



September News



EDITOR NOTE

Since the end of the Pandemic restrictions, our first in person Chapter Meeting was held August 22! As you can see from the picture above, we had an excellent turnout, not to mention the people that dialed in to participate!

Several items were covered by Emma Guertin, our Chapter President (picture bottom right), with the highlight being a panel discussion on experiences with International projects. We would like to thank, Vessi Radieva, Luke Shealy, Carter Rucker and Bruce Binney for sharing their expertise as panel participants!

Inside:

Chapter Mtg - [P2](#)

Projects • [P3](#) & [P4](#)

EWB Methodology • [P5](#) & [P6](#)

Chapter Activities - [P7](#)

Community News- [P8](#)

Open Positions - [P9](#)

Volunteer Spotlight - [P10](#)

National News - [P11](#)

Meet the Team • [P12](#)



Join Us!

Our Next

Monthly Chapter Meeting

will be ***in person*** (and via Zoom if you are remote)!

When: 09/19/2023

Where: 421 N Harrington St, Raleigh.
Floor 2 (parking garage next door or street parking on Glenwood St)

Time: 5:30pm

Zoom Link: [HERE](#)

Our guest speaker will be Delphine Godley Sellars from Urban Community Agrinomics. This minority led farm is a pillar in the North Durham community and helps fight food insecurity in the area year round.

Chipozo, Guatemala

The work to prepare for doing the final Phase of the Chipozo Solar-powered water pumping project in December continues at a rapid pace. Last week, the community team in Chipozo completed the clearing of the land where the solar panels will be situated and this week the CeCEP team, with the assistance of the community, is hard at work building the “caseta” at the location of the panels which will serve to both house the electrical system components as well as the community person who will provide 24/7 security for the system (left picture). Another recent accomplishment was construction by the community of a temporary water catchment system at the upper tank which will gather water to be used in the conduct of leak tests of the pipes between the tanks as well as the water distribution from the upper tank to the ten community tapstands. Check out the ingenious result in the right picture below!

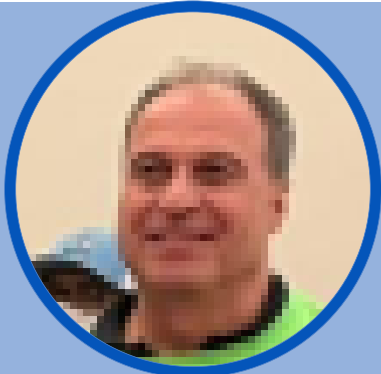


Bruce Binney
bruce.binney@gmail.com



Swift Creek Project, Cary, NC

EWB-RTP and the Triangle Land Conservancy (TLC) are partnering to restore a footbridge at the Swift Creek Bluffs Preserve in Cary, NC. TLC (triangleland.org) is a local non-profit that owns and maintains ten preserves providing low impact recreational opportunities in the area.



Alan Davidovich
adavido@gmail.com

The foot bridge at Swift Creek Bluffs Preserve is progressing. Pilings and support structure installation has started. We will likely need help when the decking and design/fabrication of a ramp on each end. Look for the next build event on Slack, where there is a channel for the project. If you have questions or need access to Slack, contact Alan Davidovich, 919.741.3033, adavo1@yahoo.com





PMEL -A Key to EWB Success (Newsletter Article Part 1)

EWB is not about delivering engineering projects; its about delivering solutions. EWB is not about doing something for somebody; its about partnering with them to help them build a better life. EWB is not about building something that works when you start it up; its about building something that is still making a difference 10 or 20 years from now. PMEL is the operating philosophy / framework central to achieving our goals.

What is PMEL? This is the first of a series of articles to answer that question; introducing the framework and the system.

Our Planning, Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning system is tailored for student and professional chapters. At the 30,000' level it is a structured system to help us: develop true partnerships with the communities we work with; think through what we need to know; decide how we are going to get that information; plan our trips thoroughly, clearly, safely, and robustly; monitor the performance of our project and its impact on our partners' lives at the startup and years afterwards, evaluate what went well and what could have been done better; report our lessons learned to get rolled up into an EWB-USA-wide lessons learned database; learn individually from those lessons; and as an organization institute improvements to our system based on analysis of these lessons.

The data collected concerning the outcome of our work (impact on people's lives) that we collect before, at, and after implementation is rolled up so that EWB-USA has a cogent story to present to our donors and the U.N. An additional benefit of the PMEL framework is that it clearly documents all the project team's activities; for the working team, the team members to follow, and for reference by anyone in the EWB-USA organization.

More detail to come next month!

ACTIVITIES

Chapter Activities

- Saturday, September 9, 4pm-5pm - Chipozo Travel Team Meeting for December Travel, via ZOOM, contact Bruce Binney (bruce.binney@gmail.com) if interested
- Week of September 10 - Swift Creek Project Build, watch Slack for days and times
- Saturday, September 16, 10am-Noon - Urban Community Agrinomics (UCAN), 2080 Sawmill Creek Parkway, Durham, NC 27712
- Sunday, September 17, 2pm- 4pm - Shelley Lake Cleanup, 1400 W. Millbrook Rd, Raleigh, NC 27612
- Tuesday, September 19, 5:30pm-7:30pm - Chapter Meeting, 421 N Harrington St, Raleigh. Floor 2



Can you help UCAN conduct a final check for the removal of all paper or wire in the caps? We have 550 pounds of which most have been cleaned. However, we need to conduct one final check of them all before shipment.

