

## **WEN Ohio Slate of Candidates Announcement, October 2023**

Thank you to everyone who nominated themselves or a WEN colleague for our 2024 election slate.

In keeping with the WEN Ohio bylaws, a nominating committee lead by President Elect Jackie Oostman reviewed the candidates and selected one for each of the open seats. A list of the full nominating committee can be found below.

- Sheryl Smith, WEN Ohio President
- Jackie Oostman, WEN Ohio President Elect
- Bridget Johnson, WEN Ohio Past President
- Claire Linkhart
- Sophia Dixon

The candidates are now being circulated as an election slate to you, our members, for your approval.

Please view the slate below.

Voting for the slate will take place at WEN Ohio's Annual Business Meeting taking place November 16th at 10:00 AM at The Peak, 781 Science Blvd, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, Gahanna, OH 43230. The Annual Meeting immediately follows the 4<sup>th</sup> Leadership Training "X-Factor /Finishing the Year Well" which starts at 7:30 AM with Breakfast at the same location.

Thank you for your support. We look forward to another exciting year.

## ***BOARD CANDIDATES***

### **President: Jackie Oostman**



Jackie Oostman has been in the oil and gas industry for over 16 years assuming various technical roles in metallurgy and materials engineering. She received her Metallurgical and Materials Engineering BS degree at the University of Texas at El Paso in 2006 and started her career at El Paso Corporation in Houston, TX, primarily performing material failure investigations. She then worked as a consultant for Stress Engineering Services where she gained experience in multiple areas of the industry such as offshore/onshore drilling, refinery, fabrication/manufacturing and design. Currently, she leads a team of technical experts at TC Energy that supports asset integrity and reliability of fixed equipment in US Natural Gas facilities and pipelines. She is a Subject Matter Expert of all aspects of materials from procurement to root cause analysis. Outside of work, she loves to sing, travel, explore food and drinks, and if self-care is a hobby that would be one too. She is a registered Professional Engineer living in Columbus, Ohio, with her husband, one year old daughter and three-year-old labradoodle son.

### **President-Elect/Vice President: Lauren Stenger**



represents utilities (gas, electric, water, and broadband), startups, and government agencies. Lauren has significant experience representing her client's interests in proceedings before the Ohio Public Utilities Commission and Ohio Power Siting Board. Lauren graduated from Miami University and Capital University Law School. She lives in Upper Arlington with her husband, Jared, and their two cocker spaniels, Oscar and Wilbur. Lauren loves to try new recipes, listen to classic rock, and travel with her family. and Wilbur. Lauren loves to try new recipes, listen to classic rock, and travel with her family.

## **Secretary: Dunja Augustin**



Dunja Augustin is Vice President of Retail Operations at Energy Harbor, the second largest US non-regulated nuclear fleet energy producer and fully integrated retail energy provider, previously known as FirstEnergy Solutions (FES), the former competitive subsidiary of FirstEnergy Corp. She began her career at FirstEnergy in 2009 as an Analyst and held various roles at FirstEnergy Solutions until 2019, at the time of corporate restructuring, separation, and establishment of Energy Harbor. She oversees eight retail operations business units and is also responsible for market expansion and new product development. She played a key role in adding Natural Gas, to Energy Harbor's commodity portfolio. In addition, she led Energy Harbor's product development efforts related to Carbon Free Power products.

Mrs. Augustin earned her undergraduate degree in International Business with a minor in Pre-Law and International Politics from The University of Akron in 2006. During her time as an undergraduate student, Mrs. Augustin received top honors including the Global Business Scholarship. She dedicated herself to community service activities through Alpha Delta Pi Sorority and Ronald McDonald House at Akron Children's Hospital. She also served as President of the International Business Association.

In 2007, Mrs. Augustin graduated with a master's in Business Administration from The University of Akron with a concentration in Strategic Marketing and Global Sales Management.

Mrs. Augustin was raised in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Aachen, Germany and moved to the United States as a teenager. She is fluent in three languages. Mrs. Augustin now resides in Akron with her husband Matt, her 6-year-old son Thomas, and her 5-year-old daughter Sofia. As an active and passionate young professional, Mrs. Augustin finds time to give back to the Greater Akron area, a community for which she has a deep appreciation. She is the President of the Board at Embrace Care and Clinic Center, Board Member of the Greater Akron Chamber, Board Secretary of the Women in Energy Ohio Chapter and a Member of the University of Akron Marketing Advisory Board. She enjoys volunteering and giving back to Mason Elementary and United Way of Summit County.

