



President's Letter to Members

Friendships begin with a belief that there is something of value in two people connecting and talking about things that interest them professionally and personally. Friendships also begin with small steps because we are somewhat guarded in what we reveal about ourselves initially until we develop trust in the relationship.

One of the greater rewards of being a member of NAEP is the friendships you make over time that become vitally important professionally and life-lasting personally.

On January 21, 2010 it was my pleasure and honor to meet with the Texas chapter in Houston at their monthly lunch meeting and learn about all the chapter activities environmental professionals there are undertaking. I also had the opportunity to discuss the changes within NAEP and how we are moving forward as an association. The following evening the NAEP Board of Directors and Texas chapter members got a chance to socialize at a Meet and Greet at a local Houston restaurant; a moment for forming friendships. On Saturday, January 23, we held our NAEP Board of Directors quarterly meeting at the offices of Brown and Caldwell in Houston. We discussed the fruitions of our strategic initiatives which now are being realized with actions and outcomes. For "Improving NAEP Image and Identity" we now have an approved draft Marketing Plan. For "Improving Member Benefits" we now have a suite of recommendations and we are discussing the cost and implementation ramifications of these great ideas.

One of our large focuses for the meeting was Strategic Initiative #2, "Improving NAEP and Chapter Relationships" and the Board after much dialogue at this meeting and past meetings has approved a revised Affiliation Agreement to be sent forward to the Chapters for approval. From my perspective as your President and as a NAEP member for 20 years, the Affiliation Agreement between NAEP and the Chapters represents the epitome of solidifying friendships that have grown and matured over the years. The NAEP Chapters Committee, NAEP/Chapters Affiliation Agreement Committee and the NAEP Executive Committee with full Board input has spent countless hours crafting the best agreement possible and I thank everyone for their service and commitment to such a worthy goal.

The 2010 Conference Committee is busy making final preparations for the 35th Annual Conference in Atlanta to be held April 27-30th. The 2010 conference theme is emphasizing the National Environmental Policy Act since it is the 40th anniversary of NEPA, but there are numerous sessions of interest to all environmental professionals; visit our website www.naep.org for details and see the

interesting conference information in this newsletter. We are still welcoming conference sponsors and conference exhibitors so come join your friends in sunny Atlanta at the end of April.

In this newsletter and subsequent newsletters I will highlight the dedicated energy and results-oriented activities that our working groups and national committees are accomplishing. In many ways the enormous output of our working groups and national committees are the life blood of NAEP. It is through the hard work of these groups and committees that professional friendships are formed and elements of the environmental professions are advanced. For this newsletter, I briefly highlight the fine work of the NEPA Working Group, the newly "re-formed" Energy and Environmental Policy Committee, and the Career Development Committee. Consider getting involved with one of these committees or any of the other working groups or national committees listed on our website.

The NEPA Working Group has been NAEP's longest standing group of professionals working together to advance the state of NEPA practice. The NEPA Working Group was formed when NAEP was formed 35 years ago as it was the focus of NAEP's first conference in 1975 since NEPA was only 5 years young at the time. For the past two years Peter Havens has ably chaired the working group and soon, newly elected Chair Lisa Mahoney along with Joe Trnka as the incoming Co-Chair will assume leadership for this group's fine professional work. Through the NEPA Working Group, NAEP has had a seat on the national stage with anything to do with NEPA practice. We have provided Congressional testimony at appropriate times when there have been several attempts to "improve" NEPA, "reinvent" NEPA and otherwise "streamline" NEPA. For many years the President's Council on Environmental Quality and the NEPA Working Group have enjoyed a close partnership where the working group has assisted in developing and/or commenting on CEQ guidance on cumulative effects, environmental justice, and public participation in NEPA projects as examples. The NEPA Working Group has now for several years prepared the NEPA Annual Report and has recently developed an implementation plan for launching NEPA training nationally.

Judith Charles is the new Chair of the Energy and Environmental Policy (E2P) Committee and this committee has a great vision and a number of exciting accomplishments planned. See the article in this newsletter. The emergence of this committee is timely as the environmental professions are so pressed with questions related to the need for sustainable, environmentally-friendly energy sources for use throughout the 21st century, and the proper policy guidance to support these new sustainable ener-



gy technologies. As one example of past E2P Committee success, guidance for the integration of NEPA and ISO 14001, environmental management systems, was the creation of the E2P committee under the leadership of former Chair Charles Eccleston. I wish Judith Charles much success in the committee's current endeavors and we have been pleased with the interest our NAEP members have shown in the committee's goals.

I also draw your attention to our Career Development Committee. Under the dedicated and consistent leadership of Chair John Esson, the Career Development Committee has now for years developed excellent career seminars and job networking opportunities for young environmental professionals at our NAEP annual conferences. This year in Atlanta is no exception. See the Advanced Conference Program on our website for times and location on the first day of our conference, April 27th. For those of you interested in learning about current environmental and green career opportunities, check out John's website at www.environmentalcareer.com. As we move forward through this year and into the next NAEP will bring more focus on connecting with our student chapters in a more substantive and meaningful way. I believe our Career Development Committee can hold a key role in bringing the value of experienced professionals closer to the interests and knowledge of our young professionals emerging from universities around the country.

Over the past nine months, those of us on the Executive Committee and the NAEP Board have enjoyed the fruits of our tireless Association Manager, Tim Bower. His "Can Do!" attitude, his consummate smile, his ever-timely management advice has lifted NAEP to a new awakening in our association's history, so timely since we are celebrating our 35th year of being and supporting the environmental professions. Recently, Tim Bower, and his company Bower Management Services, recently extended to NAEP such a gesture of support that literally took our collective breath away in its generosity and humility. Tim made a \$6000 donation to the Jim Roberts Scholarship Fund. This enabled NAEP to maximize the matching funds AEP had committed to NAEP since Jim Roberts held such an active environmental practice in California and was also so active in AEP throughout the years. The Jim Roberts Scholarship Fund now totals over \$22,000. For such a grand donation our offers of thanks seem to pale, but we do wholeheartedly extend our thanks and gratitude to Tim for such a thoughtful and generous act of kindness. We will remain humbled and grateful in this lasting gesture of what we trust is a growing friendship. Thank you Tim.

