

## 2009 West Virginia Brownfields Conference – Speaker Biographies

### **Charlie Bartsch** *Senior Fellow for Human Services & Community Development, ICF International*

Charlie has more than 25 years experience in economic and community development. He currently serves as ICF's brownfield growth expert. He is a nationally recognized authority of emerging public-private and state and federal brownfields financing and process initiatives. Prior to joining ICF in 2006, he was Director of Brownfield Studies at the Northeast-Midwest Institute, based in Washington, D.C.

Charlie was instrumental in the evolution of the brownfield issue from its inception in the early 1990s, producing the analysis of site reuse barriers and opportunities, the landmark *New Life for Old Buildings*. Over the past 20 years, he has written numerous reports that proved key to advancing brownfield revitalization, including *Brownfields "State of the States"* and the *Guide to Federal Brownfield Programs*, and *Recycling America's Gas Stations*.

Charlie often testifies before Congress on issues of economic development, most recently on HUD brownfield financing innovations and brownfield tax incentives. He is co-chair of the National Brownfield Association's Advisory Board, and national board chair of Groundwork USA. He has conducted workshops and offered training in more than 40 states, and nearly 300 communities. In 2001, he received the International Economic Development Council's 2001 Chairman's Award for Outstanding Service for his ten years of work on brownfield policies and legislation.

### **Peter Butler** *Assistant Professor of Landscape Architecture, West Virginia University*

Peter's research interests include the interpretation, planning and recovery of derelict industrial landscapes; community design and cultural landscape history. He began working with communities in 2000 through Iowa State University Landscape Architecture Extension and has continued to the present. He facilitates, coordinates, and integrates outreach projects with his studio design course instruction through WVU's Community Design Team. Most recently, his students developed design concepts and strategies for the Everettsville (WV) Miner's Memorial Park.

### **George Carico** *Program Coordinator, WV Brownfield Assistance Center at Marshall University*

For the past 13 years, George has held the position of Environmental Specialist at Marshall University's Center for Environmental, Geotechnical and Applied Sciences (CEGAS), concentrating on environmental management, energy management and related research and development within the business community and various government sectors. George has a B.S. degree in Geology from Marshall University (1985), and has been a Registered Professional Geologist since 1992. George has 22 years of experience in environmental consulting and remediation, including environmental site assessments, remediation design / implementation / operation, abandoned mine-land geotechnical and environmental studies, building and highway geotechnical construction, and environmental management consultation for private businesses and various government entities.

### **Martin Christ** *Water Remediation Director, Friends of Deckers Creek*

Friends of Deckers Creek (FODC) is a non-profit organization dedicated to restoring clean water in Deckers Creek, which drains 64 square miles and discharges to the Monongahela River in Morgantown. FODC protects water, but also is concerned with pollution on land (which will get to the streams eventually) and the people who live there. FODC is carrying out a Brownfields Assessment project, and that work meshed well with their FOCUS project in Reedsville, WV. Martin's background is in water quality science.

**Jason M. Donahue** *ECDC Realty, LLC*

Jason is a native of Man, WV and has 15 years experience in the real estate field. He acted as Executive Director of the Logan County Development Authority, as Vice-President of Monterra Development Corporation in Logan, West Virginia, as Project Manager with Langley Properties Company of Lexington, Kentucky and ten years with ECDC Realty, LLC and its predecessor East Coast Development, Inc. of Summerville, South Carolina. Jason is currently a principal owner of ECDC Realty, LLC. As Executive Director of the LCDA, Jason was responsible for the Economic Development Program for Logan County, including the successful development of the County's first industrial park. At Monterra, Jason successfully coordinated the first phase of the \$40 million Fountain Place Shopping Center, which included Wal-Mart Supercenter and Lowe's Home Improvement as anchor tenants. While at Langley Properties, Jason assessed/coordinated a variety of real estate investment projects including the construction of two Texas Roadhouse Restaurants. Jason has assisted Wal-Mart Stores, Inc. with the selection and acquisition of 50 new Supercenter and Sam's projects in Florida, Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina, Kentucky, West Virginia and Pennsylvania. He is currently coordinating 20+ projects in West Virginia, Pennsylvania, and North Carolina. Jason has closed over \$130 million of real estate transactions. Additionally, Jason currently serves as Business Development Manager for Freeland & Kauffman Engineering, a full-service civil engineering firm from Greenville, SC that specializes in civil engineering for commercial developments. He graduated from West Virginia University with a Bachelor's Degree in Political Science, Cum Laude, with honors.

