

President's Message - October 2026

Dear NJAIHA Members,

I thank Barb and the entire Executive Board for filling in for me while I was on medical leave last year and look forward to joining all of you at monthly meetings this year. I am very grateful for the opportunity to serve as NJAIHA President for the year 2026-2027 and look forward to working with all of you as we move into the next operating year!

We have another exciting year with all our meetings taking place at the Somerville Elks Lodge in Bridgewater, New Jersey, on the third Thursday in September-November and March, April, and June. Please note that our January and February meetings are on Zoom to avoid any weather-related concerns. I hope to see you at our meetings.

We just completed another successful Summer Industrial Hygiene course, which offered members and non-members alike a valuable opportunity to enhance expertise, with 55 registrants with about 20 people in attendance per session. Please note that for those seeking to earn additional Continuing Education Units (CEUs), the AIHA eLearning subscription continues to provide accessible and robust resources to support professional development and is accessible free of charge to all NJAIHA members in good standing. NJAIHA remains committed to delivering high-quality programs, including our monthly meetings, the December Professional Development Courses, and scholarship initiatives. Thank you to our members for your continued support and active participation. Together we will build on the successes of the past and drive NJAIHA's mission forward in the year ahead!

Best regards,

Jill Asch

President, NJAIHA

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Obtain Knowledge and CIH Maintenance Points through AIHA "eLearning"

NJAIHA has renewed its subscription for the 2026 AIHA eLearning program. If you are an NJAIHA member in good standing, you will have access to the designated AIHA eLearning programs at no charge to you. The eLearning program is an outstanding benefit of your NJAIHA and AIHA membership and every member should take full advantage of it. All NJAIHA members in good standing who choose to participate in the eLearning Program have access to the live presentation as well as the recorded session later.

Updates for the NJAIHA roster are made quarterly. If NJAIHA members are not receiving correspondence from AIHA regarding eLearning offerings, please contact Ronnie Tutty (rtutty@ptd.net) to verify that your correct email address and current membership status are in place.

If you cannot participate in a live webinar, the recordings will be made available online within a few days after the live webinar.

Here are the action items to take to maximize your participation in the program:

1. **Login to the [online classroom](#) and verify that you see a tab to access your group's content.** If you do not see this tab, please contact DLAssistant@aiha.org so they can research the issue.
2. If you don't know your login credentials, please use the forgot password link on the login page to have them sent to you.
3. **Review the information posted on the [eLearning Subscribers page](#).** Here you will find information about upcoming live webinars, OnDemand content already added to your

classroom, accessing your AIHA transcript and FAQs about using the system. *Bookmark this page in case you need to review it later.*

AIHA University Webinars – Live:

- Modern Noise Dosimetry: Limits, Misreads, and Better Solutions (Wednesday, August 5, 1:00-3:00 pm ET)
- Chemical Protective Clothing Performance, Selection, and Program Management (Wednesday, September 30, 1:00-2:00 pm ET)
- OEHS Ethics in the Age of AI and Skeptical Stakeholders (Wednesday, November 4, 1:00-3:00pm ET)
- An Updated Toolbox for Modeling Exposures (Wednesday, November 18, 1:00-2:00 pm ET)

AIHA University Webinars – Recorded:

- Controlling Silica Exposure in Stone Countertop Fabrication & Installation
- Engaging the Workforce to Control SIF Risk Applying AI, Safeguard Conversations, and the NSC SIF Prevention Model Using SafeWorkPlanAI
- Hazard Recognition and Control for the Emerging North American Cannabis Industry
- Making Practical Sense of Enormous Data Logs
- PPE Risk Assessments Practical Considerations for Industrial Hygiene Exposures
- Psychosocial Hazards 101 What Every OEHS Professional Should Know
- The New Safety Standard Mental Health as a Core Workplace Value

AIHA Connect On Demand ESUBs;

- Managing Roof Hazards on a Multi-Campus Healthcare Organization (AIHA Connect 2025 OnDemand)
- Objective Quality Evidence and Robust Records (AIHA Connect 2025 OnDemand)
- ToxShorts: Occupational Exposure Banding Basics & ToxShorts: Respiratory Anatomy, Physiology, and Toxicology (AIHA Connect 2025 OnDemand)
- Upton Sinclair Lecture Protecting Miners - Insights Into Black Lung Disease and Regulatory Challenges (AIHA Connect 2025 OnDemand)
- Welding Fume Exposure Factors (AIHA Connect 2025 OnDemand)

Access to the above will expire on 01/01/2027. Please be sure to check for a renewed eLearning subscription for 2027!

