

THE NEW COMPONENT

NORTHEASTERN WEIGHTS AND MEASURES ASSOCIATION

Chairman Jack Walsh, Framingham, MA

Newsletter Editor, Bob McGrath

Since 1972

ISSUE 32

NEWMA NEWSLETTER

March 2010

NEWMA WEBSITE

<http://www.newma.us/>

NORTHEASTERN WEIGHTS & MEASURES ASSOCIATION OFFICERS 2009-2010

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Robert Murnane Jr., Seraphin Test Measures

Audit

M. William Timmons, Medford, MA

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Nominating

Thomas Geiler, Barnstable, MA

Charles Carroll, MA

James Cassidy, Cambridge MA

2010 NEWMA ANNUAL MEETING

May 10-13, 2010

Mystic Marriott Hotel and Spa

625 North Road (Route 117)

Groton, CT 06340

(860) 446-2600, Fax (860) 446-2601, Toll-free (866) 449-7390

Room Rate \$105.00 plus tax per night or current per diem rate

<http://www.mysticmarriott.com/>

Reservation Cutoff Date, 4/9/10

Parking: (Self) N/C, (Valet) \$5.00 per day.

Annual Meeting Registration

The registration fee this year is again \$125.00.

Transportation to Mystic:

Although Mystic is a wonderful place to visit, getting to the hotel from local airports can be costly. **This hotel does not provide shuttle service.**

Area Airports

Providence - PVD

- Phone: 1 401 737 8222
- Hotel direction: 45 miles S
- Driving Directions: Take I-95 South to exit 88 (Route 117). Take a right at the bottom of the exit ramp. Hotel is a quarter mile on the right.
- Alternate transportation: Airport Car Service - 401-265-5356; reservation required
- Estimated taxi fare: 180.00 USD (one way)

Hartford - BDL

- Phone: 1 860 627 3590
- Hotel direction: 60 miles SE
- Driving Directions: Follow the service road out of the terminal towards I-91 South. Take I-91 South to Route 9 South (Road Merges just Past Hartford). Take I-9 South to I-95 North. Take I-95 North to Exit 88. Make a Left at the bottom of the exit ramp. The Mystic Marriott Hotel and Spa

will be on the right.

This hotel does not provide shuttle service.

- Alternate transportation: Rental Car; reservation required
- Estimated taxi fare: 200.00 USD (one way)

New London - GON

- Phone: 1 860 445 8549
- Hotel direction: 3 miles N
- Driving Directions: Turn right onto Tower Ave. Tower Ave. becomes South Rd. Turn right onto Route 1. Then make a left onto Route 117. Continue for approx. 1.5 miles and the hotel will be on the right.
This hotel does not provide shuttle service.
- Alternate transportation: Rental Car; reservation required
- Estimated taxi fare: 15.00 USD (one way)

Other Transportation

Bus Station

- [Greyhound Bus Lines](http://www.greyhound.com/)
[javascript:sendto\('no_country','no_brand','http://www.greyhound.com/','2'\);](http://www.greyhound.com/)(2.1 miles S)

Train Station

- Amtrak New London, Union Station (6 miles S)

Car Rentals

- Car Rental nearby: Hertz, 1-860-446-1200
- Car Rental nearby: Enterprise, 1-860-448-0422
- Car Rental nearby: Avis, 1-860-445-8585

2010 NCWM INTERIM MEETING UPDATE

The NCWM Interim Meeting was held in Nashville, TN January 23rd –27th. 148 members attended the meeting. Issues debated included agricultural seed sold by count, animal bedding, bagged mulch, bio-diesel, “moisture loss allowance” for pasta, hydrogen fuel quality standards and a tentative code for hydrogen measuring devices. A special open meeting was also held to discuss the Verified Conformity Assessment Program (VCAP). Also an informal meeting was conducted by NIST to discuss “gasoline price posting” and the resurrection of the US Working Group on the issue.

NCWM Treasurer Will Wotthlie recently retired and New Hampshire Weights and Measures Director Richard Cote was appointed as his replacement. Richard subsequently was nominated at the Interim Meeting to continue as Treasurer for another term.

One interesting issue that came before the L & R Committee was the Method of Sale of Packaged Printer

Ink and Toner Cartridges. Max Gray, State of Florida, introduced the item to the committee from the Southern Region. This item produced a lively debate.

