



# Ecoletter

FALL 2007 ISSUE



**WE'RE ALWAYS  
"UP TO THE CHALLENGE"**

*A Publication of the Water and Waste Operators  
Association of Maryland, Delaware, and the District of Columbia, &  
the Chesapeake Water Environment Association*



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# President's Message



## CWEA President

—Karl Ott

This past year has been a year of introspection for CWEA. During Past-President Desai's tenure, we undertook a long, hard look at our federal tax status, determined to pursue our 501 (c) 3 status. We have revised—and in many cases established—needed, comprehensive business practices. We reviewed our insurance needs and we are implementing and codifying sound financial policies. While the executive board has wrangled with these changes, the standing committees, where most of the member outreach work has been concentrated, have continued to provide value to the membership through workshops, seminars and brown-bag lunches. During the coming year, we will continue in these efforts, further refining our business practices and making CWEA a world-class organization. We will also begin looking outward, beyond our peer community, to make CWEA a known and trusted name in water issues.

Walt Kelly, renowned for his Pogo comic strip, penned one of my favorite cartoon lines in which Pogo declares, ***"We have met the enemy, and he is us."*** I would suggest to you that this moniker applies to this Association and this industry. We have fallen short in a very real sense to deliver an important message to our most important constituency, the public. We continue to pat each other on the back and tell each other what a fine job we do in protecting public health and the environment. But the message does not seem to travel outside our local community. Our industry continues to be assaulted every day by the media, by politicians and by a well intentioned, but often-misinformed public.

Submitted for your consideration: A recent radio ad promoting a bank's free checking. The ad spot opens with a woman in a restaurant asking for a glass of water. The waiter replies, "That will be 25 cents." The woman becomes indignant and the voice over proclaims, *"There are some things that should just be free."*

Likewise, another radio ad by the Chesapeake Bay Foundation, a group committed to cleaning up the Chesapeake Bay, which begins with, *"I am standing knee deep in sewage here in the Bay..."*

A television commercial selling dishwashers where a woman bakes a lovely cake, then puts the cake and the



## WWOA President

—DuWayne Potter

Wow, how did this happen? One day I'm the St. Mary's County Trustee for the then newly formed Southern Section and my boss, Bill Shreve invites me to lunch at Paul's. Now I'm the President of the WWOA. Somebody must have been asleep at the wheel to let this happen.

I'm pleased to start my term after such a successful Joint Conference in Ocean City and I'm looking forward to an eventful year attending sections functions as required of me by the organization. The first function I attended was the Central Section crab feast (it's a tough job but someone has to do it) and it was a wonderful time. There were about 70 members attending and the training was excellent.

I received a great deal of feedback regarding the organization and fielded questions from the attendees. One question that has come up repeatedly is "why no more golf tournaments?" So, I'm looking for folks to step up and organize one for the coming year; any volunteers? Call me.

In fact, if there are any WWOA questions that come up or problems that arise that I can help with, let me know. If you are dealing with a board member or committee regarding an issue and not having any luck resolving it, send me an email; dpotter@metcom.org or call me 301.863.5143. I want the leadership of this organization to step up and be more responsive to the membership. In my first meeting in Ocean City I told the executive Board members that I want them to handle member issues in expeditious manner and I expect they will do so. I will do the same.

Now, I'm making a call, While we have several fine people on the Executive Board and on the Section Boards, it seems like the same people are rotating jobs and or filling multiple positions. We have a great base of members that can do so much for the organization. What would you like to see happen in the WWOA this year and in future years? This is your organization and you make it work. Who do you know that is looking for

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# Ecoletter



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S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						<b>December 12, 2007</b>
						WWOA Central Section Meeting Laurel, Maryland
						<b>January 7, 2008</b> Deadline for Call for Papers abstracts for the 2008 Tri-conference

## Change of Address

Please forward your change of address and membership number to the appropriate organization:

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## TO ALL MEMBERS:

When completing membership renewals, make sure all information is correct and current. We use WMBA (WEF Membership By Access) for membership information. If there is an e-mail address, please include it.

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## Editor's Corner

In the article by Russ Sharpe in this issue, he gave a little history of the organizations and explained how it was decided to hold next year's Tri-Conference at the Ocean City Convention Center. He also mentioned something we'd like to take up with you. Russ stated that up until the mid-60, every paper presented at the annual conference was published. At this point, forget the every, we'll take any paper that was presented. While we know many of the papers presented were done from an outline based around a group of slides, some of the presentations had full blown narratives in a form ready to be published. We encourage all people who wrote papers to submit them to us for publication in the *Ecoletter*. We further encourage any one with a good outline who wants to be published, to put some flesh to that outline and submit the result to us.

\*\*\*\*\*

Buried in the September 28, 2007 issue of *Pennsylvania Outdoor News* was some attention grabbing news. John Kanzius, an Erie, Pa. researcher, while doing cancer research made a remarkable discovery. He found a way to burn water. More preciously, he invented a way to burn salt water. Using a radio-frequency generator he developed to treat cancer, he tried to desalinate water. He discovered as long as the salt water was exposed to the radio frequencies it would burn. Rustum Roy, a leading Penn State University Chemist confirmed the discovery saying the radio frequencies act to weaken the bonds between the elements that make up salt water, releasing hydrogen. Once ignited, the hydrogen will burn as long as it is exposed to the frequencies. With hydrogen being one of the ultimate green fuels, and the vast quantities of salt water available, there has been some excitement produced. However making the process energy producing instead of the present energy consuming will be a large challenge. Still Professor Roy called the discovery the most remarkable in water science in 100 years.

\*\*\*\*\*

"Water should not be judged by its history, but by its quality." Says water reclamation pioneer, Lucas van Vuuren when speaking about a closed loop water system in Windhoek, Namibia where wastewater effluent is piped right back into the drinking water system. He could also have been speaking about NASA's plan to turn wastewater on space flights into potable water. We all know about the water cycle and how it is a great big loop. What water reuse does is tighten that loop by reducing the time between uses. And we also know that wastewater treatment plants discharge into water bodies used downstream for water supply. In almost all cases the smaller wastewater plants are upstream and the larger water plants are downstream where the population centers are located. With a strangling drought affecting large areas of the U.S., how can we not practice more and more water reuse? The technology exists to advance water reuse much further, but the biggest problem will be overcoming the public's psychological resistance to the idea.

\*\*\*\*\*

In Maryland quite a ruckus is being raised on issues related to the Bay. Political talk is being turned up on pulling in the regulatory reins on the poultry industry. There is a growing awareness that this industry is a large source of nutrients going into the Bay and that things need to change in how the industry operates. Then there is the proposed state Green Fee that would assess a one-cent fee for every square foot of impervious surface. The Flush Fee generates money to upgrade WWTP's and this Green Fee would generate money for non-point source control. Not to be outdone, the Anne Arundel County Executive has proposed a SMART (Stormwater Management and Restoration of Tributaries) Fund to replace the existing storm drainage fee. None of these proposals would be an easy sell any year, but with Maryland facing a substantial budget deficit, there will be sure tough sledding ahead for any of these fees. Keep an eye out though; there might be some surprises.

\*\*\*\*\*

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# 2008 Tri-Association Conference

—By Russ Sharpe

## History of the Joint & Tri-Association Annual Conferences

The First Conference of the Maryland Water and Sewerage Association was held at the Engineers Club in Baltimore, Maryland on April 21 & 22, 1927. 154 people attended the First Conference. The papers presented at the First Conference were published by the Maryland State Department of Health in its Engineering Bulletin. Eight sewage works associations met in Cincinnati in October 1927 and recommended that the local associations be joined into a nationwide federation. In October 1928, these eight associations, including the Maryland Water and Sewerage Association, met in Chicago, where they adopted a constitution and by-laws, creating the Federation of Sewage Works Association, with a total membership of 411. Dr. Abel Wolman, Chief Engineer of the Maryland Department of Health, was instrumental in organizing both the Maryland Water and Sewerage Association, and the Federation of Sewage Works Association. At the 1930 Conference, Delaware residents were allowed to join the local association, and the name was changed to the Maryland-Delaware Water and Sewerage Association. In 1936, changes to the Constitution were made to include persons in the District of Columbia. Papers presented at the Annual Meetings of the Maryland Association were published until 1964, when publication was abandoned, primarily for financial reasons.

Annual Conferences of the Maryland-Delaware Water and Sewerage Association were held every year from 1927 to 1968, except in 1945, due to World War II. In June 1968, the Maryland-Delaware Water and Pollution Control Association was disbanded and the Chesapeake Water Pollution Control Association was created, relating only to Waste Water. The former Association was continued under the name Water and Waste Operators Association of Maryland, Delaware and District of Columbia. Over the years, the name of the Federation has been changed 3 times and the name of the local associations has changed 6 times, resulting in the current names of the Water Environment Federation (WEF), the Chesapeake Water Environment Association (CWEA) and the Water and Waste Operators Association of Maryland, Delaware and District of Columbia (WWOA).

