

Who's Who in CEHA

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INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Exec
President 1

Exec Pres.
Elect 2

Exec
Secretary 2

Exec Vice
President 3

Exec Past
President 3

Exec
Treasurer 3

Southwest
Chapter 4

Northern
Chapter 4

Southern
Chapter 5

Mission
Chapter 5

Citrus
Chapter 6

Superior
Chapter 6

Redwood
Chapter 6

Central
Chapter 6

2018 Update 7

Meet your new CEHA Board! The incoming members answered the following two questions for our Bulletin:

- **What does participating in CEHA mean to you?**
- **What's the best thing about the work you do (or will do) through CEHA for your profession?**

Jahniah McGill



EXECUTIVE PRESIDENT

Solano County Environmental Health Supervisor
UC-Riverside and Walden University
Bachelor of Science in Biology
Masters of Public Health
President@ceha.org

The California Environmental Health Association (CEHA) is more than the association for my profession. It has become a place for me (1) to provide insight to my fellow colleagues based on my past experiences and (2) to grow as an Environmental Health Specialist learning from the experiences of others. So when I get to that point in my profession, I know someone I can call on who has been in the shoes I'm being offered to walk in. CEHA has become that place where I can share my true feelings with like-minded professionals about the direction of our field and get honest feedback without the politics.

I look forward to evoking change and a spirit of challenging the status quo in Environmental Health to make a better work and networking environment, not only for those of us who are already in the profession, but also for the students and newer generations so they can have a place where they are excited to grow in environmental health--knowing we all make a difference even if our sphere of influence is small.

Welcome to CEHA!



Graciela Garcia

EXECUTIVE PRESIDENT-ELECT

County of Ventura Environmental Health Division
Supervising Environmental Health Specialist
California State University, Northridge
Bachelors in Environmental Health
President-elect@ceha.org

I began my environmental health career over 17 years ago and I immediately fell in love with the profession. It's a great feeling at the end of the day to know you are helping save lives by educating and guiding others. CEHA's mission statement, "Dedicated to improving the quality of life and health through environmental education and protection," is in line with my own professional mission. I continuously strive to learn and become involved in all aspects of the environmental health profession. The more I learn, the more I can help others.

I am honored to have been elected CEHA's President-Elect for the 2018-2019 Executive Board. I will dedicate time and effort to learn as much as I can from the current President and from Past Presidents so that I can be well qualified to merit the votes to be elected President next year. I am very excited to continue to grow as an environmental health professional.

Stephanie Percival

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Bachelor of Science in Community Health Education
MPH in Hospital Administration
Secretary@ceha.org



I retired as the Palm Springs Area Supervising Environmental Health Specialist after 32 years of service. I spent many years in various aspects of Environmental Health: food and pool inspections, plan check review, mobile home parks, organized camps, jail inspections, tobacco decoy program, temporary events, and employee training. I helped design and administrate a countywide food worker training program, as well as the creation of public information bulletins and conduct policy review. I have served on many county, community, and joint agency committees, and I conducted industry training classes in pool operation, food handling, camp operation compliance, and regulations to the California Mobile Home Park Act. I spent many years assisting in writing departmental policy and guidelines and spearheading numerous task force groups combating illegal vending. I served on the statewide Food Inspection Standardization Committee and helped implement foodborne illness response guidelines. I received a commendation from the Riverside County District Attorney's office for my work on environmental health guidelines and procedure for misdemeanor case filings.



Darryl Wong

EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT

Director, County of San Benito
 UC Berkeley
 Bachelors in Environmental Health
Vice-President@ceha.org

Why Environmental Health? A fellow college alumnus became an REHS and told me this was a job suited for me. She was correct as I have never looked back or for something new after becoming an REHS! However, this job is not for everyone from what I've seen over the years. I want to help CEHA grow and flourish and feel my experience can help the organization. CEHA has done much for me in my career, and serving on the board is my way to give back to CEHA and its membership.



Muhammad Khan

EXECUTIVE PAST PRESIDENT

Senior Environmental Health Specialist, County of Alameda
Past-President@ceha.org

Greetings, colleagues. I am the current Past President of CEHA and have been working as an REHS for 11 years now. In these 11 years, the field of environmental health has helped me in cultivating myself personally and professionally, and I have had to overcome many challenges in this process. The biggest challenge has been that of continuing to educate myself as the field of Environmental Health is constantly changing with new technologies, regulations, research, and ideas. As a CEHA member and an Executive Board member, my goal this year is to help CEHA move forward in gaining financial independence and creating a better partnership with CCDEH. I think this will help facilitate bringing the environmental health community together, and it is together that we can make the ultimate difference.



