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PIPELINE is a publication of the Alabama/Mississippi Section of the American Water Works Association. PIPELINE is mailed to all members of the Section. In an effort to keep all community water system officials informed, the AWWA trustees voted to provide a complimentary copy to all community water systems within both states. This will help keep water systems current on events affecting the water supply industry and aware of products and services through the AWWA. Current circulation is over 2,800. Articles and photographs are encouraged and appreciated. All submissions, comments, or other matters concerning this publication should be directed to:

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CHAIRMAN’S REPORT

My objectives for the year ahead

Let me start by saying thank you to Jim and Suzie Watterson and their planning committee for an unforgettable conference. The technical sessions were interesting and informative. I received a lot of positive feedback regarding the sessions offered, especially those in the ‘Leadership and Management Track.’ The social programs were exciting and engaging. You cannot get much more exciting or engaging than having a full police escort while marching behind ‘The Excelsior Mardi Gras Band.’ The featured speakers were great: Dan Clark, Rob McElroy, and Ed Conyers. They each provided motivation and insight in an entertaining yet very pertinent manner. I would also like to thank Mr. Mark Cline, National Vice President, and his wife, Pam, for the time they spent with us.

If you have never attended one of our annual conferences or if you just have not been in a while, you are missing out on some of the best training, networking, and just plain old fun available in our area. I encourage you to make plans to attend our next annual conference: October 13-14 in Tunica, MS. I do not believe you will be disappointed. Our planning team has already begun the task of putting together a conference that I am sure you will enjoy.

I am very optimistic about the coming year and the opportunities it brings. As a section, there are some areas we can improve upon. The following is a list of Section goals for the next year:

1. Develop an online operator training program
2. Provide at least three education/training opportunities in each state with CEUs for operators
3. Revise Section website to include a social webpage for member use and networking
4. Select a ‘Plant of the Year’ and an ‘Operator of the Year’
5. Partner with colleges and/or universities to develop an operator/manager education program

These are my objectives for the coming year; however, please feel free to contact any of our Trustees or myself with any additional suggestions you may have. We want to hear from you. This is ‘our Section,’ so we are the ones who can make it better.

In closing, I want to express my gratitude to the membership and officers for electing me to serve as Section Chair. I believe that being selected to serve in such a manner is one of the highest honors in our industry an individual can receive. At my first AL/MS Section conference, I was impressed with the level of professionalism and dedication shown by members. I was so impressed that it compelled me to become a more active member, and I have greatly benefited from my participation. The personal and professional relationships that I have developed have proven to be invaluable. Therefore, I want to especially encourage young professionals to get more involved. I am confident the relationships you build, as you begin what promises to be a very challenging yet equally rewarding career, will prove to be invaluable to you as well.
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I want to first congratulate Jim and Suzie Watterson, and all of the many volunteers that served on the conference planning committee for the outstanding annual conference this past October in Mobile, Alabama. The success of an organization like AWWA is built on the trust and relationships that develop through attending an event like our Section’s annual conference. Thanks again to all of you who played a part in putting this together. It was both entertaining and educational. Great job.

For those of you that attended the conference, I hope you took the time to meet with Mark Cline, AWWA Vice President and Director of the South Carolina Section. Mark’s wife Pam was also in attendance. As with previous visiting AWWA Vice Presidents, I had built up our spouse program at our conference and encouraged Mark to bring his wife to enjoy the experience. Once again, the AL/MS Section upheld the lofty reputation that we have earned over the years. Mark and Pam both thoroughly enjoyed their time with us, and asked me to pass along their gratitude to the Section for the warmth and hospitality that were shown to them while attending our conference. In his report back to the Association, Mark particularly noted the positive fiscal strength of the AL/MS Section and the thriving dynamics that appear to exist with our Young Professionals.

Another event at this year’s annual conference was the election of some new members of the Section Board of Trustees. My term as Section Director will end in June 2013 at which time Jimmy Nelson will take over as Director of the AL/MS Section. Congratulations Jimmy! Jimmy has been a very active member of our Section for many years serving in a variety of capacities. I am confident that he will do an excellent job as Director. I also want to recognize two additional new members of the Board of Trustees. Chris Griffin is the incoming Secretary-Treasurer replacing Amy McLeod starting January 2013. Thanks Amy for your three years of service to our Section. In addition, Brian Shelton was elected as the incoming Trustee-at-Large from Alabama. Congratulations to Chris and Brian.