Beginning in 1969, the Water and Waste Operators Association, and the Chesapeake Water Pollution Control Association, have held Joint Annual Meetings. In 1993, 2000, 2003 and 2006, Tri-Association Meetings were held in conjunction with the Chesapeake Section, American Water Works Association (CSAWWA). In 1977, the Annual Conference in Ocean City was moved from the

Commander Hotel to the Sheraton-Fontainebleau Inn, now the Clarion Fontainebleau Hotel. Also in 1977, concurrent technical sessions were initiated and tabletop exhibits were started. In 1981, the first "Speak Out Forum" was incorporated into the program. In the mid 1980's, the Clarion expanded, adding the Conference Center. All Joint Conferences have been held at the Clarion since 1977, except in 1998 (Hunt Valley), 1999 (Princess Royale in Ocean City) and 2001 (Carousel in Ocean City). The 1993 Tri-Association Conference was held at Turf Valley and the 2000 Tri-Association Conference was held at Hunt Valley. The 2003 and 2006 Tri-Association Conferences were held at the Clarion in Ocean City.

The four Tri-Association Conferences have been very popular with the members of all three Associations, as well as being financially successful for the Associations. Registered attendees increased from 341 (2000 Tri-Con), to 392 (2003 Tri-Con) and to 484 (2006 Tri-Con). Registration numbers from the 1993 Tri-Association Conference are not available. In 2006, 89 technical presentations were presented in 4 concurrent technical sessions. There were 72 exhibitors at the 2006 Tri-Association Conference, but exhibitor booths sold out several months in advance and there was a substantial waiting list for exhibit booths. In addition to lack of sufficient exhibit space, some technical sessions and several events were very crowded. The three Associations agreed to hold another Tri-Association Conference in 2008, but decided to look for a larger Conference site.

## 2008 Tri-Association Conference

The 2008 Tri-Association Conference Planning and Site Selection Committee first met November 1, 2006, consisting of 3 voting members from each Association. Angela Borders, Jane McDonough and Aaron Duke represented CSAWWA; Robert Stenger, DuWayne Potter and Michael Emery represented WWOA; and Aaron Nelson, Alan Will and Russ Sharpe represented CWEA. Kim Dighe, Priscilla Brown and Eric Held also participated on the Committee.

After researching potential conference sites in Maryland and Delaware on the Internet, a Request for Proposal was sent to 15 Hotels and the Ocean City Convention Center. Due to very high hotel rates, sites in the District of Columbia were not considered. Only 4 proposals were received. Site visits of Dover Downs, the Dover Sheraton and the Ocean City Convention Center were done and additional information obtained. Since the 2003 and 2006 Tri-Association Conferences were held at the OC Clarion, a site visit was not necessary, but a meeting was held with the OC Clarion Sales Manager to solicit ideas for increasing the number of exhibits. Although the number of

*Continued on page 8*

## 2008 Tri-Con

*Continued from page 7*

exhibits at the Clarion could be increased, exhibits would be on 2 different floors and other Conference events would be negatively impacted. Dover Downs was eliminated from consideration due to insufficient rooms for Technical Sessions. The Dover Sheraton and OC Clarion could accommodate the 2008 Tri-Association Conference, but there were some space concerns.

The second floor of the OC Convention Center can handle 128+ Exhibits and up to 6 concurrent Technical Sessions, with several additional rooms for other functions. A room rental charge of \$10K to \$11.5K will be paid to the Convention Center, for a Conference similar to the 2006 Tri-Association Conference. If additional rooms are rented on the first and second floor for additional events, the room rental charge may increase up to \$15K. A budget analysis showed that holding the 2008 Tri-Association Conference at the OC Convention Center could still be financially successful for all three Associations.

The Exhibit Hall at the Ocean City Convention Center is 3 times the size of the Exhibit Hall at the Clarion. Not only will the Convention Center Exhibit Hall handle many more exhibits, each Exhibitor will have a 100 ft<sup>2</sup> (10' x 10') exhibit booth, over twice the size of exhibit booths at the Clarion. The 6 Technical Session rooms at the Convention Center are adjacent to the Exhibit Hall, and are larger than the Technical Session rooms at the Clarion.

The site selection Committee attempted to find a suitable date for the 2008 Tri-Association Conference before schools in the area opened. School Opening Dates were determined and Ocean City Hotel rates were examined for different dates in June, July and August. Hotel rates of \$259/night and up were found through the 2nd week of August. Some Hotel rates start dropping the 3rd week of August, but the 4th week in August had significantly lower Hotel rates. Despite a desire to hold the 2008 Tri-Association Conference before schools were in session, feedback from all three Association Boards indicated that lower Hotel rates should take precedence. Although Hotel rates drop even further in September, the OC Convention Center was already booked for September 2008.

The 2008 Tri-Association Conference Committee met on May 10, 2007 and the Committee selected the OC Convention Center as the site of the 2008 Tri-Association Conference, to be held **August 26 to 29, 2008**. We are in the process of negotiating and signing a contract with the OC Convention Center for the 2008 Tri-Association Conference. The profit split between the three Associations will remain the same as the 2006 Tri-Association Conference. The Memorandum of Understanding for Tri-Association Conferences signed May 7, 2004 is still valid and does not need to be modified or changed. After the 2008 Tri-Association Conference, the next Tri-Association Conference will be in 2010. Future Tri-Association Conferences will be held every other year in even years, with the goal of eventually holding Annual Tri-Association

Conferences. The Tri-Association Conference Planning Committee will become a standing committee for site/date selection, planning and execution of Tri-Association Conferences.

The 2008 Tri-Association Conference Planning Committee held the first planning meeting on September 27, 2007. 2008 Tri-Association Conference Co-Chairs are Aaron Duke (CSAWWA), Aaron Nelson (CWEA) and Duane McCoy (WWOA). All activities, comments, suggestions and questions should be directed to the appropriate Tri-Association Conference Co-Chair. The 2008 Tri-Association Conference Planning Committee will have four voting members from each Association. Eight non-voting members will also participate on the 2008 Tri-Association Conference Planning Committee, and numerous other volunteers will be needed for sub-committees of the 2008 Tri-Association Conference Planning Committee. The Call for Papers is available on the WEB site at [WWW.WWOA-CWEA.ORG](http://WWW.WWOA-CWEA.ORG) and the **deadline for submission of abstracts is January 7, 2008**. **Exhibitor packages will be sent out in early 2008. Sponsorship opportunities for the 2008 Tri-Association Conference will be available starting in early Spring 2008.**

Anyone registered for the 2008 Tri-Association Conference, including registered attendees, Exhibitors, family and guests will be able to ride the Ocean City Public Bus free of charge, just by showing their Conference Badge. The Ocean City Convention Center also has 1,200 free parking spaces. The 2008 Tri-Association Conference Planning Committee will attempt to negotiate blocks of hotel rooms with several hotels, including reduced rates. **Hotel Room blocks may close earlier than normal before the Conference, so be sure to remember to book your hotel room early, as soon as Conference hotel rates are published.**

The 2008 Tri-Association Conference will be the 81st Annual Meeting of what started as the Maryland Water and Sewerage Association in 1927. The Associations and the Annual Meetings have changed considerably over the past 80 years. The move to the Ocean City Convention Center in 2008 will be a significant change to the Annual Meeting. (The 2009 Joint Conference is still planned for the Clarion.) Since there are no hotel rooms at the OC Convention Center, everyone will have to commute from their hotel to the Convention Center to attend the 2008 Tri-Association Conference. The 2008 Tri-Association Conference Planning Committee will be attempting to plan a very interesting and entertaining Conference to encourage everyone to attend and remain at the Convention Center during the Conference. The 2008 Tri-Association Conference Planning Committee plans to actively market the 2008 Tri-Association Conference. With larger exhibit booths and room for more exhibitors, larger technical session rooms, and additional rooms available for other activities, moving the Tri-Association Conference to the OC Convention Center allows many opportunities for the Tri-Association Conferences to grow, not just in 2008, but also into the future.



## Does “Daily” Mean Every Day?

—By Peter J.H. Thomson, Ecoletter Staff

In 2002, Friends of the Earth filed suit claiming that the dissolved oxygen and turbidity TMDL promulgated by EPA for the Anacostia River, which establish annual and seasonal loads, violated the language and intent of the Clean Water Act. In 2006, a three-judge panel with the Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia found in favor of Friends of the Earth (*Friends of the Earth v. EPA*, 446 F.3d 140 (D.C. Cir. 2006)). In the opinion, Judge David S. Tatel found that the statute unambiguously spoke for itself: daily means every day.

“Nothing in this language even hints at the possibility that EPA can approve total maximum “seasonal” or “annual” loads. The law says “daily.” We see nothing ambiguous about this command. . . Doctors making daily rounds would be of little use to their patients if they appeared seasonally or annually.” And no one thinks of “give us this day our daily bread” as a prayer for sustenance on a seasonal or annual basis.” Matthew 6:11 (King James).”

DCWASA appealed the ruling to the US Supreme Court, which elected in January 2007, not to accept the case, leaving the ruling in tact. This leaves the legal situation somewhat uncertain given that there is a 2001 decision by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit (New York). In that case (*NRDC v. Muszynski*, 268 F.3d 91 (2d Cir. 2001)), NRDC challenged TMDLs with annual loads for reservoirs established by New York and approved by EPA. The Second Circuit found in favor of EPA that “the term “total maximum daily load” is not limited to loads calculated on a daily basis.”

EPA has issued a memorandum that (<http://www.epa.gov/OWOW/tmdl/dailyloadsguidance.html>), attempts to clarify the situation indicating that

“. . . all TMDLs and associated load allocations and wasteload allocations be expressed in terms of daily time increments. In addition, TMDL submissions may include alternative, non-daily pollutant load expressions in order to facilitate implementation of the applicable water quality standards. Because water quality standards are expressed in a variety of ways and because pollutants and water bodies have different characteristics, EPA believes that there is some flexibility in how the daily time increments maybe expressed.”

