July 2, 1984

DAVIS CALVIN WAGNER AWARD ACCEPTANCE COMMENTS
Lest We All Forget
I wish to take this as an opportunity to pay homage to those
professional sanitarians and engineers who served on the Sanitarians
Joint Council during the time the American Inter-Society Academy for
the Certification of Sanitarians (now the American Academy of
Sanitarians) was planned and developed. And I also desire to pay my
respects to the original members of the American Inter-Society Academy
for the Certification of Sanitarians. The Sanitarians Joint Council
consisted of two representatives from the National Association of
Sanitarians (now NEHA), two from the International Association of Milk
and Food Sanitarians (IAMFS), and two from the American Public
Health Association (APHA). Some of the members during those years
included Professor Harry Bliss of the University of California,
representing the APHA; Engineer Emil Chanlett of the University of
North Carolina School of Public Health, representing the APHA;
Professor Harold "Dick" Adams of the University of Indiana,
representing the IAMFS; Larry Gordon, Director of the Albuquerque
Environmental Health Department, representing the National Association
of Sanitarians (NEHA); and Engineer Director Ed Ruppert of the USPHS
Milk and Food Branch, also representing the NAS (NEHA). William V.
Hickey, Executive Director of the Single Service Institute,
representing the International Association of Milk, Food,
and Environmental Sanitarians, was also deeply involved and served as
the genial and generous host for many meetings -- even though he lacked
a degree and did not qualify for Diplomate status. I have purposely
noted that several individuals involved in developing the AIACS
(Academy of Sanitarians) were engineers in order to indicate their
involvement, leadership and support.

The original AIACS Board members had Diplomate Certificates
numbered alphabetically one through twelve. I am proud to have
Certificate number six, signed by President Dick Adams and Secretary
Darrold Taylor (Sanitarian Director) of the USPHS Milk and Food Branch
-- Darrold was later appointed PHS Chief Sanitarian Officer. Other
original AIACS Board members included Ed Diddams of Illinois,
Russ Franklin (now deceased) of Philadelphia, John McHugh (recently
retired) of New York City, Sanitarian Director William C. "Dusty"
Miller of the PHS Milk and Food Branch who is retired and living in
South Carolina, Faegin Parrish of Georgia, and Professor Verne Reierson
of Oregon. Several other members of the Sanitarians Joint Council also
became members of the original AIACS. Most of these
environmental health leaders are now retired and, to the best of my
knowledge, two are deceased. I was privileged to know and work with all
these professional sanitarians and engineers and consider many of them
to have been among my many mentors. I believe that only Faegin Parrish
and I remain professionally active, so perhaps we are "the
last leaves!" Some thirty years ago I was having lunch with Professor
Harry Miller of the University of Michigan School of Public Health.
Harry had an outstanding career as a Public Health Service Engineer
Officer prior to entering academia, and he was nearing the end of his
illustrious career. During the discussion, Harry gazed through a nearby
window and commented "... how soon they forget.” I am pleased to
accept the Davis Calvin Wagner Award on behalf of the Sanitarians Joint
Council members who envisioned the AIACS, as well as the original
Board Members of the AIACS. I take this occasion to remind you of them
and their efforts --- Lest We All Forget!

Larry J. Gordon, 1984 Davis Calvin Wagner Award Recipient