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One of the greatest problems of our time is that many  
are schooled but few are educated. – *Thomas Moore*

**EDITOR'S NOTE:**

**The next 2004 ICEHS E-News distribution date April 25<sup>th</sup>.  
Please send your submissions no later than April 15<sup>th</sup> in  
Word (attachment) to: (MGunnels@nhtsa.dot.gov).**

## **SECTION NEWS**

### **NOTES FROM THE CHAIR**

Another busy month for ICEHS! Thanks to all of you who are busily reviewing program abstracts. Several ICEHS members are planning to attend the World Injury conference in Vienna; keep an eye out for one another and say hello.

Did you realize that APHA has set up a “section listserv” for us? (That’s okay, I didn’t either!). I have just joined the Injury list and to the best of my knowledge, it isn’t well populated, and not too many section members are among those who do subscribe. So, why should I bother, you wonder? Well, for one thing, as chair, I get a lot of requests to forward information to all of you. I try to be selective about how many times I fill up your in boxes. But if you want to get more email about a broader range of injury-related topics, you should join this list. I will now post all information there that I don’t send on directly to you via the newsletter or the distribution list that I use to contact section members directly. If you don’t want too much email, you can ask for the digest version. How to subscribe? Visit <http://www.apha.org/private/group.htm> and click on the link for the lists. Or, simply send an email to [injury-l@liststar.apha.org](mailto:injury-l@liststar.apha.org) with the subject line SUBSCRIBE injury-l [note: that is an L, not a numeral one].

I also want to remind you that when you visit the ICEHS website, the username and password that we ask for there are NOT the same as the ones that APHA asks you for. To visit the members only portions of [www.icehs.org](http://www.icehs.org), please use the username of ICEHS (all caps) and the password of safety1st [kindly note, that is a numeral one, and not an L). Minutes of the section leadership calls are placed there as well as other materials that you may find of interest.

As I write this, another snow storm is winding down in New England. I hope all of you find your crocuses sprouting soon.

*- Anara Guard*

Anara Guard  
617-437-1500  
[anara@jointogether.org](mailto:anara@jointogether.org)

### **2004 SECTION AWARDS - CALL FOR NOMINATIONS**

The time for submitting nominations for ICEHS Section awards has arrived. The awards, a description of the recognition, past awardees, and the deadlines for submission are listed below. A form that may be used to nominate someone for one of the ICEHS Section awards is available electronically: <http://www.icehs.org/awards.pdf> (Adobe Acrobat) <http://www.icehs.org/awards.doc> (MS Word).

Please include a CV for the nominee with the form. A list of past awardees is included below. For more information, please visit: <http://www.icehs.org/awards.htm>.

Nomination forms should be returned to:

Larry Cohen  
ICEHS Nominations

Prevention Institute  
 265 29<sup>th</sup> St.  
 Oakland, CA 94611  
 Fax: (510) 663-1280  
 Email: [larry@Preventioninstitute.org](mailto:larry@Preventioninstitute.org)

**Nominations Deadline: For your nomination to be considered, it must be received by Friday, April 30, 2004 (the International Award deadline has passed).**

The ICEHS Section has the following awards for recognition of an individual's outstanding contributions to injury control and emergency health services:

**Distinguished Career Award**

For outstanding dedication and leadership in the area of injury research and teaching, with contributions and achievements that have significant and long-term impacts on the field.

**Public Service Award**

For outstanding dedication and leadership in injury prevention practice in the context of a governmental or non-profit organization, with contribution and achievements that have a significant and long-term impact on the field.

**Excellence in Science Award**

For outstanding dedication and leadership in the science of injury control and emergency health services with contributions and achievements that have significant and long-term impacts on the field.

**Student Paper Competition**

The purpose of the Injury Control and Emergency Health Services Student Paper Competition Award is to foster and reward quality research efforts among students involved in the field.

**ICEHS Awardees**

<b>Distinguished Career Award</b>	<b>Public Service Award Individual</b>
1989 - Julian Waller 1990 - Jess Kraus 1991 - Katherine Christoffel 1992 - Leon Robertson 1993 - Steve Teret 1994 - Pat Waller 1995 - Fred Rivara 1996 - Ellen MacKenzie 1997 - Jerome Barancik 1998 - David Boyd 1999 - Robert D. Verhalen 2000 - John D. States 2001 - Barbara Barlow 2002 - Frank A. Haight 2003 - Robert Sanders	1989 - Art Funke 1990 - Sarah Brady 1991 - David Heppel 1992 - Jack Finklea 1993 - Lois Fingerhut 1994 - Sue Gallagher 1995 - Rick Smith 1996 - Elizabeth McLoughlin 1997 - Murray Katcher 1998 - Andrew McGuire 1999 - Michael Finkelstein 2000 - Billie Weiss 2001 - Stephen Luchter 2002 - Sue Mallonee 2003 - Alex Kelter
<b>Public Service Award Institution</b>	
1996 - National Safe Kids 1997 - Insurance Institute for Highway Safety	

