

## The Scoop Soaring to New Heights...

**W**ATERCON 2011 was a resounding success! There were over 1,400 attendees, over 200 exhibitors and 175 technical presentations. Congratulations and thank you to Dr. Krishna Pagilla and the Conference Committee, Sandra Conrad and the Program Committee, and Jean-Pierre Rouanet of the Local Arrangements Committee for making this year's conference something to remember. The Watershed Symposium organized by Dan Bounds was again very well attended, and the sessions organized by our Electric, Power, Energy and Controls Committee were enlightening. It is always good to see 'sparkys' at the conference. The awards program by Pat Schatz and Cheryl Kunz was again this year exceptionally well done. And of course, thanks to Laurie Riotte, Executive Manager of IWEA, and Laurie Daugherty of ISAWWA, for all of their help in organizing, registration, and attending to all the details, small and large.

I am humbled and privileged to serve as your President and would be remiss if I did not recognize the truly stellar accomplishments of the past year under the leadership of Dennis Priewe. In particular, the recognition of IWEA as Member Association of the Year at WEFTEC 2010 and the honor of serving as host of the Stockholm Junior Water Prize.

I think of IWEA as a sturdy building. The building has to have a firm footing—and thanks to the efforts of those who have preceded me as President, this organization has a strong foundation. This foundation was rooted in service with a commitment to the mission to “enhance and protect the Illinois water environment through education and collaboration.” As an organization, we are fortunate to have selfless, dedicated committee chairs who are the pillars of IWEA. The chairs' committee members act as the beams bridging each of the pillars, and make sure our building 'flexes' but does not break. Mary Johnson and Cheryl Kunz have done much to improve the look of our web site and marketing materials—bringing a nice façade to our building. In the coming months, you will see enhancements to the quarterly newsletter. I am also happy to announce that Andy Warmus will be our new Plant Operations Chair, and Kurt Stepping will be the Local Arrangements Chair. Greg Garbs, who was the Plant Operations Committee Chair, is now the illustrious (maybe infamous) pH7 of the I5S. Together, I am confident that we can help IWEA soar to new heights!

At the end of April, the Executive Committee will be holding a workshop. One of my goals is to revisit the strategic plan prepared a few years ago—and to revise and enhance our plan to look ahead for the next five years. Some of the major elements of the plan that were accomplished were:

- Hiring part-time staff, an Executive Manager (Congratulations Laurie!)
- Applying for the MA of the Year Award
- Hosting the Stockholm Junior Water Prize Competition

Elements of the Strategic Plan that are continuing to be worked on include:

- Digital training programs for online delivery
- Working with the state on an Operator Certification Program
- Creating a non-member database

In future editions of the *Clarifier*, I will be updating the membership on the goals of the Strategic Plan and on the plan to meet those goals.

Please note that the Golf Outing this year will be held at the Links of Carillon in Plainfield, June 10th, with a 9:00 a.m. shotgun start...and I am sad to say 'pinky' will no longer be with us (yes, I am being facetious!). Also, mark your calendars for the Stockholm Junior Water Prize, June 23-25th, and Government Affairs committee meeting, June 24th. For event updates, please visit our award winning web site, [www.iweasite.org](http://www.iweasite.org).

Thanks again...and I look forward to serving you as President of IWEA.

## Countdown to SJWP

By Charles Corley, IWEA SJWP Chair

Chicago – IWEA and WEF are counting down the few weeks left before the nation's premier high school science fair project winners descend on Chicago to compete for the coveted junior version of the prestigious Stockholm Water Prize. WEF has been the sponsor of this competition for over 10 years. Each year, WEF awards a different MA the opportunity to host the competition. In 2008, IWEA received the honor of hosting the 2011 event. The June 25th winner will compete in Stockholm, Sweden this coming fall for the international Stockholm Junior Water Prize.

The competition begins Thursday, June 23rd as the competitors from across the country arrive at the Palmer House in Chicago. All projects are water and water pollution related. The competitors may well be our future water pollution control experts, engineers, scientists, teachers, and designers. Judging of the projects occurs on Friday afternoon. The IWEA Government Affairs Conference takes place the same day and place. Attendees at this conference will have the opportunity to view the projects during the same afternoon judging takes place.

The competitors must nervously wait until Saturday evening, June 25th, to find out the winner. They will get some tension relief that morning and afternoon at the Shedd Aquarium and the Field Museum.

Hundreds of hours of volunteer time have gone into the IWEA hosting activities, all of this with a sense of purpose and accomplishment. More will be needed before the final curtain draws to a close. There is still a need for your involvement at this IWEA sponsored event.

