

December 10, 2013

Flash No. 41

### December Luncheon

Our Speaker for the **December 11, 2013** luncheon (11:30 am – 1:30 pm at the Hotel Tucson, 475 North Granada Avenue) will be **Mr. Carlos Lopez, PE of Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT)**. In March of 2011, ADOT kicked off a study to consider the feasibility of connecting Tucson and Phoenix with a passenger rail system. Since that time the team has been working through an alternative evaluation process, and is currently recommending three final alternatives for further evaluation. This presentation will provide an update on the progress of the study and next steps in the process.

**NOTE: There will be no regular luncheon meeting in January due to the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) Seminar, which will be held on January 29, 2014.**

Stay tuned for more information on the seminar.

### October Luncheon Summary

ALCOA Fastening Systems presented at the October 30th SAEMS Luncheon. Each team member (Marianne Zelonis, Marissa Reyes, Cari Cunningham, and Cynthia Thompson) presented on their program efforts to be environmentally sustainable in their business. They each work as members of various internal teams, such as safety, recycling, and wellness, to increase awareness and participation among all the employees. These teams are designed to strengthen the impacts of their sustainability efforts in the environmental arena.

ALCOA is an ISO 9001 and ISO 14001 certified facility. They spoke on the various efforts undertaken to conserve energy, conserve water, and reduce the amount of waste that's sent to the landfill. One example was about how they plan to install a rainwater harvesting system for their landscaping water; it will save them 54,000 gallons per year in water usage. Another includes their recycling of #5 plastics that previously went to the landfill as Tucson does not yet recycle these plastics. The employees came together and built sorting racks for these particular plastics (small buckets with lids) so they could easily collect and send them out to the nearest recycler.

ALCOA's efforts in environmental sustainability is a great example of how businesses of any size can truly make an impact on the local level and bring awareness on the national level. Way to go ALCOA!



### Annual SAEMS Scholarship Applications Due March 2, 2014

The SAEMS application form for University of Arizona environmental studies scholarships for the 2014-2015 academic year is now available! Approximately \$10,000 in scholarships will be awarded to several undergraduate and graduate students. Applications accepted beginning in December 2013 (upon receipt of Fall 2013 grades), and are due no later than March 2, 2014. Finalists will be contacted for interviews with the SAEMS Scholarship Committee, and winners will be invited to introduce themselves at a SAEMS luncheon meeting. The scholarship applications are available on the SAEMS website at [http://www.saems.org/scholarships\\_frameset.htm](http://www.saems.org/scholarships_frameset.htm). For more information contact B.J. Cordova, (520) 481-3223 or [bj.cordova@tucsonaz.gov](mailto:bj.cordova@tucsonaz.gov). Last year's scholarship winners were noted in the People In Action section of Inside Tucson Business in September.

### P2 Seminar and HMMC Course Summaries

The annual Pollution Prevention (P2) seminar was held on September 25, 2013. A total of 52 attendees participated in the morning P2 certification and training session and attended the afternoon featured speakers session, which included Dr. Dylan Boday of IBM, Doug Crockett of City of Tucson, Greg Garfin of The University of Arizona, Grant McCormick of The University of Arizona, Ken Alward of Hilton Hotels, and Barry Rinehart of Central Arizona Project. A total of \$2,400 was raised for the SAEMS scholarship fund.

### New ASTM E1527-05 Phase I ESA Standard

The ASTM standard used to define good commercial and customary practice for conducting Phase I Environmental Site Assessments (ESAs) was published November 2013 (ASTM E1527-13). Key revisions are changes to the definitions of recognized environmental conditions (RECs) and historical RECs (HRECs), and the addition of "controlled" RECs (CREC); clarification of the consideration of vapor migration risks during the assessment; and specifying requirements for regulatory agency file reviews by the environmental professional. Other revisions and editorial changes have also been made.

### PAYMENT TIP:

SAEMS lunch and seminar attendees are requested to use PayPal for payments whenever possible. Financial charges for using PayPal are about 2.7% and the charge for using a credit card averages 4.8%. Last fiscal year SAEMS spent \$1,600 on financial fees. If everyone used PayPal, we could cut the costs in half and have \$1,000 more for scholarships. As an added bonus, pre-paying on PayPal allows members to fast forward through the lunch or seminar check-in line.

### SAEMS Adopt A Highway Cleanup

The November SAEMS Adopt A Highway Cleanup was rained out. The next event is scheduled for **Saturday December 14, 2013**. Volunteers will meet at 8:00 AM sharp at the Sonoita exit, off of I-10. Park in the dirt lot south of I-10. We will leave the parking area by 8:10 AM after the safety meeting. SAEMS volunteers for a one-mile stretch of highway east of the Sonoita exit. Volunteers must be 12 years of age or older and if under 18, accompanied by a parent or guardian. Volunteers should wear long pants, long sleeves, closed toe shoes, hat, and sunscreen. SAEMS will provide safety vests, leather gloves, litter grabbers, and collection bags. Also bottled water and snacks will be available. SAEMS will host a lunch at the Triple T truck stop after the cleanup. A prize will be given for the most interesting treasure found. Please contact the event coordinator, Dan Williams, at [Daniel.Williams@uahealth.com](mailto:Daniel.Williams@uahealth.com) to RSVP or if you have questions.