Please don't hesitate to reach out to AIHA at DLAssistant@aiha.org if you have any questions or need any assistance.



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Dual Concentration in Rutgers School of Public Health (SPH) Environmental and Occupational Health and Justice (EOHJ) Department, including Occupational Safety and Health MPH

The MPH concentration in occupational safety and health at Rutgers School of Public Health (SPH) has been approved. This is now one of two concentrations within the Department.

Please note you can go online and see details at:

<http://sph.rutgers.edu/concentrations/Environmental-Occupational-Health/index.html>

A formal application to the program is done through SOPHAS.

<http://sph.rutgers.edu/admissions/index.html>

Please select “occupational health” (and not “environmental health”) among choices under Rutgers SPH, listed at: <https://programfinder.aspgh.org/>

Admissions requirements, and deadlines for application submission, are posted at SOPHAS and on main Rutgers SPH website. Contacts: Dr. Derek Shendell (shendedg@sph.rutgers.edu) and Dr. Koshy Koshy (koshyko@sph.rutgers.edu)

OUTREACH UPDATE

We are working hard to continue to build momentum in our Outreach Program and we need your help. We have developed materials, both written and visual, that can be used at conferences, job fairs, presentations at high schools and colleges, etc. and we are looking for NJAIHA members to share your passion and story as to why you became an industrial hygienist. If you weren't already planning to attend our monthly meetings, please come and join us so we can gather your testimony and a picture (with your approval of course).

Attracting students and young professionals to become industrial hygienists or pursue other disciplines in the environmental, health and safety field is a need recognized by national AIHA and your Executive Committee has accepted the challenge here in New Jersey. For this to be most successful, these students and young professionals will benefit immensely by being able to connect with you who are actively protecting the health of our workforce. Please plan to join us!

Please address comments or questions to info@njaiha.org.

OUR LOCAL SECTION OFFICERS 2026-2027

<u>Office</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>Email Address</u>
<i>President</i>	Jill Asch	732-687-0771	jilla210@gmail.com
<i>President Elect</i>	Jack Zybur	908-955-7763	jzybura@lsga.com
<i>Past President</i>	Barbara Woodhull	908-268-5603	b2bwoodhull@gmail.com
<i>Treasurer</i>	Mike Mancini	609-374-4346	mmancini53@gmail.com
<i>Secretary</i>	Adam Schwarzenberg	347-361-0005	adamswarzenberg@gmail.com
<i>Dir. Member Services</i>	Candice Kowalewski	732-695-4880	cakowalewski@msn.com
<i>Dir. Administration</i>	Marta Figueroa	212-263-3887	marta.figueroa@nyulangone.org
<i>Dir. Publications</i>	Vince Daliessio	856-906-6800	vdaliessio@sevenson.com
<i>Executive Secretary</i>	Ronnie Tutty		njaiha@ptd.net
<i>Webmaster</i>	Jack Zybur	908-955-7763	jzybura@lsga.com
<i>Historian</i>	Tim Rice	908-782-2102	ricehss@comcast.net
<i>IH Course Director</i>	Tom Burgess	973-859-5322	tburgess@tandmassociates.com
<i>Outreach Coordinator</i>	Bill Pockels	908-514-2160	wpockels@panynj.gov

NJAIHA - WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Member	Date Joined
Amanda Bewley	August 2026
Mona Parekh	August 2026
Rafael Giordani	September 2026