**Patrick J. Donovan**, Executive Director, WV Public Port Authority

**EDUCATION:** Graduated from Western Branch High School, Chesapeake, Virginia in 1983; received a bachelor of arts and a master of arts in geography from Marshall University.

**ORGANIZATIONS:** Member of SMART Rivers 21, the Putnam County Zoning Board of Appeals, Hurricane improvement Council and Vice-President National Waterways Conference.

**MILITARY:** Operations Sergeant 863 M.P. Company, Glen Jean, West Virginia. Over twenty years of active and reserve Federal service. Recipient of Army Meritorious Service Medal; Army Accommodation Medal, second award; Army Achievement Medal, third award; West Virginia Accommodation Medal, second award; West Virginia Achievement Medal, second award; Foreign Service Ribbon; Good Conduct Ribbon, sixth award; NCOES Ribbon, third award; Drill Sergeant Badge.

**EXPERIENCE:** Active duty in the U.S. Army; Juvenile Correction Officer in Military Boot Camp; Executive Director St. Albans Renaissance Group; Riverfront Development Coordinator for WVPPA; Acting Director, WVPPA; Adjunct Professor of Geography at Marshall University; Executive Director, WVPPA

**Steve Fisher**, Senior Director of Loan Servicing for the West Virginia Housing Development Fund.

Mr. Fisher directs loan servicing operations, serves on the West Virginia Infrastructure and Jobs Development Council and coordinates flood recovery efforts. Mr. Fisher designed and implemented loan-servicing functions in 1989. The servicing portfolio has grown to more than \$1.2 Billion in servicing balances on 24,500 loans.

Mr. Fisher has a B.S. in Business Administration from The Ohio State University and a Master of Business Administration degree from the West Virginia Graduate College.

**Kelley Goes** *Cabinet Secretary, WV Department of Commerce; Executive Director, WV Development Office*

Kelley grew up in Braxton County, graduating from Braxton County High School in 1987. She attended Vanderbilt University. After graduating from the University of Kentucky College of Law in 1995, she practiced law with private firms for seven years focusing primarily on intellectual property and business litigation.

In 2002 Kelley joined the West Virginia Attorney General's Office as Assistant Attorney General. She mainly served as chief legal counsel to three state agencies with combined personnel in excess of 1000 employees. She joined the Department of Commerce on July 1, 2006, as Deputy Secretary and General Counsel.

**Martin Howe**, Clarksburg City Manager

- Graduated from Fairmont State University in 1995.
- Became Clarksburg City Manager in the fall of 2005.
- He is currently a member of the West Virginia City Managers Association
- As well as a member of the International City/County Managers Association (ICMA)
- Received his Bronze status with the National League of Cities in 2008.
- Chairman of the Clarksburg Sanitary Board
- Member of the Planning and Zoning Commission
- Member of the Clarksburg Urban and Renewal Authority
- Harrison County Development Authority – Executive Board
- Harrison Clarksburg Health Department Board of Directors
- Board Member of the Harrison County Chamber of Commerce
- The American City Planning Directors Honored Howe as Chairman of American City Quality Month – September 2006
- Received 2009 Generation Next: 40 Under 40 award from The State Journal

**Andrew Johnson** *Mid-Atlantic Regional Manager, Environmental Data Resources, Inc.*

Environmental Data Resources is the nation's leading provider of environmental risk management data and software for engineers, developers, lenders, and corporations. For the last two years, Andrew has worked exclusively with EDR's Lender Services group, an organic market vertical designed to help community banks establish sound environmental practices. He recently relocated to Arlington, VA to serve all of EDR's markets in the Mid-Atlantic.

**Patrick Kirby** *Director, Northern WV Brownfields Assistance Center at WVU*

Patrick addresses the brownfields redevelopment issues facing West Virginia's communities through combined economic/community development philosophy. Patrick, who earned a Master Degree in Public Policy from WVU, says "the current economic times are an opportunity for communities to reposition their brownfields sites for the green development trends of the future." The "unique model" of the Center provides a bridge between communities, developers, and regulators to "make projects happen". West Virginia is trying to look beyond the typical sources of brownfields funding to show communities what is possible, and to attract developers looking for innovative projects. The Center has partnered with a private foundation to fund a mini-grant program to identify and overcome longstanding project barriers more quickly. West Virginia's innovative assistance approach combined with solid risk-based standards is going along way to pushing "Wild and Wonderful" projects to success.

