



WATER ENVIRONMENT ASSOCIATION OF TEXAS

Preserving & Enhancing the Water Environment of Texas

NORTH TEXAS SECTION—e-NEWSLETTER

January 2009

Volume 21, Number 1

January Dinner Meeting

- Date:** January 15, 2009
- Place:** CityPlace, Dallas
- Topic:** City of Houston's Response to Hurricane Ike
- Speaker:** Joseph Majdalani
- Social Hour:** 5:30 pm
Dinner/Presentation: 6:30 pm
- Dinner Tickets:** \$20 Members
\$10 Spouses & Guests

Some of the meeting costs have been offset by the following meeting sponsors:

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Please call our voice mail reservations number to make your reservations:

(214) 890-6878 Dallas
(817) 740-5759 Fort Worth

Or mail: robinsonar@cdm.com for RSVPs

Speaker

Joe Majdalani is the Senior Assistant Director of Wastewater Operations at Houston Public Works and Engineering. He will be speaking on the City of Houston's response to Hurricane Ike. This presentation will focus on Hurricane Ike's impacts on Houston's wastewater system and how the Wastewater Operations Branch (WOB) responded to this catastrophic event. The presentation will also include a brief summary of Hurricane Ike, WOB's emergency preparedness efforts, lessons learned, and future plans for responding to similar events. The presentation will help other wastewater/water utilities develop plans for responding to a major catastrophe and the associated impacts.

Also at the January Dinner Meeting, the TRA CReWSers will be recognized as the 2008 Operations Challenge National Champions.

President's Message



Happy New Year! I hope you had a wonderful Holiday Season and enjoyed some time with your family and friends. This is the time to look back on the year gone by and look forward to what

2009 brings us with our new year's resolutions, personally and professionally. Hopefully one of your new year's resolutions is to get more involved with the North Texas Section of WEAT.

What an eventful year we had in 2008! From celebrating the success of Texas Water in San Antonio and WEFTEC in Chicago and our TRA CREWSers winning their 3rd Division 1 National Championship to the devastation left from Hurricane IKE, the economic downturn, financial bailouts, and the most interesting Presidential Election of my time that made history. There's a lot to overcome this next year but let's focus on what we can look forward to in 2009. We have some interesting dinner meeting topics, technical seminars, and networking opportunities to bring to you so you can fulfill your new year's resolution.

Please join us for the Dinner Meeting January 15th at CityPlace. Joe Majdalani will be speaking about the City of Houston's Response to Hurricane Ike. You can contact me at Robinsonar@cdm.com for reservations.

Our February Seminar is fast approaching and we'll be "Making Our Brown.....Greener" this year. A great program is in store and we have many different topics and speakers so save the date for February 10, 2009 at CityPlace in Dallas. This is a great opportunity to get a few PDHs/CEUs, network with others, and learn about sustainability in Texas and around the Country. This year we will be having door prizes so don't miss out. We are thankful to all

the sponsors that help bring this seminar to you. More information about registration and sponsorship is in the newsletter. Thanks Gilbert for your hard work.

The E & I Committee bimonthly technical seminar held in November had a great turn out with about 52 people in attendance from various public entities, engineering firms, suppliers, and system integrators. The committee is currently planning the technical seminars for 2009 so if you have any suggestions or requests please contact the E&I Committee.

Statewide activities include a 217 Implementation Workshop in San Antonio on January 23rd, a FROG Workshop in Houston February 26th and 27th, a Bio-solids and Odor and Corrosion Conference in San Marcos August 27th & 28th, and of course the biggest event of the year, Texas Water, in Galveston April 14th-17th.

If you would like to get involved in any Section activities or if there's anything that you would like to see happen, please contact me, another officer or committee chairperson. Contact information for the officers and committee chairs for the Section is listed in the newsletter or on our website. We are always looking for more people to help out.

And finally, I wish you all a blessed and wonderful new year!

Amy Robinson
President 2008-2009
WEAT-NTS
(817) 332-8727

TX Water WEAT Operations Challenge '09

The rules, regulations and registration for the TX Water WEAT Operations Challenge event '09 will be completed and available on-line by mid January. If you have the opportunity you need to read three articles in the December issue of the WE&T. The first is the Safety Corner. It discusses the direct effect that the Operations Challenge has on safety. Then there is a great write up about how the TRA CReWSers reclaimed their title of National Champions for the third time in four years and finally, there is a well written piece about how the Operations Challenge program boosts careers and moral at the wastewater facilities that sponsor teams.

