

Straight From The Chair

By: Jeff Ashley, MSAWWA Chair

Hello everyone! I hope you are enjoying the pleasant fall weather (at least while I write this), after a hot and smoky summer. As we get closer to the end of another year, and our Montana Section along with our MWEA friends begin to plan for 2018, I wanted to recap the highlights of 2017.

First of all, the Program committee, Host City committee and of course Robin Matthews-Barnes did an excellent job with the Joint Conference held in Great Falls. It started off with the timely and interesting topic of Stormwater for the preconference, great breakout technical sessions on drinking water, wastewater and stormwater, and ended with tours of first class facilities at the Great Falls water treatment plant and wastewater treatment plant.

2017 also saw transition in our Section Board. Logan McInnis, who I first met when he was going through the MWEA Board more than 10 years ago, transitioned off the Section Board as his term as Director ended. Logan began leadership positions for the Section in 2008, and was Section Director for the last 3 years. Logan has been a passionate leader and spokesperson for our Section and will continue to be involved in committees and the Joint Conference. A big "thank you" goes out to Logan, on behalf of the Section Board for his many years of dedication. We all look forward to continuing to work with Logan. Greg Lukasik took over as Section Director, beginning his 3-year term. Those of you who know Greg, realize that he has a ton of energy and great ideas. He has already jumped into the Director's role and will do an excellent job representing the Montana Section at the Association level. The Board makeup also has changed in 2017. We now have 3 Board members from municipalities; John Alston with Bozeman, Wayne Loveless with Great Falls, and our new junior trustee Jeff Jensen with Havre. This is a larger percentage of municipal Board members that we have had in a while, and speaks to the important value AWWA can bring to cities and towns in Montana.

(cont. on page 9)



MWEA President's Message

By: Jeremy Perlinski, MWEA President

I was sitting down the other night to help my 11 year old son brainstorm ideas for a school writing assignment. The theme for the essay is "America's gift to my generation" which felt like a completely open-ended topic to him. As we discussed typical subjects that had been discussed at school amongst his classmates (freedom, military, safety, etc.), my mind kept coming back to two simple

words: clean water. Having grown up in an engineering household and touring wastewater plants since he could walk, it didn't take much convincing for him to agree to this topic. We started to research and discuss the important advancements in the water industry that have made huge impacts on our country. Thanks to all of you who continue to provide the greatest gift to current and future generations.

As an organization, MWEA will strive to be at the forefront of our industry and keep our members abreast of all related issues. I would encourage each of you to get involved in some way through our organization. The Students & Young Professionals group continues to be strong, but can always benefit from new members or mentoring from more senior professionals. There are many wonderful MWEA, MSAWWA, or Joint committees to choose from if you want to be involved and improve the impact of our organizations. There are many ways each of you can get involved in your communities to spread the importance of all issues related to water. If you need some initial help, consider contacting the Public Outreach committee for suggestions.

Another way of supporting members and our communities is through the various grant and scholarship programs offered by MWEA. One of our more recent and very successful efforts is our Grants for Teachers program. Over the past two years we have distributed thousands of dollars to science teachers across the state so they can incorporate water related projects into their classwork. We are also trying to help communities afford continuing education for their operators by offering scholarships that can be used to offset water school or conference attendance. If you are interested in either of these great programs, please go to our Joint website (www.montanawater.org).

(cont. on page 8)





***“Working Together To Protect Montana’s Water Resources”
Highlights from the 2017 Conference***

The 2017 annual MSAWWA-MWEA Joint Conference was held in Great Falls April 19th & 20th 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 MWEA on April 18th with approximately 56 people attending the “Solutions For Stormwater Management in Montana” themed sessions. Total Conference attendance was approximately 170 including speakers. 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 at the luncheons on Wednesday and Thursday. The awards presented for MSAWWA and for MWEA at the 2017 Conference were as follows:

WEF George W. Burke, Jr. Safety Award—Great Falls WWTP-Veolia N.A.
MWEA Small Systems Award—City of Boulder
MWEA Stockholm Junior Water Prize—Ella DeGrandpre, Missoula Sentinel
MWEA 5S Award—Amy Deitchler, Great West Engineering
MSAWWA-MWEA Lifetime Achievement Award—Jim Melstad & Mike Rubich
MSAWWA-MWEA Donald Willems Scholarship—Emma Raeside, Montana State University
Bradley Jones, Montana State University
AWWA George Warren Fuller Award—Greg Lukasik, Great West Engineering

Dignitaries representing both AWWA and WEF were in attendance at the conference. Representing AWWA this year was Aurel Arndt, 2016-2020 AWWA Treasurer. Representing WEF at the conference was Board of Trustees member Karen Kubrick.

**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.

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

~2017 Conference Photos~



The opening session of the 2017 Joint Conference was well attended. Mark Rohweder with the Montana Chapter of Engineers Without Borders gave a presentation on delivering water to communities in Guatemala.



Jeremy Perlinski presents the plaque for the MWEA Small Systems award to the City of Boulder. Alan Erickson accepted the award on behalf of the city.



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



Collette Anderson presents AWWA Treasurer Aurel Arndt and WEF Board member Karen Kubrick with welcome baskets for attending the conference.



WEF Board Member Karen Kubrick presents Rodney Lance and Dana Audet of the Great Falls WWTP with the George W. Burke Safety Award. Congrats!



Wednesday lunch 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



DOWL
Billings ► Bozeman ► Butte ► Great Falls ► Helena ► Miles City

**Meeting Community Design Challenges
We Build Montana**
www.dowl.com

► Water and Wastewater	► Land Development	► Aviation Design and Planning
► Water Resources	► Surveying	► Construction Administration
► Civil Engineering	► Transportation Engineering	► Geotechnical Engineering
► Environmental	► Transportation Planning	► Materials Testing

Upcoming events:

2018 Joint Conference/May 15-17, 2018 in Missoula. Click here for more information:

[2018 Joint Conference](#)

FREE Workshop: Training and Technical Assistance to Improve Water Quality and Enable Small Public Water Systems to Maintain Compliance with the Safe Water Drinking Act/August 15, 2018 in Lewistown

AWWA:

International Symposium: Potable Reuse/January 22-23, 2018

International Symposium: Biological Treatment/January 24-25, 2018

Utility Management Conference/January 26, 2018

2018 Membrane Technology Conference/March 12-16, 2018

Sustainable Water Management Conference March 25-28, 2018

ACE18/June 11-14, 2018

WEF:

Utility Management Conference/January 26, 2018

World Water Day/March 22, 2018

Infrastructure Week/May 15, 2018

WEFTEC/Sept. 29-Oct. 3, 2018

Imagine A Day Without Water/October 12, 2018

World Toilet Day/November 19, 2018

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 April 2018, so keep it in mind!



The Operator Trivia Competition took place on Thursday morning. Members of the winning team received \$25 gift cards to Buffalo Wild Wings.



Ideas transform communities

Billings 406.656.8100

Bozeman 406.577.5015

Missoula 406.532.2200



hdrinc.com

IT MATTERS.

WATER. It grows our children and crops.
It develops our cities and country.
It powers our industries and businesses.
It cleanses our bodies and the land.

Providing water engineering and related services to help clients achieve success.