We need host-greeter volunteers to welcome the nearly 100 students and teachers at each Chicago airport on Thursday, June 23rd. Using a list of expected SJWP travelers, the greeters will work short shifts at Chicago Midway and O'Hare International Airports and will meet the arrivals at the baggage claim areas and escort them to the

Go Airport Express vans for their trip to the Palmer House Hilton. Please help. There is a need for two dozen or more volunteers in order to make each shift short. **Please contact** IWEA President Mark Halm (630) 897-7634 and Volunteer Sub-Committee Chair Lou Storino (312) 751-3167 to express your interest.

For further information and inquiry about other activities of the competition, please contact me at [charles.corley@illinois.gov](mailto:charles.corley@illinois.gov) or by phone at (815) 987-7040. In addition, be sure to register for the June 24th IWEA Government Affairs Conference to cheer on the SJWP competitors, see the national winner, and possibly meet the international SJWP laureate.



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Front page article by:  
**Mark Halm, IWEA President**



**RECYCLE!**



Illinois Water Environment Association is a Member Association of the Water Environment Federation dedicated to improving Illinois' surface, sub-surface and atmospheric water. The *ILLINOIS 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 *Illinois CLARIFIER* committee. Copy deadlines are the 15th of January, April, July and October. Direct comments and inquiries to: *Illinois Clarifier*, Heather Wachter, Managing Editor; e-mail: [ILClarifier@iuno.com](mailto:ILClarifier@iuno.com); website: <http://iweasite.org>. Printed on recycled paper. Share with a friend and prospective member, then recycle.

# DELEGATE'S CORNER

By Lou Kollias, Senior Delegate

One of the main duties for a Delegate is to attend a WEFMAX meeting. John Lamb and I attended the WEFMAX meeting in Louisville, April 14-16. It was held at the Seelbach Hilton in Downtown Louisville in conjunction with the YP Summit. The first day started with a meeting of the House of Delegates (HOD). Speaker-Elect Sean Osborne presided over the meeting. There was a short overview of the WEF Committees and pitch for volunteers. Nominations will be solicited in a few months. Since my term as Delegate is ending in October, John is considering volunteering for either the WEFMAX Committee or the Steering Committee.

Following was an extended discussion of the HOD Work Groups. John is participating on the Operator Outreach Workgroup. The focus of this workgroup is wastewater operator training and certification. The group is primarily working on the training aspect right now and possibly certification in the future. The Workgroup recently sent out a survey to the Member Associations (MAs) regarding operator training; the survey is due by the first week in May. There will also be an Operations Summit in Alexandria in June, to which all MAs will be invited. There was a short report on the HOD Representation Work Group, of which I am the Chair. A survey was also recently sent out to the MAs asking their opinions on revising the minimum numbers for how many Delegates are allowed for the large MAs; this survey is due by the end of May.

The day ended with a presentation and discussion on WEF HOD Strategic Planning. The WEF Board of Trustees has hired a consultant, TCC Group, to work on strategic planning within WEF and the HOD, and how the two groups can work together better. We were asked what needs to be fixed and how it could be accomplished. After the meeting, we had a reception in the hotel where we were able to network with the other attendees.

On Friday, the meeting started with a WEF briefing and update by WEF Vice President Cordell Samuels. He discussed the issues affecting WEF such as nutrient standards, energy, and WEF/AWWA collaboration. He also discussed WEF's global initiatives and technical publications. There was quite a long discussion on whether WEF should spend much time on global initiatives when the North American MAs are in need of assistance.

After lunch, the MAs started their presentations on their "Great Ideas." This was to highlight special events that were successful for the MAs. Among the most notable was Georgia, which has a Leadership Academy and a web site for scholarships and interns offered by the MA and its partners. Michigan spoke about its Watershed Summit which has been very successful. Other MAs have been using webinars very successfully. They have been shown at certain locations where people could gather to view the webinar, and also to individuals at their own computers.

We then broke out into three breakout sessions. The three topics discussed were media interaction, partnerships with other associations, and partnerships with other MAs. One of the more interesting points we discussed was that some MAs send their newsletters to their state legislators to keep them aware of what is going on in our industry at the state level. Also, Georgia has a strategic planning meeting with their neighbor MAs of Virginia and South Carolina. Indiana approached me and representatives from Michigan and Ohio about having such a meeting for the Great Lakes states. Stay tuned as this may come to fruition sooner than we think. Friday evening was a great group dinner, for which the Kentucky/Tennessee MA hired a very funny comedian.

On Saturday, we finished the "Great Ideas" presentations. John discussed our success with the joint conference with ISAWWA. Numerous other MAs also do this with equal success. Jeff Eger, the new WEF Executive Director, spoke about his first few months on the job and his vision for WEF. He seems very enthusiastic and should be a great Executive Director. All in all, it was a very informative WEFMAX meeting, and the Kentucky/Tennessee MA was a great host.

