

Clarifier

A Newsletter for Members of the Illinois Water Environment Association

Newsletter Update

By Kathy Cooper, Newsletter Chair

The Newsletter Committee hopes you are all pleased with the new look of the *Clarifier*. I would like to again thank Cheryl Kunz and Heather Wachter for their efforts in bringing you updated formatting and features.

The mission of the *Clarifier* is that it is a newsletter by, for and about the IWEA, and it does not get published without the articles written by its members. The Committee Chairs all do a great job of submitting articles, and we appreciate their efforts. The *Clarifier* deadline is January 15, April 15, July 15 and October 15, and if you would please get your articles to Heather on or before that date, it will allow her to get the articles to the publisher on schedule. The committee strives to publish the newsletter on schedule, and when the articles are not submitted on time, it makes Heather's job more difficult.

I am still looking for someone to write the Capitol Currents, or any other name that you would like to give to a quarterly report on what is happening at the IEPA in Springfield. Our survey indicated that Capitol Currents is one of the most valued articles in the *Clarifier* and we would like to continue the feature. Please contact me at kcooper@rmu.net or someone on the Executive Board if you are willing to take on this task or have an idea of someone that I can contact to write the quarterly column.

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Krishna Pagilla Received Prestigious Water Quality Award

Professor Krishna Pagilla of the Illinois Institute of Technology received the prestigious Harrison Prescott Eddy Wastewater Principles/Processes Medal from the Water Environment Federation.

The award was presented to Krishna Pagilla by Jeanette Brown, President of WEF during the Awards Ceremony in October at WEFTEC.

The medal is awarded for research that makes a vital

contribution to the existing knowledge of the fundamental principles or process of wastewater treatment, as comprehensively described and published in a WEF periodical.

Professor Pagilla was recognized for his work on Nitrogen Control published in the Water Environment Research, Fate of Organic Nitrogen in 4-Biological Nutrient Removal Wastewater Treatment Plants.

Krishna Pagilla is the President-Elect of IWEA and has also received International Water Association's Fellow Award and was honored as a WEF Fellow.



Professor Krishna Pagilla of IIT



IWEA Members Receive WEF Fellow Honors



Thomas Kunetz of MWRDGC
Photo courtesy of Ted Denning.

IWEA members Thomas Kunetz, P.E. of Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago and Dr. Krishna Pagilla, P.E. of Illinois Institute of Technology were honored as inaugural

WEF Fellows at WEFTEC 2011 in Los Angeles, CA. Mr. Kunetz and Dr. Pagilla were two of the 17 inaugural Fellows honored by WEF. The Fellows Program recognizes the professional achievement, stature and contributions of WEF members to the preservation and enhancement of the global water environment in the practice areas served by WEF.

Thomas Kunetz is Assistant Director of Engineering at MWRDGC and is currently the Chair of the Municipal

Wastewater Symposia of WEFTEC Program Committee. He is a leader in the water field with over 20 years of experience and expertise in water reclamation plant planning and design. Krishna Pagilla is Professor of Environmental Engineering in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering at IIT.

Congrats to Tom and Krishna!

Welcome New Members!

By Fred Wu, Membership Chair

JULY

Jake Callahan

Bloomington-Normal Water Reclamation District

Anna Bak

MWRDGC

Cassandra McKinney

McHenry County Government

Jason Allard

MWH Americas Inc.

John Schwartz

ITT

AUGUST

Matt Overeem

Village of Mount Prospect

Auralene Glymph

MWRDGC

Mark Troyanowski

US Pipe & Foundry Company

Emmanuel Moore

Steven Wilson

SEPTEMBER

Ric Cooper

American Bottoms Wastewater Treatment Facility

Paul Daniels

James McHugh Construction Co.

Soujanya Jampala

PRAXAIR

Adam Fox

Clark Dietz Engineers

OCTOBER

Mushtaq Dakhil

Greeley and Hansen Engineering

Johanna Jenkins

Klein and Hoffman, Inc.

The Scoop

By Mark Halm, IWEA President

Back from WEFTEC and sunny southern California and back to reality, fall is now upon us, and soon there will be frost on the pumpkin followed by... snow. Local education and training opportunities abound. We have been busy with Lab, Operations and Collection System committees holding seminars this fall.

