Foran's Irish Pub (<http://www.foransirishpub.com/home/home.html>) offers "gourmet pub grub" and features local ingredients and local brews on their menu. Of course, Greektown,



Motor City and MGM casinos always entertain with food, drink and gaming.

See you in the D!

Free Classes for YPs

Julie Sharp

Julie will be providing not one, but two free training courses during the 2009 ACE. Be sure to check them out.

Workshop on Presentation Skills

"If a tree falls in the forest and no one is there to hear it, does it make a sound?" You've heard this expression before, no doubt. If no one hears the sound, does it matter if one is made? Probably not. Likewise, if a speaker's presentations delivery is weak, the audience will not pay attention. The excellent content is not heard and, therefore, has no effect. Have you ever given a presentation that did not achieve the desired positive result? If so, you can benefit from the workshop "Sharp'en Your Oral Presentation Skills" on Thursday, June 18 from 9 to 11 a.m. Participants will focus on presentation methods allowing the speaker to act, look, and sound like a leader. They will discuss and practice key delivery techniques, evaluate videos of speakers, and critique visuals.

Individual Resume Critique

Do you have a stand-out resume, describing results rather than job duties only? If you are like most young professionals, your resume may look good but needs tweaking to improve the content. Your resume is a selling tool. Produce a resume that highlights your strengths, using strategic placement as well as describing skills and achievements with power verb phrases. Julie Sharp, Ph.D., communication consultant, offers individual resume critiques on Thursday afternoon, June 18, from 1 to 3 p.m. To avoid last year's long line, sign up in advance for a 20-minute time slot.

A YP's Guide to Getting Recognized

Brad Waldron, NGE, LLC

Professional organizations are invaluable, especially for YP's. They offer educational and professional development opportunities, but potentially the most valuable is the chance to network with such a large group of people. There is no better way to gain the respect of other members than to volunteer alongside them. The members you meet could one day be sitting across the table at a meeting or interviewing you for your next job. Involving yourself in



an organization like the A&WMA, and doing it to the best of your ability could be a benefit in many ways.

But how do you get involved? Where do you begin? Who should you talk to?

A panel session entitled “Young Professionals’ Guide to Getting Involved” on Wednesday, June 17th, 2009 at 10:20 am will begin to answer some of those questions. Please put your time at the conference and your membership to the best use you can, and become involved. The organization and your career will benefit.

Don't Forget to Have Fun

Excerpted from EM



Though we encourage attendees to soak in as much technical information as possible during the conference, we know that

attending your choice of the over 500 technical sessions offered at ACE can get overwhelming. Make sure that you get all of the technical information you came for, while also making time to kick back and relax with your peers. This year’s conference offers plenty of fun social opportunities for all attendees, including some designed just for students and YPs!

End a busy day at ACE and join your fellow students and YPs for dinner and drinks at one of Detroit’s finest brew pubs, the Detroit Beer Company, located in the heart of the theatre and stadium district. Relax and mingle with your peers from around the world while enjoying some of the local flavor of Detroit.



Another exciting event just for students and YPs is the kayak tour through the Rouge River. Offered on Monday and Friday, this seven-mile excursion will give participants a unique view of the Ford Rouge Plant, Zug Island, and other local industrial sites.

Getting to Know the YP Committee

Introduction of new A&WMA Liaison

Sandi Spratt, A&WMA’s Education Associate and member of the membership development department, will be assuming the role of YPAC liaison effective immediately. Sandi will be our first line staff contact and coordinator. She is also A&WMA’s Education Council liaison, coordinates student programs, and works with the YP programs at ACE, so this is a natural fit. We thank Stephanie for her involvement to date and welcome Sandi!

What is the Young Professional Advisory Committee, Anyway?

The Young Professional Advisory Committee (YPAC) is a 3-year advisory committee, which may be extended beyond three years based on an evaluation of its effectiveness. The A&WMA Board will conduct this evaluation during the YPAC’s third year of operation (2010).

The purpose of the Young Professionals Advisory Committee (YPAC) is to advise the A&WMA Board and Councils regarding effective young professional (YP) engagement. A young professional is defined by the Air & Waste Management Association (A&WMA) as 35 years or younger and working in the environmental profession.

The objectives of the YPAC are to act as a resource to the A&WMA Board on planning, implementation and evaluation of services and activities for YP members, and to develop and assist with the implementation of plans to recruit and retain YP members by fostering relationships with young members, employers, A&WMA Sections and Chapters.

Section/Chapter YP Activities

Are you LinkedIn? There is now an [A&WMA Young Professionals Group](#) on Linked In. Come join us for job postings, news, discussions, and more!

Is your Section or Chapter holding YP-oriented events? Be sure to let us know and we’ll profile them in upcoming newsletters!

Louisiana Section

Jennifer Albert, Conestoga-Rovers & Associates

For the second consecutive year, the Louisiana Section A&WMA Fall Conference included a session dedicated to the needs of Young Professionals. The session included panel presentations by the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality (LDEQ) on Environmental Regulations and Air Permitting 101. The session was well attended by consultants, industry, and agency personnel. The Louisiana Section plans to include a YP session in the 2009 conference which is scheduled for October 27-28 in Baton Rouge.