Additionally, EPA takes position that the Friends of the Earth decision does not “require any changes to EPA’s existing policy and guidance describing how a TMDL’s wasteload allocations are implemented in NPDES permits.”

So, where does that leave utilities in the Mid-Atlantic who are currently spending millions of dollars upgrading their treatment plants to meet annual loading limits for nutrients? The answer is somewhat uncertain. Neither court decision applies in Maryland, Virginia, Pennsylvania, or Delaware. What’s more, the nutrient removal upgrades are being performed under NPDES permits, which are not directly effected by this case and no one has challenged the annual loading in the permits.

It is possible that one of the environmental groups will challenge the annual loadings in the NPDES permits or that, if TMDL is implemented for Chesapeake Bay, it will contain daily limitations. If either of these things happen, the designs currently being implemented throughout the region may need further upgrade to achieve daily compliance with Limit of Technology permit limits.

What remains is for Congress to act, clarifying the Clean Water Act to provide EPA with the ability to set loadings in accordance with scientific analysis of the environmental need. As of early October, there does not seem to be any activity in Congress to do this.

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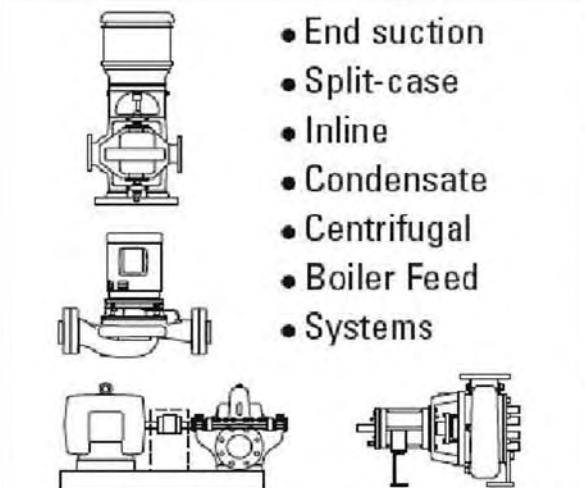
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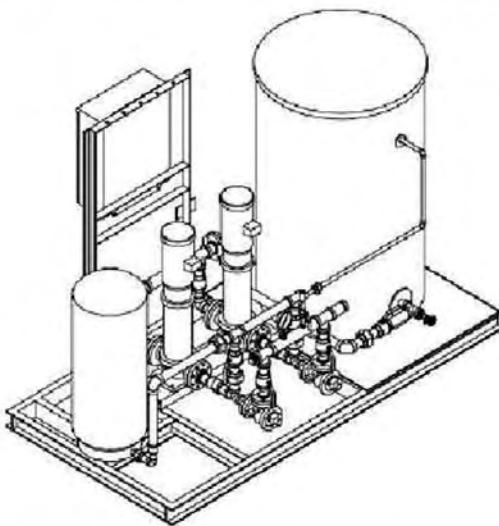
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# Opening Session

—By Floyd B. Johnson, Ecoletter Co-Editor

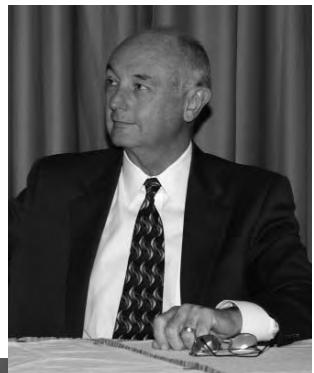
**P**residents' Bharat Desai and Bob Stenger hosted the official kickoff of the 36th annual Joint Conference. All attendees were told that they would be receiving a USB traveldrive date storage device as a gift. A most useful gift for anyone who uses a computer for much of anything. Next year's Tri-Conference will be held at the Ocean City Convention Center because more space will be needed. Part of the reason is all the exhibitors. This year 79 exhibitors, ten of which could not fit into the main exhibit hall, set up booths.

Unlike in recent years when a representative of the Ocean City Mayor's office welcomed us to their fair city, this year we had the real deal. Mayor Richard Meehan rolled out the welcome wagon and told us how good it was to have our group. We are part of the eight million annual visitors and one of several organizations that hold conferences in Ocean City. Upholding a long tradition, he presented Presidents Desai and Stenger keys to the city.

Bill Bertera, Executive Director of WEF since 2001, gave the keynote address. Mr.Bertera got down to the basics by proclaiming that water is life and that we water professionals provide not only for the public health, but civilization itself. As much as water is life,

lack of clean, safe water is death. Even here in the 21st century, 6,000 people a day die from waterborne diseases. Obviously much work remains for us.

Advocating the importance of water and the important issues that face us is another area where much work remains according to Mr.Bertera. Air, or more specifically clean air, is a basic human right and need, as such it is free. None of us receives an air bill—at least not directly. While many of us have to pay a water bill, it is a bargain considering what you get for your money. Most Americans pay more for cable TV than water. Unfortunately we are in an infrastructure crisis and billions of dollars will be needed just to maintain what we have in terms of quality and quantity. Water professionals, public and private sector alike, need to speak up to convince the public that the price of water will have to increase to meet needs. Not only that but us water professionals need to look globally and show leadership to bring worldwide improvement to public health. It simply is the right and responsible thing to do.



Left: Mayor Meehan,  
Bill Bertera,  
Mohamed Dahab  
and Bob Stenger.

## WWOA Luncheon and Business Meeting

—By Floyd B. Johnson, Ecoletter Co-Editor

**A**s is always the case, a business meeting was held during the Annual Joint or Tri-Conference. While business takes place and committee members provide information updates, a main purpose of this meeting is to introduce the new officers. Major new officers for the coming year are; DuWayne Potter, President, Lewis

Schmidt, President Elect, Russ Sharpe, Maryland Trustee, and Sharita Lyle, D.C. Trustee. Also Anthony Rocco will be the new webmaster.

Current membership stands at 643 (an over 10% drop from last year), with 118 new members in 2007. Many of these new members came from a common source, the Short Course that had a lower number of attendees this

*Continued on page 12*

## WWOA Luncheon and Business Meeting

*Continued from page 11*

year. These often first time members unfortunately do not renew their membership—especially if they do not return to the Short Course the following year. A challenge will be to restore and retain membership. Of the four sections, the Central is the largest with approximately 51% of the total members. The Eastern Section is next largest at 22%, the Western Section is next at 17% and the Southern Section has 10% of the total.



The Treasurer's report showed the organization in good financial condition. One problem, and a very pleasant one at that, is how to spend the \$66,000 in the Kappe Education Fund. If you have any ideas on how to put this money to a worthy cause contact the officers and board members.

In his remarks, in-coming President DuWayne Potter thanked Bob Stenger for his just completed tenure as president and CH2MHill for sponsoring the luncheon. Mr.Potter vowed to attend a meeting in each section while President. He also expressed interest in reviving the popular golf outing, an event that has not been held in a couple of years.

*Bob Stenger shows off a gift from WWOA for his service as President.*



WWOA veteran officers, Bill Shreve, Mike Rumke and Lewis Schmidt.

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## Pre-Conference Session

# Topic: “Water/Wastewater Rates”

—By Chip Wood, Ecoletter Staff

**S**ituations for the six panelists to address included: Water and wastewater utilities are faced with tremendous pressures to increase rates to maintain the high level of service expected by their customers and to meet the ever increasing environmental and public health regulations. The infrastructure is aging, placing significant demands on utilities to invest in rehab and replacement. Environmental groups are pushing to eliminate wastewater overflows and increase levels of water treatment. Regulators are imposing consent decrees with significant penalties, resulting in expensive programs to reduce SSO's. Regulators are imposing tighter discharge permit limitations and drinking water regulations, requiring expensive investments in new processes with higher chemical and energy costs. Rising labor, energy, and chemical costs, along with inflationary pressures, are adding to the challenge. Customers and politicians are expecting the utilities to meet all these changes, while maintaining their low rates—is it all possible?

*Comment: Each of the distinguished panelists provided a different and appealing perspective on the critical rate situation.*

Ken Kirk, Executive Director of the National Association of Clean Water Agencies (NACWA) suggests that the key is for more federal funding. The EPA construction grants program (CGP) for wastewater improvement that started in 1972 was highly successful. As a direct result of the CGP, the U.S. now boasts the most advanced system of area-wide wastewater treatment facilities in the world. However, in the decade of the 1980s, the federal money source dried up. EPA and GAO estimates the additional funding needed is about 1/2 trillion dollars. Feds are now saying that funding is a local problem. Utilities need more efficient management. Promote more water conservation and efficient water use. Public utilities can operate more economically than privately owned utilities, because public utilities do not pay taxes and to not have to produce a profit. In contrast to fed's attitude, Ken's wish is for the feds to create a “Clean Water Trust Fund” that would be modeled similar to the Highway Trust Fund. Funds are raised thru federal taxes on activities that contribute to the problem or benefit from the solution, e.g., fees on flushable products, fees on corporate dischargers, and fees on bottled beverages.

