

## **Specific Reasons for IWEA Nomination for the WEF Outstanding Member Association**

### **Support for WEF Activities**

- 2007 WEFMAX host – this was WEF’s most highly attended WEFMAX
- 2007 Young Professionals Summit host
- 1994, 1997, 2008 WEFTEC – local arrangements (along with CSWEA)
- 2011 Stockholm Junior Water Prize Competition host
- Over forty IWEA members serve on WEF Committees, including one Chair and two Vice-Chairs

### **Scholarships**

- Endowed Scholarship at SIUE in 2005.
- Commitment to budgeting \$2500 annual to establish endowments at other Illinois universities. Expect to endow scholarship at UIUC in 2011
- Support the SJWP student and teacher/advisor to travel to the national SJWP competition
- Scholarship and Charitable Giving Committee is a newly formed committee to oversee and promote the various IWEA scholarships and charitable activities of IWEA

### **Charitable Giving**

- IWEA is committed to charitable giving. We budget annually to:
  - \$ 1000 to IIT Student Chapter’s Haiti Project
  - \$ 1000 to Water for People
  - \$ 500 to Water Research Foundation
- Conduct a golf-putting contest at the annual conference for funding the Clean Water Awards program
- Additional \$450 to Water to the People, raised at the annual Golf Outing
- 2010 in lieu of providing conference attendees with a token gift, IWEA made a donation to support relief in Haiti.

### **Communications**

- IWEA Website [www.iweasite.org](http://www.iweasite.org) was created in 1997 and was totally redesigned in 2008. It is an outstanding website which has been recognized twice by WEF as the website of the month.
- The Association’s website is becoming the main communication link with the members. A myriad of information and links can be found on the website, giving members access to unlimited resources for the environmental field, especially WEF.
- Contracted a managing editor for our quarterly newsletter to insure timely publication and mailing (2007) and subscribed to email marketing service to promote seminars and conferences, plus send out a monthly e-newsletter (2008)
- Instituted on-line conference registration and payment (2007). Currently 80% of the annual conference registration used by this feature.
- IWEA newsletter, *The Clarifier*, sent quarterly to all the IWEA members. The newsletter articles are written by the IWEA the members. The long standing chairman of the Association’s newsletter “The Clarifier” motto about the newsletter is” the newsletter is by the members, about the members, and for the members.”
- The Watershed Committee maintains a website dedicated to providing information about IL watershed groups to others who are interested in watershed management. (IL Watershed Group Clearinghouse)

### **Governance**

- IWEA shares all meeting minutes with full membership via website
- IWEA develops policies to address operations. Members can access policies via the website
- IWEA Board does annual retreat to discuss long term projects and Association direction.
- The Constitution and Bylaws are routinely reviewed and all amendments are voted on by the membership at the Annual Business meeting. Amended constitution and bylaws are submitted to WEF C & B Committee for approval.

### **Work with Other Organizations**

- Jointly sponsor biennial Annual Conference with ISAWWA (Illinois Section American Water Works Association)
- Jointly sponsor annual government affairs conference with CSWEA
- Jointly sponsor annual pretreatment meeting with IWWSG (Illinois Water, Waste, and Sewage Group)
- Jointly sponsored laboratory seminar with CSWEA (2008 and 2009)
- Sponsor student chapters at three Illinois Universities (University of IL, Northwestern University and ITT) along with ISAWWA and CSWEA
- Jointly sponsor annual Operations Seminar with IAWPCO
- ILWARN – founding member of ILWARN, the IL Water/Wastewater Agency Response network along with ISAWWA, IRWA, IDPH, IEPA and USEPA.

### **Education**

- Developed a water environment curriculum (*Ten Day Water Environment*) for middle school students. The curriculum was featured at WEFTEACH 2009
- Sponsor student chapters at UIUC, IIT and Northwestern Universities
- Provide judges for annual Illinois Junior Academy of Sciences (IJAS) science fair for more than 24 years. IWEA sponsors the science fair winner's entry in SJWP.
- Public Education Committee provides speakers and displays for career fairs and chemistry days through out the state.
- Public Education Committee provides an environmental display and activities at IL State Fair annually. The booth is manned by IWEA members.
- Public Education Committee promotes World Water Day, Stockholm Jr. Water Prize and 10 day Water Environment Curriculum at Illinois Science Teacher Association Annual Meeting.
- IWEA offers members educational opportunities annually with six workshops and seminars: government affairs, industrial pretreatment, laboratory, plant operations, collections, and watershed as well as its Annual Conference.
- The annual conference has an average of 60 technical presentations during the three day sessions in addition to a half a day symposium on watershed management.
- The Student Chapter and Young Professional Committees arrange tours of wastewater treatment plants and manufacturing facilities regularly throughout the year for the young membership. This is also a planned networking opportunity for the Young Professionals.
- Laboratory Committee developed a Model Quality Assurance Plan ,QAP, the can be used by a laboratory as a guide for writing their in-house QAP. The Model Quality Assurance Plan is available on the IWEA website for download.
- Laboratory Committee maintains a list of frequently asked technical questions and answers in the laboratory section on the IWEA website.

### **Awards**

- IWEA selects annually the Hatfield, Bedell, Laboratory Excellence, Golden Manhole and Burke Safety Awards.
- IWEA has six awards of its own: Merideth (Operations), Membership Recruitment, Outstanding Young Professional, Clinebell (long term service to the Association), President's and Best Technical Presentation .
- The Clean Water Award winner is invited to the annual conference and encouraged to display their award winning science fair project at the conference.
- Ten IWEA members have received national WEF awards.

### **Financial Strength**

- IWEA has a documented financial plan/strategy (2008) to maintain a continued positive balance.
- IWEA has reserves (in excess of expenses) invested in Certificates of Deposit (\$24,270)
- An accounting firm audits IWEA books on an annual basis.

### **Volunteerism**

- IWEA has no paid staff until 2010 when it added a part time Executive Manager. All activities are the work of volunteers. The Association currently has 22 active committees and 854 members.