

Let's Talk Trash

December 2015 Edition

Volume 15, No. 3

December 2015 What's Inside

[Jake Daugherty – An Environmental Experience 1](#)

[Job Hazard Analysis – Preparing for a Safer Work Environment 2](#)

[NM SWANA priorities, values revitalized during planning meeting..... 2](#)

[Chapter Officers and Chairpersons for 2016-2017 3](#)

[SWANA CEO and Executive Director David Biderman to be Keynote Speaker at Chapter's Annual Meeting on December 11, 2015 4](#)

[SWANA International Develops Joint Response to Address National Recycling Issues With Two Leading Recycling Organizations 4](#)

[First Collection Center Class Training A Success 6](#)

[SWANA Expands Safety Program Initiatives 6](#)

Jake Daugherty An Environmental Experience by Jack Chappelle, Engineering Solutions & Design

Mr. Daugherty has been working in the environmental field for more than 23 years. His experience has ranged from addressing groundwater contamination in Albuquerque to industrial hygiene at the national laboratories in Los Alamos. Over these 23 years, Jake developed an interest in environmental services that ultimately led him to his present position as Environmental Compliance Coordinator for the Disposal Division of the Solid Waste Management Department at the City of Albuquerque.

Mr. Daugherty was born in Plymouth, Indiana and soon moved to Mississippi. His time in Mississippi was fairly uneventful except for the sense of inequity he felt for the different races in the state. When Jake was seven, his family relocated to Albuquerque.

When his family arrived in Albuquerque, Jake was enrolled at Alameda Elementary School. He completed his course work at Alameda Elementary School and then went to Kennedy Middle School and Manzano High School. He graduated from high school in 1992. After high school, Jake attended the Albuquerque Technical Vocation Institute (TVI) and began his schooling in Environmental Protection Technology.

After completing his two-year degree in Environmental Protection Technology, Jake began work in the environmental field with Phillips Semiconductor, working in the industrial hygiene section for three years. During this time he developed experience in the various aspects of working with hazardous materials, methods to



control exposure to these materials, and approaches to ensure a safe environment for Phillips Semiconductor employees.

When an opportunity to work with Los Alamos National Laboratory opened up, Mr. Daugherty jumped at the chance. The position at Los Alamos was as an industrial hygienist; however, Mr. Daugherty would work with a different type of hazardous material than he did at Phillips Semiconductor. Although Jake enjoyed the work, the commute to Los Alamos and the challenges of raising a son as a single parent were daunting.

Jake left Los Alamos National Laboratories and accepted a position with Raytheon to remediate a chemical waste landfill at Sandia National Laboratories. This was Mr. Daugherty's first opportunity to work at a landfill. After completing his assignment at the chemical waste landfill, Jake worked with Peak Environmental Services to help manage wastes generated by PNM operations. This work allowed him the opportunity to identify different methods for handling and disposing of a variety of wastes.

continued on page 2

published by

**SOLID WASTE ASSOCIATION
OF NORTH AMERICA,
NEW MEXICO
ROADRUNNER CHAPTER**

**6110 Bellamah Ave NE
Albuquerque, NM 87110**

505.363.4795

www.nmswana.com

Jake Daugherty (continued from page 1)

After more than three years of working with PNM, Jake accepted a position with the City of Albuquerque Solid Waste Management Department.

His first duties with the City of Albuquerque involved checking water levels in monitoring wells at closed landfills within the city and taking gas readings at these landfills. He subsequently assumed the position of Environmental Compliance Officer at the Cerro Colorado Landfill. At present he is working on the installation of permanent litter fences, expansion of the landfill gas collection system, organizing and coordinating all files at the land-

fill, and creating electronic files of all the information at the landfill.

Mr. Daugherty has been a SWANA member for two years. His first interaction with SWANA was his attendance at the Landfill Gas Symposium in Atlanta, Georgia. At this symposium Jake was able to make contact with a number of people and found the networking capabilities of SWANA very useful. He also found the course material and the presentations useful and the information more than adequate. He believes that SWANA provides an opportunity to meet like-minded people and to have access to solid waste training.

