

FLORIDA BEACON

From the President's Desk
Kristin Bennett

FAEP Annual Conference Report

On September 21, the Northwest Chapter hosted the 2012 FAEP Annual Conference. It was a well attended, informative and fun day with knowledgeable speakers, an interested audience and a lovely historical setting in downtown Pensacola. The NWFAEP arranged the conference into three tracks: Land Use, Water Quality and Air Quality. Reflective of the FAEP membership, the speakers represented all aspects of the environmental profession: public; private and academic; engineers; lawyers; employees of green building consulting firms; biologists; environmental scientists; professional wetland scientists; marine biologists; water quality technicians and more.

If the scientific side of the presentations were not enough to keep the crowd enthralled, conference attendees were also regaled with stories of the history of Pensacola from Mr. John Appleyard and a presentation of significant environmental milestones in Florida by Dr. Jack Davis, Professor of History, University of Florida. Mr. Appleyard and Dr. Davis both did an incredible job keeping the audience well informed and very entertained. Both were fabulous speakers with a clear passion for what they do. Thank you for sharing that passion with the FAEP.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, please allow me to extend our gratitude to the NWFAEP chapter for hosting a tremendously successful FAEP annual conference. Thanks go out also to the presenters and the sponsors. It is through the generous support of FAEP sponsors that the FAEP and the local chapters are able to continue to offer training, education and networking opportunities to our members at very affordable prices. Check out our webpage – www.faep-fl.org – for sponsorship opportunities. You can reach over 1,000 active FAEP members when you sponsor the FAEP webpage and/or quarterly newsletter. There are also opportunities to sponsor the 2013 FAEP Annual Conference and the 2014 NAEP Annual Conference being hosted by the Tampa Bay Chapter. For more information about sponsorship opportunities, you can contact either me (Kristin.Bennett@tetrattech.com) or Teri Hasbrouck at info@faep-fl.org.

Continued on page 2

**Florida Association of
Environmental Professionals**

Fall 2012



FAEP 2012-2013

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JOIN FAEP TODAY!

Did you know that together we can achieve more?
If every FAEP member introduced the benefits and services of our association to a co-worker, colleague, friend or associate, we would double the resources available to meet the needs of **YOU**, our member.

Not only financial resources, but human resources, our most important ones. We have many committee openings available so that **YOU** can become more involved in our exciting and growing organization!

1073 CURRENT MEMBERS!!

**Find out more about FAEP
Member Benefits at our website:
WWW.FAEP-FL.ORG**

**Interested in becoming
a member of FAEP?
Click on [Renew-Join Here](#)**

President's Message Continued...

FAEP Membership Drive

During the month of September, FAEP hosted a membership drive. The final tally: **189 new memberships** resulting in a total FAEP membership of **1073 current members**.

Broken down by chapter, the results are shown at the right:

Central	27
Northeast	18
Northwest	24
South	11 + 2 students
Southwest	7 + 5 students
Tallahassee	30
Tampa Bay	69 + 45 students
Treasure Coast	21

Welcome to all of our new members and thank you to all those who renewed in July, August and September. The Board of Directors looks forward to continuing to meet the needs of our members by supporting the local chapters in offering training, networking and technical presentations on a variety of topics.

The Board of Directors strongly encourages FAEP members to speak up, to let us know what you want from your organization. Do you have a recommendation for a particular speaker, topic or training session or meeting location? Contact your local chapter to share your thoughts. Consider getting involved with your local chapter board and the FAEP board. Join a committee; host a webinar at your office; join the board. FAEP will continue to be successful only as long as we have members who support the sustainability of the organization.

TBAEP USF Student Chapter

At the September Board of Directors' meeting, Tampa Bay FAEP President Tim Terwilliger presented a request from the Tampa Bay FAEP University of South Florida- Tampa Campus, to be recognized as a Student Chapter. The USF-Tampa Student Chapter also submitted its request for recognition from the NAEP. The USF-Tampa Student Chapter is comprised of undergraduate and graduate students in the fields of Civil Engineering, Environmental Engineering, Chemical Engineering, Geology, Chemistry, Biology, Environmental Science and Geography. The FAEP Board voted unanimously to recognize the USF-Tampa Student Chapter and we look forward to the students becoming involved in the FAEP leadership, including serving a vital role in the 2014 NAEP Annual Conference planning (to be held in St. Petersburg, Florida).