Following their cleansing we will bag and weight. Our reward for keeping this amount of plastics from the environment is a forever picnic bench for the use





Community News

As the theme of our last two chapter meetings, building community relationships are at the core of EWB's mission. That goes for the communities we partner with, but also our internal community within the chapter. A new segment for our newsletter Community News is an effort to connect our members across the state with their exciting news and updates. If you have something fun you want to share with the group at the next newsletter, please submit here: <https://forms.gle/6maTsWDKSxbmChdF7>

- Stephen Kridel just started graduate school at North Carolina State University! He is pursuing a master's degree in civil engineering with a focus in computing and systems. Congratulations, and best of luck to our VP!
- Emma Guertin got accepted to give a technical presentation at the North Carolina One Water Conference in Raleigh this fall. She will be presenting on a life cycle analysis of biosolids storage mixing technologies, with the objective to inform the pros and cons of different technologies.

Open Chapter Positions

The leadership team has multiple opportunities for you to get more involved!

1. **Social Chair:** role is to increase membership engagement and retention.. Responsible for planning monthly social events for the chapter. Identifying local community engagement opportunities
2. **Communications Chair:** role is to publicize the mission and goals of the Chapter and EWB-USA. Managing the various social media accounts associated with EWB RTP including Facebook, Instagram and LinkedIn. Advertise upcoming Chapter events and activities on a monthly basis. Oversee and assist the Webmaster in updating the Chapter website. Maintain the distribution list used for communicating chapter information to the broader audience of people who follow and support chapter activities.
3. **Membership Coordinator - Marketing:** role is to spearhead recruitment efforts. Collaborating with social chair on chapter events. Coordinating outreach presentations with companies, organizations, etc.
4. **Membership Coordinator - New Members:** role is onboarding and engaging new members.. Setting up one-on-one or group introductory calls with new members. Sharing the introductory material. .having them fill out the new member survey, and Identify their interests and skills.
5. **Project Manager:** to manage and lead the next international project. Please reach out to Bruce Binney (brucebinney@gmail.com) if you are interested in learning more about this role.

Volunteer Spotlight



Originally from Bulgaria, Vessi Radieva has always been passionate about helping others. She has a BA in International Studies and Spanish and a MA in International Development. She has worked with refugees and survivors of sexual assault and human trafficking. Vessi first became interested in the WASH (water, sanitation, and hygiene) sector while doing her coursework in humanitarian assistance.

She focused her MA thesis on open defecation and its impact on gender based violence in the country of India. She later did a statistical analysis on the lack of access to toilets and its consequences on public health. Vessi strongly believes that access to clean water is a basic human right and the very first step to helping people out of poverty.

Vessi joined EWB RTP in March 2022 and is currently serving as Secretary for 2023. She firmly believes in the mission of EWB and is very excited about the Chipozo project and the positive impact it will have on the community. This chapter's work will not only make access to clean drinking water safer and more convenient, it will also improve the lives of girls and women. Her favorite part of EWB is that she is constantly learning something new. In her free time, Vessi is currently training for her first half marathon and reading nonfiction.

Vessi has been our leader for community activities! She manages the Shelley Lake clean ups and has built a relationship between EWB RTP and UCAN Farm. She also has managed the communication between various food banks to explore other local efforts to engage our chapter in. Thank you for your hard work Vessi!

Dream Job? Stay at home mom to my two cats, Hastings and Watson

Favorite Movie? The Constant Gardener

Favorite Brunch Food? Vegetarian Eggs Benedict

National News

1. [Annual EWB Conference](#) is coming up on November 9-11 in Reno! Check out the keynote speakers [here](#).
2. [T-Shirt Contest](#): EWB USA is holding a T-shirt design contest for the annual conference shirts. Winner receives 5 complimentary t-shirts and peppermill hotel gift card for \$200!
3. [Standing Content Committees](#): If you have experience in one of the technical committees, considering joining to help connect chapters with subject matter experts and resources.

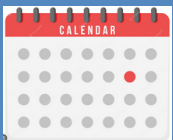
Contact Resources



ewb.usa.rtp@gmail.com



<https://ewb-rtp.org>



<https://ewb-rtp.org/chapter-calendar/>



<https://www.meetup.com/EWB-USA-RTP-Chapter>

Meet the Team

Executive Board



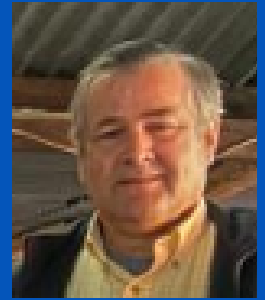
EMMA GUERTIN
CHAPTER
PRESIDENT



STEPHEN KRIDEL
CHAPTER
VICE PRESIDENT



VESSI RADIEVA
CHAPTER
SECRETARY



BRUCE BINNEY
CHAPTER
TREASURER

Committee Chairs



MARK SWALLOW
FUNDRAISING



ALAN ZAGORIA & MACY BISHOP
MEMBERSHIP



CAN YOU HELP?
SOCIAL MEDIA



KENT LIORET
SPANISH



JOHN LLOYD
WEBSITE