WATER ENGINEERING | CIVIL ENGINEERING | LAND SERVICES | GIS | MUNICIPAL FINANCIAL SERVICES | ASSET MANAGEMENT
INSTRUMENTATION & CONTROLS | ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING | STRUCTURAL ENGINEERING | COMMUNICATION SERVICES

THINK BIG. GO BEYOND.



Advanced Engineering and Environmental Services, Inc.
Montana Offices: Bozeman, Great Falls, Kalispell

www.ae2s.com

Partner with us

Optimize Operations and Improve Water Quality

Systems that complete the Partnership's self-assessment process reduce filtered water turbidity by an average of over 60% and are recognized nationally!

That's an impressive accomplishment—one that builds confidence with customers, community, and regulators.

Subscribe today and join the hundreds of utilities that rely on our guidance to optimize performance and deliver safe, high-quality water to millions.



The Partnership is an alliance of six prestigious drinking water organizations.

www.awwa.org/partnership



~Joint Scholarship Fund Raffle~

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

1st prize was a \$500 gift certificate to Chico Hot Springs Resort. 2nd prize was a \$350 Amazon gift certificate, 3rd prize was a \$125 gift certificate to Scheels and 4th prize was a Katadyn Hiker Pro water filter (\$100 value).

1st prize winner was Amy Deitchler, 2nd prize winner was Logan McInnis, 3rd prize winner was Tom Daugherty and 4th prize winner was Collette Anderson.

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.



Montana Section

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.

isiWEST
WATER AND WASTEWATER TREATMENT,
TRANSFER AND CONTROL EQUIPMENT

William Flanagan
Sales Engineer
wflanagan@isiwest.com
www.isiwest.com



CELL: 406.599.0575
3168 OLIVER STREET, BOZEMAN, MT 59718
OFFICE: 970.535.0571
4715 MULLIGAN DR., LONGMONT, CO 80504

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.

Thank you Morrison-Maierle...

For once again providing the prize for the early bird drawing at the conference. Morrison-Maierle has been donating a beautiful Big Sky Carvers wooden duck as the prize for one person who is drawn from the pool of those registering for the conference before the "early bird" deadline.



We create solutions that build better communities



*Working Together
to Protect
Montana's
Water Resources*



www.m-m.net

MONTANA | WASHINGTON | WYOMING

MWEA President's message continued....

and click on the Awards and Scholarships tab for details.

For those members that attended the pre-conference last year on stormwater, I hope you agree that the Education Committee put on a great session covering the latest issue to hit our industry. WEF has taken the national lead on all stormwater issues and MWEA is prepared to follow suit via the newly created Stormwater Committee. There are already quite a few members participating in this group and the initial activity is only going to grow. If this is a topic that interests you, please consider joining this committee and keep the momentum from the pre-conference moving full steam ahead.

Finally, it was a rough summer/fall with regard to drought and forest fires across the state. It was a harsh reminder that most of Montana has an arid climate and we don't always receive adequate moisture. Even though we typically have adequate water resources for drinking water and irrigation, we should continue to focus on opportunities for water reuse and conservation to increase resiliency in our communities to weather droughts and other natural disasters. There is a growing trend across our nation to incorporate conservation practices and planning for resiliency and I am one who thinks Montana should hop on board. Let's challenge ourselves as water professionals to bring awareness to our communities on these issues. Hope you all enjoy the remainder of this year and I look forward to seeing you next May at the annual joint conference in Missoula. ~Jeremy

**WHEN ONE ISN'T ENOUGH...
WE'LL BUILD YOU ANOTHER**



NICK BELMONT
Regional Manager
nick.belmont@dn tanks.com
503.449.8008

**IS IT OUR QUALITY CONSTRUCTION?
OUR KNOWLEDGEABLE STAFF?
OUR SUPERIOR VALUE?**

Many rural water suppliers come back to us again and again to build them a second tank, or a third, or more. Call us today to find out why our clients keep coming back.

wef membership

Your Access to Water Knowledge

- Enhance Your Industry Skills
- Facilitate Lifelong Learning
- Champion Productive Relationships
- Enrich Your Leadership Potential
- Increase Awareness and Recognition in Your Field
- Master Your Career Goals

STUDENT MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

- WEF Dues \$20, plus local Member Association dues
- Free registration for WEFTEC, WEF Conferences, and WEF Webcasts
- Save 50% off of the member price on WEF technical manuals and books
- Eligibility for the \$25,000 Canham Scholarship
- Access to the University Center - Online tools including Career Resources, listings of Student Chapters and local WEF Member Associations, and WEFTEC for Students

YOUNG PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

- WEF Dues \$49, plus local Member Association dues
- Special WEFTEC YP registration rate
- Eligibility to join the WEF Students and Young Professionals Committee
- Special WEFTEC activities, geared to meet the needs of Young Professionals

Available to water quality professionals with five years or less work experience in the industry and who are under 35. This program is available only to new member applicants and WEF Student members. Valid for three consecutive years of WEF membership.

For more information, or to join WEF, visit: www.wef.org/JoinWEF
email: csc@wef.org or
call: 1-800-666-0206.



Straight From The Chair continued....

Speaking of value, the Association and the Section are doing more than ever in 2017 to enhance the membership experience. From philanthropic initiatives like The Water Equation, big picture ideas like Total Water Solutions, annual small system training held in Montana and funded by EPA grants, and ever-increasing student and young professional (SYP) involvement in our Section; there are lots of options for everyone. Regarding SYPs, we are excited that Carroll College in Helena has started an AWWA student chapter, and MSU-Bozeman is in the process of getting a student chapter initiated. The future is definitely bright for our Section.

Also in 2017, the Montana Section had the privilege of hosting the AWWA Regional Meeting of Section Officers (RMSO). The event was held in Whitefish in early September and around 55 leaders from our Region attended. This is always a great event, and we come away with interesting and new ideas from other Sections that we can incorporate into our Section.

For 2018, we are looking forward to another great Joint Conference in Missoula, as the Program and Host committees are gearing up for this effort. The Section Education committee is planning a preconference on Invasive Mussels, which is a new topic for us and should prove very interesting. Small system training is also being planned for 2018 and details will be announced early in the year. Lots of great educational and networking opportunities in the works! Have a great rest of 2017 and I look forward to seeing you at the 2018 Joint Conference. ~Jeff

Message from MSAWWA's National Director ~Greg Lukasik~

Dear AWWA Members:

As I write this, outside my office window it is raining and putting an end to this near record setting fire season. After such a hot and dry summer, it is sure a welcome site to see some rain falling and hopefully the high elevation snow is not far behind!

First, I would like to thank Logan McInnis for representing our section very well over that past three years. Logan was (and still is) very well-known and respected among the other Section Directors and his class was a part of many great accomplishments.

