



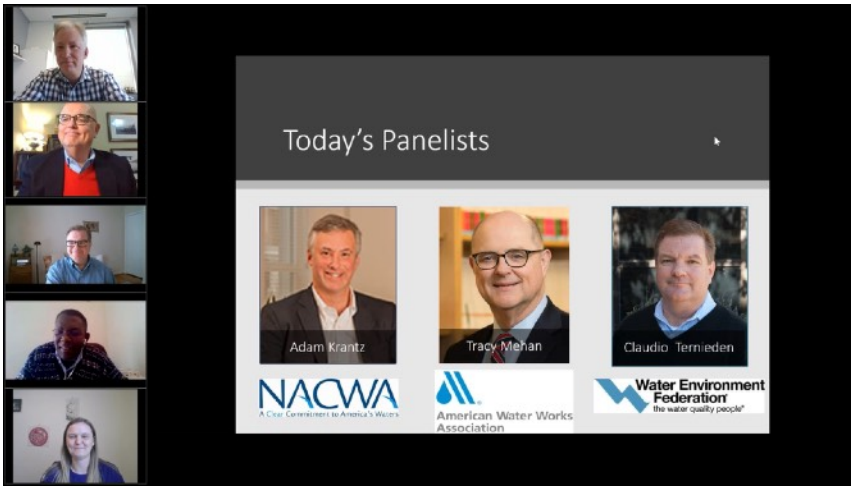
Established 1928

Newsletter

Federal Water Quality Association

An Affiliate of the Water Environment Federation; www.fwqa-dc.org

2021-22 Theme - Water Resource Issues: Ensuring Water Flows Freely, for All



Screenshot of speakers and organizers at FWQA’s first 2022 webinar on February 10, discussing the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA). From upper left are speakers - Adam Krantz, Tracy Meehan, and Claudio Ternieden, FWQA President Christian Davies-Venn, and Moderator Tessa Roscoe. (See article on right)

Funding Flows to Invest in Water Infrastructure Woes

by K. Jack Kooyoomjian, Ph.D.

On Thursday, February 10, 2022 the Federal Water Quality Association (FWQA) hosted a webinar focusing on the new Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), commonly referred to as the Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill, with a panel of dynamic speakers. President Biden signed the bipartisan \$1 trillion IIJA into law, enacting a once-in-a-generation investment in our nation’s infrastructure. This key piece of the President’s domestic spending agenda will funnel billions of dollars to states and local governments to upgrade outdated infrastructure for public works projects, including water and wastewater (WW) infrastructure upgrades.

Moderator, Tessa Roscoe opened the meeting and introduced Christian Davies-Venn, FWQA President to make opening remarks, welcome everyone and introduce the FWQA panelists to the audience, as well as say a few introductory remarks about the IIJA.

Adam Krantz, the CEO of the National Association of Clean Water Agencies (NACWA) noted that this is a historical moment. He cited the long-standing Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWRf) of 12-15 billion in the drinking water side and noted that we shouldn’t waste this opportunity on the 5-year funding program of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill known as the IIJA. He observed that municipalities will ultimately be the receivers both on the drinking water (DW) (Continued on Page 3)

In This Issue:

Funding Flows to Invest in Water Infrastructure Woes
by K. Jack Kooyoomjian, Ph.D. -----1

President’s Corner *by Christian Davies-Venn, Ph.D.*-----2

Reflections on Meeting our Mission in a Covid Shaped World by Tessa Roscoe-----4

Science Fairs 2022 *by Janet Goodwin* -----5

In Memory of Dedicated Water Professionals-----6

FWQA 2021-2022 Election Results -----10

National Capital Environmental Scholarship Fund
Pledge Card -----11

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President's Corner

Welcome to our first FQWA newsletter of 2022! Since the publication of our last newsletter, we have continued our webinar series based on our theme: "Water Resource Issues: Ensuring Water Flows Freely, for All." On September 10, 2021, we had our first ever virtual Open House which was designed to provide to potential members the history and background of FWQA as well as who we are, what we do, our planned programs and activities, open positions, and opportunities to join and actively participate in FWQA. Unfortunately, due to COVID-related restrictions, we had to postpone our planned face-to-face luncheon meeting in December 2021.

