



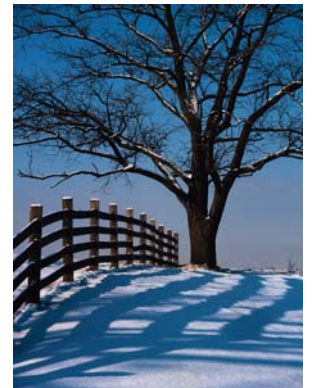
# AOWB ELECTS OFFICERS FOR 2008

The AOWB quarterly meeting was held January 22, 2008, in Montgomery, Alabama with Acting Chairman Alton Williams presiding. Special Guests were recognized and heard along with special requests that had been received via mail. The minutes from the previous meeting were read and approved. Treasurer Chad Mercer gave the treasurer's report which was also ap-

proved.

Officer elections were had and for 2008 Mr. Alton Williams was elected Chairman of the Board; Mr. Chad Mercer was elected Vice-Chairman and Mr. Hack Sain was elected Treasurer. We are confident the officers will perform an excellent job for you. At this time a new Executive Director has not been named. Any correspondence or assistance needed

should be directed to Melissa Hines – Executive Secretary. Any complaints should be submitted in writing to the Board to the attention of Mr. Mike Talley, Enforcement Division.



## WELCOME NEW LICENSEES!

The Alabama Onsite Wastewater Board would like to welcome the 32 new licensees to the industry thus far in 2008. These individuals have trained, been tested and met all of the

qualifications of the Board to obtain a license. We wish them well in their business.

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### Office Closures/meetings/ deadlines

- Presidents Day- 02-18-2008-AOWB CLOSED
- AOWB Quarterly Meeting - 04-10-2008

## ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATE—MELISSA HINES

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Happy new year to all! We hope this issue finds all of you well. As of this date, we have renewed 1,122 licensees which include: 412 basic installers, 441 Advanced Level I Installers, 84 Advanced Level II Installers, 311 pumpers and 7 portable rest room operators. If you have not renewed your license for 2008, please do so as soon as possible.

Numerous licensees across the State of Alabama are given the opportunity from time to time to participate in TRAC programs or the county health departments offer continuing education hours to licensees for helping with an installation. The issue of how many can attend these trainings/installations was a concern to many. Some classes have had as many as 60 participants. At the January 22, 2008 Board meeting much discussion was had. Mr. Hack Sain made a motion to the Board that continuing education be

granted to those actually performing the work, contributing materials or providing a service to the installation but not to exceed 10 individuals on TRAC programs. Remember if you hold 1 license you need 6 hours of CE, 2 licenses you need 10 hours and for 3 licenses you will need 14 hours of CE.

When renewing at this time of the year please keep in mind that you will have to pay the \$100.00 restoration fee as licenses are required by law to be renewed by December 31 of each year. The renewal process includes: updating your bond, obtaining your continuing education and paying your renewal fees. If any of these items are not in place by December 31 of each year you will be charged the \$100.00 restoration fee. As a courtesy each October we mail out renewal forms to each licensee. If you have an address change during the year please contact us to update your record.

### NEWS YOU CAN USE

As I talk with more and more licensees, I have noticed more of you are getting “on board” with the internet. I thought I would share some websites you may be interested in:

[www.aowb.alabama.gov](http://www.aowb.alabama.gov)

[www.adph.org](http://www.adph.org)

[www.aowa.org](http://www.aowa.org)

[www.aowatc.uwa.edu](http://www.aowatc.uwa.edu)

[www.pumpershow.com](http://www.pumpershow.com)

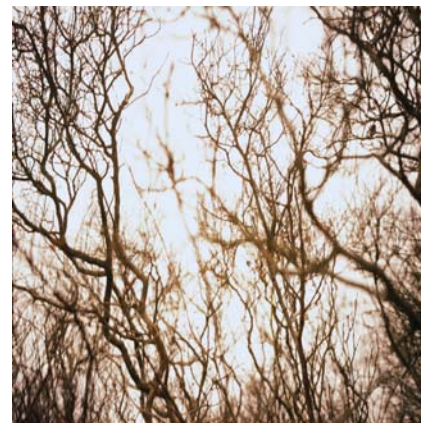
[www.alabama.gov](http://www.alabama.gov)

[www.genconbd.alabama.gov](http://www.genconbd.alabama.gov) (General Contractors Board)

[www.hblb.alabama.gov](http://www.hblb.alabama.gov) (Homebuilders Licensure Board)

[www.adem.alabama.gov](http://www.adem.alabama.gov)

[www.bels.alabama.gov](http://www.bels.alabama.gov)



## **ENFORCEMENT UPDATE**

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*Mr. Darren Snow of Washington County was arrested and found guilty for installing a septic tank without a license. There were no consent agreements this quarter. We have a total of 10 pending investigations at this time. One Administrative Hearing was held at the quarterly Board Meeting on January 22, 2008, the Board will make a ruling based on the recommendation by the Administrative Law Judge. Good will visits are being made throughout the State. Any complaints must be submitted to the AOWB office in writing, via fax, email or us mail. Once a complaint is received, it is presented to the probable cause committee which is comprised of the Boards Attorney, the compliance officer, a Board Member and the Executive Director or the Executive Secretary. If probable cause is found, an Administrative Hearing is scheduled for the next Board meeting.*