**LaReta J. Lowther** *Vice President of Community Reinvestment Act Compliance for Corporate Community Development, WesBanco Bank*

WesBanco Bank is the banking subsidiary of WesBanco Inc., a multi-state bank holding company with assets of \$5.7 billion, operating through 114 locations in West Virginia, Ohio and Pennsylvania. A 29-year veteran of the banking industry, LaReta's area of expertise has focused on bank regulatory compliance issues, with the last eight years being concentrated on compliance with the Community Reinvestment Act (CRA) and community development issues. Under her leadership, WesBanco has received consecutive "Outstanding" ratings on its federal CRA examinations. She received her BA degree with honors from Wheeling Jesuit University. Professionally, she is a graduate of the National Bank Compliance School, the West Virginia School of Banking and has completed over 600 hours in continuing education. Additionally, throughout her career, she has trained and educated countless bankers on regulatory compliance issues and community development. LaReta is a charter member of the City of Shinnston's Blueprint Community and ON TRAC Community committees, both initiatives designed to foster revitalization in her hometown of Shinnston, WV.

**Mary Luckini** *Landscape Designer, Friends of Deckers Creek*

Mary has worked on watershed land use projects with the organization since her graduation from West Virginia University in 2008. She specializes in environmental design and community development. Her design influences come from her interests in public art, water quality, and environmental education.

**Craig O'Leary** *Program Director, Regional Economic Development Partnership*

The Regional Economic Development Partnership is a non-profit development corporation, based in Wheeling, WV. Since graduating from West Virginia University with an Electrical Engineering degree, Craig has been active in economic development in West Virginia for the past 20 years. He provided project management on the Wheeling Stamping Building, a project which used Brownfield Economic Development Initiative funds, Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credits and New Market Tax Credits. His responsibilities with RED include deal structuring, tenant management, lease negotiation and renewal, and building maintenance. Craig is currently developing another Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credit project, the Stone Center @Market Plaza, which also included Tax Increment Financing. Craig also has experience with the WV Voluntary Remediation Program.

**William (Bill) C. Robinson**, State Trail Coordinator. WV Department of Transportation - Division of Highways

Mr. Robinson is a native of Kanawha County and presently resides in Nitro, West Virginia with his wife and two children. A graduate of West Virginia State University, he possesses a Bachelor of Science degree in Music Education, Summa Cum Laude.

Mr. Robinson's career in State government spans almost thirty years and includes experience in emergency management, technical writing and grant management.

In addition to the position of State Trail Coordinator, Mr. Robinson is also the program manager for the Recreational Trails Program, Bicycle/Pedestrian Coordinator for the West Virginia Division of Highways, Chairman of the West Virginia Recreational Trails Advisory Board and program manager for the Transportation, Community and System Preservation Program.

**Gale Lea Rubrecht** *Jackson Kelly PLLC, Environmental Practice Group*

Gale Lea's practice focuses upon environmental, energy, and natural resources matters for electric utilities, chemical companies, manufacturers, petroleum retailers, barge-cleaning operations, coal companies, the alumina industry, real estate developers, and other clients. Gale Lea concentrates on air and waste issues involving compliance advice, agency rulemakings, administrative and civil enforcement proceedings, litigation, and appellate advocacy. She has represented a variety of clients on remediation and redevelopment projects under the West Virginia Voluntary Remediation & Redevelopment Program and counseled clients concerning U.S. EPA's brownfields program, including prospective purchasers, institutional controls, windfall liens, site assessments, All Appropriate Inquiry (AAI) Rule, risk assessments, assessment grants, and revolving loan funds. She serves as counsel to the Southern WV Brownfields Assistance Center at Marshall University and is actively involved with "brownfields" in West Virginia as a seminar lecturer and author. She has written the West Virginia Chapter for the 2nd and 3rd editions of the ABA Brownfields book and has also written the West Virginia Chapter for the 2nd edition of the ABA Institutional Controls book. She serves as co-chair of the Waste Subcommittee of the West Virginia Chamber of Commerce and is a member of the Waste Team for the West Virginia Manufacturers' Association. She served on the Technical Subcommittee of the West Virginia Voluntary Remediation and Redevelopment Act Steering Committee for the drafting of the Guidance Manual. Before joining the Environmental Practice Group of Jackson Kelly PLLC, Gale Lea was a member of the Firm's Litigation Department and represented clients in environmental insurance coverage matters. In addition, she served as a law clerk to the Honorable K. K. Hall, Judge of the United States Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit. Gale Lea received her B.A. degree from Hollins College and her law degree from West Virginia University. She is a member of Phi Beta Kappa and Order of the Coif.

