



SWANA[®]
SOLID WASTE ASSOCIATION
of North America

Keystone

For the Solid Waste Professionals of the Keystone Chapter of SWANA

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A Message from SWANA President Robert Hasemeier



Greetings to you in this new year and wishing you no more “mud season(s)” than normal,

considering the spring weather we have been having this winter. Thanks to all who attended the mid-winter meeting in Harrisburg on February 2, 2012. The networking was excellent, our PA DEP speakers performed well (is that what the PA DEP staff do?) and there was no flooding as experienced with our fall meeting. I even gave recognition to THE GOUNDHOG who earlier in the day, predicted 6 more weeks of winter. We have not even had winter yet. I will not make any predictions about the weather.

In an earlier newsletter, I indicated that I would share the story about how I

became known as Mr. Trash. The story dates back to 1988 when two colleagues of mine at Gannett Fleming were impressed about the variety and extent of knowledge that I possessed about matters of solid waste. They pursued me to assist Charlie Cole in teaching the graduate solid waste course at Penn State Harrisburg which I consented to do and have been doing since 1989. For a while during the 1990s, Jim Warner taught the undergraduates leaving Cole to pursue other ambitions. Then in the early 1990s, my colleague Terry Keene seeking to bestow some honor on me for knowing much about solid waste and always willing to perform a visual investigation about the trash set out at the curb by waste generators (in the pursuit of science, but occasionally rescuing some treasure from the landfill), Mr. Keene referred to me as Mr. Trash.

Please see “President’s Message” on page 7

2011 International Road-E-O 2011 Wrap Up

Were you there? Where? The 2011 SWANA International Road-E-O, of course! If you weren't, boy did you miss it!!! About 280 people were in Dublin, Georgia on September 3rd and had the best of times -- thanks to some real ol' fashioned Southern hospitality courtesy of the SWANA Georgia Chapter, City of Dublin Georgia, Laurens County Georgia, and all the Road-E-O Sponsors and volunteers.

One hundred and seven of the solid waste industry's best drivers, mechanics and operators competed in ten different categories. The top three finishers in each category took home trophies and

bragging rights – at least until the next Road-E-O – as the best-of-the-best in the business. “Top Gun” awards were made to the top finishers in the truck and equipment competitions. Besides driver, mechanic and operator competitions, the 2011 SWANA International Road-E-O weekend included a Golf Tournament, a Sporting Clays Tournament and NAS-CAR Races tailgating. Following the competitions on September 3rd, an awards banquet was held at the DuBose Porter Center at Heart of Georgia Technical College. Following a meal of good ol' fashioned southern cookin', competition winners were awarded trophies and Estella Martinez of SWANA International

presented the Georgia Chapter with a sponsor check for the Road-E-O. The night was closed out with dancing and partying to the country sounds of “The Brantley Brothers” (formerly “Deep Step”), a local Georgia band that is about to make national news. All banquet attendees had a good time!

Competition at the 2011 SWANA International Road-E-O was **INTENSE!** In the equipment category, tie-breakers (obstacle course completion time) were needed to decide the second and third place finishers in the Dozer and first and second place finishers in the Articulated Dump Truck (ADT) competitions,

Please see “International Road-E-O” on page 4

2011 Local Competitors

Below is a listing of all the Mid-Atlantic Equipment Road-E-O winners who participated in the SWANA International Event held in September in Georgia. Each competitor is listed with their International event placing, event competition category and the organization they work for.

Chrissy Kortz - 9th Place - Compactor – Republic Services – Conestoga Landfill

John Zell - 14th Place - Front Loader – Republic Services - Brandywine

Allen Cox - 8th Place - Roll-Off – Allied Waste – Philadelphia

Jarred Dincher - 4th Place - Side Loader – Wayne Township Landfill

Chase Weise - 2nd Place - Articulated Dump Truck - Wayne Township Landfill

Verlan Bauman - 2nd Place - Dozer - LCSWMA



Congratulations to all!

Contributed by: Bob Zorbaugh, LCSWMA

5-COUNTY HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION AWARD

The Regional Southeastern Pennsylvania Household Hazardous Waste Drop-Off Program, consisting of Philadelphia, Bucks, Chester, Delaware and Montgomery Counties, has been named by the North American Hazardous Materials Management Association (NAHMMA) as the 2011 Longstanding Program Excellence award winner. Since 1997 the five counties, through an intergovernmental agreement, have been able to share the administrative burden that often accompanies managing Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) collection programs. Through this process, the counties are able to achieve the best price (per pound, per material) for all waste streams. The partnership also allows any resident the opportunity to attend nearly 30 HHW

collection events in the five-county region, allowing for a disposal option almost every other weekend of the year.

Over the years, the regional program has seen many successes and milestones. In 2010, the regional program collected approximately three million pounds of HHW and Electronics and served nearly 30,000 households.

Since 2004, the program has nearly doubled the amount of material collected and households participating.

The program, funded in part by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection, has been recognized for its successes by the Pennsylvania Environmental Council, receiving the "Governor's Award for Environmental Excellence" in 1999 and 2008. The program has also

been recognized for outstanding achievement in special collections by receiving a "Waste Watcher" award in 2007 through the Professional Recyclers of Pennsylvania, the state's recycling organization.

NAHMMA is a professional organization established in November of 1993, dedicated to pollution prevention and reducing the hazardous constituents entering municipal waste streams from households, small businesses and other entities that may be exempt from local, regional or national regulations. For more information visit

<http://www.nahmma.org> 

Submitted and Written by: Nancy Fromnick, Chester County Recycling Coordinator



Pictured left to right: Philadelphia, Scott McGrath; SE Region PADEP, Ann Ryan; Delaware County, Sue Cordes; Montgomery County, Chris Kaasman; PA DEP, Mary Alice Reisse; Chester County, Nancy Fromnick; and Bucks County, Art Feltes.

“International Road-E-O” continued from page 2

respectively. Also in the equipment category for Rubber-Tired Loaders, the top finisher (and ultimate Equipment “Top Gun”) finished the course with a perfect obstacle course score!