**NCWM Nominating Committee Report:
From Interim Mtg.**

Chair Elect Curt Floren , LA County CA
Central BOD rep: Ron Hayes, MO
Treasurer; Richard Cote, NH
Industry Rep BOD; Gordon Johnson; Gilbarco

DATES TO REMEMBER

2010 NCWM Annual Meeting

July 11 - 15 , 2010
The Crown Plaza, St. Paul Riverfront, St. Paul, MN
Contact: NCWM HQ (info@ncwm.net)

2010 NEWMA Interim Meeting

October 13-14, 2010
Marriott Courtyard, Norwich
181 West Town Street
Norwich, CT 06360 (860) 886-2600
Room Rate \$105.00 plus tax per night (10/12-114/2010 Rate Lock)
Parking N/C
<http://www.courtyardnorwich.com/>
Reservation Cutoff Date, T.B.A.

Does your jurisdiction have antique measures? By Bob McGrath

Recently, I began, for the sake of posterity, to document the many antique measures on display at our Boston office. I knew the history of some items, but for many items I just knew they were old. As I searched around the Internet, I found a very interesting web-site call “Collecting American Measures” www.measureman.info

Seeking some information, I inquired to the gentleman who maintains the site and he was a wealth of information. As we corresponded, I sent photos of many of our relics, which (with our permission) he subsequently posted on his web-site. The web-site has a wide array of information & photos on New York, Massachusetts, Fairbanks, Troemner, Gurley measures as well other categories.

If you share an interest in this Weights and Measures history, please check out the web-site. If your jurisdiction has some antiques and you would like share information on them, I encourage you to snap some photos and send to Howard measureman1@gmail.com or to me robert.mcgrath@cityofboston.gov. Be sure to include information on the manufacturer (if marked) and any other markings (certifications).

Update from the NCWM BOD

By Mike Sikula, NEWMA BOD Representative

The Board of Directors (BOD) met in Nashville TN at the NCWM interim meeting in January of this year. The BOD is busy implementing the verified conformity assessment program (VCAP) and spent considerable time reviewing the program and addressing comments from industry. This is an important program and I would encourage those who are not familiar with its purpose to visit the NCWM website at www.ncwm.net to learn more. The board also spent time addressing administrative issues concerning NCWM organization and how it can better serve its membership. Issues included the NCWM website, format of open meetings, future meeting sites (2012 annual meeting to be held in the Northeast!), National Type Evaluation Program (NTEP) and more. The BOD is particularly concerned with trying to find ways to give the S&T and L&R committees the time they need to get their work done without having to work excessively late hours. Your input is important so please come to the NEWMA annual meeting in Connecticut and give us your ideas.

New York News:

2010 NYS Annual W&M's Training School

By Mike Sikula

New York State and the NYS Weights and Measures Association are planning the 46th annual weights and measures training school on June 14th through June 18th 2010 in Syracuse. At this time the school is being tentatively scheduled as we are awaiting budget approval. We are excited about our agenda which includes checking water in petroleum storage tanks, testing aircraft refuelers, weights and measures investigation techniques, audit trails, testing linear measures and other interesting topics. Many of the classes will be hands-on and we hope to provide an exciting and fast-paced school. The school is open to all weights and measures officials and on certain days we hope to have some private industry representatives attend. If you are interested please check the NYS W&M's Association website for school information and confirmation: <http://nyswma.com>

Massachusetts News: Tom Geiler Recognized for Service

The Town of Barnstable honored Tom Geiler on December 4th with a "Service Award" recognizing his 35 years of service. All of us in the MWMA know how much Tom has contributed to the Weights and Measures community, including our Association (Past President), the NCWM (Which includes serving as NCWM Chairman), NEWMA (Past Chairman) and most certainly, the Cape Cod area. What may not be known to many in the MWMA is the extent of Tom's achievements in Barnstable. After becoming Sealer of Weights & Measures, Tom not only developed the Barnstable W & M program (then small) into one of the best in Massachusetts, but he also went on to assume responsibility for many other functions in the Town. Tom, after first serving as Consumers Affairs Supervisor is now the Director of Barnstable Regulatory Services which has oversight of Consumer Affairs (which includes Weights & Measures, Licensing & Parking), Conservation, Building - Zoning Division and Public Health. By always exercising a willingness to "take on" new duties and challenges, Tom has secured and maintained an important place for the Weights and Measures program within the Town structure. While many local W & M programs were cut, faded out or minimized over the years, Barnstable W & M has persevered, grown and consistently demonstrated leadership in Massachusetts Weights & Measures.

