



What You Can Do to Help

Find your niche with OVEC. Doing nothing is the worst thing you can do. We can use your help in any way you can offer it.

— Maria Gunnoe



**OVEC VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES
AND STAFF CONTACTS**





*ARE YOU INTERESTED IN CULTIVATING A
NEW FUTURE FOR WEST VIRGINIA?*



*ARE YOU FED UP WITH OUR STATE BEING
POISONED, MOCKED AND FORGOTTEN?*



*ARE YOU INSPIRED BY THE BEAUTY OF THE
HILLS, THE KINDNESS OF THE PEOPLE AND
THE RICHNESS OF THE STATE'S HISTORY?*

If so, join us to help out!

OVEC members work on projects that promote public health, environmental protection and social justice. We need you at public hearings, rallies and OVEC-sponsored gatherings. We need help recruiting OVEC members – to build our citizen power.

OVEC can arrange for training in many aspects of our work: organizing 101, lobbying, permit reading, letter writing, water testing, nonviolence, basic computer training and much more.

Contact us at 304-522-0246 if you are interested in trainings.



We have many volunteer opportunities:

- Call, write and/or meet with legislators to ask for the establishment of a strong renewable Energy Enhancement Fund in WV. (See Pg. 2 of OVEC's December 2010 *Winds of Change* newsletter, at www.ohvec.org, for more information.) Contact Dianne at 304-360-2072 or dbady.ovec@gmail.com.
- Take a training in simple water testing, and then join a three-person team that commits to monitoring a specific stream or two every three months or so. Contact Dianne at 304-360-2072 or dbady.ovec@gmail.com.
- Conduct Internet research of new potential foundations to approach for grant funding. Contact Janet at 304-522-0246 or janet.ovec@gmail.com.
- Help stuff and label envelopes for mailings (occasional). Help move things around the office (sometimes requires ability to carry heavy objects up and down stairs). Contact Maryanne at 304-522-0246 or maryanne@ohvec.org.
- Support the Membership Committee, host a house party for OVEC or help with logistics for special events. Contact Robin at 304-840-4877 or via email at rbrobinjh@gmail.com.
- Help register and protect your family cemetery and small community cemeteries. For information on cemetery preservation, contact Carol at 304-847-5121 or peacelovemom@gmail.com, or Robin at 304-840-4877 or rbrobinjh@gmail.com.
- Join Sludge Safety Project's (SSP) robust volunteer program and learn more about any of the many environmental justice actions you can participate in with SSP. Contact Delta Merner at lorax@riseup.net, or Andrew Munn, anromu@gmail.com.
- Take one of OVEC's media trainings and then step forward to be a spokesperson for your community. Your stories about Mountaintop Removal and other environmental problems are vital, and the media is essential to getting your story out. Contact Vivian at 304-360-1979 or vivian@ohvec.org, or Maria at 304-245-8481, 304-989-9581 or wvhollowgirl@aol.com.
- Help us keep a record of media "hits" by cutting and copying hardcopies of news articles. Contact Tonya at 304-522-0246 or 4themountains@gmail.com.



- ◆ Help do simple data entries of new member information, etc. Contact Robin Blakeman at rbrobinjh@gmail.com.
- ◆ Proofread, edit and write newsletter articles. Contact Vivian at 304-360-1979 or vivian@ohvec.org.
- ◆ Write letters to the editor and opinion columns, and comment online. Contact Vivian at 304-360-1979 or vivian@ohvec.org.
- ◆ Develop YouTube videos, edit photos and help with other visual media work. Contact Vivian at 304-360-1979 or vivian@ohvec.org.
- ◆ OVEC has purchased land with mineral rights and a small building in Twilight, WV (Boone County). The building needs remodeling work. To volunteer, contact Dianne at dbady.ovec@gmail.com, or 304-360-2072.
- ◆ Attend scheduled West Virginia Citizens for Clean Elections coalition meetings. Learn more, and help to work on issues in this and other state-wide coalitions for positive regulatory and legislative change. Contact Carol at 304-847-5121 or peacelovemom@gmail.com.

