

36TH ANNUAL **BERKELEY SPRINGS**
INTERNATIONAL
WATER
TASTING

PRODUCED BY:

EST. **BERKELEY** 1776
SPRINGS

PRESENTED BY:

TOWN OF BATH
BERKELEY SPRINGS
WATER WORKS



“THE ACADEMY AWARDS OF WATER”

The World's Most EXCLUSIVE WATER

(And It's Free)



Ours Comes Straight From the Source

- No plastic bottle.
- No overseas shipping.
- No branding campaign.

*George Washington drank it. Thousands of travelers sought it.
Today, it's still here - exactly as nature intended.*

Town of Bath, West Virginia

Where luxury isn't bottled-it bubbles up naturally.

- Visit the historic springs
- Stay for the town
- Leave refreshed



www.townofbathwv.gov



SATURDAY SCHEDULE

1:00

INSTRUCTION FOR FINAL JUDGES
(CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC)

2:30

CAST YOUR VOTE
FOR BEST PACKAGE DESIGN!
4:30 (EVERYBODY VOTES)

FINAL TASTING:
MUNICIPAL, PURIFIED
(OPEN TO THE PUBLIC)

6:30

CAST YOUR VOTE
FOR BEST PACKAGE DESIGN!
8:00 (EVERYBODY VOTES)

FINAL TASTING:
NON-CARBONATED, SPARKLING
(OPEN TO THE PUBLIC)

8:00

RECEPTION, AWARDS CEREMONY,
ANNOUNCEMENT OF ALL WINNERS & WATER RUSH
(OPEN TO THE PUBLIC)



CAST YOUR VOTE
FOR BEST
PACKAGE DESIGN!

2:30-8:00

TAKE THE HEALING WATERS
HOME WITH YOU!
15% OFF SPAHH SOAP, MADE
LOCALLY WITH BERKELEY
SPRINGS WATER, AT MINERAL
SPRINGS TRADING CO. ALL
WEEKEND!

SCAN
ME!



COMPETITOR LIST
EVENT HISTORY
JUDGES BIOS
SPEAKER BIOS
+ MORE

TRY AN APPALACHIA COLA
AT FAIRFAX COFFEE HOUSE!
ITALIAN SODA MADE WITH
BERKELEY SPRINGS WELL
WATER + SYRUP OF YOUR
CHOICE

EVENT MADE POSSIBLE THROUGH
GRANTS PROVIDED BY:



EST. 1776
**BERKELEY
SPRINGS**

THE BERKELEY SPRINGS INTERNATIONAL WATER
TASTING HAS BEEN PROUDLY PRODUCED BY
TRAVEL BERKELEY SPRINGS SINCE 1991.

EXHIBITORS

LESAGE NATURAL, LESAGE, WV
PERIDOT NATURALLY ALKALINE SUPER-PREMIUM LOW-
DEUTERIUM ICE AGE MINERAL WATER, PUSZTAZAMOR, HUNGARY
PEAK HEALTH OF WEST VIRGINIA
TOWN OF BATH WATER WORKS
WILDERNESS MOUNTAIN WATER, BLAND, VA

SEMINAR

WATER: BENEATH THE SURFACE AND AROUND THE GLOBE
FRIDAY 1:00-5:00 OPEN TO THE PUBLIC



TIMES ARE APPROXIMATE

1:00PM

ARTHUR VON WIESENBERGER WATERMASTER
OPENING REMARKS



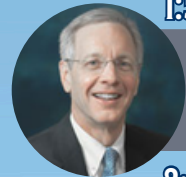
1:15PM

PAT ECKERT CERTIFIED WATER SOMMELIER,
AUTHOR, OWNER *FINE LIQUIDS/GERMANY*
THE COSMIC JOURNEY AND HUMAN ESSENCE OF WATER



1:55PM

JOE DOSS PRESIDENT & CEO
INTERNATIONAL BOTTLED WATER ASSOCIATION
UPDATE ON RECENT WATER AND HYDRATION ISSUES



2:35PM

DR. NATHANIEL "THAN" HITT SENIOR SCIENTIST
WV RIVERS COALITION
WATER SECURITY IN WV: RISKS AND OPPORTUNITIES



3:30PM (3:15 BREAK)

