

# Material **MATTERS**

A newsletter of the Illinois Recycling Association

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## ◆ IRA/SWANA Joint Conference ◆

Mark your calendars now for the 2008 Illinois Recycling and Solid Waste Conference and Trade Show. Online registration will begin in February and updates will be posted to the conference website regularly at [www.illinoisjointconference.com](http://www.illinoisjointconference.com). Great sponsorship opportunities are available. The sooner you sign up as a sponsor the sooner you get added to the website. The earliest sponsors get listed on the registration brochure and email announcements as they are released. Call 708-358-0050 to discuss your involvement.



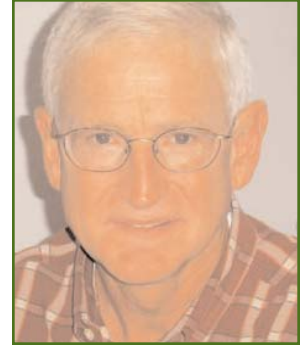
Illinois Recycling & Solid Waste Conference & Trade Show  
June 9-11, 2008 • Sheraton Hotel • Arlington Heights, IL

## ◆ NRC Visits Chicago ◆

The IRA Board and the NRC Board had concurrent board meetings at the Palmer House in Chicago in early December. Kate Krebs, NRC Executive Director, updated the IRA Board on the progress of NRC's "Rebranding" campaign. The campaign is still in development, working on increasing funding support, as well as continuing research into the message and design of the campaign. The vision is to have a nation wide multi-media campaign to re-focus the public's attention on the importance of recycling. Special thanks to IRA Board member, Bill Kramer and Acme Refining for sponsoring the joint board dinner the evening of the meetings.

# A Message from the President

ROD FLETCHER



Happy New Year! The year of 2007 was very interesting in the Illinois political arena. Budget stalemates and the bickering among leaders was, in my opinion, an embarrassment to our fine state. These kinds of actions, or lack of actions, does nothing to benefit the citizens of Illinois and only casts shadows of the capability of our State government. Let's hope that 2008 will see changes that we can be proud of and make Illinois a respected leader. Well, enough of this political review...

Here is a recap of bills that were passed, and may affect you (for more information on these bills go to [www.ilga.gov](http://www.ilga.gov) and type in the bill number).

## In the Senate:

**SB69** - provides that, for scrap metals valued at more than \$100, scrap processors or metal dealers [that operate buyback operations] shall verify and record the identity of the person from whom the metals were acquired.

**SB154** - Increases the state's new and used tire management fee to \$2.50 per tire and eliminates the provision to terminate the fee as of January 1, 2008.

**SB303** - Requires certain Lake County retailers to maintain collection, transport and recycling records, plus provide customers with educational materials to encourage re-use or recycling of plastic bags.

**SB612** - Allows a township to administer a recycling program in unincorporated areas of a township, and allows a road district to organize, administer, or participate in one or more programs.

## In the House:

**HB496** - Reclassifies the definition of "general construction or demolition debris" to include

reclaimed asphalt.

## Senate/House Joint Resolution:

**SJR46** - Encourages cell phone manufacturers to design phones with environmentally friendly materials, plus arrange for the collection, shipping, refurbishment or recycling of the devices.

## **SB1583 Update - Electronics Products Recycling & Reuse Act**

The original version of this bill, based on Washington State's legislation has been scrapped and replaced with language largely based upon a Minnesota bill that was approved last summer. The current version of the bill still places the responsibility for recycling of electronic devices upon the manufacturers. However, it is being proposed that the program would be administered by IEPA and not a third party organization. The statewide program is proposed to begin July 1, 2010 and a landfill ban is scheduled to occur on July 1, 2012. However, there are still many hurdles to overcome. So keep up your E-scrap collection programs in the meantime.

We have all heard of producer responsibility or product stewardship. It is an environmental management strategy that means whoever designs, produces, package, sells, or uses a product take responsibility for minimizing the product's environmental impact through all stages of the product's life cycle. The greatest responsibility lies with whoever has the most ability to affect the life cycle environmental impacts of the product - the producer. An example of this is the Rechargeable Battery

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# ◆ From the **Executive Director**

MIKE MITCHELL



## Electronics Recycling Programs Continue to Expand:

IRA recently produced, through its grant from DCEO, six new versions of the "Byte Back" electronics recycling brochure which is designed to promote new or recently expanded permanent electronics recycling programs in Illinois. These programs are located in Bradley, Charleston, Jacksonville, Kankakee, Mount Vernon, Oswego, Springfield, Taylorville, Tuscola and multiple sites throughout Lake County. In addition to these, the "E-Cycle" page on IRA's website has recently been updated with listings for Beecher, Bolingbrook, Channahon, Cicero, Danville, Elk Grove Village, Flora, Shorewood, and Villa Park. Go to [www.illinoisrecycles.org](http://www.illinoisrecycles.org) for the details. If there are programs that should be listed here but aren't, please let me know.