As a member of the Program Committee, I was able to read the abstracts that were submitted, and I believe this year's program is the best yet. There will be sessions dedicated to watershed science, biosolids, energy, nutrients, design and operations, and much more.

Governance...A new policy has been drafted for the succession of committee chairs and the appointment of vice-chairs. The committee executive board liaisons will play a more important role in affecting future committee chair transitions. The policy is meant to provide a seamless means of transition, and once officially adopted by the Board can be found on the web site.

We hope you like the new look of the *Clarifier*. Kathy Cooper, Cheryl Kunz, and the newsletter committee deserve kudos. If you have an article to contribute to the *Clarifier*, contact Heather at ilclarifier@juno.com.

Thanks again!

Mark Halm, President of IWEA

Mark your calendars...



The WATERCON 2012 Conference planning continues. Mark your calendars for March 19-22 at the Crowne Plaza in Springfield. WATERCON is Illinois' largest water conference, covering potable water and wastewater issues with more than 100 technical presentations and poster presentations, exhibits, receptions and banquets. Attendees from many different organizations will attend this conference including:

- Academic Institutions
- Consulting Engineering Firms
- Environmental Organizations
- Manufacturers
- Manufacturers' Representatives
- Suppliers
- Water and Wastewater Plant Operators
- Water and Wastewater Regulatory Representatives

Don't miss this excellent educational and career development opportunity. You can visit the Watercon website at <http://isawwa-portal.com/WATERCON2012.aspx>

Other Upcoming Events

- On January 20th, the Government Affairs seminar will be held at the Holiday Inn Willowbrook. This seminar will be co-hosted with Central States Water Environment Association's Illinois Section. If tradition holds, we will probably have a significant snow.
- On February 15th at the Club House in Oak Brook, the Industrial Pretreatment Committee will again be co-hosting a seminar with the Industrial Water, Wastewater and Sewage Group (IWWSG).

For additional event updates, please visit our award winning web site, www.iweasite.org.

CSWEA / IWEA Welcome Reception

Central States & Illinois WEA Thank the Following Firms for Their Support

AECOM Water	I. Kruger, Inc.
Alfa Laval	ITT Flygt, Milwaukee/Chicago
Ashbrook Simon-Hartley	ITT Sanitaire
Baxter & Woodman	JDV Equipment Corp.
Black & Veatch	John Meunier, Inc.
Boerger Pumps	LAI, Ltd.
Brown and Caldwell	Lakeside Equipment
CDM and HDR Engineering	Moyno
Centrisys	Natgun Corporation
Clark Dietz	OMI Industries
Crawford, Murphy & Tilly	Peterson & Matz
CST Covers	Praxair, Inc.
Donohue & Associates	RJN Group
Doonan Environmental	Rodney Hunt Fontaine
Drydon Equipment	Rotork Controls
Energenecs	RPS Engineering
Engineering America	Siemens Water Technologies
Flow Technics	Strand Associates
Flow-GA Industries	Symbiont
Gasvoda Associates, Inc.	Trotter & Associates
Greeley Hansen	Visu-Sewer
H. R. Green, Inc.	Vogelsang
Hydro-Aire	Walker Process
Hydro-Thermal Corp.	Wemco Pumps

Delegate's Corner

By Lou Kollias, Senior Delegate

I attended WEFTEC 2011 with John Lamb and Tim Kluge October 15 through 19 in Los Angeles, California. It was the last WEFTEC in a city other than New Orleans or Chicago for a long time. Next year starts the two city rotation. This was my final House of Delegates (HOD) meeting as I my term expires and Tim Kluge comes in.

The HOD Meeting started 8:00 am Saturday morning with a full slate scheduled. First on the agenda was the HOD Orientation Refresher, explaining the duties and responsibilities of the Delegates. Presentations by WERF and Water for People followed.