***READ FURTHER TO SEE WHAT OUR STAFF MEMBERS DO
AND WHAT YOU CAN DO TO HELP THEM.***



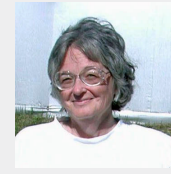
OVEC's mission is to organize and maintain a diverse grassroots organization dedicated to the improvement and preservation of the environment through education, grassroots organizing and coalition building, leadership development, media outreach and strategic litigation. We are a non-profit group committed to ending environmental injustices and industrial practices that place public health and safety at risk.



MEET OUR STAFF



Dianne Bady, OVEC's Founder and Co-Director
304-360-2072 or dbady.ovec@gmail.com



Nearly a quarter-century ago, Dianne founded OVEC to organize citizens to fight illegal pollution in the West Virginia, Kentucky and Ohio "Tri-State" area. After many successes, in 1997, OVEC moved on to educating and organizing citizens to oppose Mountaintop Removal coal mining in West Virginia.

Dianne is OVEC's organizing team coordinator, our point person on strategic litigation, and she is working on OVEC's initiatives for sustainable energy production in West Virginia, focusing on community-owned wind power. Dianne also works to help develop a network of citizens who will regularly monitor water quality in streams below mountaintop removal operations.

Dianne is helping coordinate the Twilight Project, in Boone County, where OVEC has purchased land with mineral rights in order to preserve the land and leave the coal safely underground. See: www.mtrstopshere.com



Janet Keating, OVEC's Executive Director
304-522-0246 or janet.ovec@gmail.com



Janet oversees the day-to-day operation of OVEC and is responsible for reporting to our Board of Directors and implementing policies the board sets. One of Janet's primary responsibilities is raising foundation funding for OVEC. Janet helps prepare grant proposals and reports. She nurtures and maintains relationships with foundation program officers and researches new grant opportunities.

Janet, along with OVEC's Administrative Director, maintains a watchful eye over OVEC's finances. Janet networks with many groups at the state and national levels and serves on the Steering Committee of The Alliance for Appalachia, The CLEAN (Citizens Leading for Energy Action Now) and Christians for the Mountains. She also serves on the Government Concerns Committee of the West Virginia Council of Churches.



Maryanne Graham, OVEC's Administrative Director
304-522-0246 or maryanne@ohvec.org



Maryanne is a behind-the-scenes but vitally important staff person at OVEC. The bulk of her work entails handling payroll, income and expenses for the organization. She also confers with the auditor and files regular reports to state and federal authorities. She meets with OVEC's Finance Committee and prepares quarterly reports for OVEC's Board of Directors. She also is a key person in sending membership renewal and donation letters.

Maryanne leads the Kroger Gift Card program, one way that OVEC garners donations. If you want to learn more about how to obtain a gift card or use one, contact Maryanne.





Robin Blakeman, Special Event and Membership Committee Organizer

304-840-4877 or rbrobinjh@gmail.com



Robin is the staff coordinator for the Membership and Grassroots Fundraising Committee, which has a goal of increasing grassroots funding and involvement. This committee also initiated the Sustainer Drive and seeks ways to inspire deeper and more meaningful involvement amongst all OVEC members. The committee shapes many of OVEC’s special events.

Robin is involved in our Cemetery Preservation Group, which educates West Virginia citizens about their rights related to family and community cemeteries. The group’s 2010 campaign resulted in passage of legislation that improves WV cemetery protection. Robin also coordinates OVEC members’ participation in the annual Week in Washington (DC) lobbying event.

She works with leaders in faith communities across the state and region to raise awareness about justice issues related to strip mining, water pollution and free speech.