I want to close by re-iterating the message from Mark Cline at our conference regarding AWWA member value. The Association is very focused on providing value to our members, with a particular emphasis on those serving water utilities. If you have needs that you believe the Association can help with, please do not hesitate to call on your AWWA. Only through communication and outreach will we be able to strengthen and increase the awareness of the value of our membership in this great organization.

Thanks for your help and support, and thank you for your membership in AWWA.

Through communication and outreach will we be able to strengthen and increase the awareness of the value of our membership.
Laissez les bon temps rouler, Y’all?

join in on the applause for Jim, Susie and the entire planning committee on the success of the 2012 annual conference in Mobile, Alabama. Planning & implementing large meetings that offer attendees added-value for their membership does not just happen…it requires a talented team committed to the organization. By establishing successful venues for fellowship, networking, educational & developmental needs and information of events and legislation affecting our industry, our Section gives extra value to its members. Our strategic plan beckons Section leadership to develop programs beneficial to its membership, which also adds considerable bonus to regular AWWA benefits.

But what is around the corner? We are told that 2013 may bring fiscal gloom upon all facets of our society. More than a rumor, threat of the ‘cliff’ has been looming over the country (and world) for some time. The water industry is of course, faced with the same challenges we have had for several years past: ‘we still must do more with less.’ This may be an oft-repeated theme highlighted in the Section’s upcoming educational offerings and our next conference in October 2013 in Tunica, Mississippi.

Our treatment plants may have been constantly upgraded or modified to meet regulatory and/or customer demands but many ever-aging underground distribution systems are about to scream ‘Uncle’ (particularly within larger metro systems). With news of statistics showing average residential water usage (and revenue) declining, budgets affecting infrastructural maintenance may also decline. A possible result of prudent conservation by users may call for recalculations of revenue distribution perhaps not anticipated this soon following conservation measures enacted in drought-affected or otherwise limited-resource areas.

The Water Infrastructure and Innovation Act (WIFIA) proposed by AWWA two years ago and currently in the Lame Duck Session of Congress is something to watch closely. The American Water Works Association, the Association of Metropolitan Water Agencies and the Water Environment Federation all have endorsed such legislation (see joint letter to the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works at www.almssawwa.org). Utilities, particularly large ones, could potentially acquire low-interest loans exceeding amounts competitively available through State revolving loan funds if such legislation is passed and moreover, funded.

According to the 11/19/12 AWWA Washington Report, “Advancing major legislation is usually difficult during a ‘lame duck’ Congress.” However, even if WIFIA isn’t passed in the lame duck…. “we will have built momentum and educated more members of Congress when the next session convenes in January.” said Tommy Holmes, AWWA Legislative Director in Washington, D.C.; Tom Curtis of AWWA’s D.C. office added “AWWA supports a full program, not just a pilot, but if it has to start that way, we are confident the program will prove itself and grow in future years.”

This is one of several current National issues affecting our utilities and overall membership. In these trying economic times, it will behoove us all to keep abreast of issues affecting the water industry by watching for AWWA’s Washington Reports and other Utility Alerts sent to us by AWWA’s Denver and Washington offices.

The Alabama-Mississippi Section of the American Water Works Association wishes you and those closest to you the best of the holidays and a prosperous New Year.
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Thomas P. Walters, PE, receives Fuller Award

Thomas P. Walters, PE, Vice President of CH2M Hill, is the recipient of the 2013 George Warren Fuller Award from the Alabama-Mississippi Section of the American Water Works Association. The award is given annually to a member for distinguished service to the water supply field in commemoration of sound engineering skill, talent and leadership.

Mr. Walters is strongly devoted to the water profession and has displayed that devotion by serving the Section in numerous capacities, including the offices of Secretary-Treasurer from 2000 to 2003, Section Chair in 2008, and Section Director from 2010 to 2013.

The recognition was announced by AWWA Vice President and South Carolina Section Director Mark Cline during the Alabama-Mississippi Section of the American Water Works Association Annual Conference on the evening of October 16, at the Renaissance Mobile Riverview Hotel in Mobile, Alabama.

“He has taken his career in the water industry seriously and has been a staunch advocate for clean water, applying his talents loyally through one company for over three decades,” said Mark Cline during the award presentation.