We kicked off our first webinar for 2022 on February 10th with a panel discussion on "Impacts of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act on the Water and Wastewater Industry." As climate change accelerates and its associated adverse impacts on water resources increase, Congress passed a landmark legislation, the \$1 trillion bipartisan Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), which was signed into law by President Biden on November 15, 2021. The purpose of this Act is to invest in the nation's infrastructure to build resilience, manage energy demands, support public and environmental health, and ensure America's economic prosperity. This webinar addressed investments in water and wastewater infrastructure, lead service line replacement, remediation of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), roads and bridges, and broadband, among many other priorities.

To help unpack the details of the IIJA, we were pleased to welcome three distinguished expert panelists: Mr. Adam Krantz, CEO of the National Association of Clean Water Agencies (NACWA); Mr. Tracy Mehan, Executive Director, Government Affairs for the American Water Works Association (AWWA); and Mr. Claudio Ternieden, Senior Director for Government Affairs at the Water Environment Federation (WEF), who presented an engaging and informative discussion. See article on page 1 of this newsletter for details. Our sincere thanks to all our speakers, planners, and participants. If you missed this or previous webinars, the recordings are available upon request.

As we anticipate with cautious optimism the end of the COVID-19 pandemic, we eagerly look forward to the "new normal" of post COVID and a return to our usual face-to-face luncheon meetings and other planned events. One such event is our upcoming awards ceremony in May when we award scholarships to local area high school seniors and prizes to top winners of local school science fairs in the greater Washington DC metropolitan area. We plan to kick off our 2022/23 season in September with an in-person luncheon webinar on Water Resources in the state of Maryland which will focus on issues particularly related to water quality in the Chesapeake Bay by Dr. Charles Glass, Director of Maryland Environmental Service. As we start planning for the next season, we welcome your thoughts, comments, suggestions, and ideas. Please feel free to contact me at fwqadc@gmail.com. Meanwhile, be safe, keep well and enjoy the newsletter.

Christian Davies-Venn, PhD, PE, BCEE

Continued from Page 1 - Funding Flows

and WW side. He stressed that we can't risk not getting this right, and we need to talk to the CWRP directors and administrators. He observed that there are some new items that are "tricky" and challenging, such as disadvantaged communities that need serious attention by all. He observed that this is a first-time event for water infrastructure and represents approximately 10% of the IIJA.

Tracy Mehan, Executive Director of Government Affairs for the American Water Works Association (AWWA) noted that there is evolving guidance from the US EPA and the states with respect to the State Revolving Funds (SRF). He advised that interested parties need to become "best friends" with your SRF people in your state. He stressed that "You need to get close to your state SRF people." He optimistically opined that EPA hopefully will soon come up with useful guidance on what it is that we have to do. He observed that there is \$15 billion for removal of lead water lines, but that we probably need four times that amount.

Claudio Ternieden, Senior Director for Government Affairs at the Water Environment Federation (WEF), noted that the IIJA has provisions regarding workforce energy efficiency, resiliency and other performance benchmarks, but not all of this has guidance or is yet funded, so it is a work in progress. He cited a potential barrier (one can view this as a challenge to be overcome) with the "buy American" requirement, and observed that EPA has very thoughtful ways to address the various benchmarks, such as the lead and copper rules and the challenges for the WW side such as the use of phosphates. The states need to look at their capacity to take advantage of these available funds, as there is literally funding for hundreds of programs. It will be interesting how the funds get allocated amongst the different states and the different places of need. In particular, it will be of great interest how the funds are used to make positive impacts in disadvantaged communities which have not traditionally benefited from these programs in the past. He noted that while the states have a long tradition of working with the EPA to assess needs, funding allocations need to be done fairly and carefully.