I have always advocated that the operations challenge program is hands down the best training program for employees in our industry but too often we forget that there are trickle down effects such as pride in your team, your utility and your MA. Cross training amongst the operators, mechanics, lab techs and people that work in pretreatment. How often do you have the opportunity to work directly with people of other disciplines? Once you do you will find that communication amongst the groups will improve and nothing promotes harmony like respect and understanding of what your co-workers must do each day to insure that the cleanest water possible leaves their plant. Professionalism and mentoring opportunities abound. I will always fondly remember leaders in our industry that have passed away like Butch Smith and Ron Sieger. These guys were very important to me while I was coming up as a competitor. Not only did they provide me with a broad range of knowledge in pumping systems, hydraulics, digestion and dewatering they encouraged me to continue with my education, obtain my A WW license and regularly attend WEAT functions. Chances are that if I had not become involved in the operations Challenge I never would have had the opportunity to interact with these fine gentlemen nor would I have the professional opportunities that I have been so fortunate to obtain.

Since the CReWSers are the National Champions they receive an automatic return to WEFTEC09 in Orlando. This will allow WEAT to sponsor a total of four teams. As leaders in this industry we are called upon to develop future generations, provide guidance to those that are dedicated to their trades and work towards gaining the respect that the professionals involved in the treatment of wastewater deserve. There is no better way to accomplish these tasks than to get involved in the Operations Challenge Program. If you are a utility form a team, Consultants can play a key role in training the challenge team members in specific plant processes and assisting the program by volunteering as judges and coordinators. Manufacturers and their representatives can often provide valuable information on specific equipment and the inside knowledge needed to completely understand how a system works. And of course, the program will always accept your sponsorship of events.

The proud challenge team members of our great state are truly appreciative of the gift that you all provide to us. We could not compete at this level if it were not for your generosity of time, support and your financial backing. Texas has several teams that are very established. They have all worked for several years to develop a very good training program and are willing to assist new teams that are interested in getting started. Please contact the Operations Challenge Committee if you are interested in getting a team started or if you would like to get more involved in this dynamic program.

John Bennett

Challenge Committee Members

John Bennett - bennettj@trinityra.org

Orren West - orren.west@ci.austin.tx.us

Jeff Sober - JSober@carollo.com

Announcements

FROM THE D/FW METROPLEX

CP&Y Announces New PEs and EITs

The following CP&Y employees have received their PE certifications:

Pawan Gunjur, PE
Howie Li, PE

Employees who Received their EITs:

Noel Ruiz
Dusty Brannum

Congratulations to each of you!

Wallingford Software, Inc. Expands Its Staff

Michael Crenshaw, P.E., CFM, Storm Water & Flooding Products Manager. Mr. Crenshaw is a Professional Engineer (P.E.), nationally Certified Floodplain Manager (CFM), Certified Professional in Erosion and Sediment Control (CPESC), and Certified Professional in Storm Water Quality (CPSWQ).

William P. Runyon (Bill), Senior Flood Forecasting Consultant. Bill is an active member of the Texas State Floodplain Management Association and serves as the Assistant Texas CoCoRaHS State Coordinator.

Remembering Edd Baker

Edd Baker, a video replay-official at Stars games since the team came to Dallas, and an employee of Westin, passed away at the age of 55 in November 2008. A memorial service was held on December 3, 2008 at 4:30 pm at St. Patrick Catholic Church. Edd will be missed.



The Metroplex Hockey Officials Association has set up a website for information and donations at <http://www.eddbaker.org>.

TRAINING COURSES

City of Carrollton will be hosting TWUA educational programs

- ★ Basic WasteWater on March 24, 2009 @ 8 a.m.
- ★ Wastewater Collection on March 31, 2009 @ 8 a.m.
- ★ Utility Safety on May 5, 2009 @ 8 a.m.

For any further information contact Kevin Pike @ 972-466-4206, or kevin.pikes@cityofcarrollton.com

RJN Group Announcement

Daniel H. Jackson recently achieved the status of Professional Engineer in the state of Texas. Mr. Jackson has a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering from Texas Tech University, and is a member of the American Society of Civil Engineers. He has been employed at RJN Group for 5 years and works on sanitary sewer evaluation studies, as well as comprehensive sewer rehabilitation projects.