The Mechanics blew everyone away with all competitors receiving perfect scores in their competitions – competition judges had to resort to completion time to break the seven-way tie and determine order of finish. After much discussion by the Judges and Road-E-O organizers after the awards banquet, it was decided to award “Top Gun” status in the mechanics category as well as truck and equipment catego-

ries. Although not recognized as the mechanics “Top Gun” at the banquet, the top finisher in the mechanics competition will be awarded the same “trophy” as the other “Top Gun” winners.

The truck competitions were no less exciting, but top finishers were a little more obvious. None of the competitions were decided by tie-breaker. From the scores for all the competitions, it is obvious that Georgia and the 2011 SWANA International Road-E-O were rewarded with performances from the best-of-the-best drivers, mechanics and operators in the solid waste industry! Congratulations to all

the top finishers and all competitors – you make us proud to be “garbage men” and “garbage women”! Congratulations to all the competitors! They are all winners in our minds!

For a complete listing of the 2011 Road-E-O competitors and scores, [click here](#).

Don't forget to mark your calendar! Next year's Road-E-O is tentatively planned for September 15th in Kentucky. “We're glad you have ‘Georgia on My Mind’!” 

Article from the SWANA-Georgia Chapter website. <http://www.gaswana.org/Road-E-O.html>



Ooops! We forgot to give credit where credit was due in the Summer 2011 Newsletter.

* Donna E. Irons-Zimmerman of Communications Solutions, was not given credit for either of her two articles on the MidAtlantic Road-E-O and its participants. She also compiled the winners list and contributed several of the Road-E-O photos on Page 23.

* Adrienne Fors of Waste Management contributed two of the photos on Page 23.

Thank you Donna and Adrienne for your wonderful articles and contributions to the Newsletter over the years!

After Two Decades, A Fond Farewell (& Welcome Back)

One word can sum up the two decades Michael D. Pavelek II served as the Executive Director of the Greater Lebanon Refuse Authority. Dedicated. In November 2011, after twenty years of service to the Authority, Mike decided it was time to move on to more challenging endeavors through retirement. He began his journey with the Greater Lebanon Refuse Authority in 1991 to find a facility greatly in need of leadership and structure. Under Mike's direction and steadfast nature, the Greater Lebanon Refuse Authority was transformed from a struggling landfill into the comprehensive integrated solid waste management system that it is today. Through his vision of a strong independent management team working collectively, he was able to provide the tools necessary in developing a support staff who successfully implemented the programs that make GLRA what it is today. Mike was a key component and catalyst for the transformation of the Greater Lebanon Refuse Authority into a state-of-the-art facility offering not only environmentally safe and sound disposal of Lebanon County waste, but renewable energy production, composting, recycling, household hazardous waste, electronics, conservation and education programs. Mike's most

dedicated service was without a doubt his tireless efforts in cleaning up Lebanon County from illegal dumping and litter abatement. Finally, in 2010 he achieved a milestone goal of coordinating the clean ups of 43 illegal dumpsites identified in a 2009 Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful Survey. Mike was not afraid to get down and dirty out in the trenches if it meant cleaning up an eyesore or an environmental hazard.

Dedicated. One word. Thank you for the past 20 years Michael D. Pavelek II! 🌍

Written by: Amy Mazzella di Bosco, Greater Lebanon Refuse Authority



The following was added by Robert Hasemeier, P.E., Barton & Loguidice:

However, like most individuals in the waste business, they get "recycled". Mike has begun a new job assisting Ed Vogel in improving his waste business. Welcome Back!



Michael D. Pavelek, II, and his wife Diane, at a surprise Retirement Luncheon on November 10, 2011

Montgomery County's Campaign Sign Collection Program

Montgomery County is proud to announce the results of its 2011 Campaign Sign Collection Program. In a partnership between ReCommunity Recycling, Sullivan's Scrap Metals and both Montgomery County Democratic and Republican Committees, the County recycling office collected approximately eight tons of plastic and cardboard signs and metal frames and stakes. This is roughly equivalent to 15,000 individual signs!

The effort, which ran between November 9 and 23, 2011, saw prospective candidates, committee folk and county residents bring their signs to 10 drop off locations throughout the county including eight municipal buildings and both the county Democratic and Republican headquarters. From there, Chris Kaasmann, Montgomery County Recycling Coordinator, with the help of commu-

nity service workers picked up all signs and delivered them to ReCommunity Recycling in Philadelphia and Sullivan's Scrap Metals in Hatboro, PA.

"It was a lot of work, but I am very pleased with the amount of signs that were collected and the public's willingness to drop them off to be recycled. We did not seek to take the responsibility away from candidates to remove their own signs from the road. Rather, this effort was shared among many sectors to make sure all signs were recycled instead of thrown in the trash. I am convinced that we helped turn a very wasteful part of American culture a little 'greener!'," said Chris Kaasmann, Montgomery County Recycling Coordinator.

The county plans on hosting this collection program again for the presi-

dential election later this year. It is anticipated that many more signs will be generated and available for recycling. For more information, please contact Chris Kaasmann, Montgomery County Recycling Coordinator at 484-645-7081 or via email at ckaasmann@wsaemc.org; or visit Montgomery County's website <http://www.montgomerycountyclec.org> or the recycling office's Facebook page to see more pictures <http://www.facebook.com/montgomerycountyclec>.

Submitted by: Chris Kaasmann, Recycling Coordinator, Montgomery County



“CONTESTANTS, MOUNT YOUR MACHINES !!!”

On June 15, 2012 the SWANA ROAD-E-O announcer will be giving that direction to the contestants at the Midshore II Regional Solid Facility in Ridgely, Maryland. Each year about 50 “Heavy Equipment Cowboys” compete to be the best operator in the region and to go on to compete in the National SWANA ROAD-E-O. After hosting this annual event for the past several years, SWANA PA has passed the torch to the Mid-Atlantic Chapter. The two categories of event are Truck Driver and Equipment Operator. Truck Driver competition events are: Front Loader, Rear Loader, Roll-Off, Transfer Trailer and Recycle Truck and the Equipment

Operator competition events are: Compactor, Dozer, Articulated Trucks, Loader and Backhoe.

The Midshore II Landfill is located in Ridgely, Maryland, a small town, so rooms have been booked at the closest motels - the Best Western in Denton, MD, (5 miles) and the Holiday Inn Express and Comfort Inn in Easton, MD (25 miles).

