

Straight From The Chair

By: Wayne Lovelis, MSAWWA Chair

Looking back at the past year or so I am proud of the way our Montana communities pull together through earthquakes, record snow fall and the spring flooding that put several communities and water/wastewater systems at risk. This has also been my experience with MSAWWA and MWEA members. We all work together to insure clean water for current and future generations. We all use the same water for different purposes so we are all responsible for it.



Once again we had an excellent conference in 2018 thanks to the Host City committee, Program Committee, City of Missoula and the Mastermind that coordinates it all, Robin Matthews-Barnes.

The preconference titled "Invasive Mussels: What To Expect & How to Prepare" was very impressive. I am currently on the Cascade County Aquatic Invasive Species Committee and I thought I had obtained very comprehensive information until I attended this preconference. If you are a water treatment professional and missed this preconference, you missed a great opportunity.

The main conference was equally exciting, fun and very informative. I appreciate the efforts of all committee members that helped make the conference a success. On behalf of the MSAWWA board I would like to thank the vendors that help make these conferences happen, your support and dedication to our industry is invaluable and appreciated.

We again had exceptional speakers and presenters attend the conference this year, including the AWWA Vice President Kevin Bergschneider. Kevin has a tremendous amount of knowledge and experience and I enjoyed our conversations. Thank you for attending our small conference, we appreciate the support.

The YP Program Committee did a great job this year with the poster contest. We had a good turnout and some very well thought out posters and presentations. Thank you for all of the hard work from the committee and contestants. I look forward to next year.

(cont. on page 8)

MWEA President's Message

By: Herb Bartle, MWEA President

Being retired allows me to get out and enjoy some of the bountiful recreational opportunities this state has to offer. I was fishing on the West Gallatin with my sons and was struck by the clarity of the water this late in the season. Being able to see trout swimming in the bottom of holes 8 feet deep, let alone catch them, was an experience I will long remember.

Clean safe water for recreation and consumption is something most people take for granted in Montana.

As an MWEA member I know how much effort is put into keeping Montana's streams and lakes healthy. The cost of installing, running and maintaining the infrastructure to treat a city's or town's water and wastewater will only increase as the population grows. This is an investment we should make for future generations!

MWEA strives to keep its members informed about new innovative ideas in the wastewater industry. Becoming a member and attending the Joint Conference in the spring is a great way to hear this new information in the sessions presented there. You can network with other operators and engineers that may have run into the same problem that you are facing and have found a solution.

The MWEA and MSAWWA committees strive to enhance the value of the organizations to its members. The joint website lists the committees that have been formed. Look them over and find one that follows your passion and join. Student & Young Professionals is a joint committee that is working to start chapters on campuses across the state. Public Outreach is another joint committee that strives to inform the public about water issues. An MWEA committee that is rolling along is the Stormwater Committee. Its goal is to provide information and training on stormwater issues to help cities and towns meet their MS4 permits. Grants for Teachers is another MWEA committee that provides funds to teachers across the state to buy material to educate students on water and environmental topics. The bottom line is get involved! Your time and energy may make a difference in the effectiveness of a committee to enhance membership value and it also looks good on a resume.

(cont. on page 9)





***“Working Together To Protect Montana’s Water Resources”
Highlights from the 2018 Conference***

The 2018 annual MSAWWA-MWEA Joint Conference was held in Missoula May 16th—17th and provided an excellent opportunity for networking and a wide variety of sessions and topics eligible for continuing education credits. The Preconference was hosted by MSAWWA on May 15th with approximately 40 people attending the “Invasive Mussels: What To Expect and How To Prepare. Total Conference attendance was approximately 150. In addition, there were 52 vendors on site that provided valuable information to all who took advantage of the opportunity. Numerous awards were presented during the banquet on Wednesday evening, as well as during the General Session on Wednesday and lunch on Thursday. The awards presented for MSAWWA and for MWEA at the 2018 Conference were as follows:

WEF William D. Hatfield Award—Rodney Lance, Veolia Water

MWEA Small Systems Award—City of Deer Lodge

MWEA Stockholm Junior Water Prize—Lucas Ritzdorf, Glacier Highschool

MWEA 5S Award—Barb Coffman & Tom Radcliffe

MSAWWA-MWEA Lifetime Achievement Award—Todd Teegarden (posth.) & Steve Ruhd

MSAWWA-MWEA Donald Willems Scholarship—William Najjar, Montana State University

AWWA George Warren Fuller Award—Jeff Ashley, Morrison Maierle

Dignitaries representing both AWWA and WEF were in attendance at the conference. Representing AWWA this year was Kevin Bergschneider, 2016-2018 AWWA Vice-President. Representing WEF at the conference was Board of Trustees member Ifetayo Venner.

**One AWWA Operator
Scholarships Available**

MSAWWA has teamed with AWWA’s **The Water Equation Campaign** to offer (1) \$1000 or (2) \$500 Operator Scholarships for water operator training and education, based on need. The scholarship award can be used for certification/licensure, two-year water related associate degree, technical school program, professional training program, books and manuals and operator related conferences. Each scholarship recipient will also receive a one-year AWWA Operator membership.

Please spread the word that these scholarships are available!

Click here for more information:

www.montanawater.org/awards-scholarships/scholarships-available/

**Montana Water Environment Association
Operator Scholarships Available**

The Montana Water Environment Association (MWEA) has allocated funds to certified operators looking for assistance in paying for continuing education and/or training event costs. Applicants must complete a scholarship application one month ahead of the training session they plan to attend, and awards of up to \$500 can be realized by each applicant. When approved in advance, the award money can be used to pay for the actual training as well as other miscellaneous costs associated with attending. Applicants must be a Montana certified operator or operator in training. Applications are available through the Montana Environmental Training Center (METC) or can be obtained by emailing MWEA Secretary/Treasurer, Rodney Lance at rodney.lance@veolia.com.

~2018 Conference Photos~



The opening session of the 2018 Joint Conference was well attended. Karen Sanchez with USDA Rural Development gave a presentation on "Making The Most Out Of The Infrastructure Dollar".



Jeremy Perlinski, MWEA Honors & Awards Chair, presents the plaque for the MWEA Small Systems award to the City of Deer Lodge. Trent Freeman accepted the award on behalf of the city.



Volunteer judges make the rounds and listen to presentations from SYP Poster Competition entrants.



Jeff Ashley presents AWWA Vice-President Kevin Bergschneider with a welcome basket as a small thanks for attending the conference.



WEF Board Member Ifetayo Venner presents Rodney Lance with the William D. Hatfield Award. Congrats on this prestigious award Rodney!



Wednesday evening banquet at the Joint Conference.

Are You Ordering Books from AWWA?

If so, please place your order through Robin Matthews-Barnes, MSAWWA Executive Secretary. MSAWWA receives credit for your order. The cost is the same to you, but MSAWWA gets a bonus!

NewsWaves is a publication of the Montana Section of the American Water Works Association and the Montana Water Environment Association and is published twice yearly. It is available for viewing or printing on our website at: www.montanawater.org.

We welcome contributions to **NewsWaves**. For more information, contact:

Robin Matthews-Barnes
PO Box 582

Seeley Lake, MT 59868
Phone: 406-546-5496

E-mail: Info@montanawater.org

Calling All Student Writers!! Write About Anything Water and Receive \$100

MSAWWA and MWEA produce **NewsWaves** twice yearly for the water and wastewater industries including professionals from Montana cities and towns, engineering firms, and equipment suppliers. We certainly would like to hear from the education community as well. For each newsletter we encourage submission of student papers of 1000 words or less. If the submitted article gets published in the newsletter, the student will receive \$100 along with a 1 year membership to AWWA or WEF. The next newsletter will be published this coming winter/spring. Articles must be received by March 15, 2018 to be considered. For more information, please contact Robin Matthews-Barnes at 406-546-5496 or by email at: Info@montanawater.org



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[2019 Joint Conference](#)