As I stated in the beginning of this President's Letter, friendships begin with a belief and a trust that what you have to give to a friendship is valued and cherished by the other individual, professionally and personally. We learn and grow through our

friendships and the friendships we make within NAEP are some of the best you will experience in your lifetime. Get involved. Become a member if you currently are not a member; renew your membership if you have let your membership renewal slide for whatever the reason. It is the small daily steps that we take in our profession that make great strides in progressing our knowledge, progressing our knowledge of each other, and how our association, your association, can be a trusted friend in this reality.

Ron Deverman, NAEP President

Permanent Conference Committee — Looking Ahead

With the national conference in Atlanta just around the corner, NAEP's Permanent Conference Committee is already looking ahead to the 2011 conference and beyond. Denver will host our 2011 conference. A local conference committee has been formed and is already hard at work discussing the theme, possible tour locations, and venues for the President's dinner. Do you want to be part of the excitement? Contact Yates Oppermann, our local committee co-chair for 2011 at francis.oppermann@dot.state.co.us. We'll also need people to help lead the technical sessions and solicit papers from fellow environmental professionals. Jennifer Lundberg is our technical co-chair. If you're interested in getting involved in the content of the conference and sharing your good ideas, contact Jennifer at jlundberg@parametrix.com.

But there's more! If long range thinking is your thing and you want to see what makes these conferences tick, consider joining the PCC! Right now we are having discussions with chapters in Texas, California, Oregon, North Carolina, and Florida to plan for conferences through 2015. We also continue to review and set policy for conference planning and management. Do you think NAEP should be doing more than one conference a year? Do you have ideas for regional conferences or conferences specific to a particular profession or area of expertise? We'd love to help you bring those ideas to light. Do you have ideas about how to make the conference more visible and bring more attendees? Bring it on! The annual conference is one of NAEP's strongest programs. The PCC's goal is to make it stronger. Lend your voice to the PCC and help us build this program. For more information about how you can get involved in the PCC, please contact the PCC chair, Carol Snead at carol.snead@hdrinc.com.



“Hometown Democracy”: Not Just a Catchy Name *Growth Management by the People, or a Disaster Waiting to Happen?*

John J. Fumero, Esq. and Thomas F. Mullin, Esq.

The following article on Hometown Democracy (HTD) is a hot topic in Florida. Thomas and John are FAEP members who agreed to write the article which is based on a presentation they did for a recent monthly meeting of the South Florida local chapter. HTD will change the way that planning and development are done in the state. As the FAEP representative to NAEP I realized the applicability of this article to the rest of our chapters. This is a movement that will become a part of many state efforts in the future, if it hasn't hit your state yet. NAEP is trying to provide this type of local/national issue to the wider environmental professional audience as a service to our members and a benefit to those who recognize the larger connectedness between the states and regions. As we all contemplate the Affiliation Agreement, this is the type of benefit that provides value to association for all members at all levels.

— Paul Looney, NAEP Vice President

Chances are, if you are reading this article, the proposed Amendment 4 to the Florida Constitution (“Hometown Democracy” or “HTD”) will affect you either personally or professionally. Despite its rocky beginnings, the fate of HTD, and possibly the future growth of the state, will be put to a vote by Floridians on November 2, 2010.

Florida Hometown Democracy, the non-partisan political action committee sponsoring HTD, promotes it as the solution to Florida's ailing economic condition by empowering the state's residents with a vote over all amendments to local government's comprehensive plans. Supporters of HTD cite to the numerous public corruption cases that have arisen over the past several years as proof that Floridians need a greater say over the land use decisions made by their locally elected representatives.

Opponents of HTD admit that Florida's growth management process can and should be improved. HTD, however, is a knee-jerk reaction that does not properly address the real life problems. Instead, HTD could dramatically and detrimentally undermine true reasoned growth management while causing significantly more.

This article will survey both points of view on HTD and provide commentary on the practical impacts and unintended consequences should HTD pass. Additionally, we will look into the current situation of the Town of St. Pete Beach, as a case study, that has enacted its own version of HTD.

What is Hometown Democracy?

What is HTD and what is it intended to accomplish? As proposed, HTD would amend the state's Constitution to require that any amendment to a local government's “comprehensive land use plan” be approved by a referendum of voters after the regular approval process has been followed. HTD defines the term “local government comprehensive land use plan” as “a plan to guide and control future land development in an area under the jurisdiction of a local government.”¹ Arguably, this could apply to the entire local government's comprehensive plan, and not just its Future Land Use Element. It appears that the process for seeking approvals for rezonings, site plans, environmental permits and variances would be unaffected.²

Supporters of Hometown Democracy

HTD supporters believe that HTD will prevent urban sprawl, protect the environment, save tax payer dollars and stop unwanted development. They also believe that the economic downturn felt so especially strong in Florida is a result of poor land use decisions by local politicians and developers. Lesley Blackner, a land use attorney and a co-founder of Florida Hometown Democracy, suggests that placing the responsibility for local land use decisions with the residents, and not with the politicians, is the cure to the State's economic condition. Developers “control the politics of Florida from the governor on down,” she stated.

The process by which developers, property owners, and the local governments themselves must follow to seek approval of a comprehensive plan amendment will, in theory, remain intact following passage of HTD. The only change will be, at the end of the process, the decisions of elected local officials on the comprehensive plan amendments will be subject to review by the voters. Florida has a complex, elaborate, and, at times, cumbersome system for determining future land uses based on economic, environmental, planning and other considerations that should be based on

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1. The term “comprehensive land use plan” is not defined in the growth management statutes or regulations.

