

# CEHA Newsletter

## Board Member Introductions

1<sup>st</sup> edition



December 2013

### Executive Board

President  
Past President  
President Elect  
Vice President  
Secretary

Pages 1-3

### Executive Board cont.

Treasurer  
Board Photograph  
Chapter President  
Northern Chapter  
Redwood Chapter

Pages 4-5

### Chap. Presidents cont.

Citrus Chapter  
Southern Chapter  
Superior Chapter  
Southwest Chapter  
Board Directory

Pages 6-7

## Executive Board President



Hello CEHA Members,  
I graduated from University of Arizona with a degree in Animal Sciences. I was enrolled in the Masters program in Animal Sciences, Nutritional Studies when I was unable to find funding (or a job anywhere in Tucson) to complete my studies. Thanks to a good friend's invitation I moved to San Diego to find employment. Working as a temporary clerical worker for the County of San Diego I was introduced to what is now called Environmental Health. After a Hepatitis outbreak at a popular restaurant in San Diego, I was hired on as a trainee. The majority of my career was in the Food and Housing Division, but I also served in land use and development for four years. I was blessed to have stumbled into this career and after 31+ years I retired.

I have been a member of CEHA for more than 30 years. I joined after being invited by a CEHA member to be a guest at a dinner meeting.



### Executive Board Past President

Brenda has been a practicing environmental health specialist for over 25 years. During her career she has been an active CEHA member participating and volunteering with numerous CEHA activities, including AES and Update planning

I found it a great way to interact with “Sanitarians” outside of the work environment. I quickly became involved in CEHA; serving on committees, Co-chairing three AES’s, chairing and co-chairing chapter educational functions, serving as chapter Treasurer, State Secretary and Chapter President five times. Currently I am serving you on the BOD as your current President. Please feel free to email me at [President@ceha.org](mailto:President@ceha.org).



## Executive Board President Elect

Greetings, my name is Sarah Crossman and I am currently serving as President Elect. I have been active in CEHA, primarily Citrus Chapter, for years. I am the training coordinator for Riverside County Department of Environmental Health. I oversee the new hire and continuing education training programs for the Department as well as the lead overseeing the support group for the food, recreational health, plan check, vector control, household trash, sewage, housing, and tobacco programs. I also serve on the Environmental Health Specialist Registration Committee with CDPH. I am currently attending California Baptist University earning my Master of Public Administration degree and will graduate in May 2014. I am very interested in the direction CEHA is going and have been active with the rest of the board on forming a new strategic plan to carry us into the future both as an organization and as a profession. I can be reached at [xzxsarahxzx@verizon.net](mailto:xzxsarahxzx@verizon.net)

committees. In 2010, Brenda was voted in to serve on the CEHA Executive Board with a four-year commitment; serving as Vice President (2010-11), President Elect (2011-12) and President (2012-13). Brenda is currently serving her last year on the Executive Committee as Past President providing CEHA policy and procedure guidance to the CEHA board. As a request to continue serving the organization, the Executive President, Dorothy Janse, has recently appointed Brenda as the Technical Section Chair. Brenda Vanschaik Faw, Sr. REHS, CP-FS CEHA Executive Past - President [Brenda.Faw@cdph.ca.gov](mailto:Brenda.Faw@cdph.ca.gov)

## Executive Board Vice President

Matthew has worked in the field of environmental health for 6 years and currently works in Orange County's Mobile Food Program. He has been an active CEHA member since 2009. In 2010, Matthew was elected as Orange County's representative on Citrus Chapter's Board of Directors (BOD). After working his way through the ranks of Citrus

Chapter's BOD, Matthew continued on to the Executive Committee where he currently holds the position of Vice President. Most recently Matthew sat as co-chair for the 2013 Annual Update held in Orange County and has begun work on the 2015 AES as the Planning Committee co-chair.

## Executive Board Secretary

I became a member of CEHA shortly after I started on with the County of Orange as an AEHS. A few years later, my supervisor, Corwin Brown, suggested I run for Citrus Chapter Secretary. I have been involved with CEHA ever since! My goal as secretary is to provide accurate and timely documentation of the board meetings. Serving as secretary is a great way for newer members to gain CEHA experience. You get to learn how the meetings are run and observe the process, while offering your time. I encourage everybody to give it a try!

Kiki Cason, REHS  
County of Orange  
(714) 433-6067  
[kcason@ochca.com](mailto:kcason@ochca.com)



## Executive Board Treasurer

Hi! I'm Lauren Hatch, CEHA Treasurer. I currently work for and live in the County of Orange. I am the Cross-connection Program (yep, not a typo, I am the only one working in the program). I have worked for the county for 6 years starting in the food program and then moving to water quality about 2 years ago. Prior to working for the county I was an Accounting Manager, which has been very helpful in being treasurer for CEHA. I have 3 kids; Cole is 4, Audrey is 3 and Lucas is 6 months so I am a little busy, but in a good way.

[treasurer@ceha.org](mailto:treasurer@ceha.org)



We are committed to the professional growth and development of Environmental Health professionals. We are dedicated to improving the quality of life & health through environmental education & protection. We are the board members of the California Environmental Health Association.



## Northern Chapter President

My name is Muhammed Khan, and I am the current President of CEHA's Northern Chapter. With an educational background in Biochemistry and a Masters in Public Administration, I have had the pleasure of being employed by Alameda County, Department of Environmental Health. In being a part of CEHA, I have had an opportunity to cultivate my leadership skills and meet incredible individuals in the profession of environmental health. As a President, my goal is to continue to make every effort within my capacity to help provide an enriching, revitalizing, and positive experience for every member within our chapter and beyond. CEHA enables us to create a larger community of practice where we may all share our ideas freely and contribute positively to the field of environmental health sciences. It is important to realize that Together We Can Make a Difference.