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Contact

973-597-0750 | gary@phaseassociate.com | www.phaseassociate.com



Publication Director's Note

Equinix Data Center Diesel Spill — Secaucus (Sept. 2026)

Source: New York Times

Link: [Read the article \[nytimes.com\]](#)

3 key takeaways from the Equinix Secaucus diesel spill

- **Backup-fuel systems at data centers are a real environmental release pathway.** Roughly 5,000 gallons of No. 2 diesel left an on-site storage tank at Equinix NY2 on Sept. 11 and reached Anderson Creek. Even if the Hackensack River itself was protected by booms and vacuum recovery, the Meadowlands tributary still took a large petroleum load from a “routine” generator-fuel setup.
- **Containment worked better than prevention.** NJDEP and the Coast Guard report no observed impacts to the main river, wildlife, or drinking-water intakes, and a significant portion of the product was recovered over the weekend. The failure was upstream: a tank/control issue (locally described as a computer glitch) that allowed fuel to overflow into a storm drain before anyone stopped it.
- **The incident is already being used as a policy argument, not just a cleanup story.** Climate and river-advocacy groups are tying the spill to broader pushback on new data-center siting in New Jersey. For EHS work, that means spill prevention, tank integrity, interlocks, and storm-drain isolation at these sites are now both operational and political issues.

NJDOL Honors PEOSH Staff for Ground Zero Air Monitoring

Source: New Jersey Department of Labor

Link: [Read the article \[nj.gov\]](#)

3 key takeaways from the NJDOL / PEOSH Ground Zero piece;

- **PEOSH's origin story is field industrial hygiene, not just inspections.** In 2001, NJDOL staff went to Ground Zero to fit PPE and monitor air quality for recovery workers while the pile was still burning. The department is treating that as the template for how public-sector IH still works in New Jersey.
- **The same shop still covers first responders.** PEOSH's current mandate is public employees — police, fire, EMS, and other government workers — plus consultation, heat and workplace-violence alerts, and disaster-response guidance. The 9/11 commemoration is a reminder that those groups are both the workforce PEOSH protects and the people who show up first when conditions are worst.
- **Air monitoring and PPE at disaster sites remain a live competency, not a historical footnote.** NJDOL is using the anniversary to argue that inspection, training, and emergency IH support are continuous work, not a one-time 2001 response. For anyone doing PEOSH, IAQ, or emergency-response IH in NJ, that is the operational message.

Readers are encouraged to submit EHS articles of interest for publication in the Examiner. Please send articles and links to info@njaiha.org

NJAIHA OFFICERS

President

Jill Asch
Hillmann Consulting,
LLC
732-687-0771

President-Elect

Jack Zybura
LSG&A
908-955-7763

Past-President

Barbara Woodhull
908-268-5603

Treasurer

Michael Mancini
609-374-4346

Secretary

Adam
Schwarzenberg
BAE Systems, Inc.
347-361-0005

Directors:

Publications

Vince Daliessio
Sevenson Inc.
856-906-6800

Member Services

Candice Kowalewski
732-695-4880

Administration

Marta Figueroa
NYU Langone
212-263-3887

Executive Secretary

Ronnie Tutty

Historian

Tim Rice
908-782-2102

Webmaster

Jack Zybura
LSG&A
908-955-7763

Outreach

Coordinator

Bill Pockels
Port Authority NY/NJ
908-514-2160

NJAIHA OFFICERS

The New Jersey Section of the American Industrial Hygiene Association



Protecting New Jersey Worker Health

October 2026 Dinner Meeting

Date: October 15th, 2026, 5:00pm

Location: Somerville Elks Lodge

375 Union Avenue, Bridgewater, NJ

Cost: \$45

Please register in advance to reserve your spot!

[October Meeting Registration](#)

Agenda:

5:00 p.m. Networking/Cash Bar

5:30 p.m. Before Dinner Session:

Topic: All About the Decibel: Measuring, Managing, and Protecting, Pt. 1

Speaker: Frank Wartinger, Au.D.