Mr. Walters will also be recognized nationally at the American Water Works Association 2013 Conference in Denver, Colorado in June. Award recipients become members of the George Warren Fuller Award Society of the American Water Works Association.
Wheeler Crook receives the Young Professional of the Year Award

The AL/MS AWWA 2012 Young Professional (YP) of the Year was awarded to Wheeler Crook. Wheeler received a nomination from not only his employer Goodwin, Mills and Cawood, but also received a nomination from the general manager of the Water Works and Sewer Board of the City of Gadsden, Alabama.

AL/MS AWWA solicited nominations for YP of Year. To qualify as a YP, the nominee must be under 35 years of age or have less than 10 years of experience in the field.

For 2013, the Awards Programs will be expanding to include YP of the Year, Operator of the Year, and Plant of the Year. Please watch your email and The Pipeline for more information.

Join Us!

The 9th Annual YP Summit, Sunday, March 2013, will be held in conjunction with the Utility Management Conference, March 10-13, 2013 Renaissance Phoenix Glendale Hotel, Glendale, AZ.

Saturday, March 9th—AWWA and WEF YP Committee Meetings
Sunday, March 10th—YP Summit
YP Summit Registration Fee—$75
YP Summit and UMC Registration Fee—$150
To register, go to UMC, YP Summit is listed under Workshops

www.awwa.org/conferences/utility

Questions on YP Summit
Corianne Hart, 503.977.6678 CHart@BrwnCald.com
Dustin Dale, 218.299.5610 Dustin.Dale@ae2s.com

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2012 Conference Exhibitors

A big thank you to all our exhibitors. Without their support the Annual Conference would not be possible.
The AL-MS AWWA Young Professionals (YPs) consider the 2012 YP Program at the 2012 Conference in Mobile, AL to be very successful. Program activities included the following:

**YP Scavenger Hunt**
YPs were asked to complete a list of questions by visiting conference exhibitors located throughout the exhibit hall and the completed questionnaires were returned to YP Booth during the YP Social. Winners were awarded gifts donated by companies in attendance at the conference with the Grand Prize being an iPad 2 donated by Gibson Engineering, Inc., ETEC, Badger Meter Inc., and The Eshelman Company all contributed gifts for the Scavenger Hunt.

**YP Hosted Water Taste Test**
Water utilities from MS and AL submitted water samples from their respective communities to determine who has the Section’s best tasting water. On Monday of the conference, the samples were judged by a group of four specially selected judges who scored the water samples based on color, odor, and taste. The winner of this year’s competition for the Section’s Best Tasting Water was City of Fairhope, Alabama.

**YP Hosted Top Tank Competition**
In addition to the water taste test, the YPs sponsored a Top Tank Competition for the first time this year. As part of the competition, member utilities submitted a photograph of the utility’s/town’s top and/or most unique water tank. Conference participants voted on the submitted tank photos with the Water Works and Sanitary Sewer Board, Montgomery, Alabama taking top honors.

**The YP Hosted Dart Competition to benefit Water For People**
The competition was held in the YP Lounge Area throughout the first and second day of the conference. Participants engaged in throwing six darts after which their score was totaled and recorded. The four top scorers returned to throw in a head to head match at the YP Social on Monday evening of the Conference.

We would like to thank all YPs who participated or contributed to this year’s program. We hope next years will be even bigger and better. Also a special thanks to all those companies who contributed prizes for the YP Scavenger Hunt.
Competitions

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Sunday Reception and Dinner

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The AL/MS Section of the American Water Works Association is preparing the 2013 Annual Conference technical program. Interested participants should submit an abstract for either presentation or poster. Space is limited for this year’s poster program, with a maximum of ten participants. The first five accepted poster program abstracts, by a young professional or student, will include a free conference registration. In addition, each poster by a young professional or student will be entered into the poster competition with the first place winner receiving a chance for a free registration to the 2014 AWWA Annual Conference and Exposition in Boston, Ma.