Mr. Meehan observed that the results from the new survey pertaining to the lead service line replacement needs will drive the EPA guidance with respect to this issue. Mr. Krantz remarked that the 5-year (FY 22 thru FY 26) funding will be divided amongst the 50 states,



but likely not equally as it may be allocated on a need basis. The funds will also be allocated amongst the population of WW treatment plants. NACWA has 350 members and many are currently using the Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA) to get low interest rate bond issuances to accelerate investment in our nation's water infrastructure. He observed that there is a need to target smaller utilities which is the "noble" thing to do, but the reality is that the larger utilities have the capacity to prepare plans and engineering designs to take advantage of the available funds. The EPA is very focused on providing technical assistance to disadvantaged communities and smaller communities so they can get into the program. The funds somehow have to be leveraged carefully over a 5-year period in a fair manner, and there are continuing needs to address technology upgrades, cyber funding, and other challenges, such as disadvantaged communities and smaller utilities.

Claudio observed that it is abundantly clear that we are competing against a broad swath of other infrastructure sector needs, such as transportation, roads and bridges. There are a lot of demands and we need to properly utilize the "people's money." Tracy remarked that the trillion dollar need is still there for the drinking water sector, but there also are significant needs for managing storm water flows, amongst many other needs.

Tessa then began the Question and Answer (Q&A) Session which is continued on Page 8.

REFLECTIONS

A Feature Capturing Thoughts and Reflections on People, Programs, and Activities in the Water Resource Arena by Esteemed Professionals



Reflections on Meeting our Mission in a Covid Shaped World By Tessa Roscoe (a young professional civil and environmental engineer who works for Eastern Research Group and currently is our FWQA President-Elect)

I wish I could have titled this article differently, calling this a ‘post-Covid world,’ yet the pandemic continues, with variants, treatments, and restrictions changing day by day. But, humans are nothing if not resilient. We are given reason to hope every day as new solutions are created and more people are protected. While Covid pushed us physically apart, our new technologically-linked world provided real-time connection. Many were able to see and hear family on the other side of the world, keep students in touch with their teachers, and break new ground in professional and personal goals. However, despite these achievements, there is a perpetual feeling of, ‘when, and where, does this roller coaster end?’ And a quiet but deafening murmur from those behind, who have not shared in our benefits, wondering when the helping hand will reach for them. Collectively, we have been presented a chance to rebuild. Over the past two years, I believe FWQA has begun to do our part to engage this opportunity to build back better than we were.

FWQA’s 2021-2022 theme is ‘Water Resource Issues: Ensuring Water Flows Freely, for All,’ and the limitations of Covid have pushed us to make good on that promise in ways we would not have before. Our new virtual platform has truly made FWQA’s benefits flow more freely for all. By pivoting to recorded webinars over the lunch hour, we have greatly expanded our audience for the valuable seminars we host and made attendance more equitable by removing physical and monetary barriers to participation (all recordings are available – just ask the Board!). Moreover, the flexibility of this virtual presentation option has also helped us deliver two expert-packed panel discussions – the first on Women in the Water Industry and the second being our most recent on the Infrastructure Bill. We can now bring a more diverse range of leaders inside our virtual meeting room for timely discussions on the most pressing issues in the water industry. FWQA even has a Facebook page now! This new channel makes us more accessible to young professionals and engages us more broadly with the public beyond our mailing list - follow us today!

Providing equal access opportunities for engagement is a core tenet in achieving true equality. We hope everyone will take advantage of the resources FWQA has to offer by (Continued on Page 5)

Reflections (Continued from Page 4)

sharing our seminars with others outside our network and inviting new members to join or possibly even be a guest speaker! We must all continue to strategize on how we can bridge divides and bind our industry closer together, and FWQA welcomes any ideas from its membership on how to better meet their needs.

In our new Covid-shaped world, we are ready to ditch the minutia of the old standard and streamline our lives to focus on the priorities that really matter to us. If we can surmount the burden of burnout these past two years have laid upon us and seize this moment, we will build a new world, more accessible to those who come after us. Through my work with FWQA, I am continually reminded of all that we have and just how much we can share.