As usual, there is a lot going on at AWWA, which include:

- This year's ACE conference was held in Philadelphia and had over 11,000 attendees. It was a great conference in a terrific venue.
- There is quite the process underway to determine the next AWWA President. There are currently 9 applicants for the position and an Ad-hoc committee has been created to sort through all the applicants and determine those best qualified. The Board will then vote from the list of qualified applicants determined by the committee at the Winter Board Meeting to select the next President.
- Total Water Solutions: TWS is an approach that values the management of water, wastewater, water reuse, and storm water. You may have seen some articles on this in the AWWA Journal. This program has been working well and there will be more articles and activities related to it in the future.
- AWWA 2020: When the Montana Section hosted the 2017 RMSO in Whitefish, we were introduced to the AWWA 2020 program through a video produced by Mike Howe of the Texas Section. The goal of AWWA 2020 is to align the Association and the 43 sections into "One AWWA" by bringing continuity through our communications plan, education, membership, branding and finance.
- Philanthropy: As you may have seen, there are several philanthropy initiatives within "The Water Equation" campaign, including scholarships, Community Engineering Corps, and Young Professional and Student Programs. Academic scholarships include the Abel Wolman Fellowship and the Larson Aquatic Research Support Scholarship typically awarded to those in graduate or doctorate programs. The One AWWA scholarship is used to provide funds for operators to attend conferences or trainings to further their education. Community Engineering Corps is a program with a goal of providing engineering and technical services to disadvantaged communities whose projects need a shot in the arm to get started. Typically AWWA partners with a community and a team from Engineers without Borders from a regional university to assist with projects. SYP programs include networking and leadership training activities to help our future generations get their careers off the ground. All of these initiatives are designed to increase awareness of what we all do in this profession and to help of us continue our important work.
- International Work: A few years ago, AWWA expanded operations to India as a way to expand what we do around the world. This has been a very challenging task for our staff, and they have had many successes and learned a lot of lessons. AWWA India now has a governance structure (that's always a good thing), their own Opflow magazine, membership is starting to grow, and they will hold their first ever conference in 2017.

In the Montana Section, there is also a lot going on. Once again the EPA provided training grants and the Section partnered with METC to put on a no-cost training on SDWA compliance in Sidney, which was well attended. Thanks again to Barb Coffman at METC for assisting with this. It looks like there will be another round of these trainings available in 2018. We also are actively looking for the state's first CEC project and for applicants for the One AWWA scholarship to attend the conference in Missoula next year. Speaking of the conference, the Board looks forward to seeing you there next spring! Have a safe and merry fall and winter season, and for those who are hunters, I wish you great success (just not in my area)!

Sincerely,
Greg Lukasik



Montana Section

American Water Works Association



WHAT'S THE VALUE OF WATER?

Splashing in a pool, tossing a water balloon—water is one of life's great pleasures.

Most of us never think about how water gets to us or where it goes when it swirls down the drain. Luckily, we don't have to. Pumps, treatment plants, and pipes bring us clean water and remove wastewater.

But our water systems are aging. They need investment so they can continue to deliver life's most precious resource. All day, every day.

Water—Essential. Reliable. Invaluable.

Learn how water works for you. Visit TheValueofWater.org.

#ValueWater



Presented in cooperation with the Value of Water coalition

~2017 Conference Photos~



AWWA Treasurer Aurel Arndt presents Greg Lukasik with the George Warren Fuller Award. Greg's father, Gerry Lukasik looks on. Gerry is also a recipient of this prestigious award. They are the only father-son recipients of the award in Montana. Congrats to both Greg and Gerry for this honor.



Michael Rubich was a recipient the Joint Lifetime Achievement Award at the conference. Mike was the Water Production Superintendent for the City of Billings before retiring.



Jim Melstad was also a recipient of the Joint Lifetime Achievement Award. Jim retired from Anderson-Montgomery Engineers but spent many years with MT DEQ as well.



Mike Kynett with Morrison-Maierle gives instruction at the Texas Hold 'Em tournament. Big winners for the evening were Neal LeVang and Carrie Gardner.



Best Tap Water Taste Test Judges: Aurel Arndt, Nate Weisenburger and John Camden



Coralynn Revis is presented with a plaque acknowledging her time spent serving on the MWEA board and as the WEF National Delegate.

Just Say “Yes!”

By Lindsey Geiger, Project Engineer for AWWA



Bravo to the AWWA teams of volunteers that have gone to work and are paving the way for Community Engineering Corps! Thanks to your hard work, the program has hosted 12 AWWA volunteer teams, bringing valuable expertise to US communities in seven states. We have come a long way, but our work is not finished and we need everyone's help! With so many options to get involved, it may be a challenge to know where to start. From identifying potential community partners to engaging volunteers in your Section, the first step is simple: just say “Yes!”

The Rocky Mountain Section's first “yes” came from a volunteer, Dave Pier. Dave saw the value in the program for the good work that could be done right here in his home state of Colorado. Knowing the needs were vast, Dave set out to identify a potential community partner. He worked with his contacts at the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment as well as the Rural Community Assistance Corporation (RCAC). RCAC knew of just the place to approach, and so it connected Dave with a small community 50 miles west of Fort Collins, Colo.

Meet MaryAnne DellaFera

RCAC put Dave in touch with MaryAnne DellaFera, president of the board of directors of High Country Estates Homeowners Association in Red Feather Lakes, Colo. A member of the “new” board, MaryAnne is committed to long-term planning for her system. She's prepared for positive disruptions, having taken the reins from the previous board, which had been less diligent in its duties and had left her with limited financial reserves.

MaryAnne lives in one of 12 full-time residences that form part of a total of 23 households in Red Feather Lakes. A neighboring restaurant, *Basil at The Eighty One*, serves as a local meeting place and has been a long-term business tenant in the area. Most of MaryAnne's neighbors are over the age of 50, and the median income for the community's population is approximately \$47,000, well under the state average. With limited financial assets and elevated sensitivity regarding the homeowners' water rates, MaryAnne has a mountain to climb; at the base of that mountain is prioritizing the system's issues and allocating for the best solutions.

A mountain to climb

The community is served by two wells that provide up to 12.63 acre feet of water for domestic water use. The water distribution and sewer system networks are composed of PVC pipes that run together in a single corridor that is divided into four chambers. The water pipes run in one chamber and sewer pipes in another. In addition, at every house, the water and the sewer pipes exit the corridor together, with no separation between them; and, the utility boxes house both the water and the sewer shutoffs. Sewer pipe leaks contaminate the utility boxes and corridor chambers where the water pipes run. Water and sewer pipe breaks have occurred in the same areas, greatly increasing the risk of contaminating drinking water. Because the utility boxes are so shallow, the likelihood of drinking water becoming contaminated is a common problem. In the first ten months of 2016 there had been four major water main breaks that left the community vulnerable and without safe water for weeks at a time.

Although MaryAnne is prepared to set the community on the right path with better planning and increased financial reserves, these changes are difficult for many residents.

A Helping Hand from Local Experts

The Rocky Mountain Section and Community Engineering Corps is helping the community, and there is a Young Professional who is leading the work to help the community. Marina Kopytkovskiy is an engineer volunteering as the project team lead for the Red Feather Lakes project. She met Dave at the 2016 Rocky Mountain Section Conference when he was recruiting team members. Networking at Section events paid off for Marina, and she was assigned the role of project lead—another “Yes!”

As the lead, Marina is managing a diverse team of volunteers. Because of the scope of the project, she's working with two technical leads: one responsible engineer in charge of the drinking water aspects and another dedicated to the wastewater components of the project. Her core project team is fleshed out with a distribution expert and, of course, Dave as a key communicator. Because she understands the value of a well-rounded team, Marina also has included among her team of volunteers members who have experience with financial resources, public communication and outreach, and water rights.

