

# The Cardinal Flyer

March 2014

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## The Virginia Conference of CASA

### President's Message

Greetings CASA Members:

Our next CASA training opportunity is quickly approaching. We have worked together with JC Bean Sprout and two investigators in VDACS Food Safety and Security Program to provide a training session detailing the manufacturing of bean sprouts. This is a topic of great interest as sprouts are a high risk product, linked to many foodborne illness outbreaks. I am very pleased about how quickly this training came together, as JC Bean Sprout has been very accommodating to the requests of our organization. If in attendance at the meeting, please be sure to thank the individuals at JC Bean Sprout for allowing us to use their facility.

In the works, is a training opportunity at Cuisine Solutions in Alexandria, VA. Our last meeting there was in March 2008 and was thoroughly enjoyed by the attendees. This establishment specializes in the manufacture of sous vide food products. Dr. Bruno Goussault, Chief Scientist, was a leading pioneer and advocate for sous vide and helped create the sous vide technology. We are hoping to hold this meeting in late April. Be looking for the announcement and registration form.

### Membership Reminder

**Any dues or correspondence should now be addressed to:**

Megan Lauff, CASA Treasurer  
USFDA, US Custom House  
200 Chestnut St Rm 900  
Philadelphia PA 19106-2973  
(215) 717-3749  
fax (215) 717-3721  
[megam.lauff@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:megam.lauff@fda.hhs.gov)

[www.casafdo.org](http://www.casafdo.org)

CASA elections are coming up this spring. If you are interested in serving as an officer, or on the CASA Board please send a biography to Annie McCullough at [Annie.McCullough@vdacs.virginia.gov](mailto:Annie.McCullough@vdacs.virginia.gov). Serving in a leadership position will give you the opportunity to contribute to the direction that this organization moves in. Please consider this service.

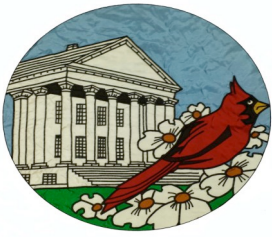
Our board has been working hard to plan locations and speakers for continuing education about food safety. It is our goal to build relationships between industry, regulatory officials and consumers. Please support this effort with your attendance, and invite someone to join you. I am look forward to seeing you at our meeting in March, and again in April.

**PLEASE NOTE:** For VDH and VDACS Personnel-CASA Trainings may count as "Contact Hours". Please contact your district supervisor to see if this applies. Certificates will be issued at the meeting.

Sincerely,  
**Sarah Dunn, President**



**MEMBERSHIPS ARE GOOD  
JANUARY-DECEMBER SO  
PLEASE RENEW YOUR  
MEMBERSHIP NOW!!!!**



## Executive Board Report

The 98<sup>th</sup> Annual Educational and Training Seminar will be held in Hershey, PA from May 12-15, 2014. The Holiday Inn Grantville will host the meeting and the Executive Board met there July 29-31, 2013 to plant the upcoming conference. Another conference planning meeting was held in mid-January and the ETS is coming together very nicely. Please visit the website ([www.casafdo.org](http://www.casafdo.org)) for a tentative agenda and details about the hotel if you plan to attend. CASA was also awarded a \$25,000 small conference grant from the FDA to help with this conference. All current CASA members are eligible to receive grant money to attend this year's meeting and an announcement will be sent via email in the near future with the application procedure. Please check with your employer before applying for the grant.

Planning has also started for the 99<sup>th</sup> Annual Educational and Training Seminar to be held in our host conference at Virginia Beach. A contract has been signed with the Hilton hotel on 31<sup>st</sup> Street and the meeting will take place April 20-23, 2015. I will work with the board and keep members informed as to conference specifics. We will be putting together a local arrangements committee for this ETS and looking for donations for goodie bags and the silent auction. If you are interested in giving a presentation at this conference please contact me as soon as possible with your presentation topic and length of time needed.

There are a lot of changes being discussed on the Executive Board and one of the biggest includes the redesign of our website that should launch by April 1, 2014. We will also be exhibiting at the Food Safety Summit in Baltimore, MD the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of April in an

effort to recruit more members and spread the word about the many benefits of our organization.