Myron Olstein, Rates Consultant, discussed the details of raising rates. Rates need to be set to recover operating costs (O&M) and capital costs. Whereas historically, O&M and capital costs were approximately equal, current trends indicate capital costs are growing

much faster than O&M costs. And O&M costs are increasing faster than inflation. Even though capital outlays are increasing, because of rising costs, less infrastructure is actually produced. In comparison to other utility sectors, such as telephone, electric, and gas, water and wastewater utilities are the most capital intensive sectors. For example, statistics indicate that a typical wastewater utility needs to spend about \$7.85 for capital construction for every \$1.00 in revenue produced. However, the so called “Capital Intensity Ratios” for telephone, electric, and gas are typically less than \$1.60—meaning that wastewater is five or more times as capital intensive as the other three utilities. To manage rates in a capital intense world, Myron advises:

- Manage your asset to revenue ratio (Capital Intensity Ratio)
- Revamp your cost-benefit factors to reflect higher construction costs
- Implement capital program best practices
- Implement an asset management plan that is focused on reducing capital costs
- Decouple rates, i.e., rising capital costs and declining per capita consumption is a bad combination
- Monitor your market, issuing RFPs when market is competitive

Tom Traber, Chief Financial Officer for WSSC, discussed energy conservation by means such as purchasing blocks of power on the market, investing in wind power hedges for tax credit, using generators for demand-peak shaving, and equipment upgrade. A computer system for operation of the water distribution sys-



tem provides guidance on operating pumps at times of best electricity rates. Revenue enhancements such as allowing cell phone antennas on water tanks produces about \$2 million per year. He also mentioned that WSSC maintains a 10-year fiscal master plan.

Ed Jones, works with wastewater planning and monitoring, for Fairfax County, Virginia. Because Fairfax County is considered an affluent county, very little grant money of any kind is available. Ed named a number of emerging issues that impact the wastewater rates, including:

- Growth management, i.e., let growth pay for growth
- Enhanced Nutrient Removal projects
- Infrastructure and asset management, i.e., assess conditions, repair & rehab, construction improvements

Rate development strategies include:

- review rates annually for cash needs and debt coverage
- project rates ahead for five years—Allocate costs of service among new customers, existing customers, residential and non-residential customers

Gary Wyatt, Chief of Utility Engineering for the City of Baltimore, emphasized the wastewater situation. Baltimore City treats an average of 240 MGD. In the sewer collection system, about 71 per cent of the piping over 12 inches in diameter is over 50 years old. Because of a consent decree issued by MDE in 2002, the wastewater collection system was “blessed” with a funding increase of about 1 billion \$. Of 66 SSOs, the City has corrected 44, leaving about 22 left to do yet. Other collection system programs include capital improvements, sewer shed planning, TV inspection and root and grease control. Major aspects that drive rates, include:

- Consent Decree (900 million \$)
- ENR improvements at 2 plants (450 million \$)

- Improvements at 2 drinking water plants (125 million \$)
- Water Distribution improvements (125 million \$)
- Design & construct new Fullerton water treatment plant (under estimation)

City utilities requested a 9 per cent rate increase over the next three years, but only 1 year has been approved. This has the effect of increasing the costs by \$65 per year for the average family. City is looking for funding from Homeland Security Grants, state ENR help, and contributions from surrounding counties who use City water and contribute wastewater to the City.

Karyn Keese is the Manager of Client Financial Service for PBS&J and works out of California. Karyn has experience with over 500 financial management plans. Echoing Gary Wyatt, Karyn advises that consent decrees are good for producing funding. Karyn emphasized what she calls “Integrated Facilities Planning (IFP).” In comparison to the traditional engineering methodology of doing a water system inventory and developing a paper report in the form of a master plan that recommends rate increases, the IFP produces a living document in the form of a computer program. The IFP incorporates such technology as GPS and provides interactive scenarios for the politicians or engineers to plug in various situations and have the program show the resulting effects on water rates. According to Karyn, many traditional static engineering rate studies are frequently relegated to the shelf space and are not acted on. What Karyn has discovered is a better form of communication that enhances the desired political action. Another benefit of the IFP is providing recommended sequencing for multiple capital projects to produce best operational and financial benefits. Additionally, in her experience, Karyn has found that many utilities do not have the financial capability to develop competent water rate action. In such cases, the utility needs to develop financial records, analyses, and audits to prepare an accurate basis needed for the ensuing rate setting analyses.



# This Year's Conference

—By Pearl Laufer, Ecoletter Staff

**T**his year's joint conference at the Clarion in Ocean City was a resounding success. The 2007 joint conference set records for number of exhibitors (79), number of technical presentations (55) and was financially the most successful joint conference ever held. With a waiting list for exhibitors, the exhibit hall was filled with interesting, timely and useful displays and, every time I visited, there were lots of conversations going on between interested attendees and vendors. Networking was the order of the day and, as always, the conference was an opportunity for lots of learning and exchanging of information—both within the sessions as well as in more informal settings.

Both associations hold their annual meetings at the conference. CWEA's business meeting was fairly well attended, especially in light of the fact that it started at 7:30 a.m. Our featured speaker was Mohammed Dahab, WEF President. The thrust of his remarks focused on WEF's efforts to unite the water industry under one banner. The "One Voice for Water" initiative recognizes that for maximum effectiveness, both with elected officials and the public, we need to speak in unison. Too many voices blur and confuse the message and nothing gets heard. Dahab acknowledged that, in a global setting, WEF continues to work with the International Water Association (IWA) and with AIDAS, our Latin American counterparts, to get out our important message on the criticality of water in all our lives.

Following Dahab's remarks, new CWEA officers were elected and Bharat Desai, outgoing president, passed the gavel to Karl Ott, CWEA's president for 2007-2008. With a talented group of officers and a board of energetic committee chairs, Karl was launched on a very promising term of office.

## Biosolids Beauty Contest

Continuing a tradition, Paresh Sanghavi, chair of the Biosolids and Residuals Management Committee, once again solicited entries for the Biosolids Beauty Contest. The contest was held right after the Committee Fest and the judges—Bill Bertera, WEF's Executive Director, Mohammad Dahab, WEF President, and yours truly—got to sniff and touch (Paresh provided rubber gloves) all the entries that were identified by number only. There were seven "contestants" and the judges fairly quickly arrived



at a consensus winner. The winner's identity was a carefully guarded secret until the Awards Ceremony when it was disclosed that Carroll County was the winner.

For this year's contest there was an additional treat—a sludge cake from Seneca—and that is one sample that the judges also tasted. Yum!

## 5S

This year, two deserving individuals were added to the illustrious list of 5S members—Bob Wimmer and Larry Hentz were inducted into the Select Society of Sanitary Sludge Shovelers with the usual merriment and silliness that is this ceremony's due. Led by Larry Jaworski, Bob and Larry got to "sing" a sludge song and swear a 5S oath, whereupon they were anointed with plastic shovels that they were to wear for the duration of the conference. Both men dutifully wore their shovels to all functions and were then graduated to a gold shovel pin, which they, and all 5S members, are required to wear at all official CWEA func-



*Left and Below:*  
Mr. Jaworski conducting  
the column 5S ceremony  
with this year's proud  
inductees.



tions. Caught without their shovels, 5S members are expected to donate \$5 to Water for People.

## Casino Night

Always lots of fun, with plenty of food and drink and a room filled with players excited as they racked up thousands of dollars in blackjack, roulette or craps, this year was no exception. My husband and I found ourselves at a blackjack table with a dealer who was also a comedian—so we had entertainment and lots of laughs. A little friendly “cheating” is all part of the fun as the dealer helps the players. This was definitely not Atlantic City of Vegas.

At the end of the evening, players got to exchange their winnings for tickets that they could use to try and win any one of a number of really nifty prizes. So, in addition to all the fun of the evening, with \$25,000 handed to you as you walked in the door, 12 people got to leave with prizes as well. All in all, an evening which was very well planned by the conference committee volunteers.

All of us who attend the conference can appreciate how much work goes into planning such a multi-faceted and multi-tiered event. Thanks to all the conference committee members for your diligent efforts and your dedication to our associations.



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# My Education at The Technical Sessions

—By Floyd B. Johnson, Ecoletter Co-Editor

The following is a summary of the technical sessions I attended at the conference. As usual I received a first rate education from the well-versed speakers, and I thank them for that. As usual I could not attend every session and apologize to the presenters of papers I did not take in.

**Balancing Needs of Political Officials, Administrators, Contractors and Operators**—This paper provided a practical, hands on project management primer on how to balance the conflicting demands of meeting a tight schedule, keeping the cost down, having ease of construction, and producing a high quality job. Examples of does and don'ts were given. Also an information-loaded handout gave a list of needed drawings, and checklists to follow for constructability, pre-construction, and facility start-up.



**A Public-Private Partnership That Worked**—In Sussex County, Delaware development is accelerating and providing the needed infrastructure for the growth has been a challenge. An alternative source of funding had to be found. A partnership was developed that provided; the legal authority to require oversizing of infrastructure, a regional planning document, provisions for design, inspection & contract administration, and a mechanism to provide compensation.

**City of Cumberland, Maryland Combined Sewer Overflow Program**—A consent decree was issued by EPA to Cumberland to control their sewer overflows. To meet the requirements of that decree a plan to upgrade and in some cases separate sewers, along with upgrades to pumping stations has been undertaken. A 10 million-gallon CSO storage facility will be constructed, and along with the collection system improvements should provide no more than 4 overflows a year, capture 85% of the combined flow for treatment and eliminate pollutants that cause water quality impairments.