TRAVIS FOREMAN DIRECTOR
DIGDEEP'S APPALACHIAN WATER PROJECT



4:10PM

BOB HIDELL FOUNDER, CHAIRMAN & MANAGING
DIRECTOR HIDELL INTERNATIONAL
GROUP DISCUSSION



HOW WE SCORE THE WORLD'S BEST WATER

THE COMPETITION TAKES PLACE IN FIVE CATEGORIES:

- MUNICIPAL
- BOTTLED NON-CARBONATED
- PURIFIED DRINKING WATER
- BOTTLED SPARKLING
- PEOPLE'S CHOICE PACKAGE DESIGN

WATERS ARE AWARDED NUMERICAL RATINGS BASED ON:

- APPEARANCE
- ODOR
- FLAVOR
- MOUTHFEEL
- AFTERTASTE

THE TOP FIVE IN EACH CATEGORY ARE ANNOUNCED AT THE AWARDS CEREMONY SATURDAY EVENING.



WATER AWARDS CREATED BY APPALACHIAN GLASS

Water awards take the shape of a handcrafted blue solid glass water drop. Our logo and the winner's name and category are engraved on a metal plate on the wooden base. The water drops are created by master craftsmen at Appalachian Glass in Weston, WV. Popular glass kisses, hummingbirds and jewelry created by Appalachian Glass are available for sale at the Museum of the Berkeley Springs.

SPECIAL MENTION & THANKS TO THOSE WHO MAKE THIS HAPPEN

Producer & Public Relations - Jill Klein Rone, TBS Administrator - Laura Smith, Associate Producer - Jules Happy Rone, IT Systems Architect - Steve Steele, Technical Director - Brice Williams, Livestream & Video Producer - Mark Winiarski and our volunteers: Judy Fisher, Sha Sha Gomez, Peace Blossom Judge, Oliver Jurrick, Natalie & Vince Kidwell, Claire & Greg Schene, Emaleigh, Georgia & Karalina Smith.

Since its founding in 1991, the Berkeley Springs International Water Tasting has grown into the largest and **longest-running water tasting event in the world**, welcoming more than 720 distinct waters from 63 countries across six continents and nearly every U.S. state. Over the years, the event has earned international acclaim, **dubbed the world's most prestigious water tasting** by BuzzFeed, and has drawn coverage from major outlets including National Geographic Traveler, CNN, the New York Times, NPR, and the Tonight Show with Jay Leno, firmly establishing Berkeley Springs as a global center for water excellence. **This year we welcome first time entries from the countries of South Africa, Hungary, Vietnam, and the Chinese autonomous region of Tibet.**

2026 LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

GEORGE MCGRAW FOUNDER AND CEO OF DIGDEEP



George McGraw is a leading expert on water and sanitation access. With over a decade of experience in the WaSH (water, sanitation and hygiene) sector, he has led significant field projects, policy initiatives and research efforts. As an Ashoka Fellow, member of the Aspen Global Leadership Network, and former Social Entrepreneur in Residence at Stanford University, George brings a wealth of expertise to the fight for water justice. DigDeep's mission is to ensure that every person living in the US is granted their human right to clean running water. 2.2 million Americans still don't have running water at home, and Central Appalachia is the hardest hit. DigDeep has already brought clean running water to hundreds through their Navajo Water Project, and their Appalachia Water Project is continuing their mission of bringing clean running water to American families, one home at a time.

