### Triannual Newsletter of the National Capital Area Environmental Health Association



# 2019 Leadership

President **Kristen Pybus** 

**Vice President of Membership** Nicole Biala Gragasin

Vice President of Programs & **Professional Advancement** Allison Olguin

Secretary Julia Balsley

Treasurer Victoria Griffith

**DC Representative** Lanita Carpenter

Virginia Representative Erin Miller

**Maryland Representative** Vacant

**Director of Communications** Austyn Ries

**Industry Liaison** Jeanine Flaherty

**Past President** Shannon McKeon



www.NCAEHA.com





Twitter.com/NCAEHA

# **The Preventive** Measure **SPRING 2019** Volume 20, Issue 2

In this Page 1 Spring 2019 Message from the President

- issue: Page 2 Spring Educational Conference
  - Page 3 Social Committee
  - Page 4 Factors Linked with Food Workers Working When Sick.
  - Page 7 2019 Scholarship and Awards
  - Page 11 Welcome / Membership



Greetings! I hope this newsletter finds you well and excited for another year. I am starting to see pops of color outside so hopefully spring and warm weather are around the corner. Along with the arrival of the spring season comes our annual Spring Educational Conference which will be held on April 26th in Washington D.C. We hope to have the agenda out shortly.

As mentioned in the previous newsletter we had some changes and additions to our Board. I am proud and excited to serve as Board president again and look forward to growing NCAEHA. We had an in-person meeting last month to help build a strategic plan and discuss some positive changes we hope to make. We plan to send out our first annual survey to determine our member's interests within the next week. So please keep your eyes out for this short survey. We also plan on moving towards using an online membership database. We are currently trying it out and hope to launch it sometime this year. Presently, we are creating the agendas for our next Fall and Winter Educational Conferences as well as researching social and educational networking opportunities. Be sure to check us out on social media for updates, opportunities and other important information.

I am also excited to announce that registration for the FDA Central Region Retail Food Protection Seminar on August 27-29, 2019 in Washington, DC is up and running on our website. You can now register for the seminar and pay for it as well as reserve your hotel room. Check out our webpage at www.ncaeha.org for additional information.

Don't forget to submit your applications for the Jerrold M. Michael Award, James M. Wordsworth and the NEHA Certificate of Merit. Applications can be found on page 7 and are due soon.

Finally, if you are interested in being involved in NCAEHA please let me know. We are currently forming committees to include: awards, social and communication. We are a fun and energetic team and would be happy to have you on board.

I look forward to seeing many of you on April 26th for another informative conference. As always, please let myself or any Member of the Board know of any thoughts or suggestions you may have on how we may better serve you.

# SAVE THE DATE

# NCAEHA SPRING EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE

# April 26, 2019

# $\bullet \bullet \bullet \bullet \bullet$

6TH FLOOR, ROOM 6002 899 N. CAPITAL ST., NE WASHINGTON DC, 20002



MORE DETAILS TO COME!



NCAEHA IS LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS TO BE ON THE SOCIAL COMMITTEE

# CALLING ALL SOCIAL BUTTERFLIES!

- Help brainstorm and plan social and educational events
- Offer ideas for events, help implement them, and host events
- Looking for enthusiastic volunteers for a FUN committee

Please send an email to VP of Membership, Nicole at NCAEHA.VP.Membership@gmail.com if you are interested!



# Factors Linked with Food Workers Working When Sick EHS-Net Study Findings and Recommendations

Sick food workers have been linked with past foodborne illness outbreaks. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) recommends that food workers not work when sick with symptoms of foodborne illness. Such symptoms include vomiting and diarrhea.

We don't know how often food workers follow the FDA advice. If we learn more about which food workers are likely to work when they are sick, we can make recommendations to stop them from working when sick. Lowering the number of workers who work when they are sick can reduce the number of foodborne illness outbreaks.

# What the Study Described

The purpose of this study was to describe traits of food workers who have worked when sick with vomiting or diarrhea.

## What the Study Found

Some groups of food workers were more likely than others to say they had worked a shift in the past year when sick with vomiting or diarrhea:

Workers <b>More Likely</b> to Say They Had Worked When Sick	Workers <b>Less Likely</b> to Say They Had Worked When Sick
Males	Females
Without cooking and dishwashing duties	With cooking and dishwashing duties
With food storage duties	Without food storage duties
With 2 or more years of experience	With less than 2 years of experience
Who said fear of losing their job affects their decisions to work when sick	Who said that fear of job loss was not a factor in their decisions
Who said concern about leaving coworkers short on staff affects their decisions to work when sick	Who said that this concern was not a factor in their decisions

EHS-Net found that some groups of food workers were more likely than others to say they had worked a shift in the past year when sick with vomiting or diarrhea.