Abstracts should include the title, a detailed description of the topic, authors’ names, and short bio for the primary contact. General categories for the technical program include:
- Regulatory Compliance,
- Finance and Administration,
- Billing and Customer Service,
- Water Resources,
- Water System Security and Disaster Recovery,
- Water System Construction,
- Operations/Management,
- Surface Water,
- Groundwater,
- Distribution System,
- Research from Universities, and
- Emerging/New Technologies
- Asset and Data Management Systems

**Selection Criteria**
- Originality
- Content
- Relevance to industry
- Audience range
- Innovation
- Case Studies

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Please submit abstracts and questions to Drusilla Hudson or Anton Jones at drusilla.hudson@bwwb.org, 205-244-4466, anton.jones@bwwb.org, or (205) 244-4464. Materials may also be mailed to Birmingham Water Works 3600 Second Avenue North, Birmingham, Alabama 35222 ATTN: Drusilla Hudson or faxed to (205) 244-4966.

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The meeting convened at 10:15 am at the Renaissance River View Hotel & Convention Center, Mobile, Alabama.

Jim Watterson, Section Chair, Call to order.

The Chair asked for reports from the following chairs:

Hunter Arnold for Amy McLeod, Secretary-Treasurer, reported on the previous meeting’s minutes and financial condition of the Section in the absence of Amy McLeod. A motion was made by Blake Jeffcoat and seconded by Mark Snow to dispense with the reading of the minutes from the last Section Business Meeting held in October 2011, and to approve said minutes. There being a motion and second to approve the minutes, all voting stated ‘Aye.’ Ken McCool will be glad to send copies of the minutes to any who request them. Regarding finances, as of September 30, 2012, the Section had a balance of $201,916.77 in its checking account; $88,512.36 in its Money Market Account; and Region’s Bank Certificates of Deposits valued at $156,933.38; Hunter then reported on the value of the Sections other investments that showed a healthy growth of 8% in the previous 12 months. Combined value for all Section finances as of 9/30/12 was $551,825.07 which reflected a net assets decline of $11,446.43; this artificial deficit is created by the week or so later date of this conference causing postings of conference expenses with many conference receipts arriving after the posting period of the financial reports. Jim requested comments or questions from the floor. A motion was made Tom Walters and seconded by David Stejskal to accept the financial report, and the motion was unanimously approved by the membership.

Tom Walters, Director’s Report: Tom advised the membership that, although his tenure as Director would not be over until June, he wanted to take this opportunity to thank everyone for allowing him to serve. Director Walters then gave members an overview of accomplishments and work-in-progress of the AWWA National Board of Directors.

Hugh Smith, Audit Report, reported that he and all Trustees review all banking transactions through the actual statements and reminded all present that the bylaws require an annual audit, and that an external audit was conducted of the Section’s 2011 financials by the CPA firm of Wilson, Price, Barranco, Blankenship & Billingly P.C. of Montgomery, AL. Smith reported that the audit found all accounts to be in order. Warren Averett, LLC performed our annual audit and found our records to be true and accurate. They did however make some procedural recommendations. They recommendations are as follows: 1. There needs to be some segregation of duties with regards to the Secretary/Treasurer 2. Develop SOP’s for Secretary/Treasurer 3. Develop an Investment Policy 4. Develop a Conflict of Interest Policy 5. Develop a Whistle-Blower Policy 6. Develop a Records Retention Policy

A motion was made by Jim Miller to accept the Audit Committee report, seconded by Blake Jeffcoat. All voted to accept the Audit report as stated.

Jim Miller, Memorial Scholarships, stated that the Scholarship Board met at the UAB campus last May to lay out a plan to have candidates for the Section to award scholarships to at the 2012 Annual Meeting of the Section. This did not occur and the Section Trustees are currently working on strategies to assure more positive efforts. The last Scholarships were awarded to recipients in 2006.

Jim Miller, Strategic Plan, reported that a Strategic Planning Committee made up of Past Chairs had met on several occasions to address the Plan, which was last formalized in 2005. Many goals and objectives of the original Plan have come to fruition and now have become operating elements of the Association. Other goals of the work group concerned needs of the membership, including communication and education. The updated Strategic Plan will be ready for review on the Section Website. Anyone needing to see a copy sooner can get with Ken McCool.

Chuck Lott, Fuller Award, reported that the Fuller Committee had received nominations and unanimously selected this year’s recipient of the George Warren Fuller Award. The annual award is conferred upon a member of the Alabama/Mississippi Section of the American Water Works Association for distinguished service to the water supply field. The award will be presented to a well-deserved member of our section at the Annual Awards Banquet on Tuesday evening at the conclusion of the conference.