## **SEPTIC TANK LANDS MAN IN JAIL—BY KELLY TOWNSEND— THE TIMES-JOURNAL-PUBLISHED JANUARY 15, 2008**

A DeKalb County man who allegedly installed a sewage system at his daughter's home without a license faces criminal charges. Deputies arrested William Cecil Brewer, 61 of Ider, on a warrant issued by the Alabama Onsite Wastewater Board. Brewer was booked in DeKalb County jail Wednesday on \$1,500 bond. Jim Hollins, area environmental director for the DeKalb County Health Department, said he believed Brewer had installed the system without a license. "All I know is the AOWB found out and issued a warrant for his arrest," Hollins said. According to state law, no one is allowed to manufacture, install, service, clean or maintain an onsite wastewater system in Alabama without a license. "The only way someone can do this is if they have received the required specific license from the board," Hollins said. Persons involved in the installation or servicing of onsite wastewater systems must obtain a basic level license for conventional onsite wastewater systems, according to the law, or an advanced level license for alternative onsite wastewater systems. Melissa Hines, AOWB executive secretary declined comment on the investigation. Installing a wastewater system without a license is a class C misdemeanor.

## **What is the MOU between the Alabama Department of Public Health and the Alabama Onsite Waste Water Board?**

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This agreement is between the Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH) and the Alabama Onsite Wastewater Board (AOWB). The AOWB is charged with the task of licensing persons engaged in the installation of onsite sewage treatment and disposal systems (OSS); and, the local county health departments (LHD), as agents of the ADPH, through the onsite sewage treatment and disposal program, have the responsibility of providing a program of services which seek to protect public health by the inspection and permitting of OSSs; and finally the licensed installer (licensee) is a local professional business person with sufficient knowledge in the permitting, functioning, sizing, installing, and/or repairing of septic tank systems, to ensure the protection of public health. The agreement allows an installer to cover the installation of a permitted repair or new OSS **only with prior authorization from the LHD**. The licensed installer will then certify the installation by using a CEP-5 form, drawing of completed system, AOWB license number, date and signature assuring that the installation was in compliance with Alabama Administrative Code, Chapter 420-3-1. **This is only a consideration when the licensee has followed the guidelines in the MOU.**

### **AOWB shall require licensees to:**

1. Install or repair only Conventional OSSs covered by a valid Permit to Install (Repair) issued by the LHD.
2. Install or repair OSSs in accordance with ADPH Rules and any special conditions of approval.
3. Request an agreed-upon system inspection time by coordinating directly with the local public health environmentalist or his/her authorized designee not later than 9:00 a.m. on the date that system construction begins. As much advance notice as possible is preferred.
4. Notify the LHD of any problem encountered during an OSS installation or repair which may prevent the system from being installed in accordance with the Permit to Install (Repair) or applicable rules, and to stop construction until the problem is resolved with the LHD.
5. Request authorization from the LHD to cover a Conventional OSS installation or repair without an inspection, should the health department representative not arrive within one (1) hour after the agreed-upon inspection time.
6. Provide written certification on all system installations or repairs to the OSS as required in Chapter 420-3-1-.20(1)(b) and Appendix N (or as amended or superceded), and a sketch of the septic tank and field line location in relation to the house and any required setbacks, within 48 hours of completion of the system. In the case of an intervening holi-

## Story continued from page 4

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day, the written certification shall be provided to the LHD on the LHD=s first regular scheduled work day following the holiday.

### **ADPH, by and through the LHD shall, for the benefit of AOWB licensees:**

1. Consider allowing a licensee to cover a Conventional OSS installation or repair when resource constraints prevent the LHD from conducting an inspection within one (1) hour after the agreed-upon inspection time.
2. Schedule an inspection as close as possible to the time requested by a licensee.
3. Provided that the licensee obtains advanced authorization from the LHD, and without waiving its right to inspect, consider allowing a licensee to install or repair a Conventional OSS on a holiday, or for special circumstances, as shall be determined by the LHD, on a weekend. Consider allowing a licensee to repair a Conventional OSS at any time in an unforeseen, valid emergency.
4. Consider accepting that a covered OSS is in compliance with the Alabama Administrative Code, Chapter 420-3-1 in the absence of an inspection, and if so, consider issuing an Approval For Use for an OSS that has not been inspected, provided that notification was performed by the licensee in accordance with Section I above, and upon receipt from the licensee of the written certification required in Chapter 420-3-1.20(1)(b) and Appendix N (or as amended or superceded), and a sketch of the septic tank and field lines relative to the house and any required setbacks, within 48 hours of completion of the system. Said acceptance or issuance shall not preclude a follow-up inspection of a system by probe, at the option of the LHD.
5. Notify the AOWB of a failure of a licensee to perform under either this agreement or the provisions of Chapter 420-3-1.