If you are not a contestant and want to volunteer with the ROAD-E-O, please contact:

David Czawlytko
(410) 729- 8308
dczaw@menv.com

or
Jeff Fried
(443) 336-1160
jfried@menv.com

*Submitted by: David W. Czawlytko,
Deputy Chief - Environmental Operations, Maryland
Environmental Operations*



“President’s Message” continued from page 1

The moniker has been with me since then and my family even made a t-shirt honoring the name and adding a phone number of 1-800-GARBAGE should someone need a help hotline. Yes, “The First Lady of Garbage”, my wife, has supported my profession. She even had a conversation with some citizens several years ago that inquired what I did for a living. She responded that I worked with garbage and someone inquired if I had my own truck. She is also asked by some if I really do inspect trash and she responds, “yes”. My wife has also participated in both looking and receiving discarded treasures, like the dozen red

roses that included the gift box. It was early February and we decided the discarded roses were the result of some love spat. She enjoyed the roses and the story.

Alas, I have shared the story with my friends and peers on the front page of this newsletter. I am proud of our profession, even if my moniker delivers humor to some. I have had over 22 years of exposure to young adults who, prior to taking my course, tend to think garbage is a dirty word, but have much different thoughts at the end of the semester course; that it is a science and a potential resource. My favorite lines in class

are, “How are you going to explain this to Grandma?” and “You are at a party; how do explain what you have learned when this solid waste issue becomes a topic of conversation?”. It gives pause to the students about how they think about garbage and relate it to others. For me, I am working on succession for our industry. I have learned much and desire to share some of that knowledge with the next generation, even if I like to see what others are discarding. 

Happy dumpster diving,
Robert Hasemeier, a.k.a. Mr. Trash



WASTECON: An Investment in Your Future

WASTECON: An Investment in Your Future is an article Kathryn wrote reflecting on her first WASTECON experience in Nashville (2011). MSW Management Magazine published the article in the January/February 2012 issue.

WASTECON. Too many puns, so little time. Perhaps, I'll save the trash talking for later. (Come on, you must have known that was coming.) As a young professional, both in respect of my career and recent plunge into the solid waste industry, I eagerly anticipated the 2011 WASTECON conference in Nashville, Tennessee. It was to be my first. With no baseline for comparison, I struggled to set an expectation for the conference. Understand that I'm a "goal-setter" by nature. Without goals to move you forward, you

stand still. Soon, the world leaves you behind. But let's save that pep talk for another time. Ultimately, I set my goal to absorb as much information and knowledge, relating to the waste management industry, as time and wherewithal allotted. A reasonable goal, I told myself. I never anticipated the significant lessons I took away from the conference.

To summarize, WASTECON surpassed my expectations. Alright, you can stop reading now... Wait! I say that in jest, continue with me. The investment of time and financial resources necessary to attend the conference proved an excellent decision and returned many times over. Although I inherited more work (hence my writing of this article), it was a fruitful trip. Don't misunderstand me; I'm happy to share my experience and accepted the task of putting that to words enthusiastically. However, I struggled with an approach to frame my WASTECON experience. And then, I had an epiphany. To connect you from

the point we're at now (A) to my end epiphany (B), allow me to set the stage.

One overarching take away from the convention, especially after spending time talking with other attendees, was the realization that WASTECON offers a platform for knowledge, information sharing, troubleshooting, networking and professional growth to anyone involved in the solid waste industry. I had no idea—a reflection of why it's hardly ever conducive to make assumptions—that no college major or vocational school exists which offers a program for the effective training and management of society's solid waste. Perhaps a possible class or sporadic training session is available in various parts of the country; maybe even a few reference manuals or journals on the subject matter. But how do waste management professionals gain applicable knowledge and further their career?

Gone are the days of apprenticeship, like masonry and welding,

Please see "WASTECON" on page 14

Birnesser to Lead KCI's New Solid Waste Practice



KCI Technologies Inc., a multi-disciplined engineering firm with offices throughout the eastern U.S., welcomes Donald J. Birnesser,

PE, as solid waste practice leader. With more than 30 years of experience, Birnesser has built a solid reputation as a leader in the solid waste management and energy generation fields. As practice leader, he will coordinate KCI's overall solid waste activities and planning efforts, including strategic business development and project management for recycling operations, composting facilities, material recovery facilities, transfer sta-

tions, resource recovery facilities, and landfills.

As a long-time member of the Solid Waste Association of North America (SWANA), Birnesser has long been an advocate of integrated solid waste management. His experience has encompassed planning, feasibility studies, characterization programs, site evaluations, environmental permitting and impact assessments, procurement and financing, construction field support, operating and maintenance evaluations and expert witness services for solid waste projects. Additionally, Birnesser's design engineering expertise includes solid waste material and resource recovery facilities, transfer stations, and landfills, power generating facilities, boiler plants, air emissions control systems, and

wastewater sludge systems.

Birnesser has a bachelor's degree and is currently pursuing a master's degree in environmental engineering from Pennsylvania State University. He is a licensed professional engineer in Pennsylvania and a SWANA-certified Transfer Station Manager. In addition, Birnesser is a national faculty member for the organization and has been instructing the managing transfer station systems certification course for the past six years. Birnesser will be located in the Sparks, MD headquarters office and can be contacted (410) 316-7858 or don.birnesser@kci.com . 

*Submitted by: Donald J. Birnesser,
KCI Technologies, Inc.*

Harrisburg RRF Acquisition Update

The Lancaster County Solid Waste Management Authority (LCSWMA) continues its pursuit of acquiring the Harrisburg Resource Recovery Facility. To date, LCSWMA has completed an extensive due diligence process on the Harrisburg RRF. After a review of the findings, LCSWMA still firmly believes the asset offers a great regionalization opportunity for municipal

solid waste management. Once Harrisburg's Receiver, David Unkovic, determines the process by which the asset will be sold, LCSWMA will follow the necessary steps and continue its discussions with the appropriate parties.

Written by: James D. Warner, CEO, Lancaster County Solid Waste Management Authority



SWANA Keystone Chapter Tours the Philadelphia Material Recovery Facility

On November 3, 2011, SWANA Keystone Chapter held a mini-technical seminar at Waste Management's Philadelphia Material Recovery Facility. Sixteen Chapter members and five guests attended. Initially Chuck Raudenbush, Past Chapter President with Waste Management, provided an overview of the facility planning, construction, and operation. Following the introduction, two groups walked through the facility.

