



AIR & WASTE MANAGEMENT  
ASSOCIATION  
SINCE 1907

### Don't forget to renew your membership

Renewal can be completed online  
at: [www.awmanfs.wildapricot.org](http://www.awmanfs.wildapricot.org)  
or using the hardcopy form provided  
on the website.

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# THE RELEASE

Vol. 37 No. 1 September 2017

Kevin Sullivan — Editor

## Message from the Chair

Eric Warren

### A&WMA-NFS – We Are Here To Serve

I would like to welcome everyone to the 2017-2018 year of the Air & Waste Management Association – Niagara Frontier Section (A&WMA-NFS). I feel honored to be sitting on the board of directors with these men and women who are experts and help shape the environmental industry that we have chosen to make our careers in. I would like to thank Mr. Mark Hans for the leadership he showed last year as the board Chairperson. He led this organization of dedicated volunteers to yet another successful year.

I would like to start off by reminding everyone that we (the board of the A&WMA-NFS) are here to serve our membership to enhance your environmental knowledge and personnel development through our monthly dinner meetings as well as offer professional network opportunities with our industry's decision makers both in the public and private sectors. A&WMA-NFS has approximately 130 members that represent about 60 different companies ranging from consulting and legal firms, private industry, environmental contractors and governmental entities which include NYSDEC employees and University professors and students.

We have 22 professional engineers (PE) that are members who attend our monthly dinner meetings and obtain professional development hours (PDHs), and we also have a total of 30 members who are either full time students or Young Professionals (YPs) who are under the age of 35 years old. You can see that there is a very broad range of experience and knowledge that we have in our membership and the more active you are in the group the more educational and networking opportunities you can create.

(Cont'd on p. 4)

## Monthly Meeting Schedule

Mike Emery

### OCTOBER DINNER MEETING

The [NFS-AWMA](#) October dinner meeting will feature a tour of the **Covanta Niagara Resource Recovery Facility**, located at 100 Energy Boulevard, in Niagara Falls, NY. The tour will be followed by dinner at the Como Restaurant, located at 2220 Pine Avenue, in Niagara Falls. We expect the tour to begin at approximately 5:30 pm. Please check the [NFS-AWMA Website](#) for details and registration information



Mark Your Calendars for the Upcoming Monthly Meetings:

- October 26, 2017—Covanta Niagara Resource Recovery Facility tour, followed by dinner at the Como Restaurant in Niagara Falls.
- November 16, 2017
- Christmas Social —  
December 14, 2017
- Annual Seminar —  
January 24, 2018

## Awards and Recognition

## Mark Hans and Patrick Martin

### William A. Faust Award Winner for 2017

The William A. Faust Award was established in 1993 by the Air & Waste Management Association, Niagara Frontier Section, to recognize a member for distinguished service and outstanding contributions to our Section.

Our 2017 honoree is **Paul VanKerkhove**. Paul has been a major contributor to our Niagara Frontier Section for over 10 years. He served as Section Chairperson, and worked on the Education, Membership and TSC liaison committees. He has served as the Financial Secretary for the last two years.

Paul received a bachelor's degree in chemical engineering from the University at Buffalo, a masters in environmental science/engineering from the Oregon Graduate Institute of Science and Technology, and he is a P.E. in the state of New York. After receiving his Bachelor's degree, he worked for Ecology and Environment for about 6 years doing all types of environmental work and then he decided it was time to get a master's degree. Pursuing that Master's degree must have put an air quality gleam in his eye, because upon returning to Buffalo, he worked for E3-Killam for about 5 years in the air quality/stack testing group started by Ed Nesselbeck many years ago. After a while he decided to return to work in the air quality group at E&E. He was a project manager, providing outstanding technical work on a wide variety of air permit application and emission inventory projects. In 2015, he joined the air quality group at GHD (which has its roots way back to the E3/E3-Killam days). He continues to perform high quality for work for clients in air quality and compliance.

Paul was recognized at our May 25, 2017 Awards Dinner meeting.



Jill Banaszak presenting the William A. Faust Award to Paul VanKerkhove

## 2017 Director of the Year

## Mark Hans

John Atkinson was selected as the 2017 Director of the Year. John completed his second year as a director in 2016-2017 and he was the chair of the Education Committee this past program year. The Education Committee is charged with soliciting grant/scholarship applications, reviewing the applications and then awarding grants to worthy applicants within the constraints of our budget. Under John's leadership, the Education Committee was able to increase the number and dollar amount of awards made this year as compared to last year. During 2016-2017, the A&WMA Education Committee awarded the following grants/scholarships:

- ⇒ 13 NYSDEC Environmental Education Summer Camp Scholarships (\$4,550)
- ⇒ 6 Earth Day Grants (\$3,000)
- ⇒ 3 Dave Sauer High School Scholarships (\$1,500)
- ⇒ 3 College Scholarships (\$1,500)
- ⇒ A total of \$10,550 in grants/scholarships to 25 recipients.