AWWA:

Water Infrastructure Conference/October 28-31, 2018

Membrane Technology Conference/February 25-28, 2019

AWWA/WEF Young Professionals Summit/March 3-5, 2019

Utility Management Conference/March 3-5, 2019

Sustainable Water Management Conference/March 31– April 3, 2019

Design-Build for Water/Wastewater Conference/April 10-12, 2019

ACE19/June 9-12, 2019

[Click here to go to the AWWA upcoming event calendar for more workshops, webinars, and conferences](#)

WEF:

Imagine A Day Without Water/October 10, 2018

World Toilet Day/November 19, 2018

Utility Management Conference/March 5-8, 2019

Water Week 3/31-4/6, 2019

WEFTEC/September 21-25, 2019

[Click here to go to the WEF upcoming event calendar for more workshops, webinars, and conferences](#)

Do You Have Something To Say?

If you have ideas, announcements, articles, or stories you would like to submit for consideration for publication in the next issue of *NewsWaves*, please email Robin Matthews-Barnes at info@montanawater.org. The next issue will be published in March, 2019, so keep it in mind!



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Logan McInnis, (photo at right) who has served all positions on both boards, has most recently been the MSAWWA Membership Committee Chair. Logan's work on the AWWA Membership Challenge has produced funds for the Section to use for membership events—such as providing pizza for SYP gatherings and brown bag sessions. This year's check was for \$847.85. Logan is looking for someone to step up and join the membership committee—please let him know if you want to volunteer by emailing him at: logan@ci.missoula.mt.us. Thank you Logan for your time and dedication to MSAWWA and MWEA!

~Joint Scholarship Fund Raffle~

Thank you to **Morrison-Maierle, DOWL, Great West Engineering, and HDR Engineering** for their generous donations for this years' raffle to help fund the Donald G. Willems Joint Scholarship.

1st prize was a \$400 gift certificate to Quinn's Hot Springs Resort. 2nd prize was a \$300 Bob Wards gift certificate, and 3rd prize was a \$200 Amazon gift card.

1st prize winner was Gary Wiens, 2nd prize winner was David Carlson, 3rd prize winner was Nick Belmont. Congrats to you all and thank you for your continuous support!

The raffle raised over \$1500 for the scholarship fund.

Thank you to all who purchased tickets to support the opportunity to help the students who benefit from the scholarship awards. Thank you also to Greg Lukasik (Chair) and all who serve on the scholarship committee.



Greg Lukasik (left), Chair of the Joint Scholarship Committee, presents Nick Belmont with DN Tanks the 3rd place scholarship raffle prize. Congrats Nick!



American Water Works Association

Mission of Montana Section AWWA—

The Montana Section of American Water Works Association is dedicated to the promotion of public health and welfare in the provision of drinking water of unquestionable quality and sufficient quantity. Montana Section of AWWA will provide the forum and opportunity through which its membership can exchange information, learn of new issues and technologies, educate the public, and enhance the professionalism of workers in all areas of the water industry.

Mission of the Montana Water Environment Association

The Montana Water Environment Association (MWEA) is a non-profit organization dedicated to the preservation and enhancement of Montana's water environment. The Association is committed to advancing science and education, disseminating technical information, increasing public understanding and promoting sound public policy in the water quality and water resources field.





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Straight From The Chair continued....

Your MSAWWA Board is continuing to promote the diversity within the board with respect to the knowledge from engineering and municipalities board members. The perspective and knowledge that is obtained through this diversity allows the board to make more informed decisions.

I would like to encourage members to consider becoming active in either the Board or one of the many MSAWWA or Joint Committees. We desperately need your support and ideas. This is a chance to make a difference, make your ideas heard and be part of a dedicated team of professionals.