<b>Excellence in Science Award</b>	<b>International Distinguished Career Award</b>
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1998 - Carol Runyan 1999 - Ted Miller 2000 - Arthur Kellermann 2001 - Garen Wintemute 2002 - J. Lee Annest 2003 - Stephen Hargarten	1996 - Peter Vulcan 1998 - Leif Svanstrom 2000 - Dinesh Mohan 2002 - Barry Pless
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**Awards Committee Roster (Larry Cohen, Chair):**

1. Julian Waller
2. Janet A. Holden, PhD  
Child Passenger Safety Technician Instructor
3. Rick Smith  
Health Resources and Services Administration
4. Carol W. Runyan, MPH, PhD  
Director, UNC Injury Prevention Research Center  
Professor of Health Behavior and Health Education  
Professor of Pediatrics  
University of North Carolina
5. Alex Kelter  
California Department of Health Services
6. Billie P. Weiss, MPH  
Injury and Violence Prevention Program  
Violence Prevention Coalition of Greater Los Angeles
7. Lisa Hyde  
Intermountain Injury Control Research Center
8. Leif Svanström MD, PhD  
Professor  
Head of Division  
Karolinska Institute  
Department of Public Health Sciences  
Division of Social Medicine
9. Joanne Vincenten  
Director, European Child Safety Alliance

*- Larry Cohen*

**2004 CALENDAR: DON'T MISS THESE DATES!**

Please note the upcoming dates and deadlines for APHA and ICEHS.  
Watch future issues of the newsletter and your email for details.

**APRIL 16      DEADLINE FOR COMMENTS ON PROPOSED POLICY STATEMENTS.**

**MAY 30      ABSTRACT NOTIFICATIONS.**

**JUNE      ELECTIONS—DON'T FORGET TO VOTE!**

**AUGUST      ELECTION RESULTS!  
LATEBREAKER ABSTRACTS AND POSTERS DEADLINE.**

**NOVEMBER 6-10, 2004      ANNUAL MEETING, WASHINGTON DC**

## **MEMBERS MAKING NEWS!**

**Lisa Cohen Barrios** has been promoted to senior health scientist in the Research Application Branch of the Division of Adolescent and School Health of CDC. As RAB's senior health scientist, Lisa will lead the branch's research synthesis activities and launch new research synthesis and application activities around the cross-cutting issue of youth development.

**Mary Ann Gregor** (ICEHS Chair, 1998-99) will receive a Doctorate in Public Health from the University of Michigan on April 30. The title of her dissertation is "Recommended follow-up for acute pediatric conditions discharged from the emergency department: impact on subsequent utilization and costs".

**David Hemenway**, of the Harvard School of Public Health, has a new book published in early April. "Private Guns, Public Health" is published by the University of Michigan Press and presents a common sense plan for ending America's epidemic of gun violence. ICEHS members, note the dedication: "For my friends in injury prevention and control"!

**Karen Liller** has received funding from the National Children's Center for Rural and Agricultural Health and Safety to further develop and evaluate the Kids Count Farm Safety Program that now includes a community component. She will be teaching prevention of children's injuries workshops in Venezuela in the future.

**Any news in your life? Promotions? New and exciting jobs?**

Send your tidbits to: [MGunnels@nhtsa.dot.gov](mailto:MGunnels@nhtsa.dot.gov)

## **ICEHS WEBSITE TRAVELS FROM CALIFORNIA TO UTAH**

Soon, the ICEHS website (at [www.icehs.org](http://www.icehs.org)) will be moved from David Lawrence's server in San Diego, California to the Intermountain Injury Control Research Center in Salt Lake City, Utah. Members of the section will be notified once this server change is official. After this change, people should then begin sending any website changes to Lisa Hyde. Contact Lisa at (801) 581-5755 and [lisa.hyde@hsc.utah.edu](mailto:lisa.hyde@hsc.utah.edu).