**DC Nationals Ballpark Area Infrastructure Improvements “WASA Steps Up to the Plate”**—The Nationals will be playing in a new park next year and in addition to building that park, much work had to be done to the sewer lines in the area to not only accommodate the new park but the associated development. Replacing 19th century sewers, some as big as 138," and doing expensive excavations because of numerous underground utilities were interesting aspects of this project. A design/build approach is being taken with close coordination between the developer, the city, DDOT and WASA, on going.

**Workforce Planning and Alignment: A Key to Effective Business Practices**—Too many utilities are in a reactive mode, busy with the here and now to plan for the future. Lack of planning, as is always the case, is a big problem. To begin to solve this problem, organizations need to have; a clear vision of what their mission is; a strategic plan that is balanced, aligned and integrated; and workforce management that addresses structure/function, succession planning, knowledge management and training and development. A better future does not happen magically.

**The Role of Older Workers in a Rapidly Shrinking Workplace**—The four generations presently in the workforce are; Traditionalists (born 1900–1945), Baby Boomers (1946–1964), Generation Xers (1965–1980), and Millennials (1981–1999). Each has unique characteristics that need to be reckoned with and employers can not adopt a one size fits all set of plans and policies for all four. One present situation is that because of the large size of the Baby Boomer group and the smaller size of the Generation X group, as Baby Boomers leave

*Continued on page 20*



## My Education

*Continued from page 19*

the workforce a gap will be created that will make employers seek out older workers to fill vacancies.

**Designing and Operating Innovative Technology in the Face of Adversity (Construction) at the City of Salisbury WWTP**—A major upgrade was undertaken to increase capacity from 6.8 to 8.5 mgd and to provide for ENR treatment. Keeping the existing treatment plant operating and dealing with high strength waste from Perdue were two the biggest challenges. The upgraded plant, consisting of modified trickling filters, anoxic/oxic denit filters with methanol addition, UV disinfection, and indirect sludge drying producing Class A solids, will go into service in 2008.



**Performance Investigation and Pilot Testing of an Underperforming Small Community Wastewater Treatment System**—The 15,000 gpd Marley Run WWTP in Calvert County, Maryland was not meeting permit for unknown reasons and a long investigation into the cause(s) was conducted. The influent to the plant was found to be stronger than usual. The plant was sized for 140 rather than the usual 250 gpd/house also the very small collection system had grinder pumps. No definite answers were found to the permit problems, but a pilot test using 5 gal. Buckets showed that a SBR plant would provide much better permit compliance.

**Cross-Cultural Collaboration: A High Altitude EWB Success**—Engineers Without Borders was established in 2000, with the local Chesapeake branch forming in 2005. With over 500 volunteers worldwide, nine projects have been completed thus far. A project in Ecuador was highlighted where 15 students, 4 professionals, and one facility advisor improved sanitation for 180 mountain residents. The volunteers came away from the project with much personal satisfaction and considerable appreciation from the residents. To learn more about Engineers Without Borders, visit [www.ewb-usa.org](http://www.ewb-usa.org).



**ENR Design for the 3.3 mgd Havre de Grace WWTP**—Construction is just beginning on the expansion and upgrade of the 1.89 mgd plant to provide nitrogen removal to 3 mg/l and phosphorus removal to 0.3 mg/l. The new plant will consist of a concentric ring, oxidation ditch, continually backwashing sand filters, SBR operation of the aerobic digester, UV disinfection and composted biosolids. The construction cost will be \$38.6 million of which the State of Maryland will fund \$14 million.

**Energy Performance Contracting Delivers Multifaceted Solution at Baltimore's Back River WWTP**—Using a variety of measures, such as VFDs on pumps, HVAC improvements, energy efficient motors, capturing and cleaning the methane gas from the anaerobic digesters, lighting efficiencies, and water conservation, \$1.8 million in annual savings will be realized. This savings represents a reduction in 1.9 megawatts of power, 12.9 million pounds of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and 1.7 million gals. of gasoline. To learn how you can reduce energy consumption go to the International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives website, [www.ICLEI.org](http://www.ICLEI.org). More information is available through the Green Building Council.



**A Search for Energy Savings at the Blue Plains AWTP**—The plant used to pay 5 cents/ kWh, but now after deregulation pays 8 cents. A typical WWTP should use 1,500 to 2,500 kWh/MG. Blue Plains uses 2181 kWh/MG. Much attention needs to be paid to how you are billed, especially demand and time of day charges. Also errors are likely. The plant found \$370,000 in over-billing by comparing their meter with the power companies. Presently the plant is setting up power monitoring to establish baseline conditions to work from in future energy savings work.

**Lisbon Community Sewerage**—Lisbon, Maryland had failed septic tanks, contaminated wells and no public water or sewer available. Because of very small water bodies being close to drinking water reservoirs, a local, non-surface water discharging, wastewater system would be needed. After a study of conditions, including water sampling, and looking at land application, suspended and attached growth equipment, an SBR with a facultative lagoon with sub-surface discharge was selected as the best technology.

**Results of Testing Landfill Leachate for Inhibition to Nitrification and Denitrification Processes**—An ISO 9509

study was conducted to determine if leachate with high COD and NH<sub>3</sub> from a local landfill was impacting the Easton, Maryland WWTP. The first thing found out was that samples could not be taken off site to a lab over 100 miles away. The results from such sample transport were not useable, so a temporary laboratory had to be set up on-site. Once that was done, sample analysis showed that the leachate should not inhibit WWTP processes and little or no pre-treatment of the leachate will be needed.



Our own Chip Wood has a question.



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## Much Said at The Speakout Forum

—By Floyd B. Johnson, Ecoletter Co-Editor

In what has become an annual event, The Speakout Forum topic was the Chesapeake Bay Program. I don't know if it's because of popular demand or unmet needs, all I know is this big subject produces plenty of discussion.

A couple of newcomers made up the panel this year. Jeff Lape, the Director of EPA's Chesapeake Bay Program since April 2007, occupied the seat held by the former Director, Rebecca Hanmer. The biggest surprise was Roy Hoagland of the Chesapeake Bay Foundation. Several times his organization has declined invitations to be part of this panel and *The Ecoletter* has expressed indignation at the absences, so it was good to see this large watchdog group present, participating and accounted for.



This panel was clearly a knowledgeable and influential assemblage of distinguished professionals. That said, I would like to have seen someone from agriculture and The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania at the table. Those two players would have made the panel more complete.

Ted Graham, the moderator, started things by asking the question, Has the Bay Program been a failure? The easy and obvious answer is no. The harder question is has it been a success?

Mr. Hoagland gave CBF's perspective saying the Bay Program has had successes and failures. The Program has done a good job of producing valuable information and has developed a great website. He even said that WWTP's have stepped up to the plate and shown leadership in the Bay Restoration effort. However The

Program has not marshaled the political will to drive improvement forward. A good example of this is the Executive Leadership Committee made up of the Bay State governors. Little meaningful consensus has been reached in making decisions and finding money for the Bay. As such The Bay Program is not set up to implement improvements because it is too bureaucratic.

Mr. Lape of the Bay Program did not disagree with much of what Mr. Hoagland said. He added that the Federal and State partners need to change their approach. More ground up local involvement is needed to convince officials that things have to go in another direction. The 2006 Bay Assessment shows a Bay not responding to efforts being made. A big challenge will be dealing with 170,000 new residents of the Bay watershed a year and how land is developed. Mr. Lape did win some brownie points with the crowd by mentioning that he's a long time WEF member.

Bob Summers, a frequent participant in the Speakout Forum, offered Maryland's view. Many officials are frustrated, mentioning the E3 syndrome (everything by everyone, everywhere) as an example of the situation. He did echo earlier remarks that point sources have been a success story. Yet \$1.2 Billion will be needed to upgrade 66 Maryland WWTPs. At least \$670 million of additional funds will be needed for non-point sources, and 400,000 on-site systems will need to be retrofitted. Finding the money for all this will be a major challenge. Maryland, doing the best of any Bay State, is still only 57% of the way to 2010 Water Quality goals.

The Commonwealth of Virginia was represented by Jeff Corbin, who had a little different take on things. He said The Bay Program is not failing, that progress has been made, it has driven many programs in Virginia like the nutrient trading program, and aggressive goals have been established. He offered a prescription for going forward by recommending a candid assessment of conditions, the need to set up benchmarks to measure against, and the completion of a cost/benefit analysis who's starting point could be what would be the listing price if the Bay was put up for sale.

John Sheehan spoke from a municipal and legal outlook. WWTP's are doing their fair share with urban and suburban sources making the worst progress towards goals. He questioned the best use of funds in making all

WWTP's upgrade when agriculture improvements are the most cost-effective measures. From a legal standpoint, he can't envision the Bay wide TMDL forcing a solution. He closed by asking a very big question; can we really achieve a clean Bay?

All five panelists were refreshingly forthright considering that they were talking about a big old problem that will not be going away any time soon, and were not shy about speaking up. And neither were the folks in attendance. Based on questions from the floor the following topics were discussed:

Storm water runoff from urban and suburban sources needs to be reduced by changing the way rainfall is handled by using such things as pervious surfaces, cisterns, French drains, and green buildings that employ features like vegetative roofs.

With ethanol fuels taking off, more and more acres in the watershed are being converted to corn production. Because corn requires significant addition of fertilizers, there will be an increase in nutrient load to the Bay. Minimizing the impact of increased corn production will be a big challenge for the agriculture community.

After lagging behind the other two big Bay states Maryland's nutrient trading program is in the works and will be modeled after the program in Pennsylvania.

