



# GWC-ACHMM

NEWSLETTER OF THE GREATER WISCONSIN CHAPTER  
OF THE ACADEMY OF CERTIFIED HAZARDOUS MATERIALS MANAGERS

Volume II | Issue 2

The President's Corner: *Richard A. Senn, CHMM*

## Passing the Baton

It's hard to believe that I have been President of the Greater Wisconsin Chapter of ACHMM (GWC-ACHMM) for almost 2 ½ years. Soon that will change, as I will be passing the President's baton to another CHMM in January. Serving as President of GWC-ACHMM has been a very rewarding experience for me and I have enjoyed the opportunity to work with a lot of great people in ACHMM both locally and nationally. During this time there have been significant changes in GWC-ACHMM. Here are some of the new programs and services that GWC-ACHMM has implemented over the past 2 ½ years:

- Developed an educational partnership agreement with the Wisconsin Council of Safety to provide environmental professional development programs in southern Wisconsin.
- Began offering our CHMM Overview Course again after several years absence
- Began half-day DOT and RCRA refresher courses in 2004
- Added full-day DOT and RCRA refresher courses in 2005
- Hosted Annual Christmas parties for GWC-ACHMM members & guests
- Co-sponsored Wisconsin Council of Safety's Fall Environmental Conferences
- Hosted hospitality suite at 2005 Wisconsin Safety Congress in WI Dells
- Implemented combined dues program with national ACHMM
- Conducted joint plant tours with Madison FET chapter
- Significantly increased membership and financial health of the organization

fee. But there is always more that can be done.

To receive even more value from your GWC-ACHMM membership, provide input in 2006 to our new President on additional programs and services that you think would be beneficial. Or better yet, get involved yourself and influence the future direction of GWC-ACHMM.

*Richard Senn, President  
Greater Wisconsin Chapter  
of ACHMM*

**Contents**

- Passing the Baton..... 1
- Ballot Distribution..... 1
- Overview Course..... 2
- WANTED!** Tour Sites..... 2
- Mercury-Containing Eqp..... 2
- Chapter Activities..... 3
- Celebrating a Milestone..... 3
- Ethanol Mandate..... 3
- Dealing w/Regulators..... 4

All these new programs and services have greatly increased the value of your \$20 annual GWC-ACHMM membership

Ballots for the election of officers for GWC-ACHMM will be distributed by email with responses being accepted by return email. If you do not receive a ballot and you are a member of our chapter, please contact [ajscreative@cs.com](mailto:ajscreative@cs.com).

# CHMM OVERVIEW 3-DAY COURSE & EXAM February 7-9 & 10, 2006 in Madison

**The Wisconsin Council of Safety is again co-sponsoring the CHMM Overview Course & Exam with our Chapter. The course is held at the WCS offices on East Washington Avenue in Downtown Madison and the exam is held on the nearby UW-Madison Campus.**

**February 7-9, 2006 (Course) 8:00 am - 5 p.m. (Tuesday - Thursday)**

**February 10, 2006 (Exam) 8:30 am - 12 p.m. (Friday)**

This course consists of a comprehensive review of environmental laws and regulations and applicable health and safety requirements. The course is designed to assist individuals to prepare for the CHMM national certification examination administered through the IHMM. It does not guarantee a passing grade on the CHMM national certification exam. Members of GWC-ACHMM offer support and encouragement to those preparing for the exam and are available for study assistance.

Trainers for these courses come from our chapter as well as affiliated organizations and businesses. All are well-versed in their areas of instruction and welcome interaction and questions from course participants. Class topics have been carefully selected to provide an overview of each subject area. An extensive course manual and the just-released Second Edition of the ACHMM "Hazardous Materials Management Desk Reference" are provided to each student. These materials will assist you as you prepare for the CHMM national examination as well as help you perform your job duties and responsibilities.

For complete information and to register for the course and/or exam, call WCS at 1-800-236-3400 or visit them on the web at [www.wischamberfoundation.org/wcs](http://www.wischamberfoundation.org/wcs).

Please note that the deadline to register with IHMM to take the exam on February 10, 2006 is 6 weeks in advance which is December 30, 2005.

## Mercury-Containing Equipment

by Dana Ferguson, CHMM

On August 5, EPA published a final rule that expands the scope of the universal waste regulations to include mercury-containing equipment. Previously, only mercury-containing thermostats (as well as lamps, batteries, and pesticides) were considered to be universal waste under the federal regulations.

This new rulemaking includes all mercury-containing equipment as universal waste, including such items as thermostats, manometers, barometers, and mercury-containing switches.

