



# Engineers Without Borders USA – Northeast Region

Connecticut, Delaware, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont

June 1, 2009 | Issue No. 1 Vol. 1

JOIN

DONATE

VISIT

## In this Issue

NER Welcome  
Word from NER Co-Presidents  
Word from NER TAC  
Word from our CRM  
NER Chapter of the Month  
NER Fall Workshop  
NER Scholarship Winners  
NER Announcements  
Cool Stuff!  
Thanks to our Sponsors

## NER Leadership

CRM – Rosemary Powers  
NER TAC – Edwina Lam

### Executive Steering Committee

Co-President – Bree Carlson  
Co-President – Julie Gagen  
Secretary – Beth Cullinan  
Treasurer – Vacant

### State Representatives

Delaware – Vacant  
New England (NE) – Julie Gagen  
Northern NE – Vacant  
New Jersey – Vacant  
New York – Jeff Asher  
Pennsylvania – Holly Johnson  
Southern New England – Vacant

[www.ewb-northeast.org](http://www.ewb-northeast.org)

## NER Welcome

Welcome! As a member of the EWB-USA Northeast Region (NER), we are pleased to offer this first edition of our quarterly issued Regional Newsletter. In the coming pages you will find articles, events, and information from chapters throughout the NER.

### What is the EWB-USA Northeast Region (NER)?

- The Northeast Region is 1/7 Regions recently formed throughout the EWB-USA member base. We are comprised of 10 States, from ME to DE, 53 EWB Chapters, and approximately 25% of the EWB-USA Chapters.

### Who is in the EWB Northeast Region?

- The NER includes all chapters, projects, and members within our member states. The NER Committee is a group of elected and appointed members who act as a line of communication for chapters/projects and national for the benefit of our membership.

### Why was the EWB Northeast Region developed?

- To provide more personal contact between EWB-USA and members, provide opportunities for collaboration, to develop proactive resources and additional ways for volunteers to engage in the EWB experiences, and gauge the EWB climate. We are organized in a way that allows us to best serve the needs of our volunteers, while acting as a voice for the membership within the national organization.
- EWB-USA, through our CRM Rosemary Powers, formed the Northeast Region in 2008. Since its inception, the Committee has worked to develop a strong platform for development, by appointing State Representatives, organizing

### What should I expect from the NER?

- Excellent Question!! The NER mission is to facilitate student and professional chapter development, education, and cooperation within the geographic boundaries of the Northeast Region.

### How can I get involved with the NER?

- Keep reading! Also, visit us at [www.ewb-northeast.org](http://www.ewb-northeast.org)



## EWB-USA Northeast Region Quarterly Newsletter June 1, 2009

### Word from our CRM

Hello Members of the Northeast Region,

It is great to work with you and thanks to all of our members spending a significant part of your summer in developing communities, assisting with projects assessments or implementations. Your energy and commitment makes a difference to thousands around the world!

We are excited to hear about your travels and experiences from this summer. Please give me a ring or send an email – or better yet, a picture! And, yes, get those post-assessment or post-implementation trip reports in!

Warmly,

Rosemary Powers,

*EWB-USA Chapter Relations Manager, Northeast Region*

[Read Rosemary's tidbits & project advice](#)

### Word from NER TAC

I am Edwina Lam and I've been working in the TAC team for more than a year.

It's been hectic months for the TAC team to review the projects. The peak season for the review process is the beginning of the year since most of the teams would like to go out to the site during the summer.

In April, the regional TAC team reviewed a record 20 implementation trips. Thanks for all the TAC members who attended the calls and provide feedback to the chapters.

EWB has been trying to format the project report to become more professional. So the chapters have been informed to use the new project report document (525) for their future submission.

At this moment, we are in the transition between the old forms (507) to new forms (525). If you have any question and comment, feel free to contact me and I will try my best to answer your questions. Thank you for supporting EWB.