DWU Announces New Appointment

Dallas Water Utilities is pleased to announce the appointment of Cesar Baptista as the Assistant Director of Capital Improvements. Cesar obtained his B.S. in Civil Engineering from University of Texas in Arlington in 1994. Cesar has worked for the City of Dallas Water Utilities Department since 1984 and served as interim Assistant Director of Capital Improvements for the past year. For the previous seven years, he managed the department's pipeline services program which produced in excess of \$75M worth of design and construction annually.

Announcements

continued



Carollo Engineers names New Partner and Associate in Texas

Carollo Engineers has named a new partner and a new associate in the Dallas office. These individuals direct the planning and implementation of major water and wastewater projects for Carollo's clients in north Texas.

Scott Hoff, P.E. has been named as a Partner. He has 15 years of experience in public works engineering, focusing primarily on wastewater facilities. He has recently completed projects for Dallas Water Utilities, North Texas Municipal Water District, and the City of Garland in Texas, as well as several projects in Ohio, Florida, Arizona, and Mississippi.

Darryl Corbin, P.E. has been named an Associate. His 28 years of experience encompasses studies, master planning, and design of water treatment plants, wastewater treatment plants, water distribution systems, and wastewater collection systems. Darryl is an active member of the American Water Works Association (AWWA) and the Water Environment Association of Texas (WEAT).

Congratulations to Juanita Miller with CDM for receiving her PE certification!

Jaster-Quintanilla Wins ICRI Award of Merit
 Congratulations goes to Jaster-Quintanilla (JQ) who received an Award of Merit in the Water Structures category from the International Concrete Repair Institute (ICRI) for the firm's repairs to the Morris Sheppard Dam and Powerhouse project at Possum Kingdom Lake in Graford, Texas, according to JQ principal Chris Story, P.E.

CP&Y Wins Texas CEC Gold Award
 Congratulations goes to CP&Y's Austin office who won the Texas CEC Gold Award in the Environmental Category for the Del Rio Drainage Ditch Study; Protecting the Citizens from Floods and Preserving the San Felipe Springs while Saving the City Time and Money.

DWU Golf Association (GA)

DWUGA will hold its first of 10 scheduled tournaments for the 2009 season on February 28, 2009 at L.B. Houston Golf Course, Dallas (sign-up deadline for the first tournament is February 21, 2009). Tournament fee for L.B Houston is \$45 per player including cart fee. Membership dues for 2009 are \$25 and there is a \$35 deposit fee for new members. For additional information about membership in DWUGA and the 2009 tournament schedule contact:

Alan Aulenbach, Membership Chairman
 E-mail: aaulenbach@sbcglobal.net
 Telephone – 214-553-5821



**WATER ENVIRONMENT
ASSOCIATION OF TEXAS**
Preserving & Enhancing the Water Environment of Texas

Save the Date...

WEAT-NTS February Seminar

Topic: Sustainability: Making Your Brown...Greener
Location: City Place, Dallas
Date: February 10, 2009
Time: 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Registration Cost: \$120 (Registration Opens January 2009)
Sponsorship Cost: \$250 (Contact Dawn Anderson,
danderson@cpyi.com)

Seminar Will Include:

- **NACWA Update**
- **LEEDs Certification Process, Benefits, Cost**
- **Carbon Footprint Calculators / Analysis / National Trends**
- **Plant Process Optimization for Green Results**
- **Green Processes and Operations**
- **Emerging Technologies for Green Results**
- **Energy Management**
- **Sustainable Design**
- **Green Electrical Design**
- **Water Reuse**
- **Solids Processing for Beneficial Reuse / Green Results**

**Registration
information
will be emailed
in the
following weeks.**

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WEAT-NTS Calendar of Events

January 15, 2009	CityPlace	WEAT-NTS	Dinner Meeting
February 10, 2009	CityPlace	WEAT-NTS	Annual Seminar "Sustainability: Making Your Brown... Greener"
March 19, 2009	TexasStar	WEAT-NTS	Dinner Meeting
May 21, 2009	CityPlace	WEAT-NTS	Dinner Meeting
July 16, 2009	TexasStar	WEAT-NTS	Dinner Meeting

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