This final rule goes into effect immediately for Iowa and Indiana, which do not have authorized individual state RCRA programs. Because this is a federal rulemaking that is less stringent

than existing regulations, it does not go into effect in states with authorized RCRA programs (including Wisconsin) until those states adopt this new rule. Moreover, many states have added other wastes to their universal waste programs, such as paint, aerosol cans, consumer electronic devices, antifreeze, etc.

One of the advantages of the universal waste rules is that you can accumulate for up to one year, rather than the 90-180 day time constraints for fully regulated hazardous waste. Keep in mind that your containers must be structurally sound, kept closed, and marked: "Universal Waste-Mercury-Containing Equipment," "Waste Mercury-Containing Equipment," or "Used Mercury-Containing Equipment."

# WANTED

*for 2006 Plant Tours*

Have you recently completed an addition, implemented a new safety and/or environmental program at your facility, or installed state-of-the-art environmental protection equipment?

Share your experiences with other EH&S professionals.

We are looking for facilities to tour as an information sharing experience. For more info, please email Dana Ferguson [danaferguson@alliantenergy.com](mailto:danaferguson@alliantenergy.com)

## Chapter Activities Provide Opportunities for Growth, Sharing Information & FUN

### **Wisconsin Council of Safety (WCS)-Sponsored RCRA and DOT Awareness Training**

On November 1, 2005 members of GWC-ACHMM once again teamed up with the WCS to present half-day seminars on the topics of the EPA's Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) and the DOT's Hazardous Materials Transportation Act (HMTA).

The training was held at the Kalahari Resort located in Wisconsin Dells. RCRA was the topic in the morning while the DOT regulations were covered in the afternoon session. Approximately 19 people attended each session. Attendees included EH&S managers from various small businesses from southern and central Wisconsin who needed refresher training on one or both topics. The attendees as a whole seemed to be well-informed about the basic regulatory requirements which generated some interesting discussions.

All who attended the morning session were awarded a RCRA Awareness Training completion certificate. The afternoon session was concluded with a short exam, and a DOT Awareness Training completion certificate was awarded to those with a 70% or better score.

Additional sessions of these half-day training seminars are scheduled to be held in the spring of 2006.

### **Tour of the Madison Hazardous Incident Team Home Station**

On October 12, 2005, members of GWC-ACHMM and the Madison FET chapter joined forces again to tour the Madison Emergency HazMat Team's home station on West Badger Road. Six persons came to the tour, three from each organization. The tour was instructive in terms of the various sources of information that the team has available to them as they are en route to a spill event and the equipment they use to respond to spills or other HazMat releases. It was interesting to hear some of the "war stories" about particular events that the team has responded to over the years, and who their most frequent customers are. The members of the team, realizing they were talking to a group of environmental professionals, seemed to be just as curious about where we worked and what we did as we were about them. It resulted in a good dialog on how they coordinate with other agencies such as the Dane County Sheriff's Department, Wisconsin Emergency Management, the University of Wisconsin and the Wisconsin National Guard.

### **Mallards Baseball Game**

On August 3, 2005 a joint social event was held that included members of GWC-ACHMM and the Madison chapter of the Federation of Environmental Technologists (FET).

A total of eight people attended, including three members from each organization and two spouses.

The event was held on a very warm summer evening and provided a great atmosphere for a social gathering. The Duck Blind area was a great deal with unlimited food and beverages (both alcoholic and non-alcoholic), for a set admission price.

You have to stay alert in the Duck Blind because it is located in the right field corner where many foul and home run balls land, not to mention flying water balloons, tee shirts and other objects of interest being hurled into the grandstand areas.

The home team came out on top in the end and this is definitely a social event worth repeating in future years.

### **CELEBRATING A MILESTONE**

**GWC-ACHMM received a Certificate of Appreciation for 10 years of Outstanding and Dedicated Service to the CHMM Program from the Academy of Certified Hazardous Materials Managers.**

**Our Chapter was started by Jonathan Patlak, CHMM, assisted by Michael Seeliger, CHMM, Rich Senn, CHMM and Jerry Kelly, CHMM. Jonathan has moved from the area but Michael, Rich and Jerry have remained members and have served in several board positions and on various educational committees.**

# Networking: News & Notes You Can Use

This page of our newsletter is devoted to networking. If you have news to share, are looking for a new job or need an EHS professional to fill a position, let us know and we'll pass it on. Email submissions to [ajscreative@cs.com](mailto:ajscreative@cs.com)

## DNR Study: Ethanol Mandate Increases Ozone Pollution—Businesses Will Be Targeted to Offset New Pollution, DNR Says

A new study by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) confirms that mandating ethanol in gasoline will worsen the State's ozone problem and increase regulatory burdens on businesses.