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD WINNERS:

- 2025: One Drop Foundation
- 2024: Marc Edwards, Distinguished Professor of Civil Engineering, VA Tech
- 2023: Robert A. Smith, Owner & CEO of Grand Springs Water
- 2022: Shayron Barnes-Selby, Chief Diversity & Inclusion Officer Primo Water Corporation
- 2021: Jeanne Mozier, Founder of Berkeley Springs International Water Tasting
- 2020: Arthur von Wiesenberger, Watermaster Founder & CEO Bottled Water Web
- 2019: Joe Doss, President & CEO, IBWA
- 2018: Jane Lazgin, former communications director, Nestlé Waters North America
- 2017: J. Scott Shipe, water advocate & Founder, J. Scott & Associates, Inc.
- 2015: Jack C. West, chairman of the Drinking Water Research Foundation
- 2014: Dian C. Taylor, visionary leader of Artesian Resources Corporation
- 2013: Henry R. Hidell III, global water expert
- 2012: James M. Stevens, Sr., legendary bottled water industry creator



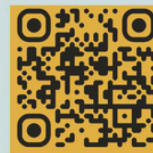
At the heart of this remarkable success is producer **Jill Klein Rone**, whose vision, leadership, and tireless advocacy have elevated the festival to international prominence. Representing Berkeley Springs across the United States and abroad, from California and Florida to Greece, Romania, and Spain, Jill has served as the event's ambassador, storyteller, and steady guiding force.

Through her work, Berkeley Springs has appeared on trucks in Bosnia, in marketing campaigns across the country, and in bottles and banners seen around the world. Under her stewardship, the Water Tasting has not only celebrated the science and art of water, but has also positioned Berkeley Springs as a place where global culture, education, and community come together.

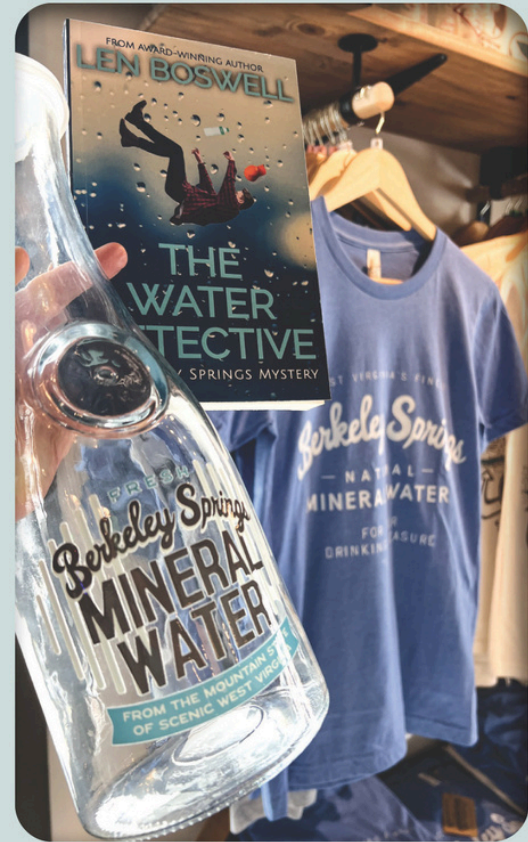


**GRAB ALL YOUR
WATER SUPPLIES.
A WARM DRINK.
+ A BITE TO EAT!**

Creekside
PROVISIONS + SUPPLIES



123 CONGRESS ST



ENTERTAINMENT



Connor Daley, guitar, Mike Kligerman, mandolin, Mikayla Elmes, cello, Sophie Bryner, violin

BlackCat Village Band, the multigenerational instrumental ensemble of BlackCat Music Cooperative, debuting at the 2023 Berkeley Springs International Water Tasting.