In December 2010, the Philadelphia Material Recovery Facility (MRF), located in Northeast Philadelphia, began operations. This \$20 million, 60,000 square foot single-stream facility can sort and process more than 20,000 tons of recyclables a month. The facility employs around 145 workers, many from local communities. The facility operates at two 10-hour shift per day, six days per week and shuts down for maintenance on Sundays.

Waste Management's investment in the property includes a focus on sustainability — a characteristic woven into every aspect of this facility. The Philadelphia Material Recovery Facility was constructed on this Brownfield site using 47% recycled content and 42% regional materials. Its sustainable building and design techniques meet the LEED Silver certification standards as established by the US Green Building Council. Among the features are a green roof, an energy efficient design, and advanced stormwater management systems.

Please see "Philly MRF" on page 11



Photo by: Robert Hasemeier, P.E., Barton & Loguidice

Keystone Chapter President and Executive Director of the Waste System Authority of Eastern Montgomery County Tim Hartman is flanked by his co-workers Tom Mason, Deputy Executive Director (left), and Bob Kawczynski (right), Controller.



Photo by: Robert Hasemeier, P.E., Barton & Loguidice

Keystone Chapter members tour the Waste Management's Philadelphia MRF

“Philly MRF” continued from page 10

Single-stream systems makes recycling easier and more efficient by allowing residential and commercial customers to deposit recyclable paper, plastic, glass, steel and aluminum materials into a single container for collection. The materials are separated at the recycling facility using advanced technology. This process allows materials that were historically discarded, such as film and rigid plastics, to reach secondary markets for re-purposing into new materials.

MRF Single-Stream Process consists of the following steps:

1. A truck containing mixed recyclable materials arrives, is weighed, recorded, and emptied.
2. Recyclables are loaded onto the main feed conveyor and directed to several sorting areas.
3. Rigid and nonrecyclable materials are removed at the pre-sort area.
4. Disc screens, using rotating discs, push cardboard overtop and remove larger pieces. Other recyclables fall in between the disks and are sent to another conveyor to be fed to the combination news screen.
5. Film plastics are also removed from this area through a series of air vacuums.
6. Paper materials, such as newspaper, are separated from rigid household containers that automatically fall into final bunkers for baling.
7. Steel, glass, plastic, and aluminum are directed to the glass breaker to remove glass.
8. Metals and plastic pass under a magnet, removing and sending all steel cans to a bunker for future baling.
9. Remaining materials, primarily plastic containers and aluminum cans, pass under optical scanners to remove PET (plastic) and other nonconforming plastics.
10. Anything remaining passes to a manual sort station to remove HDPE (milk, juice bottles, and colored containers, such as laundry detergent). 

Submitted by: Donald J. Birnesser, PE, KCI Technologies, Inc.



Greater Lebanon Refuse Authority

The Greater Lebanon Refuse Authority received a Keep America Beautiful National Award for the work they did to rid Lebanon County of illegal dumpsites. The Authority was nominated for the award by Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful. The National Award was accepted on behalf of the Authority by Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful at Keep America Beautiful's National Conference in New Orleans, LA, at their Awards Banquet on November 30th, 2011. Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful presented the award to the Authority at their board meeting on January 4th.

The Keep America Beautiful National Award honors outstanding projects and programs concentrated in litter

prevention, beautification, and waste reduction and recycling throughout the nation. The Authorities nomination placed second in the waste reduction and recycling category.

Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful contacted the Greater Lebanon Refuse Authority in the summer of 2009 to introduce their Illegal Dump Survey Program and to see if the Greater Lebanon Refuse Authority would be interested in doing the illegal dump survey in Lebanon County. The Authority was eager to participate and do the survey which was funded by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection. Over several months, the Greater Lebanon Refuse



Authority drove 2,566 miles documenting illegal dumpsites. There were 43 dumpsites identified containing an estimated 36 tons of trash.

The Authority has a strong presence throughout the County. It was not a surprise then, when they solicited volunteers through their county-wide newsletter to cleanup these sites, that volunteers came knocking. Six months after the survey release in June 2010 the Authority, its volunteers, and fellow residents had cleaned up every site in the survey at least once.

Please see "GLRA Award" on page13

Save the date

The 14th Annual Fall Conference will be held September 10 & 11, 2012
at the

Crowne Plaza Hotel, Harrisburg, PA

Watch your email inbox in the next few weeks for registration and additional information.

“GLRA Award” continued from page 12

In total they picked up 28.36 tons of trash and 1,500 tires.

The Authority’s proactive work regarding illegal dumping in their county did not end when each of the dumpsites from the survey were cleaned. Unfortunately, there is still active dumping occurring in the county. The Authority has promoted the Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful Adoption Program and the PennDOT Adopt-A-Highway Program for volunteers, groups, and organizations to adopt the sites from the survey so that they remain clean.

The Authority is also working to identify and apprehend those dumping with landowners and other law officials. The Authority has surveillance cameras that are rotated around vari-

ous dumping areas identified in the report to catch dumpers and the cameras are checked routinely. They have caught many people dumping and have tried to prosecute them all.

“The Greater Lebanon Refuse Authority demonstrated a model for how to utilize the illegal dump surveys at the local level- how to successfully work with municipalities, partnering agencies and organizations, and volunteers to address illegal dumping in their communities,” says Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful President Shannon Reiter. “We are very happy that Keep America Beautiful recognized their great success.”

“Personally, and on behalf of the Authority, the previous Executive Director, and the volunteers who per-

formed this project, it is an honor to receive this recognition,” says GLRA Executive Director Larry Taylor.

“Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful was instrumental in bringing this project to a successful completion and we appreciate them nominating the Authority for this award. It was a nice effort and we hope the dumping will stop and the areas will remain clean.” 

Reprinted from January 5, 2012 Keep America Beautiful press release.

For more information visit
www.keeppabeautiful.org

Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful Program Manager Todd Crouch Presents GLRA Chairwoman Roberta DeSantis the Award at its January 4, 2012 Authority Meeting as GLRA Executive Director Larry Taylor looks on.