Jason Carter, Program Chair, reported on presenters this year and attendee options on obtaining educational credits (CEU’s/ PDH’s). This year’s program will also include an ‘early-bird’ session on Tuesday as an extra credit offering. Jason thanked his committee and the array of speakers who responded to his “Call for Papers” with abstracts.

Chris Griffin, MAC, reported on the number of sponsors contributing this year and that monetary contributions should exceed last year’s. There were 5 Platinum, 9 Gold and 11 Bronze-level sponsors. He asked all members to please thank all those listed on easel boards around the conference areas and that all sponsors would be recognized at the joint luncheon on Tuesday.

Jeff Standridge, Competitions, reported on this year’s competitions. This portion of the Annual Meeting has seen growth over the years in participation and types of contests.

Brian Shelton, Membership, reported Membership stood at 923 as of Aug 30. That includes 874 active and 49 late. On Aug 31, 2011, the numbers stood at 983 total, a drop of 60. At our last annual meeting, most of the dropped members were made up of those who had less than 5yrs in the Section. Earlier this summer Brian looked at the makeup of the last 150 or so that had dropped their memberships. The majority of that number has shifted to older members with more time in Section. This might be attributed to the change in life member dues payment policy or a generally older demographic shifting into retirement. Our new member recruitment seems to be keeping pace with last year’s numbers.
Brian had contacted all members who dropped this year (with the exception of those who’d had more than 40 years in Section) and invited them back. He also asked them to contact us concerning what we might do to provide more value to current and future members. There was only one response, from a member who had mistakenly been shown as dropped since he had been removed as his utility’s named representative. He was still an individual member. He expressed appreciation for the Section checking on him.

Brian has contacted all new members, welcoming them to the Section and inviting them to the Conference. He also encouraged them to visit our website to find something they would like to become involved in.

Membership continues to work closely with YP in seeking new members’ involvement.

Harry Gong, Section Communications/Media, reported in-depth on accomplishments to date:
1. Executed a Three-Year Agreement with Kelman & Associates to partner with the production, development, and distribution of the Section Newsletter, the PIPELINE. To date two of three issues have been produced and distributed for 2012.
2. Added new sections to the Newsletter, which include News-makers and Water System Spotlights.
3. Updated the website to include up to date information for the 2012 Conference.

Future work will include:
1. Recruit and create a workgroup committee to assist in the further development of both the Newsletter and Website. Need volunteers to help with various sections of both the Newsletter and Website.
2. Expand the distribution of the Pipeline from three issues per year to four issues. This will not be possible until a workgroup committee is formed. Currently, we are targeting FY 2014 as a possible time to make this change.
3. Additional Newsletter Content to include in future issues:
   a. List of new members.
   b. Project Profiles – Article that spotlights an innovative or interesting water project could be submitted by consulting firms.
4. Possible development of an online version of the Newsletter or an e-Newsletter
5. Expansion of the website
   a. Updates of other sections
   b. Incorporate webcasting and archiving of presentations for future reference

Both the Newsletter and the Website could be greatly expanded, but in order to accomplish this without fully contracting out these services, we must recruit additional volunteers to help on developing both of these pieces of communication.

Sonny Jones, Water For People, thanked those who participated in the golf tournament, which was held earlier with 35 players registered. He expressed thanks for the sponsors who helped guarantee the tournament’s success. An estimate of net proceeds dedicated for this year’s WFP donation was also announced.

Blake Jeffcoat, Resolutions. Asked all in attendance to stand as he read the following resolution:

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Richard W. Bonds, Alan G. Symonds, Joseph Donahue, William Sykes and Harry Myers, Jr. were faithful and dedicated life members of the Alabama–Mississippi Section of the American Water Works Association; and

WHEREAS, they contributed by their loyalty and service to the Association; and

WHEREAS, the members of the Alabama–Mississippi Section of the American Water Works Association wish to recognize the loss of these valued and trusted friends.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Alabama–Mississippi Section of the American Water Works Association meeting on this 15th day of October, 2012 in Biloxi, Mississippi do hereby express their sorrow and regret over the loss of such trusted and devoted friends; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution be spread upon the minutes of this meeting, and that individual copies be sent to the families by our Secretary-Treasurer.

A motion was made and seconded to accept the resolution and the motion passed unanimously.

Blake informed the group it is not always possible for AWWA or this Section to know when one of our membership has passed away. He urged those in attendance to let Ken know during the upcoming year of the loss of any section members.