GENEROUSLY SPONSORED BY: **PeakHealth**

PeakAdvantage
MEDICARE PLANS

West Virginia's ONLY Provider-Backed Plans for Medicare Beneficiaries

- ✓ Created by local trusted doctors
- ✓ Premiums starting as low as \$0
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- ✓ Coverage including Dental, Vision, Hearing, Flex Card and more...
- ✓ Now in Pennsylvania – Greene & Fayette Counties

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8 a.m. — 8 p.m., Monday - Friday



Peak Advantage is a Medicare Advantage PPO plan with a Medicare contract and is offered by Peak Health Insurance Corporation. Enrollment in Peak Advantage depends on contract renewal. Peak Health complies with applicable Federal civil rights laws and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex. Peak Health does not exclude people or treat them differently because of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex. Peak Health provides free aids and services to people with disabilities to communicate effectively with us and free language services to people whose primary language is not English. If you need these services, contact Peak Advantage at 1-855-962-7325. H8947.2026.03.0011_M

BROUGHT TO YOU BY:

WVUMedicine

ValleyHealth
Healthier, together.

“YE FAM’D WARM SPRINGS”

FOR MILLENNIA, FOLKS HAVE TAKEN IN THE MINERAL WATERS JUST OUTSIDE OF THE COUNTRY INN FOR THEIR HEALING PROPERTIES. IN 1748, GEORGE WASHINGTON FIRST DOCUMENTED WHAT HE CALLED “YE FAM’D WARM SPRINGS” SHOWCASING THEIR SIGNIFICANCE NEARLY 300 YEARS AGO. MANY BELIEVE THAT WHEN NATIVE AMERICANS LED SPANIARDS NORTH FROM FLORIDA IN SEARCH OF THE FOUNTAIN OF YOUTH, THESE SPRINGS WERE THEIR ULTIMATE DESTINATION.



**Water connects us all,
& we can protect it together.**

GET INVOLVED AT WVRIVERS.ORG.

A VERY SPECIAL THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING:

- The Country Inn of Berkeley Springs and their dedicated staff
- Stephanie Rebant & Berkeley Springs Cottage Rentals
- Berkeley Springs - Morgan County Chamber of Commerce
- Laura's Boys
- SureStay Plus Berkeley Springs Inn
- Mike Kligerman & The Black Cat Village Band
- Jane Frenke ~ Fiesta Fibers
- And all the other fine supporters of this event too numerous to mention

MEET THE JUDGES



Leah and Seth Myers *Washington DC*
Travel bloggers and content creators behind the brand @happilyeverexploring. Serving their first year as judges.



Mark Kraham *Frederick, Maryland*
Director of Communications for the Asian American Center of Frederick, Maryland. Serving as a judge for the majority of the 36 years.



Danielle Hedges *Hedgesville, West Virginia*
Programming Director and morning show host of Hometown Mornings with Danielle on Cool92.9 WXDC. Serving as a judge for her second year.



Pat Eckert *Heidelberg, Germany*
Water Sommelier & Author Founder of Fine Liquids/Gemany. He is serving as a judge for his first year.



Terry Gilberg *Washington DC*
Host, Producer: Television/Radio The Terry Gilberg Show. Serving as a judge for her first year.



Mary Bemis *Rogue River, Oregon*
Founder & Editorial Director of insidersguidetospas.com "Top 30 Influential Voices Transforming Wellness." She launched American Spa in 1997, co-founded Organic Spa in 2007, and played a key role in launching Luxury SpaFinder and New Beauty magazines. She has served on the boards of ISPA, NYSPA, and WSPA, where she was a Founding Board Member and Symposium Chair. Serving as a judge for her sixth year.



Frances Kuo *Washington DC*
Correspondent/Producer for CGTN America (China Global Television Network) Serving her third year as a judge.



Mark Chutko *Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania*
Associate Publisher at TABLE Magazine. Serving his first year as a judge.



Allison Gore *DC Metro Area*
Food and travel content creator behind the brand @nova_nomz. Serving her first year as a judge.

PRELIMINARY JUDGES

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2026
2PM JUDGES TRAINING, 3PM PRELIMINARY TASTING

Greg Schene
Mayor, Town of Bath

Molly Perry
Owner, Awakening Behavioral & Health Coaching

Mandy Solo
Guest Services Manager, Camp Potomac Peak

Jordan Warren
Executive Director, Morgan Arts Council

Charles 5.0 *Water Sommelier*
President & CEO, World Water Imports

Terri Beard
Financial Solutions Advisor, CNB Bank

Jonathan Bellingham
Owner, Capon Springs & Farms

Co-Founder & Co-owner, Water & Sanitation Strategy Dynamics LLC

LeeAnn Brannon
Artist & Retired Art Educator

Scott Collinash
Executive Chef, The Country Inn

Sabrina J Funk
Realtor, Kesecker Realty, Inc.