East Michigan Chapter - YP Social

Tammy L. Helminski, Dickinson Wright PLLC

To kick-off the new YP membership category offered by A&WMA, the East Michigan Chapter hosted a YP Social on Tuesday, March 3, 2009 at the Woodward Avenue



Brewers, in Ferndale, Michigan. Many prospective A&WMA YP members from areas of practice such as government, consulting, NGO's, and legal were greeted by current A&WMA members, including the Chapter's chair, Meg Coughlin, the vice-chair, S. Lee Johnson, and the immediate past chair, Elgina McCoy. The YPs were given an introduction to the organization and a presentation about the available opportunities to get involved in ACE 2009, for which East Michigan is the host chapter.



Photos: 1) Larry Hands, Stephanie Jarrett (member of YP committee for ACE 2009) and YP Jorge Acevedo networking with Meg Coughlin (foreground).



2) Meg Coughlin, Chair of the East Michigan Chapter talks with prospective YP members Amy Owen and Chris Owen.

3) YPs Courtney Kohloff, Becky

McGee and Krista Reed at the YP event.

Webinar Events

Webinar: Environmental Careers: Finding a Job in a Challenging Economy

Date: April 16, 2009

Times: Start time: 4:00 p.m.

End time: 5:30 p.m.

Time zone: Eastern

Code: 460001

Finding a job in the current economic climate may seem like an impossible task. But with all these challenges there is opportunity.

With this challenging mission, how does one get a job in the environmental or energy field? In the last few years the environment and energy field has gone from a trendy niche to a national imperative.

Millions of dollars are being invested in the environmental and energy sectors and the emergence of the "green" collar job is inescapable.

This webinar will help you understand what it takes to find a job in the environmental and energy field, whether it is your first job or your last. This webinar will address:

- What is a "green" collar job?

- Why is the environmental and energy field so hot?
- Who is hiring these days and who are they hiring?
- What are the skills employers are looking for in these challenging economic times?
- What does it take to get hired?

For more information contact Sandi Spratt at sspratt@awma.org or 412.904.6007.

Upcoming Events

Volunteer Leaders of A&WMA

You are invited to join your colleagues at our **2009 LEADERSHIP TRAINING ACADEMY** April 24-26, 2009 in Pittsburgh, PA.

We are delighted to present a program created exclusively for our volunteers that will strengthen your leadership skills, give you ideas that you can implement in your local member units, and provide you with outstanding networking opportunities with your peers. This will be your connection to great ideas, essential tools, and exceptional people. We hope you take advantage of this excellent opportunity and look forward to seeing you.

The program will begin at noon on Friday April 24 and will end at noon on Sunday April 26. An agenda and detailed program outline will be posted soon at www.awma.org. Contact Stephanie Glyptis (sglyptis@awma.org or 412.904.6006) to RSVP today!

Make hotel reservations through **Renaissance Pittsburgh Hotel** at 412.562.1200. Rate: \$149/night (To qualify for the special rate, you must make your reservation before Thursday April 2, 2009).

The Practical Sustainability Conference

May 7-8, 2009

Renaissance St. Louis Grand & Suites Hotel

800 Washington Avenue

St. Louis, MO 63101

Organizations are recognizing that proactive energy and carbon management are not only good for the bottom line, but also have significant environmental and social benefits. The meteoric rise of attention around climate change, energy dependency, and GHG emissions has placed these issues front and center with shareholders, customers, and the general public. This is not only impacting Fortune 500 companies, but organizations large and small, public and private, and domestic and multi-national that are now focused on establishing energy and carbon management strategies.

What were once considered voluntary "goodwill" initiatives by companies are now becoming expectations placed upon most organizations in order to remain competitive in today's marketplace. Today, organizations are expected to increasingly demonstrate transparency and

continuous improvements in reducing impacts and are no longer left to their own discretion in disclosing environmental efforts. A variety of agencies and NGOs are holding companies accountable for performance, with the Internet greatly enhancing the communication and availability of information. A burgeoning market for incentives, recognition programs, and carbon credit/offset schemes has taken shape. The result is often intense pressure to meet or exceed peer benchmarks, report on performance, and assure that data are fully vetted prior to public disclosure. In many instances, data must also be verified by third-parties.

Each organization is charged with defining how best to demonstrate sustainability in a way that makes business sense financially and culturally, while also meeting the growing expectations of shareholders, customers, and the general public. In response, organizations are adopting systems to collect, analyze, and report sustainability metrics, and implementing process improvements to drive performance. At the same time, they must also try to navigate their way through the dynamic playing field of opportunities and options to be proactive on energy and carbon management.

For more information on the conference, please contact [Lisa Breese](#) at A&WMA.

Did You Know?

A&WMA's Commitment to Scouting Through the National Boy Scout Jamboree Committee

Have you ever attended a Boy Scout Jamboree? Maybe you went to a Jamboree as a youth and would like to relive those memories as an environmental professional. This could be your chance!