## C&D RECYCLING

This past November, a workshop titled "The State of Construction & Demolition Recycling in Illinois: Where We Are and Where We're Going," was held at the Hotel Indigo in Palatine IL. The event included seminar sessions at the hotel and a site tour of MBL Recycling. Topics included a review of current regulations by Paul Purseglove of Illinois EPA, an update on shingle recycling by Julie Gevrenov, US EPA Region 5, Lake County's C&D Ordinance by Pete Adrian from the Solid Waste Agency of Lake County, and an analysis of existing markets by Ken Barnes, WMRC. The seminar was attended by 60 people consisting largely of haulers and service providers looking to expand the C&D recycling component of their business. At MBL Recycling, attendees saw first

hand how C&D debris from job sites was processed into over a dozen separate commodity streams in a clean and efficient manner. At the end of the day, the strong consensus of the group was that there is a need for regulatory reform or new legislation to remove existing barriers and make it easier for C&D material to be collected for recycling as opposed to disposal.

## Electronics Symposium

Our last major event of the year, the "Electronics Recycling Symposium and Tour", was held December 14 at the Hilton Garden Inn in Springfield. The symposium was attended by 35 people and featured a site tour of a local electronics recycler, BLH Computers. The agenda featured a presentation and discussion of pending legislation, SB 1583, the E-Scrap Recycling Act, by Mel Nickerson from the Environmental Law and Policy Center. Christine Johnson, from the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, spoke about the process Minnesota went through in passing its electronics recycling legislation last year. Ms. Johnson pointed out similarities and differences between the two bills and suggested some lessons learned in the process. IRA President Rod Fletcher provided a summary of the recently completed E-Scrap Capacity Study, which documents the available capacity, existing and projected, in Illinois to handle the volume of electronic scrap that will result from the passage of this legislation. The afternoon featured a lively panel discussion

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## ◆ Will County Says Goodbye to Educator ◆

In October of 2007, the Waste Services Division of Will County Land Use was saddened to say goodbye to Joan (Bozych) O'Keefe. Joan joined Waste Services as the first Environmental Educator in the County's history in August of 1997.

As an Illinois Certified Teacher, she was well aware of the challenges teachers faced incorporating environmental education into already full curriculums. During her decade of service, Joan made many new friends in the schools, increased school recycling and made hundreds of classroom and community group presentations; personally educating over 75,000 Will County residents!

Joan was instrumental in implementing the County's book and gym shoe reuse/recycling programs. She found creative ways to teach waste reduction on Earth Day and America Recycles Day with shopping events and informational fairs. Joan introduced worms to the County office and was a tireless promoter of worms in the classroom and back yard composting; leading educational efforts at County compost bin purchasing events.

Over the ten years that Joan worked for Will County, she inspired others throughout the State of Illinois to increase environmental education. She earned the Illinois Recycling Association's Highest Education Award as Teacher of the Year in 2002.

You should be pleased to know that Joan continues to care for Will County, is currently teaching and plans to stay in the environmental field. In the interim, Marta Keane, Recycling Program Specialist in Waste Services has been providing presentations. Now, Will County Land Use is proud to announce that Tara Neff has been selected from a very competitive application process to continue the environmental education tradition.

Tara Neff comes to this position with a Bachelor of Science degree from Northern Illinois University and over eight years of professional social service experience in Will County. This change in her career is due to a personal interest in the environment. Her enthusiasm, history of working with children and desire to build on the success of our program make her a welcome addition.

## ◆ ... A Message from the President (cont. from p 2) ◆

Recycling Corporation that was formed and funded by manufacturers to collect and recycle rechargeable batteries from consumers.

But I want to talk about consumer responsibility. Producer responsibility is no panacea without consumers being willing to participate. Consumers buy the products, consume them, and depending on whether they have a conviction to recycle...they recycle the commodity, or if no conviction... simply dispose of as garbage.