Sha Sha Gomez
Community Volunteer

Tom Langan
Somatic Energy Therapies, LLC

Rebecca MacLeod
Board Member, Warm Springs Watershed Association

Kelly Ann Naylor



FULL LENGTH BIOS FOR ALL OUR
ACCLAIMED JUDGES ARE FOUND ON THE
BERKELEY SPRINGS INTERNATIONAL
WATER TASTING WEBSITE

BOTTLED NON-CARBONATED ENTRIES

5100 Xizang Spring Natural Glacial Mineral Water, Tibet, China
 Adobe Mountain Spring Water, Adobe Springs, CA
 Azuga Natural Alkaline Water, Prahova, Romania
 Berkeley Springs Water, "Ye Fam's Springs", Berkeley Springs, WV
 Canadian Wilderness Spring Water, Coldwater, Ontario, Canada
 Castle Rock Water, Shasta Springs, CA
 Cedar Mountain Spring Water, Tioga, PA
 Cedar Springs Natural Spring Water, Oro Mountain, Ontario, Canada
 Chang Mineral Natural Mineral Water, Bangkok, Thailand
 Clearly Canadian Water, Marchland, Manitoba, Canada
 Eldorado Natural Spring Water, Eldorado Springs, CO
 God's Moonshine Pure Artesian Mineral Water, Lead Hill, AR
 Grand Springs, Alton, VA
 Hella Good Water, East Oakland, CA
 Miocen Nature Alkaline Mineral Water, Dong Thap Province, Vietnam
 Montana Artesian Water, Kalispell, MT
 North Georgia Natural Springs, Chatsworth, GA
 One Tree Mineral Water, Romsey, Victoria, Australia
 Ontario Still Mineral Spring Water, Vaughan, Ontario, Canada
 Puritas Spring Water, Barkly East, South Africa
 San Graziano Mineral Water, Mariano Comense, Italy
 Smeraldina Natural Artesian Water, Sardinia, Italy
 Teleno, Monte Teleno, Spain
 Theoni Natural Mineral Water, Goura Spring, Greece
 Touch of Heaven Living Artesian Mineral Water, Lead Hill, AR
 Unbelievable Water, Gangwon-do, South Korea
 Virginia's Best All Natural Artesian Water, Edinburg, VA
 Wilderness Mountain Water, Bland, VA
 Zaro's Natural Mineral Water, Zaros, Crete, Greece
 PERIDOT Naturally Alkaline Super-Premium Low-Deuterium Ice Age Mineral Water, Puzstazamor, Hungary

PURIFIED ENTRIES

Aquae A.M.O.R.E. - Elemental Elixir, Costa Mesa, CA
 Babinda Springs, Babinda, QLD, Australia
 Chilly Water, Kinston, NC
 DinkMore Water, Gaithersburg, MD
 Hamilton on Tap, Hamilton, OH
 Lesage Natural, Lesage, WV
 Norland Pure Premium Enhanced Water, Lincoln, NE
 QRH2O Water, Rochelle Park, NJ

MUNICIPAL ENTRIES

Ashburton, MD
 Berkeley Springs, WV
 Bunker Hill, WV
 Santa Ana, CA
 Desert Hot Springs, CA
 Dickinson, ND
 Eldorado Springs, CO
 Emporia, KS
 Fairfield, OH
 Dort Detrick, MD
 Fort Wayne, IN
 Glenwood Forest, WV
 Hamilton, OH
 Independence, MO
 Louisville, CO
 Montebello, MD
 Potomac River, WV
 Rancho Cucamonga, CA
 Simi Valley, CA
 The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
 The Woods, WV
 Apple Orchard Acres, WV
 Valley Water & Sewer Deerwood, WV
 Walnut Grove, WV
 Cave Quarter Utilities, WV
 Deerfield Village, WV
 Harpers Ferry Campsites/Cardinal, WV

