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2006 FWQA SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED *by Sharon Nye, Research Analyst Water & Wastewater Equipment Manufacturers Association, Inc.*



A good number of members and students attended the luncheon at the National Press Club on May 25th to honor the 2006 winners of the FWQA Scholarships. Congratulations to all of the winners – the future is waiting for you!

THIS YEAR four outstanding applicants were chosen by the FWQA Scholarship Committee judges on Saturday, May 6, as the recipients of four separate \$1,000 scholarship awards. The judging committee consisted of Sharon Nye, WWEMA (chair), Sheila Olem (AFLAC), Barry Benroth, U.S. EPA, and Christian Davies-Venn, Peer Consultants. Scholarship applicants from D.C. and surrounding areas are rated on academic achievement, references, essay, extra-curricular activity related to the environment, and overall presentation. The judges reported that this year a fourth scholarship was awarded due to the high caliber of applicants and their environmental awareness relating to water quality.

The 2006 FWQA scholarship winners are: Daniel Musher of Walt Whitman High School in Bethesda, MD (Gordon McCallum award); Anna Hiatt of Woodrow Wilson High School in Washington, D.C. (Richard Barber award); Christopher Klabunde of Hayfield Secondary School in Alexandria, VA (Harvey Olem award); and Emily Brownlee of Calvert High School in Prince Frederick, MD (President's award). An additional scholarship was awarded to John Wong in the name of his late father, Sun Wong, an employee of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

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President's Corner

by Mary Belefski

FOR MY final "President's Corner" here are some "Words of Wisdom" from famous others, as FWQA and I move on to the next year.....

ALBERT SCHWEITZER: At times our own light goes out and is rekindled by a spark from another person. Each of us has cause to think with deep gratitude of those who have lighted the flame within us.

FRANK LLOYD WRIGHT: I know the price of success: dedication, hard work, and an unremitting devotion to the things you want to see happen.

JOHN F. KENNEDY: Change is the law of life. And those who look only to the past or present are certain to miss the future.

VINCE LOMBARDI: Individual commitment to a group effort -- that is what makes a team work, a company work, a society work, a civilization work.

YOGI BERRA: You got to be careful if you don't know where you're going, because you might not get there.

Thanks to All as I Move On!

I can't believe that two years have flown by since I was formally elected to serve as President of FWQA! Perhaps the most noteworthy accomplishment during this time was that FWQA awarded an unprecedented nine scholarships, recognized 21 individual and three team science fair winners, and sponsored one Stockholm Junior Water Prize nominee. This bodes well for the future of our water resources as many of these students pursue environmental careers.

These awards are made possible by the generosity of our Golf Tournament sponsors and members, and especially the work of members Ken Kirk and Dawn Kristof (fund raising), Sharon Nye (scholarships) and Jan Goodwin (science fairs) who make it all possible – THANK YOU! Another major first for FWQA was successfully hosting two WEF Washington, DC events in one year – the Member Association Exchange meeting (WEFMAX) and WEFTEC-05. Thanks especially go to Melissa DeSantis, Kevin DeBell, Ken Kirk, Dawn Kristoff, Mike Sullivan, and the MANY members who helped make WEFMAX and WEFTEC happen.

This year, our theme of "Partnerships – Tackling Critical Water Issues" was exemplified in all our activities including one of the most well-attended and enlightening embassy events at the New Zealand Embassy, and the four luncheon presentations on Katrina flooding in New Orleans, WEF's Water for People effort, Virginia's water resource activities for the Chesapeake Bay, and the EPA blending policy. Thanks to members Martin Brossman, Jim Wheeler, Jeff Burkhart, Jack Kooyoomjian, and Kevin DeBell who took the time to plan and lead these events. Keeping the theme of "Partnerships," hopefully this month we will finalize and sign a Memorandum of Understanding with our neighboring member associations, Chesapeake and

Continued from 2006 FWQA Scholarships, Page 1

John's mother and former FWQA president Karen Waldvogel-Wong spoke about Sun and presented the Special FWQA Scholarship award.

All recipients were congratulated at the annual FWQA Awards Luncheon at the National Press Club on May 25.



John Wong and Karen Waldvogel-Wong

Continued from President's Corner Page 2

Virginia to establish cooperative efforts for the future. Many thanks to Vice President Jeff Burkhardt for making this vision, which began over a year ago, actually happen!