### **Treasurer: Mandolyn Newell**



Mandolyn Newell is a passionate student at Ohio State University, Energy Scholarship Recipient, and Oil & Gas Industry professional with experience in compressor manufacturing. Mandolyn is a senior working on her Business Management degree in Marketing with a minor in Science, Engineering, and Public Interest through the John Glenn College of Public Affairs. Mandolyn is an active member of Women In Manufacturing, the Society of Manufacturing Engineers, and the Young Leaders of Licking County. She takes pride in environment & natural resources policy, Essential Ohio Energy, STEM education and advocacy, professional development, and opportunities to get involved with the community. Mandolyn is a proud mom to her daughter Ellie Mae, an Advanced Scuba Diver,

and is excited to serve as the Treasurer.

### **Community Initiatives Director: Carol McKnight**



Ms. McKnight is a Principal Project Manager for SWCA's Northeast/Midwest operations. Ms. McKnight manages projects and clients, particularly in the Power sector, develops new business, manages client relationships, provides technical support/quality control, and mentors staff. Ms. McKnight brings more than 25 years of successfully navigating agency and regulatory requirements. With an in-depth knowledge of FERC, NEPA, ESA, US Army Corps of Engineers permitting processes, Ohio Power Siting Board filings, and state and local permitting, she can successfully manage project schedules and effectively advise clients to a successful project outcome. Ms. McKnight's experience also includes environmental impact studies (EIS) and assessments (EA), as well as environmental planning and permitting, erosion and sediment control plans, wetland and stream mitigation plans, ESA compliance, Section 106 compliance/process, and post-construction monitoring. Ms. McKnight specializes in supporting Power sector clients (natural gas, electric utility, solar, etc.) navigate environmental permitting such as Clean Water Act, Power Siting Boards, and state and local permitting.

### **Marketing and Communications Director: Wendy Gianni**



Ms. Gianni is the Marketing Director of the Ohio Valley for Atlas Technical Consultants. Ms. Gianni manages Special Events and conferences along with Business Development for The Brecksville office. Ms. Gianni creates and manages SOQ and proposal content and creative design along with the coordination and presentation of conferences for the Ohio Valley. She specializes in supporting petroleum, Construction Materials Testing (CMT), environmental, and wetlands clients. Ms. Gianni brings 15 year of experience in design and managing of marketing and special events along with

business development.

### **Programs Director: Kristen Henson**



Kristen Henson is the Senior Advisor for Stakeholder Engagement at Enbridge covering Ohio, Pennsylvania, West Virginia and Maryland. Kristen's focus is on supporting operations and projects through collaborating with external stakeholders to build long-term relationships that create shared value and promote ongoing safety and environmental stewardship. Prior to joining the company, she worked in the Ohio House of Representatives as a Legislative Aide and served as the Director of Member Relations for the Ohio Gas Association. Most recently, Kristen worked as a third-party consultant to Enbridge during the project phase of the Nexus Gas Transmission pipeline

which was placed into service in Ohio in 2018. Kristen joined WEN in May 2022 and currently serves as a Program Chair focused on events in Central Ohio. She lives in Canal Winchester with her husband Clayton.

### **Sponsorship Director: Sandy Roller**



Ms. Roller has been in the energy business at KNG Energy for over 30 years. She was the past President of KNG Energy until 2020 when KNG merged with Utility Pipeline. Ms. Roller is currently an Executive Vice-President with Utility Pipeline. KNG Energy is a local natural gas distribution company located in Findlay, Ohio, with industrial, commercial and residential customers in northwest Ohio. Prior to working at KNG Energy Ms. Roller was the Human Resource Manager at a manufacturing plant in Spencerville, Ohio specializing in producing automotive parts. Ms. Roller began her career with Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield in Worthington, Ohio, and was the manager of Customer Service when she moved from the

Columbus area back to her hometown to raise her children.

Ms. Roller recently served on the economic development board for Findlay-Hancock County. She currently serves on the board of the Putnam County Community Improvement Corporation as Secretary and is past Chairman and current board member of the Ohio Gas Association.

Ms. Roller is married with three adult children and has three granddaughters. She spends most of her free time with her grandchildren and enjoys hiking.

### **Membership Director: Katie Cook**



Kathleen “Katie” Cooke, ChHC® As a trusted advisor in the Employee Benefits and Insurance market, Katie works in tandem with HR representatives and executives at companies by providing proactive strategic direction regarding comprehensive employee benefit portfolios aimed at attracting and retaining talent while remaining affordably viable for companies. As an expert in the market for over 15 years, Katie works with leadership to identify the organization’s objectives while developing long and short-term strategies, performs contract negotiations and renewals and manages resources for the specific needs of each client. Katie is committed to customizing the right solutions to meet the varying needs of her clients. While Katie works with a variety of industries, she has extensive experience working with clients tied to the Oil and Gas Industry.