“WASTECON” continued from page 8

where master craftsmen passed on their skill-set to the next generation (or so I thought that had vanished). It's possible that fragmented educational opportunities are available. But how readily accessible are those to a majority of the industry? Many organizations, including the one I work for—the Lancaster County Solid Waste Management Authority in Lancaster, Pennsylvania—cultivate their staff into managers over the course of decades. Those individuals are shaped and molded into future leaders. Knowledge is passed on, skills are refined and experience is gained. But that's only one component to developing expert staff. It's vital not only to thoroughly understand your business, but to also understand how similar organizations further their business, troubleshoot problems, implement new technology and so forth. Where does one find this type of information? (You know where this is going.) WASTECON!

I discovered that WASTECON offers, in a concentrated timeframe, a plethora of possibilities. The convention brings together a diverse assemblage of like-minded professionals, from all over the waste management sector, desiring to

expand their knowledge, share insight into their own lessons learned, develop beneficial professional contacts, refine their skill-set, challenge the status-quo, and ultimately leave the convention with an enriching experience. Not just to learn and absorb, but gain relevant information for application in their work. WASTECON, in essence, is a university for the solid waste industry. Now that we're at point (B) together, let me explain.

At WASTECON:

Experts became professors, teachers imparting their knowledge and life experiences on those interested in a particular topic. Presenters shared research, best practices, implementation tactics, strategic plans and lessons learned from their specialized field of expertise. Their backgrounds range from engineers and scientists, to specialists and consultants, to senior managers and c-level executives.

Attendees became students, absorbing critical knowledge and information. The convention schedule provided a liberal arts format with technical sessions offering didactic lectures on wide-ranging topics from facility operations and improvements, to waste diversion

and recycling, to sustainability planning, to effective communications techniques, to renewable energy initiatives and more.

Individual technical divisions and sub groups (ex: Young Professionals) became fraternal social organizations where like-minded individuals assembled to discuss issues pertinent to their association to the solid waste industry. Personally, I enjoyed my involvement at the Young Professionals meeting and found the time to be rewarding both in terms of making new connections and expressing my thoughts and opinions on what SWANA might look like 30 years into the future. I encourage any individual who is either young in their career and/or to the solid waste industry to join this group.

Technical Certifications became degrees, with ceremonial endings and recognition of achievements earned. Just as it's important for medical professionals to continue expanding their knowledge of new advancements in technology and practices, so too it's critical for those in the waste management industry to refine their expertise and stay up-to-date on industry developments and best practices.

Please see “WASTECON” on page 15

“WASTECON” continued from page 14

The Exhibit Hall became the “Student Life Center” where vendors shared exciting new products, services and trends in managing solid waste. The Exhibit Hall, whether by intent or happenstance, doubled as a gathering place for convention attendees. There was a buzz and energy about the space.

Ignite® became a pep rally, bolstering energy and excitement for the upcoming days at the convention. I appreciated the occasion to meet a few of the scheduled speakers in a relaxed, impromptu atmosphere. From a communications perspective, I enjoyed watching each presenter perform under the pressure of a succinct format and timed platform. You could distinguish who was comfortable with their presentation and who was not. Either way, I respect each presenter for attempting something outside of their comfort zone.

Networking events became social activities that offered convention guests the opportunity to make lasting connections. The sense of

community within the waste management industry amazes me. Before joining the Lancaster County Solid Waste Management Authority and becoming a part of SWANA, I never would have guessed that such a comradery exists within the industry. Personally, I met numerous individuals from all over the country, each with a different story and reason for attending WASTECON.

The Gaylord Opryland Resort became a campus, where classrooms, dorms, dining and entertainment coincide. However, I will state that the Gaylord’s hotel rooms were a far cry from any dorm room I’ve stayed in. The facility was beautiful and available amenities impressive. I appreciated the convenience of all the convention activities, lodging and hospitality under one roof. Although after a few days, I almost forgot about the outside world and needed to venture into the city for a dose of reality.

I only have one critique of my WASTECON experience. There wasn’t enough time to participate in

all of the technical sessions, meetings and activities that interested me. A recommendation might be to record various technical sessions and offer those as downloadable audio files online. Interested parties like myself, or those who were unable to attend the conference, could still benefit from the lecture.

Looking back on my first WASTECON convention, I treasure the experience. And gauging from the conversations with many other attendees, I’m not alone in that sentiment. Even the most experienced professional found an enriching experience at WASTECON. As is often the case, the professor learns just as much from the student as the knowledge they impart. So to the individual contemplating WASTECON 2012, I say: Don’t hesitate. Come! You’re making an investment in your future.

See you next year.



*By Kathryn Sandoe, Communications Manager,
Lancaster County Solid Waste Management
Authority*

Southeastern PA Counties Join Forces With WeRecycle!

In light of Pennsylvania's Covered Device Recycling Act 108 of 2010, Montgomery County along with the other four Southeastern PA Counties (Bucks, Delaware, Chester and the City of Philadelphia) have entered in to a contract with WeRecycle! of Mount Vernon, NY to collect electronics through one-day events. Specifically, Montgomery County will be holding eight separate electronics only events in 2012 which will offset approximately \$100,000 in previous yearly electronics recycling costs. Additionally, Montgomery County will be paid for all electronics brought to its events and anticipates generating \$20,000 to \$40,000 in revenue which will go towards offsetting a largely successful and popular Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Program. In past years, Montgomery County has collected HHW on the same days as electronics which has led to wait times of an hour or more for some county residents. It is the hope that this new model of collecting HHW and electronics will encourage shorter event wait times while decreasing overall operating costs.

Below are some pictures from a recent event held on May 14, 2011 at the Upper Merion Area Middle School in King of Prussia, Montgomery County, PA. This was a first time location that yielded 1,190 participants and 138,057 pounds of HHW and electronics. The total cost to the county was \$44,827.04. 