Daily or even weekly permit limits for Nitrogen are not needed, but until the statute that the permit limits are based is changed, we could be stuck with them for a time. There is talk that what makes the most sense is a yearly Nitrogen limit.

The massive amount of sediment behind Conowingo Dam, already being flushed out by high flows into the



*Jeff Lape*

Bay, is beginning to clog water intakes. It is a very large, difficult situation with big basic questions. What should be done? What can be done? Can anything be done?

Water reuse has the potential to reduce pollutant loads and one exciting project on the drawing board is the use of WWTP effluent for power plants in Charles County, Maryland. Hopefully we'll be hearing more about this Water reuse.

A civics lesson of sorts was given by Mr. Hoagland concerning the gigantic Federal Farm Bill. Because of public involvement, \$250 million dollars is in this year's bill for improving Bay water quality. While this is not a lot considering the needs of the Bay, it is much more than past years. The lesson here; don't underestimate the power of a call or letter to an elected official.

A question was asked about the learning from others in similar situations on what can be done in the Bay restoration effort. As many problems as the Bay has, the effort to turn things around is in the vanguard of worldwide efforts to improve estuaries. Basically other folks are studying what we are doing.

No one is sure what will happen when the 2010 deadline for meeting Bay water quality standards is not met. There is concern that a heavy handed regulatory approach would not help matters given how far the largely voluntary path has taken things.

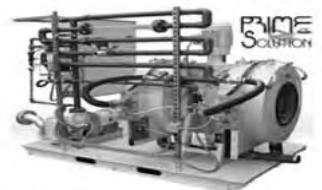
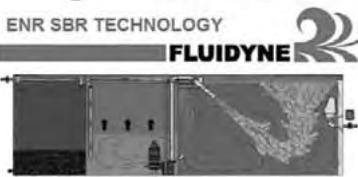
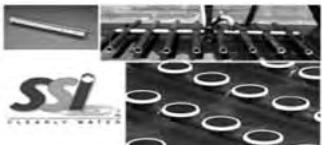
I came away from this session with a deep sense that powerful people really care about improving Bay water quality. There was passion and know how in the room.



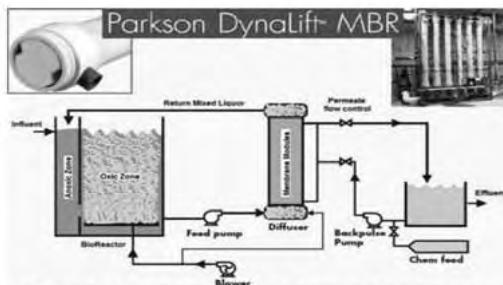
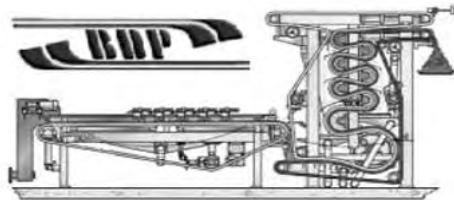
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# SHORT COURSE SYNOPSIS FOR 2007

*Right: Marshall Phillips with our own Charlie Reichert.*

*Below: Some of the people who helped put on the Short Course.*



*—By WWOA Short Course Committee Chair, Marshall Phillips*

The fifty-eighth annual short courses were preceded by three preparatory committee meetings during late 2006 and early 2007. The short course was held at Mt. Saint Mary's University in Emmitsburg, Md., the third year for this location.

The event was held June 3, thru June 8, 2007. Once again, through extensive committee preparation in advance, the training program progressed smoothly and as planned. Attendance this year was slightly less than 200, of which some 125 stayed on campus for the week.

There were course offerings for Introductory Water, Water 3&4, Advanced Water, Introductory Wastewater, Intermediate Wastewater, Advanced Wastewater, Water Distribution and Collection, Industrial Waste Treatment, Superintendents, as well as Treatment Facility Maintenance. The Maryland Department of the Environment offered a certification examination at the college on Friday.

For the second year, registration was available on line. Once the posting for the latest short course appears at the website (address below) you may register on line using a credit card. This service seems to have worked well and has been well received by registrants and employers.

One task the committee wanted to accomplish this year was to survey attendees to determine the split in the Collections/Distribution course. Due to the large number of attendees in this offering for the last couple of years, it has strained facility classroom availability. The results are being reviewed to ascertain the feasibility of splitting the class into separate course offerings.

The success of the Short Course is attributable to many people, but I would like to thank all of my fellow committee members for their continued efforts and professionalism in making this a worthwhile educational experience. Also, we should all extend our thanks to the numerous **volunteer** instructors for their dedication and selflessness in continuing to provide informative classroom instruction. Last, but certainly not least, all the employers and organizations who contribute the manpower time away from work to make this training possible.

It is anticipated that the 2008 short courses will be held at Washington College in Chestertown, Md. The exact date, in June of 2008, will be posted soon on the website @ [www.wwoa-cwea.org](http://www.wwoa-cwea.org).

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**COMMITTEE CHAIRS & VICE-CHAIRS**

**AWARDS**—The Awards Committee is responsible for recommending nominations for CWEA and WEF awards to the Executive Committee.

**Marlene Patillo, Chair**

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**BIOSOLIDS AND RESIDUALS MANAGEMENT**—The Biosolids and Residuals Management Committee conducts continuing assessments of residuals management issues and concerns and coordinates with Association members and regulatory officials regarding these issues and concerns. The Committee, in conjunction with other CWEA committees, develops and supports programs to enhance technical information exchange regarding residuals management. Activities include seminars, workshops, technical articles and publications.

**Pareesh Sanghavi, Chair**

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*Continued from page 27*

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**BY-LAWS AND DIRECTORY**—*The Bylaws Committee maintains the CWEA Bylaws and recommends changes, additions and deletions that would improve the functioning of the Association.*

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**BUDGET/ FINANCE**—*Budget and Finance Committee prepares, monitors, and revises CWEA budget. It projects CWEA income and expenses based on input from officers and various committees chairs.*

**Bharat Desai, Chair**  
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**COLLECTION SYSTEMS**—*The mission of the Collection Systems Committee (CSC) is to serve as a forum and informational clearinghouse for the CWEA membership to share knowledge including techniques and technologies, equipment, O&M practices, policies, and regulations as they relate to the design, rehabilitation, and performance of collection systems.*

**Jeff Cantwell, Chair**  
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**CONFERENCE (2008)**—*The Conference Committee organizes the 3-day joint annual conference between CWEA and WWOA. Activities of the conference include technical papers, special speakers, exhibitors, social events and plant tours, among others.*

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**GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS**—*The Government Affairs Committee keeps the CWEA Board abreast of all State and Federal legislation and regulations impacting the purposes and goals of the Association. It develops CWEA positions to communicate to government bodies and develops means of informing the membership, at large, of pending government actions. Finally, it seeks to develop means to increase the status, role and influence of the Association in legislative and regulatory processes.*

**Burt Curry, Chair**  
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**LABORATORY PRACTICES**—*The Laboratory Practices Committee was established to encourage the participation of laboratory personnel in the CWEA. The committee reviews and evaluates new technologies, business practices, and regulations that affect laboratory operations, including data quality, productivity, accreditation, and safety. Activities may include seminars, workshops, and technical articles.*

**Clarence Beverhoudt, Chair**  
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**MAMWA LIAISON**—*This committee provides a liaison with the Maryland Association of Municipal Wastewater Agencies (MAMWA) providing coordination and dialog about issues common to the two Organizations.*

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**MEMBERSHIP**—*The Membership Committee recruits new members and encourages renewal of existing members. It keeps up-to-date membership lists and tracks membership statistics. It also jointly sponsors with CAWWA an annual Career Day for graduating college students and prospective employers.*

**Kristi Perri, Chair**  
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**NOMINATIONS**—*Nominations Committee solicits, receives, and reviews nominations for board members and officers vacancies, presents its recommendations to the Board for its approval, and presents the names of nominees to the CWEA membership for vote at the Annual Business Meeting.*

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**PLANT OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE—**  
*The mission of the Plant Operations and Maintenance Committee is to serve as a forum and informational clearinghouse for the CWEA membership to disseminate information concerning the operation, maintenance and management of Wastewater Treatment Plants in Delaware, Maryland and the District of Columbia.*

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**INDUSTRIAL PRACTICES AND PRE-TREATMENT—***The Industrial Committee, in conjunction with other CWEA committees, develops and supports programs to enhance technical information exchange regarding treatment of industrial wastes. Activities include seminars and workshops.*

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**PUBLIC EDUCATION—***The Public Education Committee strives to create greater public awareness of the existence, goals, and activities of the Association, and to enhance public understanding of the water environment and its protection. Activities include press releases, articles, publications, providing speakers to elementary and secondary schools and elsewhere, disseminating WEF school curriculum materials and participating in school science fairs.*

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**PUBLICATIONS—***The Publications Committee, in conjunction with the WWOA, publishes the joint newsletter of the two associations, the ECOLETTER.*

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 tprs4@earthlink.net

**Robert (Bob) Wimmer, Vice-Chair**  
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**SAFETY—***The Safety Committee develops safety programs for any work activities related to water pollution abatement. It maintains records of accidents and deaths relating to work in the water environment field: coordinates with the safety program for the Water Environment federation; maintains contact with the National Safety Council; conducts safety seminars, workshops, and short courses; and makes recommendations to the Awards Committee for safety awards.*