Marina and her team have been working closely with MaryAnne, the board, and their community. The team has just completed working on a scope of work and schedule that meets the community's (continued on page 16)



October 2017

UNLEASHing the Sustainable Development Goals

Eight WEF young professionals explore global issues

Fidan Karimova

This year, an inaugural event, called UNLEASH (www.unleash.org), brought together more than 1000 talents from around the world to tackle the United Nation's Sustainable Development Goals. The Water Environment Federation (WEF; Alexandria, Va.) sponsored eight young water professionals to attend the in Denmark to represent the North American water sector.

After several days of a facilitated innovation process, conceiving solutions, and testing them with leading experts and companies, one the WEF-sponsored professionals, Fidan Karimova, was selected to receive the Most Visionary award. Ashton Kutcher presented this award in front of thousands of attendees, which included the Princess of Denmark.

The Sustainable Development Goals

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) originated in 2016 to continue the work of the United Nation's Millennium Development Goals MDGs that originated in 2000 with 189 countries signing on to seek their achievement by 2015. Between the two lists, the number of goals increased from eight to seventeen, adding areas that were not previously covered. The SDGs is the largest global partnership agreement and development plan for the planet ever made, according to the UNLEASH website. SDG 6 seek to "ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all."

WEF's role and contributions

Although North American countries are not automatically associated with vulnerable water sources, the Flint, Mich., water crisis in the U.S. and radioactive particles in northwestern Ontario in Canada prove that no region is immune to water issues. The Water Environment Foundation (WEF) was established exactly for this reason — to protect public health and the environment through increasing the awareness of the affect and value of water. WEF supports young professionals in the water industry and encourages them to take on more proactive roles in the industry.

Once in Denmark, the eight WEF-sponsored participants mixed with the other 1000 participants and were placed in groups with people from throughout the world. For example, Karimova's team consisted of four men from Mexico, Denmark, Canada, Brazil. They named their team OTWOH, which is a play on words — H₂O reversed into O₂H/OTWOH. It stands for Ocean Plastics to Heat.

This team, led by Karimova, proposed an alternate source of energy at water resource recovery facilities. The proposal calls for harvesting pollutant plastics from the ocean and using them as a fuel source via the process of gasification. The idea originated generated with Karimova's organization, Global Water Girls (www.globalwatergirls.com), and the UNLEASH group developed it further.

The group is continuing to work on the project after the UNLEASH event and hopes the solution will eventually help disrupt the waste and energy industries.

Why seek the SGDs?

Water and sanitation are key to thriving communities in promoting the growth of future healthy generations and access to a cleaner environment. This goal gains even more importance when taking into consideration that 1.8 billion people globally use a source of drinking water that is fecally contaminated and 2.4 billion people lack access to basic sanitation services, such as toilets or latrines, according to the UN.

(continued on page 16)

MCI

Prefabricated Pump Stations and Controls



NEW!!!
Duplex Pump Station
Standard Packages



*Also Representing
Other Top Manufacturers in the Industry*

SBR Process

Mixers

Diffusers

Aeration Systems

UV Disinfection

Filters

Membranes

Tanks & Covers

Pumps & Controls

Sludge Collectors

Blowers

Clarifiers

DAFs

Lagoon Treatment

Biosolids Process



www.isiWEST.com

Office 970-535-0571



Water and Wastewater Treatment, Transfer, and Control Equipment

LiquID™ Station

Real Time Online Multi-Parameter Water Quality Monitoring



ZAPS TECHNOLOGIES
www.zapstechnologies.com

- BOD
- COD
- ECOLI
- TOC
- TSS
- TOX/THM
- VFA
- FDOM
- NO2/NO3
- UVA/UVT
- CHLA/CHLB
- NH3

*Reported multi-parameter values every 2 minutes.
*Generate Diurnal Cycles




P.O. Box 11789, Bozeman, MT 59718 • Ph: 406-206-1555 Fax: 406-206-1556
www.pipestoneeq.com

PIPESTONE EQUIPMENT

(continued from page 13 “**Just Say Yes!**”)
needs and will establish a path to success over the coming months. When their project is complete, the volunteers will have equipped MaryAnne and the Red Feather Lakes community with the information and resources needed to advance their water and wastewater systems.

How will your Section say “Yes!”?

Partner with a local community? Engage enthusiastic volunteers? “Yes!!!”

For more success stories and information on how you can say “Yes,” please visit www.communityengineeringcorps.org or contact Lindsey Geiger (lgeiger@awwa.org).

(continued from page 14 “**UNLEASHing the Sustainable Development Goals**”)

However, since 1990, 2.6 billion people have gained access to improved drinking water sources; so progress has been made and needs to continue.

To quote Leonardo Da Vinci, “water is the driver of nature.” Once we learn to better take care of our water systems, we will be able to meet many of the other SDG goals. The UNLEASH event helped highlight, once again, that SDG6 is at the core of all the other issues. If addressed, it could help simultaneously meet many other SDGs.

Fidan Karimova is water technology collaboration manager at the Water Environment & Reuse Foundation (Alexandria, Va.).

The information provided in this article is designed to be educational. It is not intended to provide any type of professional advice including without limitation legal, accounting, or engineering. Your use of the information provided here is voluntary and should be based on your own evaluation and analysis of its accuracy, appropriateness for your use, and any potential risks of using the information. The Water Environment Federation (WEF), author and the publisher of this article assume no liability of any kind with respect to the accuracy or completeness of the contents and specifically disclaim any implied warranties of merchantability or fitness of use for a particular purpose. Any references included are provided for informational purposes only and do not constitute endorsement of any sources.”



Cavin Noddings, PE, Leed AP
President
Cavin@YWaterWorks.com

547 S 20th St W, Suite 1
Billings, MT 59102
PO Box 81348
Billings, MT 59108
P 406-633-2316
F 406-633-2650

We're Y Water Works!

www.YWaterWorks.com

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 Patrick Johnson 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.

Fall 2017 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 second annual Fresh Ideas Poster Competition at the 2017 MSAWWA-MWEA Joint Conference. Eight posters were submitted and presented to a panel of judges. Shayla Woodhouse, a Montana State University (MSU) student, was the winner and attended the AWWA Annual Conference and Exposition (ACE) in June to compete on behalf of the MSAWWA.

A great way for college students to get involved in the water industry is through a Student Chapter. Student Chapters help students set up presentations from guest speakers in the water industry, network with members of MSAWWA and MWEA, attend the conference, and participate in the poster competition. The Student Chapter at Carroll College is now in its second academic year. Students at MSU have set a goal to have a Student Chapter by the end of 2017.

A Vice Chair committee position was recently added to the S&YP Committee. Congratulations to Andy Schultz on becoming the first Vice Chair of this committee.

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

AWWA 2017 Regional Meeting of Section Officers

By Jeff Ashley, Montana Section Chair

The Montana Section Board was well represented at the Region 5, 2017 Regional Meeting of Section Officers (RMSO) on September 8-9. The Montana Section had the privilege of hosting this year's RMSO, in Whitefish at the Grouse Mountain Lodge. Region 5 is made up of Sections from Montana, Idaho, Washington, Oregon, California, Nevada, Hawaii, Alaska, British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba. A total of 56 people attended the event.