Our industry, at all political and private sector levels, has spent millions of dollars educating and promoting recycling and trying to change habits of consumers. Yet we still struggle to convince people! Some say that Americans are crisis oriented people and until a crisis is at our feet, we will do nothing. Well it seems as though the crisis is here, except that it is not limited to the United States. How much more profound does global warming have to be?

# MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

The Cleveland Corporation is a full service, family-owned and operated recycling company, who currently services the Chicago, Milwaukee, and Midwestern Region. Over 50 years ago, founder and CEO, Joseph Kujawinski Sr. began his own recycling company by picking up scrap metal from industrial accounts with little more than a 2-ton lift gate truck. He worked a barrel route seven days a week, at a time when much of the industrial metals were being disposed of for no value. His relentless dedication and work ethic has since been passed along to his sons, Robert and Joe Jr., who now lead Cleveland Corporation into the future, with locations in Illinois and Wisconsin.

The company has since expanded to a state of the art twelve-acre site located in Zion, Illinois, with processing equipment onsite to handle several hundred thousand tons of industrial scrap metal per month. Some of their equipment includes, but not limited to, a 500 ton hydraulic shear/ baler to assure quality cut and baled products for their foundry and mill customers and an aluminum furnace. They have also just recently installed a 2000 hp automated steel shredder, which is currently up and running! This machine serves several purposes. First, it pleases the customer by assuring complete destruction of material

and shredding the customers scrap into tiny 3-4 inch pieces. Secondly, the shredder makes a prime product for mills and foundries by producing mill ready pieces. Third, it has the capability to segregate the ferrous metals from the nonferrous metals.

Another new project Cleveland Corporation has been working on in order to enhance quality service, is installing a new certified truck scale. This new scale is located next to the existing state certified scale in order to expedite inbound and outbound traffic.

Cleveland Corporation is also currently providing their customers with balers, compactors, and trailers to recycle waste paper, office paper, newspaper, printers waste, and corrugated cardboard. They provide trailers for onsite combination loads of ferrous, nonferrous metal scrap, waste paper of all grades, and even plastic... with a monetary rebate!

Joe Jr. and Robert haven't stopped setting and achieving their goals. Their commitment and perseverance has helped them accomplish many things, but most of all they have provided an honest, reliable, and devoted corporation aimed at creating a cleaner atmosphere. They have many more plans to enhance service in recycling and to create a better environment for all surrounding areas.

## ... From the Executive Director (cont. from p 3)

regarding the federally mandated switch from analog to digital TV signal in February of 2009, and what impact it will have on the volume of TVs being disposed of or recycled. The panel included representatives from DCEO, IEPA and

two electronics recycling companies, Classic Computer Recovery and Sims Recycling Solutions.

Stay tuned! IRA will be conducting more of these types of events in 2008.

## ◆ City Carton Recycling Announces New VP ◆

### City Carton Recycling Announces New Vice President of Sales And Marketing

Brian Holtz, of Eldridge, Iowa, is the new Vice President of Sales and Marketing for City Carton Recycling. Holtz will be responsible for the leadership and direction of all sales and marketing matters impacting the Company. His responsibilities include coordinating the sales, marketing, and customer service team; planning, developing, implementing and managing all sales, marketing, and customer service activities; developing sales and marketing strategies and distribution channels; streamlining the sales process; building and retaining a strong sales, marketing, and customer service team; and identifying and analyzing potential market opportunities.

Holtz has over 15 years experience in the solid waste and recycling industry, previously serving five years as City Carton Recycling's Quad Cities Recycling Facility Manager and two years as the Company's Eastern Division Manager. Holtz is an Environmental Health

graduate and holds his Masters in Business Administration from Illinois State University, Normal.

Holtz was Chairperson of the Board of Trustees and Executive Committee Church Council member



for the First Congregational Church in Moline, Illinois. He served as Vice President of the Illinois Recycling Association in 2004 and on its Board of Directors in 2002 - 2004. He continues to be actively involved in the Illinois Recycling Association and the Iowa Recycling Association.

Holtz will be based out of City Carton Recycling's corporate offices, located at 3 East Benton, Iowa City.

## ◆ Greenbuild Recycles 91% ◆

The US Green Building Council's annual conference and exposition, Green Build, was held at the new McCormick West convention center in November. Over 20,000 people from many countries attended the event, which featured former President Bill Clinton as keynote speaker. This was the first "green" event to be held in McCormick West, which just opened the month before. IRA participated in the event as a bio-regional partner and Mike Mitchell co-chaired the Local Host Committee's Greening the Conference Subcommittee.