Frank Wartinger, Au.D. is the founder of Earmark Hearing Conservation and Philadelphia Music Audiology. He serves on the CAOHC (Council for Accreditation in Occupational Hearing Conservation) Council representing the American Academy of Audiology. As adjunct faculty at Drexel University and Wayne State University he teaches hearing conservation and music audiology. He is an active CAOHC course director and serves as a professional supervisor in occupational hearing conservation programs. He is active on the executive committee of National Hearing Conservation Association (NHCA) serving as Director of Communications (2017 – 2019), Member At Large (2024 – 2026), and currently as the Director of Membership (2026 – 2028).

His clinical focus is on the audiologic care of musicians and performing arts professionals. As a member of the AAA Music Audiology Task Force, Frank was coauthor of the first clinical consensus document addressing the audiological services for musicians and music industry professionals (2020). Prior to obtaining his graduate degree in Audiology from Salus University, Frank studied at Purchase Conservatory of Music in the Studio Production program and earned his Bachelor of Music degree. He is an active composer, producer, mixing engineer, and multi-instrumentalist, and is the creator and co-host of the music audiology podcast "Talking Ears".

President

Jill Asch
Hillmann Consulting,

6:30 p.m. \$45 – Buffet Dinner

7:15 p.m. After Dinner Session:

Topic: All About The Decibel: Measuring, Managing, and Protecting, Pt. 2

Speaker: Terry Tyson, PE, INCE Bd. Cert., COHC

Terence Tyson, PE, INCE Bd. Cert., is Principal acoustician and leader of the mid-Atlantic office of Acentech. He serves on the CAOHC (Council for Accreditation in Occupational Hearing Conservation) Council representing the Institute of Noise Control Engineering. He has 30 years of consulting experience in architectural acoustics, HVAC noise & vibration control, and environmental noise control. He collaborates with architects and engineers on design for sound-sensitive facilities from concert halls and recording studios to classrooms, healthcare facilities, high-rise residential and corporate office buildings.

Prior to obtaining his Master of Engineering degree in Acoustics from Penn State University, Terry earned his Bachelor of Science in Chemical Engineering from the University of Illinois-Chicago and spent over a decade working in minerals processing industries. He is also a musician and plays lead guitar in the regional southern rock tribute band "High Noon". Hearing injury from sound exposure is one of the most commonly reported occupational illnesses in the US. Intense sound is a byproduct of most tools and processes, but often workers are caught between the conflicting needs to protect from the noise while also remaining aware of safety sounds and on-the-job communication. At the root of this difficulty is the unintuitive scale of the decibel. This measurement of sound intensity governs all hearing safety decisions but due to its logarithmic design it is notoriously difficult to comprehend. This session will serve to clarify the many uses of the decibel in occupational health settings, including area measurements, personal dosimetry, audiometric monitoring, and hearing protection device fitting. The presenters will give real-life examples and hands/ears-on demonstrations to bring this topic into focus.

Preregistration is appreciated so we can give an accurate headcount to the venue. Walk-ins are also welcome. You may register using the website [form](#), or via email to Ronnie Tutty at njaiha@ptd.net.

NJAIHA Members in the News

NJAIHA Activities in Pictures Tim Rice, NJAIHA Historian



New Jersey Section AIHA - June 2026 Year-End Dinner Meeting

On Thursday, **June 18, 2026**, our annual year-end dinner meeting was held at the **Somerville Elks Lodge 1068** in Bridgewater, NJ. Section members and guests convened for the last meeting of the 2025-2026 season during which outgoing officers were recognized, the year in review was presented, our annual student scholarships were once again bestowed, a technical presentation was given, and members got one last chance to network before Section meetings begin again in the Fall. On the next few pages are some highlights from the evening in pictures.



(Top, left) **Barbara Woodhull**, NJAIHA President, reviews with attendees the Section's highlights and accomplishments of the past year during her 2025-2026 NJAIHA Year-end Report. (Top, right) **Mike Mancini**, NJAIHA Treasurer, reviews the Section's current balance on hand during his Financial Report for the 2025-2026 operating year. NJAIHA continues to maintain itself on fiscally sound ground. (above) NJAIHA members and guests take in Barbara Woodhull's 2025-2026 NJAIHA Year-end Report.