Teaming Opportunities

In an effort to spread the word of FAEP and to support the environmental profession, FAEP has been teaming with like-minded organizations to help cross-promote conferences, training sessions and networking opportunities. FAEP has teamed with the Florida Local Environmental Resource Agencies (FLERA), the Florida Bar Environmental and Land Use Law Section (ELULS) and the 2012 National Mitigation and Ecosystem Banking Conference. Continue to look for announcements about these organizations on the FAEP webpage, in the Beacon quarterly newsletter, and in occasional FAEP email announcements.

Sustainability

In order for FAEP to survive and to continue to thrive, we need to have active members involved in the leadership of the organization at the local and state level. Below is an excerpt from Volume One of the NAEP's Journal. The thoughts expressed by Norm Arnold in 1979 remain relevant today:

"Environmental Professionals need to communicate with each other. Building on the work done in the last four years, NAEP will provide better channels for this communication. The Association will give a clearer identify to the environmental professional and identify fellow professionals to him. This publication, "The Environmental Professional" will supply background on new techniques and applications. Local chapters will entertain discussion of local problems. Annual conferences will continue to be an excellent opportunity to meet and learn.

But how well all of these function depends on how much each individual member participates. Our present status is the result of the volunteer efforts of a relatively small number of members; our future status will derive from the interest of the membership at large. This interest can be shown in a variety of ways; submitting articles or letters to the editor of this journal; writing to the Association with ideas; participating in the annual conference or in local chapters; working on committees; running for office; getting new members; or any combination of the above. The future is up to us."

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Upcoming Conferences and Workshops

Event	Date	Place
The Wildlife Society Annual Conference	Oct. 13-17, 2012	Portland, Oregon
Sustainable & Authentic Florida Conference	Oct. 17-19, 2012	Anna Maria Island, Florida
6th Nat'l Conf. on Coastal & Estuarine Habitat Restoration	Oct. 20-24, 2012	Tampa, Florida
Florida Local Environmental Resource Agencies	Oct. 24–26, 2012	Orlando, Florida
Audubon Assembly 2012	Oct. 25-27, 2012	Sarasota, Florida
Florida Brownfields Association	Oct. 28-31, 2012	St. Petersburg, Florida
Creation and Restoration of Wetlands	Nov. 8-10, 2012	Naples, Florida
Tampa Bay ULI-2nd Annual Forum on Sustainability	Nov. 8, 2012	Tampa, Florida
Gulf of Mexico Oil Spill & Ecosystem Science Conference	Jan. 21 – 23, 2013	New Orleans. Louisiana
33rd Annual Symposium on Sea Turtle Biology & Conservation	Feb. 2 – 8, 2013	Baltimore, Maryland
Florida Marine Science Educators Association 2013 Annual Conference	Mar. 2 – 5, 2013	Ft. Pierce, Florida
National Wildlife Rehabilitators Assoc. 2013 Symposium	Mar. 5 – 9, 2013	Portland, Oregon
National Mitigation and Ecosystem Banking Conference	May 7 –10, 2012	New Orleans, Louisiana
Florida Native Plant Society	May 16 – 19, 2013	Jacksonville, Florida
The Wildlife Society Annual Conference	Oct. 4 – 9, 2013	Milwaukee, Wisconsin

FAEP is sharing information about conferences pertaining to the environmental professions. The FAEP does not endorse any of the referenced conferences.

The **National Mitigation and Ecosystem Banking Conference**, May 7—10, 2013 at the Sheraton New Orleans Hotel: <http://mitigationbankingconference.com>

Independent, Balanced, Informative — Established 16 years ago as an independent conference to foster improved communication and education within this growing industry, the National Mitigation & Ecosystem Banking Conference remains the only national conference that brings together key regulators, bankers, users and providers of services in the mitigation, conservation and ecosystem banking marketplace. The conference has proven to be “the” place to gain insights, explore new markets and learn from sessions. Celebrating a near record attendance this past year, they are moving into the 17th year with a refreshing focus on new and advanced sessions while continuing to offer basic sessions for those entering or new to the industry.