Fran Burlingham, Speaker of the House, then convened the 2010-2011 HOD Meeting. Jeanette Brown gave the President's Report, and we also heard from Jeff Eger, WEF Executive Director and Jerry Stevens, AWWA President. It sounds like there is a need for one voice for all water professionals, but if and when that happens is another matter. Next up was the approval of nominees for Vice President, Delegate-at-Large members, and Board of Trustees. Sandra Ralston from South Carolina was nominated for Vice President. Delegate-at-Large nominees were: Gary Hunter from Missouri, John Mele from New Jersey, Erin Mosley from New England, and Katie Werner from Missouri. Nominees for the Board of Trustees were: Fran Burlingham from California, Charles Bott from Virginia, Garry McDonald from New Zealand, and Karen Pallansch from Virginia. After the Budget Report, the Work Group reports were presented. I gave the HOD Representation Work Group report. I have written in previous issues about the work group. It was a two-year project to assess the size

and voting privileges of the Member Associations (MAs). The first year was devoted to small MAs, and recommendations were made at WEFTEC 2010 to establish new minimums for small MAs, which were recently voted on and approved by the membership. In 2011, the focus was on large MAs and whether more Delegates should be allowed for the large MAs. A survey was prepared and sent out to all the MAs. It asked whether a change was necessary and offered two scenarios for increasing the number of Delegates. We received responses from 32 of the 45 North American MAs, and 23 out of the 32 said no change was necessary. As a result, no recommendations were made and the Work Group was dissolved. The WEF/MA work group gave its report, and its actions were covered by John in the last *Clarifier*. The Operator Outreach work group gave its report and will continue through the year; John will continue to keep us updated.

We then attended the luncheon where WEF celebrated the end of the mortgage for the WEF Headquarters building in Alexandria. The afternoon session was the 2011-2012 HOD meeting with Sean Osborne as the new Speaker. There will be three new work groups in 2012: Strategic Plan Implementation, MA to MA Relationships, and Best Management Practices for Partnering Relationships. Tim will represent IWEA on one of them. Also during the afternoon session, the new Speaker-Elect, Jenny Hartfelder from Colorado, was approved. I want to thank all of you for allowing me to represent IWEA the past three years as your Delegate. Good luck to Tim as the incoming Delegate!



LabOratory

By Sandy Conrad, Laboratory Committee Member

The IWEA lab committee hosted a well attended full day seminar on October 20th entitled "Train the Trainer." The morning speaker was Scott Siders, an IEPA accreditation officer. His talk was titled "How to Perform Laboratory Internal Audits." Scott covered all aspects of performing an internal audit. He discussed how to prepare for an internal audit, including how to choose the focus of the audit and how to prepare a checklist that assesses the area of interest chosen. He covered how to conduct the internal audit, including how to approach the analysts being audited and how to pose questions to them. He went over the benefit to asking open ended questions and letting them talk. He stressed treating the analysts being audited with the respect and courtesy you would want to be treated with. Scott covered how to carry out an exit meeting and emphasized the difference between a finding and a recommendation. He closed the session by going over corrective actions and exactly what is required to correctly fulfill the actions required by the audit findings.



Scott is an outstanding speaker and has a knack for bringing the information being presented to life. He encourages participation and interaction from the audience.

Tambra Thomas, Quality Assurance and Human Resources manager at Suburban Laboratories, gave the afternoon session entitled "Ethics Training." Annual ethics and data integrity training is required of any accredited laboratory and is highly recommended for non accredited laboratories. Tambra discussed ethics, data integrity, improper practices and how to implement an ethics program. She discussed benefits of an ethics program and the personal and professional responsibilities and repercussions of unethical behavior. Tambra discussed the four NELAC requirements of ethics and data integrity: data integrity training, signed data integrity documentation for lab employees, in-depth periodic monitoring of data integrity, and data integrity procedure documentation.



Tambra did an excellent job of clarifying ethics requirements and the laboratory benefits of a sound ethics program.

The slides for both presentations will be available on IWEA's web site shortly. We encourage everyone to visit the site at www.iweasite.org and view the presentations. The laboratory committee appreciates participation of the attendees and speakers Scott Siders and Tambra Thomas. Thank you all for an informative session well done.



Don't Wait Till You're Up to Your Knees in Snow to Plan for Safe Snow Removal!

