Biloxi in October:
Conference Information

Water Efficiency:
CEU Seminars Scheduled

Pictured is the historic Biloxi Lighthouse. Photo courtesy Mississippi Gulf Coast CVB.
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2009 Officers/Trustees of the Alabama-Mississippi Section of the American Water Works Association

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Past Chair ................................................Tom Walters
Vice-Chair..................................................Sam McElroy
Director ..................................................Danny Hutcherson
Secretary / Treasurer ............................Keith Lowery
Trustee-At-Large Alabama ....................Jim Watterson
Trustee-At-Large Mississippi ................Hunter Arnold
Section Manager .................................Ken McCool

2009 Committee Members

Program Chair .......................................Harry Gong
Program - Assistant to Chair ....................Chris Griffin
Entertainment ..........................................Bill Wall
Exhibits ..................................................Sam Agnew
Exhibits - Assistant to Chair ....................Shannon Bailey
MAC - Chair ............................................David Stejskal
MAC - Assistant to Chair ..........................Bill Carter
Registration ..........................................Amy McLeod
Registration - Assistant to Chair ..............Carson Smith
Education - AL Co-Chair ...........................Kyle Massey
Education - MS Co-Chair ..........................Sheila Williams
Pipeline Editor .......................................Deb Hudson
Time & Place - Chair ...............................Lee Jones
Time & Place - Assistant to Chair ..............Hunter Arnold
Resolutions .............................................Blake Jeffcoat
Governmental Affairs - Co-Chair AL ...........Joel Connally
Governmental Affairs - Co-Chair MS ..........Bobby Redding
Audit .....................................................Sam McElroy
Young Professionals - Co-Chair AL ..........Hercy Golson
Young Professionals - Co-Chair MS ..........Benjamin Benvenuti
Safety Chair ............................................Tim Rogers
Water For People - Chair ......................Hugh Smith
Water For People - Assistant to Chair .........John M. Lyons
Nominations ..........................................Tom Walters
Memorial Scholarship ...........................Jim Miller
Fuller Award ..........................................Bob Giglio
Membership ..........................................Ken McCool
AWWA National Contact .......................Christopher McGinnis
Hotel Contact .........................................Mike Davis
At the February 8-9 planning meeting, your planning committee chairs began the process of shaping the activities for the coming year. Discussions included the obvious up and coming Annual Conference, but also many of the aspects of the Section. We made a point of reviewing the various responsibilities that the committee chairs possess. This was to ensure that the goal of both the Section and the Association stayed in focus.

One of the main discussions involved education. As in the past, my hope is that the educational opportunities will give our members what they may not be getting in other venues. With your input, the technical sessions will be as new and innovative as you would like them to be. One suggested topic that Kyle Massey of Alabama mentioned was a day training covering energy efficiency in cooperation with the TVA. Kyle and Sheila Williams in Mississippi have begun arranging the “free-to-member” seminars that we will be advertising soon. As always, we are open to new ideas so please submit your educational requests and ideas to Sheila and Kyle. Their contact information is available at our website at www.almsawwa.org.

When we began our discussion on conference activities, ideas began to flow. First up and a key conference area was the technical program. Harry Gong, Jr., Program Chair, has been designing technical sessions around the aspects of planning and construction which fits perfectly considering the new administration’s push to deal with the country’s aging infrastructure. Sam Agnew, Exhibits Chair, proposed a vendor forum and/or showcase in the exhibit hall. Young Professionals Co-Chairs, Hercy Golson of Alabama and Ben Benvenutti of Mississippi, brought forth ideas from the Kentucky/Tennessee Section YPs that will encourage and promote section involvement of the younger set. I, fortunately or unfortunately, depending on your point of view, will be an “older professional” by the time of annual conference. I think I will be able to cope with my transition from young to old with dignity.

Lori and I recently sat down with the staff of the Beau Rivage in Biloxi to iron out some of the details in preparation for the conference. Jenifer Doby and Mike Davis of the Beau Rivage are working diligently to meet our needs and we appreciate their help.