Science Fairs 2022

By Janet Goodwin

March Madness!

March is science fair month and this year all science fairs are virtual. FWQA is participating in 5 regional science fairs in the metropolitan area: Montgomery County; Fairfax County; Northern Virginia; Loudoun County; and Prince William County-Manassas City. While we have judges in place for the 2022 science fairs, we are always looking for volunteers to judge so if you would be interested in helping at future science fairs, please email us at fwqa-dc@gmail.com.

FWQA supports young scientists and budding engineers at the high school and junior high levels at regional science fairs. We reward their scientific research with a certificate of accomplishment, a ribbon, and a FWQA logo pin. First place winners also receive cash and an invitation to our spring awards event.

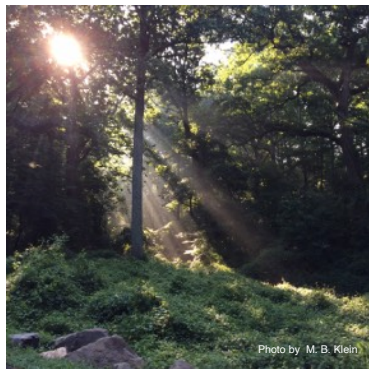
Leadership Opportunity!

FWQA is looking for a new science fair coordinator to take over for 2023. The responsibilities of the science fair coordinator include registering FWQA as special award judges at the regional fairs, identifying judges, and preparing the awards packages. If you would be interested in doing this job, please contact the board at fwqa-dc@gmail.com.



In Memory of Dedicated Water Resource Professionals

Jim Berlow, Mary Klein, and Bob Wayland
Contributed to this Dedication Article

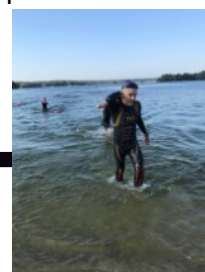


During the past year, we have lost many dedicated water resource professionals who worked at EPA and contributed to protect our nation's waters. All were colleagues, and some members, of the FWQA. May light shine on them as we honor their careers and life efforts.

Rodney "Rod" Frederick passed away at 77 on April 26, 2021 of acute respiratory failure as a result of COVID 19. He was an Environmental Engineer as one of the first generation of EPA employees for 40 years in the Office of Water. Colleagues knew him as a major influence and contributor to the water resources profession who worked on the National Dioxin Study that conclusively documented the dioxin contamination from Pulp and Paper Industry facilities in the Fox River Valley of Wisconsin and Dow Chemical in Midland, MI. That report triggered important clean-ups that reduced dioxin exposures in those areas and others. Other major projects were his involvement with the National Water Quality Inventories, nonpoint source initiatives, and stormwater management. Rod also was a very active member of FWQA serving as President in 1977-78, awarded the WEF Arthur Sidney Bedell Award in 1979 to acknowledge his extraordinary personal service to FWQA, and was a 5S inductee in 2000. Most of all Rod was seen by his friends as a dedicated husband, father, a truly professional colleague, and public servant.

Michael Cook former Director of EPA's Office of Emergency and Remedial Response, Office of Drinking Water, and Office of Wastewater Management, passed away at 79, on May 27, 2021 following a long battle with cancer. Mike's decades of public service included USAID assignments in Vietnam, HUD's Model Cities program, and from 1973 at EPA for over 30 years. He was a graduate of Swarthmore College and a Rhodes Scholar at Oxford University. Among many awards he received was the Presidential Rank Award of Distinguished Executive. Mike was the first director of EPA's "new" \$1.6 billion Superfund program and also managed implementation of the Clean Water Act of 1977. Mike had a remarkable life of dedication to and passion for family, public service, and athletics (as an avid triathlete - pictured after swim in the Potomac River, bicyclist, and softball player). Lajuana Wilcher (one of the EPA Assistant Administrators that Mike worked for) had some words about Mike Cook - "...the CSO Policy is the one thing in my career that I have worked on that I believe has had the most effect on improving U.S. water quality, and you were the architect and engineer of both the process and the policy. It never would have been developed or implemented without you."