~Wayne

"Always drink upstream from the herd" (Will Rogers)



Fresh Ideas Poster Competition Winner

Brian Viall, a YP already in the workforce with AE2S, was the winner of the 3rd Annual SYP "Fresh Ideas" poster competition at the 2018 Conference. Brian was awarded with an expense paid trip to ACE18 where he presented his poster at the national level. The Joint SYP Committee plans to hold the 4th Annual poster competition at the upcoming 2019 Joint Conference next spring. **The submission deadline for entry for the 2019 competition is January 31, 2019.** Click here for more information: [2019 SYP Fresh Ideas Poster Competition Call For Abstracts](#)

MWEA President's message continued....

I would like to welcome Gene Connell of the City of Missoula as our newest MWEA board member. Gene has worked at Missoula's wastewater facility for 27 years. I am sure that his experience and drive will serve the board well in the years to come.

In closing I would like to bring attention to an issue that has come to the forefront in the last two years in Montana. The pre-conference last spring focused on zebra mussels and other invasive aquatic species that could degrade our water bodies if they become established. All of us that use everything from waders to speed boats need to follow the "Clean, Drain and Dry" process to prevent the spread of these invasive species in Montana. ~Herb Bartle



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Message from MSAWWA's National Delegate ~Amy Deitchler~

I will be attending WEFTEC in New Orleans on behalf of MWEA as a new member of the House of Delegates at the end of September. Last time WEFTEC was in the Big Easy more than 20,000 attendees were at the conference. It ranked in the top five largest conferences for the 89 years WEFTEC has been held. The conference center in New Orleans is approximately 11 blocks long and held over 1,006 vendors. The exhibitor hall is remarkable, and I recommend anyone attend given a chance. Just make sure you bring your walking shoes!! This year's general session will feature Kevin Brown, author of *The Hero Effect*. I am excited to attend this session. WEF will also be relaunching the popular Water's Worth It™ campaign at WEFTEC.



In addition to the amazing conference, the House of Delegates will again be given the opportunity to participate in the service project. The service project is organized by WEF's Students & Young Professionals Committee benefiting the host City each year. This year the service project will be constructing a bioswale at the Treme Recreation Community Center. These young people are amazing in the projects they make happen. I highly encourage all of you to help support and strengthen our own Montana SY&P committee.

In October, the MWEA Board will meet in Helena. The board plans on using future charitable donations to support different organizations throughout Montana. If you have any recommendations for charitable organizations, please contact one of the board members. As we start preparations for next year's Joint Conference in Billings, I encourage you to get involved in the activities. MWEA will be responsible for the preconference this year and we will welcome any ideas that interest you. Please feel free to reach out to me at adeitchler@greatwesteng.com.

I wanted to remind everyone of exciting MWEA programs, including the Operator's Training Scholarship and the Grants for Teachers programs. The Operator's Training scholarship is awarded to Montana operators to attend continuing education or training events. The Grants for Teachers program was established to support water science education, involvement, and restoration for Montana students' grades K-12. Please get the word out for both of these programs to operators and teachers. The applications can be found here: <http://www.montanawater.org/awards-scholarships/scholarships-available/>.

I am honored and excited to serve as your National Delegate to WEF. Please contact me if you have any questions, concerns, or want to know how to get involved. We have a lot of exciting committees and programs that can always use more support!!~Amy

Congratulations to William Najjar

Recipient of the 2018

Donald G. Willems Scholarship

William Najjar, undergraduate student at Montana State University, was chosen as the recipient of a \$1000 MSAWWA/MWEA Joint Scholarship given in honor of Donald G. Willems. William is pursuing his B.S in Civil Engineering with a Bio-Resource Engineering option.

Congratulations to William and best wishes in his future endeavors!



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www.wef.org/JoinWEF

~2018 Conference Photos~



AWWA Vice-President Kevin Bergschneider presents Jeff Ashley with the George Warren Fuller Award. This is one of the most prestigious awards that AWWA bestows. Jeff has served through all positions on the MSAWWA Board of Directors, including many years as Sec/Treasurer. Congrats Jeff, it is well-deserved!



Steve Ruhd, recently retired from Morrison-Maierle was a recipient of the Joint Lifetime Achievement Award at the conference. Nancy Cormier presented Steve with the award. Thank you for all you have done Steve!



