

Newsletter

August 26, 2002

To: All ARPAS members

From: Bill Baumgardt, Executive Vice President (Reply to: [evp\\_arpas@assochq.org](mailto:evp_arpas@assochq.org))

NOTE: Feedback requested on several items!!

HEADLINES:

- Poll of interest in Environmental Management Solutions, LLC TRAINING in selected species and states (1)
- Successful Annual Meeting (2)

(1) EMS, LLC is interested in offering additional Training Sessions for ARPAS members and suggested we poll ARPAS members to learn who would be interested in participating in a Training Session to work toward becoming accepted in the On-Farm Assessment and Environmental Review (OFAER) program\*.

*Please **reply ASAP** if you have an interest!* (Reply to: [<evp\\_arpas@assochq.org>](mailto:evp_arpas@assochq.org)). EMS is especially interested in offering training as noted here, so indicate the species and location(s) of interest to you:

- (a) Dairy in the upper mid-west, probably Wisconsin
- (b) Dairy in east Texas
- (c) Beef Feedlot in Iowa or Minnesota

A minimum of 20-25 is needed to organize a Training Session so your reply is important. What is sought is your expression of interest by September 15; it is not a firm commitment at this time.

\* If you are not familiar with this program and what is involved in being an on-farm assessor, check the ARPAS webpage [<arpas@assochq.org>](mailto:arpas@assochq.org) and click on Related Announcements under NEWS & EVENTS; there you will find the link to a brochure describing the On-Farm Assessment and Environmental Review Program.

(2) The Annual ARPAS meetings were held at the ADSA, ASAS, CSAS meetings in Quebec City in late July. The Governing Council met for a full day and considered some very critical items. Fourteen of the 17 GC members were in attendance. Elected to the GC was Kenneth Cummings as President-Elect and John J. Wagner as Secretary. David Meisinger completed his term of leadership as President and Jim Males assumed the role as President. Gary Tibbetts completed three years of excellent service as Secretary - Thanks much Gary! Complete information will be found on the web when the minutes and all attachments are prepared in proper format. Here are just a few highlights. A Five-Year Business Plan was adopted by the Governing Council and distributed at the Business Meeting. A copy will be posted on the web. A non-refundable examination fee of \$25 was approved; for new members the \$25 fee will be applied to the first year's dues for those who pass the exam. When an existing members takes an exam for additional areas, the \$25 fee will apply. This fee is to cover the processing and grading costs. Annual membership dues were increased modestly to \$80 (from \$75); Emeritus dues were not changed. Several new opportunities for ARPAS members are being pursued. More details on those as information is available.

It is planned to have a full Newsletter ready for inclusion in the annual renewal mailing in the next couple months.

Let us hear from you,  
Bill Baumgardt