## Redwood Chapter President

Born to aliens in the 50's Rich had a hard time adjusting to middle class American life in Napa, but found his identity in becoming a Registered Sanitarian in Gold Beach, Oregon. He was a generalist and found himself mainly doing the on-site sewage disposal program. This was a long time ago, when sand filters were being invented. Rich quickly caught on to the concept of reading soils, and soils being the determining factor to successful septic system performance. Technology rapidly improved and he found pre-treated septic effluent as a way to overcome poor site conditions and better dispose of effluent. After years in government he became an on-site sewage disposal consultant and ranged throughout the north west and back down to into northern California. During the recession and after the kids were off to college, Rich went back to working for government, glad for the steady paycheck and the chance to enjoy co-worker's company.

Rich's Data;

- R.S. in Curry County, Or. 79-82, Napa Co. 82-85, Lincoln Co., Or. 85-90
- Started 'R. Lyon & Associates, Inc.' Environmental Consulting business. 90-03
- R.S. in Lake Co. 02-07, Solano Co. 07
- Daughter Kelly, son Casey, and daughter Carly, grandkids Sofia, Liam, Jada & TBD.



## Citrus Chapter President

I have worked with Orange County Environmental Health for the last six years in the Food and Pool Program. I have recently moved into the Hazardous Materials Surveillance Section (HMSS) as a Hazardous Waste Specialist and Enforcement Coordinator. I have been active in CEHA for over 4 years and really enjoy how the organization is once again growing. I am also involved with Rad/Nuc Emergency Response team for the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station (SONGS). I graduated from Cal State Fullerton in 2007 with a BS in Biology and Chemistry.

Gerrit Kovach, REHS  
Orange County Environmental Health  
[GKovach@ochca.com](mailto:GKovach@ochca.com)  
714-474-4006



## Southern Chapter President



Timothy Hua is currently the President for the Southern Chapter and is serving on the CEHA Board along with Southern Chapter President Elect Tiffany Kwok. Tim has been involved with the Southern Chapter board for the last five years. For the past ten years, he has been involved in various programs with the Los Angeles County Environmental Health Division, including district inspections, Vector Management and program planning. He is currently holding the position of Hazardous Materials Specialist with the Los Angeles County Fire Department Health Hazardous Materials Division.

[ceha.southern@gmail.com](mailto:ceha.southern@gmail.com)

## Superior Chapter President

Hi, I'm Shirley Fong. I am a Registered Environmental Health Specialist with Sacramento County in the Environmental Health Division - Consumer Protection. I have a B.S. from the University of California, Davis in Clinical Nutrition. I have been actively involved in CEHA for the last 3 years. Up until then, I did not know what CEHA was about, and that was when I was tapped by a couple of "CEHA scouts" at the office. Fast forward 3 years later, and I am currently the Superior Chapter President! I want to



hear from you and what you would like to get out of CEHA. Email me at [fongshir@saccounty.net](mailto:fongshir@saccounty.net) and I will make it happen!



## Southwest Chapter President

Hi, I'm Heather Buonomo. For the past 11 years I have worked for County of San Diego Department of Environmental Health in the Food and Housing Division. I have been a member of CEHA for 10 years and this is my second term as the Southwest Chapter President. CEHA is a great link to access other Environmental Health Specialists throughout the state and the knowledge they possess. CEHA has provided me many opportunities for professional growth that I hope to pass on to other Environmental Health Specialists in the future. I look forward to meeting you at the next CEHA event! Please visit our chapter website at: <http://ceha.org/about-us/chapters/64-chapters/19-southwest-chapter>



## Thank You!

Thank you all for taking the time to get to know your current CEHA board members! We are working hard to provide you with an association full of educational and networking opportunities. If you have information or content that you would like to see in any of our upcoming publications, please contact the publications chair Jahniah McGill at [oohkamook@gmail.com](mailto:oohkamook@gmail.com). We look forward to hearing from you!

- Executive President: Dorothy Janse..... [President@ceha.org](mailto:President@ceha.org)
- Executive Past President: Brenda Faw Vanschaik..... [Brenda.Faw@cdph.ca.gov](mailto:Brenda.Faw@cdph.ca.gov)
- Executive President Elect: Sarah Crossman..... [xzxsarahxzx@verizon.net](mailto:xzxsarahxzx@verizon.net)
- Executive Vice President: Matthew Reighter..... [MReighter@ochca.com](mailto:MReighter@ochca.com)
- Executive Secretary: Kiki Cason..... [kcason@ochca.com](mailto:kcason@ochca.com)
- Executive Treasurer: Lauren Hatch..... [treasurer@ceha.org](mailto:treasurer@ceha.org)
- Central Chapter President: (Vacant) .....
- Citrus Chapter President: Gerrit Kovach..... [GKovach@ochca.com](mailto:GKovach@ochca.com)
- Mission Chapter President: Norman Fujimoto..... [norman.fujimoto@sbcphd.org](mailto:norman.fujimoto@sbcphd.org)
- Northern Chapter President: Muhammed Khan..... [muhammed.khan@acgov.org](mailto:muhammed.khan@acgov.org)
- Redwood Chapter President: Rich Lyon..... [relyon@solanocounty.com](mailto:relyon@solanocounty.com)
- Southern Chapter President: Timothy Hua..... [ceha.southern@gmail.com](mailto:ceha.southern@gmail.com)
- Southwest Chapter President: Heather Buonomo..... [Heather.Buonomo@sdcounty.ca.gov](mailto:Heather.Buonomo@sdcounty.ca.gov)
- Superior Chapter President: Shirley Fong..... [fongshir@saccounty.net](mailto:fongshir@saccounty.net)