Katie holds a Master’s Degree in Community and Regional Planning, an Accident & Health, Casualty, Life, Property and Variable license through the State of Ohio, and the ChHC,®

a designation considered the most comprehensive credential available for benefits specialists, healthcare consultants, and financial advisors interested in effectively providing clients with cutting-edge information.

### **Director at Large: Vanessa Hamilton**



Vanessa joined Utility Pipeline, Ltd., in 2008 and has been promoted up through the organization over the past 15 years. Currently, Vanessa is responsible for leading the Business Development, Sales & Marketing teams in execution of organizational growth initiatives. Responsible for seeking out potential distribution asset acquisitions and business development opportunities in residential, agricultural, commercial, and industrial market segments. Vanessa also oversees all external outreach in coordination with Field Operations & Customer Service.

Vanessa is an active participant in multiple industry organizations throughout UPL’s five state footprint. In 2017, Vanessa served as Chairman of the Ohio Gas Association and currently serves on the OGA Board of Trustees and Executive Board of Trustees, the OGA Scholarship Committee and the OOGEEP Scholarship Committee. In 2021 Vanessa join the WEN Ohio Chapter and took on the role of Programs

Director in 2022. Vanessa resides in Jackson Township Ohio with her 9-year-old daughter. In her free time, she enjoys golfing, high intensity training, traveling and coaching youth sports.

### **Director at Large: Sara Swanson**



Ms. Sara Swanson has eleven years' experience in the energy industry, working as a process engineer at EDL. She leads engineering and commissioning for EDL's Renewable Natural Gas (RNG) plants in North America. She is also a process safety leader, coordinating EDL's corporate Process Safety Management (PSM) program. Her prior experience is in supporting natural gas projects in the Utica Shale, from new construction of pipelines and compression facilities through operations engineering of cryogenic plants. She has formerly worked at Chesapeake Energy, Access Midstream, and Williams. Sara received her Bachelor of Science degree in Chemical Engineering from West Virginia University in 2013, graduating with honors and a minor in nanosystems. Sara's greatest professional interests lie in the realm of continuous and process improvement, workplace safety, and diversity and inclusion. She is passionate about volunteering, most recently joining Summit County's Project Learn, where she tutors mathematics for those wishing to pass their GED exam. Sara's other passions include her two dogs, seeing live music, yoga, working out, cooking, traveling, hiking, all things Cleveland, and West Virginia University sports.

### **Past President: Sheryl Smith**



Ms. Smith is the National Market Director for Power in the Environmental Sector at TRC, with 40 years of technical, financial and market analysis experience in the development and management of solid waste and power projects. She develops and executes market strategies for growth for utility clients, leading TRC's Environmental Sector account managers in proposal and presentation development, contracting, technical collateral development, and client interface strategies. Her expertise is in coal ash beneficial reuse and borrow material benchmark studies, solid and industrial waste market analysis, industry data research, and biomass sourcing studies. She has a Master of Engineering (Civil) from Cornell University and a BS in Civil Engineering from the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign.

## ***CHAIR CANDIDATES***

### **Community Initiatives Chair: Amanda Finn**



As Director of External Affairs for Ascent Resources, Ms. Finn is the liaison to local, state, and federal officials on issues affecting not only Ascent but the industry as a whole. Assisting with legislative initiatives and bill creation. Ms. Finn is a registered lobbyist in Ohio and West Virginia. Ms. Finn also manages all landowner and external affairs for Ohio which is part of creating a corporate/local relationship structure within their operating counties. Previously Ms. Finn worked as Government Relations Manager for Magnum Hunter Resources, Eureka Midstream, and GreenHunter Resources, where she also handled all local, state, and federal issues affecting all three companies. After years of working closely with a Congressman on the Energy and Commerce Committee, Ms. Finn brings with her the experience and exposure that is necessary to be an effective advocate to the oil and gas industry. Counterpoint to her government relations reach is her community relations experience. An Ohio native, an active volunteer for local political campaigns, Chairman of the Ohio Oil and Gas Association (OOGA), Chair of the Government Affairs Committee for OOGA, WEN board member, AXPC member and a member of local volunteer organizations, Ms. Finn's community involvement plays a critical role in the relevancy of her understanding of the issues for the industry.

Ms. Finn has a background in Marketing and Business Development and graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Marketing from Lindenwood University in St. Charles, Missouri.