Finally, regarding our current economic situation, times are tough! Many water systems, consultants, and vendors are having to let dedicated employees go. I hope that we can keep that to a minimum, if possible. If you have job openings that need to be filled, try to get the word out to our members. On a positive note, the new administration has made the well being of the public infrastructure one of its top priorities. Increased financial support through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act to the many funding agencies will benefit both the Section and the water systems that serve our citizens. It should give us job growth and much needed new or rehabilitated water supply infrastructure. The Section Manager’s Report by Ken will provide some specifics about what it will mean to our states.

It’s tough out there for a water industry professional, but this is only a big bump in the road that will smooth out over time. Keep your chin up. The Section is here to provide any help we can.

Bill Moody
Chairman, AL/MS Section of AWWA
William.Moody@msdh.state.ms.us
I hope everyone made it through the winter months OK. We can always depend on Mother Nature to give us challenges to deal with. Areas of our section were recently dealt blows by tornadoes passing through. My thoughts and prayers were and are with those who suffered loss. In times of emergency it’s imperative to have a plan to allow fast and effective action. AWWA along with other organizations and agencies have spent much time studying ways to handle problems associated with disaster planning. This is just one of the many benefits of membership with AWWA. AWWA is the best resource for information concerning water.

This year’s AWWA Annual Conference and Exposition will be held June 14-18 in San Diego, CA. This conference will attract expertise from around the world. It is a fantastic opportunity to learn more about providing safe drinking water. Visit http://www.awwa.org/ace09 to get more information. If you are unable to attend this year’s ACE, start planning for next year. The 2010 ACE will be June 20-24 in Chicago, IL.

Five of your trustees attended the annual Regional Meeting of Section Officers in Charleston, SC. This meeting is held annually in each of 5 regions. The AL/MS section moved from the south central region to the southeast region last year. This meeting is an opportunity to have one-on-one discussions with other section officers in our area. Staff from AWWA headquarters in Denver facilitated the meeting. Of all the national organization meetings I have attended in the past, this is one of the best. Our trustees will be sharing ideas to improve our section and shared our best with others.

And don’t forget: our AL/MS Section conference in October at the Beau Rivage in Biloxi. I hope to see you at a meeting real soon.

Danny Hutcherson
Director, AL/MS Section of AWWA
The Year of Stimuli

The new American Economic Recovery Reinvestment Act and its impact on the water industry has gotten engineers, consultants, boards, and utility managers alike scrambling in an attempt to get a piece of the pie. We’ve all known for years we were behind in the upkeep of our vital infrastructure, but if we don’t catch up on funding right now, is that it? Is the universe fiscally out of funding capability in the next few years?

“While our nation’s highways and bridges are grabbing the headlines, what is not being adequately addressed in the stimulus package is the more than $1 Trillion that is needed immediately to ensure the continued delivery of clean drinking water to our citizens and the vital treatment of wastewater.” said Richard Meeusun, co-chair of The Water Council, a trade group of Milwaukee-civic leaders seeking to bolster their region’s water technology industries. (from the Milwaukee, Wisconsin Journal-Sentinel ONLINE 4 Feb 2009)

The following is reprinted from AWWA’s “Streamlines”:

“The bill (HR1) contains $2 billion in funding for drinking water infrastructure. A few hours after the House approved the measure (246–183) Feb. 13, the Senate voted its approval (60–38). Congressional leaders had a goal of getting the final bill to him by Presidents’ Day, Feb. 16.

Because legislators were determined not to create new federal bureaucracies with the bill, the $2 billion will be distributed via the State Revolving Loan Fund (SRF) program. The money will be divided among the 50 states according to the existing SRF allocation formula. While details of how to apply for funding have yet to be announced, officials at the US Environmental Protection Agency urge interested utilities to immediately contact their own state SRF officials for information about applying for funds. A roster (PDF) of those officials is available on the Government Affairs Web page.