Submitted by: Chris Kaasmann, Recycling Coordinator, Montgomery County

Photos Courtesy of: Chris Kaasmann, Recycling Coordinator, Montgomery County



Cars Entering Staging Area



Flares



Lead Acid Batteries



Staging Area



Pallet of Electronics

Waste Management Opens Public Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) Fueling Station in Washington

Waste Management of Western Pennsylvania celebrated the grand opening of its public-access compressed natural gas (CNG) fueling station in the City of Washington and announced plans to convert its regional fleet to this clean-burning, environmentally-friendly fuel on November 17. Joining Waste Management at the event were Executive Deputy Secretary of Programs at the Department of Environmental Protection, John Hines, Senior VP of Fleets, Aaron Reding with PetroCard, State Senator Tim Solobay, State Representative Jessie White and Chartiers Township Supervisor, Harlan Shober.

The new “Clean N’ Green Fuel” public fueling station, to be operated by PetroCard, will sell CNG to commercial fleets as well as individuals with CNG-equipped vehicles. The U.S. Department of Energy estimates CNG reduces particulate matter emissions by 86 percent, carbon monoxide emissions by 80 percent, nitrogen oxide emissions by up to 32 percent, and greenhouse emissions by 25 percent. As an additional benefit, CNG trucks run 50 percent quieter than diesel trucks. With more than 32,000 collection and support vehicles on the road throughout North America, Waste Management has committed to reducing the environmental impacts of these vehicles. The company has over 1,000 natural gas trucks on the road, the largest heavy-duty fleet of natural gas trucks in North America. Waste Management has committed to transitioning its fleet of over 18,000 Class 8 collection vehicles from diesel to natural gas.



Waste Management of Western Pennsylvania recently acquired 25 CNG collection trucks and expects to have 40 CNG vehicles in service by next year, representing nearly half its Washington-based fleet and covering routes in Washington, Greene and Allegheny counties. Deploying these vehicles will help Waste Management achieve its sustainability goal of reducing fleet emissions by 15 percent and increasing fuel efficiency by 15 percent by 2020. The Department of Environmental Protection awarded Waste Management \$700,000 in Alternative Fuels Incentive

Grants for the project, which supports the development of the state’s natural gas and electric vehicle infrastructure and achieves emissions reductions.

“We are dedicated to doing business in the most sustainable way possible, while providing our customers with outstanding service,” said Dave

Balbierz, area vice president for Waste Management of Western Pennsylvania. “Natural gas powered vehicles run cleaner and quieter, and improve air quality. Our new CNG trucks will reduce emissions equivalent to taking 3,500 gasoline-powered vehicles off the road.”

“CNG helps fleet owners save money and significantly reduce the emissions from their vehicles—two factors that are critical to today’s modern fleet operations,” said Steve Tilton, CEO of PetroCard. “In collaboration with Waste Management, we’re making it easier than ever for fleets to reduce fuel costs and shrink their carbon footprint.”

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The Keystone is now accepting advertisers in support of the SWANA Keystone Chapter Scholarship Awards!!



For additional information and an application visit KeystoneSWANA.org or contact Diane Roskos, Phone 717-737-8326

Note of interest—sponsors to either the Road-E-O or the annual Chapter meeting will receive a free advertisement in the next issue of the Keystone newsletter.

“CNG Fuel” continued from page 17

CNG is sold in gasoline gallon equivalents (GGEs), with each GGE having the same energy content as a gallon of gasoline. Vehicles using CNG typically have similar or better fuel economy ratings than standard gasoline or diesel vehicles.

The self-service station, located at 200 Rangos Lane in the City of Washington near Route 70 and 79, will be open 24/7 and will accept Visa, Mastercard, Wright Express as well as Clean N’ Green fleet cards. The fueling station will help to reduce the southwest region’s annual greenhouse gas emissions. Waste Management currently operates the largest fleet of CNG recycling and waste collection trucks in North America. 

Submitted by: Adrienne Fors, Waste Management

Reprinted from November 11, 2011 Waste Management Press Release



Ribbon cutting ceremony. Left to Right: District Manager of Arden Landfill Jon Dufalla, Chartiers Township Supervisor Harlan Shober, Senator John Pippy, WM’s Western Pennsylvania’s Area Vice President Dave Balbierz, Senator Tim Solobay, Executive Deputy Secretary of Program for the Department of Environmental Protection John Hines, SVP of Fleets for Petro Card Aaron Reding, Washington Hauling District Manager Rick Davies and Sr. District Manager Rich Mogan



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Professional Recyclers Name Kelly Wolf as Executive Director

Through an extensive international search, the Board of Directors of the Professional Recyclers of Pennsylvania is pleased to announce that effective December 19 Kelly Wolf has been named to lead PROP as the Executive Director.

In addition to previously serving PROP as the Organization's Secretary, Ms. Wolf presently holds a Board position with Keystone SWANA, Pennsylvania's Chapter of the Solid Waste Association of North America.

The Professional Recyclers of Pennsylvania is a non-profit association of recycling professionals dedicated to promoting and enhancing the interests of recycling. PROP's goal is to establish and improve information networks among programs and between public and private sector recycling professionals. 

Reprinted from the 12/12/2011 Edition of the [PA Environmental Digest](#), [Crisci Associates](#)

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Just for Fun—Scrap Car

Iconic Mercedes re-created out of scrap metal

The Mercedes 300 SLR "Uhlenhaut Coupe" would have been the world's fastest car if it was put into production in 1955.

But it was deemed TOO FAST for the era and just two prototypes still exist, both of which are displayed at the company's museum in Germany. Now German friends Armin Ciesielski, Peter Brakel and Walter Wilier have decided to recreate the greatest car ever scrapped - out of scrap.

The trio, who work at Giganten aus Stahl which translates to Giants of Steel, meticulously sourced thousands of pieces of metal for their recycled homage.

Armin, who claims he could rebuild any car out of scrap, said: "The Uhlenhaut is a really special Mercedes and we wanted to make a replica.

"It took me and my friends seven months of hard work to perfect and we

used more than 10,000 pieces of metal.

"The car was a very difficult model to make because of all the intricate details and we made the engine look identical to the original. It weighs nearly 1,000kg." (2,200 lbs)

The 300 SLR "Uhlenhaut Coupe" was a road-going version of the iconic 300 SLR race car which dominated competitions such as The Mille Miglia with British icon Stirling Moss behind the wheel.

Mercedes race chief Rudolf Uhlenhaut wanted to take the car's incredible performance and turn it into a road-legal coupe.