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What is SWERP?

SWERP, the Statewide Environmental Resource Permit, is an initiative to simplify and streamline the environmental resource permit process and improve consistency statewide. Currently, the Department of Environmental Protection and the 5 water management districts have their own permitting rules and regulations, many of which are similar, but differences do exist. These differences sometimes have been the source of confusion among applicants and their consultants. House Bill 7003, approved by the Governor in April 2012, directed the DEP, in conjunction with the water management districts, to initiate rulemaking to develop statewide environmental resource permitting rules.

The rule changes are not intended to create a new permitting program, weaken environmental protection, affect agriculture or silviculture, or result in an increase in fees, or regulatory burdens. The rule changes also do not establish a statewide stormwater rule (which was initiated a couple of years ago but was not completed).

Each water management district (WMD) currently has their own individual rules that pertain to environmental resource permitting (40X-1, 40X-4, 40X-40, 40X-400, 40X-42) and the DEP has four main rules, 62-330, 62-341, 62-343, and 62-346. Further, each WMD has its own Applicant's Handbook(s)/Basis of Review that are intended to assist applicants and staff in understanding the rules, procedures, standards, and criteria of the environmental resource permit program. Consolidating the rules and guidance documents is intended to make it easier for applicants and consultants to understand and apply what is expected of them during the ERP regulatory process, and improve predictability and consistency in permitting decisions. When the SWERP rules go into effect, Chapter 62-330, F.A.C. and the Applicant's Handbook Volume 1 will apply statewide to all WMDs and FDEP, and each WMD will have an Applicant's Handbook Volume 2, which will contain performance and design standards for stormwater, special basin criteria, and agricultural activities specific to that WMD. WMDs may retain or amend other existing rules to not be in conflict with Chapter 62-330.

In addition to consolidating multiple rules and guidance documents, permit types and thresholds, conceptual approvals, fee categories, forms, types of Noticed General Permits, and exemptions will also be revised and will be consistent statewide.

Permit Types and Thresholds – Fewer permit types will be available under SWERP: a Noticed General Permit (NGP) and an Individual Environmental Resource Permit (including Conceptuals and Mitigation Bank Permits). For the St. Johns River Water Management District (SJRWMD), an Individual ERP for Agricultural Systems will also be available. General, Standard, and Stormwater Permits (SJRWMD region) will no longer be available. If a project includes 4,000 sq. ft. of impervious area subject to vehicular traffic, includes more than 9,000 sq. ft. of total impervious area, or includes work in, on, or over wetlands or surface waters, an Individual Permit will be required (Note: For complete list of the permit thresholds, see 62-330.020, F.A.C).

Conceptual Permits - Under SWERP, Conceptual permits will be valid for 20 years as long as the first construction phase begins within 5 years; otherwise the conceptual permit will be valid for 5 years. In addition, the first phase of construction of a conceptual permit can be issued concurrently with the conceptual with a single application and fee. See 62-330.055 and .056, F.A.C for specific information pertaining to conceptual permits.

Fee Categories – The application fees themselves will be addressed separately by each WMD and FDEP, as is currently done. However, a new set of application fee categories will be implemented statewide. The new individual permit fee categories will be based on project size and number of boat slips. The fees for the new categories are still under review by each WMD and FDEP, however, the new fee schedule is intended to be as revenue neutral as possible, when compared to current permit application fees.

Cont'd on next page....

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What is SWERP?

Forms – The ERP permit form is being completely revised and will be divided into sections that will be filled out based on the type of project. The sections include a Part A, which all applicants will complete, and sections B - activities involving a single family home, C - activities in wetlands or other surface waters, D - activities involving marinas, breakwaters, or offshore structures, E – activities involving a water management system, F – activities located on State-owned lands, G – mitigation banks, and H – mining activities. Depending on the type of project, only certain sections of the ERP application will be completed. For example, a commercial development with wetland impacts would complete Sections A, C, and E. Other forms, including Request for Verification of Exemption, Intent to Use a Noticed General Permit, Operation and Maintenance Inspection, Conservation Easements, and several other forms will be consistent statewide. The draft application forms may be viewed on FDEPs rule development webpage.

