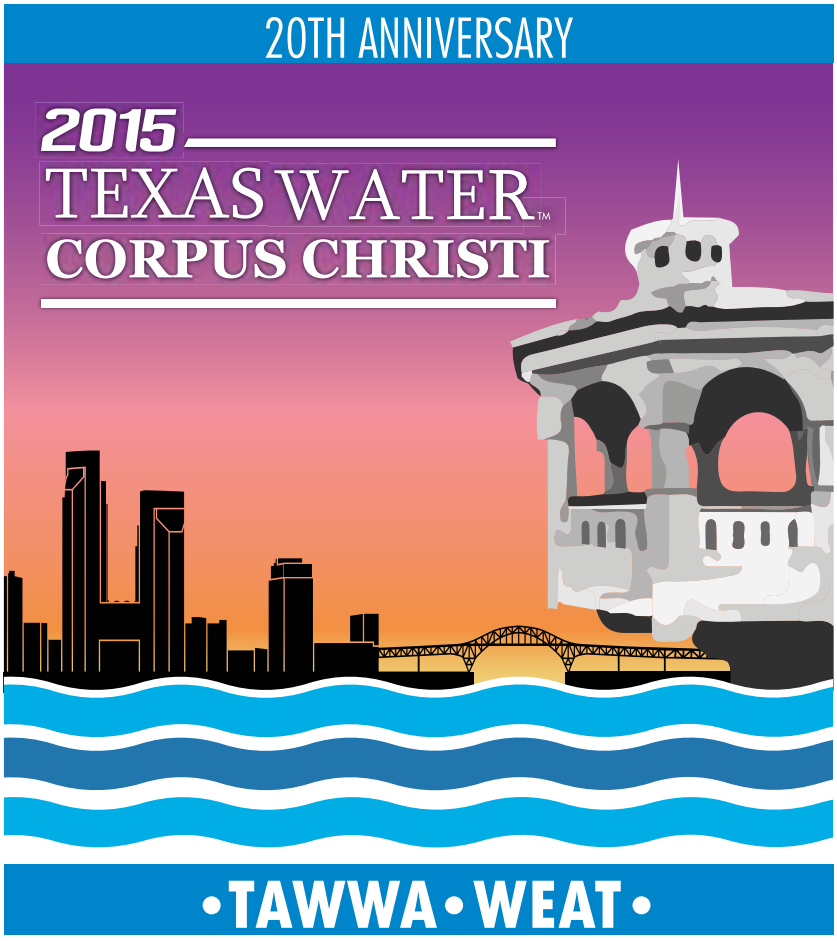


Awards Program

Conference Luncheon, Wednesday, April 15, 11:30 a.m.

JOINT TAWWA/WEAT Award

TAWWA Awards

WEAT Awards

Awards Breakfast, Thursday, April 16, 7:30 a.m.

WEAT Awards

JOINT WEAT/TAWWA Awards

TAWWA Awards

Texas State Aquarium, Thursday, April 16, 6 p.m.

WEAT Awards

TAWWA Awards

TEXAS SECTION - AMERICAN WATER WORKS ASSOCIATION
&
WATER ENVIRONMENT ASSOCIATION OF TEXAS

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT AWARD

…to recognize a utility, agency, company or individual for an innovative and successful program designed to promote workforce development for the utility, agency or company or the water industry in general. Another purpose of the award is to bring workforce development programs forward for others to use or adapt or be inspired.

Curtis Smalley

The untimely death of Curtis Smalley in 2014 left a void in the Workforce Strategies Committee. Committee members relied on his operational expertise. He understood the need to train new operators and help further train and promote those already working in the field.

He was heavily involved in the first Junior Meter Madness competition at Texas Water – as far as we know, the first in the country. He worked at the preliminary competitions, performing a variety of tasks, to help select those students who would travel to Texas Water to compete in the finals.

Always the first to volunteer to attend career fairs, Curtis especially favored those sponsored by the Texas Veterans' Commission. He knew returning war veterans had skills that the industry could use and he actively sought them out.

Curtis was heavily involved in a high school education program aimed at helping graduating seniors obtain their D licenses in water and wastewater. He had the opportunity to teach in the Water Education Program at A. J. Moore Academy at University High School in Waco. The city of Waco hired a graduate of this program to work in water utilities several years ago. An excellent example of a successful workforce strategy, the young man continues to work there today.

For all his contributions to our committee and to the industry, we honor him today with the Workforce Award. Curtis left some big boots to fill – Texas Water will never be the same.

PARTNERSHIP FOR SAFE DRINKING WATER

The Partnership is a voluntary effort between six drinking water organizations, and more than 200 water utilities. The goal of the Partnership is to provide a new measure of public health protection to millions by implementing prevention programs where legislation or regulation does not exist.

10-Year Directors Award

City of Houston – Southeast Water Purification Plant

El Paso Water Utilities – Jonathan W. Rogers Water Treatment Plant

El Paso Water Utilities – Robertson/Umbenhauer Water Treatment Plant

15-Year Directors Award

Austin Water Utility – Albert R. Davis Water Treatment Plant

City of Houston – East Water Purification Plant

Dallas Water Utilities – Bachman Water Treatment Plant

Dallas Water Utilities – East Side Water Treatment Plant

AMERICAN WATER WORKS ASSOCIATION

HONORARY MEMBER AWARD

…to recognize an individual whose knowledge and accomplishments in the field of water supply entitle them to special recognition.

Charlie F. Anderson

Charlie Anderson has worked in the water sector for over 42 years. During that time, he has tirelessly promoted reasonable and sensible regulations for the water sector. As the leader of the Water Utilities Department for the city of Arlington, he was responsible for meeting all federal and state regulations, while at the same time working with those agencies and other water organizations to make sure the regulations delivered the desired results and were achievable by the agencies that treat and deliver the water. Safe drinking water for all customers has always been Charlie's primary goal.

He has been an active Texas Section member since 1987. He has served in all the volunteer capacities starting with Deputy Trustee and moving up to Trustee. He has served on the Membership Committee and the Management Division. He was elected as the Section Vice-Chair in 2000 and then moved through the leadership of the Section, serving as Chair in 2002-2003. He was elected as our Director in 2007 and in 2008 began his term representing us on the AWWA Board. As an active volunteer, he has always had the needs and challenges of Texas utilities in mind and he worked hard to serve the needs of our members.

Charlie has served on the AWWA Board of Directors since 2008. He was elected as a vice-president and became a member of the Executive Committee in 2009. He travelled to many sections and listened to the concerns and praises of the members. He continued to serve the members after his election as a Presidential Officer serving on the Executive Committee. One of his most important accomplishments was as Chair of the Ad Hoc Affiliation Agreement Development & Implementation Committee from 2008-2012. He led the effort to secure formal agreements with all the Sections outlining the relationships between AWWA and the various sections.

This initiative is critical to the future success of AWWA. It was a monumental task, as many sections have their own by-laws in place and some that conflicted with AWWA Bylaws. He had to negotiate with each Section and yet maintain a certain uniformity in agreements so all Sections are treated equally. He established the Special Presidential Panel (SP2) as an outcome of his work on the Affiliation Agreements. SP2 made recommendations to improve relationships and business practices between AWWA and the sections. Under his leadership, the strategies to implement these recommendations were outlined in a report, *AWWA2020: A Path to One AWWA*, that was presented to the Board and approved in June 2014. Charlie has definitely had a positive impact on AWWA.

While president of AWWA, Charlie worked to increase AWWA's role in the international water community. He supported the decision to take AWWA to India. AWWA has committed to supporting AWWA activities in India in order to assist them in bringing safe drinking water to that country. Charlie also supports Water For People, a separate organization from AWWA that grew out of AWWA members' recognition that we could play a significant role in bringing safe drinking water and sanitation to developing countries.

At the Association level, Charlie has also served on the Compensation Committee, the Coagulation Filtration Committee and the Landmarks Award Committee.

AMERICAN WATER WORKS ASSOCIATION

WATER INDUSTRY HALL OF FAME AWARD

...to recognize the most significant contributions to the field of public water supply.

John F. Kubala

John Kubala was a man of honesty and integrity who never allowed the word "can't" to enter his vocabulary. He was a "can do" visionary leader of the water profession. After graduation from high school in the town of West, Texas, just north of Waco and Austin, he received a full football scholarship to Texas A&M University where he played under the famous Coach Paul "Bear" Bryant.

After he graduated with a degree in civil engineering, he was employed by the city of Arlington, Texas as their first water and sewer engineer. At the time, Arlington was on the cusp of a rapid growth spurt. The city soon recognized his ability, and he became Arlington's first director of utilities when the department was separated from the department of public works to become a separate enterprise fund of the city.

Kubala never looked back! He was a visionary civil engineer and leader who believed strongly in developing a workforce of talented water professionals who applied innovation to identify the root cause of problems to implement lasting solutions. His leadership led Arlington's utility in practices that will endure not only in Arlington but throughout the water sector in Texas and the nation. Under his leadership, Arlington led the way in rightsizing its workforce and implementing skill based compensation for the water distribution and collection system workforce.

As director of utilities, both of Arlington's water treatment plants received the prestigious U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Operations and Maintenance Award of Excellence. He led Arlington in the development of a comprehensive infrastructure renewal and replacement program that closed Arlington's renewal and replacement gap. That in turn positioned Arlington as a strong competitor in the economic development arena.

As a result of his vision and leadership, Arlington's utility supports a vibrant city known for its entertainment complex that is host to the Texas Rangers baseball and Dallas Cowboys football teams, Six Flags over Texas and Hurricane Harbor. He also set the stage and laid the foundation for Arlington to become the first utility in Texas to implement pre and intermediate ozonation and biological filtration of its entire drinking water system just a few short years after his retirement.

Today, Arlington has been repeatedly recognized for its excellent water quality. John was honored by the city of Arlington when on Aug. 19, 1997, the city renamed the former Southwest Water Treatment Plant the John F. Kubala Water Treatment Plant in recognition of his long, dedicated and exemplary service to the citizens of Arlington, Texas.

John was a strong advocate of the engineering and scientific disciplines and he always wanted to help others identify better ways through engineering and science to make the world a better place. This enduring quality of John's did not stop at his death. John chose to donate his body to medical research because that was just his nature – to do all he could to make the future better for others.

JOHN LECHNER AWARD OF EXCELLENCE

…to recognize a service provider member of the Texas Section of AWWA.

J. R. Wilson

James R. Wilson's dedication to the delivery of safe drinking water through his work selling cast iron, concrete pressure and steel water pipe throughout his 62 year career stands as an exemplary model for other service providers.

J.R.'s career in the water industry started in 1950 at U.S. Pipe and Foundry after his graduation from Texas A&M with a Bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering. In 1950, U.S. Pipe manufactured cast iron pipe. He then began a life-long passion to learn everything he could about pipe manufacture, installation and operation. He represented U.S. Pipe at his first AWWA Section Conference at the 1950 Southwest Section Annual Conference in New Orleans.

In 1953, he went to work at United Concrete Pipe and added concrete pressure pipe to his knowledge base. In 1957, he attended his first AWWA Annual Conference which was held in San Francisco. In 1961, he began a 25 year career with Lone Star Steel where he became an expert on steel pipe and enhanced his knowledge of cast iron pipe. In 1986, J.R. went to work for Thompson Pipe and Steel and continued to sell steel pipe.

In 1994, he began an 18 year career with Gifford-Hill-American (which later became Hanson Pipe Products) at age 69! Very quickly into his career, J.R. found that his talents were in sales. He loved to travel the Southwest talking to potential customers as well as existing customers about the various pipe products he offered throughout his 62 years in the water industry. During the drought of the 50's he was involved in the manufacture and installation of the 90-mile pipeline built for the Colorado River Municipal Water District to serve Odessa, Big Spring and Snyder in west Texas.

He has also been part of many other milestone projects such as supplying seven miles of 144-inch diameter pipe for the sewer outfall from Los Angeles International Airport in 1957 and a 42-inch high volume, high pressure water line at Cape Canaveral Launch Pad 39 used to flood the pad to prevent its destruction during launches.

J.R. has been a member of AWWA since 1951. He received his Lifetime Membership Award in 1981 and his Gold Water Drop Award in 2001. He has always supported and promoted AWWA Standards and Specifications. He worked with the Cast Iron Pipe Research Association which later became the Ductile Iron Pipe Research Association to develop AWWA Standards for cast iron and ductile iron pipe. He was a member of the AWWA Steel Water Pipe Manufacturers Technical Advisory Committee and helped write the 2nd and 3rd editions of *M11 Steel Pipe – A Guide for Design and Installation*.

J.R. always worked behind the scenes to promote AWWA and its mission of providing a safe and adequate supply of drinking water to communities. During his career, he has mentored a number of fledgling sales representatives who went on to serve the water industry in their own right.

Even in retirement, J.R. keeps up with goings on in the water industry and remarks on the progress in technologies and equipment that have occurred during his lifetime. He is a perfect example of what water professionals want to see in a service provider, especially someone in sales. He is a walking encyclopedia of history of water pipeline manufacturing and installation. He credits his continued health and happiness to a rewarding career serving the public.

DIVERSITY AWARD

...to recognize an individual, group, or organization that has created, promoted, and maintained diversity by establishing an environment that recognizes, encourages, and effectively utilizes each individual's talents.

Dallas Water Utilities

Dallas Water Utilities is a city of Dallas department that provides drinking water supply and wastewater services to over 2.2 million customers in Dallas and 27 customer cities.

In 2007, DWU began working with Global Bridgebuilders, an organization that develops and implements diversity management systems. Global Bridgebuilders provided guidance to DWU for increasing its diversity. This was done through assessments, focus groups, sensitivity training and employee councils.

A significant result of the diversity management effort with Global Bridgebuilders was the formation of an employee advisory council. The EAC is a cross-section of DWU employees that reflect differences in age, gender, job classification, ethnic background, and tenure. Its members reflect the diversity it was formed to promote.