This study was conducted by the Environmental Health Specialists Network (EHS-Net). EHS-Net is a federally funded collaboration of federal, state, and local environmental health specialists and epidemiologists working to better understand the environmental causes of foodborne and waterborne illness. Visit EHS-Net at <u>http://www.cdc.gov/nceh/ehs/</u> EHSNet.



Our findings suggest that many things affect whether workers work when sick with vomiting or diarrhea. These things include

- Personal traits (gender, job experience).
- Financial concerns (fear of job loss).
- Social concerns (worry about coworkers).

### **EHS-Net Recommends**

Food safety programs should stress that food workers should not work when they are sick. Programs need to know and address what factors affect workers' decisions to work when sick before they can lower the number of workers who work when sick. For example, restaurant practices that ensure adequate staffing if a worker is sick could reduce the number of workers who work when they are sick.





### **Key Terms**

**Environmental health specialists:** public health workers who enforce health and safety standards related to food and other consumer products.

Foodborne illness: an illness caused by germs in food.

**Foodborne illness outbreak:** when two or more people have the same sickness after eating food from the same place.

# NCAEHA 2019 Scholarship and Awards

# **James M. Wordsworth Scholarship**

The NCAEHA James M. Wordsworth Scholarship program was established to encourage early commitment by students to a career in environmental health and to stimulate professional growth in current environmental health professionals in pursuing graduate or postgraduate studies in environmental health sciences and/or public health. Applications with original documentation must be received by June 1, 2019.



See page 7 for the application.

# **Jerrold M. Michael Award**

Do you know of a professional who has contributed greatly to the environmental health profession? If so, nominate the individual for the 2015 Jerrold M. Michael Environmental Health Professional of the Year Award by June 1, 2019 See page 8 for the application.

# **Certificate of Merit Nomination**

Each affiliate is invited to designate one of its members or team members to receive a Certificate of Merit from NEHA, thereby nationally recognizing one of their own for outstanding contributions to the profession of environmental health. Nominate an environmental health professional for the INDIVIDUAL Award or a group of professionals for the TEAM Award by submitting a summary of their achievements by May 1, 2019. Recipients are announced during the AEC awards program and in the Journal of Environmental Health.

See page 9 for the application.

Submit applications and necessary supporting documentation to: NCAEHA.VP.Membership@gmail.com



# National Capital Area Environmental Health Association James M. Wordsworth Scholarship Application

**About the award**: James Wordsworth has been a long standing restaurateur and advocate for the work Environmental Health Professionals do to help keep the public safe. Mr. Wordsworth is a an Honorary Lifetime Member of NCAEHA and every year helps make a scholarship available to a candidate that is seeking higher education in a field related to Environmental Health.

- 1. Name (Last, First, Middle Initial):
- 2. Permanent Address:

3. City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

- 4. Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_
- 5. E-mail Address:
- 6. Are you an active member of the National Environmental Health Association (NEHA)? YES / NO
- 7. Are you an active member of the National Capital Area Environmental Health Association (NCAEHA)? YES / NO
- 8. Education (list most current first):

School	Major	Dates	Degree
1.			
2.			
3.			

Year and date of expected graduation from current program: \_\_\_\_\_ GPA:\_\_\_\_

9. Employment history (list present employer first):

Employer	Job Title	Years Employed
1.		
2.		
3.		

- Write a short summary of your professional achievements, including any major contributions you have made that resulted in the increased protection of human health and the environment. (Not to exceed one type written page, attach additional page if necessary)
- List civic groups and other community activities of which you are a member. Also, note any special honors received. (Attach
  additional page if necessary)
- 12. Provide one letter of recommendation from either the school in which you are currently enrolled, an active NCAEHA member, or a current or past supervisor

Send completed application by June 1, 2019 to Nicole at NCAEHA.VP.Membership@gmail.com



### National Capital Area Environmental Health Association

Nomination Form for: Jerrold M. Michael Award (EnvironmentalHealth Professional of the Year)

About the award: Jerrold Michael was the Founding President of NCAEHA He was a true leader and pioneer in the field of Environmental Health. This award is to recognize a professional in the field of environmental health that has contributed to his or her employer's environmental health mission, to the goals of the National Capital Area Environmental Health Association, and to the advancement of the environmental health profession.