## SAVE THE DATE

### Stockholm Junior Water Prize Competition

June 23 – 25, 2011

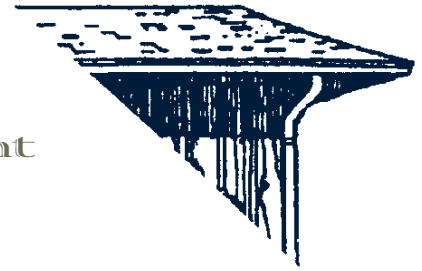
Palmer House Hilton

Chicago, IL

## IWEA CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Date	Meeting/Activity	Location
June 3, 2011	Executive Board & Committee Chairs Meeting	Starved Rock Lodge, Utica
June 10, 2011	IWEA Member Golf Outing	Links at Carillon, Plainfield
June 23-25, 2011	Stockholm Junior Water Prize Competition	Palmer House, Chicago
June 24, 2011	Government Affairs Conference	Palmer House, Chicago

from the SHIED ... promoting the understanding of nonpoint source issues, including storm water and watershed management



## IWEA 2011 Watershed Management Symposium a Big Success

By Dan Bounds and the IWEA Watershed Management Committee

Setting a new attendance record, 75 people attended this year's IWEA Watershed Management Symposium, and it was without a doubt due to the excellent panel of speakers. The symposium was held on March 23rd as part of WaterCon 2011 in Springfield.



75 people attended this year's IWEA Watershed Management Symposium

Christine Urban from USEPA Region 5 provided an overview of guidance materials produced by USEPA for designing and incorporating permanent storm water quality controls into new street and roadway projects. The controls presented within the guidance are considered the best management practices for designing streets and roadways to be protective of water quality, examples including narrowing street widths, permeable pavements, vegetated drainage swales, and planted curb extensions. Ms. Urban also gave an overview of upcoming program funding challenges, and recent program funding allocations to all Region 5 states compared to Illinois.

Gregg Good from IEPA provided an overview of IEPA's programs for assessing Illinois surface waters and producing integrated water quality reporting. Mr. Good stressed the importance of watershed management and non-point source improvements in meeting the state's water quality goals.

Amy Burns Walkenbach from IEPA provided an update on several IEPA watershed management programs, including the Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) program, the Illinois Green Infrastructure Grant Program, the 319 Grant Program, and more. She also announced IEPA's policy of denying construction permits for sanitary sewers that cross an FPA boundary has been legally challenged, and IEPA legal counsel has concluded that IEPA lacks the legal authority for the policy's continuance. Illinois EPA will no longer deny a state construction permit based solely on that project's inconsistency with an FPA boundary.

Bob Mosher from IEPA's Standards Unit had everyone's ear as he presented expected changes in Illinois water quality standards. Regarding ammonia, Bob explained that USEPA has published draft ammonia criteria that are five times lower than current Illinois ammonia water quality standards. IEPA has identified the new criteria as significant as most POTWs are not capable of meeting permit limits that could be derived from the criteria. Regarding nutrients, Bob added that it is unknown at this time what a permit limit for phosphorus would be or whether there would be a nitrogen limit. USEPA has offered to work with IEPA in developing a translator from the narrative "Offensive Conditions" water quality standard to a permit limit.

Tom Skelly of City Water Light and Power in Springfield gave an overview of the efforts of the Lake Springfield Watershed Resources Planning Committee, and Richard Lyons of Lyons Farm assisted with open forum discussion about Committee activities. Tom presented how the long-standing relationship between the Sangamon County Soil and Water Conservation District and the City of Springfield has helped align many volunteer partners to address soil erosion and nutrient and pesticide impacts in the Lake Springfield Watershed. Six hundred acres of filter strips have been created along Sugar and Lick Creeks, with 84% of stream corridors protected. Committee efforts have resulted in a 7% reduction in sedimentation over the



Agricultural conservation easements are helping to reduce soil erosion and sedimentation into Lake Springfield

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## TIME TO GET YOUR HOUSE IN ORDER

Submitted by Mark Termini, Safety Chair

Now that spring has arrived, it's a great time to think about some "Spring Cleaning"; a time to tackle some of the tasks that got set aside, if not forgotten, during the winter months. There is a direct correlation between a clean, neat, well organized workplace, and a safe workplace. Good housekeeping reduces accident and fire hazards and reflects an image of a well run organization, while poor housekeeping contributes to: slip, trip, chemical, and fire hazards, while inviting accidents.

### GETTING STARTED

All entryways and exits should be inspected to ensure that they are clean, dry, and clear of any obstruction. All stairways must be kept clean, dry, and free of debris, and no materials should be stored in the stairwells. All walkways, halls, and stairwells should be inspected to ensure that: they are well lighted to avoid trips; that handrails are securely fastened; and that there is no standing liquid such as oil or water on the floors. Burnt out light bulbs should be replaced as soon as they are discovered, and failed light fixtures repaired or replaced as soon as possible to maintain adequate lighting. Check that all trash containers are sufficiently sized and not overflowing.