Many thanks to David Lawrence for the tremendous job he has done over the years! - *Lisa Hyde*

## **NEWS AND MEETINGS**

### **JOHNS HOPKINS SUMMER INSTITUTE COMING IN JULY 2004**

Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health Summer Institute  
The Center for Injury Research & Policy 13th Annual Summer Institute:  
Principles and Practice of Injury Prevention July 11-16, 2004  
Baltimore, Maryland

This one week intensive training program is offered each summer to a class of 60 students interested in studying injury prevention and control. This year, the Institute is being held in July at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. The Institute uses a problem-solving paradigm to organize lectures, discussions and small group activities. At the beginning of the week, students are

given an injury problem of particular relevance or interest to them. Lectures subsequently address behavioral, biomechanical, environmental, epidemiological, legislative, policy and community partnership approaches to injury prevention and control. Throughout the week students utilize the skills, tools and knowledge gained from the presentations and interaction with the faculty to develop strategies for addressing real world injury problems. Students who choose to attend the Institute for academic credit will be evaluated on their participation in group exercises and a final paper. For those who do not choose to apply for academic credit, a certificate of attendance is distributed at the end of the week. CHES credits are also available.

Please see the Center's Website for additional information about the Summer Institute:

[http://www.jhsph.edu/InjuryCenter/summer\\_institute/index.html](http://www.jhsph.edu/InjuryCenter/summer_institute/index.html)

For a schedule and application please contact:

Sharon Cullinane, Co-Director

[scullina@jhsph.edu](mailto:scullina@jhsph.edu)

Tel: (410) 955-2636 Fax: (410) 614-2797

Center for Injury Research and Policy

624 N. Broadway, HH 548

Baltimore, MD 21205

- Amy Woodward

## **FASTSTATS UPDATE**

I want to call your attention to some new webpages on the NCHS site -

FASTSTATS. <http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/fastats/default.htm>

All FASTSTATS are all in process of being revised and, once completed will be updated annually. The new Faststats Injury-related pages are final now with most showing data for 2001. As FASTSTATS are listed alphabetically, some categories will appear twice (based on terminology). For example if you click on "Accidents/Unintentional Injury" you will get to the same page if you click on "Unintentional Injury/Accidents". In addition, there are pages for "Assault/Homicide", "Injury", "Suicide/self-inflicted injury" and "Work-related injury/Occupational Injury". For each page, you will find the most recent data for mortality, health care use, detailed NCHS sources and related links.

- Lois Fingerhut

LA Fingerhut

Special Assistant for Injury Epidemiology

Acting Branch Chief, Special Projects Branch

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## **JOURNALISTS' WORKSHOP TO EXAMINE WORK AND PLAY ON FARMS**

“Kids on Farms: Telling the Story,” is a two-day workshop for journalists designed to elevate the level of discussion regarding the complexities of children’s work and play on farms and ranches. The workshop will be June 18-19, 2004, in Marshfield, Wis.

**THE LINE BETWEEN FARM WORK-LIFE AND HOME-LIFE IS OFTEN BLURRED OR NON-EXISTENT. ALTHOUGH THERE ARE PERCEIVED ADVANTAGES TO GROWING UP IN THIS ENVIRONMENT – ENHANCED DEVELOPMENT OF WORK ETHIC, SENSE OF RESPONSIBILITY – THERE ARE ALSO RISKS. COMMUNICATING TO THE PUBLIC THE COMPLEXITY OF THESE ISSUES WILL SERVE THE CAUSE OF HEALTH AND SAFETY, AND HELP BRING THESE ISSUES TO A WIDER AUDIENCE.**

The workshop will emphasize field opportunities for journalists to interact with youth, families, researchers, government officials, and health and safety professionals. Ten journalists will be chosen. Stipends will be provided to defray costs of travel, lodging and meals.

For application information, visit the Web site of the National Children’s Center for Rural and Agricultural Health and Safety, <http://www.marshfieldclinic.org/research/children/kidsOnFarms/>. Deadline is April 30.

- *Scott Heiberger*

## **MEASURING THE BURDEN OF INJURY CONFERENCE**

The Measuring the Burden of Injury conference will be held June 3 and 4 in Baden bie Wein, a suburb of Vienna, Austria. The program will include presentations on data issues, costs of injury, utility based methods for measuring the burden of injury, the psychological burdens of injury, as well as presentations of general interest from the World Health Organization, Europe and the U. S. In organizing the program time has been set aside for a late breaker session. If you want to submit a late breaker abstract, the deadline is March 5, 2004. The conference registration fee is Euros 150, which covers lunches, breaks, dinner on June 3 and a copy of the proceedings. The hotel is reserving a block of rooms at Euros 70 a night. Payment of the conference registration fee will be accepted in US dollars, the amount depending on the exchange rate. If you would like to submit a late breaker abstract, register for the conference or if have any questions contact Steve Luchter at [sluchter@earthlink.net](mailto:sluchter@earthlink.net).