2. The Florida Supreme Court in 2005 rejected the original HTD proposal due to “emotional” and misleading language in a ballot summary. After rewriting the language for the ballot, the founders of HTD have gathered more than 1,000,000 signatures to be placed on the ballot. In 2008, the opponents of HTD sought to have revoked a large number of the signatures; however, the Florida Supreme Court struck down a law that would have allowed voters to remove their names from the signature petitions.



actual science and data. The supporters believe the wealth of technical information prepared as part of the comprehensive plan amendment process will have enhanced value as it will also be placed before the public for their review and thoughtful consideration. HTD supporters believe that a second, and final, look at land use changes by the public is a useful and positive addition to our present land use planning laws and procedures.

The primary arguments put forward by Florida Hometown Democracy in favor of HTD include:

- **Hometown Democracy Will Give Residents a Voice Over Land Use Planning Decisions** – HTD supporters state that the amendment will put the power back in the voters hands; that the local politicians will no longer be able to make decisions based on the desires of their campaign contributors, developers and big businesses.
- **Development and Smart Growth Will Continue Under the Existing Comprehensive Plans** – local governments' comprehensive plans were written to provide for growth, so even if the plans are not changed, plenty of growth and construction can continue. During the development boom period, large tracts of vacant land were approved for new projects. That land can be developed first and, when needed, the voters will decide which plans allow additional growth.
- **Special Interests Already Control Growth Management** – Florida Hometown Democracy argues that developers already control the decisions of local politicians as representative democracy is not working.

What are the Reasons Against Hometown Democracy?

Opponents of HTD fear the measure will significantly impact revenue and jobs at a time when the State and local governments are struggling to meet budgets. Further, opponents argue that it will make land use decisions even more political as developers and property owners will spend even more money on advertising and marketing prior to elections on the comprehensive plan amendments. Opponents state that the public will be inundated with 30-second television commercials both for and against the proposed amendments. They argue that the public is included in such decisions through the public hearing process required by Florida Statute and that the general public will not have the analytical ability to understand the very technical data and analysis that accompanies.

While the focus of the supporters of HTD has been on growth management and the corruption charges and easily-influenced local politicians, critics state that the language of HTD is written too broad and the scope exceeds the initiative's intent. They argue that potentially HTD could apply to zoning

approvals unrelated to comprehensive plan amendments. HTD will confuse unsophisticated smaller local governments on how to implement its directives. Moreover, the language requires a vote on every minor and technical plan change, even if unrelated to a development plan – such as local government's amendments in response to Evaluation and Appraisal Reports (EAR) from the Florida Department of Community Affairs (FDCA). The idea is that not only will development be affected, but comprehensive plans for new schools, hospitals, fire stations, community centers and public parks could all be held until the next scheduled public election.

The most practical implications of HTD implementation are noteworthy. For instance, most voters, without having a background in land use and planning, are not familiar with their local government's comprehensive plan. These voters will be faced with hard to comprehend ballot language and associated data and analysis. For example, ballot language for technical amendments based on traffic or utility concurrency include detailed analysis that could confuse voters. Additionally, decisions may not be made on a local level, as residents will be asked to make decisions on county-wide amendments in areas that do not directly affect them.

The most dramatic criticism of HTD is the estimated 267,247 jobs that would be lost by the passage of HTD. The Washington Economics Group, Inc., (WEG) was retained to study the economic impact that HTD could on the State of Florida. Under the WEG's "Most Likely Scenario", it was assumed that 25% of new real estate related expansion would require a comprehensive plan amendment. The impacts associated with the Most Likely Scenario includes the loss of 267,247 jobs, of which 38 percent were estimated in the Construction sector, 34 percent were in the Knowledge-Based Services sector, and the remaining 28 percent were distributed among other economic sectors of the Florida economy. The WEG study concluded that "[HTD]'s passage will have potentially devastating consequences to Florida's economy at a time when the economic situation at both the state and national levels is uncertain and at a time when attracting new businesses to Florida is essential for the future recovery and prosperity of the state and its residents."

Backed by the Florida Chamber of Commerce, the group Floridians for Smarter Growth (FSG) has stepped up against Florida Hometown Democracy. Some of the other primary criticisms of HTD cited by FSG include:

- **Increased Taxes** – The cost of special elections for the larger cities in Florida could cost as much as \$120,000 to \$300,000, as cost of which would be covered by taxes to the residents.
- **Businesses to Locate in Other States** – Businesses in new industries, such as biotechnology, will select locations out of the state as the comprehensive plans of local governments



typically do not include such developing industries in their lists of permitted uses.

- Significant Litigation Will Follow Each Comprehensive Plan Amendment – critics of HTD believe that comprehensive plan amendments will be more contentious than before as litigation will ensue over wording of ballots, campaign methods, and voting results.
- Hometown Democracy Will Actually Increase Urban Sprawl – Most comprehensive plans were written in the 1980's and have only received piecemeal edits over the years. They are intended to be working documents, designed to change over time and adjust to growth. Failing to update comprehensive plans could create more sprawl, not less.
- We Live in a Representative Democracy, Not a True Democracy – The citizens of the country and the state are governed by elected officials as their representatives. If a resident does not agree with the decisions of his elected official, he can vote the official out. HTD proposes a true democracy type of system, which conflicts with the current system in place at all levels of government.

The St. Pete Beach Case Study

Critics of HTD refer to the City of St. Pete Beach as an example of the problems that HTD will create. St. Pete Beach became the test case for HTD after city officials amended the comprehensive plan to increase allowable height and density. Fearing rows of tall hotels along the barrier island, anti-growth activists organized a petition to undo the changes. The City's voters approved the measure, repealing the revised height and density values and amending the City's charter to require all comprehensive plan amendments to pass voter approval. Until that time, no other City provided the voters with such broad decision-making authority.

A second petition was organized by the business community that proposed a more developer-friendly comprehensive plan amendment. This petition was also approved by the voters. In response, critics filed suit against the City. The litigation is ongoing and legal bills have exceeded \$500,000; a sizable amount for a city of only 10,000 residents. The result is that development has come to a halt and no new land use plan amendments have been approved.