The fire season put a little bit of a damper on the event, as smoke filled the air and outdoor events and activities were limited. However, AWWA staff along with Robin Matthews-Barnes, did an excellent job of coordinating the meeting and logistics, and adapting as necessary.

One of the goals of the RMSO is for AWWA staff to update attendees on information important to Section leaders, such as membership, current and pending regulations, philanthropy, and Association strategic planning. Brenda Lennox, current AWWA President from the Pacific Northwest Section, was the moderator for the RMSO. Brenda is one of the nicest, and most gracious people you'll ever meet, and did a great job running the event. Brenda first talked about Total Water Solutions. To the Association, this means the development of knowledge resources not only in the core focus area of drinking water, but also in the areas of wastewater, water reuse, and stormwater.

Brenda also presented a membership update, and the group participated in a visioning exercise of getting beyond 50,000 members. AWWA is making a push with Utility members to add more value and resources. Updated standards and guidebooks are being promoted on the topics of water treatment, utility management, business practices and many others.

Terry Walters, AWWA's Section Services representative, presented information on a new campaign to expand inclusion and diversity in the Association's membership. The overall benefit will be a stronger organization, and AWWA is helping Sections develop their inclusion and diversity policies. You can visit the AWWA web page to learn more at <https://www.awwa.org/membership/get-involved/diversity-center.aspx>.

Perhaps the most important benefit of the RMSO is sharing ideas with other Sections. Instead of each Section making a presentation as in previous years, this year's RMSO included group exercises on topics such as One AWWA (an operator scholarship program), philanthropy, member value, Water X (resource and training exchange) and student engagement. Groups were formed by Section and also by mixing Sections up. Interesting ideas from other sections included operator focused training events, drinking water week activities, soft skill (communication, management, leadership, etc.) training, asset management and philanthropic initiatives.

One of the more interesting discussions at the RMSO was the re-organization of regions. The current five region system will be reduced to four starting in 2018. Essentially, the current Region 4 and 5 will be combined. Montana will now be in Region 4, which includes the current Region 5 members, with the addition of the Rocky Mountain (Wyoming, Colorado, and New Mexico), Intermountain (Utah and southeaster Idaho), Arizona, Texas and Mexico Sections.

The annual RMSO is a great opportunity for attendees to meet with AWWA representatives, learn about critical activities and initiatives, and share ideas and experiences with leadership of other Sections. The Alaska Section will host the 2018 RMSO in Sitka, Alaska.

PROTECTING OUR WATER WITH CONFIDENCE.

Innovation in water & wastewater treatment
and pumping for over 40 years



**WATER
TECHNOLOGY
GROUP**

A COGENT COMPANY

WATER + WASTEWATER SYSTEMS // WATER + WASTEWATER PUMPING SOLUTIONS // SERVICE + CONTROLS

800.875.2515 // WTRGROUP.COM // WTRGROUP@WTRGROUP.COM



SMALL SYSTEM OPERATOR TRAINING:

**Achieve & Maintain
Compliance with
the SDWA**



Free training coming again in 2018!

The Montana Section AWWA in partnership with the Montana Environmental Training Center will again be offering a free small system training workshop in 2018. The 8 hour workshop will be held in Lewistown, MT with CEUs available. The workshop is titled "Training and Technical Assistance to Improve Water Quality and Enable Small Public Water Systems to Maintain Compliance with the Safe Water Drinking Act". The workshop is made available through EPA Grant funding awarded to RCAP, and a sub-agreement with AWWA.

The content will include updated and revised topics from the 2017 workshop such as Coliform Sample Collection, DBP Treatment Strategies, Disinfection Byproducts, Disinfection Overview, Distribution System Infrastructure, Distribution Water Quality, Flushing, Main Breaks and Cross Connections, Regulatory Review, Arsenic Rule Compliance, Nitrate Rule Compliance, Radionuclides Rule Compliance, and Source Water Assessment and Protection, . The workshop will be held in Lewistown on August 15, 2018. Please feel free to contact Robin Barnes, MSAWWA Exec. Secretary at info@montanawater.org for more information. More information will also be posted on the joint website at www.montanawater.org as it becomes available.

Farm Bill Provides An Opportunity To Grow Partnerships That Protect Drinking Water

By David B. LaFrance
CEO, American Water Works Association

We all know that everyone needs safe drinking water, whether it comes from a local utility or a private well. We also know that farmers and ranchers do heroic work to put food on America's tables, and that they endeavor to accomplish their work without harming the drinking water of neighboring communities.

But as a country, we need to explore new solutions to a pressing issue. Nutrient run-off threatens drinking water supplies throughout the United States. We must act with urgency to prevent events like the 2014 Lake Erie harmful algal bloom, which shut down water service to 400,000 people in Toledo, Ohio, for two days.

The time is right for a new era of voluntary collaboration and cooperation between the agricultural and water sectors. The coming reauthorization of the Farm Bill provides the perfect opportunity to encourage partnerships among everyone interested in productive farming practices and safe water.

We at the American Water Works Association, with 51,000 members dedicated to finding solutions to effectively manage water, are asking U.S. Congress to emphasize source water protection in the farm bill's conservation title. Many existing conservation measures address a host of environmental issues, but the direct connection between these practices and drinking water quality has not been made explicit in previous farm bills. We would like to see that change by:

- Providing strong funding for conservation programs.
- Adding a specific goal of protecting sources of drinking water as a priority for all Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) conservation programs.
- Encouraging NRCS state conservationists, State technical committees, and working groups to work with water utilities in identifying priority areas in each state
- Increasing the NRCS cost-share for measures that provide considerable downstream water quality benefits
- Dedicating 10% of conservation funding to protecting sources of drinking water through existing programs.

While many water utilities have developed monitoring, treatment, and response strategies to protect their source waters, ultimately, it's critical that we reduce the nutrient loads that reach water system intakes.

Agricultural production often runs on thin margins, and farmers and ranchers who strongly desire to implement practices to protect source water often lack the resources to do so. But there are already examples of how NRCS programs can help agricultural producers and utilities collaborate to get the job done.

In recent years, several water utilities have committed to working cooperatively with agriculture through programs such as the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP), Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP), Agricultural Conservation Easement Program (ACEP), and the Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP). In Beaver Water District, Arkansas, over \$8.5 million in combined federal and local funds is being applied to protect sources of drinking water, and in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, over \$4 million in combined federal and local funds are going to source water protection. And both projects are being done in cooperation with agriculture.

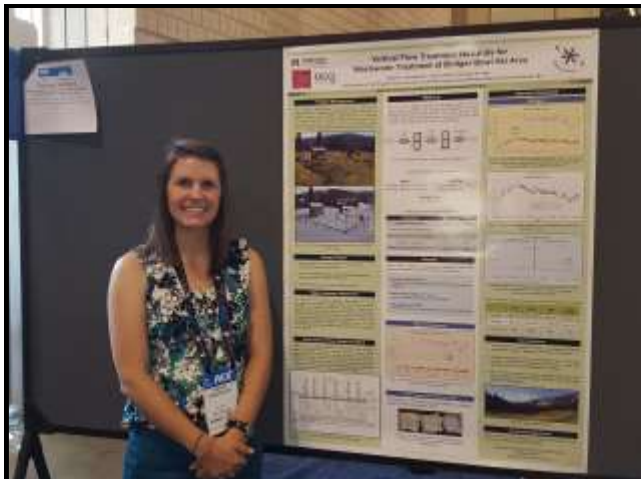
At AWWA, protecting sources of drinking water is part of what we call a Total Water Solutions approach to managing water, recognizing that water serves many important purposes. Working in partnership with other stakeholders in water management, we are always looking for innovative ways to protect drinking water supplies while recognizing the interests of large and small businesses and the wider economy.