By Mark Termini, Safety Committee Chair

Snow will soon be falling, and the time to get out the shovel, fire up the snow blower, or get behind the wheel of the plow truck will be upon us. Here are some safe snow removal steps you can take and tips you can share with employees during the next few weeks.

Snow Plowing

- Assign employees to a dedicated route, one that they are or can become familiar with.
- Set up crews to minimize fatigue during extended snowfalls, i.e.: twelve hour shifts.
- Assign employees to vehicles that they have been trained in and are familiar with. Prior to the start of any plowing operation, drivers should re-familiarize themselves with the vehicle and its controls.
- All drivers should perform a pre-trip inspection on the vehicle to make sure that all lights, mirrors, windshield wipers, and plow controls are functional. Check tires for proper inflation, and fluids for proper levels.

Snow Blowers

Snow blowers make clearing snow much easier than shoveling. But like any machine, they can be dangerous if operators don't take adequate safety precautions when using them.

To be safe when using a snow blower:

- Clear the area of any debris before you begin snow removal.
- Direct snow away from people and vehicles.
- Don't exceed the blower's capacity.
- Always stop the engine before cleaning snow from blades or chute.
- Never put your hand in the discharge chute. When the engine is turned off, clear away snow or debris with a shovel handle or sturdy stick.
- Shut off engine and remove the spark plug wire before making repairs or mechanical adjustments.
- When clearing slopes, work up and down the slope, not across the face.
- Never leave a running snow blower unattended.
- Always handle and store gasoline safely.

Shoveling

Finally, shoveling snow is an extremely strenuous activity, especially if there's a lot of snow or if the snow is wet and heavy. You have to be careful of overexertion, which could lead to an injury.

To prevent injuries when shoveling snow:

- Stretch for a couple of minutes before shoveling to loosen up back, shoulder, neck, arm, and leg muscles.
- Pace yourself as you shovel to prevent overexertion. Start slow and give yourself a chance to warm up. Once you are warmed up, maintain a steady pace to reduce stress on your body.
- Lift smaller amounts when snow is heavy and wet.
- Breathe in while lifting and out while throwing.
- Keep your feet shoulder width apart for balance.
- Hold the shovel close to your body for better leverage and less strain.
- Push snow rather than lifting it when possible, especially when the snow is heavy. For example, push snow to the edge of walkways and then lift and throw it. This way, you avoid continual lifting and you don't have to throw snow as far.
- When lifting a shovel full of snow, bend your knees, keep your back straight, tighten your stomach muscles, and lift with your legs.
- Avoid twisting your body when you throw the snow from the shovel. Twisting can cause muscle strain, especially in your lower back.
- When shoveling stairs, stand lower than the step you are shoveling and pull snow toward you. Repeat until you reach the bottom step. Then scoop, lift, and throw snow more easily.
- Take breaks from time to time to give your muscles a chance to relax and avoid muscle strain.

Many of your employees will be involved in snow removal activities, either plowing snow at work or shoveling snow at home. Now is the time to make sure that they are trained to do it safely.

Portions of this article have been reprinted with permission from Business & Legal Resources, safety Daily Advisor.

Getting Involved with Student Chapters

By Lou Storino

WEF's Student Membership program has been operational for over 25 years and has over 1,000 participants. The program was created for those students who are regularly enrolled in colleges, universities, or other technical programs and spend at least one-half of their time on academic course work or equivalent. Over the years, WEF has expanded and improved upon the services offered to its Student Members in an effort to enhance and facilitate both their current studies and their transition into the working environment.

It is essential that students in the "learning" phase of water quality attain information and data, which are both current and relevant to their studies. Through participation in a student chapter, students get:

- Resources to establish themselves in the water quality field
- Information through the WEF periodicals and seminars
- Meeting and interacting with professionals in the industry
- Recognition in competition, scholarships, leadership
- Mentoring and employment guidance
- Low membership costs
- Free registration to WEFTEC®

The Illinois Water Environment Association, in collaboration with the Central States Water Environment Association and the Illinois Section of the American Water Works Association, has established a presence at the University of Illinois Urbana/Champaign, Illinois Institute of Technology and Northwestern University. The committee is working on establishing a presence at University of Illinois Chicago, Bradley University, DePaul University, Loyola University and Southern Illinois University.

