

VOL. 21 | ISSUE 2

THE PREVENTATIVE MEASURE

SPRING 2020

Triannual Newsletter of the National Capital Area Environmental Health Association



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President's Message

Greetings!

I hope that amidst this Coronavirus crisis you are well! Our hearts go out to everyone who is affected by this Coronavirus pandemic. Based on the survey we sent out a few weeks ago and, in attempt to limit the spread of COVID-19, the Spring Educational Conference has been cancelled. The safety and well-being of our members is a top priority of ours. We are working hard to come up with other ideas for our members to earn CEU's and will keep you posted.



With this New Year, we had some changes and additions to our Board. I am excited to welcome Rahel Telahun, Amanda Losardo and Courtney Hale who will serve as our MD Representative, VA Representative and Treasurer respectively! This Board is committed to making NCAEHA the best it can be!

We are currently creating the agendas for our next Fall and Winter Educational Conferences as well as scheduling the Annual Dinner and a Manufacturing Company Tour. Please keep an eye out for these agendas. We continue to update our webpage and other social media sites so be sure to check out our FB page, twitter, webpage etc. for updates, opportunities and other important information.

It's time to recognize your co-workers! We are introducing several new awards this year. For example, the Environmental Health Innovation Award, the Dedicated Service Award and Member of the Year Awards. Don't forget to submit your applications for the Jerrold M. Michael Award, James M. Wordsworth and the NEHA Certificate of Merit as well. Applications can be found on page __ and are due by May 1, 2020.

Finally, our DC Representative position is vacant, and we are currently forming a social and awards committee. If you are interested in getting involved in NCAEHA please let me know. We are a fun and energetic team and would be happy to have you on board.

I'm looking forward to seeing many of you at our Annual Dinner! 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.

Best Regards,
Kristen Pybus, NCAEHA President



UPDATE: SPRING EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 status, we will unfortunately be cancelling our Spring Educational Conference this year. The health and safety of our members is our top priority. Please keep a lookout for our Annual Awards Dinner and Fall conferences to be held later this year.

Looking Ahead at the Top Food Safety and Regulatory Issues for 2020

By David Acheson, the Acheson Group Jan 28, 2020

Following up on his look back at the top issues of 2019, David Acheson warns government agencies and company officials will have their hands full this year.

Each January The Acheson Group makes predictions for the coming year. For 2020, our team expects:

- **Romaine Outbreaks:** We expect outbreaks to continue, with FDA continuing to seek improvements in traceability despite the lack of regulatory authority to get what they really need. Outbreaks will continue until the industry and federal regulatory agencies address the underlying hazards of co-locating large animal agricultural operations and ready-to-eat produce in the same areas. While the colocation is almost impossible to solve and much is being done at the grower end of the supply chain, it is not addressing the problems adequately. We anticipate some industry moves in 2020 to take a fresh look at this problem that will take a different approach to addressing the issues – because what is being done now is not working.



- **Traceability:** FDA may release draft rules linked to Section 204 of FSMA, but these will likely be too general to require meaningful changes – even in the produce industry. We also expect FDA to continue its overall focus on its New Era of Smarter Food Safety, which it defines as people-led, FSMA-based and technology enabled. One part of this is a focus on supply-chain digitization for transparency and traceability, which will inevitably encourage companies to adopt new technologies. The complexity of the food sourcing with its global network of suppliers has become a roadblock for fast reaction on management of outbreaks, and paper trails provide a slow response with limited information. FDA’s Technology Modernization Action Plan is a strategy that is being developed and targeted to the pharmaceutical industry, but the model has the capability to be adapted and extended to the food industry. The use of blockchain for traceability could be the first step toward the application of technology in food production but even that is only as good as the data entered.