Congress would do well to preserve and enhance funding for the conservation programs while increasing the focus on protecting sources of drinking water. We look forward to working closely with our friends in the agricultural community to encourage a Farm Bill that recognizes the critical nature of both agricultural production and safe and affordable water.

This column originally appeared in the Oct. 12, 2017 edition of Agri-Pulse.

***Thank You To All Of The Exhibitors
that participated at the 2017 Joint Conference
~Your support of the Annual Joint Conference is vital
to its success and is sincerely appreciated~***

- Abel Pump
- Aclara
- Advanced Drainage Systems
- Advanced Pump & Equipment, Inc.
- AE2S, Inc.
- Aerzen
- Ambiente H2O, Inc.
- Aqua Aerobic Systems
- Atlas Copco Compressors
- BioClean, A Forterra Company
- BioLynceus
- Coombs Hopkins
- CUES
- DN Tanks
- DOWL
- Engineered Equipment Solutions
- Engineering America, Inc.
- Falcon Environmental Corp
- Forterra Drainage Pipe & Products
- GC Systems, Inc.
- Goble Sampson Associates
- Great Plains Structures
- Hach
- HDR Engineering, Inc.
- HD Supply Waterworks
- Hunter Industries
- Industrial Systems, Inc.
- IsiWest
- Larson Data Communications, Inc.
- Lemna Environmental
- MT Waterworks
- Mueller Company
- Nexom
- Northwest Pipe Fittings, Inc.
- OpWorks
- Pipestone Equipment, Inc.
- PumpTech
- Russell Industries
- Rust Automation & Controls
- Sanitaire
- Territorial Landworks
- The Ford Meter Box Company
- Tnemec
- Trojan Technologies
- Underground Solutions
- Urecon Pre-Insulated Pipe
- Water & Environmental Technologies
- Water Technology Group, Inc.
- WesTech
- Western States Automation
- Xylem Dewatering Solutions
- Yellowstone Waterworks



Fresh Ideas Poster Competition Winner

Shayla Woodhouse, a student at Montana State University, was the winner of the 2nd Annual SYP “Fresh Ideas” poster competition at the 2017 Conference. Shayla was awarded with an expense paid trip to ACE17 where she presented her poster at the national level (photo at left). The Joint SYP Committee plans to hold the 3rd Annual poster competition at the upcoming 2018 Joint Conference next spring. **The submission deadline for entry for the 2018 competition is January 31, 2018.** Click here for more information: [2018-SYP-Poster-Competition-Call-for-Abstracts.pdf](#)

Hydrant care in extreme cold—how they handle it in Bozeman, Montana

By Anthony Zampella

Fire hydrants located in geographic areas that experience severe and prolonged winter climate conditions need additional attention to prevent failure. Making sure of their operation year round requires constant maintenance and a comprehensive fire flow-testing program. As National Water Resources Manager for ISO Community Hazard Mitigation, I'm privileged to travel the country and work with water resource professionals and emergency services departments on a wide range of water issues, and hydrants are a primary topic. Home and business owners, firefighters, and property insurers all have a vested interest in fully functioning fire hydrants, regardless of the weather.



I was recently invited to present at the annual conference of the Montana section of the American Water Works Association (AWWA) held in Bozeman, Montana. The invitation came from John Alston, Water Superintendent for the Bozeman Water Department. Alston has been with the department for 29 years, is a past vice president of AWWA, and is an active member. He knows the water supply criteria of the ISO Public Protection Classification (PPC™) program very well, especially its emphasis on hydrant maintenance and flow tests.

Bozeman is located in southwest Montana. Its 19.15 square miles offers breath-taking scenery of valleys and mountain ranges. It's the county seat of Gallatin County and home to Montana State University. As a result of building expansion and population growth, Bozeman is the 4th largest city in Montana. Its 43,405 people represent 15 percent growth in the last five years.

For some additional perspective, Montana's total area is more than 147,000 square miles. It's the 4th largest state in the union with a population of only 1,042,520, a population density of 7.09/square mile. For comparison, my home state of New Jersey is 8,722 square miles with a population of 8.94 million and density of 1,210/square mile. (We're the number one in density!)

At the conference, I was able to speak with Alston about hydrant care and maintenance. What follows is a summary of our discussion, on behalf of *Community Fire Protection News*:

Community Fire Protection News (CFP): As hydrant care and maintenance is the responsibility of the Bozeman Water Department, and as harsh winter climate is a factor in your city, how do you maintain your 2,527 hydrants in an area that can be subjected to freezing temperatures six or seven months out of the year?

Alston: Having functioning and reliable hydrants starts with good engineering standards. Minimum pipe bury depth in Bozeman is six and a half feet, but most hydrants are buried nearly seven and half feet. Equally important is a good drainage bed of at least a half cubic yard of wash rock. Proper hydrant drainage is another critical component in these climates.

Because of our lengthy cold climate, we perform hydrant inspection and maintenance during the winter months. We follow AWWA M17, *Fire Hydrants: Installation, Field Testing, and Maintenance*, and generally accepted engineering standards. We do a dip test to check for proper drainage. If the hydrant fails and the test comes back with an indication of water or the depth of the barrel is reduced due to frozen water, we repair it as quickly as possible.

Our hydrant inspection and flushing program is conducted annually, including a pressure test of each hydrant. In the warmer months, we fire flow test one third of our system each year to comply with the AWWA five-year testing requirement and obtain full credit from ISO. We also conduct hydraulic modeling on our distribution system.

CFP: Considering the geographic location of Bozeman, snow removal must be an issue. Can you explain the challenges and how they're addressed?

Alston: We average about 85 inches of snowfall each year so access and visibility is imperative. We clear hydrants of snow by shoveling, using a backhoe, or both. Crews clear three feet around the hydrant and usually dig a four to six foot opening in front of the hydrant. We coordinate with the street department so they don't bury a hydrant that was just cleared. Some of our highway hydrants are set back 40 to 50 feet from the curb. That helps reduce excessive snow coverage from the heavy duty plows. However, there are times when we have to use a metal detector to locate a hydrant.

(continued on page 23)

Cleaning Water and Cutting Budgets: A Case for the Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act

By G. Tracy Mehan, III and Ian D. Gansler



We expect that when we make our morning coffee or mix a baby's formula, we're using water that is safe to drink. In reality, our nation is facing an investment crisis, with \$1 trillion needed over the next 25 years if we are to maintain current levels of service for a growing population. The longer this investment is delayed, the more expensive it will become.

