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On The Cover

Water presents beauty in many ways. Here, a water arc cascades against a beautiful spring sky.
(Image courtesy of AWWA Water Images on Tap.)
Officers/Trustees of Alabama-Mississippi Section of American Water Works Associations

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Mississippi State Dept. of Health - Jackson, MS

Ken McCool ................................................. Section Manager
Cleveland, MS

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Audit ............................................................. Tom Walters

AWWA National Contact .................................... Susan Franceschi

Education ....................................................... Hunter Arnold

Program ........................................................ Sheila Williams

Entertainment ............................................... Bill Wall

Exhibit ........................................................ Danny Hutcherson

Fuller Award ..................................................

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60th Annual Alabama-Mississippi Section AWWA Conference

October 7th - 9th, 2007

Conference/Golf Registration forms coming soon to PIPELINE.
PROGRAM PRESENTATIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

ALABAMA/MISSISSIPPI SECTION
AMERICAN WATERWORKS ASSOCIATION
60TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE
TAP INTO THE FUTURE

The AL/MS Section of the American Waterworks Association is in the process of preparing next year’s program and would like your suggestions and/or technical papers for the 60th Annual Conference to be held at the

The Grand Casino in Tunica, Mississippi, October 8-10, 2007.

Any topic of interest relevant to the drinking water industry is appropriate. Possible related topics for the conference this year include distribution maintenance, membrane technology, disinfection by-products control, color removal, water system security, rules and regulations, and funding sources. Please send suggestions and/or presentation topics with abstracts to:

Sheila Williams
570 East Woodrow Wilson
Jackson, MS 39215
601-576-7518
sheilat.williams@msdh.state.ms.us

Presentation slots are 35 minutes in length (PowerPoint format) with 5-10 minutes of discussion on the submitted subject. Presentation abstracts should include the title and a detailed description of what the presentation will discuss.

For questions and/or additional information you can contact: Sheila Williams at 601-576-7518 / sheilat.williams@msdh.state.ms.us

Deadline for submitting abstracts is July 1, 2007
Have you noticed how fast time passes. It seems like the year just started, but it’s already March and spring is just around the corner. I just realized that we have less than six months till the annual AL/MS conference. Your planning committee has been working, since last October, on the 2007 Conference at the Tunica Grand. Many conference activities have been set, but there is still much to do. So planning committee, don’t let time get away from you. We need most details finalized by our May meeting.

In my last newsletter, I challenged each section member to be active in the section activities. Have you been involved in your section? Are you serving on a committee? Are you taking advantage of the services that AWWA provides to its members? Are you recruiting new members? It is not too late to get involved. The highlight of our section activities, has always been, and will always be, our fall conference. Many of you may not know that several AWWA national officers, both past and present, have bragged on how much they have enjoyed attending our conference. That should make us very proud. We must be doing something right. It takes a lot of blood, sweat, and tears to provide a quality conference, year after year. As each year passes, we are challenged to maintain a higher level of performance. Like most successful organizations, there are the faithful that you can always count on to get the work done. Believe me, I am thankful to those who are helping this year.

Don’t forget our section has more to offer than our annual fall conference. Our education committee is planning workshops that I know will be very beneficial and informative. We are investigating several other avenues for education and training in the waterworks field. Support your section, by attending these workshops. Oh yea, these trainings are free to section members. On the subject of membership, have you introduced a fellow colleague to AWWA. Sometimes all it takes is short visit or phone call. Remember, the ALMS section, needs your involvement. Please take time to get involved. Don’t let time get away from you.
Peggy and I represented the Alabama- Mississippi Section at the Winter Board Meeting in Honolulu in January. Although there were many items on the agenda; however, there were two key events: election of officers and the discussion of AWWA-WEF.

The following is a listing of those elected to office for AWWA.