A licensee is an independent contractor, and not an agent of the ADPH, the LHD, or the AOWB. A licensee shall not present himself/herself or his/her company or services as an agent of these entities. Under no circumstances does the ADPH, the LHD, or the AOWB warrant or guarantee any work performed by a licensee, and under no circumstances shall a debt of the State of Alabama arise or be created under this agreement.

Article by: Mr. Steven McDaniel—ADPH

# CONTINUING EDUCATION CLASSES FOR 2008



## THE ALABAMA ONSITE WASTEWATER ASSOCIATION TRAINING CENTER



### CONTINUING EDUCATION COURSES 2008 REGISTRATION FORM

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Company Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

INDICATE WHICH CLASS YOU WANT BY MARKING THE BOX

- April 4-5, 2008**      **Pelham Civic Complex / 500 Amphitheater Rd. / Pelham, AL (Trade Show)**
- June 26-27, 2008**    **\*Wiregrass Rehabilitation Center / 795 Ross Clark Circle / Dothan, AL**
- August 7-8, 2008**     **\*University Center / University of AL / 301 Sparkman Dr. / Huntsville, AL**
- October 2-3 2008**     **\*Gasden Convention Hall / 344 S. 1st St. / Gasden, AL**
- October 29-30, 2008** **\*John Archer Ag Center / 1070 Schillinger Rd. N. / Mobile, AL**
- December 4-5, 2008**   **\*UWA Training Center / Livingston, AL**

\* Six hours of Continuing Education will be offered both days. The first day will focus on education relevant to Installers. The second day will focus on education for Pumpers and Portable Restroom Operators.

**REGISTRATION FEES:**

Registration includes training material and attendance certification.  
Mail Form and Registration Fee (see chart to the right) to:

AOWA Training Program  
P. O. Box 210701  
Montgomery, AL 36121

Make check or money order payable to "AOWA". There will be no refunds and no transfers.  
Registration deadlines for the classes are always 2 weeks before the scheduled date of any class.  
If your registration is not postmarked by 2 weeks before your scheduled class, you will be charged a \$50.00 late fee.

<b>1 License (6 hrs)</b> <b>(AOWA Members)</b>	<b>\$150.00</b> <b>\$75.00</b>
<b>2 Licenses (10 hrs)</b> <b>(AOWA Members)</b>	<b>\$200.00</b> <b>\$125.00</b>
<b>3 Licenses (14 hrs)</b> <b>(AOWA Members)</b>	<b>\$250.00</b> <b>\$175.00</b>
<b>Portable Restroom</b> <b>Only</b> <b>(AOWA Members)</b> <b>(4 hrs)</b>	<b>\$115.00</b> <b>\$40.00</b>

## FROM THE AOWA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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Dear Licensees

I hope all of you that attended the Auburn Conference enjoyed the program of speakers that Allen Tartt put together. I think that everyone walked away feeling like they learned a great deal. Any time that you get a good mix of ADPH environmentalists, engineers, and licensees together and stimulate them with top notch speakers, good things happen. We did have a few problems that detracted from the conference. First, parking was a HUGE problem. By the time we return next year, the construction will be complete and the parking lot will be back at full capacity. The Conference Center Manager and I had a very *pleasant* conversation and he assured me that we will not have the problems next year that we had this year. I apologize to any one who had their car towed. Hopefully, all the parking tickets were taken care of. I can't say much about the fire alarm during lunch. It was just one of those unfortunate things that happen at the absolute worst time.

Kristie and I are hard at work planning for the AOWA Annual Trade Show April 4 & 5, 2008 at the Pelham Civic Complex. We expect a record number of exhibitors, so mark your calendar, send in your CEU registration form, (you can find a blank form on page 6) and plan on being there. Friday evening we will have our annual Membership meeting followed by our Dinner where we will award scholarships to our 2008-2009 scholarship winners. The evening will conclude with Al Ernst will entertaining us with his humor. The Trade Show will end Saturday afternoon with our "World Famous" drawing where the winner will have the choice of a mini-excavator, Ford F250 4X4 Pickup Truck, 2008 Harley Davidson Ultra Classic Electra Glide, or **\$30,000 cash**. You **do not** have to be present to win. You can purchase a ticket from any AOWA Board member, Allen Tart, or from me. If you have any questions please call the office at 1-334-396-3434.

Dave Roll

Executive Director, AOWA





**ALABAMA ONSITE WASTEWATER  
BOARD**

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**AOWB**

We are on the Web!  
[www.aowb.alabama.gov](http://www.aowb.alabama.gov)

## ***THE MISSION OF THE ALABAMA ONSITE WASTEWATER BOARD***

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*The Alabama Onsite Wastewater Board was created to examine, license and regulate persons engaged in manufacturing, installation or servicing of onsite wastewater systems, including portable toilets, in Alabama. This Board was also created to establish the qualifi-*

*cation levels for those engaged in the manufacture, installation, servicing, cleaning or pumping of onsite wastewater systems and equipment in Alabama and promote the proper manufacture, installation and ser-*

*vicings of onsite wastewater systems.*