If you are a student or an alum of one of these universities or another university in Illinois and would like to work with a student chapter at your school, please contact Lou Storino at louis.storino@mwrdd.org or (312) 751-3167.

IWEA Clean Water Scholarship

By Mary Johnson, Scholarship & Charitable Giving Chair

IWEA is now accepting applications for 2012 Clean Water Scholarships. These Scholarships are designed to aid students preparing for careers working in the water environment. Two scholarships of up to \$1000 are available this year.

Students interested in applying for the scholarship must meet the following requirements:

- Be an Illinois resident or attend an accredited Illinois college or university.
- Have completed at least 60 credits of their undergraduate education at time of the award. Graduate students are also encouraged to apply.
- Have a cumulative college GPA of at least 2.5.
- Be enrolled in a water-related field of study, such as civil or environmental engineering, environmental science, or wastewater systems operation.

A complete description of the scholarship requirements and application instructions can be accessed via the IWEA website's Education and Scholarships page. Applications for this year's scholarship are due by January 31, 2012.

IWEA members are encouraged to share information about the scholarship with promising students. The Clean Water Scholarship is part of IWEA's continuing efforts to support its mission "to enhance and protect the Illinois Water Environment through education and collaboration."



Student/Young Professional Poster Contest

By Sai Archana Kuchimanchi

The Illinois Water Environment Association and the Illinois Section of the American Water Works Association are pleased to announce an opportunity for students and young professionals to share the results of their work and/or academic projects. This is an opportunity to attend the best water conference in the state, and a great chance to learn about the rapidly evolving water industry through interactions with peers and industry professionals. The wastewater 1st and 2nd place winners will receive cash prizes of \$200 and \$100, respectively.

Interested individuals should email rehg@baxterwoodman.com or an entry form. All applications must be received by February 20, 2012.

WATERCON 2012

Crowne Plaza Hotel, Springfield, Illinois

2nd Floor, outside the Main Technical Session Rooms

Posters on display March 21st, 2012, 1:00 - 4:00 pm

Judging 3:30 - 4:00 pm



Student/Young Professional Paper Presentation

By Sai Archana Kuchimanchi

If you consider yourself a dynamic young engineer wanting to share your engineering experiences or have never presented in front of an audience and would like to start by presenting in front of a vibrant and less intimidating crowd, this is your opportunity!

ISAWWA/IWEA Young Professional and Student Chapters Committees are requesting the young professionals and students to submit abstracts to present at the joint ISAWWA/IWEA WATERCON 2012 annual conference in Springfield in March 2012. Six abstracts will be selected to be presented. Your paper can cover any aspects of the water environment, including agency/utility management,

regulations/permits, planning, design, construction, and operation in the areas of wastewater collection and conveyance, wastewater treatment, water quality laboratory operation and management, watershed and wet weather management, water resource management, and biosolids management. Abstract submittals on other subjects which you feel may be of interest are also encouraged. All Applications must be sent to skuchimanchi@greeley-hansen.com or Louis.Storino@mwr.org by Feb 20, 2012.

Each speaker will have 15 minutes: 10 minutes for the presentation and 5 minutes for questions. First time presenters in the conference are encouraged to submit the abstracts.

First Quarter, Financial Report

By Debra Ness, Treasurer

The first quarter of the IWEA fiscal year runs from July 1 through September 30. Typically the first quarter tends to be fairly slow for IWEA; however, this year IWEA had quite a few expenditures. IWEA agreed to team up with ISAWWA and host WATERCON on a yearly basis. In order to do this, IWEA had to pay a penalty to get out of the contract that was signed for the years IWEA would host its annual meeting on its own. Also, IWEA hosted the Stockholm Junior Water Prize (SJWP) competition this summer in Chicago. This resulted in IWEA spending quite a bit for the quarter. IWEA had a total income in the first quarter of \$7, 428. 92, total expenses for the quarter were \$42,935.66. This gives IWEA a net loss of \$35,506.74

for the quarter. Please keep in mind, though, that IWEA had many generous sponsors that helped offset the cost of hosting the SJWP this past summer. Those monies have been reported in previous financial reports. So, while it looks like IWEA had a large loss for the quarter, the money that was raised in sponsorships and reported previously offset those numbers greatly.