In addition to basic cleaning and organizing, now is also a good time to address infrequent housekeeping tasks:

- Inspect safety signs and labels and replace any that are damaged, worn, or illegible.
- Make sure that flammables are properly labeled and stored.
- Verify that evacuation routes are clearly posted.
- Check that elevator inspections and boiler permits are up to date and clearly displayed.
- Securely fasten walkway grating.

- Check that flotation devices are in good condition.
- Organize tool bins and areas and check for damaged tools that need replacement.

A good spring cleaning can enhance safety if it's done with an eye to eliminating hazards.

### KEEP IT GOING

Now that you have inspected your facility and addressed any housekeeping issues, it is important to make it a regular routine. Good housekeeping is fundamental to safety and health. It doesn't just happen; it has to be planned.

- Develop a building inspection form and conduct regular inspections at least monthly; this is a good task to assign to your Safety Committee Representative. Make sure that any deficiencies noted at the time of inspection are addressed as quickly as possible.
- Develop a housekeeping policy and make it part of your safety manual.

See a sample Building Inspection form and Housekeeping Policy at [www.iweasite.org/Committees/Safety.html](http://www.iweasite.org/Committees/Safety.html).

The general duty clause of the Occupational Safety and Health Act requires employers to provide a workplace free of recognized hazards. Housekeeping hazards clearly fall into the category of "recognized hazards." Housekeeping rules are found in various OSHA regulations, including general industry standards 29 CFR 1910.22(a) for walking-working surfaces and 29 CFR 1910.106(e)(9) for flammable and combustible liquids.

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### From the Shed *cont. from page 4*

last 20 years, and atrazine runoff issues have been virtually eliminated.

These presentations will be available on the IWEA Watershed Management Committee's web site: [www.iweasite.org/Committees/WtrshdMang.html](http://www.iweasite.org/Committees/WtrshdMang.html).

After the highly informative presentations, several symposium attendees boarded a bus for a guided tour of restoration measures implemented throughout the Lake Springfield watershed. Barb Mendenhall and Terry Nichols of the Sangamon County Soil and Water Conservation District led the group to three watershed restoration stops.

Kicking off on Lake Springfield, the William and Mary Schnirring Farm was the first stop on the tour. Donated to the Sangamon Conservancy Trust as an agricultural conservation easement, the entire 113-acre Schnirring Farm was taken out of production in 2007, and it is being restored to a natural state of prairie and woodlands. Currently, 91 acres are enrolled in USDA's Conservation Reserve Programs. The associated prairie grass, forbs, and

hardwood tree plantings will reduce soil erosion and sedimentation into Lake Springfield.

The second stop on the tour was the Nipper Wildlife Sanctuary, a 120-acre wildlife sanctuary refuge focused on restoring wetland areas and bottomland forests by reintroducing native species. Since 1999, 12 wetland areas have been restored and over 150 different species of flowers and plants have been reintroduced, providing a unique outdoor classroom for local schools, naturalists, and wildlife groups while enhancing water quality.

The tour finale was the 400-acre Bob and Joy Komnick Farm, which has also been donated as an agricultural conservation easement to the Sangamon Conservancy Trust with the goal of keeping the farm as farmland or parkland into perpetuity. The farm is a showcase for effectively applied and maintained practices such as grassed waterways, vegetative filter strips, grade stabilization structures, riparian buffers, and field buffers.

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# Annual Conference Delivers Successful Program with New Ideas

By Caitlin Feehan, Program Vice-Chair

This year marked IWEA's 32nd Annual Conference in Springfield and the third bi-annual joint conference with the Illinois Section AWWA. This conference welcomed over 1,400 attendees over the course of the four days and continued the successful joining of the two Illinois organizations.

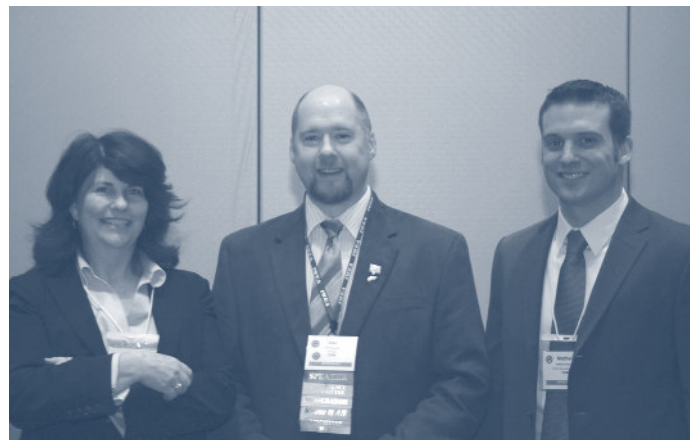
The conference program itself was full of sessions highlighting the innovative projects and ideas of 2010 and consisted of 69 wastewater sessions and 23 combined sessions, along with the continuation of the watershed symposium. The sessions revolved around the themes of biosolids, collection systems, energy, engineering, laboratories, management, new products, nutrients, operations, research, treatment, UV disinfection, and wet weather and presented discussions relevant and important to the industry.