"This DNR report clearly details that mandating ethanol in gas will hurt the environment, and lead to new regulations for businesses," said Scott Manley, director of environmental policy at Wisconsin Manufacturers & Commerce. "Legislators should read this report and then kill the ethanol mandate before it kills jobs in Wisconsin."

The Sept. 6 DNR report -- *Ozone Air Quality Effects of a 10% Ethanol Blended Gasoline in Wisconsin* -- found that the legislation mandating 10 percent ethanol in 66 Wisconsin counties would increase emissions of volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and oxides of nitrogen (NOx), which together form ozone.

The DNR report states that the ethanol mandate will increase NOx emissions up to 13 tons per day, which according to DNR is equivalent to:

- Twice as much as the NOx decrease Wisconsin got from its motor vehicle inspection and maintenance program in Southeastern Wisconsin; or
- About as much NOx emissions as emitted by a 350 Megawatt coal-fired power plant.

According to the report, these additional emissions will "exacerbate the ozone problem in non-attainment counties in Eastern Wisconsin" and "likely result in more counties being identified in health advisories for ozone in the State."

The report says "the increase in NOx emissions associated with an ethanol mandate will degrade air quality throughout the state." DNR concludes the increases in ozone will result in additional regulatory burdens on Wisconsin businesses.

"That is simply unacceptable," Manley said. "We don't need new regulations on businesses, we need to stop the ethanol mandate. The proposal will create more problems than it will solve."

Wisconsin is currently developing its plans required under the federal Clean Air Act to show how it will meet the new, stricter ozone standard.

To view the entire article and other environmental legal briefs and updates visit WMC's Environmental website: <http://www.wmc.org/governmentaffairs/issues.cfm?Issue=environment>

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

CONTACT: Scott Manley, (608) 258-3400

### Tips for Dealing Effectively with the Regulator

An excellent article, written by David A. Crass, Esq. and Linda H. Bochert of Michael Best & Friedrich LLP, provides tips on how to approach (and improve) the regulatory rela-

tionship between your operation and the professionals at USEPA, DNR, IEPA or any regulatory agency you encounter.

The article begins with "First and foremost, remember that regulatory compliance is an absolute must. In other words, know what laws and regulations apply to your business, establish the management systems that will guarantee you do not miss a deadline, forget to file a paper or otherwise make what many would believe to be a 'paperwork' mistake.

The reason is simple. If your compliance record is incomplete and you have an incident of noncompliance, the government will look to your compliance record to determine whether your incident of noncompliance is an anomaly or a pattern of noncompliant behavior. If the conclusion is the latter, you will rise on the regulatory radar screen among regulatory staff.

Additionally, if you have the unhappy circumstance of being referred for prosecution to the Department of Justice (DOJ), DOJ will include in the Complaint it files in court every single claim it can possibly bring and will seek forfeitures for compounding days of 'paperwork' violations in an effort to inflate the forfeiture sought."

The article goes on to provide suggestions for setting up a calendar to keep track of your regulatory obligations as well as numerous tips on interacting with governmental agencies.

To view the entire article, visit <http://www.wmc.org/governmentaffairs/display.cfm?ID=863>

## Greater Wisconsin Chapter of the Academy of Certified Hazardous Materials Managers (GWC-ACHMM)



### "THE CHEESEHEAD CHAPTER"



Since its inception in 1994, GWC-ACHMM has focused on providing networking opportunities for its members and presenting educational opportunities through professional quality training.

Of particular interest to members and their associates are our tours of businesses. Seeing the inner workings of manufacturing operations, chemical plants, and biotechnology companies has brought a new awareness of various methods of operation to professionals who would otherwise not have this opportunity.

We meet over appetizers and refreshments every second Tuesday of the month

at a Madison area restaurant. (Call Alice at 608-575-1128 to confirm.) We welcome CHMMs or associates who are interested in networking with others in the EHS fields.

Join Us!

### 2005 GWC-ACHMM

#### Board of Directors

**Richard A. Senn, President**

**Dana Ferguson, VP/Pres. Elect**

**Jerry Kelly, Treasurer**

**Kevin Lehner, Secretary/Past Pres.**

### Contacting GWC-ACHMM

GWC-ACHMM

P. O. Box 466

Madison, WI 53701-0466

Chapter Administrator/Newsletter

Alice J. Seeliger

Email: [ajscreative@cs.com](mailto:ajscreative@cs.com)

Phone: (608) 575-1128 (cell)

Web Site <http://personalpages.chorus.net/gwachmm>

To discontinue receiving this newsletter, please email [ajscreative@cs.com](mailto:ajscreative@cs.com)