



## **Editorial, *LEAD Action News* volume 19 number 4, April 2019 – Call for Volcano Art Prize 2019 Entries**

*By Elizabeth O'Brien, instigator of ILPPWA, co-Founder of The LEAD Group Inc.*

Mindful of International Lead Poisoning Prevention Week of Action (ILPPWA) 2019 coming up in the last full Sunday to Saturday week of October – we begin this issue with a Call for Volcano Art Prize (VAP) 2019 Entries, The LEAD Group's annual art competition now in its 8<sup>th</sup> year, because it is The LEAD Group's tradition since the inception of ILPPWA in 2013, to announce the VAP winners each year during ILPPWA. VAP is a valuable vehicle for getting your Lead-Safety Message out there, not just on [www.volcanoartprize.com](http://www.volcanoartprize.com) but also through other LEAD Group publications like *LEAD Action News*. Thanks to our volunteer translator Orlando Aguirre-Lopez, we have made the call for VAP entries (and other articles in this issue) also in Spanish and French.

Meanwhile, ILPPWA or the "Lead Week of Action" 2018 was so successful, and so many organisations sent us their reports for publication in *LEAD Action News*, (see Part 1: <http://www.lead safeworld.com/lanv19n2-the-6th-annual-lead-week-of-action-is-a-big-success/> and Part 2: <http://www.lead safeworld.com/lanv19n3-the-6th-annual-lead-week-of-action-is-a-big-success/> ) that we have extended our reporting on last year's Events to one more article in this third issue of *LEAD Action News* (vol. 19 no. 4) covering the events, which could be subtitled: **The 6th annual Lead Week of Action 2018 is a big success! [Part 3]**

The final report from ILPPWA 2018 is from Egypt's Kenana and Sherouk Associations, on their excellent activities focussed on banning lead paint in Egypt, and the article is available as a summary in English, Spanish and French, followed by the full report (with photos) in Arabic.

The LEAD Group recommends that any governments, academics, NGOs or paint manufacturers or federation of paint manufacturers interested in reaching the WHO/UN goal of limiting lead in paint to 90 parts per million (90 ppm) should join the Global Lead Paint Alliance / Global Alliance to Eliminate Lead Paint (GAELP). To this end, we next publish The LEAD Group's application to formally join the Alliance, extracts of the acceptance letter (both translated into Spanish and French), followed by a list of Partners (up to mid December 2018) of the Global Lead Paint Alliance.

The LEAD Group runs the Lead Safe World Project and one of the GAELP partners – the Australian Paint Manufacturer's Federation (APMF) is a Lead Safe World Partner



with us so naturally we have contacted APMF to start a conversation about Australia meeting the 90ppm lead limit for new paints. Similarly, our colleagues in the United Kingdom, from Lead Safe World UK (LSW UK), have contacted another GAELP partner, the British Coatings Federation (BCF). This LSW UK/BCF activity, and three others undertaken by Lead Safe World UK make up the next four articles in this issue of *LEAD Action News*. Together these four articles are a tribute to the hard work of Lead Safe World UK, a project of The LEAD Group UK Branch. We will report more successes as they progress.

Next we have reprinted a letter to the editor of Environmental Health journal regarding lowering the US Centers for Disease Control's blood lead reference level for children. Then comes my Info Pack of Blood-taking hints for blood lead monitoring to help parents help children have blood taken without drama.

Always seeking solutions to serious health problems like lead poisoning, I have updated my Info Pack on Nutrition to fight lead poisoning (previously web-published in 2014 at <http://www.lead safeworld.com/nutrition-to-fight-lead-poisoning/> ) and both Info Packs have been translated into Spanish and French.

This leads neatly into the first in what I hope will be a series of articles arising from The LEAD Group's Blood Lead Challenge (read about it in English, Arabic, Greek, French and Spanish at <http://www.lead safeworld.com/solutions/blood-lead-challenge-english-and-other-languages/> ) whereby we encourage people to have a blood lead test and ask enquirers who report their blood lead levels to us to write their case history of what they did to bring down their blood lead level. I am very grateful to Richard Turnbull for supplying his case history about: **Lead detox with saunas, lemon, garlic, greens, etc after eradicating potential current lead exposure.**

Anyone else who'd like to contribute an article on this topic – especially with photos and the blood lead levels (which The LEAD Group will graph for you) – is most welcome!

It was with great sadness that I discovered recently that Wayne Askew passed away earlier this year. Wayne was a previous case history contributor, Volcano Art Prize 2017 Judge, and co-editor of *LEAD Action News vol 18 no 2 (LANv18n2) - Truth About Lead* (<http://www.lead safeworld.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/10/LANv18n2-Truth-about-lead.pdf> ). The world is decidedly more lead safe for having had Wayne in it. His Obituary is followed by two Obituaries for Professor Lloyd Smythe – a co-author of the study which brought about the introduction of unleaded petrol into Australia in 1985.



To give a more complete history of The LEAD Group's follow-up campaign to eliminate leaded petrol in Australia (by 1<sup>st</sup> January 2002), I decided to web-publish a *Local Heroes* book launch talk I gave back in August 2002. You can read my whole chapter (the 1<sup>st</sup> chapter of the book) at <http://www.lead.org.au/lanv14n2/lanv14n2-11.html>

Leaded petrol has been a major contributor to soil contamination so I've chosen two extracts about how fungi protect forest trees from soil lead and how the lead found in old specimens of fungi and lichen can give a history of air lead levels and the sources of that air lead pollution (mainly leaded petrol).

We finish this issue of *LEAD Action News* with three articles about government policies or action on lead poisoning prevention: a fact sheet on protecting cattle from lead; some important questions about which government legislation actually protects children from lead in playground equipment and whether the lead sections of the Queensland Public Health Act have ever been implemented; and finally an analysis by Marianne Sullivan and Donna Green of lead education materials from three Australian lead mining or smelting towns. I look forward to further analysis of government policies on lead from these two fine researchers.

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