Impressive results were reported by Kevin Kruis, Recycling and Special Events Manager

for Allied Waste. Over 120 "Clear Stream" recycling stations were placed throughout the event and staffed by national and international college student volunteers. The event attained a 91% recycling rate with 40 tons of recycled material generated and only 4 tons of waste disposed. Included in the 40 tons of recycling were 7 tons of food scrap composting and over 6 tons of wood from the exhibit hall (numbers rounded). McCormick West is the largest LEED rated convention center in the nation and the recycling systems are designed to be part of normal operations. Kruis noted, "It will be hard to match those numbers without all the volunteers, but we'll see how the Auto Show goes."

## New IRA Members

**J. Don McFarland**  
5R Processors Ltd.

**Matt Wilson**  
Alter Recycling Company, LLC

**Eric Kudzo Alover**  
Ax Computers, Inc.

**Brian Dickerson**  
BLH Computers

**Leslee Combs**  
Combs Bulldozing

**Juli Beucher**  
Earth Paints Collection Systems

**Tim Bramlet**  
Illinois Beverage Association

**Dave Godar**  
Interco Trading Co.

**Theresa Kurtz**  
Iowa Recycling Association

**KJ Loerop**  
K Hoving Recycling & Disposal

**Debra Kendrick-Hopgood**  
Kendrick Paper Stock

**James Cowhey, Jr.**  
Land and Lakes Company

**Erik Hallgren**  
City of Naperville

**Emeka Okenwa**  
Off Lease Computers & Electronics Recycling

**Bill Vander Velde III**  
Premier Waste and Recycling

**Steve Starzyk**  
Rock-Tenn Company

**John Wessel**  
Vertex Wireless

**Kittie Connor**  
**Cythia Mester**  
**Kimberly Shryock**

## Oak Park Unveils "Green" Public Works Facility

Over 300 people attended the Grand Opening of the new LEED rated Village of Oak Park Public Works Facility in November. "Green" features of the building include: Sustainable Site-50% of the green space is designed with native or adaptive vegetation, 10,000 square feet of modular green roof to limit water run off and provide thermal benefits; Water Efficiency-20% water use reduction using low flow fixtures; Energy & Atmosphere-optimized energy performance of 40% with wind energy capabilities; Materials & Resources-85% diversion of construction waste, 10% recycled content in building materials such as carpeting, floor tiles, countertops and cabinetry, 20% of materials manufactured locally, certified wood beams; Indoor Environmental Quality-smoke-free building, carbon monoxide monitors,

low VOC emitting paints, adhesives, coatings, sealants and carpeting; Innovation in Design-education demonstration program, biodiesel conversion and use of compressed natural gas for Village's fleets (48% will run on alternative fuels with 10% using compressed natural gas).

For more information, contact Karen Rozmus at 708-358-5707.



Oak Park, IL 60303-3717  
PO Box 3717



## IRA BOARD MEMBERS

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Rod Fletcher, City of Urbana

### VICE-PRESIDENT

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of Lake County

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David Miller, Illinois Army National  
Guard

### IRA OFFICE

Mike Mitchell, Executive Director

### AGENCY LIAISONS

David Ross, DCEO

Dave Walters, IEPA

Paul Ruesch, US EPA Region 5

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Newsletter Editor: Mike Mitchell

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### DIRECTORS

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- Jim Glavin, Sims Recycling Solutions
- Mike Huskey, Burriss Disposal Services
- Paul Jaquet, Eagle Enterprises Recycling
- Bill Kramer, ACME Refining Company
- David Shelangouski, Black Hawk College

The IRA is a statewide professional association comprised of business, government, educational institution, non-profit and individual recyclers that provide for the exchange of information and ideas on resource conservation through re-use, recycling and waste reduction. IRA is a state affiliate of the National Recycling Coalition. *Material Matters* is published four times per year. To advertise or submit articles for publication, contact the IRA office:

PO Box 3717 | Oak Park, IL  
60303-3717

Phone: 708-358-0050

Fax: 708-358-0051

[executivedirector@illinoisrecycles.org](mailto:executivedirector@illinoisrecycles.org)

<http://www.illinoisrecycles.org>

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National Recycling Coalition