Other Massachusetts News:

- Revised Massachusetts Fuel Regulations (effective 1/1/10)
http://www.mass.gov/Eoca/docs/dos/202CMR2%2000final_clean.pdf
- Item Pricing Opponents Seeking Legislative Change: A Bill is before the Massachusetts House of Representatives seeking to revise the Massachusetts Item Price Law.
<http://www.mass.gov/legis/bills/house/186/ht04pdf/ht04430.pdf>

**2010 NEWMA ANNUAL MEETING
SCHEDULE OF EVENTS
(Tentative-subject to change as needed)**

<u>DATE/TIME</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>MEETING ROOM</u>
<u>Monday, May 10</u>		
12:00 pm – 3:00 pm	Registration	
1:00 pm – 5:00 pm	Open Hearings *Note: Open hearings are just that. They are the ideal forum for new proposals and questions. It is best if you contact the Chairperson ahead of time and present your item in writing.	
1:00 pm – 2:45 pm	Laws and Regulations Committee John Gaccione, Westchester County, NY ©	
2:45 pm. – 3:00 pm	Afternoon Coffee Service	
3:00 pm – 5:00 pm	Specifications and Tolerances Committee Steve Giguere, State of Maine ©	
<u>Tuesday, May 11</u>		
7:45 am – 8:30 am	Morning Coffee Service	
8:00 am – 12:00 pm	Registration	
8:30 am – 9:15 am	Professional Development Committee Ross Andersen, State of New York ©	
9:15 am – 10:00 am	Board of Directors/NTEP Committee Mike Sikula, State of New York Richard Cote, State of New Hampshire Mark Coyne, Brockton, Massachusetts	
10:00 am – 10:30 am	Morning Coffee Break	
10:30 am – 11:15 am	Carol Hockert NIST Weights and Measures Division “Round-Table on Weights and Measures”	

11:15 am – 12:00 pm **Randy Jennings**
12:00 pm – 1:15 pm **On-line Comment System**
1:15 pm – 2:45 pm **Lunch Break** (on your own)
 Opening Ceremony

Welcome from State of Connecticut
TBA
Randy Jennings, State of Tennessee
Chairperson
National Conference of Weights &
Measures
Tim Tyson, State of Kansas
Chairperson-Elect
National Conference of Weights and
Measures

2:45 pm – 3:00 pm **Carol T. Hockert, Chief**
 NIST Weights and Measures Division
 Afternoon Coffee Break

3:00 pm – 3:45 pm **Lou Straub**
3:45 pm – 4:30pm **Scale Manufacturers Association**
5:00 pm – 9:00 pm **TBA**
 NEWMA Sponsored Outing

Wednesday, May 12

7:45 am – 8:45 am **Morning Coffee Service**

8:30 am – 12:00 pm **Registration**

8:45 am – 10:45 am **TBA**

10:45 am – 11:00 am **Morning Coffee Break**

11:00 am – 11:45 am **TBA**

11:45 am – 1:00 pm **Lunch** (on your own)

1:00 pm - 5:00 pm **Final Committee Reports**

1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. **Specifications and Tolerances**
 Committee
 Steve Giguere, State of Maine ©

Wednesday (con't)

2:30 pm – 2:45 pm

Afternoon Coffee Break

2:45 pm – 3:30 pm

**Laws and Regulations Committee
John Gaccione, Westchester County,
NY ©**

3:30 pm – 4:15 pm

**Professional Development Committee
Ross Andersen, State of New York ©**

4:15 pm – 5:00 pm

Board of Directors/NTEP Committee

Thursday, May 13

7:45 am. – 8:30 am

Morning Coffee Service

8:30 am – 9:00 am

New Proposals and Discussions

9:00 am – 11:00 am

**Voting Session
Specifications and Tolerances
Committee
Laws and Regulations Committee
Professional Development Committee
Board of Directors/NTEP Committee
Nomination Committee**

11:00 am – 11:30 am

**Election of Officers and Board
Members
Installation of New Chairperson**

11:30 am – 12:00 pm

Unfinished Business

Laws & Regulations Committee Agenda Items

The NCWM L and R Committee had an extensive agenda with included the following items. The committee recommendation precedes the item:

Voting item - 232-3 - Method of Sale for Firewood, Flavorings, etc.

Voting item - 260-1 - Changes to Handbook 133, extensive editorial changes made.