- *Steve Luchter*

## **WORLD INJURY 2004 CONFERENCE IS FAST APPROACHING**

Time is drawing near for the 7th World Conference on Injury Prevention and Safety Promotion will be held June 6 -9, 2004 in Vienna, Austria, Europe. Information about the conference can be found on the website < <http://www.safety2004.info/> >.

Sincerely yours,  
Conference Team Vienna  
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Tel: +43 1 715 66 44 0, Fax: +43 1 715 6644 30  
E-mail: [safety2004@sicherleben.at](mailto:safety2004@sicherleben.at)

## **STUDENT INTERNSHIPS**

The Association of Schools of Public Health (ASPH), through a cooperative agreement with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), announces the availability of funds to support six injury related Internship experiences for masters degree-seeking students at ASPH accredited schools of public health to complete a research and practice-based injury internship program. The deadline for applications is Friday, April 16, 2004 at 5:00pm (EST).

Program information is available at [www.asph.org](http://www.asph.org).

- Heather Ward

## **COMMENTARY FROM LES FISHER, ICEHS ARCHIVIST**

### **POISON PREVENTION IN AMERICA**

#### **Prevention and Control: National Poison Prevention Week: March 21-27, 2004**

Leslie Fisher Copyrighted 2004

97 Union Avenue South, Delmar, NY, 12054, USA Fisher166@Juno.Com

The history of poison prevention and control in the US is one of the most successful chapters in child injury prevention leadership. Most recognized by the public is National Prevention Week, Congress designated as the third week in March, each year. However, few injury control professionals appreciate the gradient leveraging of educating political leaders, safety engineering design, and regulations, over many decades, that led to evidenced-based reductions in childhood toxic substances ingestions. The latest outcome is Congressional funding of regional poison control centers.

What are the leadership lessons learned or to be learned as in the 21st century continue to tackle long standing and new emerging injury risks and morbidities, from gun related suicides to terrorism, on the shoulders of our earlier injury control pioneers?

I have reconstructed that leadership history using primary documents with end notes. Please also refer, for supplemental information and resources, to my two copyright registered MSS : Public Health Protection. Then and Now Contributions of New York State (NYS) Institutions to National Preventive Research, Service and Education for the Safety of Children with a personal perspective, Part II and Part III (Forthcoming Publication and Part 1 is published in Dec 2003 ICEHS Newsletter) and Shaping the Millennium. The people, events and ideas that influenced the course of child and home safety in the United States, as reported in public health journals (1900-1975) (Members Only-all at [www.icehs.org](http://www.icehs.org))

#### **1) Precursors for USA Poison Prevention and Control**

The National Academy of Pediatrics in 1950 appointed a Committee on Accident Prevention to explore the problem so as to reduce, if possible, the toll of the leading cause of death, injury, to children. A survey chaired by Dr. George Wheatley, with Metropolitan Life, showed a large percent of these injuries related to accidental poisonings and many were handled by pediatricians and other physicians who did not have up to date information on emergency care and treatment.

In 1953, the first poison control center, established in Chicago under Dr. Edward Press, led to a proliferation of similar Centers nationwide, but with duplicating efforts nationwide, especially in

compiling emergency information. By 1957, professional books on emergency advice and treatment of the poison victim were in print. And the US Food and Drug Administration's (FDA's) National Clearing House, had leveraged by an APHA Committee's recommendation to the US Surgeon General for the Public Health Service, as the designated agency, to support the Centers' work.

## **2) The South Carolina Project - 1961**

In 1961, a pilot sentinel study, sponsored by the US Public Health Service, the State of South Carolina and the County of Charleston, investigated various educational methods and techniques by which accidental ingestions of toxic substances by children might be reduced. For three years, the community was exposed to extensive radio and television programs, group discussions among church groups, garden clubs, civic organizations, nursing, pharmacy, and medical associations, and classroom projects among the kindergarten and grade school students and their parent-teacher organizations. The net result over the three-year period was 29% decline in hospitalization of children under the age of 5 years as reported by area poison control centers. Several other communities across the country developed programs patterned after the one in Charleston.

## **3) National Poison Prevention Week - 1950 to today**

Still another significant childhood poison prevention initiative was the passage of Public Law 87-319 which requested the President to designate annually the third week in March as National Poison Prevention Week (NPPW) "... to aid in encouraging the American people to learn of the dangers of accidental poisoning and to take such preventive measures as are warranted by the seriousness of the danger." In 1950, Homer George, a pharmacist from Cape Girardeau, Missouri, convinced his mayor to proclaim a Poison Prevention Week in his community. George then followed this up with the Governor of Missouri and subsequently then prevailed on his congressman to introduce national legislation.