Job Hazard Analysis – Preparing for a Safer Work Environment

by Ross Muir and Randy Watkins, Santa Fe Solid Waste Management Agency

A job hazard analysis (JHA) is a technique that is used by the Santa Fe Solid Waste Management Agency (SFSWMA) that focuses on job tasks so that hazards can be identified before they occur. JHA reviews the relationship between the worker, the task, the tools, and the work environment. JHA includes watching the employee perform a job and listing each step that the worker takes. It is important to record enough information to describe each job action without getting overly detailed. When preparing a JHA, try to avoid making the breakdown of steps so detailed that it becomes unnecessarily long or so broad that it does not include basic steps. A job hazard analysis is an exercise in detective work. Our goal (and your goal) is to discover the following:

- What can go wrong?
- What are the consequences?
- What are the contributing factors?
- How likely is it that the hazard will occur?

The order of priority and effectiveness of hazard control include engineering controls, such as:

- Elimination/minimization of the hazard.

- Substitution of equipment or process to decrease the hazard.
- Isolation of the hazard with interlocks, machine guards, blast shields, or other means.

Administrative controls, such as:

- Buddy system.
- Written operating procedures, work permits, knowledge of safe work practices, and training.
- Exposure time limitations (used most commonly to control heat stress and ergonomic hazards).
- Monitoring the use of highly hazardous materials.
- Alarms, signs, and warnings.

Personal Protective Equipment – acceptable in the following circumstances:

- When engineering controls are not feasible or do not totally eliminate the hazard;
- While engineering controls are being developed;
- When safe work practices do not provide sufficient additional protection; and
- During emergencies when engineering controls may not be feasible.

Periodic review of the job hazard analysis should ensure that it remains current and continues to help reduce workplace accidents and injuries. You and others at your facility may identify hazards that were not identified in the initial analysis. Therefore, it is essential to review the job hazard analysis if an illness or injury occurs. The job hazard analysis may need a modification of the specific job procedure in order to prevent similar incidents in the future. Also, it is important to train all employees affected by the updated procedure(s) to help ensure that the new job methods, procedures, and protective measures are adopted.

JHA is a valuable tool that can improve worker productivity and reduce cost by reducing injuries and illness; reducing days away from work or days transferred elsewhere; and, reducing workman compensation claims.



NM SWANA priorities, values revitalized during planning meeting

by Joan M. Snider, NMED Solid Waste Bureau, Outreach Section

The NM SWANA Board of Directors and a few invited guests revisited the group's mission and goals during a day-long meeting on Oct. 23 in Albuquerque. Led by facilitator Rich Nelson and informed by results of a membership survey, the participants wrestled with questions of mission, core values, and what success looks like. The group drafted a new statement of mission and core values:

Mission: NM SWANA inspires and supports solid waste professionals to responsibly manage solid waste resources. In carrying out its mission, NM SWANA programs and activities will be guided by its core values:

- **Professionalism:** We will treat each other, our clients and partners, and our environment with respect, reliability, and competence; and

- **Stewardship:** We will ensure that our programs and actions promote and enhance health and safety and responsible care for our environment.

The draft statement will be adopted by the board at its next business meeting. After considering feedback gleaned through an online survey (see sidebar), the group also agreed to focus on developing new and updated training programs as its primary strategic initiative for the next 15 to 18 months. The effort will consider improving topics, venues and delivery options, funding sources and marketing for these trainings. Other initiatives to be explored include developing an accessible information resource base, such as through a listserv or web forum; and expanding partnerships with other organizations.

Survey says: Solid waste professionals want training and professional development NM SWANA should prioritize training, professional development, and networking opportunities, according to respondents to a survey conducted in August and September 2015. Thirty-eight people, including 23 members and 15 non-members, participated in the brief online strategic planning survey.

Public outreach and lobbying were the activities given the lowest priority. One-day trainings, the annual meeting, and email announcements are the most valuable services and activities NM SWANA offers, according to the survey. High membership fees and heavy workload were cited as the main reasons respondents were not SWANA members.

