

Good Morning

I am Honored to be the Chairman of the 103rd Meeting of the National Conference of Weights & Measures. For those of you who don't know me and I think most do, because I have been told by many that I got character and a great personality, if not most, the colorful clothes that I do wear, I do stand out. I am Jim Cassidy from the City of Cambridge in Cambridge Mass. I have been with the City of Cambridge, Weights and Measures Department for 18 years. My first conference was in 1999 when I was able to come and represent the City of Cambridge.

Now, I would like to thank the City of Cambridge, City Manager, Louis DePasquale and the Deputy City Manager, Lisa Petersen, and a couple of my former bosses, Bob Healy and Rich Rossi, which are great city managers and gave me the ability to be here and participate with this great group. I do want to thank all of them for making this possible.

Over my 18 years, I have served as presiding officer multiple times, sat on the credentials committee, I have been on the Laws and Regulations Committee as Kristen had mentioned earlier. Going on in 2002 to 2007. I was very grateful in accepting that when Ross Anderson offered it to me back then. In 2007, I was the chair as Kristin had said earlier when the Conference was dealing with ATC. Myself and my friend Mr. Chesser got to stand up here for quite a long time up at

Snow Bird. It was a contentious long day, but we got through it. After serving as the L & R chair, I went on the Board of Directors from 2011 through 2016, when I nominated to the chair-elect position. I have served as the past chair of the Northeast Weights and Measures and numerous committees at NEWMA. I am presently the secretary/treasurer.

I'm also honored to be the 5th National chairperson from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. I am the third local official from Massachusetts, behind J.E. Bowen in 1967, Tom Geiler in 1994. We also had J.P. McBride in 1958 and Ed Stadolnik in 1981, which were the state director at that time. And I'm grateful and honored. I would like to thank the Massachusetts folks that are here today Lou Sakin, Jack Walsh, Elaine Vieira, Angel Nazario, Mark Coyne. Past members, Bob McGrath, Bill Timmons, Tom Geiler and Steve Agostinelli. I can't forget, one of my good friends that couldn't be here; he sent me a nice e-mail this morning, Charlie Carroll. As well as, many of my friends of NEWMA. Steve Giguere, John McGuire, Frank Greene Walt Remmert, Mike Sikula, Marc Paquette, Cheryl Ayer, Ethan Bogren.

All the great work that they have done here and the other people that are here from NEWMA. I want to thank them for everything they have done.

In saying that, my theme for this upcoming year is “Back to the Basics, as we arrive in the cloud.” As we look into the future of weights and measures, as we have seen this week folks, we now have a tentative code for TNC. But my main goal with saying that is this here, and there is going to be other devices and other systems that we are going to look at that will be cloud based in other different ways. But we have to still remember, and I’m still an inspector, I get my hands dirty and I want to make sure that every other inspector that is in this room feels comfortable. And you have to remember a couple of things, a mile is still going to be 5280 feet, a gallon is still 231 cubic inches and a lb. is still 16 ounces. How we test devices and systems might be a little bit different, but the measurement will still be the same. And I want to make sure we all understand that and feel comfortable. Not to take two steps back and we’re not sure what is going on here; what we do, the main concepts will not change and I don’t think they ever will change. And I want to make sure we really feel comfortable with that there. My other goals for this year: first I have to thank Matt Curran for doing a great job with FALS group. I will say that I will replace Matt with Bill Striejewske from Nevada. Bart, thank you very much for allowing Bill to step into this role. I could meet with Bill when we sat in Boston. He has a lot of great drive. He is a very intelligent man and he will help that group immensely. But saying that, when we look at our organizational chart, we only have a few states

that participate on that FALS Committee on regulated side. I am reaching out now and I will as I come around the country to the four regions this year and I'm going to be asking you folks that have fuel quality labs and programs, that if you have some great people in those groups, we need them and I want them. Whatever I can do to help, if travel is an issue in the beginning, they still have web meetings. We need to strengthen that group and there are other sub committees, tasks groups, but this one right here is one of my tasks for right now. As we go along, we are going to be looking at others. But this is one of my main one's, so I am reaching out to the states that have these programs, if you have good quality people, we need them. Because honestly folks, our membership is our conference, we are better in numbers. That's how I feel and I hope you feel the same way. Also, in talking about the regions, it was a great year, going from Hawaii with Jerri Kahana and Tim Lloyd, they did a fabulous job at the Western. Then going to Arlington, Texas, Phil Wright did a great job and I thank those folks there. Kristin and I had a great time traveling this year together. We went to NEWMA, my home region, Ethan did a great job. Then we finished up in Lincoln, Nebraska. Ken Tichota also did a great job.

My goal is to strengthen our sub-committees and regions associations are as follows

- 1. Reach out to states with Fuel Labs to help strengthen the expertise of membership to the FALS committee, which includes creating an on-line list server that allows members to communicate and access information.**
- 2. Evaluate the structure of all regional meetings to ensure that they are running smoothly and efficiently.**

For all regions, to designate one representative to assist me in mapping out a master calendar for our regional meetings.

Now, I would like to thank Jane Zulkiewicz and Matt Curran for their service on the S&T committee, Lou Sakin for the L & R committee, Stacey Carlson for the PDC committee, and Matt Curran for the FALS committee.

The appointments are as follows: Brad Bachelder –from Maine representing the Northeast to the S & T committee, Joe Eccleston – from Maryland to complete the term for Matt Curran of the Southern; John McGuire- of New Jersey to the L & R committee representing the northeast; Jean Kliethermes from MO to the PDC committee; Bill Striejewske of Nevada as

the chairman of the FALS committee; David Aguay of San Luis Obispo to the Credentials committee.

Presiding officers: Tim Chesser of Arkansas, Loren Minnich of Kansas, Bart O'Toole of Nevada, and Jack Walsh of the Town of Wellesley MA. Parliamentarian; Lou Straub of Fairbanks Scale. Chaplain; Constantine Cotsoradis of Flint Hills Resources. Nominating Committee: Mark Coyne, Frank Greene, Ivan Hankins, Hal Prince, Stephen Benjamin, Rich Lewis, with past Chair Kristin Macey

Lastly, I would like to thank my lovely wife for her support and sacrifice in allowing me to fulfill my commitment and passion in weights and measures. After all, we are one of three couples that I know of that met through this fabulous organization. And to you, John Albert and Ron Hayes, for letting me steal her away.