(Continued on Page 7)



In Memory of Dedicated Water Resource Professionals (Contd. from page 6)



Dwight Hlustick passed away at 76 on September 30th, 2021 following a brief illness. After graduating from Rutgers University with an Engineering degree he worked for 32 years at EPA in Region 3 and then at Headquarters as an Environmental Engineer. Dwight, in addition to substantial efforts on the Iron and Steel Category effluent guidelines under the Clean Water Act, was heavily involved in the development of standards for corrective action pursuant to RCRA/HSWA. These standards created the requirements for the mitigation of spills and releases of hazardous wastes (and clean-up of contaminated groundwater) at RCRA-permitted facilities. He was a frequent attendee at FWQA lunch discussions. Dwight will be remembered as a dedicated and professional public servant, a loving uncle, and an avid enthusiast of many outdoor activities, including bicycling to work, sailing, hunting, and fishing.

Victor J. Kimm, 87, died on November 19, 2021. Vic earned a bachelor and masters degree in Civil Engineering from Manhattan College and New York University. He spent more than 30 years at EPA protecting our nations environment. As the Director of the Office of Drinking Water, Mr. Kimm managed efforts to help implement the Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974, the first generation of mandatory standards for drinking water quality. The Act achieved significant goals which included increasing public awareness of the need to protect drinking water supplies, stimulating scientific advances to protect water, improving state supervision of drinking water, and increasing the monitoring of drinking water systems. He was also the Deputy Assistant Administrator for the Office of Pesticides and Toxic Substances and oversaw the agency's budget resources for licensing new pesticides and industrial chemicals and controlling hazardous substances. Vic also was an active volunteer for 29 years with Share of McLean, an all-volunteer, non-profit organization, and a devoted husband and father.

Jeffery Denit, 79, died December 24, 2021 after battling illness unrelated to COVID. Jeff had an Engineering degree and a masters in Economics from Clemson University, and a masters in Environmental Engineering from the University of North Carolina. He was a dedicated public servant at the EPA for over 30 years. In the water programs, Mr. Denit became Director of the EPA Effluent Guidelines Division (EGD), managing the development and promulgation of several industry national effluent standards that became the core of today's regulatory program. The standards assured adequate control of toxics in discharges from industrial point sources. Jeff then transferred to the position of Deputy Office Director of the Office of Solid Waste just after the Congress passed the Hazardous and Solid Waste Amendments of 1984. This legislation became the core of today's EPA programs to manage hazardous waste at industrial facilities and commercial disposal facilities, as well as municipal solid waste sent to landfills and combustion facilities. Jeff was a devoted husband and father, and enjoyed gardening, and spending time with his family and friends especially when Clemson University competed.

Robert Dellinger, 73, passed away on February 1, 2022. Bob had a Chemical Engineering degree from Virginia Tech and a masters degree in Environmental Engineering from the University of Maryland. As part of his 38 year career at EPA, Bob spent a decade in the water programs developing effluent guidelines for several industries, most notably the Pulp and Paper Category. In the Office of Solid Waste following the passage of HWSA, he led a group developing the technical standards for management of hazardous wastes, including treatment storage and disposal. Mr. Dellinger served as Deputy Director and later Director of the Division charged with identifying the many wastes to be classified as hazardous waste. Following new legislation passed by Congress, he led EPA's programs to establish management standards for ash from coal-fired power plants. Bob also was critical to the establishment of EPA's program to create an electronic manifest for hazardous waste and served as the lead manager for standards for municipal solid waste. Bob will be remembered as a dedicated public servant, devoted husband and father, and a life-long athlete who played softball and basketball.

Funding Flows to Invest in Infrastructure Woes (Continued from Page 3)

Q&A Session and Final Thoughts

Tessa Roscoe began the Q&A session with questions that had been submitted to the FWQA website.

What about the \$3.5 billion annually for 5 years for removal of the lead drinking water pipes?