In the November 2009 election, the residents of St. Pete Beach voted to reduce the amount of comprehensive plan amendments that require referenda to only those affecting building height, density, intensity of use, or land use category. On January 26, 2010, the City Commission approved a resolution urging city residents to vote against HTD.³

3. HTD supporters argue that St. Pete Beach is not representative of the changes proposed by HTD. Its backers state that the lawsuits in the St. Pete Beach were filed because the HTD process was not followed and that special interest groups on both sides were unhappy with the results.

Coordinated and Organized Partisanship

As expected, the development and business community has united a strong coalition of organizations against HTD. For example, such groups include: Florida Chamber of Commerce, Florida American Planning Association, Florida League of Cities, Florida State Council of Machinists and Aerospace Workers, and Florida Health Care Associations. Frank Ortis, President of Florida State Council of Machinists and Aerospace Workers said "It's not too often that a union leader and a business leader agree on something, but we can all see how much HTD would hurt Florida's working families. And we are working together to defeat it."

What is even more interesting is that 1000 Friends of Florida, a bipartisan growth management group with members originating from development and environmental backgrounds, opposes HTD. 1000 Friends of Florida argues that the proposal would turn the planning process into a series of high-priced media campaigns that favor wealthy developers, and result in piecemeal, rather than comprehensive, planning. They further raise concerns that HTD will promote sprawl as voters block growth in existing communities — "the Not in My Backyard," or NIMBY, syndrome. HTD could also result in backlash legislation to weaken planning requirements and legal gridlock through court challenges, 1000 Friends says.

Final Thoughts

The simple truth is we do not know the real impact that HTD may have on land use, growth management, jobs or the Florida's economy. No one can be sure what the real outcome will be. We believe that the growth management process in Florida is in need of an overhaul. While innovative and well intended, Florida's system of land use planning and growth management is not perfect. That said, HTD is by no means the silver bullet. While backers of HTD may be well intentioned, the net result of HTD enactment will not necessarily result in reasoned and appropriate growth management and land use decision-making. There is no reason to believe that the electorate will somehow be empowered by enactment of HTD, nor will the electorate be in a position to understand or render informed decision-making. While these are admirable goals, HTD falls short of the mark.



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2010 NAEP Annual Conference



AICP CM Approval Received!

NAEP has received approval from AICP and the Atlanta conference does qualify for Certification Maintenance points from AICP.

Book Your Hotel Room Now!

Not only is our room block for the conference hotel, the Hyatt Regency, filling up, but the hotel tells me the whole hotel is booking up. So don't wait to reserve your room. In order to obtain the group rate (\$179 regular or \$141 government) please make your reservation at the Hyatt Regency using the link on our conference website. If you call for reservations (404-577-1234), be sure to ask for the NAEP group rate. The room block expires late in March, so don't wait to make your reservation.

2 Full Day Training Courses Offered

Both of the courses offered on Tuesday, April 27th qualify for AICP certification and for CEU's So register now to get your needed credits.

The first course is titled Improving the NEPA Process. Lamar Smith (FHWA) and Judith Lee (Environmental Planning Strategies, Inc.) will lead this one-day course for advanced professionals that will explore best practices, tools, and case studies for streamlining NEPA documentation and processes.

As experienced professionals, we are often confronted with new challenges in adapting to changing regulatory environments, funding sources, and agency initiatives. This course will offer examples from a variety of agencies, individuals, and firms that have successfully navigated changing conditions in the NEPA field. Topics include streamlining the contracting process, streamlining alternative selection using GIS and other tools, linking planning and NEPA, document quality initiatives, and fast-tracking ARRA-funded projects, among others. There will be ample opportunities for participants to ask questions and share their own experiences and suggestions to facilitate an interactive learning environment.

The second course is titled Section 4(f), Section 106 & NEPA. David Grachen (FHWA) and Joe Trnka (NHI and HDR) will lead this one-day course for advanced professionals that will look closely at integrating the Section 106 and Section 4(f) processes into NEPA compliance.

The instructors will utilize real-world project examples to illustrate successful avoidance, minimization, and mitigation strategies for transportation projects involving Section 106 and Section 4(f). Topics to be discussed will include recent Section 4(f) regulatory changes, the use of programmatic approaches and other innovative strategies to expedite the project delivery process, and the consideration of cumulative and indirect effects. There will be ample opportunities for participants to ask questions and share their own experiences and suggestions to facilitate an interactive learning environment.

Tours Still Available

If you're thinking about adding one of the tours, please don't wait. If we don't have enough people signed up we will have to cancel them.

For questions or more information contact Donna Carter at 863-949-0262 or email naepfl@verizon.net.



NAEP Board Approves Chapter Affiliation Agreement, a New Committee, and Strategic Initiatives *A Productive Houston Meeting, Thanks to Brown and Caldwell for providing the meeting space*

The NAEP Board took a temporary break from the winter season that is gripping most of the U.S. to meet in Houston on January 22-23, 2010. At the Ragin Cajin Restaurant, the Board met Houston-area and Texas chapter members on the evening of January 22. The Board meeting then moved to Brown and Caldwell offices for January 23. The Board thanks Brown and Caldwell for allowing us to use their conference room for the day.

At the Board meeting the next day Ron Deverman, NAEP President, noted that we have a new website and are putting out electronic newsletters again. In addition, our flagship journal, *Environmental Practice*, is back on schedule. We have reached the milestone of \$10,000 in contributions to the Jim Roberts Scholarship, and received \$10,000 in matching funds from the AEP of California. This will allow the scholarship to begin operation.

The **Energy and Environmental Policy Committee** has been reconstituted under the leadership of Judith Charles. The Board reviewed the proposed mission statement and vision statement, which was subsequently approved by the Executive Committee. Among other activities, the committee plans to maintain an interactive website, prepare quarterly reports summarizing current events in energy and environmental policy, and provide training.