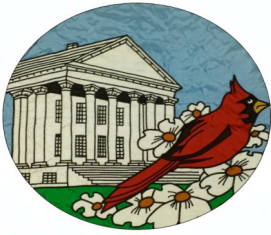
If there is anyone that has not joined or paid their dues for this year please do so as soon as possible at ([www.casafdo.org](http://www.casafdo.org)) and pull up the document by clicking on the "join/renew" tab. Fill it out and mail it to the CASA Treasurer, Ms. Megan Lauff. We are also trying to recruit new members from government, academia and industry so please let all of your coworkers and colleagues know about the great educational and networking opportunities provided by CASA. The VA Conference has shown a decrease a membership over the past 12 months.

What about CEUs? The VA Conference will now have the ability to print certificates of attendance for the quarterly meetings. As a member you can then take the certificate along with the meeting agenda and submit it to your supervisor for approval of CEUs. We cannot grant CEUs and it is the decision of your employer. Most registered sanitarians and environmental health officers are required to gather a certain amount of CEUs to maintain their status or accreditation. Attendance at CASA meetings gives you an excellent opportunity to acquire these CEUs and network with other officials in your field.

A listing of the current VA Board and CASA Executive Board is now listed on the CASA website. If there is anything you would like to see changed or improved within CASA please let us know.

### **Mr. Erik Bungo**

VA Representative to the CASA Executive Board  
CASA Vice President and Committee Whip  
CASA Representative to the AFDO Board of Directors



### CASA Members and Friends:

**CASA is launching a newly redesigned website on March 1, 2014.** The site at [www.casafdo.org](http://www.casafdo.org), will have several new features that will improve customer use of the site, including the CASA News Network, a system designed to keep you informed about CASA and your local conference through e-mail notifications.

In order for the CASA News Network to work, the Executive Board is asking CASA members and friends to visit the new site and **register your name, local conference affiliation and only one e-mail address** at which you want to receive notifications. Even if you were registered with the old website, **please re-register so that CASA can update e-mail addresses and remove non-working ones.** You will receive an e-mail confirmation that will complete your registration. Once at the site, just click on the CASA News Network icon; it's that simple.

Thank you,  
Melissa Vaccaro  
CASA President

## The Virginia Conference of CASA Committee Chairs

Associate Committee:	Steve Brown (VA Artesian Bottling Co.) <a href="mailto:Steve.brown@virginiaartesian.com">Steve.brown@virginiaartesian.com</a>
Communications Committee:	Annie McCullough (VDACS) <a href="mailto:Annie.McCullough@vdacs.virginia.gov">Annie.McCullough@vdacs.virginia.gov</a>
Constitution & By-Law Committee:	Erik Bungo (VDACS) <a href="mailto:Erik.Bungo@vdacs.virginia.gov">Erik.Bungo@vdacs.virginia.gov</a>
Drug Committee:	Brooke Higgins (FDA) <a href="mailto:Brooke.Higgins@fda.hhs.gov">Brooke.Higgins@fda.hhs.gov</a>
Food Committee:	Matt Ettinger (VDACS) <a href="mailto:Matthew.Ettinger@vdacs.virginia.gov">Matthew.Ettinger@vdacs.virginia.gov</a>
Laboratory Committee:	Janet Pruitt (DCLS) <a href="mailto:Janet.Pruitt@dgs.virginia.gov">Janet.Pruitt@dgs.virginia.gov</a>
Membership Committee:	Rick Barham (VDACS) <a href="mailto:Rick.Barham@vdacs.virginia.gov">Rick.Barham@vdacs.virginia.gov</a>
Nominating & Elections Committee:	Erik Bungo (VDACS) <a href="mailto:Erik.Bungo@vdacs.virginia.gov">Erik.Bungo@vdacs.virginia.gov</a>
Resolutions Committee:	Sabrina Liles (VDACS) <a href="mailto:Sabrina.Liles@vdacs.virginia.gov">Sabrina.Liles@vdacs.virginia.gov</a>

[www.casafdo.org](http://www.casafdo.org)