John has also been instrumental in helping the UB Student Chapter to develop and become an integral part of our Section. **Thank you for your service John!**

**Membership****Colin Casey and Mark Hans**

Currently we have over 100 members in the Air & Waste Management's Niagara Frontier Section with roughly a 50/50 split between international and local affiliates. [To check membership status, please log onto the AWMA-NFS Website.](#)

Corporate memberships are valid for one year from the date of renewal while local memberships expire on August 31st annually. New members and renewal applications can be found on our [website](#). Payment can be made either through the website or mail. Membership categories and dues are as follows:

Local Affiliate Member	\$36
Local Affiliate Member [Full-Time College Student]	\$11
International Member	\$195
International Member [Young Professional - 35 or younger]	\$98
International Member [Full-Time College Student]	\$35
Corporate Sponsor*	\$325
Website Sponsor**	\$500

\* Corporate Sponsor includes an International Membership for one person and a local affiliate membership for a second person.

\*\* Web Sponsor includes an International Membership for one person and a local affiliate membership for a second person. In addition, the corporate logo of a website sponsor will be displayed on the home page of the AWMA website.

If you have any questions about becoming a member or renewing your membership please contact either Colin Casey or Mark Hans at [awmanfsmembership@gmail.com](mailto:awmanfsmembership@gmail.com).

[A list of current membership can be found on the AWMS-NFS website.](#)

**New/Returning Members****Mark Hans**

We would like to welcome or welcome back the following members to the Niagara Frontier Section of the A&WMA:

- ◆ Jing Chen – Unifrax LLC
- ◆ Elizabeth Collesano – Great Lakes Environmental
- ◆ Patrick Concannon – NYSDEC
- ◆ Britini D'Angelo – Student at Niagara University
- ◆ Joseph Guzzetta – OXY
- ◆ Ryan Labruzzo – SUNY @ Buffalo
- ◆ Mark Mol – Great Lakes Environmental
- ◆ Potavee Orawanno – Praxair Inc.
- ◆ Jim Richert – GZA
- ◆ Paul Willey – Sessler Environmental Services
- ◆ Jerel James Bogdan – C&S Engineers

If you see them at a future meeting, be sure to welcome them to the group.

**Message from the Chair (cont'd)****Eric Warren**

We are very excited about this year's monthly dinner meetings at various great WNY venues in which we have experts in their respective environmental fields educate attendees on local issues that affect us all. This month's talk (Sept. 28, 2017) is a case study about environmental impacts at Hillcrest Industries, Inc. given by Mr. Michael Emery, PE of the NYSDEC and will be held at The Eagle House on Main Street in Williamsville on Thursday September 28, 2017, please join us!

**At this point, I would like to invite you to meet the 2017-2018 Board of Officers and Directors listed on the last page of the newsletter.**

We are a very approachable group of people so please do not hesitate to contact anyone on this board for an opinion on a topic, a perspective on an environmental issue you may be dealing with, or if you want to discuss a topic that is currently happening in the private or public sectors. If there is someone that you would like to be introduced to, please feel free to come up to me and ask me. Remember....we are here to serve you.

I am looking forward to another great year, I hope to see you all soon.

Eric Warren

**Associations****Mark Hans**

Dear A&WMA,

The Coalition of Positively Charged People is grateful for your support of our mission to make community friendly and environmentally sound alkaline battery recycling a reality. We would love for you to keep apprised of what we're doing! We share our accomplishments through a monthly newsletter and on our Face Book page. If you would like to receive the newsletter, please send a note to [info@coalitionpositive.org](mailto:info@coalitionpositive.org). You can find us on Face Book at [@CoalitionPositive](https://www.facebook.com/CoalitionPositive).