Edwina Lam  
*EWB-USA Northeast Region  
NE-TAC Representative*



Photo Courtesy of Edwina Lam,  
NER TAC Representative

### Word from NER Co-Presidents

Hi EWB-Northeast Region!

We are very pleased to announce this first edition Newsletter, as it is the culmination of 6-months of NER Committee development, collaboration, and hard work!

We recognize that it may be surprising for many of you to learn that there is a Northeast Region Committee; however we hope that this form of communication may allow opportunity to capture your ideas and interests as we continue to develop our Regional leadership.

If you are interested in getting involved with the NER, please consider any of the open positions listed in the newsletter, on our website, or contact us (insert link) with your ideas and thanks!

Bree Carlson & Julie Gagen  
*EWB-USA Northeast Region Co-Presidents*

### Open Positions in the Northeast Region - Be a founding contributor!

**Treasurer:** Elected Executive Steering Committee position; responsible to maintain regional finance information and act as a point of contact for chapter treasurers at the regional level

**State Representatives:** Point of contact and coordinator within each State (unless otherwise specified)

**Assistant State Representatives:** Assist SR with local coordination and presence with assigned member chapters

**Committee Members:** See introductory website and contact Beth at [secretary@ewb-northeast.org](mailto:secretary@ewb-northeast.org)

For more information, visit our website: [www.ewb-northeast.org](http://www.ewb-northeast.org) and click on "How to Help!"



## EWB-USA Northeast Region Quarterly Newsletter June 1, 2009

### Congratulations to our First Quarter NER Chapter of the Month Winners!

Every two months, the Northeast Region Committee celebrates the hard work, dedication, and EWB spirit the regional chapters supply by honoring one of their own with the title: **NER Chapter of the Month!!**

The NER Chapter of the Month recipient is acknowledged on the Northeast Region website, highlighted in the NER Newsletter, and submitted to EWB-USA for a chance at the National Chapter of the Month award. If your chapter is interested in being considered, please contact your State Representative.

#### February/March

Northeastern University  
Student Chapter

The Northeastern University Student Chapter was established in 2005. Since that time, they have completed several projects in Honduras and recently returned from their first assessment trip to Uganda.

Northeastern University will be hosting the 2009 Northeast Region Workshop November 6-8.



Photo Courtesy of  
Lucas Johnson

[www.ewb-neu.edu](http://www.ewb-neu.edu)

#### April/May

University of Delaware  
Student Chapter

The University of Delaware Student Chapter was established in September 2006. In 2007 they conducted their first assessment trip in Bakang, Cameroon.

By late 2008, they were approved for a second projects in San Marcos, Guatemala. The group has a great deal of enthusiasm and we look forward to seeing what they accomplish in years to come.



Photo Courtesy of  
University of Delaware

<http://udel.edu/stu-org/ewb>

#### June/July

Pittsburgh  
Professionals Chapter

The Pittsburgh Professionals have fully embraced the Northeast Region and continue to meaningfully contribute to our development by volunteering for Executive Steering Committee, State Representative, and Committee Participation roles. This is, in part, a result of their unique approach to EWB programs and student chapter partnerships.



Photo Courtesy of  
Tom Baker

[www.ewb-pitt.org](http://www.ewb-pitt.org)

### NER Fall Workshop – SAVE THE DATE!

Please save the date! The Northeast Region Workshop will be held at Northeastern University, in Boston Massachusetts, from November 6-8, 2009. The workshop will include keynote addresses, small group breakout sessions, networking opportunities, and social events designed to speak to this year's theme of "transformative education."

The planning and development of this workshop will be a collaborative effort for anyone who wishes to participate. To this end, we will utilize "unconference" style collaborative online tools that allow you to participate in the planning of the workshop or recommend topics for small group breakout sessions. Please see the workshop website ([www.ewb-northeast.org/Home/Workshop2009](http://www.ewb-northeast.org/Home/Workshop2009)) for additional information or contact Bree Carlson, Workshop Chair, at [workshop@ewb-northeast.org](mailto:workshop@ewb-northeast.org).