Noticed General Permits and Exemptions- Currently, each WMD and FDEP have their own rules governing NPGs and exemptions. Under SWERP, these NGPs and exemptions will be consolidated within Chapter 62-330. Several new NGPs and exemptions are being added, including NGPs for geotechnical investigations, government environmental restoration and enhancement, dry borrow pits of less than 5 acres, and several others. Additionally, many existing NPGs are being revised. Likewise, several new and revised exemptions are being developed, including an exemption for repaving existing paved roads, recreational paths, and living shorelines. See 62-330.051 and 62-330.402 for specific information pertaining to exemptions and NGPs.

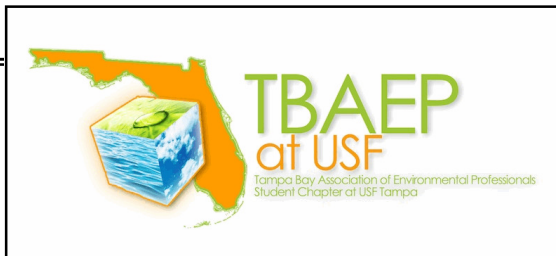
Rule drafts, previous public workshop presentations, and an online forum is available at <http://www.dep.state.fl.us/water/wetlands/swerp/index.htm>. Comments on the proposed rule change are due by October 31st. The new rule is targeted to go into effect on January 31, 2013.

Contributed by Mark Brandenburg, SJRWMD Environmental Resource Program Manager

USF-Tampa Student Chapter Recognized by FAEP Board of Directors

Kristin Bennett, FAEP President, visited a meeting of the new USF-Tampa student chapter to present a certificate of recognition from FAEP. Kristin enjoyed visiting with the students, commenting that they are very interactive and interested in more information about becoming Environmental Professionals.

The student chapter has an upcoming Environmental Career Showcase scheduled for November 16th at 11:00 at the USF Marshall Student Center. Go here for more information: <http://www.facebook.com/TBAEP.USF>



Kristin Bennett, FAEP President and Melissa Butcher, USF-Tampa Student Chapter President

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SAVE THE DATE!!!

FLERA CONFERENCE 2012:

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Orlando, Florida • October 24th - 26th 2012

Student discounts! Join FLERA now and attend the conference for free!

Turn this year's FLERA conference into your family vacation!

Stay through the weekend and visit one of Orlando's many famed theme parks or get in the Halloween spirit at Universal Studio's Halloween Horror Nights, SeaWorld's Halloween Spooktacular, or Mickey's Not-So-Scary Halloween. Prefer comedy? Check out Wanda Sykes at the Hard Rock on Saturday the 26th. More of a foodie? Epcot's Food & Wine Festival is a must do. Is music your thing? Velvet Sessions, a rock & roll cocktail party, is hosted by the Hard Rock the last Thursday of the month. Don't want to miss your Sunday service? House of Blues Gospel Brunch is right up the road!



Interested in:

- Sponsoring an Event?
- Submitting a Paper?
- Exhibiting?

Contact FLERA at (813) 389-2238 or visit www.flera.org for more information!

When: October 24th, 25th, 26th

Where: Orlando, Florida

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A Complete Solution for Oil-Spill Cleanup

Scientists are describing what may be a complete solution to cleaning up oil spills—a superabsorbent material that sops up 40 times its own weight in oil and then can be shipped to an oil refinery and processed to recover the oil. Their article, Novel Solution to Oil Spill Recovery: Using Thermodegradable Polyolefin Oil Superabsorbent Polymer (Oil-SAP), on the material appears in ACS journal Energy & Fuels.