All Board members deserve a special thank you for the time and effort they have given to support our FWQA group. This year, we had the privilege of honoring two of our longstanding members with special WEF awards: the Bedell award to Mike Sullivan (for his work with FWQA) and the Hatfield award to Jim Wheeler (for his professional work on hurricane Katrina activities). Also, our entire FWQA family extends its THANKS to Ed Bryan for his 20 years as our 5S Influent Integrator. His dedication will be tough to follow, but Jack Kooyoomjian has promised to continue with unbiased neutrality.

To celebrate our 2005-2006 year, please register and come with your families (and wear your FWQA shirts!) to our second Annual Picnic on June 10!

On the administrative side, we were grateful to have Chris Zabawa as our Treasurer (thank you Chris!) this year, but unfortunately he will not be able to continue his second year term. To assure a smooth transition, I appointed Jim Wheeler to be Treasurer for next year. A very special thank you goes to Helen Siverling, our substitute newsletter editor who stepped in mid-year to provide support since Melissa DeSantis is on maternity leave (Congratulations Melissa!).

Our water resources will always need to be protected locally and globally by all citizens. Remember, FWQA exists for you, the members who are professionals interested in protecting our water resources. In preparation for next year, please take the time to read the enclosed ballot, vote for your new Board members, and also consider becoming more active. As Margaret Meade said, "Never doubt that a small, group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has."

FWQA and WEF Service Awards presented at May Awards Luncheon:

Water Environment Federation Awards Presented by William Bertera, Executive Director of the Water Environment Federation

The Arthur Sidney Bedell Award to Michael Sullivan

The William D. Hatfield Award to James Wheeler

Federal Water Quality Association Awards Presented by William Bertera, Executive Director of the Water Environment Federation

President's Service Award to: Mary Belefski

5 S Service Award to: Edward (Ed) Bryan

Federal Water Quality Association Special Achievement Awards Presented by James Wheeler, FWQA Federation Director

For 2005 Water Environment Federation Member Association Exchange Meeting (WEFMAX) Event:

Kevin DeBell
Melissa DeSantis
Mary Belefski

For planning and implementation of Water Environment Federation Technical Conference (WEFTEC-05) in Washington DC:

Ken Kirk
Mike Sullivan
Dawn Kristof

EVERYTHING YOU EVER WANTED TO KNOW ABOUT 'BLENDING' AND DESSERT TOO

by Sharon Nye, Research Analyst, Water & Wastewater Equipment Manufacturers Association, Inc.

FOR SEVERAL years, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has been challenged in its attempt to develop a policy on "blending," the practice of diverting a portion of wastewater flows around secondary treatment units when heavy rain threatens to overwhelm those units. The agency first proposed a blending policy in 2003, but received more than 98,000 comments on the proposal, many of which opposed it.

In December 2005 EPA proposed a new blending policy that was based on joint recommendations from the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC) and the National Association of Clean Water Agencies (NACWA) (formerly AMSA). This partnership was surprising to many, considering that NRDC and NACWA have often been on opposite sides of this issue.

At FWQA's April Luncheon, speakers Nancy Stoner from NRDC and Alexandra Dunn from NACWA graciously tackled the issue, calling it "Blending: A Workable Solution," (based on this year's FWQA theme "Partnerships—Tackling Critical Water Issues").

Beginning with a focus on the lighter side, noting "The scientific community is divided - some say this stuff is dangerous, some say it isn't," a background was presented on sewage blending to clarify that "blending" is the practice used by some sewage

treatment plants of diverting wastewater around the secondary treatment unit during rain events and then mixing with wastewater that has received secondary treatment. A history of legislative and regulatory events on the subject was given, followed by NACWA's and NRDC's discussion of a "negotiated approach" with EPA in which the Agency encouraged the groups to work it out.

After many months of doing just that, NRDC and NACWA released a proposal in late

October following a meeting with Ben Grumbles, EPA's Assistant for Water. In December EPA proposed a peak flow policy based on the NACWA/NRDC proposal - only 70 substantive comments were filed.

All in all, the speakers took their formidable task in stride, shook hands and left us with the next steps on blending: comments under review; function of time and political will; EPA timetable; based on today's science, but science needs to be improved.



Mary Belefski, FWQA President (right), thanks Nancy Stoner, NRDC (Left) and Alexandra Dunn, NACWA (center) for their presentation on the finer points of sewage blending at the April luncheon.