Todd Teegarden, a well-respected long time member and friend to many was also a recipient of the Joint Lifetime Achievement Award this year. Todd's wife Amy accepted the award in Todd's honor. A wonderful tribute to Todd was written and presented by Paul LaVigne.



Keeley Barry, Barb Coffman and Andrea Zuidema work together to try and "break-in" to their box during the Wednesday evening entertainment. It was a new activity and all who participated had a great time!



Deep in thought....or GQ? Neal Lavang, Nick Belmont & Greg Lukasik mentally prepare for the task at hand...



Who's having fun? Jeremy Perlinski (left) moved into the Past President position, and Herb Bartle (right) is now President of MWEA for the 2018-2019 year.

Message from MSAWWA's National Director ~Greg Lukasik~



Hi All! I hope summer treated you well and the fall will treat you even better (especially those of us with Elk B tags). As always, the Association is very active with several initiatives underway:

- As I write this, Hurricane Florence is impacting the Atlantic coast. AWWA members have activated the WARN network for areas affected by the storm. WARN stands for Water and Wastewater Agency Response Network, and it is a network of utilities helping other utilities to respond to and recover from emergencies. Simply stated, utilities hit by the hurricane will receive assistance such as personnel, equipment, materials or any other necessary services from other utilities. This same system was activated last year during Hurricane Harvey (Texas) and Hurricane Irma (Florida) and were very valuable in keeping the water and wastewater utilities operating as effectively as possible. Please note there is also a WARN system in place in Montana should we ever need it (but hopefully not from a hurricane). If you would like to review the situation reports, go to <https://www.awwa.org/resources-tools/water-knowledge/emergency-preparedness/warn-situation-reports.aspx>
- The Association Board has adopted some changes to nominating and selecting candidates to run for the President, Vice-President and Director-at-Large positions. There are six nominating committee members consisting of previous Presidents, Vice-Presidents and Board Members. There are several candidates for the both the President and four open Vice-President positions, and 3 candidates for 1 Director at Large position. It will be fun to see how this shakes out.
- There are always webinars and training sessions coming up, including the Water Infrastructure Conference and Financial Seminar, October 28-31, in Atlanta. Attendees have stated this is a very valuable event. This year the Water Quality and Technology Conference will be in Toronto, November 11-15. Canada is always a lot of fun!
- AWWA has now started publishing the Journal AWWA and Opflow through a contract with Wiley Publishing. If you haven't already, you may start seeing emails from Wiley with our publications. This method saves the Association some money and also upgrades our ability to get these publications out. Also, Wiley has digitized all the old Journal AWWA publications back to 1914, and they are available on the Journal AWWA website.
- The Veterans Workforce Initiative is continuing to grow with more volunteers stepping up nationwide. If you know any Veterans who are looking for work or are interested in being a volunteer, please contact me or John Alston at the City of Bozeman.
- The Standards Committee has released new standards recently, including B300-18 for Hypochlorites and C519-18, High Performance Waterworks for Butterfly Valves from 3" to 60".
- Montana has two Community Engineering Corps projects underway, one in Big Arm and the other for Stevensville. In Big Arm, a team of Carroll students will assist the SKHA with getting started with improvements toward installing a sewer system in the Big Arm area. In Stevensville, a team has been working to improve the communities record keeping system and taking inventory of the system components to create a GIS network. We hope to have an update of these projects by our 2019 Section Conference.

Last, please consider attending the Annual ACE Conference this coming year, being held in Denver. ACE is a great event to grow your knowledge of water works with an outstanding educational program, great networking events, the exhibitor hall is huge, and the competitions are very entertaining to watch. The benefits of attending are well worth the investment.



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American Water Works Association



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Water For People

Thank You to **Great West Engineering, R.L. Winston Rod Co., and Montana Fly Goods** for again donating the fly rod and reel for the Water For People raffle that took place at the conference. Retail value of the prize was \$1,220.00. Over \$2500 was raised for Water For People at the conference this year from raffle ticket sale and from the canister raffle. Congratulations to **Todd Latchaw** on winning the rod and reel. Thank you to Carrie Gardner and John Camden (Co-Chairs) and the other members of the Water For People committee for all of your efforts, and thank you to those who supported the cause by purchasing tickets or canister raffle tickets.