T.C. Mike Chung and Xuepei Yuan point out that current methods for coping with oil spills like the 2010 Deepwater Horizon disaster are low-tech, decades-old, and have many disadvantages. Corncobs, straw and other absorbents, for instance can hold only about five times their own weight and pick up water, as well as oil. Those materials then become industrial waste that must be disposed of in special landfills or burned.

Their solution is a polymer material that transforms an oil spill into a soft, solid oil-containing gel. One pound of the material can recover about five gallons of crude oil. The gel is strong enough to be collected and transported. Then, it can be converted to a liquid and refined like regular crude oil. The gel is strong enough to be collected and transported. Then, it can be converted to a liquid and refined like regular crude oil. That oil would be worth \$15 when crude oil sells for \$100 a barrel. "Overall, this cost-effective new polyolefin Oil-SAP technology shall dramatically reduce the environmental impacts from oil spills and help recover one of our most precious natural resources," the authors said.

Environmental Resource Center—Environmental Tip of the Week

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EPA Announces New Electronic System for Filing Environmental Impact Statements

The EPA has announced e-NEPA, a new online system that allows federal agencies to submit environmental impact statements (EISs) electronically. Traditionally, EISs have been submitted to EPA in hard copy, e-NEPA eliminates the need to mail or deliver copies of EISs to EPA headquarters, reducing printing, shipping, and delivery costs. It also saves time through electronic filing and e-confirmation and improves transparency, allowing EPA to post EIS documents to EPA's website.

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requires federal agencies to integrate environmental considerations into their decision-making processes by identifying the environmental impacts and reasonable alternatives to their proposed actions. To meet NEPA requirements federal agencies prepare detailed analyses known as EISs. EPA reviews, provides comment, and maintains a national filing system for EISs.

Use of e-NEPA for electronic filing does not change any of the requirements for distribution of EISs to other federal agencies for review, including EPA Regional Offices, or the general public. EPA Regional Offices generally prefer at least one paper copy of EISs—contact your EPA Regional Office for more information.

Beginning on October 1, 2012, all agencies are required to use the e-NEPA filing system. To find out more about the new system go to this link: <http://www.epa.gov/compliance/nepa/submiteis/index.html>

Environmental Resource Center—Environmental Tip of the Week



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TBAEP Announces First Annual Environmental Photography Contest Winners!

The Nature of Environmental Professionals

If you check out the FAEP website, you will find new photographs posted from the Tampa Bay Chapter Environmental Photography Contest! TBAEP received over 30 photo entries for the contest that ran from May to August. Photographers who entered the contest have agreed to let TBAEP and FAEP use the photos in their promotional materials. Go to the **TBAEP website** to see all of the wonderful entries from this first annual photography contest: www.tbaep.org.

TBAEP is planning another new initiative, the TBAEP 2013 industry event calendar that will feature the 12 most popular photo entries with contest sponsor logos and industry conferences, training and workshop information; a must-have calendar for your office. The calendar will be given to members who attend TBAEP's Falliday event, the popular annual member appreciation night of fun, food and festivities! Calendars will also be available for purchase after Falliday. The photos will be a traveling exhibition this year with stops at EPC of Hillsborough County, TECO's Manatee Viewing Center, SWFWMD offices and FDEP Tampa offices. The following winners were selected by a panel of judges:



First Place Winner
Reddish Egret
By Patrick Griffin



Second Place Winner
Today's Special—Fresh Needlefish
By Peter A. Clark



Third Place Winner
Gas Pump in Pasco
By Alex Twitmyer



Honorable Mention
Hillsborough River State Park
By Kathleen Rowland

NAEP Webinars

NAEP Offers Complimentary Webinar on Career Advice

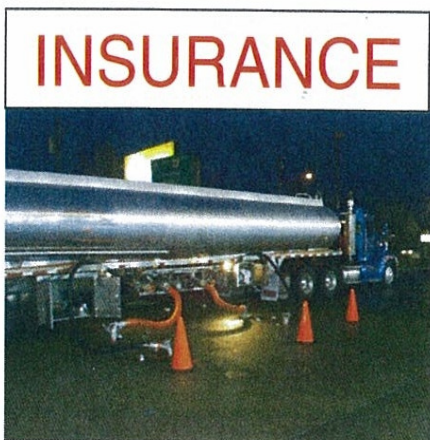
NEXT EVENT SCHEDULED FOR WEDNESDAY, October 17TH