The A&WMA Public Education Division's National Boy Scout Jamboree Committee is working with the Boy Scouts of America Conservation & Environment Committee to organize the A&WMA exhibit at the 2010 Jamboree at Fort A.P. Hill, close to Fredericksburg, Virginia. Normally Jamborees are held every 4 years, but it jumps to a 5 year interval to make the 2010 Jamboree coincide with the 100th Celebration of Scouting in America. The Association's exhibits in 2001 and 2005 were great successes. The A&WMA Exhibit at the Canadian Scout Jamboree (CJ'07), in partnership with Environment Canada, was equally a great success.

The National Boy Scout Jamboree Committee is in the program planning and the recruitment of volunteer staff stages all in preparation for the Jamborees. The



Committee is also seeking funding support, loan of related equipment for hands-on demonstrations, and A&WMA volunteers to staff the exhibits.



To volunteer to help with the A&WMA exhibits, contact the A&WMA Education Council's National Boy Scout Jamboree Committee: Jim Ryckman, Chair, phone: 937-257-0093, e-mail: jim.ryckman@wpafb.af.mil, and/or Tom Herman, Vice Chair, phone: 502-775-7719, e-mail:

herman@zeonchemicals.com.

Know any Budding Environmental Scientists?

Please help us spread the word about a great opportunity for High School students. The Air & Waste Management Association's (A&WMA) 2009 High School Essay Contest, "Driving Environmental Progress: What Can Students Do?" gives students nationwide in grades 9-12 the chance to share their thoughts on environmental issues and to win great prizes. In line with the Association's focus on taking an active role in the global conversation on the environment, this paper is due on Earth Day April 22, 2009.



*Driving Environmental Progress:
What Can Students Do?*
A&WMA's 2009 High School Essay Contest

Students in grades 9th – 12th attending a public, private, parochial school, or home school are eligible for this contest. Younger students may participate as 9th graders. This contest is conducted without regard to race, religion, sex, or national origin.

Scoop on the Essay

The essay should describe the role that students can play in driving environmental progress, and may be up to six pages, including the title page, an abstract, the text, and references. Essays must be submitted to **Sandi Spratt by e-mail at sspratt@awma.org** on or before Wednesday, April 22, 2009

What Are the Prizes?

The author of the best essay(s) will receive \$400 and a certificate. Awards will be announced during the Student Awards Ceremony on Thursday, June 18, at A&WMA's 102nd Annual Conference and Exhibition in Detroit, MI. There is no obligation to attend the award ceremony. Certificates of participation will be mailed to all participants in July 2009. An excerpt from the winning essay will be published in A&WMA's monthly magazine, *EM*. [Click here](#) for contest rules.

Available NOW! YP Introductory A&WMA Membership

During its meeting in June 2008, the A&WMA Board approved the creation of a new YP Introductory membership category which replaced the existing Affiliate member category on January 1, 2009. The YP Introductory category gives individuals who are 35 or under and working in the environmental profession a 50% discount on membership for the first five consecutive years of A&WMA membership. That's only \$93!

A&WMA provides programs and activities designed and conducted by environmental professionals for environmental professionals. Membership in A&WMA provides access to a worldwide network of more than 8,000 individuals from industry, government, and the consulting, research, academic, and legal communities who engage in the exchange of technical and managerial information. For more information on the benefits of participating in A&WMA and on how to join, contact A&WMA headquarters in Pittsburgh at 1-800-270-3444 or at <http://www.awma.org/join/index.html>.

Who are Your YP Advisory Committee?

YPAC Member	City, State	Chapter	Section
Ahmed El-Aassar	Harrisburg, PA	Delaware Valley Chapter	Mid Atlantic States Section
Jennifer Albert	Baton Rouge, LA	N.A.	Louisiana Section
Laurie Bates-Frymel	Vancouver, B.C.	B.C./Yukon Chapter	Pacific NW International Section
Pat Brush	Katy, TX	Gulf Coast Chapter	Southwest Section
Diane Freeman	Waterloo, ON	N.A.	Ontario Section
Tammy Helminski	Detroit, MI	East Michigan Chapter	East Central Section
Holly Krutka	Littleton, CO	N.A.	Rocky Mt. State Section
Josh Marteny	Baltimore, MD	Baltimore/Washington Chapter	South Atlantic States Section
Nancy Meilahn	Costa Mesa, CA	Orange County Chapter	West Coast Section
Laurel Peterson	Salem, OR	Oregon Chapter	Pacific NW International Section
Steve Rybolt	Seattle, WA	Puget Sound Chapter	Pacific NW International Section
Sanjay Sampath	Spring, TX	Gulf Coast Chapter	Southwest Section
Benjamin Sessions	Atlanta, GA	Georgia Chapter	Southern Section
Camille Taylor	Waterloo, ON	N.A.	Ontario Section
Brad Waldron	Pittsburgh, PA	N.A.	Allegheny Mt. Section
Sandi Spratt	Pittsburgh, PA	A&WMA Headquarters Liaison	

If you have questions or comments on the YP Newsletter, or would like to submit articles, please send an email with "YP Newsletter" in the subject line to YPAC@awma.org.