The New FWQA 5S Society Influent-Integrator is Dr Jack Kooyoomjian, and Dr. Ed Bryan is lavished with Honors and Praise

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

NOW THAT I am supposed to be tracking the dates of the events for the FWQA 5 S Society, remaining neutral in all matters that come before the FWQA's 5S Society, I recall that the actual FWQA 5-S Society pH 7 Influent Integrator Transfer from Dr. Ed Bryan to Dr. Jack Kooyoomjian took place on Thursday, February 23rd, 2006 at the Channel Inn at the FWQA/No. VA WQA Joint Luncheon in the small dining room, as we had a small, but very high quality crowd. The transfer took place fairly quickly, and Martin Brossman, our handsome, suave, charming, daunting and ever-present FWQA photographer somehow didn't capture the photo-opportunity, since (let's be fair), we somehow didn't tip him off that this great and momentous event (and photo opportunity) was to occur. However, on reflection, it was fun to conduct another exercise at the FWQA Awards & Scholarship Luncheon at the National Press Club on May 25th, and now we have many photos of that event.and we got to give Ed his Hard Hat back (with a variety of 5S Society Signatures affixed to it) as the Charter FWQA pH 7 Influent Integrator Emeritus, which is a title he will hold forever and we will all forever speak with great reverence, awe, pride and passion of the "**Great One**" that has preceded all others.and, yes, we made a lot of well-deserved fuss over Ed's never-to-be matched service of 2 decades to the FWQA's 5 S Society as it's Charter pH 7 Influent Integrator.

As I recall, Jeff Burkhart and a WEF Staffer, Ms. Lori Burkhammer of WEF's Public Education Program, as spokesperson introduced WEF's National presentation on the "Water

is Life, and Infrastructure Makes it Happen" theme at the FWQA's Feb 23rd luncheon. It was a good presentation with an engaging Q&A session.



A re-enactment of the April 5S ceremony at our May Awards luncheon. George Schlossnagle's presence was especially appropriate for the event because he was President of FWQA in 1986 and responsible for the FWQA 5S Chapter's being chartered. He was inducted into our chapter of the 5-S in 1988.



Science Fairs

By Janet Goodwin

ONCE again FWQA supported local science students. I would like to extend my appreciation to all of our judges for supporting science education and introducing area students to FWQA.

Several of our science fair first place winners attended our May Awards Luncheon. Several parents of these students have told me what a treat it is for their students to be invited to attend our luncheon and have an opportunity to meet scientists and engineers that work in fields these students are interested in.

FWQA is responsible for nominating a student from the District of Columbia to attend the Stockholm Junior Water Prize competition each year.

Our nominee this year is Genevieve Allen. You may recognize Genevieve as last year's Stockholm Water Prize nominee. FWQA and WEF sponsored her trip to Seattle, Washington, last June to attend the 2005 competition. Unfortunately for us, Genevieve has an amazing internship opportunity in the wilds of the Northwest and will not be able to attend this year's Water Prize competition. We wish Genevieve well in her summer adventure and look forward to seeing her again at next year's science fair.

FWQA members volunteered to judge at 7 local science fairs this year. Our judges were:

Prince Georges County - Pete Eagen, EPA retired and Anita Cummings, EPA

Fairfax County - Joe Ford, EPA, Chandra Vavilala, Peer Consultants, and Juanita Walker, Peer Consultants

The District of Columbia - Felicia James, EPA, Rosemary Hall, EPA, Mike Sullivan, Limnotech, Philip Crunk, Limnotech, and Steve Lloyd, Limnotech

Montgomery County - Joe Ford, EPA

Northern Virginia - Mary Belefski, EPA and Janet Goodwin, EPA

Loudoun County - Sharon Nye, WWEMA and Susan Helling, WWEMA

Prince William County - Sharon Nye, WWEMA and Jack Kooyoomjian, EPA



Just some of the impressive young winners honored at the awards luncheon on May 25, 2006, at the National Press Club.

EVENTS!

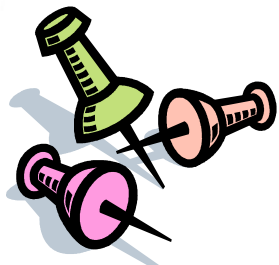
June 10:
Second
Annual
Picnic!...

...Hosted by
Walt Brodtman
in the
Virginia
Northern
Neck

Contact
Board
Members
for
Details!

MARK YOUR CALENDAR
to take part in the 15th Annual
Federal Water Quality Association
*Clean Water Scholarship
Golf Tournament*
Friday, September 22, 2006
Bretton Woods Country Club
Germantown, Maryland
Look for further details arriving in your mail soon!

Ballot
Due by
June
23!



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