Mark Snow (MS)/Les Brown (AL), Government Affairs: Mark reported the Fly-In took place in Washington, D.C. on March 7–8, 2012.

With respect to the Fly-In, this year marked the second year that the effort was a joint participation between AWWA and the Water Environment Federation (WEF). The Alabama delegation consisted of Frank Eskridge, General Manager for Gadsden Utilities, Scott Cummings and David Stejskal of CH2MHill, and Mark Snow of Canton Utilities.

Their agenda was focused on the WIFIA initiative, but also touched on other issues that are important to our industry:

- Stressed that future regulations be based on science and not regulation for the sake of regulation. The Safe Drinking Water Act already provides for this defining three criteria:
  1. The contaminant may have an adverse effect on the health of persons;
  2. The contaminant is known to occur or there is a substantial likelihood the contaminant will occur in public water systems with a frequency and at levels of public health concern; and
  3. In the sole judgment of the Administrator, regulation of such contaminant presents a meaningful opportunity for health risk reduction for persons served by public water systems.
- Asked for support of the revision of the Consumer Confidence Report, which would allow distribution of the report electronically.
- Mentioned the recent AWWA Report BURIED NO LONGER that documents that the cost to replace our aging...
water systems and expand them to accommodate future growth will be at least $1 trillion over the next 25 years.

While we were warmly greeted by our congressional delegation and their staff, we received very little encouragement they would support funding for additional programs. They did, however, voice strong support for minimizing EPA’s efforts to increase regulatory control.

The Committee believes our best approach is to communicate often with our congressional delegation and encourage their support of our initiatives. The more we communicate, the louder our voice will be and that will increase their awareness of our issues.

**Hunter Arnold, Nominations**, submitted the following nominations as AL/MS Section officers for 2013.

- Chair – Hugh Smith
- Past Chair – Jim Watterson
- Vice Chair – David Stejskal
- Trustee-at-Large (AL) – Brian Shelton
- Trustee-at-Large (MS) – Sam Agnew
- Secretary-Treasurer (3-year term expires December 31, 2016) – Chris Griffin

Chair Watterson then asked if there were any nominations from the floor; there being none, and after a motion from the floor was made by Jim Miller to close the nominations and accept the slate of officers recommended by the committee; a second was made by Dan Sowell. Thereafter, upon a voice vote, all proposed nominees were unanimously elected.

Hunter then reminded the group of last year’s ByLaws change that re-defined how Section Directors are nominated and that the Chair of the Director nominating committee, Tom Walters had informed the Trustees that their nominated incoming Director (June 2013) is Jimmy Nelson. There being no other nominees, a motion was made by Charlie Moak and seconded by Mark Snow to place Jimmy Nelson as the incoming Director. Mr. Nelson was elected following a unanimous vote.

**Sam McElroy, Time and Place**, reported that he and committee members had evaluated several locations for the 2014 Conference (the 68th Conference for the Alabama-Mississippi Section of AWWA). Sam informed those present that the committee had chosen Point Clear, Alabama as that location. Sam also gave the 2015 T&P report on behalf of Sam Agnew and Hunter Arnold, stating the selected site as the Beau Rivage Casino & Resort in Biloxi, Mississippi. Following a motion by Danny Hutcherson to accept the recommended location and date for both upcoming years, and a second by Tom Walters, all present voted ‘Aye’.

**Nick Freeman (AL)/Mathew Horton (MS), Young Professionals (YP):** Nick reported that their main objective for the year was to increase YP involvement within the section and to increase membership of YPs by 10%. The process for obtaining these goals was to increase communication amongst YPs, offer more opportunities for YPs to become involved, and to demonstrate the value to section membership to YPs. To accomplish these goals, we intended to offer activities for YPs to attend throughout the year to and to encourage non-members to become acquainted with the section. In addition, YP activities at the conference were expanded in an effort to increase network opportunities while at the conference.

**Shannon Bailey-Paltrow, Awards,** gave a brief recap... This year the YP of the Year will be selected from Alabama and the Operator of the Year will be selected from Mississippi. For 2013, the YP will be selected from Mississippi and the Operator from Alabama. We received 3 nominations for YP of the Year and selected Wheeler Crook.

There were no submissions for Operator of the Year. The YP award will be presented at the Awards Banquet Tuesday, October 16th. Also at the Awards Banquet, we’ll introduce the Plant Awards program to be implemented for the 2013 Conference.