### **Certified Hazardous Materials Manager (CHMM) Training Course Summary**

*From Attendee Heather Spitzer*

In November, 20 environmental and safety professionals attended the Certified Hazardous Materials Manager (CHMM) Preparation Course in Tucson. The class was sponsored by SAEMS and brought in \$4,700 for the SAEMS scholarship fund. The course is designed to prepare professionals in taking the CHMM exam that goes towards obtaining professional certification. The certification requires knowledge across a broad spectrum of environmental and safety topics, such as chemical handling and transportation all the way to radiation hazards and shielding.

While the information seemed quite overwhelming at times (e.g., there are so many regulations), everyone seemed to enjoy the class. We all met new people, learned new things, and were allowed to ask whatever sorts of questions we had in regard to any of the course topics. The instructors were great at answering all of our questions and showing how it would be applied in the safety/environmental fields we work in. The instructors were also helpful in pointing out specific material that would definitely be on the exam and directed us in various ways we could effectively prepare for it. Unfortunately, we did learn that we would be a part of the "privileged" who will take the newer and more difficult version of the exam since it was recently updated. However, we are undaunted by the challenge and look forward to joining the CHMM ranks. CHMM certification is a great accomplishment for all safety/environmental professionals who work each day around various chemical hazards.

We are all grateful to Richard Cartwright, PE, CHMM for presenting this course so we can grow and market ourselves professionally. Even for those who may not go on to obtain the certification, the course brought a lot of usable information for everyone.

So look out world, because there will soon be 20 more people here in Tucson with an alphabet extending beyond their surnames!



### **Member News and Announcements**

**Richard Carter** of **Carter Associates** sent in a list of finalists from the "**Chief Financial Officer 2013 Awards**" posted in the October 4, 2013 issue of *Inside Tucson Business*. Congratulations to SAEMS Member/Sponsor, **Elsie Genova**, Vice President of **Poly Print, Inc.**, who was one of four honorees in the Small Business category!

**Apache Nitrogen Products, Inc.** has posted a job opening for an **Environmental Air Specialist**. For more information, visit their website at [www.apachenitro.com](http://www.apachenitro.com).

**Mr. Fred Hayes** of **Republic Services** sent an introduction for a new member of their Zone 2 Special Waste Sales team: "We are glad to welcome **Brandon Esquer**, Phoenix Metro special waste sales representative. Brandon is an Arizona native and an Arizona State University graduate, earning a bachelor of arts in education and a master's degree in business administration. Brandon has worked within the waste industry for the last 6 years and also brings over 10 years of professional sales experience to our team. Brandon's waste industry experience includes post collection sales in special waste and west region strategic sourcing management and negotiations. We welcome Brandon's industry knowledge and look forward to his ability to enhance our special waste sales efforts and customer service as well as build strategic relationships."



See the latest information on the SAEMS website, including luncheon and scholarship information, previous luncheon presentations, Trash & Bash updates, ADOT press release regarding our Trash & Bash volunteers, Executive Committee meeting notes, financial information, News Flash archives, etc.! Members can access the current membership directory under the Members tab on the website ([www.saems.org](http://www.saems.org)) or [Click Here](#), and then enter the member user name and password. New passwords will be sent out to current members soon, so watch your inboxes.

### **WRRC Brown Bag Seminars**

Attend the University of Arizona Water Resources Research Center weekly brown bag lunch seminars at the Sol Resnick Conference Room at 350 North Campbell Avenue. Please see their website at <http://wrrc.arizona.edu/events/brownbag> for a schedule of topics. For more information, contact Jane Cripps at [jcripps@cals.arizona.edu](mailto:jcripps@cals.arizona.edu) or (520) 621-2526.

### **AzRC Selected as a GREEN OUT Day Charity at 2014 Waste Management Phoenix Open!**

The Arizona Recycling Coalition has been selected as one of three benefiting charities in the Waste Management Phoenix Open GREEN OUT for Charity! On Saturday, February 1, 2014 the tournament is inviting everyone to participate in the fourth annual GREEN OUT. Waste Management and The Thunderbirds encourage players and tournament attendees to wear green and for every person who wears green on Saturday, tournament host, The Thunderbirds, will donate "green" to three charities. Now they need YOUR help by voting for Arizona Recycling Coalition on Facebook! Fran LaSala, Environmental Manager with the City of Tucson Environmental Services is an elected board member to the AZRC and would appreciate your support for the AZRC. All you have to do is go to the following link and vote for the AZRC. You can actually vote daily, so as they say in Chicago, vote early and vote often. The link is <http://ow.ly/qQmG7>.

**GREEN OUT  
FOR CHARITY**

This organization of professionals and citizens pledged to promoting recycling efforts in private, public, and non-profit sectors throughout Arizona.