REGISTER TODAY AT www.studyatapu.com/NAEP-webinars

With the current economic conditions and job market, Environmental Professionals need to stand out in order to compete for jobs or to advance their careers. Recognizing this challenge, the National Association of Environmental Professionals (NAEP) and American Public University (APU) are bringing together top academic leaders and subject matter experts to collaborate on a 3-part webinar series, helping educate environmental professionals on this highly informative topic of career preparation. Register today at www.studyatapu.com/NAEP-Webinars to learn critical skills that may help you shape the future of your career in this field!

NAEP and APU have selected some of the top environmental experts today to provide relevant and cutting-edge career advice that you can use to help you advance in your field. The caliber of the experts speaking at this webinar series really highlights both NAEP and APU as thought leader organizations in the environmental field as well as their legitimate interest and commitment toward helping drive professional advancements through career-relevant education.

Go to the NAEP website to learn more about this series: www.naep.org



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FAEP WELCOMES THESE NEW AND RENEWING MEMBERS

Rob Abramowski	Peter Clark	Paul Ferry	Tony Holley
Cornelius Adjei	Tiffani Coleman	Teresa Fischer	Wayne Holt
Nicholas Albergo	Katy Collins	Douglas Fitton	Lisbeth House
Wendy Anastasiou	Rob Armando	Adam Flanery	Nicole Howard
Elie Araj	Luis Colon	Shawna Fleming	Jon Hull
Charles Arnett	Jaqueline Cook	Wayne Flowers	Christopher Hunter
Michael Arnold	Ivy Cormier	Jim Flynn	Zachary Hutchins
Atalie Ashley	Anne Cox	Monica Folk	Elaine Imbruglia
Carl Asprinio	Ginger Creighton	Danielle Fondren	Thomas Ingram
LaToya Backus	Lindsay Cross	George Foster	Steve Irby
Missie Barletto	Robert Cuba	Lisa Fowler	Paul Irvin
Jason Baybutt	Katelyn Cucinotta	Thomas Gagliardi	Delia Ivanoff
Ary Beharry	Lori Cunniff	Timothy Gallagher	Beth Jackson
Siva Beharry	Jessica Dalton	Kim M. Garcia	Tom Jacobs
Regina Bell	Anton Dapcic	Chris Garth	Katie Jaramillo
Brian Bendis	Scott Davis	Echo Gates	Mason Jeffers
Vivianne Bernardin	Teri A. Deardorff	Frank Gidus II, LEP	Nicole Jeter
Lee Bienkowski	Peter deGolian	Chuck Goodheart	Amy Johnson
Robin Bjorklund	Rob DeGraff	Scott Graf	Laura Jolley
Ken Blevins	Angela Delaney	Phyllis Green	Ken Jones
James Blythe	Darryl DeLeeuw	Carmen Green	Teresa Jordan
David Boggs	Savanna DeLuca	Kenneth Greenwood	Jen Jordan
Marcela Bonells	Ushang Desai	Liza Grudin	Jay Kamke
Chris Bradley	Nicole Desjardin	Jake Halfhill	Carrie Kelly
Nancy Brashears	Daniel Dmiczak	Lori Hall	Pam Kelly
Gregory Braun	Catie Donisi	John Hallas	Melissa Kemm
Arlin Briley	Donald Dowling	Katie Hallas	Jason Kendall
Trista Brophy-Duron	Annie Doyle	Jeffery Halsey	Susan Kennedy
Eric Brown	William Dunaway	Terry Hansen	Rosalyn Kilcollins
Melissa Butcher	Matthew Earle	Rick Harman	Mike Kirby
Doyle Butler	Richard Earp	Tyson Hauschild	Chris Kling
Thomas Callaway	Nicole Easter	Joanne Hayden	Rachel Klinger
Chadwick Campbell	Greg Engel	Andrew Hayslip	Kevin Krause
Kristin Campbell	Dorothy Estrada	Thomas Hazlett	Marissa Krueger
Chrissa Carmichael	Kristina Evans	Reba Heath	David Landers
Sarah Carter	Robert Falkner	Katherine Helms	Lucky Landrigan
Richard Cartwright	Segundo Fernandez	Stephanie Henry	Greg Lassi
Janice Chambers	Cassie Ferreira	Jeff Hester	Mary Lawrence
Jim Chastain	Juanita Ferrer	Eric Hickman	Patrick Lay
Julie Cheon	John Ferrill	Debbie Hitchcock	Ron Leins