NM SWANA Roadrunner Chapter Officers and Chairpersons for 2016-2017 Elected by Ballots of the Chapter Membership

OFFICERS:

President: Charles Fiedler
Vice President: Randal Watkins
Treasurer: Joan M. Snider
Secretary: Stephen Miceli
Past President: David Robinson
International Board Representative: Danita Boettner

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS:

Communications Committee: Jerry Kamieniecki
Education Committee: Terrence Nelson
IB Board Committee: Danita Boettner
Membership Committee: Marcia Pincus

APPOINTED POSITIONS:

Road-E-O Committee Chair: Randal Watkins
Safety Ambassador: David Robinson



SWANA CEO and Executive Director David Biderman to be Keynote Speaker at Chapter's Annual Meeting on December 11, 2015

by Jerry Kamieniecki, Consultant

The NM Mexico Roadrunner Chapter of SWANA is pleased to announce that David Biderman, SWANA's new CEO and Executive Director, has agreed to be the Keynote Speaker at its Annual Meeting on Friday, December 11, 2015 at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Albuquerque, NM. All SWANA members as well as the public are invited to attend this meeting. A formal meeting announcement and registration form are available from NM SWANA's home page at www.nmswana.com. Mr. Biderman will discuss various topics that SWANA is currently addressing, including:

Topics discussed will be:

- Affinity Program to assist with future revenue generation
- Establishing a Safety Ambassador for each Chapter
- Summary of Controversy Concerning the Continued Support of Recycling
- Continued Development of Young Professionals Program
- Upcoming SWANA Events

The Chapter's Annual Meeting will also feature presentations from other professionals in the solid waste/materials management industry. These additional presentations include:

Auralie Ashley-Marx (NMED/Solid Waste Bureau Chief), Marcia Pincus (SCS Engineers) and David Robinson (City of Albuquerque Solid Waste Management Department, and outgoing NM SWANA President).

Shortly after the Annual Meeting, the Chapter will host an informational Round Table meeting. This meeting is a moderated forum for exchanging information, sharing industry trends, and asking questions. All Annual Meeting attendees are invited to attend the Round Table meeting.

SWANA International Develops Joint Response to Address National Recycling Issues With Two Leading Recycling Organizations

by Jerry Kamieniecki, Consultant

(Note: Parts of this article include excerpts of correspondence between SWANA, the SWANA International Board, the Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries, and Keep America Beautiful.)

Recently, John Tierney of the New York Times published an opinion piece that disparaged recycling. Prior to publication of his article on October 3, 2015, Tierney spoke with Executive Director David Biderman and Deputy Executive Director Sara Bixby, as well as other individuals in reference to the upcoming article. The input Biderman provided to the NY Times was consistent with SWANA's long-standing support of recycling as a part of the national solid waste infrastructure and also with the recent Joint Advisory on Recycling Contracting approved by the SWANA International Board. Tierney's article did not mention SWANA or Biderman by name. However, Tierney has held and shared negative impressions of recycling dating back to a similar 1996 New York Times article.

SWANA acknowledges that recycling faces a number challenges currently. Acknowledging those challenges does not mean SWANA is giving up on the need

to reduce reliance on disposal and to conserve resources; nor does it mean that SWANA has given up on the importance of recycling as a component of our national solid waste management system.

In order to respond to the NY Times' article in the most professional and persuasive way, SWANA partnered with two like-minded recycling organizations (e.g., the Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries; Keep America Beautiful) to develop a joint opinion piece that rebuts the Tierney article. Among the many facts and conclusions included in the rebuttal, the three organizations stress the following:

"Recent media reports have painted a confusing and misinformed picture of recycling, call it wasteful, ineffective, and costly. Unfortunately, these articles completely overlook the positive economic impact of this activity on the U.S. economy."

"The economic impact of recycling can not be ignored. The reality is that recycling is an important part of our national infrastructure, providing an effective and currently irreplaceable means of reducing landfill space and transforming end-of-life products and materials into valuable materials that are used to manufacture new products."

The joint opinion piece was submitted to the NY Times and other media, and a copy of the letter is provided on the next page of this newsletter.