**Kasey Russell**, *Russell Resources*

Ms. Russell is the founder of Russell Resource Solutions, a West Virginia based company providing project management, lobbying and consulting on public policy issues, including mitigation, post-mine land use and natural resource extraction. She currently serves as Executive Director for the Developers' Roundtable of West Virginia, project manager for a development in southern West Virginia, Community Development Consultant for the Water Research Institute's Sustainable Energy Parks Project, and Business Development Coordinator for Meadoworks, LLC in Rupert, WV. Kasey also serves as an At-Large Member of Charleston's City Council.

**Laura Rye** *WV Community Investment Consultant, Federal Home Loan Bank of Pittsburgh*

A graduate of West Virginia University, Laura has held her current position at the Bank of Pittsburgh since 2006. Prior to that, she gained hands-on experience working with communities at the Community Collaborative, Inc., the WVU Prevention Research Center, the West Virginia Governor's Cabinet on Children and Families, and the Monongalia County Family Resource Network. Currently, Laura is active at the local and regional levels as a volunteer board member for the Wiles Hill Neighborhood Association and the Council on the Southern Community for the Southern Growth Policies Board. She also works as an independent consultant to communities.

**Emma Patterson** *Office Supervisor, City of Shinnston*

Emma's work history has mainly been in administrative and financial environments, both here and in the United Kingdom. Since working for the City of Shinnston she has been involved in community development. A member of the Blueprint community team, and ON TRAC program, Emma has attended various asset building and capacity building training workshops and conferences. Emma has authored several successful grant applications, including the FOCUS WV Brownfields Grant. Residing in Harrison County with her husband and two daughters, Emma is active in a variety of community and school organizations. Emma has been chosen to participate in Leadership Harrison County Class of 2010.

**John Thomas Rybak** *Senior Vice President, BB&T Environmental Risk Management Department*

John has 18 years experience in the lending industry evaluating environmental risks for commercial real estate. He has worked for several large Lenders besides BB&T, including KeyBank, First Union and Wachovia. He is involved in day to day operations for Commercial Real Estate Lending, Problem Loan Administration, and Owned Real Estate. Also responsible for Policy Development, Implementation, and monitoring of industry changes that may affect our lending practices and lender liability. John has taken an active role in evaluating Sustainability Issues and Market Pressures that may impact the lending industry.

John graduated from University at Buffalo with a Bachelors Degree in Environmental Studies, and went on to obtain a Masters in Business Administration from Canisius College, in Buffalo NY.

**Marlo Scruggs**, Vice President/Community Development Specialist, with BB&T's CRA & Community Development Department

Marlo manages the banks Community Reinvestment Act activities for the states of West Virginia and Kentucky. She graduated from the College of Charleston, SC where she received dual Bachelor of Science degrees in the life and physical sciences. Marlo is certified Economic Development & Housing Development Finance Professional by the National Development Council and a graduate of the Economic Development Institute. She is a former Community Development Representative with the West Virginia Development Office and Program Coordinator for a non-profit job training service provider.

Marlo is currently serving as a member of the Community Development Advisory Board for the Federal Reserve of Richmond, an Advisory Board member of the Neighborhood Investment Program, Board Member of the WV Affordable Housing Trust Fund, and participates with several other boards and committee's throughout WV and KY.

**Lawrence P. Sirinek, Ph.D** *Environmental Toxicologist, WV Department of Environmental Protection*

Dr. Sirinek has been employed with the West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection Division of Land Restoration since January 2004. His primary responsibility is to provide technical support to the Office of Environmental Remediation in the areas of toxicology and risk assessment. Prior to joining DEP, he spent 10 years as Risk Assessment Coordinator for Federal Facilities in the Division of Emergency and Remedial Response at the Ohio EPA.