The EAC meets regularly to address issues concerning employee morale and department team building. Within the EAC there is no rank and "egos are checked at the door" when it meets. It is a solutions-oriented, collaborative and transparent group. It has been instrumental in improving employee safety, increasing employee appreciation and strengthening employee engagement.

Service Pin Awards recognize the time and effort each person puts into their work. Succession training prepares newer and younger employees for future leadership roles. The establishment of Employee Business Centers improved communication and information management for all employees, especially field crews. Improvements to the department supply ordering system increased efficiency. The Zero Accident Attitude Program identifies work hazards and develops solutions to eliminate them.

All of the EAC accomplishments are the result of contributions from each member and working to reach a consensus on a plan of action. The EAC has become a model for other department in the city of Dallas.

In addition to developing diversity within its workforce, members of the DWU staff have set an example to the rest of the staff by supporting the diversity efforts of the Texas Section AWWA. DWU is led by Jo M. (Jody) Puckett, P.E. Jody has been with DWU for 32 years and has been its Director since 2005. She is a strong supporter of the Texas Section Diversity Committee having been a presenter in the Diversity session at the Texas Water Conference twice in the past five years. At the Texas Water 2014 Conference, she spoke about the impact a leader has on the diversity in an organization. A leader's words and actions must clearly show his/her commitment to diversity if the organization is to follow.

DWU further supports the Texas Section Diversity Committee by encouraging two of its staff members to serve on the committee. Margarett Williams and Catherine Lee are active and valued committee members. At the Texas Water 2013 Conference, they made a Diversity session presentation on generational diversity showing us how to understand and appreciate generational differences and bring us closer together.

DISTINGUISHED PUBLIC SERVICE AWARD

...to recognize distinguished public service outside the line of duty by an AWWA member.

James L. "Jim" Keffer

State Representative Jim Keffer (R-Eastland) was appointed as Chair of the House Committee on Natural Resources for the 84th Legislative Session. Rep. Keffer was also named to the House Committees on Energy Resources and Redistricting. The House Committee on Natural Resources is charged with the conservation of the natural resources of Texas, including land and water resources, as well as the appropriation and allocation of these resources.

Texas Section AWWA and the water utility industry as a whole have benefitted from Rep. Keffer's focused attention on, and stewardship of, drinking water availability, quality and sustainability. His legislative pragmatism has provided a balance between innumerable "special interests" and the need for broader recognition, protection, and development of water resources.

As the nation's attention has turned to developing its own energy resources - and as technology has enabled the petroleum industry to gain access to untapped oil and natural gas resources - the process of hydraulic fracturing (fracking) has been widely employed both in Texas and in other states where rich resource pools have been identified.

Fracking uses large quantities of water which, in most instances, involves drilling water wells in situ or tapping other supplies. The chemicals used in the process (in some instances deemed proprietary by the industry) are not known and their use has spawned critics. Additionally, access to and potential for groundwater depletion is coupled with widespread concern about contamination of groundwater as a result of the drilling and extraction processes.

These issues prompted Rep. Keffer to bridge the concerns of various environmental groups, oil-and-gas industry members, and the water industry. Maintaining support from all stakeholders was challenging or, as Rep. Keffer noted, "We had to keep the balance between environmental wishes and oil-and-gas wishes. And, I think, at the end of the day we were able to do that."

The legislation provides that certain chemicals may be claimed as trade secrets, but that a rational process is established to determine whether a chemical must be revealed to the public. The law also provides that landowners adjacent to well sites may challenge the trade secrets claim.

In addition, Rep. Keffer, and his firm, EBAA Iron Co. support and are actively involved in AWWA and Texas Section conferences, committees, and special programs and projects. His personal commitment to AWWA programs and activities has supported the firm's and its employees' active involvement and participation in our manufacturers and suppliers community.

"Water is our most precious resource. It is critical that the legislature continues to strive for solutions to our state's water issues as Texas continues to struggle with one of the worst droughts on record. The Natural Resources Committee will help lead the state with development of smart and innovative water solutions." said Keffer.

Rep. Keffer's long-term advocacy for water resource matters, his pragmatic approach to legislation, and his company's support for AWWA programs and policies are emblematic of a recipient of the Distinguished Public Service Award.

CHAPTER OF THE YEAR

Local Chapters play an essential role in the achievement of Texas Section AWWA goals and objectives. The local chapters organize a multitude of professional and social programs, conduct membership recruitment and retention drives, support technical activities striving to advance the water community, and market AWWA as "dedicated to the world's most important resource."

Through the annual Chapter Awards program, Texas Section AWWA has the opportunity to recognize the valuable contributions of local chapters as they strive to enrich, educate, and enlighten the AWWA membership. Included in the Chapter Awards program is the Chapter of the Year Award. To win this award, the Chapter must submit in each of the five individual project award categories: Chapter communications, Community service, Educational offerings, Fundraising effort, and Membership recruitment and retention.

South Texas Chapter

The South Texas Chapter chapter serves AWWA members and water professionals in the San Antonio Area. The chapter received record participation from the members and the surrounding community in all its endeavors. Highlights of their achievements this past year are in the Community Service, Educational offerings and Fund raising activities.

The South Texas Chapter is committed to community service in various ways. The members provide support to the San Antonio Water System and the city of San Antonio in their effort to promote water education to high school students in the area. Every year, SAWS holds a conference for high school students to participate in learning experiences. Local schools have various science projects throughout the area and the chapter supports these efforts by providing judges for the projects.

To promote educational offerings, the South Texas Chapter provided operators, young professional, students, project managers and administrators various educational opportunities which included chapter meetings, social events, a one-day seminar on emerging technologies and a young professionals summit for networking and career training.

A large contingent of the South Texas Chapter efforts are spent on raising funds for appropriate chapter causes each year. These funds are used mainly for scholarships, educational activities and to support operator attendance at AWWA's annual conference. Total scholarships of $7,000 were given to local area students and Texas Section awarded scholarships. The Annual Sweating for a Cause - Water for People Golf Tournament raised $29,000 for the designated charity organization. The Annual Scholarship Dinner raised $10,000 for next year's scholarships.

Junior Meter Madness Contest
1 p.m.-2:30 p.m. Wednesday, Exhibit Hall

The Junior Meter Madness Contest matches students from high school environmental programs for a test of their meter-assembling skills and dexterity in the Exhibit Hall from 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. Please support these "future water professionals" by attending on Wednesday.

AMERICAN WATER WORKS ASSOCIATION

AWARD OF MERIT

...to recognize those outside the water profession who have demonstated outstanding service in support of the principles of AWWA in providing better water for people.

William A. "Bill" Callegari

First elected to the Texas House of Representatives in 2000, Representative Bill Callegari chose to retire from the Legislature after serving seven terms.

Rep. Callegari has been a leader in water issues for his entire legislative career. He authored and co-authored an impressive list of significant legislation including bills relating to such issues as water resource planning, funding the State Water Plan, the creation of the West Harris County Regional Water Authority, a constitutional amendment and enabling legislation allowing water districts to fund public parks and legislation to reform land use issues regarding water service (CCN legislation) and numerous others critical to the water community.

His experience at local and state government levels has provided him unique insight into how to improve how government works and addressing such issues as unfunded mandates, government transparency and efficiency, and removing antiquated agencies and statutes. With an interest in water issues, Rep. Callegari was soon recognized for his expertise regarding issues such as interbasin transfers and wastewater reuse to name a few. He served as a member of the House and Senate Study Commissions on Water for Environmental Flows.

Rep. Callegari served on numerous professional and civic boards and committees relating to environmental control and wastewater treatment, as well as contributing to several panels and authoring articles related to water and environmental topics. Participating as a member of the City of Houston Wastewater Regionalization Task Force, Bill also worked on the TNRCC (now TCEQ) Sewer System Design Criteria Committee and chaired the Greater Houston Builders Association Government Affairs Committee.

He was appointed as the first chair of the Texas Water Commission's Wastewater Advisory Council and is a member of both the National and Texas Society of Professional Engineers.

Rep. Callegari obtained a Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Engineering from Louisiana State University in 1963 and a Master of Science in Civil Engineering from the University of Houston in 1972. In 1974, he founded AM-TEX Corporation, which provided management and privatization services to utility districts and municipalities throughout Texas. As President and CEO, he pioneered AM-TEX´s growth as a major force in the state and national water industry.

Subsequent to selling AM-TEX and beginning service in the Legislature, he served as President of major national and international water companies. During his professional career Rep. Callegari founded the Texas Association of Water Board Directors and served on several professional and civic committees and boards relating to environmental control, water, and wastewater treatment. He has been a Licensed Professional Engineer for over 40 years and holds "Class A" certifications in water and wastewater management. He is one of the House of Representatives´ leading water experts.

Rep. Callegari is a member of both the LSU and the University of Houston College of Engineering Halls of Distinction as well as the LSU Alumni Hall of Distinction and the LSU Alumni Center Wall of Honor. His legacy at LSU will be forever recognized thanks to the William A. Callegari Environmental Center named in his honor. In addition, Mr. Callegari was recently inducted as a Fellow in the Texas Engineering Foundation.

WILLIAM T. "DOC" BALLARD AWARD

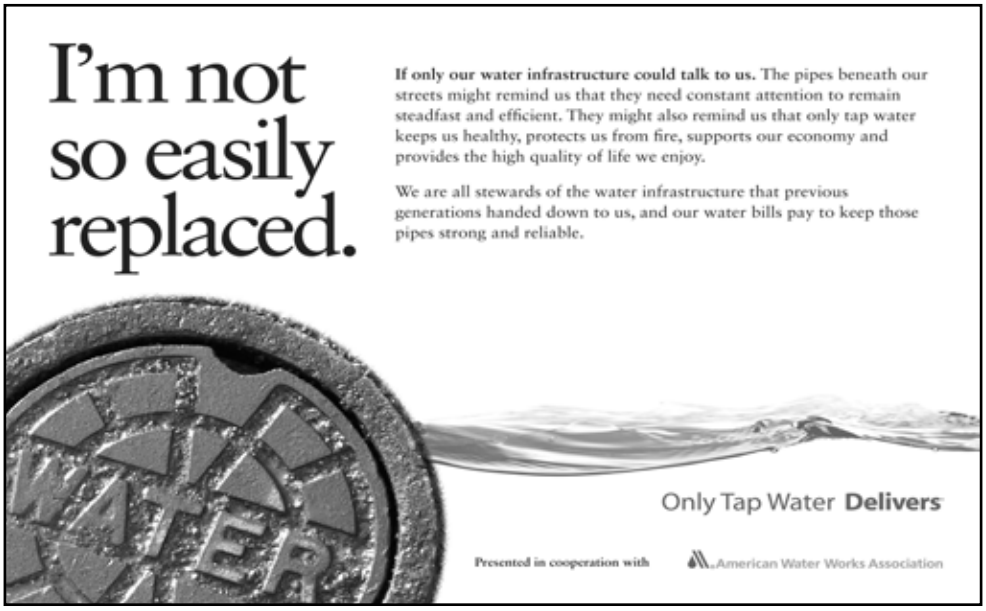
William T. "Doc" Ballard was one of those people who not only was the consummate professional in his work, but also a mentor to many, and a friend to all. As a graduate of the University of Texas at Austin in 1946, and later with a Masters in Engineering from Georgia Tech, "Doc" began his career as a professional engineer with the State Public Health Department. He was assigned to the Tyler District Office and remained in Tyler working for the Department of Health, and later with LaGlonia Oil and Gas. He returned to the Department of Health as regional engineer of the Tyler office until his retirement in 1987. "Doc" was a consultant in water and wastewater treatment until his death in November 1999.

Many knew "Doc" from his work with utilities, his many scholarly and practical writings published in a variety of professional publications and his active role with organizations such as AWWA, WEF, WEAT and TWUA. And, he was a Texas Section AWWA Fuller Award Winner in 1991. For all that "Doc" did, those who knew him best remember him for what he did for others. As a public health professional, he remained committed throughout his long and productive career to helping us in the water profession do our jobs better and more effectively. And, "Doc" did it with a personal touch that made him a great mentor, teacher and welcome friend.

In 1999, the Texas Section AWWA created the W. T. "Doc" Ballard Award to recognize those Texas Section members who have distinguished themselves in our profession by using their personal influence to shape the course of change in our profession by helping utilities and individuals serve the profession better.

This award is not presented every year and only to those whose selfless contributions to the industry, beyond all others, deserves recognition.

The recipient of this award is kept secret until announced publicly.



AMERICAN WATER WORKS ASSOCIATION

SILVER WATER DROP AWARDS

The AWWA Life Membership Awards are given to those members who have achieved 30 years of service to the water community and AWWA.

David R. Bailey	Waxahachie	Carola G. Serato	Kingsville
Bradley M. Feldman	Carrollton	John C. Smith	Seguin
Garey W. Foyt	McKinney	Abel I. Solis	San Ygnacio
Richard Glick	Arlington	David A. Vogt	The Woodlands
James L. Higgins	Fort Worth	Steve Walden	Austin
Robert D. Hill	Conroe	Herbert R. Wittliff	Port Lavaca
James R. Kidwell	Austin	H. Daniel Wright	Montgomery
Layne G. Parsons	Dallas		

SILVER WATER DROP & LIFE MEMBER AWARDS

The AWWA Life Membership Awards are given to those members who have achieved 30 years of service to the water community and AWWA and are at least 65 years old.

Malcolm D. Bailey	Houston	Katie McCain	Frisco
Daniel J. Freeland	Houston	Derek McCoy	The Woodlands
Jack L. May	Garland		

LIFE MEMBERSHIP AWARDS

The AWWA Life Membership Awards are given to those members who previously achieved Silver Water Drop Award status and are now at least 65 years old.

William L. Boomer	Fort Worth	Robert Pence	Fort Worth
Mike Hemphill	Colorado City	Jimmie R. Sims	Huntsville
John D. Mercer	Edna	Jeanne K. Wiginton	Austin

GEORGE WARREN FULLER AWARD

One of the most prestigious awards in the water profession is the George Warren Fuller Award for distinguished service to the water supply field in "commemoration of the sound engineering skill, the brilliant diplomatic talent and the constructive leadership, which characterized the life of George Warren Fuller."

This award winner is selected by previous Fuller Award winners, and kept a tightly guarded secret until the Texas Water Luncheon. In a unique ceremonial process, the current Chair of the Fuller Award Selection Committee of the Texas Section AWWA will call all Fuller Award Winners in attendance to assemble in the front of the room. He will then direct the group to begin searching the room for the person known only to the committee members as this year's Fuller Awardee. Slowly, as a brief highlight of this year's awardee is read, the group will begin converging on this year's winner's location in the room. As the group converges, the detail in the awardee's career highlights will become more and more specific. See if you or the awardee realizes at the last moment who the awardee is for the Texas Section American Water Works Association 2015 Fuller Award.

TEXAS SECTION – AWWA
GEORGE WARREN FULLER AWARD WINNERS

1972	Robert P. Van Dyke	1994	F. Warren Norris
1973	Haskell R. Street*	1995	Katie McCain
1974	Richard G. Toler*	1996	Jack A. Renfro
1975	David R. Smallhorst*	1997	Randy J. Goss
1976	John H. Stacha*	1998	Ronny Hyde
1977	J.L. Robinson*	1999	Steve Walden
1978	John T. Hickerson	2000	Carole Baker
1979	Otis Goldman*	2001	Mark Lowry
1980	George O. Muller	2002	Bill Riley
1981	Charles K. Foster*	2003	Gary Smith
1982	Glen Doty*	2004	Jeannie Wiginton
1983	John Kubala*	2005	Charles Anderson
1984	Phil Kosub	2006	Glenda Dunn
1985	James H. Bailey*	2007	Bill Smith
1986	Thomas D. Tiner	2008	Dean Sharp
1987	Michael K. Tubbs	2009	Mike Howe
1988	Michael Meadows	2010	Charles Maddox
1989	Kay Kutchins	2011	Mary L. Gugliuzza
1990	Dennis L. Allen	2012	Richard Talley
1991	W. T. "Doc" Ballard*	2013	Daniel Nix
1992	Lee. C. Bradley, Jr.	2014	Donna Howe

** Deceased*

For a complete description on the career of George Warren Fuller, read the following pages.

(Continued)

AMERICAN WATER WORKS ASSOCIATION

GEORGE WARREN FULLER AWARD

"Little can be said about George Warren Fuller without recalling a thousand and one connections which he has had with sanitary engineering practice in this country and abroad. Amazingly active mentally, he always catalyzed those individuals who were fortunate enough to work with him. An enthusiasm tempered by seasoned judgment and reinforced by a remarkable technical knowledge, accounting for the fact that his name is identified with almost every important sanitary advance in this country in the last four decades. Many, however, are born at the right time who are either ill equipped or are lacking in sufficient vision to make the most of that good fortune. In Mr. Fuller's case, heredity and environmental influence, coupled with remarkable energy, all contributed to the development of a practitioner of outstanding stature. He will be remembered long in the future, as much for his distinctive personal characteristics as for his long list of contributions to sanitary science and practice." So wrote Abel Wolman editorially in Municipal Sanitation after Fuller's death on June 15, 1934.

George Warren Fuller was born in Franklin, Massachusetts, December 21, 1868, on the farm which was part of the land acquired by the family during the Revolutionary period. Three or four Fullers came to Massachusetts from England before the middle of the Seventeenth Century. The one with whom we are concerned was Ensign Thomas Fuller, who, in 1642, by vote of the people of Dedham, was "admitted" - a prerequisite to citizenship at that time - to the purchase of Martin Phillips' lot. He seems to have been a capable and versatile man. He was a surveyor for several years after 1660 and selectman for fourteen years; he repeatedly represented the community at the general court, was co-trustee of money bequeathed for the establishment of a Latin school and laid out the road to Cambridge as well as many minor ones. He kept the town's ammunition, for which he was paid ten shillings a year, but had considerable trouble in collecting the fee, and at one time remitted part of it in order to obtain settlement. In the succeeding line, down through Grandfather Asa Fuller, who was a Minute Man, there continues to be activity of a civic nature—service as selectmen, court representatives, and the like.

George Warren Fuller was at the head of his class when he attended the Dedham schools. His scholarship was, of course, a source of great satisfaction to his mother. At sixteen he passed the examination for entrance at MIT but, his father having died a few weeks before, it was thought best for him to have a fourth year in high school, after which he was graduated at the head of his class and with the highest marks given up to that time. At MIT he met and came under the influence of such people as William T. Sedgwich, Ellen H. Richards, and Hiram F. Mills, all enthusiastically interested in the new science of public health.

Their influence was felt throughout his life. Following his graduation, he spent a year at the University of Berlin and in the office of Piefke, engineer of the Berlin water works. On his return to Massachusetts, the state board of health employed him for some five years, during the latter part of the period being in charge of the Lawrence Experiment Station where he extended the experimental work and studies started by another famous chemist and engineer, Allen Hazen. The Lawrence Experiment Station was then recognized as leading in research on the purification of water supplies and treatment of sewage in this country. Fuller's brilliant achievements in this field attracted such attention to his ability that he was selected in 1895 to take charge of the experiments at Louisville, Kentucky, in the use of rapid filtration. Immediately after he had accomplished this work, he was offered a similar engagement in Cincinnati, Ohio. These experiments served to remove the questions, which had been raised about the adequacy of rapid filtration compared with slow sand filtration for these municipalities, and, at the same time, established the value of mechanical filtration where conditions were such as to warrant its use.

During his 34 years of practice as a consulting engineer, following the opening of his New York office and, later, the opening of branch offices in Kansas City, Missouri; Toledo, Ohio; and Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, Fuller advised more than 150 cities, commissions, and corporations on their water supply and sewerage problems. The outstanding engagements, including among others: Washington, D.C.; New Orleans, Louisiana; St. Louis, Missouri; Indianapolis, Indiana; Kansas City, Missouri; Memphis, Tennessee; Wilmington, Delaware; New Haven, Connecticut; Lexington, Kentucky; Minneapolis and St. Paul,

(Continued)

Minnesota; Montreal, Quebec; the Shanghai, China, Water Company; the International Joint Commission (Canada and United States boundary waters); the New Jersey Water Policy Commission; the North Jersey District Water Supply Commission; the Hackensack Valley Sewerage Commission; and the Metropolitan Sewerage Commission of Rhode Island. For many of these engagements, his service included full control over all engineering work involved in the preparation of plans and contracts, as well as the actual construction.

Notwithstanding a busy life in active practice, Fuller gave freely of his time and energy to the advancement of his chosen profession through participation in the activities of technical societies, through contributions to the engineering press, and through educational activities. His record in this respect is outstanding. He was a member of the American Water Works Association (President); the American Public Health Association (President); the Engineering Foundation (Chair); the American Society of Civil Engineers (Vice-President); the American Institute of Consulting Engineers; the American Society of Mechanical Engineers; the Institution of Civil Engineers of Great Britain; the American Chemical Society; the American Society of Bacteriologists; the Engineering Institute of Canada; the Vereines Duetscher Ingenieure; the Association Generale des Hygienistes et Techniciens Municipaux of France; and the Franklin Institute.

Perhaps the most significant of Fuller's characteristics was his belief in organization and his devotion to standardization.

In 1920, at the Montreal Convention of the AWWA, Fuller negotiated the organization of a committee to codify and standardize water works practice. The Association before that time had developed a few specification Documents, but its relation to the preparation of those Documents was that of cooperative participation rather than leadership. The group under his leadership and chairmanship was first called the Standardization Council, later the Committee on Water Works Practice. He continued to be a dominant influence in the AWWA during the time its constitution and bylaws were being substantially revised.

At the New York Convention of the AWWA early in June 1934 (only a week before his death), Fuller was in constant attendance, participating in the sessions and continuing even then his stimulation of the activities of the Association and its elected leaders.

With the AWWA, APHA, ASCE and FSWA alone, more than 45,000 professional and technical men in North America are indebted to Fuller for the guidance of their organizational readjustments in the 1920-30 period, which made possible the standing that these associations have today.

George Warren Fuller was first of all a capable engineer, equipped with a mind that never closed a channel to new ideas. He was an inventive technician—first in the laboratory field, later in engineering and design. He was a skilled negotiator; a public relations counsel who never called himself one, but who by such skill persuaded reluctant city officials that they were very wise and right to authorize sanitary improvements. He was a loyal citizen who found himself able and willing to render service to his country during World War I. He was uncannily able to give ear to the ideas and aspirations of younger men in the field and to inspire in them some measure of the spirit of leadership that he possessed. He believed in the organization and assembly of technical and professional men and devoted himself fully to the advancement of their associations and societies to the end that they serve better through planned action and cooperation.

Fitting indeed were the words of M. N. Baker, in his editorial tribute in the Engineering News Record:

> *History will be better able than we are to appraise the contributions of George W. Fuller to the art of water purification, but history will not be so well able to appraise Mr. Fuller's personal qualities of understanding, kindliness, sound judgment and tact as are we who have been fortunate enough to have frequent contact with him in our daily work. Here also should be recorded an acknowledgment of the debt the profession owes to Mr. Fuller, especially his chosen branch of the profession, for his liberal contributions of time and energy to its professional societies. It can be said without fear of contradiction that it was chiefly through his efforts that the American Water Works Association has been raised from the level of a social group to its present high standing as a technical organization. Mr. Fuller's passing also serves to re-emphasize the youthfulness of sanitary engineering and the fundamental nature of the contributions made by a generation of notable men, now largely departed—work that centered around the Lawrence experiments and laid the foundation for present design methods and practices of water filtration. Fuller's achievements and those of others of his generation are a legacy to be utilized by the present generation to carry the art forward to greater perfection.*

WATER ENVIRONMENT FEDERATION

WILLIAM D. HATFIELD AWARD

...to recognize an operator of wastewater treatment plants for outstanding performance and professionalism.

Tim Morgan

Tim Morgan joined the Trinity River Authority (TRA) of Texas in 1987. He began his career as a Maintenance Mechanic-I at the Ten Mile Creek Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant. During his tenure with TRA, he has enjoyed the challenge of serving in numerous roles that include senior maintenance mechanic, senior instrument technician, electronic chief and his current position, technical services division chief. Mr. Morgan holds various certifications and licenses that include Class "B" Wastewater license, Class "B" Air Conditioning and Refrigeration Contractors License, Certified Control Systems Technician level III, Certified Fiber Optic Technician and (NASSCO) PACP/ MACP certifications. He is a member of the Water Environment Federation, International Association of Automation and the Fiber Optic Association. He received his BAAS in Applied Technology from University of North Texas (Denton, Texas).

As the electronic chief, Mr. Morgan was responsible for all matters pertaining to the Technical Services Department at the Ten Mile Creek plant, including maintenance of the process control systems, HVAC systems and collection system. During his tenure, he was instrumental in designing a new process control system from the ground-up that would eventually monitor or control much of the plant's operations. The new PCS system featured 40 PLCs networked over a redundant fiber-optic backbone.

During his career at TRA, he was tasked with developing and implemented a CMOM program for TMCRWS. The program was structured around utilizing the most cost effective means to reach the desired results. Both contracted and in-house resources were blended together to achieve the programs goals within the existing budget. This approach produced a very cost effective maintenance program with low capital outlays.

Mr. Morgan served as the team leader in the first phase of TRA's wireless implementation project that ultimately led to connecting over 130 northern region collection system meters to a wireless data management system. This system has proven to be of tremendous value, allowing TRA to view data and published reports very rapidly. The system also allows potential problems to be identified and resolved more efficiently.

Mr. Morgan is currently the division chief for TRA's pipeline repair and maintenance division. He is responsible for supervising, planning and coordinating the maintenance activities related to the collection system pipelines located in TRA's northern region. TRA's northern region consists of five regional wastewater treatment plants with over 350 miles of interceptor with pipe sizes as large as 110 inches in diameter, serving all or part of 30 cities in north Texas.

He has also been very active in WEAT, serving as the Operations and Maintenance committee chair from September 2012 to January 2014. Under his leadership this committee became very active, contributing several technical articles to the *Texas WET* publication including articles highlighting utility employees from across the state.

SIDNEY L. ALLISON AWARD

...to recognize a person or organization that has made significant contributions to the engineering, science, and/or operation and maintenance of wastewater collection and pumping stations with the mission to transport wastewater to a treatment plant.

David E. Koberlein, PE, GISP

Mr. Koberlein earned his bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering at the University of Texas at Arlington in 1997 and is a licensed professional engineer in Texas, Oklahoma and Louisiana.

Mr. Koberlein has over 29 years of experience in civil and environmental engineering with a focus on water and wastewater system design and assessment. He began his career in the industry as a board drafter and is now a regional Vice President with Burgess & Niple, Inc. Mr. Koberlein also serves on the corporate Wet Weather Services and Asset Management Teams. During his long career, he has served as project principal/manager/engineer on hundreds of projects, including pipeline design and assessment projects for water, wastewater and storm water systems, design and assessment of wastewater lift stations, Inflow/Infiltration and Sewer System Evaluation Surveys, Wastewater Master Planning and Program Management, Wastewater Hydraulic Modeling, Geographic Information Systems Implementation, Decision Support System Development, Asset Management, Construction Inspection and Management, Remote Sensing and Telemetry, and Wastewater Monitoring Network Evaluation and Design. Mr. Koberlein has specialized expertise in civil design, database design and implementation, mapping, asset management, modeling software, and decision support systems.

David is a member of the Water Environment Federation, the Water Environment Association of Texas, the American Society of Civil Engineers, the South Central Arc Users Group (SCAUG), the Buried Asset Management Institute-International, Chi Epsilon, and Tau Beta Pi. In addition to his PE licensure, he is a Geographic Information Systems Professional, NASSCO PACP/LACP/MACP certified, holds a Certificate of Training in Asset Management, and a Project Management Training Certificate, as well as being trained to enter confined spaces.

Mr. Koberlein has been an active volunteer and avid supporter of WEAT and its initiatives, including the activities of WEF as they relate to collections system management and infrastructure asset management. David has demonstrated both technical expertise and a personal commitment to educating and protecting human health and the environment in the collection and transportation of wastewater. His stewardship to the industry can be seen through his work for utilities throughout Texas.

Mr. Koberlein has presented technical papers at the local, state, and national level on the subject of wastewater collection systems, with specialties in system assessment, prioritization, and rehabilitation. David currently serves on the WEAT Collections System and Asset Management Committees.

MEDAL OF HONOR FOR HEROISM AWARD

… to recognize an individual (or group of individuals) from the State of Texas who has demonstrated exceptional courage and bravery in the performance of a single act of heroic behavior involving the water environment industry.

Robert (Bobby) Ray
Bradford (Brad) Beeching

On Thursday Oct. 30, 2014, the Trinity River Authority's Denton Creek Regional Wastewater System's Chief Mechanic, Bobby Ray, received a phone call from Pat Wagnon, Mechanic II that the facilities security guard, standing in the guard shack located by the front gate of the facility, was acting irregular and appeared to be wiping up blood with a towel.

Bobby and Senior Mechanic, Brad Beeching immediately responded. Upon arriving, they viewed a tremendous amount of blood on the floor of the building as well as a towel that was soaked completely through. They had the guard sit down in his chair; Brad ran for First Aid supplies and personal protective equipment while Bobby called 911 within a minute of arriving, Bobby questioned the guard and assessed the area to ensure it was safe.

Once Brad returned they began assessing the guard. "There was a tremendous amount of blood on the floor of the shack" said Bobby. Brad noticed the blood on the guards pants was soaked beyond his knee so he rolled his pants leg up above the knee but could not see a wound.

When they looked at the guard's ankle they noticed blood squirting out of a laceration that was approximately 1.5-inches long and a half-inch wide.

"Blood would gush from the wound with every heartbeat; we knew it was a serious bleed," said Brad, he then rolled up gauze and paper towels and placed them over the wound, using the palm of his hand he applied pressure to the wound but the responders where reluctant to elevate his leg because it was so swollen that blood immediately begin oozing from the skin on the other side of his leg; they didn't want to assert undue pressure to the skin that could cause another laceration.

Paramedics arrived 15 minutes after the DCRWS team initially responded and immediately called for Care Flight. The paramedics all thanked Bobby and Brad and told them that they "should be proud, they saved a man's life today." The paramedics estimated that he lost over a liter of blood before Bobby and Brad responded. If not for the heroic and quick reactions of both Bobby and Brad, as well as the rest of the DCRWS staff, working as a well-trained and organized team, there is a very good chance that the guard would not have survived.

WATER ENVIRONMENT FEDERATION

GEORGE W. BURKE, JR. AWARD

…to recognize municipal and industrial wastewater facilities or individuals for active and effective safety.

Rick Hidalgo, P.E.

Rick Hidalgo is the president and co-founder of Signature Automation, LLC in Addison, Texas. He is a licensed control systems engineer and holds a Bachelor of Science degree in electrical engineering from the University of Texas at Dallas.

Rick began his career in 1988 working for the Systems, Engineering and Construction Division of Johnson Controls, Inc. JCI had a proprietary distributed control system that was marketed primarily to the water/wastewater industry. He worked on several projects for utilities throughout the United States. His roles on these projects consisted of various facets of systems integration inclusive of graphics development, controls programming, system commissioning, operator training and ongoing support.

As the use of non-proprietary systems using custom off the shelf Human Machine Interface and Programmable Logic Controller packages became more prevalent in the industry, Rick expanded his knowledge of industrial control systems beyond the proprietary JCI offering that he used early in his career. Although most of the projects throughout his career have focused on the water/wastewater industry, he also has had the opportunity to work in other industries such as automotive, HVAC, energy management, semiconductor and power monitoring.

In 1997, Rick transitioned from the contractor to the design side of the business by accepting a position with a national consulting firm. In this capacity, he worked with clients throughout the U.S., focusing on the water/wastewater industry. He continued his love of programming by leading the programming efforts of several projects, first as a lead control engineer, then as a project manager, and later as a regional group leader overseeing both the design and programming aspects of his firm's automation group. He has helped clients design their systems from the ground up by assisting during the initial master planning, conceptual design, detailed design, implementation and final commissioning phases.

In addition to working with many great people, Rick often has stated one of his greatest joys is seeing some of the control systems he worked on early in his career still in use today. In fact, in some instances, he has designed the replacement of systems he previously programmed and commissioned. He jokes however, that this is also a sign of getting old when "you are replacing systems you previously put in."

In recent years, Rick has gained an interest in seeking cyber security solutions for the water sector control systems. He has provided numerous technical papers and presentations on this topic through his active involvement in these efforts. Former WEAT presidents John Bennett and Curtis Smalley asked him to co-chair the WEAT Safety & Security Committee. He willingly accepted this position in 2014 and throughout the last year, the committee has proactively sought to inform and educate the industry on this topic by holding bi-monthly webinars on various issues related to cyber security.

In addition to his role with the Safety & Security Committee, Rick enjoys volunteering his time as a member of the WEAT Electrical & Instrumentation committee and as a volunteer mentor for graduate and undergraduate students at his alma mater as part of the University of Texas at Dallas' Power of Two Management Mentor Program. Previously, he also volunteered his time to help develop the initial Principles and Practices of Engineering exam in software engineering that is now offered by Texas and many other states, as a member of the IEEE Software Engineering Licensure Examination Development Committee.

OUTSTANDING PUBLIC OFFICIAL AWARD

…to recognize an elected official or regulator who actively promotes sound science in environmental policy and regulations.

Carlos Rubenstein

Carlos Rubinstein served as a commissioner of the Texas Commission On Environmental Quality from 2009–2013. He is the Texas representative to the Western States Water Council, the Border Governors' Conference Sustainable Development Worktable, the Good Neighbor Environmental Board – an independent federal advisory committee that assists the president and congress on environmental infrastructure needs along the U.S. border with Mexico. He is also the states representative on the Governmental Advisory Committee, which advises the EPA administrator on environmental concerns regarding NAFTA – the North American agreement on environmental cooperation – and the Commission For Environmental Cooperation.

Rubinstein is a former member of the Texas Environmental Flows Advisory Group. He has also served as deputy executive director of TCEQ and as Rio Grande Watermaster. He is the past Texas representative to the Border Governors' Conference water worktable and a former city manager for the city of Brownsville. Rubinstein received a bachelor's degree in biology from Pan American University.

He was appointed chair of the Texas Water Development Board by Governor Rick Perry on Sept. 1, 2013. During his service as chair, he oversaw the successful rulewriting and implementation of Texas' historic state water planning process through regulation introduced in SWIFT and SWERF. It is through Rubinstein's leadership and his fellow Texas Water Development Board members' hard work that the state water planning process is ahead of schedule. The TWDB expects to distribute about $800 million in low interest loans this first year and an estimated $8 billion during the first decade.

WATER'S WORTH IT®

WINFIELD S. MAHLIE AWARD

...to recognize a member of WEAT who has made significant contributions to the art and science of wastewater treatment and water pollution control.

Dr. Ana J. Peña-Tijerina, P.E., BCEE

Dr. Ana J. Peña-Tijerina shares the passion that Winfield S. Mahlie had for working in the wastewater field. Her passion is studying, designing and troubleshooting water and wastewater treatment processes. She possesses a great desire for collaborating with others and a profound curiosity for learning, innovating and finding engineering solutions with practical applications. She is approachable and bridges the gap between engineers and operators. Her co-workers at the Village Creek Water Reclamation Facility affectionately say she is not "a typical engineer".

She works with the city of Fort Worth as the Technical Services Manager at VCWRF. Dr. Peña-Tijerina's Technical Services Group monitors and evaluates treatment processes and provides support to all other groups at VCWRF. Prior to joining VCWRF, she worked as a design engineer and modeler consultant for eight years.

Dr. Pena-Tijerina obtained her Bachelor's degree in Chemical Engineering (graduated Summa Cum Laude) and her Master of Science degree in Environmental Engineering from the Technological Institute of Monterrey. She received her Doctoral degree in Environmental Engineering from the University of Texas at Arlington.

While in graduate school, she taught several environmental engineering and science courses at the universities. She has been serving as a special guest lecturer at the University of Texas in San Antonio, Texas A&M University in College Station, San Antonio College and Southern Methodist University. Her interest on biological processes and water ignited during her last year in college when she learned the scarcity and value of water. Her dissertation topic was Enhanced Biological Phosphorus Removal using mixed liquor from VCWRF. Her passion for operations began when she worked as Production Manager in the food processing factory in Colima, Mexico. She enjoys working with people and is a natural leader.

Her affiliations include IWA, TACWA, WEF and WEAT. She is an active member of several committees, including the Municipal Resource Recovery Design Committee, the Modeling Expert Group of the Americas and the WEF/WERF Leaders Innovation Forum for Technology. She is chair of the LIFT Digestion Enhancement group and has participated in numerous WEAT committee activities, developed conference programs, and organized monthly technical meeting luncheons, newsletters, community outreach events and seminars for young professionals. She has reviewed technical papers and abstracts for conferences and journals.

Dr. Pena-Tijerina has written technical manuals and books. She was a contributing author of the Water Environment Federation's *Manual of Practice No. 31 – An Introduction to Process Modeling for Designers*, *WEF MOP No. 8- Design of Municipal Wastewater Treatment Plants, 5th Edition* and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's *Process Design Manual for Sludge Treatment and Disposal.* She participated in the revisions to the TCEQ 30 TAC Chapters 217, 307, the Texas Surface Water Quality Standards and its guidance document – the Implementation Procedures.

Ana Julia is a passionate catholic that desires to grow in faith every day. She is also a dedicated wife, mother and daughter. Hernan, Hernan Jr., Julianna and her mom, Ana, are her number one fans and supporters.

WATER ENVIRONMENT FEDERATION

LIFE MEMBERSHIP AWARDS

...recognizing individuals who have been a member of WEF for 35 or more consecutive years, and are age 65 or older.

Michael Baugher	Houston	Robert T. McCarty	Austin
Sharon M. D'Orsie	Houston	James L Meara	Austin
J. Gillam	Houston	Glen D. Middleton	Dallas
Barry E. Hampson	Plano	Don Vandertulip	San Antonio
James Kidwell	Austin	John R. Westendorf	Carrollton
William R. Lewis	Edinburgh	Frederic J Winter	San Antonio
Jerry W. Lovelady	Woodvile		

WATER ENVIRONMENT FEDERATION

OUTSTANDING SERVICE AWARD

...to recognize an individual who has made outstanding contributions to the water environment profession and to the Federation and its Member Associations.

Steve Coonan, P.E.

Steve is a Principal with Alan Plummer Associates, Inc. and is in charge of their South Texas Design Group. In this role he has assisted clients throughout Texas with their water, wastewater, reclaimed water, and stormwater needs. He received a B.S. in Civil Engineering from the University of Missouri-Rolla in 1982. He began his professional career working for the Planning Department of the Missouri Highway Department in Jefferson City, MO. Steve and his wife, Kathy, moved to Austin in 1985, where he began working for Dannenbaum Engineering Corporation on a variety of assignments, including transportation, municipal and land development projects.

It wasn't until Steve went to work for Alan Plummer Associates, Inc. in 1992 that he began to focus on water resources. This is when Steve first joined the Water Environment Association of Texas. One of the first contributions that Steve made to the industry was to serve on the TCEQ Advisory Panel that developed the original Chapter 210 Reclaimed Water Rules.

Following this experience, Steve became more active in the Central Texas WEAT Section. He served the local Section in numerous officer positions, being on the Board for eight years. He served as President of the Texas Section in 2005-2006. Steve was the Transportation Committee Chair for Texas Water when it returned to Austin. Steve joined the State Board for WEAT in 2009. He has served in several capacities, ultimately leading to being President for 2014-2015.

When Steve is not busy assisting clients or serving WEAT, he is busy with other activities. Steve served as an active leader for the Boy Scout Troop where his three sons, Daniel, Tim and Adam, learned to love the great outdoors. Steve was lucky enough to accompany each of his sons to the Philmont Scout Ranch where they enjoyed backpacking through the New Mexico Mountains. Steve is also active at his church, St. Albert the Great Catholic Church, where he serves on the Parish Council and the Parish Building Committee. Water has also been a part of Steve's private life, having made mission trips to both Guatemala and Nicaragua to assist Living Waters International drill drinking water wells for communities without a safe supply of water. When Steve is not busy with his many activities, he and his wife Kathy enjoy travelling the world.

During his tenure as President, Steve has served with both thoughtfulness and decisiveness. His communication skills and understanding of the issues facing the clean water industry and WEAT confers wisdom to his guidance and brings with it a great confidence in leadership from his colleagues and WEAT peers. Thank you, Steve Coonan, for successfully leading us through a year of change and inspiring future WEAT leaders.

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

...to recognize and honoring an individual who has demonstrated continual and tireless contributions toward the improvement of the water environment throughout a long and distinguished career in the wastewater treatment industry and in WEAT and WEF. The nominee shall be a person of proven preeminence in numerous WEAT activities and shall have held positions of leadership in the WEAT organization.

Curtis Smalley

Curtis L. Smalley was born into a farming community in the dusty Panhandle town of Floydada, Texas. His early years and appreciation of the value of water were shaped by the West Texas landscape atop the Ogallala aquifer. Curtis attended West Texas State University in Canyon as well as Texas Tech University in Lubbock.

Curtis' roots in operations and maintenance were first formed in Kemmerer, Wyoming where he worked as a wastewater treatment plant operator. After a brief stint in Wyoming, Curtis moved back to the Panhandle and worked as the Southeast Water Reclamation Plant chief operator with the City of Lubbock, where he quickly earned the respect of his coworkers and superiors. Because of his dedication and leadership potential, Lubbock's public works director, Sam Wahl, volunteered Curtis to be Lubbock area's section representative for WEAT, previously called the Texas Water Pollution Control Association.

Following Wahl's direction, Curtis checked a car out of the City of Lubbock's carpool, and he and his wife, Marla, headed to Galveston for the annual conference. After driving across Texas for his first WEAT conference, Curtis had two "experiences" that made an indelible impression. The first was encountering a valet who wanted to both take and park the city's car. Neither Curtis nor Marla had ever come across this before, and it was an alarming request. The other was engaging with likeminded individuals who mentored the young "Double A" operator, which allowed WEAT the good fortune of having a new volunteer with a commitment to water quality and a lifelong interest in learning, serving and leading.

Curtis served as WEAT's section representative from 1985-1988. One year after becoming Brazos River Authority's (BRA) South Central Regional Superintendent, Curtis became WEAT's Professional Wastewater Operators Representative. His extensive experience in operations and maintenance served him well in WEAT and allowed for his growth at BRA, as he took on the regional superintendent of the Central Basin Region in 2001 and then the regional superintendent of the Central and Lower Basin Region for BRA in 2005. In this capacity, he managed the day to day operations, maintenance, reporting and customer relations of three regional wastewater systems, seven individual wastewater treatment plants, two regional surface water systems, and a small retail water system, including residuals management, effluent reuse, interception and transmission systems and lift, pumping and metering stations.

Throughout Curtis' tenure with BRA, he maintained an active presence in WEAT, winning the WEF Hatfield Award in 1991, authoring "Operator Tips" in WEAT's publication from 1992-2003, serving on the executive board as secretary in 2003 and 2004, representing WEAT as a WEF delegate, 2008-2011, and moving

(Continued)

through his term as vice president, president-elect, and, finally, president of the Water Environment Association of Texas in 2013-2014.

During his terms as WEF delegate, vice president, president elect, and president, Curtis exhibited exceptional leadership skills. He also proved to be a valuable asset in strengthening WEAT's relationships with likeminded organizations including Texas Water Utilities Association, Water Environment Federation, and Texas Section of the American Water Works Association. Curtis is also an exceptional communicator. Because of his ability to articulate the industry's issues, Curtis was often a go-to resource at the agency and testified on behalf of WEAT's interests at the Capitol.

In 2011, Curtis accepted a position with the City of Waco as the treatment program administrator, where his managerial and supervisory skills are practiced daily. At the utility, he continued to inspire new water leaders and shine a light on the pathway from operator to supervisor and manager. Throughout his 31-year career in the City of Lubbock, BRA, Veolia Water and the City of Waco, Curtis was a longtime advocate and practitioner of conservation and a healthy water environment.

Curtis was more than just a contributor to our industry and WEAT, he was a "Renaissance Texan." Curtis could pretty much do it all: He was a leader of operators – not afraid to roll up his sleeves and get the hard work done, and fully capable of leading and inspiring other operators to great achievements. He was a leader in WEAT – he served WEAT and WEF in as many roles as one can imagine, having led our organization as PWO Representative, WEF Delegate, Secretary, Vice President, President-Elect, President, and as Past President up to his passing in 2014.

He was a leader in our industry – he served our industry representing the interests of multiple utilities, supporting sound regulatory decision making as a resource to TCEQ and supporting sound legislation as a resource and contributor at the Capitol. He was a true friend – Curtis was trusted by many and was trustworthy. To friends and co-workers he offered sage advice and immeasurable support. He was the proverbial Texas Gentlemen, and one of the true great people in our great State. He was a magnificent example; Curtis set a high bar for those that knew him and worked with him. He was hard working, thoughtful and logical. He set a high standard at WEAT and those officers around him admired him for it.

Finally and most importantly, he was a loving father, husband and grandfather – he freely admitted this was the most important role in his life and a role which he relished and in which he shined, right up to his final moments with us. Curtis lived a great life! A life worth noting and a life worth honoring. It was a life full of achievement, and deserving of this recognition by WEAT.

Thank you, Curtis Smalley, for your insight, breadth of knowledge, leadership by example, service to WEAT, and preserving our water environment!

Join us at the Awards Breakfast on Thursday, April 16 at 7:30 a.m. for presentation of additional awards.

ARTHUR SIDNEY BEDELL AWARD

...to acknowledge extraordinary personal service to the Water Environment Association of Texas. The honoree must be a member of WEAT and should exemplify organizational leadership, administrative service, membership activity, stimulation of technical functions, or similar contributions to WEAT.

David C. Briggs, P.E.

Mr. Briggs has over 20 years of experience in the areas of water and wastewater treatment design and construction for municipal projects. David received his Civil Engineering degree from the University of Texas in December 1994. Presently, he is a Principal with CDM Smith and is working as a project manager and engineer.

His experience has varied from project management and design to operations and to construction administration; including on-site representation. David has worked with many projects and clients throughout the state from San Antonio to Dallas and many places in between.

David has been involved with WEAT since 1997. He began his involvement at the state level in 2004 serving on WEAT's Long Range Planning Committee. In the following years, he kept busy serving as the Central Texas Section's treasurer, vice-president, president-elect, president, and past president from 2006-2013. Currently, he is serving as a WEAT Delegate to the Water Environment Federation, where he serves on the Leadership Development Committee as part of the House of Delegates. David remains active on WEAT's Audit and Finance Committee, the Management Review Committee and the Scholarship Review Committee.

He has been a long-time supporter of the Operations Challenge program and is serving as a coordinator for the Collection System event at this year's Texas Water Operations Challenge. Also, David will serve as a judge for the Collection System event at the WEFTEC Operations Challenge.

He has appreciated the opportunity to work with the many outstanding people at WEAT. It has been his privilege to be a part of WEAT's growth and change to meet the needs of the industry and membership, while maintaining WEAT's core mission to provide for the professional growth of its members, to educate the public, and to provide input and encouragement to protect and improve our water and our environment.

He and his CDM Smith team are the reigning champions of the exhibition event at Operations Challenge and are looking forward to defending their title against all comers. He also wants to invite everyone to complete in this year's Texas Shootout which supports our scholarships!

David has been married for over 24 years to Shannon, who is definitely the "better half". Together, they enjoy country dancing, playing "42", taking trips, and being with family and friends. They have three kids: Bo – a college freshman, JD – a tenth grader and Keely – a seventh grader. The last member of the family is their 10-year-old yellow Labrador retriever, Trinity. They do enjoy eating venison and other wild game, which allows David the excuse to go hunting. They attend church at West Lake Hills Presbyterian Church in Austin, where David has served on various committees.

LABORATORY ANALYST EXCELLENCE AWARD

...to recognize individuals for outstanding performance, professionalism and contributions to the water quality analysis profession.

Paul D. Hughes

Paul D. Hughes is a laboratory director for Eastex Environmental Laboratory, where he has worked for the past 25 years, and has a B.S. in toxicology from Northeast Louisiana University. His duties as Laboratory Director range from administration to sales, to running sample routes and to running analyses on samples. Mr. Hughes was instrumental in obtaining the initial and ongoing NELAC certification for the Nacogdoches branch of EEL.

Mr. Hughes is the board president of SWIFT WSC. Mr. Hughes has been a member of TWUA for 24 years, including serving as president of the Deep East District two times in 1999 and 2007, as well as vice chair, chair elect and the chair of the East Texas Region. Paul is a charter member of the Pineywoods L.A.S. He has won numerous awards from TWUA, including awards for education and training, association leadership, public education and the Zenith Award.

Mr. Hughes has been married to his wife Janet for 19 years and has two children, Thomas and Grace, who both attending Texas A&M, working on engineering degrees.

WATER ENVIRONMENT ASSOCIATION OF TEXAS
Competition Awards

- **Operations Challenge (Wednesday)**
  - **Process Control**
  - **Laboratory**
- **Operations Challenge (Thursday)**
  - **Pump Maintenance**
  - **Safety**
  - **Collection System**
- **Fastest Saw in the West (Thursday)**

The awards ceremony is at 3:15 p.m. Thursday in the competition area set up in Lobby/Registration area.

MUNICIPAL WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT OF THE YEAR
Category 1 (<1 MGD)

...to recognize a municipal wastewater treatment plant in Texas that has consistently exhibited outstanding performance of daily activities beyond the normal call of duty.

City of Goliad WWTP

The city of Goliad and the San Antonio River Authority (SARA) have been working together for the past two years to improve Goliad's Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) through upgrades and strategic maintenance. The result of this partnership has led to an improved facility and increased training on wastewater and water system operations.

In November 2012, the Goliad entered into a community assistance agreement with SARA to assist with operations and maintenance of the Goliad WWTP. After several months of assistance, the city of Goliad entered into a contract agreement allowing SARA to continue assisting the city with the day-to-day operations at the plant.

Goliad's WWTP, built in 1930, has 950 connections with approximately 22.5 miles of collection system lines and operates on an extended aeration process. The plant processes sludge using drying beds and sludge dewatering boxes. Once the process is completed, the sludge is transported to a landfill or composting site. Since the 1930's, the plant has undergone several updates, the latest being between 2012 and 2014.

Goliad's WWTP is operated by one fulltime SARA Class C Wastewater Operator, Earl Henning, and the city of Goliad's Wastewater Operator, Larry McLaughlin. Help with plant maintenance and collections system assistance comes from two additional SARA operators. All operators are on call 24 hours a day and make weekend checks on a rotating basis.

For the past two years, Goliad has worked with SARA on technical assistance, maintenance and operation and training for city employees. In order to improve the plant itself, Goliad purchased new return sludge pumps. The new pumps, installed by SARA, helped the plant run more efficiently and increased the waste activated sludge pumping capacity. In addition, the Goliad community received assistance from SARA's Utilities Collections Department by cleaning offsite city operated lift stations with the use of vacuum trucks.

Since 2012, the Goliad WWTP has had no compliance violations and passed TCEQ inspection last year. City employees have been provided hands-on training in wastewater and water system operations, resulting in zero lost time accidents. The city of Goliad's partnership with SARA has assisted the community in developing new strategies to support growth and sustainability while fostering relationships.

MUNICIPAL WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT OF THE YEAR
Category 3 (>15 MGD)

...to recognize a municipal wastewater treatment plant in Texas that has consistently exhibited outstanding performance of daily activities beyond the normal call of duty.

City of Denton Pecan Creek Water Reclamation Plant

The city of Denton Pecan Creek Water Reclamation Plant meets the criteria for this award, both in spirit and in practice. The Wastewater Reclamation Division has been proactive and visionary in enhancing the operation and maintenance of all their wastewater plants and lift stations. The hard work and dedication of the professionals at the Pecan Creek Water Reclamation Plant has improved both the environment in and around Denton, as well as improving the general standing of the wastewater industry in Texas.

The Denton wastewater collection system dates back to the 1910's. The wastewater collection system currently consists of over 500 miles of wastewater lines, 27 lift stations, and 2 treatment plants. The Pecan Creek Water Reclamation Plant was constructed in 1963 with three mgd capacity. It was expanded in 1968, 1983, 1990 and 1995 up to 15 mgd capacity. The 2003 expansion upgraded the capacity to 21 mgd Average Daily Flow & 46 mgd Peak Flow. The wastewater system provides retail service to over 30,000 customers and wholesale service to cities that include Corinth, Argyle, Krum and Shady Shores.

The 2003 expansion of the Pecan Creek WRP was designed to meet stringent CBOD, TSS and ammonia limits. Since completing this last major plant expansion and upgrade, the operating and maintenance staff has done an excellent job keeping the facilities in top condition and meeting the plant's discharge permit consistently. The staff has fine-tuned the treatment processes to achieve high operating efficiency, judging from the energy consumption for every million gallons of wastewater treated. The 1200 kWh/MG usage is the lowest among its peers. The plant has performed exceptionally well, reducing the pollutant loading in the receiving stream and thereby in Lewisville Lake. Over the last three years, the TSS loading was lower by 93 percent, ammonia loading lower by 95 percent, CBOD loading lower by 82 percent, and E. coli loading was lower by 96 percent when compared to the TCEQ permit limits.

The Pecan Creek WRP composts 100 percent of the primary and secondary sludge. In 2014, this resulted in 21,513 wet cubic yards of sludge not being disposed in the landfill. In addition, 101,975 cubic yards of brush was diverted from disposal in the landfill to make compost with the wastewater plant sludge. If stacked on the full dimension of a a regulation football field, the combined sludge and brush would be 58 feet tall. This air space was saved at the landfill at the same time producing a green product.

The Pecan Creek WRP has hosted the training of inspection teams from the USEPA and TCEQ. From the bio-selectors in the aeration basins, the tertiary level treatment with filters, 46-mgd UV disinfection system, state of the art SCADA system, to the Seepex Cake Pumps system with glass lined pipe for pumping the pressed 17 percent combined sludge for composting, the plant offered a host of training opportunities to the EPA and TCEQ inspection teams.

Under the leadership of Assistant Utilities Director P.S. Arora, P.E. and Plant Superintendent Rusty Willard, the plant protected and improved the environment more than what the discharge permit stipulates. It is a deserving recipient of the Plant of the Year Award – Category 3.