**President-Elect**
Mike Leonard, Roswell, Georgia

**Vice-Presidents**
Don Degen, City of Kelowna, British Columbia
Jerry Stevens, Waterloo Water, Iowa

**Director-at-Large**
Pam Marchand, Providence Water Supply Board, Rhode Island

One of the main topics of discussion was the possibility of an AWWA-WEF merger. There has been, and there was, much discussion on this topic. While the discussion on a possible merger of AWWA-WEF will no doubt continue for years; here are a few items to describe the nature and the content of our discussions with WEF:

- For many years AWWA and WEF have engaged in periodic talks about working more closely together. These discussions have ranged from holding joint specialty and annual conferences to merging the two organizations with one provision – it must benefit all those working in the water and wastewater professions.
- In early 2006, the two organizations discussed developing a “big picture/future vision” for the water industry that would attract leaders from the water and wastewater communities to become part of the efforts of both organizations.
- By August, 2006, the officers of WEF indicated that its member associations were expressing the desire for AWWA and WEF to resolve conflicts and work more closely together. The WEF officers approached AWWA indicating a merged organization would increase influence with Congress, EPA, and the United Nations, and would convince leaders to belong and contribute to one Association.
- The WEF Board endorsed a paper outlining a concept for One Voice for Water in North America, and indicated AWWA and WEF should be looking at the future together.
- The Executive Directors of each organization were tasked to draft a white paper outlining concepts and the need to look to the future of one water organization.
- In December 2006, the AWWA Executive Committee recommended a review of each organization’s business practices and exploration of working more closely together in areas that would benefit the members of both organizations.
- Early in January 2007, the officers of both organizations met to discuss areas of common interest and possible future partnerships. The AWWA officers presented a proposal to manage some of WEF’s business functions in order to accomplish an immediate benefit. The WEF officers continued to support and stress a consolidation into one organization rather than discussion of individual business functions.
- On January 19, 2007, the WEF Board of Trustees passed the following resolution: “Move that the Board of Trustees of the Water Environment Federation commit to continuing discussions with the American Water works Association to explore the benefits and opportunities of developing a long term goal of creating a single water association to represent the interests of integrated water management in North America.”
- At our winter 2007 Board meeting, we agreed to have an ongoing dialogue with WEF that would be beneficial in achieving a more coordinated voice for the water community in the legislative/regulatory arena. As an immediate first step, a motion regarding consolidating advocacy efforts was approved by the AWWA Board.
- On February 8, a letter was sent to WEF regarding the action taken by the AWWA Board, and stating that AWWA would like an ongoing dialogue with WEF regarding achieving a more coordinated voice for the water community in the legislative/regulatory arena.

That is a summary of the discussion by Board during the meeting, prior to the meeting, and after the meeting. The Board’s goal is to keep you abreast with the status.

Peggy and I are honored to have served the Alabama- Mississippi Section for the past three years. We are confidant that Danny and Joanie Hutcherson, the incoming Director and spouse, will be excellent representatives of our section.
Ken is back working on the Coast with the Mississippi Emergency Management Agency and was unable to get his report in this issue. He asked that everyone plan on attending the AL/MS Conference at the Grand Casino Resort in Tunica, MS, October 7-9, 2007.

Water Organizations Begin Work on Farm Bill

Organizations representing drinking water and wastewater interests have begun meeting in Washington to look for opportunities to enhance conservation and source water protection features in the omnibus Farm Bill, which is up for reauthorization in this session of Congress.

Congressional leaders have said they want to have a Farm Bill passed by September, which means the water community will have to act quickly on its interests. Our interests include increasing funding for conservation programs that protect sources of drinking water and allowing water utilities access to funds to lead local source water protection projects, if they wish.

A major challenge will be making sure that any enhanced source water protection programs do not appear to be new drinking water programs. The House and Senate agriculture committees will be very careful not to trigger jurisdiction by other committees, including those that oversee drinking water. If additional congressional committees claim jurisdiction, the programs at issue would be quickly dropped from the bill.

Discussions Continue on Possible Revisions to Total Coliform Rule

Representatives from drinking water stakeholder organizations and from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) met today to discuss revisions to the Total Coliform Rule (TCR) and a potential distribution system rule. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss whether a committee under the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) should be organized, and if so, what TCR/distribution issues it should focus on.
In leading off the meeting, Cynthia Dougherty, head of EPA’s Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water, indicated that she is “leaning towards” a FACA, but that the agency is committed to revising the TCR through the six year review process whether or not there is a FACA.

