



NEWSLETTER

Education for Environmental Action

November 2018



Huffman, Hochschild & Hertsgaard

"The Great Divide"

Can We Work Together for a Healthy Environment?

Register today

**EFM Membership Says You Care
About the Environment in Which We all Live!**

Join Us Now

President's Message

Autumn is in the air and activities abound

**Master Class Graduate
Impact: Reducing Carbon
Emissions**

everywhere. Environmental Forum of Marin has many events coming up during the next few months including a great event on November 19, "The Great Divide," and our Holiday Party on December 2. As these are popular events, please sign up early!

Recently, EFM was blessed by an extraordinary gift from the Noyes Foundation through the generosity of Deborah Coburn. This gift will allow us to do a deeper dive into understanding and adapting to our audience for the Master Class and other programs. We are grateful to Deborah beyond words.

We are saddened by the passing of Jim Lloyd on September 11; Jim was the husband of EFM Lifetime Member Pam Lloyd, and the father of EFM member and Supervisor Katie Rice. A link to Jim's [obituary](#).

Wishing you joy-filled holidays,

Susan Rusche, President

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## Please Take the Survey

You may have noticed a survey from us in your inbox. As you know, we have received a generous grant to better market the Master Class. We feel we are at an important juncture and are considering changing the Master Class format or expanding our offerings — such as, workshop intensives on specific topics related to climate change. Sharing your EFM experience is critical to helping us re-shape, while staying relevant and inspiring. Please take some time to complete the survey online or feel free to contact me directly. We are grateful for



Last year, Environmental Forum of Marin (EFM) Master Class 44 graduate, Pat Carlone, approached Tamra Peters, Founder and Executive Director of Resilient Neighborhoods. Launched in 2010, Resilient Neighborhoods (RN) brings together groups of residents and empowers them to reduce their household carbon emissions through waste reduction, water and energy conservation, smart transportation, better spending habits, and planet-friendly diets. A staggering 65% of Marin's GHG emissions come from residents. By offering a series of free, climate-action workshops, RN provides a way for people to personally connect with the existential threat of climate change, make better lifestyle choices, and form lasting community connections. RN has helped nearly 1,000 Marin residents reduce 5 million pounds of carbon emissions and be more prepared for emergencies.

RN conducts a total of five, 2-hour meetings for each community group, held over a 10-week period. The first assignment is to calculate your household carbon footprint. Participants can choose from over 100 "actions" to integrate into their lives. Every other week, teams report on their progress: the idea is to reach carbon neutral.

contact me directly. We are grateful for your ideas as we approach the new year.

by *Nancy Benjamin* [nancy@marinefm.org](mailto:nancy@marinefm.org)

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Upcoming EFM Events

Huffman, Hochschild & Hertsgaard | "The Great Divide" — Can We Work Together for a Healthy Environment?

Monday Nov. 19, 7:00-8:30 pm
(Doors open at 6:15 pm)
Corte Madera Community Center

[Register here](#)

EFM presents Congressman Jared Huffman and award-winning Bay Area authors, Arlie Hochschild, and Mark Hertsgaard, for a lively evening of discussion about how and why our values and beliefs on environmental issues vary across the political divide.

We all want to breathe clean air and drink clean water, but our priorities can be misaligned and our thinking on environmental standards incompatible. Finding common ground requires understanding other perspectives. Can we do this and bridge the political divide for effective environmental problem-solving?



Raise a glass with us!

Sunday Dec. 2, 4:00-6:00 pm

Marin Interfaith Climate Action (MICA), is a group Pat Carlone began organizing in December 2016, as a response to Congressman Jared Huffman’s request to increase local climate leadership. For his Master Class (MC 44) capstone project, Pat developed “The Interfaith Earth Day Challenge,” whereby MICA set a carbon footprint reduction goal to achieve by Earth Day last April.

Pat states “as a faith-based, or religion-based, or spiritual-based, or even a secular humanist-based organization, MICA has as its ‘raison d’etre,’ to ‘bear witness,’ that is, to do personally what is being stated in its manifesto: to fight climate change, to reduce global warming, to reduce and ultimately eliminate dependence on fossil fuels, to improve the resilience of our planet — our land, our air, our water — for all living creatures. I am called upon to make necessary changes in my own habits of how I live my daily life.”

The MICA team of eight interfaith households set a goal to reduce their CO2 emissions by 100,000 lbs — a goal that they not only met, but surpassed! Pat’s team announced their results at the Mill Valley CAN Earth Day event at Tam High School. Together, the MICA team achieved a final reduction of 123,096 lbs of CO2 — the equivalent of taking 12 cars off of the road for one year.

RN program results are shared with city partners to help meet Marin’s Climate Action Plan goals. RN maintains a connection with all of its graduates and checks in with teams for up to three years. The program has long-term extended benefits: 75% of participants take on new

[RSVP today](#)

Film Screening
Rebels with a Cause: How a Battle over Land Changed our Landscape Forever

Thursday Dec. 6, 6:30 pm
Novato City Hall

Together with the City of Novato, this film tells the story of how a vast amount of Marin County was saved from development and how a regional California effort to save public land grew into an astonishing system of National Seashores.