New to the program this year, the Energy Committee hosted its first Energy Roundtable during Tuesday morning's sessions. The roundtable included the panelists Nick Menninga of Downers Grove Sanitary District, Dave

Parry of CDM, Manju Sharma of MWRD, and Art Malm of Lake County Public Works, who discussed energy consumption and the importance of energy management in the treatment of wastewater. The roundtable focused on the challenges that municipalities and wastewater organizations face when making energy improvements. At the same time, the diverse backgrounds of the panelists also demonstrated that not all organizations approach energy or the adoption of "cutting edge" technologies the same way.

The event proved successful, drawing about 30 attendees to the discussion. A true testament of its achievement is that the Energy Committee will soon begin planning the roundtable discussion for next year.

The Program Committee is thrilled at the accomplishments of the conference and excited about these types of innovative ideas that improve the program each year. Next year's Annual Conference is certain to continue this trend of innovative ideas and discussion. Expect to see the call for abstracts for the 2012 Annual Conference in July!



## ***Annual Banquet Sponsors:***

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## Shovelers Welcome Three New Members

*By Greg Garbs, pH7*

**T**he ILLINOIS SOCIETY OF SANITARY SLUDGE SHOVELERS, known as the "I5S," inducted three new members into its elite ranks during the IWEA Conference held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel and Conference Center in Springfield, March 21-23, 2011.

Dan Bounds, CDM, Dr. Krishna Pagilla, IIT, and Dr. Paul Bowen, WEF Trustee, (pictured) were all welcomed into the Shovelers ranks. A gentle chiding was given to all the new shovelers and was most graciously received.

All three of these individuals were elevated to the "highest pinnacle on the sludge bed" and were awarded a golden shovel and a membership certificate for their unselfish contribution of service to both the Association and the Federation. Congratulations, Shovelers!



# The 2011 Award Winners Are...

By Pat Schatz, Awards Chair

**Kathy Cooper received the WEF Hatfield Award.** This award is presented to operators of wastewater treatment for outstanding performance and professionalism. Kathy is the Superintendent of the Rochelle Water and Wastewater Treatment facilities.



**Jim Listwan received the IWEA Merideth Award.** This award recognizes outstanding contributions to the wastewater treatment plant operations professionalism. Jim is the Chief Operator at the Salt Creek Sanitary District.



**Dennis Priewe was the recipient of the WEF Bedell Award.** This award acknowledges extraordinary personal service to the Member Association. Dennis has served on the IWEA Executive Board since 2002. He served as the Treasurer until 2007 and then became the Second Vice President and was IWEA President for 2010-11.

**Sonia O'Dell was the recipient of the WEF Laboratory Excellence Award.** This award recognizes outstanding performance, professionalism and contributions to the water quality analyst profession. Sonia is a Lab Analyst at the Fox Metro Reclamation Sanitary District.



**Mary Johnson was the recipient of the IWEA Paul Clinebell Award.** This award goes to an IWEA individual who has and continues to provide significant contributions to the Illinois Water Environment Association over at least a 25-year membership. Mary has been an active and dedicated supporter of IWEA since the beginning of her membership. She was President in 2003-04, a long time member of the Laboratory Committee, the chair of the Web Site Committee and the chair of the Scholarship and Charitable Giving Committee.

**Caitlin Feehan received the IWEA Outstanding Young Professional Award for 2011.** This award recognizes the contribution of a young professional for significant contributions to the IWEA. Caitlin was recognized for her many contributions to the IWEA and to WEF.



**Ted Denning received the WEF Delegate Service Award.** Ted served as a Delegate from 2007 to 2010.

**Alan Poole became a WEF Lifetime Member.** Life members are individuals who have been active members in a WEF Member Association for a total of at least 35 years and have reached the age of 65.



**Terry Jenkins and Mark Orey were inducted into the WEF Quarter Century Operator's Club.** The Quarter Century Operator's Club is a group of members who have been actively involved as full-time participants in the water environment industry for more than 25 years.

**Auralene Toni Glymph was the recipient of the IWEA Best Technical Presentation Award** for her excellent presentation at the 2010 Annual Conference: Protozoa: Indicators of Activated Sludge Treatment.



These awards were presented at the 2011 IWEA Annual Banquet at The Inn at 835 in Springfield. Congratulations to all the award recipients!

It's never too early to start thinking about nominations for next year. If you know someone who you believe should be considered for an award, please submit a nomination. All award information and nomination forms can be found on the IWEA web site, [www.iweasite.org](http://www.iweasite.org).