This is truly a bipartisan issue, with Democrats and Republicans alike admitting it is time to find a solution. On the campaign trail President Donald Trump called attention to the issue, promising to, "refocus the EPA on its core mission of ensuring clean air and clean, safe drinking water for all Americans" at a speech in Pittsburgh. In his first address to Congress, President Trump reiterated his call for a \$1 trillion infrastructure investment package.

At the same time, the Federal Government faces immense budgetary constraints. According to the Congressional Budget Office's report, "The Budget and Economic Outlook: 2017-2027," federal debt is projected to rise from 77% of GDP today to an all-time high of 145% of GDP by 2047, exceeding record post-WWII levels of 106% of GDP. Entitlement spending programs like Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid also loom in the future as crippling budgetary outlays, dwarfing the current levels of federal debt. Lawmakers face twin pressures to solve problems and save money.

The Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA) is one solution that could strike that balance. WIFIA is a financing program, meaning its assistance comes in the form of loans. Any money paid out for projects comes back to the government as the loan is repaid. Towns and cities undergoing infrastructure projects often do not have the cash on hand to pay for the work, so they look to loans and bonds to raise funds, paying it back over the years. Rather than taking out a high-interest loan, WIFIA allows borrowers to take out a loan from the US Treasury, which offers the lowest interest loans on the market.

The current appropriation for WIFIA is \$20 million. While this is a drop in the bucket when it comes to the federal budget, that drop will go a long way. The \$20 million is only the "subsidy cost" of WIFIA, meaning it covers infrastructure projects that will default and never pay back the loan. The Fitch Rating Agency estimates that only about 0.04% of water infrastructure projects end in default, an extremely reliable rate. That means every dollar appropriated to WIFIA can leverage \$67 in investment. If Congress appropriates WIFIA the full \$45 million that it authorized for FY2018, the program could leverage in excess of \$2 billion in credit assistance.

WIFIA is set up to complement the State Revolving Funds (SRF), a long-standing federal grant program that gives funding to the states to distribute for water infrastructure projects. President Trump, on his campaign website under the "Infrastructure" heading, promised to "Triple funding for state revolving loan fund programs." Only 49% of a project can be funded through WIFIA; the other 51% must come from other sources, allowing space for the SRF and private equity investments.

SRF's have a right of first refusal over WIFIA applications, allowing them to elect to fund a WIFIA project themselves if they prefer to do so at the same interest rate as WIFIA. SRF's can also apply for WIFIA loans themselves, bolstering their funds to finance one or a group of projects. Many state SRF's just don't have the capacity to fund some larger infrastructure projects. The minimum project cost for a WIFIA loan is \$20 million (or \$5 million for a small community), which allows SRF to focus on a greater number of smaller projects.

In a budget climate that puts every penny of taxpayer money under a magnifying glass, WIFIA makes a big impact at a small price, creating more than \$2 billion in capital with only a \$45 million expenditure. In a November New York Times interview, then President-elect Trump said, "Crystal-clean water is vitally important." Too often we take this for granted. When we turn on the tap, the water that comes out safe to drink. President Trump believes in the importance of clean water. WIFIA would be a powerful tool to make it a reality for every American. It is a program he can build upon to achieve his goal of infrastructure renewal.

G. Tracy Mehan, III, is former Assistant Administrator for Water at US EPA in the administration of President George W. Bush. He is now executive director for government affairs at the American Water Works Association, the world's oldest and largest water association with 50,000 members. Ian Gansler is the Legislative Affairs Intern for the American Water Works Association.

(continued from page 21)

CFP: The fire department relies heavily on the fire hydrants. What is your relationship with the fire department like, and how do they assist you?

Alston: A good working relationship and communication between a water department and a fire department is essential to a successful fire hydrant program. We train firefighters in hydrant operation as part of our hydrant maintenance policy. Part of the Bozeman fire department's new recruit training is a class with our department on the city's water distribution system and fire hydrant operation for all times of the year. This initial training, and subsequent update training, emphasizes that improper operation during the winter months can result in a frozen hydrant. Our department is also notified of all structure fires, and we conduct a complete maintenance check of hydrants that were used by the next day.

CFP: Thank you John for this quick but informative discussion. Do you have any final thoughts?

Alston: What's worked well for us are sound engineering practices, proper inspection and maintenance programs, good record keeping, and a strong relationship with the fire department. All are part of a solid foundation for an effective fire hydrant program. We take great pride in providing our community with a viable system for both firefighting and, of course, safe drinking water.

Fire hydrants are an important component of the water system and a valuable asset for the community. We can't afford to neglect them, regardless of the environmental challenges. If you want to know more about the Bozeman Water Department, please contact John Alston at: Jalston@bozeman.net.



WHY CHOOSE ENGINEERING AMERICA TO BUILD YOUR BOLTED STORAGE TANK?

- 1** On average, we build a tank every 4-5 days.
- 2** We have over 37 years of experience building tanks in the United States.
- 3** We are your consultative partner from concept to completion and beyond.

 **Engineering America**

TANKS
DOMES & COVERS
LIFECYCLE SERVICES

Chuck Graber | 970-744-9639
www.EngAmerica.com

Chemicals, Equipment and Service for **Safe, Clean Water**

Delivering the quality and service you can trust and depend on.

Water Treatment & Equipment:

- Potable Water
- Wastewater
- Raw Water Clarification
- Swimming Pools
- Industrial Water
- Collection Systems
- Agricultural Water
- Heating & Cooling Systems



1519 Old Hardin Road, Billings, MT 59101
Phone: 406-245-6246 • Fax 406-245-0495
www.hawkinsinc.com

Serving Customers Since 1938

Update from the Public Outreach Committee

Your Joint Public Outreach Committee was quite inactive this past year. However, this committee has the potential to reach a large number of people and groups outside our organizations, as well as helping all of you with information you may find handy when making presentations in schools, talking to clients about water and wastewater, or simply talking to your neighbor about not flushing the grease from the deep fried turkey down the drain. Some of you may have ideas and inspirations for what this committee could tackle. This is a plea to all of you to help the committee and in turn yourselves and the organizations as a whole to be as creative and informative as we could be. If you come across an article, a topic, an issue you may find others would benefit from, get in touch with me or another committee member and we'll see how best to go about spreading the information. Tools we have at our disposal include this biannual News Waves newsletter that goes out to members, the Montana Water Newsletter that goes out to all Montana cities and towns, some public works directors, and the membership whenever enough content for an issue is available, the joint website of our two organizations, and simple emails sent to members by Robin. Please support us in our mission to distribute useful, interesting, or simply funny water and wastewater related information by submitting ideas, thoughts, helpful information, or anything else worth sharing. Rika Lashley is the committee chair and you can contact her at rlashley@m-m.net or call 406-496-3448. Thank you!



**Thank you to the following for helping to sponsor the
2017 Joint Conference:**

Gold Sponsors:

AE2S
Woodard & Curran
Morrison Maierle

Silver Sponsors:

Xylem Dewatering Solutions
HDR Engineering
DOWL

Great West Engineering, Inc.
Goble Sampson Associates

Bronze Sponsors:

Yellowstone Waterworks
TD & H Engineering

HD Supply Waterworks
DN Tanks

Registration bag items:

AE2S
Morrison-Maierle
TD& H Engineering

HD Supply Waterworks
Hunter Industries
Yellowstone Waterworks



SAVE THE DATE!!!