Informational item - 270-1 - Premium Diesel Lubricity

Developing item - 270-2 - Additional Diesel Lubricity specifications

Voting item - 270-3 - Pellitized Ice Cream

Voting item - 270-4 - Method of Sale for Hydrogen

Informational item - 270-4a - Hydrogen Fuel Specs

Voting item - 270-5 - Seed counts

Voting item - 270-6 - Declaration of Weight - higher density plastics

Voting item - 270-7 - Polyethylene Sheeting Testing Procedure

Withdrawn item - 270-8 - Polyethylene Sheeting T-shirt bags

Informational item - 270-9 - Method of Sale - Packaged Printer Ink and Toner Cartridges

Informational item - 270-10 - Biodiesel and Biodiesel Blends

Withdrawn item - 270-11 - Bagged Mulch Measurements

Voting item - 270-12 - Method of Sale Animal Bedding

Voting item - 270-13 - Moisture Allowance for Pasta Products

Developing items - 270-14 - Declaration of Quantity - use of approved symbols for declaration of quantity for items sold by count.

Link to Pub. 15 (Pub. 16 should be available by the time of the meeting)

<http://ts.nist.gov/WeightsAndMeasures/Publications/pub15-10.cfm>

MEMBERSHIP & MEETING REGISTRATION FORM

FIRST NAME:

MIDDLE NAME:

LAST NAME:

TITLE:

ORGANIZATION:

MAILING ADDRESS:

CITY:

STATE:

ZIP:

TELEPHONE:

OFFICE

OTHER

FAX

EMAIL

REGISTRATION:

2010 NEWMA MEMBER - \$125.00

NON-MEMBER - \$150.00

Make Check Payable to: Northeastern Weights & Measures Association

**Mail to: Charles Carroll
Division of Standards
One Ashburton Place, Room 1115
Boston, MA 02108**

If you wish to pay the registration fee at the door, please register by phone, fax or e-mail in advance

Phone: (617) 727-3480, ext. 21131

Fax: (617) 727-5705

E-mail: Charles.Carroll@state.ma.us

Article Relating to Printer Ink Cartridges (L & R Item)

[Is Yield Enough for Ink Jet Cartridge Labeling or Should Ink Amount Be Added?](#)

POSTED BY: Robert Charette // Thu, January 14, 2010

There was a [story](#) in the Los Angeles Times today concerning printer cartridges and the difficulty that consumers have in trying to determine the amount of ink that they contain. According to the LA Times story, the next meeting of the National Conference on Weights and Measures ([NCWM](#)), a not-for-profit corporation dedicated to developing the U.S. standards for weights and measures, is going to try to make it easier for consumers to find out. But the task may not be an easy one.

It seems that printer manufacturers don't think consumers have a right to know how much ink are in their cartridges and are none too happy that NCWM is even considering that printer cartridges be required to state the amount of ink they contain on their packaging.

The manufacturers claim that the amount of ink in a cartridge is an "inappropriate" and "misleading" way of providing information to consumers since the type/quality/number of images being printed varies so much, and printing frequency can significantly change the number of images that can be printed.

Furthermore, the amount of cartridge ink is a very small portion of the total cost of the overall print cartridge mechanism, they argue. So providing the information would not be helpful to consumers in comparing different manufacturers' cartridges. I may be missing something, but most of the ink jet cartridges I use don't look too mechanically complex to me.

The manufacturers also claim that ink cartridges have been exempt from the [Fair Packaging and Labeling Act](#) for decades, and now is not a good time to change. But according to the Times story, the [National Institute of Standards and Technology](#) says that isn't true, and that cartridges need to state a "liquid measure" to comply with its regulations.

Finally, the manufacturers go on to claim that their estimate of the number of pages a cartridge will generally yield - based on an International Organization for Standardization ([ISO](#)) methodology under [ISO/IEC 24711](#) - is good enough.

[HP](#) describes how it determines yield [here](#).

Of course, my printer software doesn't keep track of the number of pages I print or the number of cartridges I replace so I can't really tell what my average yield is, which would let me compare my average printer yield against a manufacturer's stated yield. Maybe there is software available that does this already, but I don't know of any off hand.

A 2003 [story](#) in [PC World](#) calculated HP ink was sold at \$88 per ounce, or some \$11,264 per gallon. I don't think it has changed much since then. The [American Consumer Institute Center for Citizen Research claims](#) that "giving all (US) consumers more information on the cost of printing and printer ink would help them to make well-informed purchasing decisions and save \$6 billion per year," a figure the printer manufacturers dispute.

It would be interesting to see what would happen to cartridge prices if the sellers of printer cartridges were required to post a price per ounce or better a price per gallon label.

Anyway, the [NCWM meeting is next week](#) in Nashville, Tennessee. Maybe the LA Times will do a follow-on story to find out what the outcome is.