WATER ENVIRONMENT ASSOCIATION OF TEXAS

OUTSTANDING OPERATOR OF THE YEAR

...to recognize an operator and member of WEAT who has provided dedication, years of faithful service, and professionalism at their facility.

Dale Burrow

Dale Burrow works at the Central Regional Wastewater Plant of the Trinity River Authority as an interceptor system specialist in the Pretreatment Department. The Pretreatment Department is responsible for preventing the introduction of pollutants into TRA's Central, Ten Mile, Denton Creek, Red Oak and Midlothian Treatment Plants. Pretreatment identifies pollutants that can interfere with the operation of the plant, including its use or disposal of bio-solids and the treatment system. The division works to prevent the plants from receiving harmful pollutants that can affect the treatment plants' workers and to help improve opportunities to recycle and reclaim municipal and industrial wastewater sludge.

Dale was born in Waxahachie, Texas, and graduated from Brook Hollow Christian in DeSoto, Texas in 1986. He attended Tarrant County College and plans to finish his degree in the near future.

Dale began working in the water business with the city of Duncanville Water Department in 1987 and continued his career with TRA's Central Plant, starting in 1988 as a painter. He started in the maintenance and warehouse departments. Dale then moved to Pretreatment in 1990 and has remained in the department ever since. He is a member of the North Texas Organization of Pretreatment Professionals, WEAT and WEF. Dale obtained his Class "A" Wastewater license in 2001.

Dale joined the Operations Challenge team in 1995 and became team captain of the TRA "CReWSers" in 2004. The "CReWSers" have had 30 - 1st Place overall finishes in competitions since 1995, and the team is proud that Texas is one of only four states to have ever won 1st Place overall in Division 1 at Nationals since the Challenge started in 1988. Dale was one of four that competed on the Water Environment Federation's first International Operations Challenge team in Buenos Aires, Argentina in 2012. He was Captain of WEAT's "Texas Dream Team", which won 1st Place in 2013. Dale received the David Barber Competitive Spirit award in 2011.

In Dale's free time he enjoys spending time outdoors with his wife Jill, whom he met at TRA Central Lab, and their four children, Morgan, Glenn, Samuel, and Catherine. Dale enjoys history, kayaking, water skiing and dirt bike riding with his family.

EMERGING LEADER AWARD

...to recognize a young member of WEAT who has provided outstanding service in support of the Association in the form of committee involvement, recruiting, volunteer time, event participation, or other contributions.

Lindsay Kovar

Lindsay Kovar graduated from Texas Tech University with a Masters in Environmental Engineering and has 11 years of experience with planning and design of water and wastewater projects. She has completed water and wastewater master plans, wastewater treatment plant discharge permits, government funding applications, water system modeling, water plant design, WWTP design, and bond applications. She has also been involved in the planning, permitting and design of several wastewater reuse systems.

She has participated in site assessments, conducted fluoride tracer tests and provided general engineering services to MUDs and small cities. One of her current main projects is the water conservation and reuse manager for the North Fort Bend Water Authority. Her work for the NFBWA allows her to promote water conservation and reuse throughout the authority by assisting in policy making, recommending programs and projects and researching funding for these programs.

Lindsay has been a professional member of WEAT since 2003. She served as the education chair for the southeast chapter from 2007 to 2009 and was the scholarship chair from 2008 to 2012. She served as an officer for the chapter from 2008 to 2013 and is the current past-president.

Lindsay is now serving as the section representative and the vice-president for the Water Environment Association of Texas Scholarship Fund. The WEATSF is an opportunity for anyone to set up scholarships through endowments, a program Lindsay wants to help grow to support our members and promote our young engineers.

Mark Your Calendars!

Texas Water 2016™

Fort Worth

April 17-22

EXEMPLARY EMPLOYER AWARD

...to recognize a Texas employer that supports and facilitates employee involvement and activities within the Water Environment Association of Texas and the Water Environment Federation.

Garver

Garver is a multi-disciplined engineering, planning, and environmental services firm committed to quality practices, progressive methods, and honorable relationships since 1919. Garver operates 16 offices in nine states, including four offices in Texas.

In November 2012, Garver expanded their Water Business Line into Texas under the leadership of Jeff Sober. Garver's core water and wastewater services have been focused on providing municipal clients with improvements to treatment related infrastructure. Garver's Texas Water Group's focus has been on wastewater treatment plant rehabilitation, capacity expansions, nutrient removal, permit compliance, alternative disinfection and reuse.

Since its inception just over two years ago, Garver's Texas Water Team has been heavily involved with WEAT, TAWWA and the local WEAT North Texas Section. This includes engineers, young professionals, and support staff from multiple Garver offices. Garver offers its employees programs and opportunities that foster an atmosphere of continual professional growth and contribution to the water and wastewater industry.

As part of Garver's commitment to professional organizations, Garver pays for unlimited professional memberships, training and professional licensing fees, continuing education opportunities, including professional conferences, and time to be active in leadership roles within professional organizations for its employees.

Garver's Water Team are active members of WEAT, and specifically the North Texas Section. Last year, four members of the Garver staff supported the Texas Water Planning Committee, working with the other members, for the most successful Texas Water Conference to date. Their commitment to WEAT is unparalleled, including employees serving in the following leadership or membership roles.

- WEAT-NTS President
- WEAT Audit and Budget Committee
- Operations Challenge Chair
- 2014 Texas Water Planning Committee Co-Chair
- 2015 WEF Operations Challenge Collections Event Assistant Coordinator
- NTS February Seminar Committee Member
- Young Professionals Members
- WEAT Municipal Resource Recovery Design Committee Member
- NTS Fundraising Committee Chair
- 2014 WEF Biosolids Local Host Committee
- WEAT Moderators
- North Texas Future City Competition WEAT-NTS Judges
- Andrea Odegard-Begay, PE and Barry Hampson, PE support WEAT-NTS by attending local technical sessions, and presenting at conferences and leading teams for fundraising for WEAT-NTS scholarships and Operations Challenge Teams.
- Fourteen Technical Presentations at WEAT/WEF Texas Related Conferences

RONALD B. SIEGER BIOSOLIDS MANAGEMENT AWARD

...to recognize a WEAT member(s), an engineering firm, a specific project, a municipality, or a specific municipal or industrial facility that has made significant accomplishments in the field of biosolids technology and management practices within the boundaries of the State of Texas.

Sebastian "Buster" Fichera

Mr. Fichera, "Buster" to most of the population, began his career after graduating from the University of Texas at Austin with a degree in biology. In 1976, he was hired as a pretreatment inspector for the Galveston County Health Department, responsible for the petrochemical industries located in the Texas City area.

In 1980, Buster moved to Clearwater, Florida, where from 1982 to 1992, he was employed by the Pinellas County Sewer System as the environmental laboratory manager and later as the water quality management manager.

For the last 21 years, Buster has been employed by the city of Fort Worth Water Department, first as the pretreatment services manager and for the past nine years as the assistant director over the Water Reclamation and Reuse Division. This division is responsible for the 166-MGD Village Creek Water Reclamation Facility, as well as the reuse, biosolids, pretreatment, backflow and cross connection programs for the water department.

His experiences include extensive environmental laboratory development, water reuse by deep well injection, wetlands polishing and land irrigation, plus energy sustainability using renewable biogas.

WATER'S WORTH IT ® is a registered trademark of the Water Environment Federation

SUSAN B. HIER AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION & LICENSING

...to recognize an individual who has demonstrated passion and service to the operators of Texas.

Ginger Laird

Ginger Laird works at the Fort Worth Water Department's Village Creek Water Reclamation Facility. She has over thirty years of experience in the water industry. She possesses a Class A Wastewater Treatment Operator license certification and a Class B Surface Water Treatment Operator certification.

She graduated from Stephen F. Austin State University in 1978 with a Bachelor of Science degree, and in 1982, she received her secondary teaching certificate from the same university with an emphasis on teaching biology, chemistry and physical science.

Ginger began her career in wastewater treatment as a lab technician for the city of Tyler. After spending a short time working in pretreatment at the city of Houston and a year teaching science at a junior high school, she joined the city of Palestine as a lab technician.

During her tenure in Palestine, she progressed to eventually be the water/wastewater superintendent. She performed various tasks such as managing the pretreatment program, developing and submitting reports, and overseeing the water and wastewater treatment plants and the lift stations for the city.

In April of 2000, Ginger joined the Fort Worth Water Department's Production Division as a training specialist. There she taught a variety of classes for water treatment plant staff. Ginger became a training specialist at the Village Creek Water Reclamation Facility in 2005. She has taught classes at the TWUA regional schools. At Village Creek, she teaches courses required for TCEQ operator certification, safety requirements and for new employees.

In addition to all this, Ginger leads numerous tours at Village Creek – for everyone from fourth-grade elementary students to graduate students from University of Texas at Arlington, the University of North Texas and Texas Christian University.

Ginger has been married to Gary Laird for thirty-three years. They have one son, James. Outside of work, most of her time is spent with family and attending James' school and athletic events.

ALAN H. PLUMMER ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY AWARD

...to recognize an individual who has made outstanding contributions in the field of environmental sustainability practices within the State of Texas.

City of Wichita Falls

The city of Wichita Falls, and specifically their water utility leadership, has demonstrated environmental sustainability by successful management of water resources through an intense drought of historic proportions, as well as establishment of creative long-term stewardship for available resources.

In the past three years, the city of Wichita Falls experienced its worst drought of record. While much of Texas has endured some level of drought over the past several years, Wichita Falls endured a single summer with 100 days over 100 degrees. Drought conditions resulted in the water supply lakes dropping below 25 percent of capacity.

Wichita Falls Public Works Director Russell Schreiber and Utilities Operations Manager, Daniel Nix demonstrated exceptional leadership in identifying and implementing actions to sustain the water supply to meet the city's needs. Providing an adequate water supply was critical to the residents as well as the industries.

Russell and Daniel directed efforts to identify and assess the merits of potential measures to address the water quantity crisis. Their efforts gained the support of public officials and the public to apply diverse measures. Implementing water conservation and drought restriction measures reduced water use by 45 percent. This was achieved through participation of Wichita Falls citizens, who became aware of the importance of everyone being involved due to the communications led by Russell and Daniel and the support of local media. The educational effort to achieve this accomplishment will reap lasting benefits long after the rains return and restore the reservoirs to normal levels.

Additionally, every other viable tool in the toolbox from evaporation suppression to cloud seeding was evaluated and applied. Direct potable reuse, an emerging water supply strategy, was also evaluated and implemented on an emergency basis to supplement the city's water supply. Of major importance to applying this strategy was the experience, under Daniel Nix's leadership, of operating advanced treatment processes that are critical to achieving a high quality drinking water supply. Russell's and Daniel's work with the Texas Commission of Environmental Quality to incorporate requirements was also of major importance in the implementation of the direct potable strategy.

Key accomplishments achieved by Wichita Falls:

1. Extreme conservation through water demand management. The city's Water Resources Committee has actively managed the Water Conservation/Drought Contingency Plan, saving approximately 6.1 billion gallons to date. Water demand within Wichita Falls is down to an average of only 52 gallons per day per capita. Permanent reductions in water demand are anticipated as residents have learned a new appreciation for the value of water and how to use less.

2. Pioneering use of direct potable reuse, using existing desalination systems to provide acceptable water quality and public health protection. Wichita Falls adapted an existing desalination system to provide intensive treatment of their treated wastewater effluent, allowing it to be safely used as a municipal drinking water supply source, providing 870 million gallons of new

(Continued)

supply through the end of 2014. The city's accompanying public education program successfully demonstrated the safety and reliability of the system.

3. Development of long term indirect potable reuse system to maximize use of reclaimed water to augment natural supplies.

4. Implementation of distribution flushing protocol which reuses water flushed from hydrants to maintain system water quality. This is one element of an overall program which has reduced overall system losses to 3.4 percent.

5. Ongoing development of methane recovery project at the city's River Road Water Resource Recovery Facility.

6. Together Mr. Schreiber and Mr. Nix managed an extreme program of water demand reduction and implemented the second operational direct potable reuse facility in the U.S. The achievements by Russell and David of development and implementation of sustainability management practices have not only benefited Wichita Falls but are receiving statewide and national attention regarding how to address severe drought conditions.

WATER ENVIRONMENT ASSOCIATION OF TEXAS

SELECT SOCIETY OF SANITARY SLUDGE SHOVELERS

The Select Society of Sanitary Sludge Shovelers was founded by the Arizona Member Association in 1940. It originated to encourage members to get involved. You cannot join the zociety – you must be "selected" on the basis of merit. Within WEAT, induction into the prestigious society is based on "Outstanding, meritorious service above and beyond the call of duty by recruiting at least five new members. Shovels may also be awarded for exceptional service as established by the WEAT Board.

Dawn Anderson
Jill Bolin
Tina Hanson
David Koberlein
Ana Julia Pena Tijerina
Elizabeth Turner

WATER ENVIRONMENT ASSOCIATION OF TEXAS

DENNIS R. LASKOWSKI RECRUITMENT AWARD

...to recognize a member of WEAT for his/her outstanding recruitment effort.

Dennis Laskowski, P.E.

Mr. Dennis Laskowski is a registered Professional Engineer in the State of Texas, holds a Class B Water Distribution System Operator License, and is a certified NASSCO PACP operator. He received a Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Texas at San Antonio (UTSA) where he graduated Cum Laude. While employed with SAWS for the past 16 years, his duties have included the development and/or implementation of annual construction contracts for pipe bursting, cured-in-place pipe, asphalt, concrete, excavation/backfill, wastewater line cleaning and inspection and smoke testing laterals, all a first for SAWS.

(Continued)

Dennis has been actively involved in his local WEAT section since 1999 when he and his former boss founded the San Antonio section and Dennis was voted secretary. Mr. Laskowski played an instrumental role in defining the section by starting a newsletter, gaining sponsorships, opening up a bank account, scheduling meetings, recruiting members, implementing the constitution and bylaws, instigating the section's first bowling social, and creating the section's website.