**Sorin Schwartz, Chair**  
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 VACANT, Vice-Chair

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**SPRING MEETING—***The Spring Meeting Committee organizes and promotes the yearly spring membership meeting. The meeting is held in the evening and includes networking opportunities, a supper and a feature speaker.*

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**STRATEGIC PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION—***The Strategic Planning Committee updates the Strategic Plan every five years by working with each committee to develop individual committee strategic plans that are consistent with the mission and goals of CWEA.*

**Russ Sharpe**  
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**STUDENT ACTIVITIES—***The Student Activities Committee interacts with students and professors at colleges and universities in the Chesapeake area and promotes the formation of student chapters of WEF. The committee provides a liaison helps students organize activities and obtain information. The committee organizes and promotes plant tours, the CWEA student paper competition and Student Night as well as helps promote WEF student activities.*

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*Continued on page 30*

# CWEA Directory

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**TECHNICAL EDUCATION**—*The Technical Education Committee promotes and disseminates technical information. The major activities are seminars and workshops. The Committee also assists other committees in education efforts. It coordinates with the Tri-Association Short Course Committee on the Annual Short Courses held for water and wastewater facility operators.*

**Eric Coates, Chair**

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**TRAINING, REVIEW AND EVALUATION**—*The Training Review and Evaluation Committee reviews and recommends certification of submitted training application to the Water and Wastewater Board of Certification. Applications are reviewed three to four times per year.*

**Gary Wagner, Chair**

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**TRI-ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE**—*The Tri-Association Conference Committee organizes the 3-day joint conference between CWEA, CSAWWA and WWOA that occurs every three years. Activities of the conference include technical papers, special speakers, exhibitors, social events and plant tours, among others.*

**Aaron Nelson, Chair**

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**WATER REUSE**—*The Committee shall provide effective communication of technical information regarding reclaimed water and its beneficial use to utility, regulatory, consumer, environmental, and legislative audiences.*

**Beccy Kugel**

Howard County DPW—  
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**WEB SITE**—*The Web Site Committee is responsible for the creation, maintenance, appearance and content of the WWOA/CWEA joint web site on the World Wide Web. The committee evaluates information needs and requests from the various association committees and publishes it, through a web master, on the web site.*

**Anthony Rocco, Webmaster**

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**WERF LIAISON**—*This committee provides a liaison with the WEF Research Foundation by providing input to research projects and assisting with funding issues.*

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**YOUNG PROFESSIONALS**—*The Young Professionals Committee conducts activities in an effort to bring young and new professionals into the water and wastewater industry. The Committee also seeks to involve younger professionals in CWEA and WEF activities, participation on committees and attending CWEA and WEF activities. The Committee has hosted plant tours, social events and community service events in an effort to bring new members into the industry.*

**Priscilla Brown, Chair**

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**MISCELLANEOUS**

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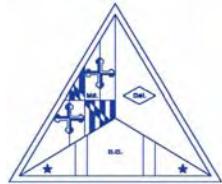
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# WWOA Executive Board and Committee Chairs *FY 2008*



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<b>Eastern Shore Section</b>	<b>Stella Padilla</b>	<b>Membership</b> 202 787-4369 vernelle.robinson@dcwasa.com	<b>Vernelle Robinson</b>		





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# The 2007 “Ed Norton Open” is a Huge Success

—By Jane Bayer



**O**n June 29, 2007, the CWEA Collection System Committee hosted the Second Annual Ed Norton Open golf outing at the Pine Ridge Golf Course in Baltimore Maryland. This annual event, which is named after Ed Norton, a sewer worker from “The Honeymooners,” focuses on gathering area professionals who are actively engaged in work on wastewater collection, conveyance and treatment systems. More importantly, the proceeds from the event are donated to Water for People.

The day began under cloudy skies with Registration and Continental Breakfast. At the registration table, players contributed to Water for People by signing up for the pitching and putting contests, as well as taking a chance to win some exciting door prizes. An additional \$660 was raised from these efforts alone! Each player received a CWEA jacket and an Ed Norton Open golf hat, as well as a bag filled with gifts donated by many of the sponsors. Shotgun start began at 8:30 a.m. with 128 golfers hitting the links... and rain. The rain lasted for a couple of holes but did not deter the players at all.

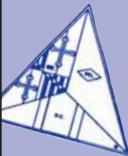
Following play, golfers were treated to a delicious buffet lunch with pit beef and the works, as well as nice, cold beer with which to wash it down. Ed Norton, a.k.a. Aaron Nelson, welcomed everyone and introduced George Winfield, Director of Baltimore City’s Department of Public Works, who explained the Consent Decree the City is under, what has been accomplished to date, and what still needs to be done within a certain time frame. Next, Gary Wyatt spoke thanking the golfers for their support and thanking all who pulled together such a successful event including Aaron Nelson, Tara Hatcher, Michelle Goldbeck, Bruce Wild, and Jane Bayer.

The results of the tourney were tallied by a Pine Ridge pro and some very impressive scores were posted. Aaron Nelson announced that first place went to RK&K, second place went to Black & Veatch, third place went to Russell Corrosion Consultants, and Honorable Mention went to Insituform Technologies. In addition, awards were given for the chipping and putting contests, longest drives, and closest to the pins.

Thanks to our 35 sponsors who made the Second Annual Ed Norton open a reality and success for Water for People. This event certainly was a win-win event for both CWEA and AWWA.



# 2007 WWOA and CWEA Awards



## WWOA AWARD WINNERS

*W. McLean Bingley Award  
for Distinguished Service in  
Wastewater Management*

**Bill Burton, Robert Stroud and  
Tom Harshman**

*Distinguished Laboratory Service  
Domingos Amaro*

*Outstanding Personal Service  
to the Association*

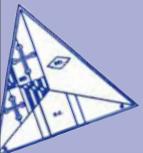
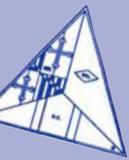
**Xavier Ford**

*WWOA Lifetime Membership  
Lee Burton and Wayne Reed*



*Left: DCWASA's  
Operations  
Challenge Team.*





*Below: A happy group of WWOA awardees.*

## CWEA AWARD WINNERS

**Arthur Sidney Bedell Award**  
Sharon L. Cole

**Laboratory Analyst Award**  
Mary E. T. Stancavage

**William D. Hatfield Award**  
Robert A. Stroud

**George W. Burke Award**  
Damascus WWTP

The following people received Certificates of Nomination for WEF awards:

**Philip F. Morgan Medal**  
Salil M. Kharkar

**Thomas R. Camp Medal**  
Grace Wang

**Collection Systems Award**  
Hiram L. Tanner

**Jack Edward McKee Medal**  
Eric A. Seagren

**Harrison Prescott Eddy Medal**  
Lawrence H. Hentz & Sudhir N. Murthy

**Outstanding Young Professional Award**  
Priscilla Brown-Buchalla

*Continued on page 36*



## 2007 WWOA & CWEA Awards

*Continued from page 35*



## CWEA President's Message

*Continued from page 3*

plate into a dishwasher, turns the dishwasher on and later removes a sparkling clean plate with no trace of the cake. The voice over proclaims, “Now you can take your greasy, grimy plates directly from the table into the dishwasher and they will come out sparkling clean.”

Media reports on wastewater treatment plants would have the public believe that the plants are sources of pollution, rather than the last line of defense protecting the environment.

Flushable cat litter; Detergents that proclaim to get rid of grease; And the list goes on. Consumers either just don't get it or they don't understand it. Water is not free and the collection system is not a cheap and easy disposal mechanism for non-sanitary wastes.

I submit to you that this industry—this Association—can no longer afford to remain silent on these issues. We can no longer pretend that these portrayals of our industry do not have an impact on our livelihoods. In today's arena, public opinion drives political decisions and political decisions determine operating and infrastructure funding. But we will never gain the public's confidence and their needed support by allowing others to carry—and in some cases, pervert—our message. As Andre Agassi said in a camera commercial, “Image is everything.” Truth in advertising has taken a back seat to television face time and 15-second sound bytes as the shaper of public perception and if we do not get in on the action, we will surely be left behind.

I do not propose that we tilt at windmills and attempt to repudiate every perceived slight. But I do believe that we need to begin in earnest to “tell our story,” as WEF's Bill Bertera put it. And who better to tell that story than us, those involved in the daily tasks of delivering safe drinking water and removing harmful pollutants from the waste stream? In a recent British Medical Journal, improved sanitation was voted as the most important advancement in reducing disease over the past 100 years. Not antibiotics, not new medical advances, but improved sanitary practices. That, my friends, is us, and therein lies the beginning of the story we need to tell.

So, in this coming year, I propose that while we continue to look inward to improve the management of our Association, and provide services to our members, that we begin the process of reaching outward to the media, to our politicians and to the public. Over the next 12 months, I would like to see this Association take the first steps in telling our story. I propose to task our public education committee, in concert with the other committees, to identify and explore opportunities to take our message to the streets.

The recent media focus on global warming, climate change and resource sustainability, particularly as it

applies to water resources, places our industry—us—in a unique position to be at the forefront of global changes involving water supply and wastewater treatment. According to a United Nations report, there are over 1.2 billion people without access to safe water and 2.6 billion without access to sanitation. Almost 2 million children die each year for want of a glass of clean water and adequate sanitation. And water-borne infectious diseases are compromising poverty reduction and economic growth in some of the world's poorest countries.