New Jersey Section AIHA - June 2026 Year-End Dinner Meeting (cont.)



(left) **Bill Pockels**, NJAIHA Past-President, has just presented outgoing President **Barbara Woodhull** with an American Tourister Upturn 10-piece Luggage Set in recognition of her past year of active and meritorious service to the NJ Section.

Thank you again, Barb, for your unwavering voluntary service to NJAIHA!

A traditional event which takes place during our annual year-end June dinner meeting is the presentation of scholarships to deserving and qualifying students who have demonstrated scholastic excellence in the study and promotion of environmental health and safety/industrial hygiene at the collegiate undergraduate or graduate levels. Our scholarship program is also open to high school senior year level students with some experience in a STEM (science, technology, engineering, mathematics)-oriented educational curriculum, and who have expressed an interest in pursuing a STEM-based curriculum, or preferably an IH/occupational and environmental health and safety (OEHS)-based curriculum at the collegiate level.

Though we did not have any high school level scholarship applicants this year, the NJAIHA Executive Committee was very pleased to be able to approve the awarding of scholarships to seven deserving college students to the total of **\$8,000!**

With **Candice Kowalewski**, NJAIHA Director of Membership, presiding, seven students were awarded scholarships as follows:

- The *Raymond Manganelli Scholarship* to **Jeremy Johnson**, Stevens Institute of Technology (photo next page)
- The *Brian M. Sylvester Memorial Scholarship* to **Elizabeth Macchioni**, Kean University (photo next page)
- A *President's Scholarship* to **Brittany Sullivan**, Rutgers University, (photo next page)
- A *President's Scholarship* to **Victoria Mulligan**, University of Hartford, (photo next page)
- A *President's Scholarship* to **Olga Miller-Collier**, Ocean County College, (photo next page)
- A *President's Scholarship* to **Erin Bolger Elizabeth**, Kean University, (photo next page)
- A *President's Scholarship* to **Krrisha Patel**, University of Pennsylvania (photo next page)

Congratulations to Jeremy, Elizabeth, Brittany, Victoria, Olga, Erin, and Krrisha from everyone at NJAIHA!

New Jersey Section AIHA - June 2026 Year-End Dinner Meeting (cont.)



(left) Treasurer Mike Mancini had the honor of bestowing the 2026 *Raymond Manganelli Scholarship* upon Jeremy Johnson, Stevens Institute of Technology. (right) Jeremy Johnson addresses attendees after receiving the *Raymond Manganelli Scholarship*.



(left) Elizabeth Macchioni, Kean University, receives the *Brian M. Sylvester Memorial Scholarship* from Tim Rice, NJAIHA Historian.



(above) Olga Miller-Collier, Ocean County College, receives a *President's Scholarship* from Candice Kowalewski, NJAIHA Director of Membership.



(clockwise from top left) Brittany Sullivan, Rutgers University, Victoria Mulligan, University of Hartford, Erin Bolger Elizabeth, Kean University, and Krrisha Patel, University of Pennsylvania were all recipients of a *President's Scholarship*.

New Jersey Section AIHA - June 2026 Year-End Dinner Meeting (cont.)

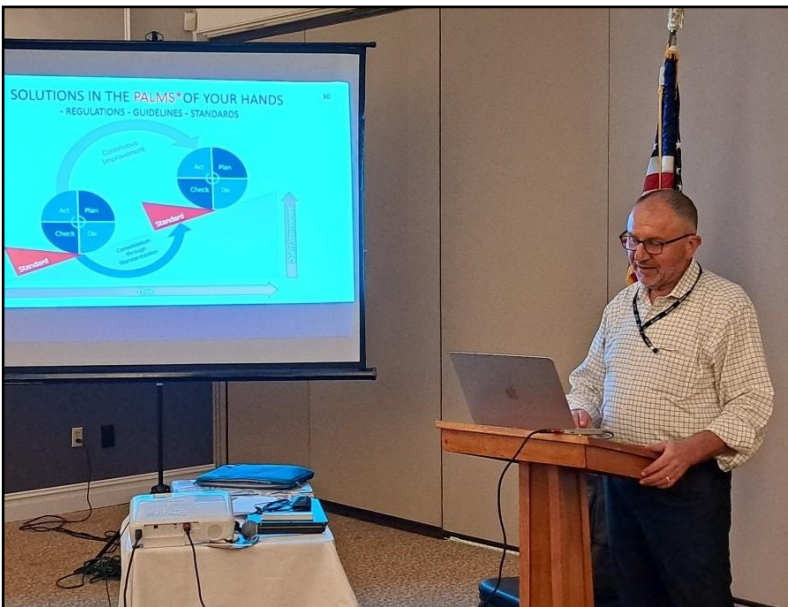


Student scholarship recipients present at the meeting gathered for a group photo with their guests, and with Candice Kowalewski, Tim Rice and Mike Mancini.

Shown left to right are: Candice Kowalewski; Dak Gregory (guest of Elizabeth Macchioni); Elizabeth Macchioni; Tim Rice; Olga Miller-Collier; Jeremy Johnson, and Mike Mancini.

President's Scholarship recipients Brittany Sullivan, Victoria Mulligan, Erin Bolger Elizabeth and Krrisha Patel were unable to be with us for the evening's activities.

Congratulations to all from everyone at NJAIHA!



(above) Our after-dinner technical speaker Mark Drozdov, SME in EHS+S, MS, SSM, CUSP, CES, EnvSP, WEDG, Executive Vice President, LOZIER, Inc., reviews with attendees the latest update of PALMS during his upbeat and forward-looking presentation, "*PALMS Updates*", which also encompassed the definitions and key characteristics for achieving improved risk management. Mark describes P.A.L.M.S. as an acronym/mnemonic device used to discuss the common EHS concerns of PCBs/Pandemic/PFAS, Asbestos/Arsenic, Lead/Legionella, Mold/Metals, and Silica/Safety/Sustainability.

(right) President Barb Woodhull thanks Mark for taking time out of his schedule to again be a technical speaker at one of our monthly dinner meetings, this time our June 2026 year-end dinner meeting.



NJAIHA Executive Committee Meets to Plan 2026-2027 Program Year

On Thursday August 13, 2026, your NJAIHA Executive Committee met at the Seasons 52 Restaurant in Bridgewater, NJ to work on plans for the upcoming 2026-2027 program year (see photo below). During the three-hour meeting, chaired by President **Jill Asch**, activities for the upcoming year were discussed and reports were given by each committee member in their areas of responsibility.

All felt the meeting was highly productive, and we are looking forward to a great year starting with the **September 17, 2026** dinner meeting at the Somerville Elks Lodge in Bridgewater, NJ.



(Clockwise from bottom left): Barbara Woodhull, Past President; Marta Figeroa, Director-Administration; Tom Burgess, Summer Course Coordinator; Adam Schwarzenberg, Secretary; Jack Zybura, President-Elect & Webmaster; Tim Rice, Historian; Candice Kowalewski, Director-Membership; and Mike Mancini, Treasurer. Participating by phone were Jill Asch, President; Vince Dalessio, Director-Publications and Ronnie Tutty, Executive Secretary.

Job Postings and Website Links

There are many job postings on our web site. If you are looking or just curious check them out.

<http://www.njaiha.org/resources/job-postings/>

There are several job postings on these other organization web sites as well:

<http://nj.assp.org/current-openings/>

<https://philaaaiha.com/employment>

AIHA Legislative Connection

Interested in what's going on in the Federal and State Governments? Follow the link below:

[Government Relations & Advocacy](#)

Visit NJAIHA On-line

NJAIHA is continuously posting relevant information on industrial hygiene principles and practice on these webpages. Feel free to find out current events which may affect your business or industry and continue the conversation on a regional, national, and international level.

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/njaiha/>.

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/groups/3675325>