Tracy Mehan observed that the lead service line funding does not require a state matching fund for replacing the lead service lines. Adam Krantz remarked that there is also a very targeted lead and copper provision, but it is also for dealing with emerging contaminants. He felt that there will be disagreements emerging as we get more specific on proposed implementation plans. Claudio Ternieden agreed and cited issues that there is a need to expand the definition to include the proper handling and disposal of “disposable” wipes, fats, oils and grease (FOG), and the pass-through contaminants that enter publicly-owned treatment plants (POTWs) such as micro-plastics, PFOAs, PFOS and others.

Tracy Mehan stressed that the WIFIA is a separate funding source from the IIJA, and that it continues doing good things and basically is in “good shape” in its current form. Claudio remarked that WIFIA actually benefitted from the passage of the IIJA. Adam observed that the Clean Water Act SRF issues also have benefited from the IIJA passage, but the panelists didn’t expand on the nature of these co-benefits from the IIJA.

With respect to the drinking water SRF issues, what might be the functions for the WW industry?

Adam remarked that the WW industry folks are using the same mechanism to leverage funding. He opined that basically, we want to get the money out in the first year, but a lot of the smaller utilities will need help to “get in the queue.” Adam asked, for instance, what innovations will help the smaller utilities successfully get into the SRF loans queue and application process? We need to bring new folks (especially smaller utilities) into the SRF system, and we don’t see this as a “Red State/Blue State” divide. There needs to be a prioritization process to benefit people and communities in need.

Claudio observed that WEF is looking to collaborate to help target funding for storm water and water reuse, and lower income pilot program assessments, as well as collaborate with existing and new Health and Human Services (HHS) programs where there are significant needs to be addressed. Tracy advised that it is only an authorization for the pilot study, and we need to move further on this, but it is a start. Adam remarked that cities and many municipalities are moving forward. The ratepayer is always going to be 90% to 95% of the funding source, and we can’t be a “taxing authority.” However, if we can subsidize the lower income populations and communities in need and work toward sustainability, otherwise all the federal money in the world will not sustain us.

Tracy observed that the Income Transfer Program (ITP) is a very controversial program and in some cases may be illegal. He sees nothing on the WW side, and observed that we need to not “screw up” the existing rate structure for the ratepayers, and we need to take care of low income and poor people and communities in need.

In general, what are the AWWA and WEF doing with disadvantaged communities with respect to engineering, finance and other challenges and what do you have to help them?

Claudio noted that the WEF is rolling out Toolkits to target southern states to build out and provide what information would be most helpful to them. WEF is trying to help obtain grants for small communities to help build capacity.

(Continued on Page 9)

Funding Flows to Invest in Infrastructure Woes

Q&A Session and Final Thoughts (Continued from Page 8)

Where do you foresee the infrastructure bill to have the biggest impact?

Adam observed that the utilities can speed up projects in two areas, namely Governance and Technologies. With respect to Governance, there are 55,000 DW agencies and there is a need to “regionalize” these entities, since there isn’t a sustainable model. Perhaps we need to compare this to the electric utilities and re-think how we approach governance. The second need is to address new technologies. For instance, how do we know what to do and how much to invest with respect to new technology such as “sensors,” information technology (IT) upgrades, supervisory control and data acquisition (SCADA) systems, cybersecurity and various other security enhancements for keeping everyone safe and secure? Clearly we need to pilot these new technologies and build successful models for use by others.

Final Thoughts

Tracy asked where is the biggest impact? He noted that Adam gave a good list of what and where the IJJA bill didn’t address many issues. He remarked that it is on us to re-imagine and re-think smart technology and to encourage the proper use of technology. Mr. Mehan felt that this is something that is yet to be had and is a continuing challenge for us all. Claudio remarked that it is a responsibility for all of us to guide implementation and oversight and to “do it right.” Tessa observed that the Biden Administration has a big emphasis on environmental funding. Tracy added for all to please don’t hesitate to reach out to us for assistance and advice. Claudio added that WEF is available to support you, that NACWA & AWWA have worked well together, and he thanked Adam & Tracy for being on our team. Adam remarked that we (the NACWA), AWWA and WEF are operating with a focus in the public service sector. We are supporting the cities, municipalities and the utilities with a view toward developing our “inner voice” to develop an “inner paradigm” for success for all. We all need to remain vigilant, and stay on point to give the message that there needs to be the attention and focus to make our systems better across-the-board to better serve the American public.