Deepa Dillikar

EXECUTIVE TREASURER

Environmental Health Specialist, County of Santa Clara
 MPH in Environmental & Occupational Health
Treasurer@ceha.org

I love environmental health. As REHSs we all make a difference in public health. I have an extensive research background specializing in food safety and interventions in lead and mold hazards. I conducted pilot studies for childhood lead poisoning, molds and asthma, as well as oral presentations on childhood lead poisoning, indoor air quality and molds at annual American Public Health Association conferences and Florida Environmental Health Association conferences. My publications include topics such as motor vehicle air pollution and asthma in children. I have written successful grants on childhood lead poisoning intervention, asthma research, and food inspections. My most recent accomplishment includes a FDA voluntary retail program standards self-assessment grant for County of Santa Clara. In 2012, I secured a FDA grant funding of \$300,000 for Pasadena Health Department for a food inspection tablet system. With CEHA we share a strong network of environmental health professionals. As a CEHA executive board member, I encourage others to expand our professional CEHA network.



Victoria Nguyen

SOUTHWEST CHAPTER PRESIDENT

Environmental Health Specialist II, County of San Diego,
Department of Environmental Health, Food and Housing Division
University of California, Riverside
San Diego State University, Graduate School of Public Health
southwest-chapter@ceha.org



CEHA is an amazing organization where environmental health professionals can come together to collaborate and share ideas on how to better serve our communities by promoting public and environmental health.

By being a part of a larger network of like-minded individuals, I continue to be the best version of myself to face the challenges and adversity I encounter in my profession. The best thing about my job is the direct and positive effect my work has on people's lives. Knowledge is power and we have greater strength in numbers. I am one individual, but we are CEHA.



Tanvir Chahal

NORTHERN CHAPTER PRESIDENT

Registered Environmental Health Specialist, Alameda County
Department of Environmental Health
University of Western Ontario
Bachelors in Health Sciences
northern-chapter@ceha.org



CEHA is an association which helps us spread a wealth of knowledge in Environmental and Public Health amongst ourselves and the outside world.

I want CEHA to grow as an organization, where we continue to fund educational events and scholarships in order to attract the best talent to our profession!



Brenna Santiago

SOUTHERN CHAPTER PRESIDENT

Registered Environmental Health Specialist, County of Los Angeles
 California Polytechnic State University, Pomona
 Bachelors in Biology
 Azusa Pacific University
 MPH (currently enrolled)
southern-chapter@ceha.org



CEHA serves both as an organization that fosters the professional development of California Environmental Health Specialists and as a group of individuals that is dedicated to furthering the profession. Continuing education and networking opportunities help cultivate exceptional professionals in the field who ultimately serve the public in their best form.

I hope to help bridge the gap between enforcement entities and the public through effective education. Having worked at a school prior to working as an REHS, I have an in-depth understanding of how a good education can influence behavior positively. In the long run, the goal of an Environmental Health Specialist is to protect and promote a healthful environment, and that can be done so most effectively through proper education of the public and professionals that serve the public.



Lana Johnson

MISSION CHAPTER PRESIDENT

Environmental Health Specialist III, Ventura County Environmental Health
 California State University, San Bernardino
 Bachelors of Science in Environmental Health Science
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The Association provides a great opportunity to expand our knowledge and to network with other environmental health professionals. Through CEHA we can continue to make positive impacts in our communities.

I eat, sleep, and breathe environmental health.... well, not quite... but I do love having a career in environmental health!



Alexandra Calderon



CITRUS CHAPTER PRESIDENT

Environmental Health Specialist, San Bernardino County
BS in Biology from University of California Riverside

citrus-chapter@ceha.org

CEHA is a place to meet new people and broaden your career horizons. It is a place to collaborate, learn, and grow: connecting people through the learning opportunities and networking experiences that CEHA provides for its members.



Kelli Fry



SUPERIOR CHAPTER PRESIDENT

Environmental Health Specialist II, Sacramento County
Bachelors in Nutrition and Food Science

superior-chapter@ceha.org

Since joining CEHA as a member and recently on the board; I have found that CEHA is a strong community of Environmental Health professionals who spark passion through collaboration and continued education in the ever evolving field that is Environmental Health. It has been such an amazing experience and a privilege to serve with such a group of people who work towards the future of our profession. So far, my favorite part is all the new faces I have met within Superior Chapter! I cant express how much I enjoy meeting fellow CEHA members and learning about their backgrounds within Environmental Health! We have so much to learn from our peers and CEHA has been a great way to collaborate.



Armeda Simpson-Van Dam



REDWOOD CHAPTER PRESIDENT

Senior Environmental Health Specialist

redwood-chapter@ceha.org

I have dedicated my career to protecting and improving human and environmental health. As a Peace Corps Volunteer, I identified the source of water contamination in my community. I have been involved in environmental education for many years, both internationally and locally. After returning to the states, I pursued this career and haven't looked back.



Ann Marie Velazquez



CENTRAL CHAPTER PRESIDENT

central-chapter@ceha.org



**BE INFORMED.
BE PREPARED.**

CEHA Update 2018



FRIDAY, OCTOBER 12TH

For more information on this event, please visit www.ceha.org or contact the Southwest Chapter at CEHA2018_Update@ceha.org.



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To submit a article for consideration e-mail:
publications@ceha.org

CEHA selects twinning delegate



Congratulations to **Sharyn Jupp** of Marin County who has been selected as CEHA's delegate to attend the CIEH conference in Manchester, England on September 14, 2018. In addition to attending the conference, she will also be shadowing environmental health professionals for three days.

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