The total cost of the stimulus bill, also known as the American Economic Recovery and Reinvestment Act, is about $787 billion. Congress also provided $4 billion for wastewater utilities and $1.4 billion for rural drinking water, wastewater and waste disposal projects.

$334,200,000,000 in Two-Year ‘Old’ Money!

Our fellow members who recently attended the AWWA annually-sponsored Water Matters Fly-in in Washington, D.C. to appeal to our respective congressmen & women on this and other industry-related subjects are to be commended. I am certain they, as well as our congresspersons find the times following the financial debacles of the past few months to be harrowing, or to say the least, spooky.

Continued on next page
Yep, it’s true, or at least we’ve been told so. We are experiencing initial ramifications created by the worst economic disaster in over seventy years (few media have gone quite so far as to equate that to the 1930’s, much less that the era had another label)! Real or imagined, the comparison is … SCARY!

Mentioning labels, I can recall one called the ‘New Deal’ and yes, Federal Dollars (Gold, maybe Silver Standard, I think) were used to create much needed public works projects including hydro-electric dams. In fact, quite a bit of water & sewer pipe were laid in those days, mostly by shovel! There was no Treasury printing press spitting out an endless stream of dollars to ‘quick-fix’ the problem; in fact, the administration and congress of the late twenties even thought disaster was just that – bad! Folks and their state & local governments had to pull out of it themselves, because the Federal Government at the time felt it was not their role to handle local or regional disaster problems such as the Great Flood of ‘27. A lot of bad banking and investing habits of the day (sound familiar?) combined with that devastating natural disaster of ’27 are credited with the Great Crash of October, 1929. The new Deal helped, and the very people needing help the most were put to work. World War II kicked it up a notch to boost national pride. Those who could not enlist worked the factories. The people who could join up fought the bad guys. Afterwards we used a great portion of our newfound wealth to ‘bailout’ the rest of the world following the devastating aftermath of WWII and the ensuing Cold War. We also managed to maintain a reasonable value internationally in the American Dollar.

My point? The Federal government following the “Great Depression” (yep, I said it) finally stepped in mainly to preserve the Country by getting people back to work … even if it took money out of the treasury to do it. It was our first successful attempt since the
1870’s at finding a way to crawl out of the economic chaos created by the greed of bad businessmen. Following many hard years, the effort finally ‘jump-started’ the citizenry, giving them pride, hope and motivation enabling them to pull themselves out of their dismal existence. Roosevelt’s speech stating “...all we have to fear is fear itself...” had to do with ignoring rumors, bleak forecasts by the press & others, and yes, the fear of investing monetarily into stocks, municipal bonds, utilities and other modems necessary to make our capitalistic nation move.

With the press churning out bleak forecasts in real-time and even Honda requesting folks ‘voluntarily payoff’ their auto loans, it is indeed fearful. Many, many weeks ago, when the ‘bailout’ issue was proposed, I thought it odd. At the same time, some countries do the obvious to prop up sanity – they nationalize banks and other similar institutions such as mortgage companies. Naturally we don’t do that in this country and I would never recommend it. But – our government gives the banking public continued faith in their banks. The FDIC pays off those depositors within the limits of insurability following a bank failure; but following such a failure, the CEO and other executives of that firm should join the ranks of the unemployed.

The average family with a combined income of $150,000 who barely comes out after paying bills, mortgage, medical expenses, child-related expenses & taxes (IRAs & retirement don’t count if you don’t know it’ll be there) spend nearly $.29 per second to make ends meet. Sorry, my Excel 2003 version’s help key hasn’t given me a hint how to open a field for so many zeroes as held by the $1 Trillion Mr. Meeusun suggested our industry is in immediate need of.

The Stimulus Bill promises the water works systems of America $20 Billion Dollars and, yes it is needed. We are in line every year at the annual AWWA Fly-In to bring attention to our failing infrastructure, the need for increased allocations for the State Revolving Loan Fund for drinking water as well as offering standards to reduce utility costs resulting from unfunded mandates.