Most participants agreed that there were numerous aspects of the TCR that deserve evaluation and potential revision. These include sample frequency, use of total coliform as an indicator, action levels or corrective action requirements as an alternative to an MCL violation, public notice, and sanitary survey requirements. While significant change to the rule is possible, EPA signaled its reluctance to eliminate total coliform as an indicator or to make changes that would interfere with implementation of the recently finalized Ground Water Rule.

There appeared to be a common concern among stakeholders that a great deal of additional knowledge was needed before there could be a sound basis for developing a distribution system rule. However, some believe that initial steps toward a federal cross-connection control and backflow prevention requirement could be justified based on current understandings and data. Research, data collection, and utility education and training programs are also likely to be discussed if an advisory committee is convened.

We expect an EPA decision on whether or not to form a FACA within a month. EPA will generally define the scope of the FACA and the group itself will devote its first meeting or two to building more detailed consensus on the scope and on questions that need to be answered to support a decision. If a FACA is formed, it is not likely to meet until early summer, and is expected to run for 12-18 months.

Today’s meeting included representatives from AWWA, the Association of Metropolitan Water Agencies, National Association of Water Companies, National Rural Water Association, the Association of State Drinking Water Administrators, Clean Water Action, Natural Resources Defense Council, and of course, EPA. We made the point that the public health and medical communities also need to be involved.
Of course, the best thing we build is confidence.

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“As a society, we make choices every day and one of them is that we choose to eat,” says Freddie Lamm, an irrigation specialist at Kansas State University’s Northwest Research Center. “That’s obviously a wise choice, but it does have impact on the water resources of the world. The size of that impact is often surprising.”

Supper, continue on page 14
Share the Source

Recruit and win a trip with Water For People.

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Find out more.
Visit www.awwa.org/membership/share

All 2006 applications for new members must be received with payment by December 22, 2006. Applications must be endorsed with the referring member’s name and/or membership number to qualify. Participants must be current members of AWWA. AWWA staff is not eligible to win.

See www.awwa.org/membership/share for details!
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Planning continues for the Ground Water Rule and Stage 2 Rule training classes. As always, the classes will be free to all AWWA members with a small charge to non-members. EPA and State Regulatory personnel will be on hand to update those in attendance with the latest information relative to the new rules. A brochure with complete details will be sent out when plans are finalized. In the meantime if you have questions or would like to register, please contact Ken McCool (662-719-7756 or almsawwa@awwsb.org); William McClimans (334-271-7985 or WDM@adem.state.al.us); or Hunter Arnold (800-661-3733 or Hunter.Arnold@waggonereng.com).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Approx. Time</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Person</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10:15 – 10:30 AM</td>
<td>Welcome/Introduction</td>
<td>15 mins.</td>
<td>AL/MS Section Representatives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:30 – 11:30 AM</td>
<td>Ground Water Rule</td>
<td>60 mins.</td>
<td>EPA Representative Dale Froneberger.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:30 – 11:45 AM</td>
<td>GWR Questions</td>
<td>15 mins.</td>
<td>EPA/State Representatives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:45 – 12:30 PM</td>
<td>Lunch Provided</td>
<td>45 mins.</td>
<td>AL/MS Section AWWA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:30 – 01:00 PM</td>
<td>Stage 2</td>
<td>60 mins.</td>
<td>EPA Representative Amy Newbold.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>01:00 – 01:30 PM</td>
<td>State Issues</td>
<td>30 mins.</td>
<td>AL/MS State Representatives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>01:30 – 01:45 PM</td>
<td>Questions</td>
<td>15 mins.</td>
<td>EPA/State Representatives</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Lamm uses a typical meal, shown at right, to illustrate the amount of water used in food production and processing. “It’s important to note that this water is used, not necessarily lost,” Lamm says. “A dinner including an 8-ounce steak, green beans, potatoes, salad, ice cream, a roll, and a glass of milk uses 2,998 gallons of water to produce.

“These water requirements may seem surprisingly high, but they reflect the reality that we are very dependent on water resources,” Lamm adds. “Thankfully, nearly all the water used in agriculture is eventually recycled back to the earth.”

Highlighting the meal is the steak, with its 2,600-gallon water requirement. That figure reflects all the water that’s used from both rainfall and irrigation.