The Board reviewed and approved the draft **Chapter Affiliation Agreement** presented by John Irving. The Board approval means it will be sent to chapters for further discussion and comment. The goal of the affiliation agreement is to increase the benefits to members of both organizations. Joe Musil, Treasurer, stated the benefits as follows:

Many people ask us why is it important to belong to a national organization when most of my projects are limited to a local geographic region or even a single state. The question then becomes, are you an Environmental Professional? Are you current in the latest rules, regulation and technologies that can help your clients and your local/state agency to find solutions for their projects. Is there something that another Environmental Professional or another state agency is doing or has found that helps solve a critical issue? The easiest way to stay on top of what is happening in the environmental profession is to belong to a national organization that is dedicated to your professional development. Most local groups lack the depth of skills and knowledge to enable you as a professional to look beyond the "what do I do now" scenario to one where you can build upon the knowledge base

and skills of a thousand other Environmental Professionals.

The affiliation agreement will allow people to reap the benefits of both their local organization for networking and state and local issues, and the national organization provides the benefits of a national presence.

The Board reviewed and approved a **marketing plan** from Harold Draper which seeks to retain existing groups of environmental professionals and identify underserved groups for membership services. Existing environmental professionals served by the NAEP are environmental consultants and government compliance specialists. Target groups include corporate sustainability officers, academic environmental scientists and teachers, young environmental specialists, students in environmental studies programs, and nonprofit environmental and conservation organizations. In the plan, NAEP plans to target new chapter development, distinguish itself from other alternative associations, provide training, improve publications and use new social media in association activities.

The Board reviewed and approved an approach **to increase existing member benefits** and add new benefits presented by Ron Lamb. Under discussion are the following new member benefits:

- Increase training opportunities on important NEPA or other topics (general environmental law and regulations; NEPA emerging issues; cumulative effects assessment; climate change, etc.)
- Testify or visit Congressional staff to present position papers (tie in with training or mini conference)
- Webinars or live feeds of Annual Conference speakers/panels available to members via the website
- Collaborate with other associations to sponsor additional conferences
- Offer avenue for professional liability insurance

The Board reviewed and approved a **NEPA training white paper** presented by Peter Havens. The white paper proposes that NAEP take a leadership role in NEPA training and present a pilot NEPA training event in association with the 2011 annual conference. Teaching objectives and an outline of NEPA fundamentals was presented for Board consideration. A planning team will be developed to determine teaching objectives, training outline, and timing.

—Submitted by Harold Draper, Secretary



*Please give a gift to the profession that has given so much to you—
DONATE TO THE JIM ROBERTS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND*



About Jim Roberts

The Jim Roberts Memorial Scholarship Fund was initially announced at the 2008 NAEP Conference in San Diego. Pledge cards were distributed and NAEP received pledges in the amount of \$3,000. The fund is now a little above \$20,000 but still well below our goal of \$50,000 collected during the first five years.

As many of you know, Jim Roberts, a longtime member of NAEP passed away in the fall of 2007 leaving a legacy of leadership and ethical living. A scholarship committee was formed to flesh out a vehicle that will reflect both Jim Robert's life and his wishes for NAEP and future environmental professionals.

Jim Roberts was a great leader committed to professionalism and ethics in the environmental field. In 2008, the National Association of Environmental Professionals (NAEP) Board of Directors approved the formation of the Jim Roberts Memorial Scholarship Fund to continue Jim's good work and encourage others to follow in his commitment to the industry.

Jim served as President of NAEP from 1996 until 1998 and Vice-President from 2003-2004. He also held other leadership roles including:

- NAEP International Committee Chair (1994-2007)
- NAEP President's Council for Sustainable Success Chair (1997)
- NAEP Ethics Committee Chair (2000 – 2007)
- NAEP Parliamentarian (2006 – 2007)

About the Jim Roberts Memorial Scholarship Fund

The Scholarship Committee has made decisions on several aspects of the award. It will be awarded annually at the annual NAEP conference to a student currently enrolled in an environmental program at any accredited university or college in the United States, its territories or Canada. Official applications will be provided on the NAEP website.

Students supply basic information, transcripts and prepare an essay including their personal reflection on how education will support ethical work on environmental problems. The applications are evaluated by the Scholarship Committee and one honoree receives an award between \$500-\$1000, depending on the available endowment. These awards can be used for education expenses including tuition and books.

The NAEP California Chapter (Cal AEP) has made a very generous and appreciated contribution in the amount of \$10,000.00 to honor Jim Roberts. This contribution was fulfillment of a pledge to match up to the first \$10,000 in pledges collected by NAEP the first year. This dollar for dollar match doubled in impact of the contributions of our members.

You can make your donation online with a credit card by going to the link below and clicking Donate Now. Please remember that this donation is tax deductible.

<http://www.naep.org/mc/page.do?sitePageId=100453&orgId=naep>

If you would like to send a check please mail them to:

NAEP
Attn: Jim Roberts Memorial Scholarship Fund
PO Box 460
Collingswood, NJ 08108

We have a goal of growing the fund's endowment to \$50,000 in the next four years. Jim Roberts provided a commitment to develop this organization, to advance our profession, to improve our ethics and the environmental industry and most importantly, to assist young people in pursuing an environmental career. It is now time to honor Jim Robert's commitment by providing this scholarship to aspiring environmental professionals.

Please also remember that all contributions are tax deductible. If you provide a donation by credit card through our online system you will receive a receipt a few seconds after the transaction is complete. Check donations can be mailed to the address above.

Thank you for your generosity,

Gary F. Kelman, Chair
Jim Roberts Memorial Scholarship Fund
National Association of Environmental Professionals



NAEP/Chapter Affiliation Agreement

The NAEP Board of Directors recently voted in last month's board meeting to accept a new NAEP / Chapter Affiliation Agreement with a plan to implement it later this year. This new agreement had its beginnings in the fall of 2007 during a NAEP Chapter retreat. Many revisions and hours of hard work later the board approved the document. The vote was not unanimous; therefore, NAEP leadership is preparing a "Spirit of the Affiliation Agreement" document that will accompany the affiliation agreement when it goes out to new and old chapters later this year.