*Beyond the household, competition for water as a productive resource is intensifying. Symptoms of that competition include the collapse of water-based ecological systems, declining river flows and large-scale groundwater depletion. Conflicts over water are intensifying within countries, with the rural poor losing out. The potential for tensions between countries is also growing, though there are large potential human development gains from increased cooperation.*

*Many of the world's most water-stressed areas will get less water, and water flows will become less predictable and more subject to extreme events. Among the projected outcomes:*

- *Marked reductions in water availability in East Africa, the Sahel and Southern Africa as rainfall declines and temperature rises, with large productivity losses in basic food staples. Projections for rain fed areas in East Africa point to potential productivity losses of up to 33% in maize and more than 20% for sorghum and 18% for millet.*
- *The disruption of food production systems exposing an additional 75–125 million people to the threat of hunger.*
- *Accelerated glacial melt, leading to medium term reductions in water availability across a large group of countries in East Asia, Latin America and South Asia.*
- *Disruptions to monsoon patterns in South Asia, with the potential for more rain but also fewer rainy days and more people affected by drought.*
- *Rising sea levels resulting in freshwater losses in river delta systems in countries such as Bangladesh, Egypt and Thailand.”*

*—United Nations Human Development Report, 2006*

WEF and CWEA have the opportunity—and, in my opinion, the responsibility—to take leadership positions in resolving world water issues. But we need to be proactive, both at home and abroad, making our voice heard. After all, we are the experts. We just need to get that message to those in authority.

Our story is a continuing saga—one that will not be content to be told over the short term. But now is the time to take those first steps.

# CALL FOR PAPERS

## CSAWWA/CWEA/WWOA 2008 Tri-Association Conference

**August 26–August 29, 2008**  
**Ocean City Convention Center**  
**Ocean City, Maryland**

The Chesapeake Section, AWWA (CSAWWA); the Chesapeake Water Environment Association (CWEA); and the Water & Waste Operators Association of Maryland, Delaware & the District of Columbia (WWOA) will jointly hold their annual conference and exhibition August 26 to August 29, 2008. In addition to the annual meetings, exhibition and social events, the cornerstone of the conference will be the technical sessions for the formal presentation of papers on water treatment, wastewater treatment and related topics.

**SUGGESTED TOPICS:** WATER, WASTEWATER OR INDUSTRIAL TREATMENT; DISTRIBUTION AND COLLECTION SYSTEMS; INNOVATIVE TREATMENT TECHNOLOGIES; WATERSHED MANAGEMENT; WATER REUSE; RESIDUALS MANAGEMENT; POLICY; REGULATIONS; RESEARCH; LABORATORY; DISINFECTION; EMERGENCY PLANNING AND PROCEDURES; SECURITY; SAFETY; UTILITY MANAGEMENT; ENERGY MANAGEMENT; FINANCING; CUSTOMER SERVICE; PLANNING, DESIGN & CONSTRUCTION; OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE; CASE HISTORIES

If you are interested in presenting a paper at the conference, please submit a brief abstract (300 word maximum) by E-mail (preferred), US Mail, or FAX. Please save electronic submissions as LastName-Abstract.DOC (LastName2-Abstract.DOC, etc. for more than one submittal) in the format shown below, to:

**ERIC HELD, email to: [eheld@carr.org](mailto:eheld@carr.org)**

**Abstracts are due by January 7, 2008.** Please present sufficient information to enable a knowledgeable program review committee to evaluate the material you wish to present. Authors will be notified of acceptance or rejection of their papers by the end of April 2008. Speakers will be required to pay all applicable conference registration fees and they must pay their own travel expenses, lodging and meals. PowerPoint projectors, slide projectors and overhead projectors will be provided by the Conference Committee, if needed.

Title of Paper: \_\_\_\_\_

Author(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Person Presenting Paper: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Company: \_\_\_\_\_

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# CWEA Awards Committee Needs Nominations

The CWEA Awards Committee needs nominations for WEF National Awards, WEF Member Association Achievement and Service Awards, and local CWEA awards. A brief description of each award is given below. If you would like more information on WEF Awards, visit [WWW.WEF.ORG/MEMBERSHIP/CAREERS/MEMBERSHIPINFORMATION/AWARDS/](http://WWW.WEF.ORG/MEMBERSHIP/CAREERS/MEMBERSHIPINFORMATION/AWARDS/)

Contact Liz Schulz at WEF, 703/684-7738, or contact Ray Schulte, CWEA Director. Please send nominations to Ray Schulte:

**Ray Schulte**  
**KCI Technologies**  
 10 North Park Drive, Hunt Valley, MD 21030  
 Phone: 410-316-7982 • Fax: 410-316-7935  
 E-mail [rschulte@kci.com](mailto:rschulte@kci.com)

## WEF National Awards (Deadline: January 28, 2008)

**CANHAM GRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP**—honoring the former Water Environment Executive Director, Robert Canham, provides \$2,500 for a post-baccalaureate student in the water environment field

**CAMP MEDAL**—Unique application to design or development of collection or treatment systems

**COLLECTION SYSTEMS AWARD**—Contribution to advancement of collection systems

**COLLECTION SYSTEMS PUBLISHED CONTRIBUTIONS AWARD**—This award recognizes published contributions to the fundamental principles of wastewater collection and transport, as comprehensively described and published in a Federation periodical

**EDDY MEDAL**—Paper on fundamental principles of wastewater treatment process

**EMERSON MEDAL**—Involvement in the problems and activities of WEF

**ENGELBRECHT INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES SERVICE AWARD**—Improve activities of WEF internationally

**FAIR MEDAL**—Educator for accomplishments in developing future engineers

**GASCOIGNE MEDAL**—Paper on solving wastewater treatment plant operation problems

**HAZARDOUS WASTE MANAGEMENT AWARD**—Promote performance on behalf of hazardous waste management

**INDUSTRIAL WATER QUALITY ACHIEVEMENT AWARD**—To a corporation or its engineering firm for excellence in water quality improvement

**INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGY AWARDS**—Recognizes WEF Associate Members who have introduced new innovative products or services related to the construction, operation or maintenance of treatment facilities

**MCKEE AWARD**—Paper on groundwater protection, restoration or sustainable use

**MORGAN MEDAL**—Recognizes valuable contributions to the in-plant study and solution of an operational problem—1 award for large plants (> 5,000 population) and 1 award for small plants (< 5,000)

**OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT IN WATER QUALITY**—To a water pollution control program that best demonstrates significant, lasting, and measurable excellence in water quality improvement or in prevention of water quality degradation in a region, basin or water body

**OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION BY A NON-MEMBER**—Presented to an individual who shows outstanding lifetime accomplishments and contributions in improving the water environment

**OUTSTANDING YOUNG WATER ENVIRONMENT PROFESSIONAL**—This award recognizes the contributions of young professionals in the water environment field. Nominee must be 35 years old or younger at the time of nomination

**ORCHARD MEDAL**—Extraordinary personal service to WEF

**PUBLIC EDUCATION**—Awareness and understanding of water environment issues

**PUBLIC OFFICIALS AWARD**—Presented to an elected or appointed public official who has made a documented, significant contribution in the areas of clean water legislation, public policy, government service, or another area of public prominence that resulted in improvements to the water environment

**QUARTER CENTURY OPERATORS**—25 years service to the water environment industry, 10 years of which is directly involved in the day-to-day collections, operations, maintenance, laboratory, or management of wastewater transportation or treatment facilities

**RUDOLPHS MEDAL**—Paper on industrial waste control

**SCHLENZ MEDAL**—For non-WEF members, for public education in journalism, film or video

**SCHROEPPER MEDAL**—Innovative or economical facility design

## WEF Member Association Achievement and Service Awards (Deadline: March 31, 2008)

**HATFIELD AWARD**—Given to a wastewater treatment operator for outstanding performance and professionalism

**BEDELL AWARD**—Acknowledges extraordinary personal service to the member association

**LABORATORY ANALYST AWARD**—Recognizes an individual for outstanding performance, professionalism, and contribution to the water quality analysis profession

**BURKE AWARD**—Recognizes an active and effective safety program in a municipal or industrial wastewater facility

## Local CWEA Awards (Deadline: June 2, 2008)

**GLASS AWARD**—To a designer for an outstanding, innovative, cost effective design of wastewater treatment facilities

**WOLMAN AWARD**—To a prominent leader in the public or private sector whose leadership and longtime commitment has effected significant, positive changes in water-quality protection or in the understanding of water-quality issues by the general public

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## WWOA President's Message

*Continued from page 3*

something to spend some time on for the benefit of this group? Is anyone you worked with retired and might be looking for a way to stay in touch with friends in the field? Were you an active member who got too busy with work and had to step back? Have things lightened up enough for you to make a comeback?

For those that have been at meetings with me, you know this is my standard speech. We always can use some help. Most of our committees that serve you, the members, are committees of one. Do you ever wonder why we don't do more? Jump in the mix with your suggestions and let's get it rolling. Are you interested but reluctant because you don't know what is required for any of the positions? The main requirement is being willing to take the first step. If you check our website [www.wwoa-cwea.org](http://www.wwoa-cwea.org) you will see roles and responsibilities listed for various positions. Look them over, see where you might fit. Step up, join the group and make a positive impact on your organization.

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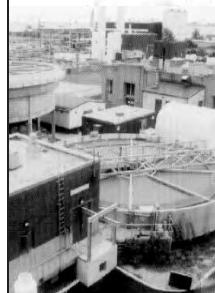


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