PACKAGE DESIGN ENTRIES

Adobe Mountain Spring Water, Adobe Springs, CA
 Babinda Springs Water, Babinda, QLD, Australia
 Castle Rock, Shasta Springs, CA
 Cedar Mountain, Tioga, PA Frosted
 Cedar Mountain, Tioga, PA 375ml
 Chilly Water, Kinston, NC
 Eldorado Natural Spring Water, Eldorado Springs, CO
 God's Moonshine Can #1
 God's Moonshine Can #2
 PERIDOT Naturally Alkaline Super-Premium Low-Deuterium Ice Age Mineral Water, Puzstazamor, Hungary
 Shenandoah Rain Natural Artesian Water
 Touch of Heaven Living Artesian Mineral Water, Lead Hill, AR
 Waterloo H2O, Tioga, PA
 Wilderness Mountain Water, Bland, VA



CAST YOUR VOTE FOR BEST PACKAGE DESIGN!

JOIN US FEBRUARY 25 - 28, 2027 FOR THE 37TH BERKELEY SPRINGS INTERNATIONAL WATER TASTING

PAM'S BAKERY BLISS
 BAKERY • CAFE • BREADS • PASTRIES
 LOVE AT FIRST BITE

270 South Washington Street
 ½ block south of The Country Inn-
 Same side of the street

GET 10% OFF
 Your favorite 'made from scratch' baked goods

Sourdough breads, cookies, brownies, muffins, scones
 coffee & drink mixes, gluten free & vegan treats- savory
 & sweet. Mention the water festival for a free gift.

PamsBakeryBliss.com
 (304) 974-9292
 Thursday-Sunday 8:00am-6:00pm

SPARKLING ENTRIES

Adobe Mountain Sparkling Water, Adobe Springs, CA
 Azuga Sparkling Water, Prahova, Romania
 Castle Rock Sparkling Water, Shasta Springs, CA
 Cedar Springs Sparkling Water, Tioga, PA
 Chang Mineral Natural Mineral Water, Bangkok Thailand
 Chilly Water Sparkling, Kinston, NC
 Clearly Canadian Sparkling Water, Marchand, Manitoba, Canada
 Eldorado Natural Springs Sparkling Water, Eldorado, CO
 San Graziano Mineral Water, Mariano Comense, Italy
 Smeraldina Sparkling Artesian Water, Sardinia, Italy
 Tešanjski Kiseljak Zema, Tešanj, Bosnia
 Theoni Sparkling Mineral Water, Goura Spring, Greece
 Wilderness Mountain Water Smooth Sparkling, Bland, VA
 Wilderness Mountain Water Sparkling, Bland, VA
 Zaro's Sparkling Mineral Water, Zaros, Crete Island, Greece



*A sparkling toast to
George McGraw
and his work in water access!*

~ Jane Lazgin
Formerly Perrier & Nestle Waters
Lifetime Achievement Winner 2018



IBWA Congratulates George McGraw

Founder and CEO of DigDeep



2026 Lifetime Achievement Award Recipient
Berkeley Springs International Water Tasting

The International Bottled Water Association (IBWA) applauds George McGraw for his thoughtful humanitarian efforts and celebrates the success of his unique, philanthropic non-profit, DigDeep, that drives life-changing projects across the U.S.

To learn more about George McGraw, please visit georgemcgraw.com

IBWA

For information about IBWA,
please visit bottledwater.org



project **WET**
WATER EDUCATION TODAY

Every Drop Counts:

Project WET congratulates George McGraw, founder of Dig Deep, and celebrates a shared commitment to water equity and education!



Hydrate.

Proud Partner of the
Berkeley Springs International Water Tasting
for over 35 years



BottledWaterWeb.com