***Come and take advantage of the educational and networking
opportunities at the 2018 Joint MSAWWA-MWEA Conference***

***May 15th—Preconference hosted by MSAWWA: "Invasive Mussels: What To Expect
And How To Prepare"***

May 16th & 17th—Conference "Working Together To Protect Montana's Water Resources"

Location: Hilton Garden Inn in Missoula

***Registration information will be emailed to members and is also be available on the website:
[2018 Joint Conference](#)***

2017—2018 MSAWWA Board of Directors

National Director

Greg Lukasik
(406) 652-5000
glukasik@greatwesteng.com

Past Chair

Collette Anderson
(406) 495-6164
ctanderson@greatwesteng.com

Chair

Jeff Ashley
(406) 442-3050
jashley@m-m.net

Vice Chair

Wayne Lovelis
(406) 727-1325
wlovelis@greatfallsmt.net

Senior Trustee

John Alston
(406) 579-9653
jalston@bozeman.net

Junior Trustee

Jeff Jensen
(406) 808-5215
jjensen@ci.havre.mt.us

Secretary

Nate Weisenburger
(406) 268-0626
nate.weisenburger@ae2s.com

2017—2018 MWEA Board of Directors

National Director & Past President

Amy Deitchler
(406) 494-6160
adeitchler@greatwesteng.com

Past President

Starr Sullivan
(406) 552-6611
starrs@ci.missoula.mt.us

President

Jeremy Perlinski
(406) 442-3050
jperlinski@m-m.net

President-Elect

Herb Bartle
(406) 586-9159
hbartle@bozeman.net

Vice President

Mike Abrahamson
(406) 444-6776
mabrahamson@mt.gov

Senior Trustee

Rika Lashley
(406) 495-3448
rlashley@m-m.net

Junior Trustee

Neil DeZort
863-2451
ndezort@cityofwhitefish.org

Executive Secretary

Rodney Lance
(406) 761-7004
rodney.lance@veolia.com



Congratulations!

Cavin Noddings of Yellowstone Waterworks and Carl Anderson with Morrison-Maierle were in attendance at the Joint Conference and were recognized for receiving their **Silver Water Drop Award** (pictured below). The Silver Water Drop Award recognizes individuals who have been members of AWWA for 30 years. This year, Joe Steiner, Steve Hansen, Donald Gibbs, Timothy Farwick, Rick Cottingham, Ann Camper, and Steve Burian also received the award.



Best Tap Water Taste Test Congratulations Bozeman Water!

AWWA Treasurer Aurel Arndt, MSAWWA Sec./Treasurer Nate Weisenburger with AE2S, and John Camden with Montana Rural Water Systems served as judges for the Montana Section's 4th Annual Best Tap Water Taste Test. Bozeman Water System (pictured at left) won the contest and competed at the national competition at ACE17. Way to go Bozeman!



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 2018 Willems Scholarship. March 15, 2018 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!

Affordable SCADA®

Offering the latest technology at
an affordable price

Access and control
of your entire
system anytime,
anywhere with a
budget everyone
can afford.



Talk with one of our engineers or go online for
a budgetary quote.



p: 866.313.9057
AFFORDABLESCADA.COM

2017—2018 Committee Chairs

Below is a list of the members of MSAWWA and MWEA that volunteered to chair each committee at the 2017 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

- Ross Mollenhauer (406) 552-6764
rmollenhauer@ci.missoula.mt.us

Information Management

- Dave Carlson (406) 268-0626
david.carlson@ae2s.com

Lifetime Achievement

- Paul LaVigne (406) 444-5321
plavigne@mt.gov

Program

- Amy Deitchler (406) 465-6160
adeitchler@greatwesteng.com

Public Education & Information

- Rika Lashley (406) 495-3448
rlashley@m-m.net

Scholarship

- Greg Lukasik (406) 652-5000
glukasik@greatwesteng.com

SYP Committee

- Keeley Barry (406) 268-0626
keely.barry@ae2s.com

MWEA Committee Chairs

Beneficial Reuse

- Terry Campbell (406) 444-7374
tcampbell@mt.gov

Education

- Jeremy Perlinski (406) 495-3447
jperlinski@m-m.net

Government Affairs

- Nick Pericich (406) 582-3202
npericich@bozeman.net

Honors & Awards

- Jeremy Perlinski (406) 495-3447
jperlinski@m-m.net

Long Range Planning

- Michele Marsh (406) 444-5322
mmarsh@mt.gov

Membership

- Mike Jacobson (406) 750-0746
michael.jacobson@hdrinc.com

Pretreatment

- LeAnn Wiegand (406) 495-3584
lwiegand@m-m.net

Stockholm Jr. Water Prize

- Kristi Kline (406) 945-2043
kfarm@mtintouch.net

Stormwater

- Lance Lehigh (406) 219-2633
lance.lehigh@ae2s.com

MSAWWA Committee Chairs

Awards

- Patrick Johnson (406) 465-3428
pnjohnson@gmail.com

Education

- Doug Whitney (406) 861-7853
doug.whitney@kljeng.com

Legislative

- Nate Weisenburger (406) 268-0626
nate.weisenburger@ae2s.com

Membership

- Logan McInnis (406) 370-8285
logan@mntwater.com

Water For People

- Carrie Gardner (406) 495-6176
cgardner@greatwesteng.com
- John Camden (406) 459-0782
jcamden50@bresnan.net

A SPECIAL THANK YOU.....

To all of the volunteers who helped to make the 2017 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:

Host City Committee

Wayne Lovelis (Co-Chair)
Mike Jacobson (Co-Chair)
Chuck Davis
Mike Kynett
Craig Nowak
David Carlson
Dustin Nett
Dee Strending
Deb McNeese

Program Committee

Amy Deitchler (Chair)
Collette Anderson
Doug Whitney
Jeremy Perlinski
Jackie Kuhl
Nancy Cormier
Matt Mudd
Jeff Ashley
Greg Lukasik
Carrie Gardner
Jill Cook
Jason Mercer
Paul Yakawich

Registration Desk

Deb McNeese
Kristy Lance
Pat Habel
Johnny Cavill
Leslie Rosander
Terri Gumenberg
Travis Drevecky
Dee Strending
Jana Cooper
Matt Proud
Jesse Patton
Paul Skubinna
Renee Aafedt
Jim Young

MWEA Education Committee (Preconference)

Nancy Cormier (Chair)
Coralynn Revis
Pat Simon

Jeremy Perlinski
Jason Mercer
Karen Sanchez

Amy Deitchler
Brad Allen
Doug Whitney

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



Congratulations to Emma Raeside and Bradley Jones!

Recipients of the 2017 Donald G. Willems Scholarship

Emma Raeside and Bradley Jones, both students at Montana State University, were chosen to be recipients of a \$1000 MSAWWA/MWEA Joint Scholarship given in honor of Donald G. Willems.

Emma (pictured at left with Joint Scholarship Committee Chair, Greg Lukasik) is pursuing her Master's degree in Environmental Engineering, having earned her B.S degree from the University of Vermont in 2014.

Bradley is pursuing his B.S in Civil Engineering with a Bio-Resource Engineering option.

Congratulations to both Emma and Bradley and best wishes in your future endeavors!