- **Food Safety Culture:** In addition to the focus on technology and data management for traceability and prevention, the New Era will have a food safety culture component throughout the supply chain, adapted to new business models such as e-commerce and home delivery of foods, together with current, traditional ones. Although everyone is talking about food safety culture, it is often poorly understood. Companies can't define it easily, and many don't know how to get on the road to a better food safety culture. We will hear a great deal more on this in the coming year and expect the understanding to increase across the food sector.
- **CBD, THC and Other Cannabinoids.** Although CBD products are pervasive, FDA has made it clear that these substances are not generally recognized as safe (GRAS) and that it is illegal under federal law to add CBD to food or market it as a dietary supplement. While FDA is working to create a regulatory framework at the federal level, there is limited scientific information available, and it will

likely take some time. Thus, we'd expect that the agency will continue to prohibit the use of CBD, THC and other cannabinoids unless Congress mandates that these compounds be considered as allowable in foods and dietary supplements. (This would only apply to non-THC cannabinoids unless we get federal cannabis legalization, which is not likely). The agency's position will be strengthened if there are any outbreaks or adverse health events associated with (non-vaping) THC- or CBD-related products in 2020. Additionally, FDA and FTC are likely to continue their enforcement as they figure out the best approach to regulating products containing CBD. While we would like to say that the regulatory framework will be clearer within the year, we doubt that will happen without additional interventions from Congress, as FDA must follow the science and its lengthy administrative process to

develop and implement final regulations. Private lawsuits will likely continue to be a major consideration for companies looking to participate in the CBD marketplace.

- Global Standards: GFSI and its certified audit programs, such as BRC and SQF, will likely have a challenging year as programs are questioned in terms of their delivery and implementation. Good auditors are in short supply globally, and this is the biggest challenge facing GFSI. There also is a lack of consistency and a perception among some detractors that poorly run plants are able to get high ratings, which is affecting confidence in these systems. GFSI will have to counter this perception with more proactive messaging about its value. FDA is adding to this noise about GFSI with some inspectors saying a GFSI audit is not adequate to meet the FSMA standards for supply-chain control.

Labeling: FDA will finally be rolling out and enforcing the new nutritional label standards, so consumers can expect to see up-to-date information on most products very soon, and we will likely see many auxiliary labeling issues come out with the revamping of labels. Companies will be looking for best industry practices for shelf-life labeling as it pertains to both quality and safety with clear "best if used by" and "best by" date labeling. The new Nutritional Facts also will give rise to new arguments on what is considered "healthy" or "natural" on labels; and with the advent of new and proposed laws that restrict the usage of meat terms on meat analog products, it will be an interesting area to watch.

About the Author: David Acheson, M.D., was associate commissioner for foods in the FDA and is founder and CEO of the Acheson Group.

COMMITTEE OPPORTUNITIES



NCAEHA IS LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS TO BE ON THE SOCIAL COMMITTEE

- 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 @ NCAEHA.VPMembership@gmail.com if you are interested!



SEEKING VOLUNTEERS FOR: AWARDS COMMITTEE

- Be apart of the NCAEHA Annual Awards/Scholarship review panel for 2020
- Collaborate with the VP of Membership to review various 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

2020 Awards and Scholarships!

APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE ONLINE AT NCAEHA.ORG/AWARDS.
DEADLINE TO SUBMIT ALL AWARDS: MAY 25th, 2020.
SUBMIT APPLICATIONS TO VP.MEMBERSHIP@GMAIL.COM
All awardees will be recognized at our Annual Awards Dinner.

James M. Wordsworth Scholarship

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 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.

Jerrold M. Michael 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.

NEHA Certificate of Merit

Each year, NEHA recognizes one individual and one 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.

Dedicated Service Award *NEW*

This recognition is awarded to Long-term members who are retiring this year. Candidates can be nominated by any member of NCAEHA. Eligibility: to be eligible a nominee must: be an Environmental Health Professional that is approaching retirement within the next year, be a member in good standing of NCAEHA for a minimum of 2 years, be actively engaged in the field of environmental health, and have performed professional duties in the field of environmental health above and beyond the usual employment requirements so as to elevate the professional status of the Environmental Health Professional.

Environmental Health Innovation Award *NEW*

This award is presented to a NCAEHA member or organization for creating a new idea, practice or product that has had a positive impact on improving the environment or public health and quality of life. The purpose of this award is to recognize these individuals and to encourage others to search for creative solutions.

NCAEHA Industry Award *NEW*

This award is presented to a company or industry which has demonstrated support to NCAEHA and has made a significant contribution to the field of environmental health and/or to NCAEHA.