This affiliation agreement spells out the responsibilities of 'the Chapter' and NAEP for developing a successful relationship working collaboratively to foster professional development, networking, information exchange, and technology transfer between local and national environmental professionals. In addition, the agreement will allow 'the Chapter' and their associated local chapters to claim affiliation with the NAEP in all aspects of corporate documentation. Chapter websites and publications can incorpo-

rate logos and documentation stating that the Chapter and their associated local chapters are "An Affiliate of the National Association of Environmental Professionals."

The concept of the affiliation agreement is to define clearly the benefits and expectations between NAEP and its Chapters. Some of the benefits include discounts to NAEP training and events and a link to Chapter websites from NAEP's website. A key expectation is that new chapters wishing to affiliate with NAEP must have chapter officers who are members of NAEP and at least 10 NAEP members in the Chapter service area to have voting representation on the NAEP Board of Directors.

The Chapter will pay a rate for affiliation based on membership size and the ratio of NAEP/Affiliate members. NAEP will also place a ceiling or maximum cost to chapters so as not to burden very small or large chapters. The NAEP leadership is excited about the new agreement and looks forward to affiliation with its current Chapters and many more new chapters.

The Board of Director Elections for 2010 have been concluded!

At the January Board of Director's Meeting it was announced that Harold Draper, Gary Kelman and Ronald Lamb were reelected to the Board of Directors for the term ending 2013. Marie Campbell of California also won a seat on the Board as a new member. A total of 11 members were nominated to serve on the board but only four seats were up for election. Kristen Maines who has served on the board for several terms and has been a valuable asset to the Association will stay active in the NAEP by serving on one of the many Working Groups or Committees. We thank all of those who expressed an interest in serving on the NAEP Board of Directors and encourage you all to reapply next year. Our Board of Directors elections are run in fall of each year for four positions.

The NAEP Board of Directors is composed of 12 elected at-

large NAEP Members, a NAEP Representative from each of the NAEP Chapters, and four Ex-officio members. Chapters get one NAEP Representative for each 150 NAEP General Members in their area. The board meets quarterly at various locations around the Country. Between meetings the Association is managed by an Executive Committee composed of the Association's Elected Officers and the immediate Past President. These officers form an Executive Committee that meets by tel-conference twice monthly.

The Elections Committee now turns its efforts to the annual election of our NAEP National Officers: President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. That elections process should be concluded by the end of March. The National Officers and new Board Members will be installed at our Annual Meeting in April.



NAEP Energy and Environmental Policy Committee Report

NAEP would like to extend a thank you to those members that have volunteered to serve on its Energy and Environmental Policy Committee. We are making an effort to re-establish the committee in order to provide a forum for NAEP membership to discuss issues and advances of technology related to energy and environmental practice, policy, regulations, and legislation as they concern NAEP. The Committee members will take an active role in responding to actions that may have high potential to shape the future of environmental protection and keep the NAEP membership and leadership informed of rapidly changing regulatory impacts. The Committee will recommend to the NAEP Executive Committee and Board of Directors formal positions and advocacies for the Association to consider for adoption, acceptance, rejection, and or revision.

Activities that the committee will engage in include:

- Maintain an interactive website for Committee members and NAEP membership.
- Prepare quarterly reports to the NAEP BOD summarizing

current events as related to energy and environmental policy as they pertain to NAEP.

- Prepare position statements, policy papers and letters to be approved and issued by the NAEP BOD and/or President.
- Prepare and review articles for the NAEP journal *Environmental Practice*.
- Provide training to the NAEP membership on energy and environmental policies/regulations and related topics as deemed appropriate by the Committee and the NAEP BOD.
- Integrate membership interest in developing a national presence with federal agencies through work conducted by the Committee and jointly with other NAEP committees.

Our committee members range from those with known expertise in the areas of energy and environmental policy to those members beginning their careers in the environmental field. We encourage participation by all of our committee members as we move forward with our activities in 2010.

News from the Managing Editor of the *Environmental Practice*

Exciting developments are underway for *Environmental Practice*, in 2010 and 2011. In the March 2010 issue, we will be unveiling our new cover design, provided by Cambridge University Press. To go along with the journal's new look, the editorial office has streamlined and updated the manuscript categories. A complete summary of changes can be found in the "Information for Contributors" section of the March 2010 issue of the journal. Our new editorial advisory board has been placed to kick-off the 2010 publication year as well.

Upcoming theme issues for *Environmental Practice* include Water in December of 2010. In the months to come, the editorial

office will be setting up feedback venues primarily through online surveys for NAEP members and other readers of the journal with the assistance of Cambridge University Press for strategic planning the issues in 2011. Some current thinking on potential 2011 issues includes nuclear energy and waste, and transportation.

As always, the journal welcomes submissions from scholars, practitioners, and students, on these subjects as well as any other topics of interest to the environmental community. Contact the Managing Editor for the *Environmental Practice*, Dan Carroll, at dcarro17@depaul.edu with questions or submissions of manuscripts.



California Association of Environmental Professionals Chapter Report

*Submitted by: Roger Turner,
NAEP California Chapter Representative*

The CAEP has completed its bi-annual elections in December 2009. The new officers elected to the Executive Board took office January 1, 2010. Here is their contact information:

OFFICE	NAME / PHONE	ADDRESS
PRESIDENT	Gene Talmadge 805.427.4123 (w) 805.388.2591 (f) jngtalmadge@msn.com	Talmadge Associates 5280 Fieldcrest Drive Camarillo, CA 93012
EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT	William Halligan 714.966.9220 (w) whalliga@planningcenter.com	The Planning Center 1580 Metro Drive Costa Mesa, CA 92626
ADMINISTRATIVE VICE PRESIDENT	Devon Muto 858.694.3016 (w) 858.694.3373 (f) devon.muto@sdcounty.ca.gov	County of San Diego/DPLU 5201 Ruffin Road, Suite B San Diego, CA 92123
FINANCIAL VP & CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER	Mel Willis 805.676.1240 (w) 805.676.1240 (f) melwillis@earthlink.net	Environmental Planning Consultant 308 Heidelberg Avenue Ventura, CA 93003
NAEP LIAISON	Roger W. Turner 951.707.5020 (w) 951.684.7507 (f) rwturner@hotmail.com	Roger Turner & Associates 3415 Santa Cruz Drive Riverside

Also, go to the CAEP website at www.califaep.org under Leadership roster for this information.