**Hercy Golsen (AL)/Calvin Russell, Jr. (MS), Education:** Hercy reported that they hosted two lunch time seminars across the state of Alabama this year which provided a forum for water utilities to present ideas that were relevant and important to the future of the water industry.

These two presentations covered two general topics:

1. **Water Treatment and Distribution**
2. **Leadership and Management**

The presentations addressed specific issues such as workforce development/retention, water conservation, prioritizing capital needs, and leveraging new treatment technologies for improved water quality. The AL/MS Education committee issued 1.5 PDHs, CEUs, and/or CEHs for each seminar in both Alabama and Mississippi.

Registration cost = $10.00 (Non-Members)
The total cost of holding the sessions = $0.00
The total cost of hosting lunch = $612.94
The total income from registration = $0.00
**Total Cost for Seminars** = $612.94
(Note: Totals accurate as of June 3, 2012.)

**Hosting Site (Software) – Go-to-Webinar (Free Trial – Cost: $99.00 /per webinar; up to 100 attendees)**

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<th>Education Seminar Session Summary:Topic</th>
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<td>April 5th</td>
<td>8</td>
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Specific challenges – identifying speakers, locating host sites for the seminars that would be cost effective for the section, and obtaining an accurate email address list.

Matt McDougall, Exhibits, reported the section had an exhibitor roster of 63, including the Section membership and YP booths. Events including the “Wine & Cheese” and “Strolling Lunch” are scheduled to center around the exhibit areas. He encouraged all to visit the vendor booths and thank each one for coming.

Jim Ballintine, Registration, reported on attendance numbers now totaling around 423 and attendee types, including utilities (160), exhibitors/consultants (89), non-members (13), spouses (72), Life members (16), 1st-time YP’s (7) and individual members. He thanked his committee and stated he felt the process had gone well, particularly with 123 Signup.

Chuck Lott, Entertainment Chair, gave the following report: Sunday night’s events began with a Mardi Gras-style parade of conference participants from the Renaissance Mobile Riverview Hotel down Government Street for five blocks to the Mobile Carnival Museum. At the museum, we members enjoyed a tour of the facility with food, drinks, and music provided by The Excelsior Band.

On Tuesday evening at our Annual Awards Banquet, we’ll be honored to welcome Dan Clark as our guest speaker after dinner. Dan is a NY Times Bestselling Author, a member of the National Speakers Hall of Fame, a master storyteller and inspirational speaker. He is currently one of the busiest and most sought after speakers in America. Since 1982, Dan has spoken to over 4500 audiences, to more than 4 million people, in all 50 states, and in 50 countries. Achievers North America and Achievers Europe have named Dan Clark one of the Top Ten Speakers in the World. John Furlong, President and CEO of the 2010 Vancouver Winter Olympics said, “I recommend my friend Dan Clark to you in every way. As a speaker, author and human being, Dan always delivers a world-class performance!” You do not want to miss Dan Clark’s visit to Mobile!

Ken McCool, Section Manager asked that, in the interest of time the Chair defer his report.

Jim Watterson, Chair led into conclusion of the meeting, thanking all committee chairpersons for their work leading to this meeting.

Adjourn; There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by Chair Jim Watterson.
MEMBER UPDATE

NEW MEMBERS

Joe Gehres, Huntsville Utilities
James Douglas Martin, Jr., American R&D
Bob Ohara, Hach
Jon Sides, Pelham, AL
Johnny Williams, U.S. Pipe & Foundry Company
Earl E. James, Jr., City of Auburn-Water Resources
Mark A Vess, Union Foundry Company
Brian Finnegan, Greenwood Utilities
Philip Russell, McComb Water Dept.
Tommy Tyrrell, Mobile Area Water & Sewer
David Burton, Sterrett, AL
Mark Barnett, Auburn University
Charlotte Denney, V.A.W. Water System, Inc.
Craig Sorensen, Southwest Water Company
Sidney H. May, Birmingham Water Works Board
Stephen R. Franks, Birmingham Water Works Board
Jason Sutphin, City of Richland
Terrell Jones, Birmingham Water Works Board
Luke Lanier, American R/D
Don Edwards, Enterprise, AL
Malcolm Steeves, Mobile Area Water & Sewer
Leslie Royals, Mississippi State Department of Health
Terri Carson, