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PROTECTING OUR GLOBAL WATER RESOURCES SERIES CONTINUES

The January Luncheon featured Ben Grumbles (right), President of The Clean Water America Alliance, and former head of Arizona's Department of Environmental Quality and the Environmental Protection Agency's Office of Water. See article on page 3



Cynthia Hartley, (left) FWQA Member at Large and liaison with Water For People (WFP), introduces John Sauer (below) of WFP at the March luncheon event" See article on page 3



Upcoming Lunchtime Seminar on Water Footprinting By Tim Schmitt

Ms. Wendy Larson, a Senior Scientist with LimnoTech in Ann Arbor, Michigan, will be giving a presentation entitled "Water Footprinting: Is Less More?" at the FWQA luncheon scheduled for May 12 at the Carlyle Suites Hotel, 1731 New Hampshire Avenue, NW, Washington, DC. Water footprinting is one of numerous water stewardship initiatives under development in response to global water concerns. Ms. Larson will provide an overview of the water footprint concept, and describe how a footprint is calculated. She will also present case study descriptions of how companies, NGOs, agencies, and others are applying water footprinting to improve water management, and discuss the future of water footprinting.

Ms. Larson directs LimnoTech's water sustainability consulting services, where she focuses on working with clients to help them better understand and quantify their direct and indirect water uses, and to develop sustainable practices that protect economic, social, and environmental needs. This work includes quantifying uses, evaluating risks and impacts, and developing strategies to minimize impacts through conservation, reuse and watershed actions. Ms. Larson's clients include global corporations, agencies, and non-governmental organizations. Example projects have involved the development/refinement of analytical protocols, water footprint assessments, development of watershed improvement plans, and quantification of water benefits. She has also conducted training globally through her work with The Coca-Cola Company, the International Finance Corporation, World Wildlife Fund, and The Nature Conservancy.

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President's Corner

by Adam Krantz

On April 7, a wastewater equalization basin wall collapsed at the Gatlinburg, Tennessee wastewater treatment plant resulting in the death of two Veolia Water employees. Following the tragic event, Veolia issued a communication inviting colleagues within the water sector to join them in remembering John D. Eslinger and Donald A. Storey in a moment of silence and encouraging others to forward this communication along as a means of honoring the lives of these two men. The Federal Water Quality Association (FWQA) asks that its members also take a moment to remember these two men who exemplify the vital and often dangerous work to improve our environment and public health. As the Veolia communication stated "we must never take for granted the important work done by the water and wastewater operators that keep all of our facilities working each and every day."

These deaths come as our Members of Congress in Washington, DC, wrangle over budgetary issues, spending cuts, and the national debt level. Yet, as national attention focuses on this Capitol Hill theater of the absurd, more attention should be focused on the high calling and hard work and dedication of Mr. Eslinger and Mr. Storey. Often in Washington, DC, we become so absorbed with following the numbers that we forget the very real efforts that are going on around the country to secure and improve our environment. Sadly, these efforts sometimes come at the greatest human cost.

On behalf of FWQA, it is my hope that as you read this article you take a moment to honor the service of John Eslinger and Donald Storey and all the men and women across the country who are working every day to make our nation's waters clean and safe for us and future generations.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

May 12 : Luncheon – "Water Footprinting: Is Less More?" at the Carlyle Suites Hotel; (See Pages 1 and 4 for information)

May 26 : Luncheon – National Press Club to Announce Scholarship and Science Fair Winners

June 13 - Water for People Gala Event at National Museum of Women in the Arts (See Page 4 for more information)

TBD - Annual FWQA Picnic

Solving the Water and Sanitation Challenge Sustainably: Water For People's "Before and After" Pictures *By Walter Brodtman*

John Sauer Assistant Director of Thought Leadership with the group, Water For People (WFP), addressed the March 24th luncheon attendees. Worldwide the need for safe water and adequate sanitation is immense. Almost one billion people lack access to safe water and between 2.5 and 2.6 billion do not have the adequate sanitation of a safe toilet. WFP has long been a leader in providing water and sanitation projects in developing countries. John indicated that WFP is expanding its focus to include a longer continuum of involvement in their water and sanitation projects. The happy faces of children with a newly installed safe, adequate and nearby water supply could be considered an "after picture" with the "before picture" being the terrible conditions that existed before the safe water project was completed. But WFP is finding that while the initial projects which provide safe water are extremely important, equally important are "after pictures" that show projects continuing to deliver clean safe water in a sustainable manner long into the future. After all, a baby or young child, whose body becomes accustomed to safe water, without pathogens and contaminants, has much less resistance to the diseases and illness that would be present if the project providing the safe water fails during that child's later years, and the child's family must revert back to old sources of water.

In order to take a more life cycle approach and assure transparency, accountability and sustainability on their projects, WFP launched a visual technology in Fall 2010 called FLOW, which stands for Field Level Operations Watch. FLOW is a dynamic new WFP baseline and monitoring tool that gives a clear view of what's working, what's on the verge of disrepair, and what's broken. Not only will WFP use the

data to make better programming decisions, but governments, partners, donors and the public can also easily monitor projects and take action when necessary. Utilizing cutting edge technology, including Android cell phone technology and Google Earth software, FLOW provides anyone Internet access to crucial data for projects supported by WFP. With FLOW, WFP can more readily assure that each of their projects continues to provide the safe "flow" of water long into the future.

As part of fostering project sustainability, WFP is also working to change the local culture by empowering their local partners. WFP has found that if the local people have little or no investment or ownership in the project, then the project is more likely to fail from lack of continuing responsible maintenance and replacement of components. WFP's track record indicates that they are achieving a good mix of assistance and empowerment that keep projects going long after initial installation.

Reviews of their projects show that 96% are still functioning and making the transformative important difference of clean safe water in the lives of the people these projects benefit. WFP projects also provide improvements in families and communities by assuring nearby safe water supplies, which gives water haulers (primarily women and girls) relief from having to carry water of questionable quality long and often unsafe distances, thereby allowing them time for education, responsibilities to their families, community involvement and micro-entrepreneurship.

A follow up article that may interest our readers is: Rethinking Hydro-Philanthropy by Ned Breslin, the CEO of Water For People, which

can be found on the Water For People website at: <http://www.waterforpeople.org/assets/pdfs/rethinking-hydrophilanthropy.pdf>

Grumbles Speaks on Water Sustainability in the U.S.A. and Abroad

By Mary B. Klein

At the FWQA February 10th luncheon Ben Grumbles spoke in his current position as President of the Clean Water America Alliance (CWAA) on uniting people and policies for water sustainability. Many water resource professionals will remember that Mr. Grumbles served as Assistant Administrator for Water at the Environmental Protection Agency from 2003-2008 and after that he led Arizona's Department of Environmental Quality. He highlighted the importance of what the United States does to address water issues through EPA and other agencies, and how it influences and matters to countries world-wide using Canada, China and Australia as examples.

Now in his position at CWAA along with 33 board members, he is bringing together all groups to discuss sustainability. The principles the group is espousing include: 1) valuing water; and 2) focusing on key water quality issues including the energy/water nexus; the quantity/quality nexus; the integration of the watershed approach including air, water, and solid waste; and climate change.

Mr. Grumbles emphasized the need for investing in water monitoring to obtain the science and data necessary for making policy decisions, and moving to change perceptions of water from "invisible" to "invaluable." Also, because of its influence world-wide, the United States needs a U.S. Water Prize similar to Stockholm's and (Continued on page 4)



Washington DC

2011

Attend the Water For People Gala at ACE 2011 in Washington, D.C.

By Kiri Anderer

This year marks the 20th anniversary that the American Water Works Association (AWWA) founded Water For People. As AWWA's 'Charity of Choice', the water industry has long supported Water For People's vision of a world where everyone has access to safe drinking water and no one dies from a water-related disease. Join your colleagues across the water industry in attending the Washington, DC Water For People Gala taking place during AWWA's Annual Conference and Exposition (ACE) on Monday, June 13, 2011 at the National Museum of Women in the Arts.

The theme for this year's premier Water For People event, *Women in Water*, is an important one. Throughout the world, 884 million people do not have access to safe drinking water and 2.6 billion are without adequate sanitation facilities. Women and young girls spend countless hours and walk miles each day, often at great risk to their safety and lives, to secure water for their families; subsequently, losing their opportunity to earn an income or education. Water For People is working to change this.

The Washington, DC Water For People Gala will bring together utility managers, industry leaders, the Nation's policy-makers and the philanthropic and business communities who are at the forefront of making a positive impact on global water issues. Invited speakers include: Maria Otero, Under Secretary of State for Democracy and Global Affairs; Elisa Speranza, President of CH2M Hill OMI; and Ned Breslin, Water For People's CEO.

Tickets to this unique and important event are available for \$60 and can be purchased as part of your ACE registration or via Paypal on the Washington, DC Water For People website. The gala will feature music and cuisine representative of Water For People's program regions and an opportunity to enter into a random drawing for numerous prizes, including a one week stay at the Ko'Olina Resort and Beach Club in Hawaii. This event will be the one people will be speaking about for months to come.