AWWA 2018 Regional Meeting of Section Officers Sitka, Alaska

John Alston and Nate Weisenburger represented the Montana Section of the American Water Works Association at the Regional Meeting of Section Officers (RMSO) in Sitka, Alaska on August 15-17, 2018. With the recent realignment of regions, MSAWWA is now in Region IV with sections representing the western United States, western Canada, and Mexico.

the Region IV RMSO is intended to foster a collaborative atmosphere by offering a great opportunity to hear firsthand about what our peers are doing to support and implement the initiatives and mission of AWWA. The innovation and progressive work by larger sections, such as the California-Nevada, Texas, and Pacific Northwest sections, is impressive, and while the Montana Section does not have similar resources, the discussion offers a list of ideas and takeaways that could potentially be scaled to fit our section membership. Information is also shared by representatives of the Alaska and Hawaii sections, who experience geographical challenges while trying to serve a relatively small membership count, which is similar to our Montana Section.

The three-day event touched on the following topics:

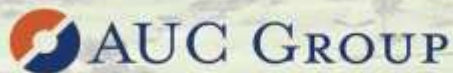
- Stronger Together: Overview and Future State of AWWA2020
- The Water Equation: Fundraising Programs to Positively Impact the Water Industry
- Students/Young Professionals and the Water Equation: Staying Relevant in a Changing Market
- Cyber Security: Guidance and Use-Case Tool
- Operator Exam Prep: Application for iOS or Google Play (App is free with the ability to add comprehensive question sets for \$19.99 each)
- Lead Service Line Replacement Collaborative: Goal of Voluntary Lead Service Line Replacement
- Veterans Workforce Initiative: Liaison Network, Toolkits, and Flyers
- 2018 State of the Water Industry Report: Highlights Current Issues and Future Challenges

To access more detailed information on these topics, visit www.awwa.org/rmso.

The venue selected for the RMSO event is typically a destination location. After the 2017 fire season limited the sight-seeing opportunities of RMSO participants when the event was hosted by the Montana Section in Whitefish, Sitka certainly did not disappoint attendees who want to experience the great outdoors and view wildlife with an unbelievably scenic backdrop. The next Region IV RMSO will be hosted by the Arizona Section. The location is planned for Tucson on October 31 – November 2, 2019.



Pictures courtesy of Nate Weisenburger. Above: Sitka Sound, AK.
Left: Yes, that is a large, not very happy looking, Alaskan Brown Bear.



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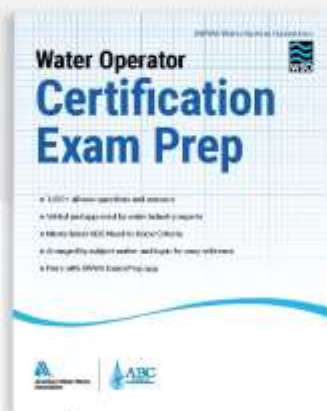
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WATER'S WORTH IT®

Why AWWA Utility Membership?

By Andy Chase, AWWA Utility Relationship Manager



Utility membership in AWWA comes with many benefits that are not included with an individual membership. In addition to the benefits individuals receive, AWWA provides utilities with resources to help manage a utility—tools for assessing infrastructure needs, rate-setting, training and certification programs, communicating the value of water service to the public, and opportunities to craft regulatory policy.

I'm Andy Chase, and I'm incredibly proud to be the first Utility Relationship Manager in the 137-year history of AWWA. I joined the Member Engagement & Development team in January 2015, and I was charged with developing AWWA's utility recruitment process. I realized, early on, the power of partnering with AWWA Sections and recruiting volunteers to join me in meetings with utilities and municipalities. Our process: We identify nonmember utilities through a variety of sources and group them geographically. I reach out to Section leaders and ask for volunteers to commit one day to visiting utilities with me.