## Northeast Region EWB International Conference Scholarship Winners

The Northeast Region granted four scholarships for members in the Northeast Region to the EWB International Conference. Each scholarship winner received \$250 towards attending the EWB International Conference. In addition, each scholarship winner provided a presentation on their experiences at the International Conference to their respective local chapter and submitted a brief article (on anything that is EWB related) for this quarterly newsletter. Congratulations to our Scholarship Winners!



Photo Courtesy of  
Elissa Mueller

### **A “Green” Experience at the EWB-USA International Conference**

Elissa Mueller

Boston University Student Chapter

As a freshman and someone new to Engineers Without Borders, the International Conference was a great opportunity for me to learn about the organization, and to interact with other university and professional chapters.

I found that the most interesting part of the conference for me was the emphasis placed on examining trends in student interest in Engineering and the growing popularity of Engineers Without Borders that has led many universities to incorporate into their engineering curriculums the goals and educational aspects of community development... [Read more...](#)

## Involving Honduran Women in Construction Projects

Dan Saulnier

Northeastern University Professional Mentor

In the U.S., many of us take for granted that women can do the same jobs as men. Other cultures have other ideas about gender issues, and responding to these ideas is an inevitable part of our role as EWB.

This article will share an experience the Northeastern University EWB had in Honduras dealing with gender issues, and how our perspective changed over time. [Read more...](#)



Photo Courtesy of Dan Saulnier

### **When I First Heard the Words “Engineers Without Borders”**

Keicha Muriel

Rowan University Student Chapter

When I first heard the words “Engineers Without Borders” I did not know what the organization was about, I did not even know what an engineer was! Of course, this was even before I started my first semester in college.

I was introduced to Engineers Without Border-Rowan University Chapter when one of the students involved gave a talk about a project in Thailand. Since that moment I knew that someday I was going to travel to a developing country and witness the application of my skills and desire to help others. [Read more...](#)



Photo Courtesy of Keicha Muriel

## To Submit an Article for the Newsletter

Please visit our website [www.ewb-northeast.org](http://www.ewb-northeast.org) and click on the “Newsletter” link on the left of the page. The Newsletter Article submission form is located as an attachment. Topics are at the discretion of the author.

We welcome all contributions at this point, so please take some time to share your stories! If you would like more information, or to discuss topic ideas and suggestions, please contact Beth at [secretary@ewb-northeast.org](mailto:secretary@ewb-northeast.org) and thanks!



## EWB-USA Northeast Region Quarterly Newsletter June 1, 2009

### The Decision to Take a Step Back

Hendrik van Hemmen

University of Pittsburgh Student Chapter

This year, with its Malian fish farm project nearly finalized, and barely over a month to go until implementation, the University of Pittsburgh chapter made the decision to scale back to another assessment trip.

It was not easy, and emotions were high. So was the pressure to go ahead from some mentors. But the decision to play it safe was, in the mind of this author (who led the design), the right one. [Read more...](#)



Photo Courtesy of Hendrik van

### NER Announcements...

Your newsletter & message board for newsworthy events!



### Rutgers Hosts Village Earth Seminar

May 30-31, 2009

Rutgers University Student Chapter

The Rutgers University Chapter hosted a two-day "Village Earth" seminar on May 30-31, 2009 (Saturday and Sunday) from 9-5pm at Rutgers University, Piscataway, NJ.

The seminar covered the history of development, the power relationships between entering EWB teams and the community, and mistakes NGO's have made in the past. Your chapter interested in how to host a Village Earth event? See how Rutgers University did it by contacting...

### EWB/Equita "So Good" Fundraiser

June 1-30, 2009

Pittsburgh Professionals Chapter

EWB Pittsburgh is partnering with Equita shop for a deliciously SO GOOD! Fundraiser. Equita is family-run company with a socially and environmentally responsible initiative. Equita shop showcases the finest in green, sweatshop-free, and Fair Trade essentials for the body and home.