The introduction of state and national Poison Prevention Week (PPW) provides community organizations an opportunity to initiate poison prevention programs or highlight ongoing ones. While PPW was beneficial in developing and fostering community interest, in itself had relatively little impact on the total picture of poisonings. Today, National Poison Prevention Week facilitates the bringing together of the poison prevention coalition and the resulting preventive processes during the year. Educational and promotional resources, including local proclamations, are designed for Poison Prevention Week and year-round.

## **4) Regulatory Efforts toward the Consumer Product (Vector) of the Potential Injurious Chemical Energy Agent**

In the early 1970s, underlying his concern about the number of aspirins (especially those involving flavored aspirin) the Commissioner of the FDA met with producers of aspirin, representatives of poison control centers, and public health officials. One of the results of the conference was a voluntary agreement on the part of the manufacturers to restrict to a lower toxicity dose the number of children's aspirin in a single container to 36 one and one-quarter grain tablets. This approach would do little to affect the frequency of ingestions but hopefully would have an effect on their severity should a child swallow the aspirin.

## **5 ) Vector/Agent, Environment, and Host Controls System Wide Preventive Practices**

Another decision of the FDA conference laid the groundwork for a far-reaching change in US consumers' experience with the packaging of household products. The FDA's industry chairperson appointed a subcommittee to look into the state of the art for child-resistant packaging which one manufacturer of children's aspirin was already using, on a voluntary basis. The manufacturer offered to make available whatever data the firm had which might be useful to the Subcommittee. As part of this new approach to the prevention of poisonings, two independent studies were undertaken. One showed that child-resistant packaging was more effective to prevent poisonings than the standard screw caps. The other showed while that a vigorous education program to prevent childhood poisonings for 10 years had no effect, but that the initiation of child-resistant closures on all prescription tablets and capsules significantly reduced ingestions. Backed by this and related information showing that childhood ingestions could be reduced through the use of child-resistant packaging and that regulations for just cautionary labeling or warnings on household toxic substances were inadequate, as concurrently documented by state health departments and poison control centers, Congress enacted the Poison Prevention Packaging Act.

## **6) Monroe County - New York State Health Department Demonstration Project - 1976-79**

The Monroe County Poison Prevention Project used these findings that informational and educational programs can make a dent in some poisonings but that community-based education, environmental and regulatory efforts to control the substance itself were also required in comprehensive use of poison prevention countermeasures.

Using an extensive review of the prior poison prevention initiatives nationwide and extensive hospital assessment of countywide poisonings, the project, funded by Blue Shield Insurance, CPSC, Health Research Inc contracts, showed empirical positive changes in poisoning reports to the PCC, to local hospital emergency departments, to household and retail risk behaviors marker household toxic substances. The project showed some \$25 saved for each 1\$ spent.

The projects' successful outcomes and promises led in 1966 to the NYS Legislature amending and the Governor signing a NYS regional poison control center act to fund (about \$3 million/year, Medicaid) State designated regional poison control centers, establishing standards, an advisory council. The NYS majority political party had received the bill from the minority party sponsorship and recognized the cost containment value of poison prevention and control.

(see full background in Part 2: NYS Consumer Protection, forthcoming on [www.icehs.com](http://www.icehs.com) ; Part I was Dec 2003 Newsletter.)

## **7) More Recent National Leadership Actions**

In small part using the NYS work, the US Congress began to explore that national poison control centers were about to close due to cuts in funding. Hearings and studies by CDC/BMCH, DHEW have funded regional centers nationwide.

(see: Fisher L. Members Only, [www.icehs.com](http://www.icehs.com) MSS on the History of IP Leadership in the USA.)

## References:

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- Wherle PF, Day PA, Whalen JP, et al. The epidemiology of accidental poisonings in an urban population. The Prevalance and distributions of poisonings. Am J Public Health . 1960;60:1925-1933.
- Fisher L, VanBuren J, Lawrence R, et al. Genesee region poison prevention project: phase II. Vet Hum Toxicol. 1986;2:123-126. (This is the last of some 10 professional journal articles on the Monroe County Related Projects- see the references at end of each article)
- Chapter 70, Public Health Laws of 1986, New York State Regional Poison Control Center Act
- Final Report of the Poison Control Advisory Work Group. Report to the National Center for Injury Prevention and Control and the Maternal and Child Health Bureau. 1996.
- Other related Copyrighted resources: Selected Timeline on Injury Control see ICEHS Newsletter Sept 2002; Historical Concepts Map see Oct 2002 Newsletters at [www.icehs.org](http://www.icehs.org)