## Student Chapters

By Lou Storino, Student Chapters Chair

Wednesday March 23rd was Students and Young Professionals (YPs) Day at the 2011 ISAWWA-IWEA Joint Conference in Springfield. The afternoon program included a poster competition which offered an opportunity for students and YPs to share the results of their work and/or academic projects. This opportunity not only provided presentation experience, but also a chance to learn more about the rapidly evolving water industry through interactions with peers and industry professionals. Posters were judged on the basis of originality, correlation of topic with theme and technical content.



Standing on the walkway over the final clarifiers

Bhargavi Subramanian, of the Illinois Institute of Technology, won first place for her poster entitled "Wastewater Treatment Anaerobic Digester Foaming Prevention and Control Methods." The

poster addressed the issue of anaerobic digester foaming in different wastewater treatment plants. Information was presented on the fundamentals, causes, impacts and mitigation of anaerobic digester foaming, based on an extensive literature review. The review resulted in identifying gaps in knowledge pertaining to causes, methodologies in evaluating foaming, impacts and its prevention and control.



Scott Trotter discussing the water treatment process at Well No. 8

On April 2nd, The Illinois Water Environment Association held a tour for students and young professionals. Over 30 individuals visited the St. Charles Wastewater Treatment Plant, St. Charles Well No. 8 Radium Removal Facility (Drinking Water) and networked over lunch at Giordano's. It was a beautiful, sunny day! Special thanks to John Lamb, Scott Trotter and the City of St. Charles.

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## Public Relations Concerns about Land Application Heightened; IWEA Biosolids Committee Responds

By Dan Collins, Biosolids Chair

Biosolids generators and land appliers need to continuously re-tool their land application practices to meet the changing needs of the communities they serve. The practice of applying biosolids (treated municipal sludge) as a fertilizer on agricultural land has a long history as the most beneficial and environmentally benign method of biosolids reuse in Illinois and throughout the country. However, as the sprawl of the urban frontier continuously overtakes agricultural land, there is an increase in the extent of residential communities that are unfamiliar with the benefits and safety of the land application of biosolids. This results in an increase in the intensity of public relations concerns, threatening the future of land application. In Illinois, this issue is most prevalent in the northeast, as it is the most populous part of the state. During the past couple of years, the increase in the number of odor and other nuisance complaints stemming from land application of biosolids has begun to grab the attention of the news media. Most recently, the uneasiness of residents in the farming communities toward land application has set off a string of legislative proposals targeted to impose restrictions on the land application practice, beyond state and federal regulations.

In February 2011, in an effort address concerns of residents in La Salle and Bureau Counties, state Rep. Frank Mautino, D-Spring Valley, sponsored a proposed bill in the state legislature, House Bill HB 1441, to amend the Environmental Protection Act. As originally proposed, this bill had the potential to create a strong disincentive for accepting biosolids onto private land and jeopardized the future of land application of biosolids, which would send the biosolids industry scampering for other management alternatives.

House Bill 1441 would have allowed municipalities to adopt local ordinances to impose civil penalty on any persons or organization owning or leasing property that releases hazardous substances or contaminants, which the community deems to be injurious to public health. Recognizing the potential negative impact of such a bill on biosolids stakeholders and the farming community, Rep. Mautino worked cordially with biosolids generators to draft revisions to the bill (HB 805, then finally HB 806) to better address the concerns of the farming community while minimizing the impact on biosolids farmland application practice. Briefly, HB 806, which was approved by the House of Representatives in April, if enacted, will reduce the duration of stockpiling of

*cont. on page 10*



# LAB oratory

## Keeping You in the Mix on Chromium-Six

By Rebecca Rose, Laboratory Chair,  
and Anas Rabah, Committee Member

A study conducted by the Environmental Monitoring Group into the prevalence of Hexavalent Chromium in the drinking water supply has drawn the interest of the EPA. In response to this study, the Agency has launched a comprehensive review into the health effects of chromium-6. This scientific review is expected to be finalized before the end of the year and will help guide the EPA's approach to determine if a new chromium-6 monitoring program is necessary for drinking water compliance. An indication of what may be on the horizon could be found in the recent EPA recommendations for enhanced chromium-6 monitoring in drinking water. The recommendations specify sampling points, sampling frequency and the use of chromium-6 specific analytical methods.

In Illinois: The IEPA has developed a chromium-6 strategic plan and has recently published a report titled "Assessment of Total Chromium in Illinois Community Water Supplies." For more information on the U.S. EPA's enhanced monitoring recommendations, IEPA's chromium-6 assessment and strategic plan, visit [www.epa.state.il.us/water/compliance/drinking-water/chromium.html](http://www.epa.state.il.us/water/compliance/drinking-water/chromium.html).