NOMINATED BY:	
Name:	
Job Title:Address:	
Phone:	
E-Mail:	
NOMINEE:	
Name:	
Job Title:	
Employer:	

Please attach a brief (one page or less) explanation of the reasons you believe that the above named individual should be selected as this year's Jerrold M. Michael Award recipient. Specifically describe how this person has contributed to his or her employer's environmental health mission, to the goals of the National Capital Area Environmental Health Association, and to the advancement of the environmental health profession.

THE NOMINATION COMMITTEE MAY CONTACTYOU FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION.

Nominations may be sent either by postal service or email to the NCAEHA and must be received by June 1, 2019.

Send complete nominations to:

Nicole NCAEHA Vice President of Membership NCAEHA.VP.Membership@gmail.com



# National Capital Area Environmental Health Association

NominationForm for: NEHA Certificate of Merit Award For Individual or Team



About the award: Each year at the NEHA Annual Educational Conference & Exhibition (AEC), NEHA recognizes an individual or team, from each of its Affiliates, who has made outstanding contributions to the profession of environmental health. It is one of the benefits of your affiliation with NEHA and your local Affiliate chapter. This is a National recognition.

### NOMINATED BY:

Name:	
ob Title:	
\ddress:	
Phone:	
E-Mail:	
IOMINEE:	
lame:	
ob Title:	
Employer:	

Please attach a brief (one page or less) explanation of the reasons you believe that the above named individual or team should be selected as this year's Certificate of Merit Award recipient. Specifically describe how this person or team has contributed to the field of Environmental Health.

### THE NOMINATION COMMITTEE MAY CONTACT YOU FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION.

### Nominations may be sent either by postal service or email to the NCAEHA and must be received by May 1, 2019.

Send completed nominations to:

Nicole; NCAEHA Vice President of Membership NCAEHA.VP.Membership@gmail.com



# SEEKING VOLUNTERS FOR: AWARDS COMMITTEE

- Be apart of the NCAEHA Annual Awards/Scholarship review panel for 2019
- Collaborate with the VP of Membership to review 4 award types
- Task involves: reviewing submitted nomination applications; selecting awardees
- Involvement: minimal; communication is done via email

Contact VP of Membership, Nicole: NCAEHA.VP.Membership@gmail.com





- Be a part of a local association in the DC, MD, and VA area that is focused on environmental health (EH)
- Network with other local EH professionals in academia, industry, government, private sector, and other areas
- Advance your career by pursuing a credential or certification with our discounted annual courses like the REHS, CP-FS, CPO, and more
- Gain more knowledge and/or earn up to 15 Continuing Education hours per year by attending our nearby Educational Conferences
  - Enjoy a good time with your EH colleagues and build new connections at our social events
- Recognize an EH professional by nominating them for an award or scholarship
- Pursue local EH employment opportunities with easy accessibility through our announcements
  - Stay updated through our newsletter, website, and social media and announcements on other events, trainings, webinars, and more

Memberships expired on December 31, 2018. Regular Membership Renewal: \$20.00 Student and Silver Membership Renewal: \$5.00

Membership Renewal may be completed: - Online at www.ncaeha.org/membership - In person at the next Educational Conference

Payments are accepted in person via credit card, cash, check, or money order.



Serving Washington D.C., Northern Virginia, and Maryland Application for Membership 2019

CONTACTINF Name: Address:				_
Address: City:Contact Telephone#: Email Address:		State:Zip:		
EMPLOYMEN Current Place	TINFORMATION of Employment:			
	IndustryRetired	Federal Go	vernment	_Private Consultant
Check current REHS/RS CP-FS ( CEHT (C RET (Re RHSP (R	9 & CREDENTIALS:NEHA credentials held: 6 (Registered Environme Certified Professional-f Certified Environmental gistered Environmental egistered Hazardous Su	ental Health Specia Food Safety) Health Technician Technician) Ibstances Professio	) onal)	Sanitarian)
Regular Enviror Student and has Silver (\$ dues Honora achieve Director	s paid current dues (5) Retiree from active e ry Lifetime (\$0) Past Jer ement or service in the E rs; Past NCAEHA Preside	s actively employe paid current dues; ent working toward mployment in the rold M. Michael Ar Environmental Hea ents n) Any company,	current NEHA F ds a degree in field of Enviro ward receipts; a ofth field as dete corporation or a	
	Email completed applic	ationsto:Nicole at		lembership@gmail.com For

membership dues, you may request an invoice via email o<u>r</u>mail your check to: Victoria Griffith, NCAEHA Treasurer 2000 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, #361 Washington, DC 20006