During testing in 1955, the 310bhp SLR hit an unprecedented 180mph to become the fastest ever road-legal car of its time.

But Mercedes felt the mid-1950s was not the right time to bring out such a powerful sports car and - as the company pulled out of motorsport in 1955 - put the SLR coupe project on ice.

Both prototypes are still owned by Mer-



cedes and make occasional appearances around the world at motor shows.

It's believed that if either of the models were ever sold they would comfortably fetch tens of millions to become the most expensive car in history.

The scrap metal Mercedes, which can't be driven, is considerably cheaper - with Armin selling it for £60,000 (\$94,000 US). 

Article Reprinted from: <http://swns.com/iconic-mercedes-re-created-out-of-scrap-metal-201018.html>
September 20th, 2011,
Written by: Adrian Hearn

Alliance Landfill Tour

Officials from the Chester County Solid Waste Authority visited Alliance Landfill in early October, 2011 to view the various vegetation that has been planted on closed areas of the landfill. John Hambrose from Waste Management hosted the tour together with Brian Kaufman, P.E. from Kaufman Engineering who has done significant planning and permitting work for these demonstration plots. Mr. Kaufman is teamed with Robert Hasemeier, P.E., from Barton & Loguidice to determine if the alternative vegetation experiences of Alliance Landfill can be applied to Lanchester Landfill. Overall, the group was impressed with the success and beauty of the test plots and how Alliance Landfill has advanced a new capping dialog. It was a great day for an outing and the leaves were colorful across the valley. 

Submitted by: Robert Hasemeier, P.E., Barton & Loguidice

Edited by: Brian Kaufman, P.E., Kaufman Engineering





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Back row left to right: Brian Kaufman, Kaufman Engineering; Robert Hasemeier, Barton & Loguidice; Gary Van Dyke, Caernarvon Twp; Robert Schoenberger, CCSWA; Steve Nichols, Caernarvon Twp.
Front row left to right: Ashley Duncan, Barton & Loguidice; Bob Watts, CCSWA; Dawn Nichols, CCSWA; Ben Nichols, son of Steve Nichols.

February 2012 Pennsylvania Legislative Update

BILL #	Description	Status
SB 590	Imposes a 2-cent tax on plastic grocery bags	Referred to Finance Committee . February 18, 2011.
SB 624	Provides for textbooks from public and non-public primary and secondary schools to be recycled by certified recyclers.	Referred to ER&E Committee. February 23, 2011.
SB 825	Adds an "affected municipality" definition to Act 101, requires a community health risks study and expands public notice requirements	Referred to ER&E Committee. March 14, 2011.
SB 826	Adds "host municipality" and "affected municipality" definitions to Act 97m requires public referendum as part of permit approval process.	Referred to ER&E Committee. March 14, 2011.
SB 827	Doubles fines for overweight trucks carrying municipal waste.	Referred to ER&E Committee. March 14, 2011.
SC 849	Requires PA DEP to conduct environmental and economic impact study on Alternative Energy Portfolio Standards.	Referred to Consumer Protection and Prof. Licensure March 28, 2011.
SB 995	Requires operators of unconventional wells to post 911 response information at well entrance.	Presented to Governor Jan. 25, 2012.
SB 1022	Adds Section 509 to Act 97 providing for baseline well testing before land application of sludge.	Referred to ER&E Committee. April 28, 2011.
SB 1100 HB 1950	Amendment to the oil and gas Act to address the manifold issues pertaining to, but not limited to, Marcellus Shale formation and fracking including fees and their uses and environmental protection	Governor Signed into Law, February 13, 2012.
SB 1386	Empowers Environmental Quality Board to repeal control of volatile organic compounds from gasoline dispensing facilities under the Air Pollution Control Act.	Referred to ER&E Committee. January 26, 2012.
SB 1398	Extends underground storage tank environmental Prevention Program sunset from June 30, 2012 to June 30, 2017.	Out of Senate ER&E Committee. February 8, 2012. To Senate for Consideration.

For additional information go to the Pennsylvania General Assembly's Website at <http://www.legis.state.pa.us>

February 2012 Pennsylvania Legislative Update

“February Update” continued from page 22

BILL #	Description	Status
HB 206 SB 863	Provides for per ton county fees of up to \$4.00 on MSW generated within the assessing county or MSW disposed of within an assessing county. Fees are to be used for recycling and waste management activities.	Referred to ER&E Committee. January 25, 2011.
HB 326	Increases annual grant cap for County HHW programs from \$100,000 to \$150,000 for counties with populations of more than 250,000.	Referred to ER&E Committee. January 31, 2011.
HB 988	Amends Act 101 to restrict proximity, new landfills to no less than one mile from a reservoir under certain circumstances.	Referred to ER&E Committee. March 9, 2011.
HB 1017	Requires a public referendum before a permit for land application of bio-solids can be issued.	Referred to ER&E Committee. March 15, 2011.
HB 1394	Adds fluorescent lamps or tubes to Sections 1501 (c) and 1502 (b) (c) of Act 101.	Referred to ER&E Committee. April 27, 2011.
HB 1691	Adds "leaf waste" to the definition of "yard Waste in Section 103 of Act 101.	Passed House June 29, 2011..
HB 1745	Amends Alternative Energy Investment Act of 2008 to provide for plug-in vehicle charging station tax credits.	Referred to ER&E Committee. June 28, 2011.
SB 303	Provides for fines collected under the Hazardous Sites Clean-up Act be deposited in the Hazardous Sites Clean-up Fund.	Passed Senate. Removed from table in the House prior to 2 nd consideration Dec. 12, 2011.
SB 304	Increases accessibility of air quality State Implementation Plans to the Public and Legislature.	Passed Senate. Removed from table in the House prior to 2 nd consideration Dec. 12, 2011.
SB3 47	Sets 1,000 yard proximity from schools for new or modified waste disposal facilities.	Referred to ER & E Committee January 31, 2011.
SB 531	Increases fines and upgrades charges for illegal dumping.	Referred to ER&E Committee. February 14, 2011.
SB 532	Ensures waste facility violations be corrected before permit modifications are granted.	Referred to Appropriations Dec. 12, 2011.

2011 Pennsylvania Legislation Enacted

BILL #	Description
HB 1485	Contains \$27.1 billion in spending and a 4.1 percent reduction from the FY 2010-11 General Fund budget.
HB 143	Amends Act 319 to authorize the splitting off of land for noncoal mining. Act 34.
HB 562	Provides for the purchase of conservation easements under the Agricultural Area Security Law. Signed into law as Act 44.
HB 344	Authorizes the PUC to regulate pipeline safety. The bill was signed into law as Act 127.
HB 377	Pennsylvania Construction Code - Uniform Construction Code Review and Advisory Council, revised or successor codes and exemptions.
HB 15	An Act providing for the establishment of a searchable budget database-driven Internet website detailing certain information concerning taxpayer expenditures and investments.
HB 144	An Act amending the act of December 19, 1974 (P.L.973, No.319), known as the Pennsylvania Farmland and Forest Land Assessment Act of 1974, further providing for utilization of land or conveyance of rights for exploration or extraction of gas, oil or coal bed methane.
SB 151	Provides for 25% of air pollution fines over \$50,000 to be returned by PADEP to the municipality in which the violation occurred. Signed into law as Act 57.
SB 263	Assures proposed regulations are supported by empirical and replicable data. Signed into law as Act 60.
SB 265	Updates the Coal and Gas Resource Coordination Act to establish adequate and safe spacing between Marcellus Shale natural gas well clusters and workable coal seams
SB 791	Further defines "bluff" under the Bluff Recession Setback Act. Signed into Law as Act 72.

For additional information go to the Pennsylvania General Assembly's Website at <http://www.legis.state.pa.us>

2011 Pennsylvania Legislation Enacted

"2011 Legislation" continued from page 24

BILL #	Description
SB 1030	An Act amending Titles 18 (Crimes and Offenses) and 42 (Judiciary and Judicial Procedure) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, further providing, in general principles of justification, for definitions, for use of force in self-protection, for use of force for the protection of other persons, for grading of theft offenses and for licenses to carry firearms; and providing for civil immunity for use of force.
HB 40	An Act amending the act of December 5, 1936 (2nd Sp.Sess., 1937 P.L.2897, No.1), known as the Unemployment Compensation Law, further providing for definitions and for relief from charges and for establishment and maintenance of employer's reserve accounts; providing for automatic relief from charges; further providing for qualifications required to secure compensation, for rate and amount of compensation, for definitions and for rules of procedure; and providing for shared-work program and for applicability.
SB 1054	Sets the maximum principal amount of additional debt to be incurred during the 2011-2012 fiscal year, until the enactment of the 2012-2013 capital budget at \$1.662 billion.
SB 1131	An Act amending Title 42 (Judiciary and Judicial Procedure) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in general provisions relating to civil actions and proceedings, amending provisions relating to comparative negligence.
SB 745	An act empowering the Department of Transportation to preserve and improve rail freight service in the Commonwealth by making grants, loans or other assistance available to qualified applicants; authorizing a comprehensive rail study; making an appropriation; and making repeals," further providing for contracts, procurement and sale of property and competition in award of contracts.
SB 290	The Political Subdivision Joint Purchases Law, increasing the amount of purchases that may be made subject to certain conditions.
SB 292	prescribing the powers and duties of the Water and Power Resources Board of the Department of Forests and Waters in relation to the creation of flood control districts, adoption of plans for flood control works and improvements, entering into compacts and agreements with other states for flood control works and improvements; conferring the power of eminent domain; conferring certain powers on municipalities, counties, and townships, and the Department of Highways; and acquisition of property;
SB 314	Prohibits use of interactive wireless communications devices for text-based communications while operating motor vehicles and defines "interactive wireless communications device".

SWANA Pennsylvania Keystone Chapter Calendar



For more information, event registrations, and updated information please go to the Keystone Chapter's website:

<http://www.keystoneswana.org/>

Some events to plan for include:

FEBRUARY 2012

- Distribute Winter Newsletter via email

MARCH 2012

- Thursday, 3/1, 10 a.m., Board Meeting
Conference Call
- Friday, 3/2, Chapter Scholarship application deadline
- Program Committee completes planning for Fall Conference
- Mail exhibitors and sponsorship announcement for 14th Annual Fall Conference

APRIL 2012

- Thursday, 4/5, 10 a.m., Board Meeting
Conference Call
- Announce Chapter Scholarship Award Winners
- Friday, April 13, Articles for Spring Newsletter due.

MAY 2012

- Thursday, 5/3, 10 a.m., Board Meeting—Lancaster County SWMA
- Presentation of Chapter Scholarship Awards
- Nominating Committee presents slate of Officers & Directors for election
- Distribute Spring Newsletter via email (Mid-May)

JUNE 2012

- Thursday, 6/7, 10 a.m., Board Meeting
Conference Call
- Email registration announcement for 14th Annual Fall Conference
- Review Annual budget
- Friday, 6/15, Mid-Atlantic Regional ROAD-E-O - Maryland Environmental Services, Midshore II Regional Solid Waste Facility, Ridgely, MD

JULY 2012

No Activities Planned

AUGUST 2012

- Thursday, 8/2, 10 a.m., Board Meeting
Conference Call
- Program Committee prepares program for the 14th Annual Fall Conference
- Friday, August 17, Articles for Summer Newsletter due.

SEPTEMBER 2012

- Wednesday and Thursday, 9/10 & 9/11, PWIA/SWANA.PADEP/PAHMI Fall Conference—Crowne Plaza Hotel, Harrisburg
- Thursday, 9/11, Chapter Annual Business Meeting and Election
- Distribute summer newsletter via email (Mid-September)
- Chapter fiscal year ends

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Tim Hartman, Vice President

Waste System Authority of Eastern Montgomery County

Bob Zorbaugh, Secretary

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Professional Recyclers of Pennsylvania

Jennifer Cristofolletti

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► **This Publication is for the Solid Waste Professionals of the Keystone Chapter of SWANA**

The Keystone is published a minimum of three times per year (generally winter, summer, and fall). If you have ideas for future articles, updates, or general suggestions for The Keystone, please contact [Diane Roskos](mailto:droskos@bartonandloguidice.com) at Barton & Loguidice, Newsletter Secretariat Production Services, or any member of the Newsletter Committee listed below:

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