### Conference Recap

The Laboratory Session was a huge success at this year's

Annual Conference! Given the all-star team of presenters, it was no surprise that the session was very well attended. Cynthia Bosnak from Perkin Elmer kicked off the morning with a terrific presentation titled "Low Level and Trace Level Detection of Metals – The Best Method to Achieve Your Results." Next up was the reigning champ of wastewater presentations, Auralene Toni Glymph from the MWRDGC. Staying true to form, Toni gave a very informative and equally enjoyable talk: "A Simple Approach to Identify and Control Filamentous Bacteria." Toni received the "Best Technical Presentation" Award for her presentation from last year's conference. Congratulations, Toni! Carrying the momentum was Kuldip Kumar from the MWRDGC. Kuldip gave a very captivating and informative presentation titled "Framework to Predict Pharmaceuticals and Personal Care Products (PPCPs) Uptake by Plants." The final presentation of the morning was "ORP Applications" by Chris Scott from Thermo Fisher Scientific. We would like to thank all the speakers for a job well done!

### On The Horizon

The Lab Committee will be conducting a seminar entitled "Train the Trainer" on October 20, 2011 in Schaumburg, IL. The topics that will be covered are Ethics and Internal Audits. Scott Siders from the Illinois EPA will conduct the Audit portion and Tandra Thomas from Suburban Labs will do the Ethics portion. For more information, please go to [www.iweasite.org](http://www.iweasite.org). This will be a seminar you will not want to miss, so be sure to mark your calendars and save the date!

### Special Thanks

The Lab Committee would like to send its congratulations and best wishes to one of our own, Terry Jenkins, on his retirement from the Village of Addison. Terry has been a great asset to the Committee for many years and hopefully, when he is not fishing, he will continue to be an active member in the future.

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## Public Relations Concerns

*cont. from page 9*

biosolids to reduce the potential for odors, and require land applicators to notify local officials and field neighbors before applying biosolids to fields. An unrelated bill, Senate Bill SB 2010, proposed in March 2011, which is intended to revise the definition of fertilizer, also had a minor impact on biosolids programs.

These recent flares in media, and the political attention to land application of biosolids clearly speaks to the need for biosolids generators, land applicators and regulators to develop collaborative efforts to educate the farming community about the benefits of land application of biosolids and to protect the practice of land application of biosolids. The IWEA Biosolids Committee has begun to step in this direction. In 2010, the Committee, with participation of generators and land applicators, initiated a Biosolids Network for the State of Illinois. The goal of the network is to serve as a forum for biosolids generators and land applicators to continuously improve the long-term sustainability of land application through more uniform procedures and sharing of information. Participation in

the biosolids network is open to all biosolids generators and land applicators in the state of Illinois. Some of the features of the network, which will be accessed through the IWEA web site, will include databases/spreadsheets, brochures, presentations, and other resources that members can use in their efforts to educate their communities. Further information about how to participate in the network can be obtained by contacting the Biosolids Committee Chairperson, Dan Collins, at [Daniel.collins@mwr.org](mailto:Daniel.collins@mwr.org) or Dr. Albert Cox, Biosolids Committee member, at [albert.cox@mwr.org](mailto:albert.cox@mwr.org).

Links to the aforementioned Bills are as follows:

House Bill, HB 1441:

<http://www.ilga.gov/legislation/fulltext.asp?DocName=&SessionId=84&GA=97&DocTypeId=HB&DocNum=1441&GAID=11&LegID=58044&SpecSess=&Session>

House Bill, HB 806:

<http://www.ilga.gov/legislation/BillStatus.asp?DocTypeID=HB&DocNum=806&GAID=11&SessionID=84&LegID=56591>

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

By Frederick Wu, Membership Chair

### November 2010

Michael Livermore  
Ron Smith  
Brian M. Westendorf  
City of Fairfield  
AECOM

### December 2010

Allen J. Abrahams  
Daren Boyer  
Bakari Buckley  
Hansy Charlier  
Pauli Undesser  
Metropolitan Water Reclamation District  
of Greater Chicago  
City of Plano

Thomas & Betts Corp.  
Water Quality Association

### January 2011

Dr. Joshua Peter Cantone  
David Dieter  
Thomas John Frew III  
Garett Gerald Glatt  
CH2M HILL  
Emerson Process Management  
MWH Americas Inc.  
Emerson Process Management

### February 2011

Yhamany Enrique Anaya Sr.  
David Sean Farren  
Jim Millard  
Joseph Robert Ridgway  
Adam Roy Rogensues  
Richard Talkington Jr.  
University Industrial of Santander  
B H Enterprises Inc.  
Burns & McDonnell  
Severn Trent Services  
City of Jacksonville

### March 2011

Robert B. Bland Jr.  
Ralph Gross  
John Victor Grossi  
Mike Higgins  
Greg A. Hornbuckle  
Tom Inman  
Nate Lucas  
Jeff Pass  
City of Wilmington  
Associated Technical Services Ltd.  
Vactor Manufacturing  
Neenah Foundry  
R. E. Pedrotti Co. Inc.  
Parkson  
Godwin Pumps

## THIRD QUARTER FINANCIAL REPORT

By Debra Ness, Treasurer

The Annual Report to the Illinois Secretary of State under the General Not for Profit Corporation Act was filed during the third quarter of the fiscal year. This report was filed in March and provided notice of the election of new officers.