Moving into the second quarter, IWEA will need to file the required IRS Form 990EZ. This is filed annually under the Federal IRS statutes as a 501(c)(3) organization. Also being filed is the required Attorney General report in December.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

BANK ACCOUNTS

Community Bank	\$71,609.30
Science Fair Fund	\$3,964.18

ASSET ACCOUNTS

12 Month Reserve CD	\$12,272.53
12 Month Reserve CD	\$10,000.00
24 Month Reserve CD	\$12,688.23
24 Month Reserve CD	\$10,000.00

TOTAL \$120,534.24

(As of 06/30/2011)



Capitol Currents

Capitol Currents Needs an Author

We'd like to resurrect "Capitol Currents" in the quarterly *Clarifier*, but we need your help. If you have an interest in what's happening in Springfield that relates to our industry and would like to author the Capitol Currents column in the *Clarifier*, please let us know. Your small time investment will be of value for IWEA members. Interested to learn more? Please contact Kathy Cooper at (815) 561-2065 or kcooper@rmu.net.

Executive Committee 2011-2012

Illinois Water Environment Association Executive Board 2011/2012

Member/Position	Affiliation	Telephone/E-mail
Mark Halm President	Walter E. Deuchler Associates	630/897-4651 mhalm@deuchler.com
Krishna Pagilla President Elect	Civil, Architectural and Environmental Engineering Dept. Illinois Institute of Technology	312/567-5717 pagilla@iit.edu
Dan Bounds First Vice-President	CDM	312/346-5000 boundsdg@cdm.com
Kendra Sveum Second Vice-President	Donohue & Associates, Inc.	312/236-9147 ksveum@donohue-associates.com
Mary Johnson Corporate Secretary	Rock River Water Reclamation	815/387-7523 mjohnson@rrwr.dst.il.us
Deb Ness Treasurer	Fox Metro Water Reclamation	630/301-6820 dness@foxmetro.dst.il.us
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John Lamb Delegate 2013	City of St. Charles	630/377-4918 jlamb@stcharlesil.gov
Tim Kluge Delegate 2014	Sanitary District of Decatur	217/422-6931 ext. 214 timk@sdd.dst.il.us
Dennis Priewe Past President	Rock River Water Reclamation	815/387-7634 dpriewe@rrwr.dst.il.us
Laurie Riotte Executive Director	Fox Metro Water Reclamation	630/301-6825 ExecMgr@iweasite.org



Illinois Water Environment Association

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Illinois Water Environment Association is a Member Association of the Water Environment Federation dedicated to improving Illinois' surface, sub-surface and atmospheric water. The *CLARIFIER* is a quarterly publication of IWEA providing pertinent information by, for and about IWEA Members. The opinions contained herein are those of the authors and not necessarily those of the IWEA or the

CLARIFIER committee. Copy deadlines are the 15th of January, April, July and October. Direct comments and inquiries to: *Clarifier*, Heather Wachter, Managing Editor, email: ILClarifier@Juno.com; website: <http://iweasite.org>. Printed on recycled paper. Share with a friend and prospective member, then recycle.

IWEA Calendar of Events

Date	Meeting/Activity	Location
December 2, 2011	Executive Board & Committee Chairs Meeting	Starved Rock Lodge, Utica
January 20, 2012	Government Affairs Conference	Holiday Inn, Willowbrook
March 19, 2012	Annual Business Meeting	Crowne Plaza, Springfield
March 19 - 22, 2012	WATERCON 2012 Annual Conference	Crowne Plaza, Springfield



Illinois Section AWWA and Illinois Water Environment Association are pleased to announce another Joint Conference - WATERCON 2012. Mark your calendar!

REGISTRATION IS OPEN

The 2012 Conference will be held on March 19 through March 22, 2012 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel and Conference Center - Springfield, IL.