Sincerely,

Cynthia Frame-Endres

**Cynthia Frame-Endres** / [Coalition Positive](https://www.coalitionpositive.org/) founder  
Community-friendly & environmentally-sound alkaline battery recycling  
[Website](https://www.coalitionpositive.org/) • [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/CoalitionPositive) • [Twitter](https://twitter.com/CoalitionPositive) • [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/CoalitionPositive)

**Scholarships****Mark Hans****2018 NYSDEC Environmental Education Summer Camp**

The Air & Waste Management Association - Niagara Frontier Section (AWMA-NFS) will be sponsoring and selecting qualified candidates who sincerely want to spend a week at a NYSDEC Environmental Education Summer Camp learning about the environment. AWMA-NFS will provide the \$350 cost of the camp. Additional information on these scholarships will be available on the [AWMA-NFS website](https://www.awma-nfs.org/) in early December.

(cont'd p. 5)

Photo at Right: 2017 New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) Summer Camp at Rushford — See Page 8 for an additional photo.





**Scholarships (cont'd)****Mark Hans****Scholarship Awards**

The Air & Waste Management Association – Niagara Frontier Section (A&WMA-NFS) awarded 3 Dave Sauer High School Scholarships and 4 College Scholarships. A total of \$3,500 was awarded at the May Awards dinner.

**Dave Sauer High School Scholarships**

College scholarships were given to high school seniors in memory of Dave Sauer, a well-respected local environmental professional who was very active in A&WMA. This years' awardees were:

Courtney Felle (\$500 Scholarship)

Courtney was a senior at Nichols. She plans on pursuing a double major in Political Science and English (with a focus on creative writing).

Riley Hill (\$500 Scholarship)

Riley was a senior at Cattaraugus Little Valley. He plans on attending Jamestown Community College to pursue a major in Environmental Science.

Meredith Wattle (\$500 Scholarship)

Meredith was a senior at Williamsville East High School. She plans on pursuing a degree in Computer Science and English/creative writing.

**College Scholarships**

A scholarship was awarded to the following students currently enrolled in college:

Christopher Allan (\$500 Scholarship)

Christopher is expected to graduate in 2018 from the State University of New York at Buffalo (UB) with a Bachelor of Science in Environmental Engineering.

Kennedy Copeland (\$500 Scholarship)

Kennedy is expected to graduate in 2019 from The College at Brockport with a Bachelor of Science in Public Health.

Audrey Filey (\$500 Scholarship)

Audrey is expected to graduate in 2019 from the State University of New York at Buffalo (UB) with a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering.

Gwendolyn Webster (\$500 Scholarship)

Gwendolyn is expected to graduate from Ohio University in 2019 with a Bachelor of Science in Geography-Meteorology and Environmental Geology.



From left to right – Courtney Felle, Gwendolyn Webster and Kennedy

**NYSDEC Recycling Update****Mike Emery****DEC ANNOUNCES 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF NEW YORK'S RECYCLING LAWS**

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) Commissioner Basil Seggos announced that September 1, 2017, marked the 25th anniversary of New York's statewide adoption of local recycling laws. Since 1992, local source-separation programs have captured and diverted more than 320 million tons of recyclable materials from disposal resulting in an estimated net emission reduction of 1 billion metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub>, the equivalent of taking 211 million cars off the road for one year.

"Twenty-five years of reducing, reusing, and recycling New York's waste have proven the power of conservation in our fight to protect our natural resources for future generations. Our recycling programs are putting thousands of New Yorkers to work in the state's booming green economy while cutting the greenhouse gas emissions that cause climate change and preventing pollution from harming our air, waters and lands," said DEC Commissioner Basil Seggos.

The New York State Solid Waste Management Act of 1988 required municipalities to adopt local laws or ordinances requiring the separation and segregation of recyclable or reusable materials from solid waste by no later than September 1, 1992.

Since its inception in 1994, New York's Environmental Protection Fund (EPF) has invested more than \$155 million in funding to municipalities to support recycling infrastructure, recycling coordinators, and household hazardous waste management programs. Recently, the state has increased the EPF to \$300 million and partnered with local governments, business, and environmental organizations to maintain, expand, and promote waste reduction, reuse, recycling, organics diversion and product stewardship programs that encourage more sustainable practices and conserve our natural resources.

Each year, the New York State Returnable Container Act, or "Bottle Bill," recycles more than 4.5 billion plastic, glass and aluminum beverage containers, totaling over 300,000 tons of recyclables, and eliminating approximately 200,000 metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub>, the equivalent of taking 9,000 garbage trucks off the road for one year.

Additionally, DEC is strengthening the state's solid waste regulations (Part 360). New York has adopted product stewardship laws using an extended producer responsibility model that require the take-back and reuse or recycling of electronic waste, rechargeable batteries, and mercury-containing thermostats.