Dr. Sirinek received his doctorate in human anatomy from The Ohio State University College of Medicine in Columbus, Ohio, where he also completed postdoctoral training in the Departments of Medicine and Surgery. Before joining Ohio EPA, he held several administrative and faculty positions at Ohio State University and Columbus Children's Hospital.

**Kent Spellman** *Executive Director, WV Community Development Hub*

The West Virginia Community Development Hub is a statewide non-profit with the mission of engaging communities and providers in an intentional, aligned and continuous system of community development. The Hub was formed from the merger of two other statewide non-profits in the fall of 2008. Kent has extensive experience in the private sector as the president of a design/build construction company and the publisher, editor and part owner of a weekly county newspaper. Prior to joining the Hub, he was the executive director of the Ritchie County Economic Development Authority. Kent is also one of the founders of the North Bend rail Trail. He was recognized as a Distinguished West Virginian by Governor Cecil Underwood in 1998.

**Jamie Wolfe** *Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Manager, Marshall University Center for Environmental, Geotechnical, & Applied Sciences*

Jamie is a native of Huntington, WV. He is a 1991 graduate of the United States Naval Academy with a degree in Ocean Engineering. After graduation, he served four and a half years in Charleston, SC on board the destroyer USS DEYO. He completed his Master's degree in Environmental Engineering from the Marshall University Graduate College. Jamie also teaches graduate and under-graduate courses at the University.

**Jeff Wood**, Office of Coalfield Community Development

Jeff Wood is an Energy Development Specialist for the Division of Energy. Jeff is coordinating the Division's efforts in the Office of Coalfield Community Development. One of his responsibilities is to ensure that the Office is meeting its legislative mandate as well as help local and state development groups assess opportunities in the reuse of surface mined lands.

Jeff was instrumental in the creation of the Mid-Atlantic Technology, Research & Innovation Center (MATRIC) while working as a Vice President of the Business and Industrial Corporation (BIDCO) in Charleston, West Virginia. Jeff also directed the economic development effort of the Charleston Area Alliance, the successor of BIDCO. The responsibilities included business retention and expansion as well as recruitment and cultivating entrepreneurship within the community. Jeff then took on the position of Director of Business Development for MATRIC. His responsibilities were to build and implement business strategies for each area of MATRIC. He also developed processes for use with new business prospects in each business area. He also was responsible for establishing and maintaining business relationships with MATRIC's clients and prospects as appropriate in coordination with business area leaders. Finally, Wood was also responsible for analyzing site selection for potential MATRIC expansions as well as the spin off subsidiaries.

Wood, a native of Clay County West Virginia, is a graduate of WVU Tech. He also completed the coursework and graduated from the University of Oklahoma's Economic Development Institute.

**Mark P. Zatezalo, PG** *Senior Project Hydrogeologist, Paul C. Rizzo Associates*

Mark is a hydrogeologist with over 30 years experience in the environmental and engineering arena. A graduate of West Virginia University (BS Geology, 1974) and the University of Missouri-Columbia (Master's Geology, 1977), Mark has served as both a consultant and as an in-house technical expert to industry. He is a licensed Professional Geologist in the State of Texas.

The list of environmental and engineering projects that Mark has experience include such facilities as landfills, mines, brownfields, nuclear power plants and active industrial sites. A native and current resident of Weirton, he has served as the Chairman of the City of Weirton Redevelopment Authority since 2003. He also serves as a member of the Brooke-Hancock Brownfields Task Force.

**Sera Janson Zegre** *FOCUS WV Brownfields Project Manager, Northern WV Brownfields Center*

As Project Manager for the FOCUS WV Brownfields program, Sera assists fifteen awarded community revitalization projects throughout the northern part of the state, managing the grant program and networking communities with key technical and financial resources related to brownfields. Sera came to the Northern WV Brownfields Center in 2009 after completing her Master's research in Natural Resources Social Science at Oregon State University's College of Forestry. Prior to graduate school, Sera worked with the U.S. Department of the Interior's Bureau of Land Management (BLM), participating in natural resource planning, programmatic strategy development, and education and outreach at both the local and national levels. Sera values relationships and has worked in partnership with diverse stakeholders including various federal, state, local, tribal and private partners. She enjoys outdoor recreation, especially on rivers, and brings personal interest and professional experience to community redevelopment projects.