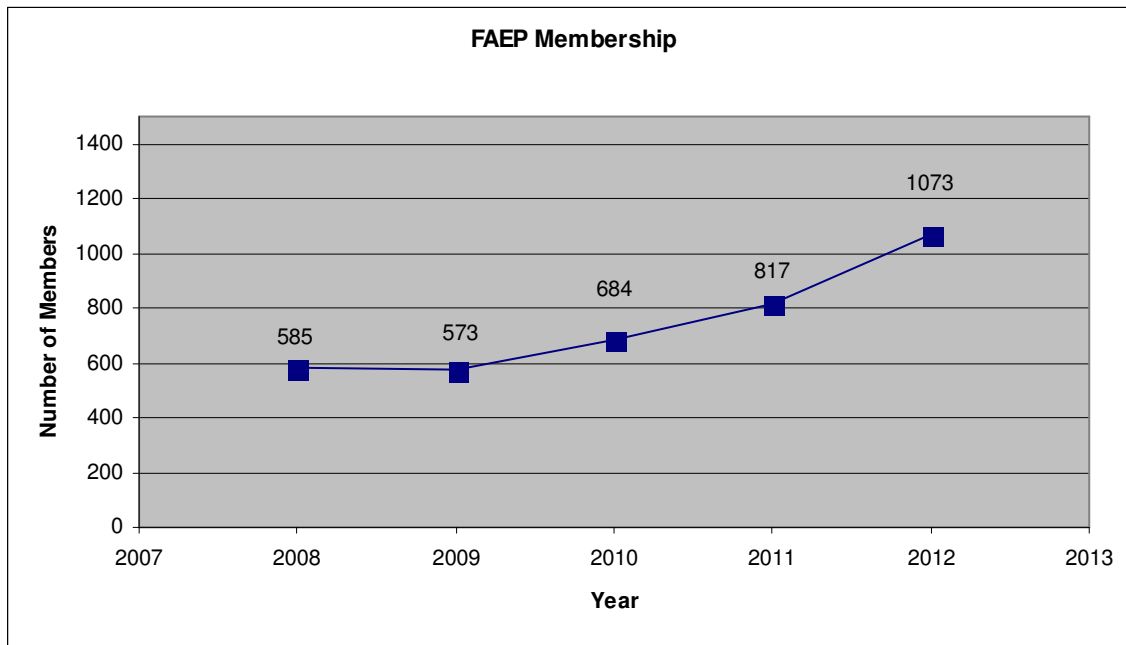
Members who have renewed or joined during the past quarter

FAEP WELCOMES THESE NEW AND RENEWING MEMBERS

Erin Lennox	Rachel Munsch	Brenda Reyes Osorno	Vicki Tauxe
John Leslie	Jodi Murphy	James Richardson	Mike Taylor
Donald Lewis	Brandi Murphy	Mark Rizzo	Tom Taylor
Robin Lewis	Richard Nath	Nancy Rodlun	Lee Taylor
Alex Lin	Victoria Nations	Bill Rollins	Carol Thoma
Chris Litherland	Shawna Newman	Arte Roman	Nathan Titus
Chris Lockhart	Maureen Nichols	Kenneth Romero	Susanne Travis
Jennifer Logan-Porter	Spencer Nicol	Jason Root	Kemp Tricou
Anna Long	Shawn Nieman	Amanda Rotella	Tom Twitmyer
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Kevan Main	Lawrence O'Connor	Anthony Scacifero	Todd Warren
Paul Maxwell	Jason Ortegren	Matthew Schwartz	Kathryn Waters
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