The annual CAEP Conference will be held at the Zoso Hotel in Palm Springs, March 14-17, 2010. The conference has national and regional speakers who will be speaking on today's important issues including sustainability, green building practices, green house gas issues and environmental public policy issues. All NAEP members are invited. See Flyer information at the CAEP web page www.aep.org or go to <http://www.aep2010.com/program.asp>. Ron Deverman, President of NAEP, is the keynote speaker at the CAEP breakfast on March 16th. He will present a great overview and current vision of NAEP, where the national organization is going with its future, including an update on the Affiliation Agreement. The NAEP booth and membership materials, NAEP Conference materials, and ABCEP materials will be displayed at this conference. ABCEP will be represented very well as well. This will be a great conference! We are looking forward to your attendance and hope to see you there in March 2010!

The California Chapter of NAEP supports the Jim Roberts Memorial Fund by providing our matching funds of \$10,000 to NAEP for this very worthy program.

Each spring the CAEP sponsors a series of advanced workshops across California concerning updates to the California Environmental Quality Act. The spring 2010 workshops will be held at 12 locations Statewide in April 2010. For more information go to www.califaep.org, look under Events for the CEQA workshops.

The CAEP is actively working with NAEP on the "New" revised Affiliation Agreement for 2010. The Affiliation Agreement is very important to the CAEP. The Affiliation Agreement with NAEP will be fully evaluated during this year and brought to the CAEP Board for consideration for approval in November 2010. The CAEP Board will decide if it will renew the Affiliation Agreement at this meeting. Stay tuned to see how the Affiliation Agreement process turns out.



Georgia Association of Environmental Professionals Chapter Report

The Georgia Association of Environmental Professionals (GAEP) has a new board for 2010:

President – Katherine Atteberry, katherine.atteberry@jacobs.com

Vice President – Matt Peavy, mattpeevy@gmail.com

Secretary – Jason Lancaster, jlancaster@trcsolutions.com

Treasurer – Kevin Middlebrooks, kmiddlebrooks@ESINC.CC

Social Events Director – Jennie Agerton, jennie_agerton@urscorp.com

Membership Director – Daniel Ramsay, ramsaydb@obg.com

Newsletter Director – Alex Levy, alex.levy@arcadis-us.com

In addition to the NAEP Annual Conference that will be held in Atlanta at the end of April, GAEP is working on the 2010 schedule of activities for the membership that includes alternating Lunch 'n Learn programs and networking events. To learn more about upcoming chapter events please visit www.gaep.org, or join us on LinkedIn or Facebook.

Don't forget, the early registration deadline for the 2010 Annual Conference is March 1st. We look forward to seeing you in Atlanta!



Illinois Association of Environmental Professionals Chapter Report

IAEP celebrates its 35th anniversary in 2010! The IAEP board plans on celebrating and strengthening the association through involvement and a membership drive.

In February, President Nathan Quaglia, due to an overwhelming work schedule stepped down and the board voted to have Robert Sliwinski take over as President for 2010. IAEP plans on having a 35th anniversary dinner meeting in April, a student career conference in May and a golf outing in September.

IAEP is very fortunate to be heavily involved with NAEP. Recently, past president Ron Deverman was elected as President of NAEP. We heartily congratulate him. Additionally, former President Dr. James Montgomery is currently the Lead Editor of NAEP's journal *Environmental Practice*. Dr. Kelly Tzoumis, board member, is also co-editor of *Environmental Practice* and now IAEP's liaison to NAEP.

As of 2009 IAEP has 66 members and 9 NAEP members. A membership drive has been proposed to reach out to lapsed and past members, governmental agencies and universities.

NAEP Members Receive Discount for NEPA training

Northwest Environmental Training Center offers a \$100 discount for NAEP members. "Writing the perfect EA/FONSI or EIS," a 2-day training program, is presented by NAEP member Owen L Schmidt. The next course is in Phoenix, March 30-31, 2010. This training course will present the NEPA practitioner a set of practical skills for preparing either an Environmental Assessment (EA) / Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) or Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and includes all the required content, as well as skills for safely leaving out content that is not necessary. Thus the descriptor "perfect" refers to both the necessary and unnecessary content. NEPA lessons learned will come from various project examples. Major themes include: how to make the findings required by law; timing the NEPA process to the decision making process; all eight good legal reasons not to prepare an EIS; scoping a reasonable range of alternatives; writing the "perfect" cumulative effects analysis; and the administrative record. Information provided includes a substantial handout with graphic models, case lists that support the models, and sample documents as well as presentation of graphical illustrations of the models. Each attendee will be able to take the handout home to serve as a reference in the workplace.

Contact: http://nwetc.org/pol-302_03-10_phoenix.htm or NWETC (206)762-1976.



Northwest Association of Environmental Professionals Chapter Report

NWAEP is currently soliciting nominations for people interested in serving on our Board of Directors. Please send nominee contact information and a brief bio to nwaepemail@verizon.net. The election will be held at the end of March, with results finalized during the annual meeting.

Join us for our Annual Meeting to be held on March 31st at BridgePort BrewPub in northwest Portland. Networking starts at 5:30. If you are planning to attend, please RSVP to nwaepemail@verizon.net.

January's NWAEP event was well attended. Mark Rosen from the City of Portland's Bureau of Environmental Services gave a lively and informative presentation on the city's Grey to Green program. Check our website nwaep.org for upcoming monthly programs.