“Much of this high water input comes from irrigated corn,” Lamm says. “Corn uses a lot of water, but it can produce a pound of grain from only 50 gallons of water. Few other grain crops have that level of water-use efficiency.”

A controversy. The amount of water needed to produce a pound of beef is hotly debated and varies widely with production practices. Information from the National Cattlemen’s Beef Association (NCBA), drawn from a 1999 study by the Council for Agricultural Science and Technology, puts the figure at 435 gallons per pound. Based on that figure, a 1,000-pound steer yielding 450 pounds of boneless beef requires 195,750 gallons of water to produce.

Oltjen’s work included only “developed water,” water that could have been put to other uses. “We didn’t include any water from rainfall that fell on pastures or crops that were later consumed. In areas of the country where beef is raised totally on irrigated feedstuffs, the figure would be higher. Likewise, it would be lower under total dryland conditions,” he says.

In contrast, some environmental scientists report the water demands of beef production to be higher. Cornell University ecology professor David Pimentel sets the amount at 5,400 gallons per pound.

“This accounts for all of the water used to grow the grain and other feed that cattle eat, including the rainfall,” says Pimentel.

The other entrees on Lamm’s plate also reflect the huge role water plays in food production. An 8-ounce glass of milk uses 65 gallons of water.

There’s no fruit on the plate, but a 5-ounce glass of orange juice would require 14 gallons of water. That’s what it takes to grow one medium-sized orange, according to the California Farm Bureau. A serving of cantaloupe would require 40 gallons of water, while producing a single melon takes 160 gallons.

Thirsty crops. The relationship that potatoes, wheat, vegetables, and other crops have with water is truly amazing. Potatoes require 18 inches of water during a growing season. One inch of water equals 27,154 gallons per acre, so the crop uses about 489,000 gallons per acre throughout the season.

Wheat, noted as a dryland crop, also sports a powerful thirst. During its grain-filling period, the crop uses 8,000 gallons of water per acre every day.

However, only about 1% of the water used by crops is consumed by photosynthesis. All
the rest is lost to the atmosphere through transpiration, a process that provides two-thirds of the water destined to fall somewhere as precipitation. The remaining share of rainfall comes from evaporation.

“Transpiration occurs when the stomata on plant leaves open to exchange carbon dioxide and oxygen needed for photosynthesis,” Lamm says. “When those cells open, the water evaporates, a process which also helps to cool the plant. Corn using 24 inches of water annually transpires more than 600,000 gallons of water per acre.”

Some perspective. Water is essential for life—humans must consume 2 1/2 quarts per day to maintain health. However, the necessities of modern society require much more. The average U.S. citizen uses 120 gallons per day for domestic chores. These direct uses total 107,000 gallons per year for an average household. Add the water used indirectly for agricultural and industrial uses and average daily consumption per person soars to 1,700 gallons.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency statistics below detail some of these demands. Manufacturing a car consumes 39,000 gallons of water. Making the tires to put on it takes another 2,080 gallons.

"The competition for use of this water is becoming more intense," says Lamm. "That’s why it’s important that agriculture use it efficiently, and that we inform the rest of society about the bounty agriculture produces from the water it uses."

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Gallons of Water Used</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Produce one ear of corn</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grow wheat for one loaf of bread</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Refine one pound of sugar</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Take a shower</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manufacture one pound of steel</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manufacture one pound of plastic</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manufacture one tire</td>
<td>520</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brew a barrel of beer</td>
<td>1,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Refine a barrel of oil</td>
<td>1,851</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manufacture a car</td>
<td>39,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supply an average household for one year</td>
<td>107,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

143 gallons  | 65 gallons  | 2,600 gallons  | 21 gallons  | 92 gallons  | 15 gallons  | 57 gallons  | 5 gallons  | 153x43 to 567x463 |
The American Water Works Association continues to be the leader in our industry as a voice for utilities and their industry partners. AWWA provides leadership in education, in industry standards, and also as an advocate on the legislative front.

The Alabama-Mississippi Section is a proud part of AWWA and again has distinguished itself as one of the strongest sections of the national organization. Please help us continue all of our fine work and remain among the leaders in the water industry. Your consideration and support in becoming a section sponsor will help assure our goal. The levels of sponsorship are shown below:

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Send resume, salary history, and three references that we may contact to:

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