IWEA also recently opened two additional CD's staggered and in the amount of \$10,000 each.

Statement at the end of the third quarter is:

### Bank Accounts

Community Bank	\$58,667.96
Science Fair Fund	\$3961.23

### Asset Accounts

12 Month Reserve CD	\$12,181.54
24 Month Reserve CD	\$12,506.40
12 Month Reserve CD	\$10,000.00
24 Month Reserve CD	\$10,000.00

<b>Total</b>	<b>\$107,317.13</b>
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## IWEA 2011-2012 COMMITTEE CHAIRS

### Annual Conference

Daniel Bounds  
CDM  
125 S. Wacker Dr.  
Chicago, IL 60606  
312/346-5000  
312/346-5228 Fax  
boundsdg@cdm.com

### Awards

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### Biosolids

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### Laboratory

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### Local Arrangements

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### Marketing

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### Membership

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### Newsletter

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### Nominating

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### Plant Operations

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### Program

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### Program Vice-Chair

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### Public Education & Student Affairs

Norm Rose (MWRDGC retired)  
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### Safety

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### Scholarships and Charitable Giving

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### Stockholm Junior Water Prize

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### Student Chapters

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### Watershed Management

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### Web Site

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### Young Professionals

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### Ad Hoc - Territory Issues

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## Illinois Water Environment Association

IWEA  
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West Chicago, IL 60186-0337

*Address Service Requested*

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U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
I.W.E.A.

Deadline Next Issue Illinois Clarifier: July 15, 2011

### The IWEA Clarifier Newsletter Gets a Makeover Coming Summer 2011

*By Cheryl Kunz, Marketing Chair*

We are proud to announce that a new and improved IWEA *Clarifier* newsletter will make its debut with the next issue this summer. Look for a brand new design, easy to read articles, color photography, and some exciting new sections and topics that are sure to be of interest to our membership. Thanks to those of you who helped us plan for these enhancements by responding to our survey requesting your feedback on what you'd like to see in the *Clarifier* newsletter. We're sure you will continue to enjoy receiving this great resource from the Illinois Water Environment Federation.

*From the Shed* cont. from page 5

#### **Growing Concerns about Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PAHs) in Urban Stormwater Runoff**

It is likely that those of us managing urban watersheds are going to be hearing a lot about polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) during the next few years. PAHs are organic compounds of two to six carbon rings of the benzene molecule, and are common in urban storm water runoff. Major PAH sources include the combustion of hydrocarbons in automobiles and the burning of wood or coal, but PAHs are also found in coal tar pavement sealants, crude oil, creosote, and roofing tar, and a few are used in medicines, or to make dyes, plastics, and pesticides. Of concern to surface water managers are those PAHs documented as having negative impacts on both aquatic and human health. USEPA lists 16 of them as priority pollutants, several of which are probable human carcinogens. It is important to note just how widespread PAHs are; for example, sediment sampling in the Chicago suburbs found that probable effects levels (PELS) for impacts to aquatic life by PAHs were exceeded at 32 of 42 sites.

### IWEA Scholarship Winners

*By Pat Schatz, Awards Chair*

IWEA acknowledged the following 2010-2011 Scholarship and Science Fair award winners during the annual banquet:

#### **Sylvanus Jackson Scholarship**

Katherine Stark, Southern Illinois University, ERTC

#### **Clean Water Scholarship**

Tadeusz Bobak, Illinois Institute of Technology

#### **Senior Grand Prize Clean Water Award**

Alison Ramsey, Southeastern High School, August, IL

#### **Junior Division Grand Prize Clean Water Award**

Shelby Pemberston, Crone Middle School, Naperville, IL

We wish them well in their educational endeavors!

What can be done to manage them? PAHs typically adhere to particulate matter in storm water runoff, so activities that manage solids in storm water seem to be most promising. Several communities and watershed organizations around the U.S. have banned or are looking at banning refined coal tar sealants (RT 12), including entities in McHenry County and the DuPage River Salt Creek Workgroup in Illinois. Coal tar sealants contain up to 50,000 mg/l of PAHs, one thousand times that of asphalt based sealants. Studies in New Hampshire have shown PAH loadings in storm water runoff from parking lots sealed with coal tar as orders of magnitude higher than those measured from parking lots sealed with asphalt based sealants. A recent study by USGS titled "The Contribution of PAHs from Coal Tar Pavement Sealcoat and Other Sources to 40 Lakes" by Van Metre and Maher 2010 described PAH loading in lake sediments in 40 lakes nationwide, concluding that "(coal tar seal coat) likely is the primary cause of upward trends in PAHs in response to urban sprawl in much of the United States."