Pennsylvania Association of Environmental Professionals Chapter Report

The PAEP Board held their annual one-day retreat and election of 2010 officers in January. Virginia Bailey was re-elected to serve as President for a second year. Duane Peters was elected the new Vice President; Camille Otto was re-elected Treasurer for a second year; and Crystal Quintin was re-elected Secretary for a second year. Thanks to outgoing Board member Jeff Luzenski for serving two terms on the Board. We welcome Jenn Granger to the Board. PAEP thanks all of our directors, section chairs, and others for their time and leadership!

Our annual conference will be May 12th-14th in eastern PA. We'll be commemorating the 25th Year of PAEP with a great conference program being developed by the conference planning committee, chaired by Camille Otto. Happy 25th Anniversary to PAEP!

As part of its website, the PAEP recently launched the PAEP Forum (<http://www.paep.org/forum>). It's a great place to start dialogue on various environmental topics and discuss PAEP business. New to PAEP and the message board is the PAEP Book Club lead by Crystal Quintin. The first title is *The Omnivore's Dilemma: A Natural History of Four Meals* by Michael Pollan.

Also new this year is the PAEP Member Awards program. Three awards will be given to: the young professional of the year, the Founders Award (to a general member who has exemplified the ideals of the PAEP founding members), and the corporate member of the year.

Events

Western Section: "The Marcellus Shale: What is the role of the environmental consulting community?", February 12th

Central Section: An update from the Sierra Club, February 18th and TMDL issues, including the mega Chesapeake Bay TMDL, at EPA 3 on March 18th

Eastern Section: Environmental Trivia Night, February 25, 2010

Environmental Practice

Journal of the National Association of Environmental Professionals

Editorial Office

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Chicago, Illinois 60614

The following survey is intended to help the *Environmental Practice* editorial office determine what aspects of the journal are most important to our readership, as well as what areas of study are of particular interest as we plan our strategic goals for the coming year. The survey will be online for 30 days, and your responses will help us expand the journal's content in ways that will be relevant to your professional needs.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/NAEPEPMarch2010survey>

Please take a minute to provide your opinion so we can improve your publication. Responses are due on April 16th, 2010.

Please feel free to contact me with questions or comments.

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Become a Certified Environmental Professional (CEP)

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Certification Opportunities

Certification is available in five areas:

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Beginning in 1979, experienced environmental professionals were able to become certified through a comprehensive peer-reviewed process reflecting years of experience, responsibility, and knowledge. Certifications are nationally-recognized and available for federal/state/local agency staff, consultants, researchers, compliance managers, enforcement officials, and activists. Initially offered as a certification through the National Association of Environmental Professionals, in 1993, the national certification became a stand-alone entity and in 1999 an independent non-profit organization.

Certified individuals maintain his/her knowledge, experience, and credentials through continuing education, teaching, mentoring, publishing papers, and complying with the Code of Ethics. The Council of Engineering and Scientific Specialty Boards (CESB, www.cesb.org) accepted ABCEP for membership and accredited the CEP certification.

Certification brings heightened confidence with documents, evaluations, and decisions issued by a CEP. Certified individuals satisfy the requirements outlined by the USEPA, ASTM, and other regulatory agencies, which provides assurance to employers and customers. For the individual, certification increases opportunities for promotions, marketability, and career advancement.

Find a CEP

Have an environmental question, situation, or project and need help?...find a CEP through a new online feature...member search. The member search portal enables anyone to search listed CEPs using a keyword/specialty area, location, or by name. Besides linking information seekers with knowledgeable CEPs, it also enables CEPs to search for other CEPs when confronting situations outside his/her circle of expertise. This searchable database adds a new benefit to employers and customers by adding value to the individual CEP's marketability. Find the search portal at www.abcep.org.

Become a CEP

Do you or your staff have the knowledge, skills, and experience to be a CEP? Many public and private sector employers recognize the CEP as a threshold to obtain for promotion eligibility. Find out more on www.abcep.org.

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ABCEP offers mentoring and a CEP-In Training (CEP-IT) designation to junior and mid-level professionals developing towards CEP eligibility. CEP-IT increases individual and firm marketability, enhanced career opportunities, and enhanced networking opportunities.

MORE INFORMATION: Contact ABCEP at office@abcep.org; www.abcep.org; or 1.866.767.8073

Have an upcoming meeting and need a speaker? Speaker opportunities by CEPs about ABCEP are available in certain geographic locations.



Call for papers for publication in the scholarly journal:

Environmental Practice

The journal of the National Association of Environmental Professionals

SEPTEMBER 2010
vol. 12 no. 3

Editor Dr. James Montgomery

The September 2010 issue of *Environmental Practice* has no specific theme, although the editorial office is actively seeking manuscripts on the subject of environmental ethics, as well as the current status and future prospects of jobs in the environmental professions. Manuscripts are also welcome on a variety of subjects

Of interest to environmental professionals. Perspectives are welcome from scholars, practitioners, and students.

**Deadline for submittals is
April 1, 2010 to
dcarro17@depaul.edu**

**Sample issues of the journal
can be found at:**

[http://journals.cambridge.org/action/
displayJournal?jid=ENP](http://journals.cambridge.org/action/displayJournal?jid=ENP)

WATER
vol. 12 no. 4

Editor Dr. James Montgomery

Manuscripts are sought with an emphasis on wastewater, whether in terms of recycling, treatment, or quality; surface water quality; stormwater treatment and reuse; drinking water quantity, quality, treatment, and reuse; urban demand and conservation measures; non-sustainable water uses; farming use and groundwater depletion; watershed planning and management; water rights; rivers, wetlands, and oceans; invasive aquatic species; and innovative treatment methodologies, or means for extending freshwater supplies in a world of growing demand. Perspectives are welcome from scholars, practitioners, and students.

**Deadline for submittals is
July 15, 2010 to
dcarro17@depaul.edu**

For questions, please contact
Dr. Montgomery at 773-325-2771
or by email at
jmontgom@depaul.edu

Guidelines for publication can be found at:
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