Mr. Laskowski continues to help his local WEAT section in numerous ways, including volunteering for various events, organizing and participating in annual science fair activities on behalf of WEAT and TAWWA, holding many officer positions in the section, including president and now currently section representative. He initiated a student membership award and scholarship with the University of Texas at San Antonio and the local section. Dennis also sits on several committees at the state level of WEAT and has served as WEAT's secretary since 2013.

Dennis previously won WEAT's prestigious Emerging Leader Award in 2003 and the President Service Award in 2008. In addition he has won WEAT's Recruitment Award 10 times! WEAT wishes to recognize, thank, and congratulate Dennis for his continued service.

TEXAS SECTION - AMERICAN WATER WORKS ASSOCIATION
&
WATER ENVIRONMENT ASSOCIATION OF TEXAS

WATERMARK AWARDS FOR COMMUNICATION EXCELLENCE

MEDIA AWARDS

The Watermark Award for Media Excellence recognizes Texas media who have raised the public's level of understanding of water issues in Texas. TAWWA and WEAT understand the important role Texas media have in advancing community understanding and support for water resources by interpreting issues affecting water in our state.

John Ingle
Business and Metro Editor
The Times Record News
Wichita Falls

Wichita Falls has been in an historic drought of record since October 2010, resulting in a loss of almost a year and a half of rainfall since that time. The Times Record News made covering the water situation and the city's response a priority in 2014, writing more than 260 stories on the topic alone.

Business and Metro Editor John Ingle was instrumental in covering just about every aspect on an almost daily basis. His articles ranged from the innovative direct potable reuse project to conservation efforts by residents, and from the stringent process with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality to the city's largest employer, Sheppard Air Force Base, continuing to use potable water for outdoor swimming pools even when Stage 5 drought restrictions prohibited such practices.

John's lead on water stories helped educate a public wary of introducing treated wastewater effluent to the public drinking supply, and change the majority of thinking to accepting the science behind the process and the new water source.

WATER ENVIRONMENT ASSOCIATION OF TEXAS
&
TEXAS SECTION - AMERICAN WATER WORKS ASSOCIATION

WATERMARK AWARDS FOR COMMUNICATION EXCELLENCE

MEMBER AWARDS

The Watermark Award for communications excellence recognizes Texas Section AWWA and WEAT members who have produced top quality communications. Effective internal and external communication is essential to a member's ability to provide excellent service. Today's water resource professionals must communicate with a variety of audiences to achieve success. Through these awards, Texas Section AWWA and WEAT hope to heighten awareness among all water resource professionals about the importance of effective communication.

Category I: Communications programs: internal campaigns, external campaigns, crisis communications, community relations

Large Utility

San Antonio Water System
Vista Ridge Water Pipeline Campaign

To expand water resource supply in a heavily regulated environment, SAWS published a Request for Proposals. After a multi-year selection process, SAWS selected Vista Ridge Consortium, a multi-national private corporation. The long-term project required council approval and future rate increases, so SAWS staff went to the community seeking support.

SAWS launched an intensive public relations and outreach program to familiarize the city about the new project. Between July and October of 2014, staff conducted over 190 outreach opportunities, which included meetings with Homeowner and Neighborhood Associations, National Night Out events, civic groups, elected officials, public forums and affordability fairs.

Hard copies of materials were kept to a minimum, a one-page flier with evolving Frequently-Asked Questions, along with a portable banner served as the speaker's package for meetings. SAWS used social media to recap the major issues and events, including live Tweeting the forums and public discussions. Articles in the billing newsletter, included in all 840,000+ bills each month, featured key points and advancements on the issue.

All the hard work was successful! In a unanimous vote on October 30, San Antonio City Council approved the contract to bring 16.3 billion gallons of new non-Edwards Aquifer water annually for 30 years, and then own the pipeline. A ceremonial launch on December 3, celebrated the completion of the negotiations, contract signing, and shift into operational mode.

Non-utility:

Glass House Strategies
Larry the Talking Sprinkler Campaign

The North Fort Bend Water Authority serves a number of rapidly growing communities in the Houston area. The authority decided to embark on an education and external communications program to begin teaching citizens about water

(Continued)

conservation and problems like subsidence. The goal was to help citizens understand that lawns can be healthy without daily watering. The message was friendly and approachable, delivered in a spirit of neighborhood cooperation. The campaign included TV, social media billboards, newsletters, refrigerator magnets and coffee cups.

Honorable Mention

San Jacinto River Authority
No Wipes in the Pipes - Patty Potty Campaign

Patty Potty is a 1950's housewife...created by the San Jacinto River Authority in collaboration with SaveWaterTexas.

Even though she grew up in an era in which talking about bathroom practices was strictly taboo, Patty has launched her No Wipes In The Pipes crusade to promote wastewater-friendly behaviors by offering water bill inserts, brochures, print ads and features, social media and a comprehensive website to help educate residents about this critical problem.

Patty urges people to join her "Potty Patrol" to help preserve water quality and the environment – by taking actions that will help prevent costly plumbers bills and water treatment plant repairs.

Category II. Periodicals: magazines or newsletters

Small Utility

City of Wichita Falls
City News Water Report

This was produced as a special edition of the city's monthly newsletter. Since 2011, when the city had a summer of 100 days over 100 degrees and only half its yearly average rainfall, citizens have been well aware of and responding to the drought that has stricken North Texas.

By the time this newsletter was published in May of 2014, the city had called for a Stage 5 Drought Catastrophe, a completely new category, added to the Water Conservation and Drought Contingency Plan. Up to this point citizens had been provided with three years of information related to the drought, water conservation and other water topics.

This newsletter provided an eagerly curious public with a comprehensive, detailed account of the actions the city had taken over the previous three years and what the future held; and what citizens could do to conserve water even more than they had been. It answered their frequently asked questions and explained how they could stay better informed.

The result of this education campaign was fantastic. The public cut their daily water use in half and the city built and brought online its direct potable reuse project, which returns five million gallons of water a day to the city's potable water system.

Non-utility:

Trinity River Authority
TRA Newsletter Redesign

In 2014, the Trinity River Authority's Communications Division completed a redesign of the Authority's newsletter. The new design converted the existing publication from a tabloid-size newsletter to a letter-size magazine format. The new format has immediate visual pluses in that it supports the use of a full bleed cover image that can help make it more appealing to its target audiences. The cover was designed to include the use of thumbnail images along the lower portion that can be tied to a specific narrative or several narratives in the issue.

Other changes, such as a full table of contents, in place of a smaller in-this-issue box, the inclusion of TRA's mission and vision, and interior pages

(Continued)

designed to use more white space were added. Overall, the publication is less text heavy and cluttered in its appearance.

Feedback and responses on the new design has been positive. Readers have communicated that they like the new cover design, the interior pages and the choice of topics. Two other issues, fall 2014 and winter 2014/2015 also have been well received.

Category III. Publications: annual reports, annual water quality reports, brochures, direct mail materials and other multi-page publications.

Non-Utility:

Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority Watershed Stewardship for the Edwards Aquifer Region: A Low Impact Development Manual

The purpose of this manual is to provide practical set-up low impact development tools, specifically adapted to the Edwards region, to offer options for growth and ultimately, sustainability. These tools work with the unique features of the Edwards Aquifer system that has sustained us to this point, recognizing it is a system in which water travels directly from the surface into the aquifer without filtration.

LID systems are designed to work with the natural hydrologic patterns that exist before a site is developed. Low impact designs use small-scale networked landscape features that treat runoff on site, as opposed to conventional systems that rely on drains and culverts to rapidly convey stormwater off site.

The *LID* manual was funded by grants from the ERM Foundation, the Cynthia and George Mitchell Foundation, the S & M Hixon Family Foundation, the Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority, the San Antonio River Authority, the Shield-Ayers Foundation, and HEB Environmental Affairs. The publication design is intended to use color, photographs, illustrations, figures and tables to help the reader better understand the principles behind low impact development and make it easier to utilize the data therein.

Large Utility

San Antonio Water System Water Saver Coupons

To help the San Antonio Water System meet drought-based pumping restrictions and manage water supplies, SAWS' Conservation Department launched two distinct WaterSaver Coupon programs – Landscape Coupon & Patioscape Coupon. These offered monetary incentives of $100 or $200 if water customers removed 200 square feet of water-intensive grass/turf and replaced it with a water-efficient garden bed or a new pervious patio – all while capping or removing the in-ground irrigation in that garden or patio space.

The Landscape Coupon was threefold: a colorful, two-sided, step-by-step brochure; easy-to-implement garden designs to eliminate any guesswork; and colorful, descriptive plant maintenance guides to ensure success. For the Patioscape Coupon, SAWS opted for a similar step-by-step brochure and pre-planned patio designs to eliminate any fear of taking on such a project on the part of the consumer.

To date, the response has exceeded expectations. More than 3,800 coupons have been redeemed. That translates to more than 760,000 square feet of grass/turf removal by homeowners – that's more than 13 American football fields!

(Continued)

According to the SAWS conservation department, removing just 200 square feet of grass that had previously been watered with an irrigation system can save up to 4,000 gallons of water per year. Multiplied by the 3,800 participants, that works out to a savings of 15.2 million gallons of water.

Honorable Mention

City of Fort Worth Water Department
Annual Water Quality Report

Fort Worth Water uses the Water Quality Report to meet the annual Consumer Confidence Report requirement and to inform and educate citizens on a variety of topics besides water quality, such as water conservation, current projects and special initiatives. In addition, the utility uses the report to create positive feelings and cultivate an image of professionalism and superior quality.

This report focused on the 100th Anniversary of the construction on Lake Worth.

Category IV. Online communications: websites, Facebook, Twitter, online newsletters, etc.

Large Utility:

City of Fort Worth Water Department
Texas Smartscape E-Magazine

Texas SmartScape® is an existing program housed in the North Central Texas Council of Governments storm water program consisting of a website database of native and adapted plants for North Central Texas. A key challenge faced by the Texas SmartScape® program was a lack of interest and awareness by the public. There seemed to be a lack of educational information available that was less intimidating for novice gardeners and every day homeowners who may not have experience with landscaping.

In order to capitalize on this opportunity, Stephanie Zavala, Conservation Specialist with the city of Fort Worth, created an e-magazine to be distributed in conjunction with the Texas SmartScape® Plant Sale initiative. This e-magazine took standard botanical information for a select group of SmartScape® plants and conveyed this information from the first person perspective of each plant. This gave the plants individual personalities with the hope of making the information more approachable and memorable.

To date, the e-magazine has received over 90,000 page views and 40 shares on social media. During the duration of the sales and for several months after, the e-magazine typically received 100 site visits and 2,000 page views per week.

.

Non-Utility:

Tarrant Regional Water District
Lawn Whisperer Facebook Page

2014 is the second year the Lawn Whisperer has been offering North Texans weekly watering advice on Mondays. Behind the scenes – the advice involves gathering evapotranspiration (ET) data generated by a series of weather stations in Tarrant, Dallas, Collin, and Denton counties and collecting additional rainfall data from the National Weather Service to fill in the gaps. Using the cumulative ET values, rainfall amounts, and some human inputs, TRWD determines whether there is a need to water lawns in the coming week. The information is then posted on the Lawn Whisperer's Facebook page.

Are people listening and responding? It appears so. In 2014, the Lawn Whisperer's audience grew by about 40 percent, from 3,080 fans to 5,073. His Monday watering advice posts are the most viewed, reaching an audience of anywhere from 500 to 3,500 people. From June through

(Continued)

September, the average number of people who saw the watering advice was 2,200 per week; the average number of likes in August alone was eight; and the advice was shared anywhere from three to 20 times depending on the week.

Honorable Mention

San Jacinto River Authority
No Wipes in the Pipes - Patty Potty

We earlier told you about PATTY POTTY, the 1950's housewife...created by the San Jacinto River Authority in collaboration with SaveWaterTexas.

You can learn more about her message at www.pattypotty .com. There is even a YouTube video of the outtakes from the photo shoot for the materials.

Category V. School Curriculums

Non-Utility:

North Texas Municipal Water District
Water 4Otter

In 2006, the North Texas Municipal Water District, a leader in water conservation, launched Water IQ: a campaign that educates consumers within the NTMWD's service area about their natural water source and encourages them to reduce their water usage. Building upon this campaign, NTMWD developed Water4Otter, an interactive youth campaign that educates nine- to eleven-year-old children about their water source. The goal of the campaign is to encourage kids to talk to their parents, increasing the number of discussions about water conservation at home.

Otis the Otter, the campaign's mascot, teaches children that the water they use is the same water that Otis lives in, so the kids need to "Save Water for Otter." The 2014 run of the campaign included a three-week tour of schools, outreach materials, a website, and an educational mobile app game to promote water conservation and important environmental messages. The tour consisted of an interactive 45-minute show featuring Otis the Otter. It cleverly delivered water conservation messages through an original song and crowd-driven games. Students not only walked away with expert tips regarding water-wasting behavior, but they also received stickers and posters to bring the water conservation messages home to reinforce their newfound awareness of water issues.

Large Utility:

El Paso Water Utilities
WISE Actions! Urban Wetlands Program

EPWU received a grant from Texas Parks and Wildlife focusing on outdoor activities. EPWU added a classroom component to educate, promote and increase awareness knowledge of urban wetland ecosystems and to learn how EPWU manages regional water issues. The result is a program called WISE Actions! Wetlands Investigations and Stewardship in Ecology.

Before the field trip, EPWU visited students in the classroom, discussing the difference between climate and weather and how drought impacts the environment. While at the wetlands, students actually observed drought impacts on plants and the consequences on wildlife habitat. During the field trip students identified wetland versus upland plants, examined different soil types, measured water quality and identified wildlife.