As stated by Mr. Biderman on October 27, 2015, "Being more visible in the media, having a strong federal advocacy presence, and developing a safety program are part of our effort to implement the Strategic Plan's vision for SWANA to be the innovative leader to reinvent the industry."

Recent media reports have painted a confusing and misinformed picture of recycling, calling it wasteful, ineffective, and costly. Unfortunately, these articles completely overlook the positive economic impact of this activity on the U.S. economy. The reality is that recycling in the United States is a vibrant activity and a key driver in domestic and global manufacturing, supplying more than 130 million tons annually of scrap metals, paper, electronics, plastics, rubber, glass, and textiles for manufacture into new products. The business of recycling represents nearly \$106 billion in annual economic activity and is responsible for 471,587 direct and indirect U.S. jobs, generating more than \$4.3 billion in state and local revenues annually, and another \$6.76 billion in federal taxes.

The environmental impact of recycling cannot be ignored. The reality is that recycling is an important part of our national infrastructure, providing an effective and currently irreplaceable means of reducing landfill space and transforming end-of-life products and materials into valuable materials that are used to manufacture new products. Numerous independent studies have shown that recycling offers environmental benefits over landfilling and incineration. Among the most important are the reduction in energy use to manufacture with recycled feedstock (compared to using virgin material) and the very dramatic reduction in air pollutants, including greenhouse gas emissions, as a result of reduced energy usage. The U.S. EPA found that municipal recycling and composting in 2013 reduced carbon dioxide emissions by 186 million tons, comparable to annual emissions from more than 39 million passenger cars.

Yes, some segments of the recycling industry—particularly those that handle municipal recyclables—are currently experiencing unique challenges as a result of a changing business model and increasing quality concerns. In those segments, decreased commodity prices combined with efforts to make recycling more convenient for consumers have affected both the economics and the processing requirements for recyclables. However, it is important to recognize that the public and private entities involved with municipal recycling are taking proactive steps to address program funding and material quality to offset lower commodity prices. It is also important to put municipal recycling in perspective. Although it manages more than 80 million tons annually, this effort accounts for less than half of the total recycling activity occurring in the United States each year.

Unfortunately, by narrowly focusing on certain negative details while lumping everything else together, the media reports effectively discourage people from recycling altogether. This would be a major setback for U.S. residents and future generations, and it is why as an industry, organizations such as ISRI, Keep America Beautiful, and the Solid Waste Association of North America partner to showcase the enormous environmental and economic benefits of recycling. With America Recycles Day approaching on November 15, let's focus on what works, address the challenges, better engage the public on what to recycle, and develop the processes, technology, and markets needed to expand robust, sustainable recycling. Turning our backs on recycling altogether would significantly hurt the U.S. balance of trade, reduce jobs in the recycling industry, manufacturing that has come to rely on recyclables as a feedstock, the environment, and sustainable materials management. That would be a major step backward for our country and the health of the planet.

Robin K. Wiener
President, Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries

Jennifer M. Jehn
President and CEO, Keep America Beautiful

David Biderman
Executive Director and CEO, Solid Waste Association of North America