Dr. Davies-Venn thanked the panelists for their excellent discussion and for openly sharing their thoughts and perspectives, especially in the excellent Q&A session that took place. He also presented opportunities to engage with the FWQA in various programs.

Scholarship Sponsors Wanted: Please consider being an individual scholarship sponsor this year - sponsors at ANY amount are always welcome! See the Pledge form on Page 10 to contribute. If you have questions contact FWQA treasurer Jim Wheeler at Virginiawheels@aol.com.

2021-2022 FWQA Election Results!



The FWQA is pleased to announce the official results of the 2021-2022 Executive Board elections. The new Executive Board was effective July 1, 2021.

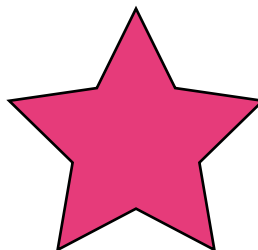
President:	Christian Davies-Venn
President-Elect:	Tessa Roscoe
Vice-President:	Joe Ford
Secretary:	Sharon Nye
Treasurer:	Jim Wheeler
WEF Delegate:	Greg Mallon
Past President:	Janet Goodwin

Four additional at large members are appointed by the President to make up the full FWQA Executive Board.

Current At-Large Members are:

Mary B. Klein
Jack Kooyoomjian
Erica Janifer
John Tucker

Also New Appointment: Lydia Johnson as the FaceBook Manager



National Capital Environmental Scholarship Fund Pledge Card

The Federal Water Quality Association (FWQA) is a member association of the Water Environment Federation (WEF). WEF is a world leader in water quality and environmental stewardship.

The WEF established the National Capital Environmental Scholarship Fund in 1991. The scholarship fund provides funding to local graduating high school seniors in the Washington, DC metropolitan area that will be attending colleges or universities with an environmental, water resources, or other related curriculum. Since the inception of the scholarship program, the fund has awarded over 80 scholarships, totaling more than \$100,000.

The merit scholarships are awarded based on the applicant's academic achievements and essay demonstration, and the applicant's commitment to environmental stewardship at school, at home, and in the community.

The goal of the scholarship program is to support and encourage students to pursue careers in the water industry, and to become young professionals with the knowledge to tackle the future global challenges of protecting public health and the environment.

We need your help to make this happen. The scholarship fund runs solely on donations from corporations, members, and individuals. You can make a pledge by filling out the information below and mailing it the FWQA.

The FWQA is a technical/educational professional organization and is designated by the IRS as a 501 (c)(3) charitable organization. All donations are tax deductible and you will receive an acknowledgement and an IRS W9 form for your records.

If you need more information about the FWQA scholarship fund, please contact Jim Wheeler, FWQA Treasurer, at fwqaboard@gmail.com.

To make your pledge to the National Capital Environmental Scholarship Fund - Please provide the following information and mail it to: FWQA Scholarship Fund, P.O. Box 14303, Washington, DC 20044. We will mail you an invoice for your pledge amount.

Name:

Address:

Phone:

Email:

Pledge level (check appropriate box):

Sponsor - \$2,000*

Platinum Level - \$1,500

Gold level - \$1,000

Silver Level - \$500

Bronze Level - \$100

Other (please specify) _____

Alternatively, you can also mail your donation check made out to the FWQA Scholarship Fund to P.O. Box 14303, Washington, DC 20044.

All donors will be listed on the FWQA web site, included in all FWQA newsletters, and recognized at the scholarship awards luncheon.

*Sponsors will also be invited to participate in the scholarship selection process and will be invited to attend the scholarship awards luncheon to present the scholarship to the selected recipient.