In a way Katrina was our Great Flood of 1927, preceded by the attacks of 9/11. Lax of regulatory control over banking, mortgage and insurance companies put the nail in the current coffin way before it hit the press months ago. I am for capitalism but feel regulation reform is far too late in occurring given the nation’s (now World’s) current dilemma. How do you regulate greed and mismanagement in our democracy? It’s a thin gray line, but as no litmus test is out there to mark a threshold, I guess we’ll just have to settle for an economic depression every 6 or 7 decades!

Monitor your rates, economize operations where you can, and give the public what they deserve – safe drinking water, fire protection, industrial development attraction and all the many uses and benefits our industry offers America!

Oh. Yes, just like everyone else, I’m quite upset! My own proprietorship lost money last year & I wasn’t sent a dime from Uncle Sam... so how am I supposed to expect myself to go at it another year without giving myself a retention bonus? !!!
Conference Registration

ALABAMA/MISSISSIPPI SECTION
AMERICAN WATER WORKS ASSOCIATION
2009 ANNUAL CONFERENCE
OCTOBER 4-6, 2009 – Beau Rivage Resort and Casino
Biloxi, Mississippi

REGISTRATION FORM

Please complete and return to AL/MS AWWA, c/o Amy McLeod, 340 Arbor Drive, Apt. 2107, Ridgeland, MS 39157
Make Check Payable To: “AL/MS Section AWWA”

Name: ___________________________________________________ Name/Nickname for Badge: ____________________________

Spouse’s Name: ________________________________________ Name/Nickname for Badge: ____________________________

Firm/Municipality/Organization: ___________________________ Address: _____________________________________________

City: ___________________ State: __________ Zip: ________ Phone: __________________________

Date: ___________________ AWWA Membership Number: __________ E-mail Address: _________________________________

Is this your first time attending the Alabama-Mississippi Section AWWA conference? ___________ Spouse’s? __________
Are you a Young Professional (age 35 and younger)? __________

*************************************************************************************************************************************************

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Conference Item</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Before Sept. 2, 2009</th>
<th>After Sept. 2, 2009</th>
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<td>Golf Tournament Hole Sponsorship (Complete Golf form as well)</td>
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<td>$750.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Conference Sponsorship Donation</td>
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Total Amount Enclosed

Conference registration cancellations after September 19, 2009 are not refundable, but substitutions are accepted.

*************************************************************************************************************************************************

If paying by credit card, please fill out the following Information: Master Card Visa

Credit Card Number: ___________________________ Expiration Date: __________

Signature: ____________________________________________________________________

If you have any questions, please contact Amy McLeod at 601-576-7518, 601-576-7974 (Fax), Amy_McLeod@msstate.edu. Hotel Reservations must be made directly with the Beau Rivage Resort & Casino at 888-567-6667 and use Group Code 0910AMLRIC or to book your room online go to https://reservations.mgmmirage.com/bookingengine.aspx?host=offer&pid=180&code=AMWATER. Room Rate is $129.00 for Standard Guest Accommodations. Hotel reservations must be made by September 2, 2009 and cancellations must be made 48 hours prior to arrival date.
Exhibitor Information

2009 AL/MS AWWA Conference
Exhibitor Registration Information

Exhibitors Registration includes one 10 ft. x 10 ft. booth and one conference registration

Exhibitor Registration is easy using 123 Sign Up. Just log onto https://www.123signup.com/register?id or follow the conference registration links from the ALMS AWWA website (almsawwa.org) to the registration page. Exhibitor registration is the last section of conference registration descriptions.

Additional exhibit workers may also register on the website as member or non-member attendees without booking an additional booth.

Upon confirmation of your registration Exhibit Chairman, Sam Agnew will contact you to assign a booth. An updated layout diagram with occupancy information is available on the AL/MS AWWA website.

EARLY EXHIBIT REGISTRANTS RECEIVE A DISCOUNT!!!

