

NEHA NEWS

Call for Nominations

By Faye Koeltzow (fkoeltzow@neha.org)

NEHA is governed by a corporate board of directors that oversees the affairs of the association. There will be four board positions up for election in 2018:

- Region 2 vice-president (represents Arizona, California, Hawaii, and Nevada; 3-year term);
- Region 3 vice-president (represents Colorado, Montana, Utah, Wyoming, and members residing outside of the U.S. [except members of the U.S. armed forces]; 3-year term);
- Region 8 vice-president (represents Delaware, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, Washington, DC, West Virginia, and members of the U.S. armed forces residing outside of the U.S.; 3-year term); and
- second vice-president (national officer; 5-year term that progresses through the national offices and will serve as NEHA president in 2021–2022).

We seek diversity on the board in terms of gender, ethnicity, and a balance between regulatory, academia, and industry professionals. Most importantly, we want people who will help us develop a new strategic vision, have experience managing diverse organizations, and can open doors for NEHA in building relationships with industry, academia, federal and state agencies, foundations, and other associations.

Requirements to serve on the board include

- membership with NEHA (individual or life) for three consecutive years prior to assuming office on June 28, 2018;
- not simultaneously holding a voting position on the board of a NEHA affiliate;
- endorsement by at least five voting NEHA members (from members residing in the region for regional vice-president candidates and from members residing in at least three different regions for second vice-president candidates); and
- willingness to commit the time necessary to actively serve on the board.

If you are interested in serving on our board of directors, please visit www.neha.org/about-neha/governance/elections for information on the nomination and election process. You can also contact NEHA Past-President Bob Custard, chairman of NEHA's Nominations Committee, at bobcustard@comcast.net. The deadline to submit a nomination is **December 1, 2017**.

NEHA Staff Profile

As part of tradition, NEHA features new staff members in the *Journal* around the time of their one-year anniversary. These profiles give you an opportunity to get to know the NEHA staff better and to learn more about the great programs and activities going on in your association. This month we are pleased to introduce you to one NEHA staff member. Contact information for all NEHA staff can be found on page 53.

**Gail Vail**

I love my role as NEHA's finance director! I have the amazing opportunity to be involved with all the finance, accounting, personnel, and computerized management systems so the rest of our team can serve everyone around the country and further our mission.

I am a certified public accountant (CPA) and a chartered global management accountant (CGMA). Before joining NEHA a year ago, I was the controller of the Colorado Society of Certified Public Accountants (COCPA) and worked there for 12 years. COCPA is a similar membership association compared to NEHA, so I have been able to transfer quite a bit of knowledge and experience to my current position. Before COCPA, I worked overseas in Nairobi, Kenya, and East Africa as finance manager for World Concern, a relief and development organization. While there I witnessed extreme environmental health issues that impacted so many. Those experiences have helped fuel my passion for our mission. Prior to my work in Africa, I was the state and local tax manager for a Fortune 500 company in Alabama.

I grew up in Alabama and attended the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa. Married for 22 years, I met my husband, who is from the U.S., in Kenya! We have one daughter who is in college. A cute Bichon Frise dog rounds out our family. I love running and am part of a local running club. We also love hiking in our Colorado mountains. 🏞️

Did You Know?

You can find a listing of NEHA's leadership at www.neha.org/about-neha/leadership. NEHA's board is made up of five national officers and nine regional vice-presidents. A listing of NEHA staff can be viewed at www.neha.org/about-neha/staff.