Members of the Year - VA, MD, DC *NEW*

These members are chosen by the VP of Membership and Secretary and are awarded for their outstanding dedication to NCAEHA. Winners will have demonstrated active conference attendance, committee work, and have been active Members for 2 years or more. A selection from Virginia, Maryland, and DC will be awarded, if applicable.

**SAVE THE DATE! (MAY INCUR RESCHEDULING DUE TO COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS)
AWARDS DINNER: FRIDAY, JULY 17 at J.R.'s STOCKYARDS, MCLEAN, VA**



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 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.		

10. 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)

11. 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 **May 25, 2020** to: NCAEHA.VP.Membership@gmail.com



**National Capital Area Environmental Health Association
Nomination Form for: Jerrold M. Michael Award
(Environmental Health 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 CONTACT YOU FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION.

Nominations may be sent by email to

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

Must be received by **May 25, 2020.**



National Capital Area Environmental Health Association Nomination Form 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: _____

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 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 by email to

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

Must be received by **May 25, 2020**.



National Capital Area Environmental Health Association Nomination Form for: **Dedicated Service Award**

About the award: *This recognition is awarded to Long-term members who are retiring this year. Candidates can be nominated by any member of NCAEHA.*

Eligibility: *to be eligible a nominee must be*

- 1. An Environmental Health Professional that is approaching retirement within the next year.*
- 2. A member in good standing of NCAEHA for a minimum of 2 years.*
- 3. Actively engaged in the field of environmental health.*
- 4. Have performed professional duties in the field of environmental health above and beyond the usual employment requirements so as to elevate the professional status of the Environmental Health Professional.*

NOMINATED BY:

Name: _____

Job Title: _____

Phone: _____

E-Mail: _____

NOMINEE:

Name: _____

Job Title: _____

Retirement Date and Years of Service: _____

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 **Dedicated Service Award** recipient.

THE NOMINATION COMMITTEE MAY CONTACT YOU FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION.

Nominations may be sent by email to

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

Must be received by **May 25, 2020.**



National Capital Area Environmental Health Association Nomination Form for: Environmental Health Innovation Award

About the award: *This award is presented to a NCAEHA member or organization for creating a new idea, practice or product that has had a positive impact on improving the environment or public health and quality of life. The purpose of this award is to recognize these individuals and to encourage others to search for creative solutions.*

Recognized for:

- A new idea
- A new practice
- A new product
- or similar

NOMINATED BY:

Name: _____

Job Title: _____

Phone: _____

E-Mail: _____

NOMINEE:

Name: _____

Job Title: _____

Employer: _____

Innovation: _____

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 **Environmental Health Innovation Award** recipient. Specifically describe how this person has impacted the environment or public health and quality of life through their new health innovation.

THE NOMINATION COMMITTEE MAY CONTACT YOU FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION.

Nominations may be sent by email to

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

Must be received by **May 25, 2020.**



National Capital Area Environmental Health Association Nomination Form for: NCAEHA Industry Award

About the award: *This award is presented to a Company or Industry which has demonstrated support and has made a significant contribution to the field of environmental health and/or to NCAEHA.*

Egibility: *Company or Industry must*

- *Be an employer of at least one current NCAEHA member(s) in good standing*
- *Have performed duties in the field of environmental health above and beyond the usual requirements so as to elevate the professional status of the profession and/or NCAEHA*
- *Exemplify the characteristics of excellence, leadership, organization and dedication to the environment*

NOMINATED BY:

Name: _____

Job Title: _____

Phone: _____

E-Mail: _____

NOMINEE:

Company/ Industry: _____

Region (if applicable): _____

Phone: _____

E-Mail: _____

Please attach a brief (one page or less) explanation of the reasons you believe that the above named company should be selected as this year's **NCAEHA Industry Award** recipient. Specifically describe how this company has significantly contributed to the field of environmental health and/or to NCAEHA.

THE NOMINATION COMMITTEE MAY CONTACT YOU FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION.

Nominations may be sent by email to

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

Must be received by **May 25, 2020.**