Film Screening
Wasted! The Story of Food Waste

Friday, Jan. 25, 2019

In cooperation with Sustainable Fairfax, this documentary exposes the criminality of food waste and demonstrates how it directly relates to climate change. The screening will be followed by a conversation with community leaders involved in food waste management. Details for registration coming soon.

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**Our Community is Environmentally Active:**  
**Marin Conservation League**

“actions.”

Many Environmental Forum of Marin members and EFM Master Class (MC) participants have taken personal action with the assistance of the Resilient Neighborhoods framework. Notably, Sita Khufu (MC 39) participated in RN’s pilot program while serving on San Anselmo’s Quality of Life Commission; Cory Bytof (MC 43) serves on RN’s steering committee and is the City of San Rafael’s Sustainability Coordinator working tirelessly to realize the vision of the City’s Climate Change Action Plan (CCAP); Karen Mendelow Nelson (MC 38) and current EFM Board Member; April Orcutt (MC 44); Dr. Ellie Cohen (MC guest speaker representing Point Blue); Sanna Thomas (MC 43) who organized the “Tiburon Carbon Sharks” team; and Colleen Daly (MC 43) who started the “Keys Carbon Bailers” team when she realized that sea level rise would soon swallow her retirement home.

Pat Carlone is now one of nine volunteer coaches working with RN. He hopes "RN will soon be exportable to other areas outside Marin so that we can exponentially raise the number of people who are making a difference."

Make this a beautiful day in YOUR neighborhood. Workshops are held in public venues throughout Marin year round. Attend your first RN info session by adding your name [here](#).

**Master Class 39 Alum News**

*Every Second Breath Project: Inspiring Ocean Action Through Story* - Cynthia Abbot (MC 39) has released her first short

**State Parks in Marin:  
Yesterday, Today and  
Tomorrow**

**Thursday, Nov. 15  
7:30 am - 9:00 am**

Business & Environment Breakfast  
Speakers include: California State

Parks, Friends of China Camp,  
California State Parks Foundation,  
Friends of Mt. Tam. Visit MCL's  
website for further details.

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One Tam

Mt. Tam Day of Thanks!

**Saturday, Nov. 17
9:00 am - 12:30 pm**

Start a new family tradition by
thanking our natural community
through conservation! The One
Tam initiative is hosting its annual
"Mt. Tam Day of Thanks," a large
volunteer work day to celebrate
and give thanks to this beloved
mountain. This year, One Tam will
be working at Bothin Marsh
Preserve, a beautiful and important
native wetland! Activities include
marsh beautification, invasive
plant removal and bridge
restoration.

Please visit One Tam's website for
further details.

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film about an environmental educator/  
musician. You can view the 4 minute film  
on her new website and blog here:  
[everysecondbreathproject.org](http://everysecondbreathproject.org)

**Master Class 45 Update**



Master Class 45 is in full swing with seven  
of the classes having been completed.  
That means that we are now more than  
half way through the program!

With the invaluable assistance of our  
original Master Class instructors — Kathy  
Cuneo, Phyllis Faber and Nona Dennis —  
MC 45 students have enjoyed field trips to  
explore agriculture and mariculture  
practices in West Marin, the world-famous  
geological formations at Rodeo Beach,  
unique plant communities at China Camp,  
Mount Tamalpais and Muir Woods, and  
restoration of the Hamilton wetlands. They  
have gained important insights regarding  
management of public lands in Marin,  
which, together with agricultural lands,  
comprise approximately 90% of the  
property in the county. They have also  
learned about substantial threats to Marin  
posed by climate change and sea level rise,  
and efforts that are underway to mitigate  
and adapt to those threats.

For the rest of the year the Master Class  
will focus on building advocacy skills that



# **2018-2019 Board Members & Staff**

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**[www.MarinEFM.org](http://www.MarinEFM.org)**

can be put to practical use in protecting Marin's environment. Classes will include environmental issue analyses, advocacy strategies and effective communication techniques. Students will have a chance to hone their skills when they prepare and deliver their own advocacy speeches in a mock setting at the San Rafael City Council chambers on December 11, 2018.

Finally, MC 45 students are beginning to formulate their class projects, which give them opportunities to engage in environmental projects of their choice in meaningful, hands-on ways. Students will submit their project proposals by November 2nd. The Board of the Environmental Forum of Marin will review the proposals, make suggestions (and, where appropriate, provide mentors) to help students implement their projects, and provide ongoing guidance. The Forum's Project Presentation and Graduation Day has been scheduled for April 6, 2019.

We are very excited about MC 45 and the tremendous progress being made by our students. Indeed, we are already looking forward to welcoming MC 46 next year, so please tell us if you, or anyone you know, would like to reserve a spot on our waiting list to participate in this unique experience. To do so, please contact our Executive Director, Kim Rago, at [kim@marinefm.org](mailto:kim@marinefm.org).

by *Norma Fragoso, Master Class Director*  
and *Tom Arthur, Assistant Master Class Director*

**#Education4Action**