As if that wasn't good enough, from now until June 30th, all purchasers who mentions "Engineers Without Borders (EWB)" during check-out in the comments section at Equita's on-line store [www.shopequita.com](http://www.shopequita.com), 10% of that total purchase will be donated to EWB-Pittsburgh. A shopping experience that is guaranteed to make you look and feel So Good!

### Call for Announcements

Does your EWB Chapter have a Seminar, Fundraiser, or other Newsworthy Event going on? Then submit it for the NER Newsletter!

Like the introduction says: NER Announcements...YOUR newsletter & Your message board, NER wants to hear about it, support it, and share it with all NER chapters.

[Click here to submit.](#)

### Northeast Region and EWB-USA Committees – Get Involved!

The following committees are being developed Regionally: Mentors, Communications, Partnerships, Seminars, Workshop, Professional Chapters, and Fundraising Committee. There are also several national committees which NER members are invited to participate in. If you are interested in becoming involved in either Regional or National Committees, please contact Julie Gagen at [vicepresident@ewb-northeast.org](mailto:vicepresident@ewb-northeast.org).



## EWB-USA Northeast Region Quarterly Newsletter June 1, 2009

### Cool Stuff!

...sustainable technologies, fun facts, & global-conscious websites, it's all cool stuff!

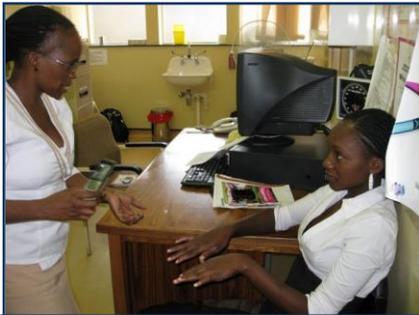


Photo Courtesy of Emma Westermann-Clark and Helen D'Couto

### Using Mobile Technology to Measure Health Impacts of Water Interventions

Emma Westermann-Clark and Helen D'Couto  
MIT Student Chapter

One of the most exciting trends in global health is the increasing use of mobile phone technology to improve medical diagnosis, treatment, and public health in developing countries. Mobile technology can also be used to measure the impact of water interventions.

ClickDiagnostics is doing just that. Click is working with the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) chapter of Engineers without Borders on a clean water, energy and health project Uganda. The team is working in the village of Ddegeya and the Engeye Clinic on clean water, energy, and health innovations. The overall goal of this 5 year partnership is to enable the community to meet its basic needs and expand the capabilities of the clinic. [Read more...](#)

# YOU!!!

**Yes, You!** Did you know that since Engineers Without Borders conception in 2002, EWB has participated in over ### projects, helping over ### developing communities, in over ### countries! You've brought clean water, electricity, and built bridges of hope to families around the globe all under the word VOLUNTEER. *Now that's Cool Stuff!*

### Thanks to our Sponsors

A special thanks to **Danielle Jackson of CDM, Inc.** in Cambridge, MA for developing the Newsletter layout and being a great support to our Region and cause...

**Thanks Danielle!**



The Northeast Region is actively seeking interested Sponsors. Sponsors are recognized on the EWB Northeast Region (EWB-NER) Website, Newsletter, and at the Fall Regional Workshop. Funds will benefit program initiatives including State-wide Seminars series materials, annual EWB-USA International Conference scholarships, and the annual Regional Workshop. The EWB-USA Northeast Region is comprised of 53 chapters located throughout the 10 member states.

If your organization is interested in becoming a sponsor of EWB-NER then we would love to hear from you. Contact Bree Carlson at [president@ewb-northeast.org](mailto:president@ewb-northeast.org) for more details.

You received this newsletter because you are a member EWB member in the Northeast Region. If you no longer wish to receive this email, simply reply with "Unsubscribe" in the subject line. This message is sent by Engineers Without Borders – Northeast Region Committee