Andrew Munn, Community Organizer, Fayetteville area and Sludge Safety Project Staff Coordinator

304-924-1506 or anromu@gmail.com



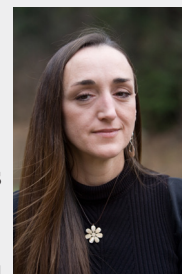
Andrew is the OVEC staff coordinator for the Sludge Safety Project, www.sludgesafety.org, which is a community-led organizing and lobbying project. SSP is a joint project of OVEC, Coal River Mountain Watch and various West Virginia community members. SSP works with residents concerned about the impacts of underground slurry injection, the potential safety concerns of multi-billion gallon sludge impoundments and toxic coal wastes’ long-term effects on our public health, water resources and environment.

Andrew is also working to coordinate citizen efforts to oppose strip mining permits in Fayette county and surrounding areas. SSP’s efforts with these communities include organizing, lobbying the West Virginia State Legislature for a slurry ban, research and advocacy with allied organizations, outreach and informational tabling, media work and much more. Andrew has also been a leader in Appalachia Rising events. He can let you know about events and projects in the other areas of his work.



Maria Gunnoe, Community Organizer and Media Spokesperson

304-245-8481, 304-989-9581 or wvhollowgirl@aol.com



Maria is an OVEC organizer in Boone County, but her work extends far beyond the county’s borders.

In 2009, Maria won the Goldman Environmental Prize for North America, the “Nobel” of environmental awards. She has been interviewed for books, national newspapers and magazine articles. She has been filmed for numerous documentaries on the impacts of Mountaintop Removal.

To help inform community members, reporters and politicians, Maria arranges Mountaintop Removal flyovers with SouthWings.org; she has served on their Board of Directors for eight years. Maria helped initiate the Twilight MTR Stops Here project.





**Carol Warren, Legislative Reform Advocate
Marcellus Gas Drilling Concerns Coordinator
Faith Community Liaison
Cemetery Preservation Network Coordinator**
304-847-5121 or peacelovemom@gmail.com



OVEC is a leader in the West Virginia Citizens for Clean Elections coalition, and Carol is our coordinator for this group, which works to gain a voluntary system of public campaign financing for our State Legislature. Citizen priorities are more likely to be addressed when citizens, rather than powerful special interests, pay for campaigns.

Carol also works on Marcellus shale gas-drilling issues. She's working with a coalition of West Virginia groups to reveal the dangers of this type of drilling and to gain adequate regulation of Marcellus wells and more equitable rights for surface owners.

During the 2010 legislative session, OVEC members worked closely with the West Virginia Council of Churches to obtain the passage of legislation that improves protection for and access to family cemeteries, which are increasingly threatened by resource extraction and "development" activities. Carol continues to work with faith community allies in developing educational materials and assisting families on an individual basis in gaining information and taking the necessary steps to visit their family cemeteries.



Tonya Adkins, Development Associate
304-522-0246 or 4themountains@gmail.com



Tonya writes most of our grant proposals, researches new grant opportunities and prepares grant reports. She maintains contacts with foundation officers, people and organizations that are important members of our network. She gathers work reports and talks frequently with staff and key volunteers to keep funders informed about all of our work. Tonya also helps with the logistics of events and meetings.



**Vivian Stockman, Media Outreach and
Communications Specialist**
304-360-1979 or vivian@ohvec.org



Vivian is frequently in the field with writers, photographers and filmmakers. OVEC makes media outreach a priority, from local to international news outlets. We connect journalists with our members in their home communities. When media outlets carry news and photos about our members and our issues, we reach potential new members (building our base of power). We inform a broad audience and stir people to action. Hundreds of stories covering the work of our members, volunteers, staff and board appear in the media each year.

Vivian also edits our newsletter, the *Winds of Change*. Each day, she collects and posts onto the OVEC website news relevant to our work. She also develops content for the website and is responsible for sending out Action Alerts whenever important events are happening.

If you would like to join our Action Alert list, go to www.ohvec.org, and click on "Action Alerts."