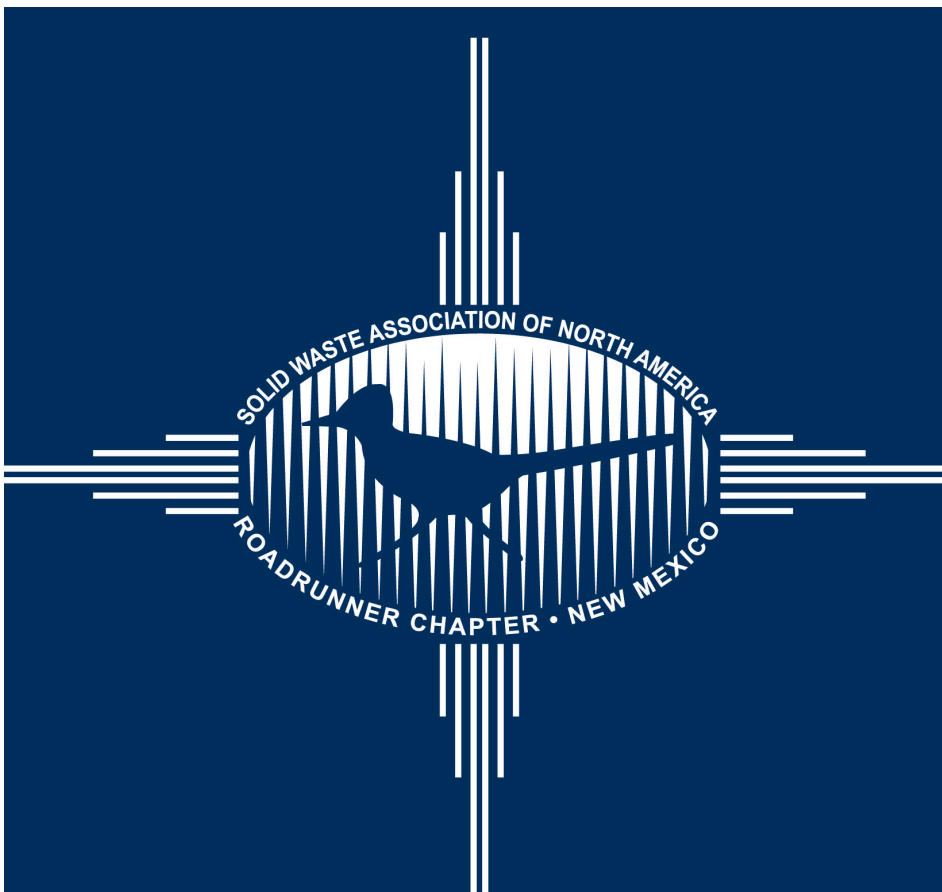
First Collection Center Class Training A Success

by Terry Nelson, Nelson Consulting,
LLC and NM SWANA Teaching Coordinator

From August 25-27, 2015 a first-of-its-kind training class for collection center operators was offered by the New Mexico Environment Department Solid Waste Bureau (NMED), New Mexico SWANA (NMSWAMA) and the New Mexico Recycling Coalition (NMRC). Day one was taught by NMED staff, day 2 by NM SWANA members, and day 3 by NMRC members. The training class was held at the City of Albuquerque Fire Academy Training Center. In all, forty-six attendees enrolled in the class. All aspects of collection centers were covered from regulatory issues, to health and safety, to design and operations, and to recycling and diversion. In addition, the class visited the Santa Ana Pueblo Collection Center.

The training class did not provide “certification” for attendees, as collection center operators are not required by the NM Solid Waste Rules to have a “certified operator,” but the class did provide specific training information for employees at collection centers. In addition, the training class allowed participants to earn 24 CEU's, which can be used by currently Certified Operators toward the renewal of their NMED Certification in the future.

All reviews from the attendees seemed to be positive for the class and we hope this training might continue to be offered in the future. Watch the SWANA website (nmswana.com) at the first of 2016 for upcoming training events.



SWANA Expands Safety Program Initiatives

by Jerry Kamieniecki, Consultant

Based on studies that evaluate workplace hazards, injuries and death, waste collection workers have the fifth highest fatality rate in the United States. The injury/illness rate for waste collection workers is increasing and remains high for Materials Recovery Facilities and Landfill employees. In addition, there are also daily accidents and frequent fires involving trucks and facilities.

As part of SWANA's mission to renew and upgrade safety initiatives, it plans to focus on reducing accidents and injuries. Also, SWANA is expanding its safety program by creating a “Safety Ambassador” at the chapter level. To support this new initiative, SWANA chapters are being asked to identify a member who will serve as the chapter's Safety Ambassador.

By expanding the Association's safety program, SWANA hopes to:

- Create a chapter-level safety resource that members can go to with questions;
- Provide a person in the chapter who will receive and distribute safety-related information between SWANA HQ and the chapter;
- Demonstrate the renewed emphasis on safety at the chapter level at SWANA; and
- Create additional leadership opportunities at the chapter level.

SWANA is asking that each Chapter designate a Safety Ambassador, preferably, by December 31, 2015. In early 2016, SWANA will hold a webinar for the Safety Ambassadors to define expectations and responsibilities, and to provide training on SWANA processes.