Sponsorships are still needed and available at various levels. Information on the benefit packages can be found on Washington, DC Water For People Sponsorship webpage. Please support Water For People as we continue our mission to work with people and partners to develop innovative and long-lasting solutions to the water, sanitation, and hygiene problems in the developing world. Forward this invitation to your colleagues and help raise awareness about global water challenges. For more information, email info@waterforpeopledc.org.

"Grumbles" continued from page 3

Singapore's, to recognize the efforts made to focus and move forward on water sustainability.

The attentive group engaged Mr. Grumbles with questions on the policy debates in Congress on water infrastructure, the efforts on reuse/recovery, and the continued education needed for Congress, States, and the public that CWAA could provide.

NEXT LUNCHEON – NEW VENUE!!

When: Thursday, May 12, 2011 at 11:30 am

Where: the Carlyle Suites, 1731 New Hampshire Ave., NW,
Washington, DC

The topic will be Protecting Our Global Water Resources:
"Water Footprinting – Is Less More?" The Featured Speaker is
Wendy Larson, Limno-Tech, Inc.

Call Jim Wheeler (202) 564-0662 or Clara Alston (202) 564-0677 by Monday, May 9, 2011 to make your reservation for a great buffet lunch and discussion.

(Cost is \$30 in advance and \$35 at the door)

Adam Krantz Honored by Induction Into the 5S Society

*By K. Jack Kooyoomjian, Ph.D,
pH 7 Influent Integrator, FWQA
5S-Society*

On March 24, 2011, with much pomp and ceremony, FWQA's own Adam Krantz was conferred with the honor of Select Society of Sanitary Sludge Shovelers ("5S" Society) membership. The honor conferred is lifetime membership in the 5S Society, which is recognized nationally and internationally by all WEF members, other association and professional societies, trade associations, academia, and virtually all officials at all levels of government who are "in the know" what the Golden Shovel represents when adorned by the wearer.

The person upon which the honor is conferred, also receives an actual vestige of sludge (in this case it is a container of sanitized sludge), along with an authentic Certificate of Membership signed by many FWQA 5S members. There purposely are left a couple of pH slots that the honoree must seek out from other 5S members to recognize, sign and complete his/her certificate. Any legitimate member of the 5S Society qualifies to sign this certificate, but the position of pH 7 is exclusively reserved for the pH 7 Influent Integrator, who is elevated to the very top of the highest ridge of the sludge bed and is the only officer in the FWQA's 5S Society.

Adam also received articles referring to Biobrick, and the documented history, tradition, rules & folklore of the 5S Society, including the "secret handshake," the "distress signal," the documented list of all members and when they were conferred with such honors, and any other matters of

importance to the 5S Society. Adam, as the wearer of the Golden Shovel has been transformed henceforth and forever more, with much pomp, ceremony, and multitudes of accolades deserving of this honor. He has now been elevated to the highest ridge of the sludge bed. This comes with all the rights, honors, privileges, and responsibilities thereof appertaining. Adam, being so honored by his colleagues, must wear his Golden Shovel proudly at all official FWQA & WEF events. Being selected for membership in the prestigious, honorable and odiferous 5S Society is an honor sought by many and achieved by

few. One cannot "join" the society, and there are no dues. You must be recognized and selected by your fellow 5S Society members. Our FWQA 5S Chapter was formed on November 15, 1986, but according to legend, history and folklore, the 5S Society reportedly came into being in 1940.

From this day forward, all members of the 5S Society must treat Adam (while he wears his Golden Shovel) with Awe, Reverence and Respect as one who resides at the highest ridge of the sludge bed. Congratulations Oh Great One!



FWQA 5S'ers Jack Kooyoomjian (right - Influent Integrator) and Jan Goodwin (left -Official Golden Shovel Pinner) confer 5S status to FWQA President Adam Krantz (center).

UPDATE: Spring Science Fairs

By Jan Goodwin

FWQA judged at seven area Science Fairs this year: In Virginia, Northern Virginia; Fairfax County; Loudoun County; Prince William County; in Maryland, Montgomery County; Anne Arundel County; and the District of Columbia. Thanks to our judges: Sharon Nye; Shelby Zelonis; Jack Kooyoomjian; Carey Johnston; Mary B. Klein; Joe Ford; Jeffrey Burkhart; Steve Skripnik; and Madeleine Nawar. I would also like to acknowledge Shelley Pitter and the Chesapeake Water Environment Association who partnered with FWQA judges at the Montgomery County and DC Science Fairs. Thanks CWEA and thanks to all of our judges!

Federal Water Quality Association

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