Register Prior to September 2, 2009 $750.00
Register September 3, 2009 - October 8, 2009 $800.00

Exhibitors Registration includes a 10 x 10 booth and one conference registration
Call for Papers

CALL FOR PRESENTATIONS AND PRODUCT DEMONSTRATIONS
AL-MS SECTION AWWA 2009 CONFERENCE

Beau Rivage Resort & Casino at the Convention Center
BILOXI, MISSISSIPPI
October 4 – 6, 2009

The AL/MS Section of the American Water Works Association is in the process of preparing this year’s technical program. The 2009 Program will include technical presentations and hands-on product displays and any topic of interest relevant to the drinking water industry is appropriate. Space will be available for hands-on product displays and demonstrations in the Exhibit Hall. Presentations and product displays should be approximately 35 minutes in length followed by 5-10 minutes of discussion on the topic. Presentation abstracts should include the title and a detailed description of the topic. The primary themes that the Conference will focus on are Planning and Construction, The general categories for presentations are Project Planning, Financial Planning, Emergency Planning, Water System Security and Safety, Water Well Construction, Distribution Construction, Surface Water Construction, Operations/Management, and Emerging/New Technologies.

Presentations and product displays with the greatest potential interest will be selected. Criteria for selection of a presentation include:

- Originality
- Significance of Work
- Technical Content
- Relevance to Drinking Water
- Innovative
- Audience Range
- Case Studies
- Real Life Experience

SUBMISSION PROCESS TIME LINE

June 15, 2009
Submit Abstracts to Program Chair.

July 15, 2009
Topics Will Be Selected and Presenters Will Be Notified.

September 1, 2009
Submit Presentations to Program Chair in Digital Format.

Please contact Harry Gong - Program Chair, or Chris Griffin - Assistant to Chair, with questions or for submission of abstracts at:

Harry Gong, P.E.
MSDH-Water Supply
P.O. Box 1700
Jackson, MS 39215
Tel. (601) 576-7518
Fax (601) 576-7974
Harry.Gong@msdh.state.ms.us

Chris Griffin, P.E.
CH2M HILL
4121 Carmichael Road, Suite 400
Montgomery, AL 36106
Tel. [334] 215-9025
Fax [334] 273-7517
Chris.Griffin@ch2m.com
Alabama-Mississippi Section AWWA

WATER FOR PEOPLE

Golf Tournament
Sunday, October 4, 2009
11:00 Shotgun Start

The Oaks at Pass Christian
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stars in their 2008-2009 “Best
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4-Person Team Scramble Event

O I’d like to sponsor a hole @ $200

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Address __________________
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Phone ____________________

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includes greens fee, cart, range balls, lunch,
awards and prizes)

Player ____________________
HDCP _________________
Player ____________________
HDCP _________________
Player ____________________
HDCP _________________

ALL PROCEEDS GO TO
“WATER FOR PEOPLE”

All payments for the Water For People Golf Tournament shall be made through the conference registration website (conference registration not required): https://www.123signup.com/calendar?Org=AWWA.

Please complete and return this form to Hugh Smith at 1462 Marion Russell Road Meridian, MS 39301. The form can also be faxed to 601-484-6842 (attention Hugh), or scanned and e-mailed to hughsmith@meridianms.org. For more information, contact Hugh Smith at 601-484-6835 or John Lyons at 256-606-5956.
As the future business leaders of tomorrow and the AL/MS Section of AWWA, the Young Professionals are very optimistic about what the plans we are bringing to our organization this year. It is Benjamin and mine’s goal as the Section’s YP co-chairs to not only encourage membership of young professionals in the workforce, but to encourage an active membership status within the AWWA organization as well. At times we fail to realize how big of a positive impact a young professional can have on accomplishing the section’s mission and future goals.