### **Community Initiatives Chair: Maggie Molnar**



Ms. Molnar is a Professional Wetland Scientist (PWS) and Ecologist working at TRC. Ms. Molnar specializes in stream and wetland delineations, ecological resource surveys, and waterway permitting for a mix of private and government clients. Ms. Molnar is also experienced in doing wetland and stream mitigation monitoring, wetland functions and values assessments, vegetation surveys, invasive species management, and threatened and endangered species consultation. She has prepared countless §401 Water Quality Certifications and §404 Individual Permit applications; Level 1 Ohio Isolated Wetland Permit applications, NWP applications, Pre-Construction Notification's, Ohio EPA Director's Authorizations, and Permit Determinations for a wide variety of clients. She has extensive field experience in the identification of aquatic and terrestrial plants, aquatic and terrestrial wildlife, and wildlife habitat requirements. Ms. Molnar has done environmental consulting work related to wetlands, waterway permitting, vegetation, and wildlife issues for 11 years throughout Ohio, Pennsylvania, Michigan, West Virginia, and Virginia. She has a BS in Environmental Studies from Ohio Northern University.



### **Marketing & Communications Chair: Deanna Corll**



Deanna Corll is the Vice President of Business Development & Communications for Klingelhofer Management Group (KMG) overseeing the business development & sales teams. KMG manages several subsidiary businesses including DirtWorks Drainage, where Deanna started with the company, quickly advancing to the executive team. DirtWorks Drainage serves the energy, utility, & renewables industries through civil construction. Deanna started her business career in the agriculture sector & has enjoyed gaining knowledge about the Energy Industry in recent years. In 2013, Deanna graduated with honors from Kent State University, receiving her bachelor's degree in business management with a minor in marketing. Deanna served a two-year term as the Marketing & Communications Director for WEN Ohio. Deanna lives with her husband on their hobby farm in Ohio. Alongside raising their two children, they enjoy volunteering together as high-school youth leaders.

### **Marketing & Communications Chair: Ilham El-Monier**



Ilham El-Monier is an Associate Professor at The Ohio State University (OSU). El-Monier joined OSU to lead the Petroleum Engineering Minor program development under Chemical Engineering. Before that, she worked as a Lecturer at the University of Oklahoma. She received her B.Sc. and M.Sc. from Cairo University in Egypt and her Ph.D. from Texas A&M University in College Station, Texas, all in Petroleum Engineering. El-Monier's research focuses on Reservoir Engineering, Formation Damage, Stimulation, Hydraulic Fracturing, Geothermal Reservoirs, and CO<sub>2</sub> Storage (CCUS).

### **Marketing & Communications Chair: Queenie Fortaleza**



Queenie graduated from New Mexico State University in Las Cruces, NM with a bachelor's degree in industrial engineering. She currently works at Northeast Ohio Natural Gas Corp as a Project Engineer and is also a Registered Gas Distribution Professional. She has more than 4 years of progressive experience in the natural gas industry with knowledge of pipeline design, construction, and operations. Her hobbies are photography, running and hiking with her two dogs, Marley and Drogo.

### **Membership Chair: Brooke Harrison**



Ms. Harrison is a project manager in the Environmental Services global practice at Burns & McDonnell. She has 22 years' experience in environmental consulting performing field surveys and managing a variety of natural resource projects involving stream and wetland identification and delineation, terrestrial habitat surveys, threatened and endangered species habitat surveys, avian surveys, mitigation planning and monitoring, and 401/404 project permitting. She also has extensive experience with developing natural resource approaches to meet a variety of client and project needs including renewables, residential, commercial, industrial, infrastructure (electric transmission, pipeline, sewer, roadway), parks, government and private property. Ms. Harrison has conducted ecological-related work throughout Ohio, Kentucky, Illinois, Indiana, New York, Massachusetts, Missouri, Michigan, Minnesota, Washington, Nebraska, Alabama and Texas.

Ms. Harrison earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Natural Resources from The Ohio State University. She is 40hr HAZWOPER certified and is working towards obtaining her Professional Wetland Scientist certification. Brooke can assist with determining if your project requires natural resource surveys and provide guidance on navigating the regulatory landscape.

### **Sponsorship Chair: Hallie Fajerski**



Hallie (Stadvec) Fajerski currently serves as the Director of Member Relations at the Ohio Gas Association in Columbus, Ohio. In her role, she spearheads member engagement initiatives, strengthens strategic partnerships, and plays a key role in advancing the growth and sustainability of the gas sector in Ohio. Prior to joining the association, she previously worked in the Ohio House of Representatives as a Legislative Aide and also held Board/Membership Relations roles with the Northeast Florida Builders Association and DWS Group. Hallie holds a political science and geography degree from Ohio University. She resides in Columbus with her husband Joe.

### **Programs Chair: Clair Linkhart**



Claire is a government affairs professional with over fifteen years of policy experience in both education and energy, currently serving as Associate Director of API Ohio. She resides in Springfield, OH with her husband and two daughters.