Innovative initiatives the state has implemented to further reduce waste include:

- Organics management program with organics recycling facilities to reduce and divert food waste from the waste stream and reduce emissions.
- [New York State E-Waste Recycling and Reuse Act of 2010](#), a comprehensive electronic waste (e-waste) law that requires manufacturers who sell or offer for sale covered electronic equipment such as computers, computer peripherals, televisions, small scale servers, and small electronic equipment, to establish a convenient acceptance program for the collection, handling, and recycling or reuse of e-waste free of charge to most consumers. Since its implementation, more than 520 million pounds of electronic waste from New York consumers has been recycled or reused instead of being sent to landfills, waste combustion facilities, or other improper disposal methods.
- [New York State Rechargeable Battery Recycling Act](#), requires manufacturers of covered rechargeable batteries to collect and recycle the batteries in a manufacturer-funded program at no cost to consumers. Consumers

(Cont'd on p. 7)

**Envirun****Dharma Iyer and Mike Emery****27th Annual Envirun**

The 2017 Envirun was another smashing success! A huge thank you goes out to our sponsors, volunteers, and runners. Sponsors included Praxair, Nature's Way, Iyer Environmental Group PLLC, Covanta, Empire Stack Testing, Waste Management, The Knoer Group, Pinto Construction Services, Ravi Engineering, Paradigm Environmental Services, Excelsior Orthopedics, Barclay & Damon LLP,

SJB Services Inc., OSEA, Waste Technology Services and Watts Architecture & Engineering.

235 runners participated. The first place male was Joseph Moberg from Wilson with a time of 17:43 minutes. The first place female was Victoria Gelatly from East Amherst with a time of 21:16 minutes.

Proceeds from the Envirun were awarded to the Coalition of Positively Charged People. Cynthia Frame-Endres, the Executive Director, accepted a \$5000 check that will be used to create an Online Learning Lesson on Battery Recycling. This online lesson will teach high school students the logistics of alkaline battery recycling and the pathways to policy change. ENVIRUN '18 is tentatively scheduled for April 21, 2018, watch for details.

**NYSDEC Recycling Update (cont'd)****Mike Emery**

funded program at no cost to consumers. Consumers across the state have safely returned more than one million rechargeable batteries from 2013 - 2016.

- **The New York State Mercury Thermostat Collection Act**, requires thermostat manufacturers establish and maintain a program for the collection, transportation, recycling, and proper management of out-of-service mercury thermostats at no cost to New York State or consumers participating in the program. A total of 21,099 thermostats were collected from New York State consumers on behalf of manufacturers during calendar years 2013 through 2016.



## Website Refresh

Our website has been a huge success, as many of you have registered and paid for memberships, meetings and the seminar since we put it up about 10 years ago. We'd like to freshen up the look of the site. Are you tech savvy or up for a challenge? If so, we'd like your assistance. Suggested improvements to the website are welcome too. Please express your interest and suggestions to Mark Hans at [mjhans9@gmail.com](mailto:mjhans9@gmail.com).

Anna Buccili & Kyera Silver  
at (NYSDEC) Rushford Camp 2017

## Mark Hans and Mike Emery



## People on the Move

## Mark Hans

Recent changes in job status (that we are aware of) include:

Amy VanKerkhove left Ecology & Environment to accept a position at AECOM in Buffalo, NY.

If you have changed jobs, gotten a promotion or retired, let us know. Information can be sent to Kevin Sullivan (newsletter editor) at [ksullivan@trcsolutions.com](mailto:ksullivan@trcsolutions.com).

## UB Student Chapter News

## Mark Hans

### Alkaline Battery Recycling on the UB Campus

The UB A&WMA Student Chapter was awarded an Earth Day Grant from EnviRun funds to promote the Alkaline Battery Recycling Program that is available on the UB campus. The UB Chapter was led by Dan Hamlin in this effort and they completed the following:

- \* Made and distributed flyers across campus that describes the alkaline battery recycling opportunities on UB's North and South Campuses.
- \* Developed an interactive display and poster.
- \* Set up a table outside the Student Union for several hours to make the University community aware of on-campus recycling options.
- \* Set up a table at EnviRun to collect batteries and highlight recycling opportunities.

Dan Hamlin with the A&WMA display set up outside the Student Union.





The Niagara Frontier Section of the AWMA, Inc. publishes its newsletter, **THE RELEASE**, quarterly as a service to its members.

If you would like to submit an article for the next issue of **THE RELEASE**, please contact:

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**AWMA-NFS**  
and also on

**facebook**

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Air and Waste Management

Association

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