When meeting with utilities, we discuss how each water utility benefits from its AWWA membership differently; for most, at least three areas of value rise to the top.

First, AWWA is the preeminent forum for knowledge and solutions to help water professionals—and water utilities—do their jobs better and more efficiently. Through its international and local conferences, peer-reviewed journal and other publications, and online training and webcasts, AWWA helps its members discover the right technologies, management strategies, and operational tactics to ensure each customer dollar is being spent efficiently and in a way that best protects public health.

Second, AWWA is the entity that produces water industry standards for materials, equipment, and practices used in water treatment and supply. AWWA members have a voice in the creation of these standards, and utility members always have access to the full, updated set. AWWA also produces a robust set of manuals of practice to complement the standards. Members further enjoy substantial discounts on a vast collection of handbooks, reports, and other tools created through the intellectual capital of AWWA's members.

Third, AWWA provides the water sector with a critical voice in Washington, D.C., where legislative and regulatory decisions can dramatically affect each of America's more than 52,000 community water systems. Working closely with its utility members, AWWA's Government Affairs group and Water Utility Council bring sound science and the real-life experience of water utilities to the public policy dialogue. AWWA brings critical technical information to the regulatory process and frequently testifies before Congress on legislative and other matters. Utility members stay informed through regular public affairs, legislative, and regulatory advisories, and a bi-weekly *Water Utility Insider* newsletter.

We've recently had substantial success in AWWA's Southwest Section. The AWWA Membership Engagement & Development Team has been working closely with the Section to recruit new utility members. I've had the pleasure of meeting with 12 utilities with Executive Director Don Broussard, and we are excited to welcome Baton Rouge Water Company, the City of Shreveport, and the City of Monroe, LA, as new utility members. From Arkansas, we welcome Benton/Washington Regional Public Water Authority as new utility members. We also hosted a luncheon in Oklahoma City, an active utility member, and we welcomed the City of Norman and the City of Broken Arrow, OK, as new utility members. Utilities benefit from their utility membership and the Section benefits as well, since a portion of membership dues is returned to the Section for operations to maintain member services locally.

Successes such as these help maintain AWWA as the largest nonprofit, scientific, and educational association dedicated to managing and treating water, the world's most important resource. With its 51,000 members, AWWA provides solutions to improve public health, protect the environment, strengthen the economy, and enhance our quality of life.

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The **Operator Trivia Competition** again took place on Thursday morning of the conference. Members of the winning team received \$25 gift cards for a prize. Congrats to City of Bozeman attendees!

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MSAWWA Secretary/Treasurer Steps Down

Nate Weisenburger (pictured right) with AE2S, has stepped down after serving several years as MSAWWA Secretary/Treasurer. Nate has also served in several other positions on the Board. Thank you Nate for your many years of service on the Montana Section AWWA Board of Directors. You have been a huge asset to the organization, and very generous with your time and talents. David Carlson, also with AE2S, has recently been appointed to the position to replace Nate. We are sure that Nate will continue to be involved in MSAWWA!



SAVE THE DATE!!!

***Come and take advantage of the educational and networking
opportunities at the 2019 Joint MSAWWA-MWEA Conference***

April 23rd—Preconference hosted by MWEA: topic TBD

April 24th/25th—Conference "Working Together To Protect Montana's Water Resources"

Location: Billings Hotel & Convention Center/Billings, MT

Registration information will be emailed to members and is also available on the website:

[2019 Joint Conference](#)

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Donald G. Willems Scholarship

Please remind any students you know that are pursuing degrees in the water or wastewater fields to submit an application for the 2019 Willems Scholarship. March 15, 2019 is the deadline and application information and materials are available on the website—click on the “Awards & Scholarships” tab for an application form, OR click here: www.montanawater.org/awards-scholarships/scholarships-available/

Up to (2) \$1000 scholarships can be awarded each year. This is a joint MSAWWA-MWEA Scholarship. Please pass the word!