According to the U.S. Department of Labor, the labor force is projected to grow more slowly than in the past. This slowdown in the growth of the labor force is expected, in part, because of the aging and retiring of baby boomers. As a result, this trend will produce a lot of vacancies in the labor force. When this happens, will our aspiring young professionals be well-equipped to handle the challenges that are ahead? Therefore, it is essential that young professionals, not only in the water industry but abroad, be encouraged to attend the annual conferences in order to gain helpful knowledge for the future. This transition is not only critical for the growth of the section, but for the waterworks industry as well.

Along with looking forward to defending our title in the 4th Annual Volleyball Match against the OPs (Older Professionals), we are planning our 1st Annual YP Scavenger Hunt and Social at this year’s annual conference in Biloxi, Mississippi. The objective of these two functions is to encourage bridging the gap and opening lines of communication between YPs and older members in the section. These are ideas that were gathered during the Kentucky/Tennessee Section Conference in Knoxville, TN, which Carson Smith and Amy McLeod so proudly attended in order to gather new, fresh ideas for the YP organization. If you have any ideas or suggestions that would aid in our future success as YPs, please feel free to contact your YP co-chair and let us know.

Hercy Golson
YP Co-Chair
Alabama

Benjamin Benvenutti
YP Co-Chair
Mississippi

The annual volleyball match between Young Professionals and “experienced” members is a favorite at the annual conference.

“Hey, did you hear about the YP Scavenger Hunt at October’s conference?”

“Yup, you would have to be a real quack to pass that fun up!”
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www.mh-valve.com
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EDUCATIONAL SEMINARS ON WATER EFFICIENCY

Tuesday, May 5, 2009
TVA – Muscle Shoals, Alabama
100 Reservation Road, 35661
(2 story building behind TVA Credit Union)

Wednesday, May 6, 2009
Huntsville Utilities – Huntsville, AL
4203 Triana Boulevard, 35804
Triana Warehouse – Water Training Room

Registration begins at 7:30 am
Each seminar begins at 8:15 am and ends at 2:00 pm
CEU’S/PDH’S will be provided
Admission is free for Section Members; $50 For Non-Members
Lunch will be provided

Thursday, July 23, 2009
ADECA – Montgomery, AL
401 Adams Avenue, 36104
RSA Commerce Center, 7th Floor

Focusing on water efficiency, this seminar provides a unique opportunity for individuals in the water industry to gain a broad spectrum of ideas for implementing more efficient uses of their resources. Presentation topics include: power efficiency, EPA’s WaterSense program, water loss management program, and water reuse. Presenters scheduled for the seminar come from a broad range of areas of the water industry, including state agencies, power companies, utility companies, consulting engineers, and governmental agencies.

If you have any questions, please contact:
Kyle Massey (AWWA AL/MS Section, AL Educational Co-Chair):
(334) 206-1645 or via email at kmassey@mwwssb.com

To register, please contact Ashley Paulk, Alabama Office of Water Resources at:
Phone: (334) 242-5499 or email: water@adeca.alabama.gov
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Birmingham, AL (205) 307-2800

WE DELIVER.
Employment Announcement - Decatur Utilities

Utility Engineer – Gas, Water, Wastewater

This position requires a Bachelor’s degree in Civil, Mechanical or Environmental Engineering and two years experience with a utility system. Recent graduate or co-op experience may be considered. Scope of work includes all phases of civil engineering including, system planning, modeling and coordination, equipment specifications, metering, underground construction design and cost estimates, flow and pressure testing. Knowledge of regulatory reporting, applicable standards and codes, and general construction methods and practices are necessary. Must be willing to relocate within a 10 mile radius of main office of Decatur Utilities. Salary Range is $47,000 to $65,000.

Human Resources - Decatur Utilities
P.O. Box 2232
Decatur, AL 35602-2232
Phone: (256) 552-1405  -  Fax: (256) 552-1447
Email: resumes@decaturutilities.com
Website: www.decaturutilities.com  Click on Jobs for Application
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3.2 MG ELONGATED AERATION TANK &
TWO-0.6 MG CLARIFIER TANKS
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