Based on post-evaluations, students demonstrated a better understanding of the benefits of wetlands and over 70 percent of students shared their experience with peers and family. Post-field activities allowed students to create their own

(Continued)

filters, mimicking a wastewater treatment plant. Students were then able to compare how natural filtration in wetlands compares to chemical filtration that occurs in a water treatment plant. Students also compiled and analyzed their data from the field. Each group presented their results to the class.

Honorable Mention

Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority
Water Makes the World Go 'Round

Water Makes the World Go 'Round is a consumable student workbook focusing on the importance of water and the water cycle. Second grade teachers throughout the Guadalupe River Basin have the opportunity to order this booklet each year, free of charge. GBRA education staff worked with classroom teachers to determine content, and the original artwork was provided by a contract artist. This color booklet was designed by education and graphics staff at the GBRA.

The booklet focuses its content on a number of key mandated science standards for grade 2: the water cycle; water conservation; the properties of matter; comparison of salt water and fresh water; and the basic needs of animals and plants. Other topics addressed in the booklet include the four types of water use – municipal, agricultural, industrial and recreational – and water distribution.

Category VII. Audio and visual: videos, DVDs, slide shows, Power Point presentations, etc.

Non-Utility:

Tarrant Regional Water District
Ensuring Reliability Video

As a raw water supplier for nearly two million people across an 11-county service area in North Texas, TRWD is responsible for meeting the water demands of a population that's expected to double in the next 50 years. TRWD wanted to give the public an inside look at how it is working to ensure its system remains reliable now and for years to come.

The purpose of this video was to show the public what it takes day-to-day to operate a water supply system that is the lifeline of so many different people and industries in our service area. In order to achieve that goal TRWD produced a short six to seven minute video that described the district's assets and how it effectively and efficiently operates the entire system to ensure its reliability. TRWD made the video accessible through all of its communication channels – its website, Facebook and YouTube – to ensure as much viewership as possible.

Large Utility:

El Paso Water Utilities
Paisano Waterline Replacement Project

One of the biggest and most ambitious projects El Paso Water Utilities embarked on was to replace 14 miles of a 55-year old waterline that runs through an abandoned copper plant, an interstate and rocky mountain terrain. The aging line broke several times over the past few years and was in dire need of replacement to avoid more inconveniences to customers.

The project was broken into several phases, with the last three-mile phase expected to be completed in one year. Instead the project took two years to complete due to various setbacks including high groundwater levels and pockets of fine sand that forced crews to abandon machinery and resort to hand mining.

The prolonged construction schedule led to major inconveniences for customers, and their concerns were made public. EPWU created

(Continued)

a short video showing the magnitude of the project and the challenges that were encountered to educate customers. The video was shared via social media and electronic newsletters. Once people saw and heard firsthand the hard work that goes into a project of this scale, they had a better understanding and appreciation for the project.

Honorable Mention:

San Antonio Water System
Garden Style SA - How-To Videos

It's easy to message to customers what they should or should not do when it comes to saving water or adopting water-wise landscaping. For example, we can tell them to cap their sprinkler heads if they want to eliminate outdoor irrigation. But how exactly do you accomplish that?

That's the problem San Antonio Water System wanted to tackle. So, instead of always "telling" the message, we decided to "show" customers by shooting a series of how-to videos that would visually demystify how to detect a leak, how to remove grass/turf, how to cap sprinkler heads and other essential water-saving and gardening issues – all starring SAWS own Conservation Department subject matter experts.

Category VIII. Miscellaneous: photography, logos, one-time advertisements, posters, illustrations, invitations

Large Utility:

El Paso Water Utilities
Stormwater System Tour

2014 marked the sixth anniversary of EPWU inheriting responsibility for the stormwater system from the city. With over five generations of stormwater infrastructure to address, it goes without saying there were many trials and tribulations EPWU had to face. With the initiation of stormwater fees, education and outreach was imperative, but the question was how to do it in a way that encourages dialogue and not debate, discourse and not disagreement, learning but with fun. The answer was simple yet shocking: a free tour! EPWU launched it's first ever public stormwater tour to take the customer inside the system. While inside, attendees observed, explored and became the stormwater system. Questions were met with answers that led to more questions. At the end of the day, participants understood maintaining the storm water system takes the whole community and through education this effort will be met.

(Continued)

WATER ENVIRONMENT ASSOCIATION OF TEXAS
&
TEXAS SECTION - AMERICAN WATER WORKS ASSOCIATION

KEN MILLER WATER FOR PEOPLE FOUNDER'S AWARD

The Kenneth J. Miller Founder's Award was established in 2001 by the Board of Directors of Water For People to honor outstanding volunteer service to this international humanitarian effort. Water For People was conceived as a North American response to the water, sanitation and health needs of millions living in the developing world.

From its beginnings, Water For People was envisioned to be a volunteer effort of the North American water community. The American Water Works Association (AWWA) leaders who organized Water For People believed that water professionals would recognize the urgent necessity to support such a cause by contributing their financial assistance, organizational skills and professional expertise. As the organization grew and began accomplishing its vision, it became evident that extraordinary volunteer efforts were being made at the local level that should be publicly acknowledged and honored. The Ken Miller Water for People Founder's Award was established to do this.

This is the tenth year this award is given jointly by the Texas Section AWWA and WEAT. The winner is recognized by Water for People at the AWWA Annual Conference in Anaheim. This winner is kept secret until announced at the award's ceremony.

TEXAS SECTION - AMERICAN WATER WORKS ASSOCIATION

WATER CONSERVATION AND REUSE AWARDS

Each year, the Texas Section AWWA Conservation and Reuse Division recognizes those who have demonstrated excellence in Water Conservation and Reuse Practices.

Large Utility Direct:

Austin Water Utility Industrial/ Commercial/Institutional Audit Rebate Program

Austin Water's ICI Audit Rebate Program pays commercial customers up to $5,000 for an independent water efficiency audit of their facility. The rebate is 75 percent of the audit cost or $5,000, whichever is less. Audits must include water efficiency recommendations and eligibility for AWU rebates. Participants must repair controllable leaks and make recommended equipment adjustments and repairs. The audit must also include estimated water savings, costs, utility bill savings, and return on investment.

The program was developed to cost-effectively achieve the greatest potential water savings by marketing the program to customers identified by AWU's benchmarking study as top water users based on normalizing factors. The significant proportion of the audit cost paid by the utility and the immediate benefits from repairing leaks and equipment adjustments have helped achieve water reductions more quickly than would otherwise have occurred to address the current drought. Information from the program is also being used to better understand Austin ICI end uses and to refine commercial water use benchmarking efforts.

AWU has used the program as a basis for cooperative efforts with Austin Independent School District and the General Services Administration to achieve significant water use reductions and meet mutual water conservation and cost-savings goals.

(Continued)

Large Utility Indirect

North Central Texas Council of Governments Texas Smartscape Plant Sale Initiative

Texas SmartScape® is an existing program housed in the North Central Texas Council of Governments storm water program. It consists of a website database of native and adapted plants for the North Central Texas region as well as some design information and best practices.

The idea for the Texas SmartScape® Plant Sale initiative was initiated by Stephanie Zavala, Conservation Specialist with the city of Fort Worth, after learning of a similar program in California with Home Depot. The plant sale initiative took SmartScape® out of the classroom and off the computer, and brought it in "living color" to the public in their neighborhoods at local retailers and nurseries. Eight cities joined Fort Worth in the inaugural year. The events were advertised by each participating city and were designed to have a "carnival" type feel in order to attract people from the parking lot that weren't initially aware of the sales events.

The cities provided Master Gardeners who wore aprons specially designed for the events that said "Answers Grown Here" to ensure people knew where to go to ask questions. The first 100 people at each event received a flash drive loaded with an e-magazine and other educational pieces on using native and adapted plants in landscapes. Fort Worth has doubled the participants in 2015 with 28 events planned across 23 different cities.

Small Utility Indirect

City of Pflugerville Water Conservation Program

In the summer of 2013, the city of Pflugerville implemented Stage 3 Water Restrictions for watering once a week. To increase awareness of the drought and educate the public, conservation staff implemented a series of activities including public and school education, sprinkler system audits, and rainwater harvesting incentives.

At the city-sponsored Nature Fest event, staff demonstrated a watershed model to students in a hands-on display allowing the students to become more aware of how to conserve and protect their water resources. Over 600 water education bags were handed out in 2014 to youth throughout the community.

Sprinkler audits are offered to all Pflugerville utility customers at no charge. Licensed Staff checks the irrigation systems for proper operation and performs a series of tests to check the performance and determine how uniformly the system applies water to the lawn.

Rainwater harvesting has become one of several creative solutions that the Pflugerville's team is using to promote the city's drought management planning and enforcement strategies. In spring 2014, the city hosted its second Rain Barrel sale at the annual Public Works Open House held in May 2014. The event allowed residents to visit the department to learn more about the current water restrictions and obtain water conservation tips and future projects.

Large Non-utility Indirect

North Fort Bend Water Authority Larry the Sprinkler Water Conservation Campaign

The North Fort Bend Water Authority has an urgent and pressing need to conserve water. Due to the potential of significant land subsidence in the area, the authority has been mandated by the Fort Bend Subsidence District to utilize alternative water as a supplement to groundwater to meet

(Continued)

water demands. Although surface water will make up the majority of the alternative water, water conservation will have a significant impact on future water demands and has the potential to save the authority hundreds of millions of dollars over time.

In order to get the residents within the authority to make conserving water part of their daily routine, the authority has created a multi-faceted program that appeals to all residents, regardless of age, and relays how important water conservation is and ways to help ensure water is available for generations to come. The "Larry the Sprinkler" campaign was created to give conservation a face in the authority.

Larry the Sprinkler appears on all conservation-related documents, TV commercials, giveaways, bill inserts, and media projects for the authority. Larry's commercials, billboards, bill inserts and educational giveaways give tips and facts on how to save water and what the direct effects are – and provides the tips in fun, engaging, nonthreatening ways. The authority is interested in tackling water conservation from all angles, and finding ways to draw the attention of all age groups.

Bob Derrington Reuse Award

City of Frisco Reuse Water Distribution System

As one of the fastest growing cities in the United States, Frisco, Texas has needed to balance a population influx in a drought-impacted region. Frisco has grown from 33,714 in 2000 to 145,900 residents as of February 2015, comprised primarily of a demographic with a historically high outdoor use of water. Frisco's goal was to engineer sustainability into its growth plan through innovative infrastructure maximizing water conservation.

To accomplish this, a water reuse distribution system facility was constructed at the Stewart Creek West WWTP in 2006, allowing Frisco to pump treated wastewater effluent back into the city for irrigation reuse. Frisco reuse customers include golf courses, athletic fields and schools, or other facilities where high volumes of irrigation are occurring.

The Frisco reuse system has been designed to meet Type I quality reuse water, defined by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality as suitable for public contact. Currently the city uses 25,785 feet of pipeline. The planned Panther Creek WWTP reuse line will add 28,145 feet, resulting in 10.2 miles of reuse infrastructure in the city. In 2014, this program saved $163,372 in wholesale costs and 86.9 million gallons of potable water, substantially reducing pressure on the city's water supply system.

TEXAS SECTION - AMERICAN WATER WORKS ASSOCIATION

MEMBERSHIP AWARDS

The Texas Section AWWA recognizes three members for their outstanding recruitment efforts that help maintain the Texas Section's leadership as the largest single state Section of AWWA's forty-three Sections. The Section's continued growth is a testimony to meeting the needs of water professionals statewide.

Katie McCain - 10
Dave Scholler - 8
Bruce Curtis - 8

TEXAS SECTION - AMERICAN WATER WORKS ASSOCIATION

YOUNG PROFESSIONALS MAVERICK AWARD

This year, the Texas Section AWWA will continue what will become a long tradition in recognizing one of our Young Professionals as an up and coming leader of the organization. The Maverick Award recognizes an outstanding Young Professional within the Texas Section of AWWA who exemplifies exceptional qualities in the following areas: Volunteerism, Community Involvement, Leadership, and Outstanding Service in the science of water supply, treatment, operations, and quality. Young Professionals are those individuals who are a member of AWWA under the age of 35 who work or are involved in the water industry.

This award is kept a secret until the moment of the announcement at the awards ceremony.

TEXAS SECTION
AMERICAN WATER WORKS ASSOCIATION
Competition Awards

- **Meter Madness (Wednesday)**
- **Junior Meter Madness (Wednesday)**
- **Pipe Tapping (Thursday)**
- **Meter Madness (Thursday)**
- **Top Ops (Thursday)**
- **Best Tasting Drinking Water (Thursday)**

The above awards are presented at the competition location following each competition.

The following takes place at the
Conference Night Out at the Texas State Aquarium
6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Thursday, April 16

WATER ENVIRONMENT ASSOCIATION OF TEXAS

PRESIDENT'S SERVICE AWARDS

Each year the outgoing president of WEAT recognizes members for their service to the organization during the president's term.

This year, outgoing President Steve Coonan will recognize members for their service during the past year.

TEXAS SECTION - AMERICAN WATER WORKS ASSOCIATION

CHAIR'S SERVICE AWARDS

Each year the outgoing chair of the Texas Section AWWA recognizes section members for their service to the section during the chair's term. This year, outgoing Chair Alissa Lockett will recognize a group of key members who have served the section during the past year.

WATER ENVIRONMENT ASSOCIATION OF TEXAS
&
TEXAS SECTION - AMERICAN WATER WORKS ASSOCIATION

CHANGE OF LEADERSHIP

Outgoing WEAT President Steve Coonan and outgoing TAWWA Chair Alissa Lockett will welcome their successors – Jenna Covington for WEAT, and Jennifer Elms for TAWWA – into their new leadership roles.

WATER FOR JOBS
WATER PUTS AMERICA TO WORK

Congratulations to all our winners