Best Tap Water Taste Test Congratulations Bozeman Water!

AWWA Vice-President Kevin Bergschneider, long time MSAWWA member Mike Patterson, and MSAWWA National Director Greg Lukasik with Great West Engineering (shown above) served as judges for the Montana Section’s 5th Annual Best Tap Water Taste Test. Bozeman Water System (pictured below) won the contest AGAIN and competed at the national competition at ACE18. Way to go Bozeman on your repeat victory!

Fall 2018 Update from the Student & Young Professionals Committee

Submitted by: Keeley Barry,
S&YP Committee Chair

The Joint MSAWWA-MWEA Student & Young Professionals (S&YP) Committee hosted the third annual Fresh Ideas Poster Competition at the 2018 MSAWWA-MWEA Joint Conference. It was another year of great posters! Brian Viall was the winner and attended the AWWA Annual Conference and Exposition (ACE) in June to compete representing MSAWWA.

Student Chapters at Carroll College and MSU Bozeman are continuously working to grow their involvement in the water industry. This is the first year that a team from Montana has competed in the WEFTEC Student Design Competition. The Student Chapters have also been setting up presentations from guest speakers in the water industry, networking with members of MSAWWA and MWEA, attending the joint conference, and participating in the poster competition.

On behalf of the S&YP Committee, thank you to MSAWWA and MWEA for all the support provided to this committee, its members, and the Student Chapters.



2018—2019 Committee Chairs

Below is a list of the members of MSAWWA and MWEA that volunteered to chair each committee at the 2018 Joint Conference. Volunteers are always welcome, so if you wish to help your association and serve on a committee you may still sign up by contacting the chair of that committee or Robin Matthews-Barnes at Info@montanawater.org or (406) 546-5496.

Joint Committee Chairs

Cross Connection Control

- Barb Coffman (406) 265-3763
barbara.coffman@msun.edu

Exhibitors

- Cavin Noddings
cavin@ywaterworks.com

Host City

- Greg Lukasik (406) 281-4134
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- Jackie Kuhl (406) 459-5944
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Information Management

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Lifetime Achievement

- Jeremy Perlinski (406) 444-4769
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Program

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- Collette Anderson (406) 496-6164
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Public Outreach

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Scholarship

- Greg Lukasik (406) 652-5000
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SYP Committee

- Keeley Barry (406) 268-0626
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MWEA Committee Chairs

Beneficial Reuse

- None at this time

Education

- Doug Whitney (406) 861-7853
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Government Affairs

- None at this time

Grants for Teachers

- Amy Deitchler (406) 495-6160
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Honors & Awards

- Jeremy Perlinski (406) 444-4769
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Long Range Planning

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Membership

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Pretreatment

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Stockholm Jr. Water Prize

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- Rika Lashley (406) 495-3448
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MSAWWA Committee Chairs

Awards

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Education

- None at this time

Legislative

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Membership

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Water For People

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- John Camden (406) 459-0782
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A SPECIAL THANK YOU.....

To all of the volunteers who helped to make the 2018 Joint Conference successful. It takes many helping hands to make it all come together, and all of the help is greatly appreciated. A special thank you to the Host City Committee, the Program Committee, and MWEA Education Committee and the registration desk helpers:

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Coralynn Revis
Logan McInnis
Gene Connell
Carlina Quintero
Jon Gass

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Doug Whitney
Jeremy Perlinski
Jackie Kuhl
Carrie Gardner
Matt Mudd
Jeff Ashley
Jason Mercer
Michele Marsh
Jill Cook

Registration Desk

Devie Bessette
Sue Lowery
Pat Clifford
Lee Macholz
Korey Rug
Cory Davis
Katie Emery

MSAWWA Education Committee (Preconference)

Doug Whitney (Chair)
Collette Anderson

Mike Lovec
Barry Helmbrecht

Mitch Bedford

Thank you also to **Barb Coffman and Andrea Zuidema** for their help during the week of the conference—your time and experience are greatly appreciated!

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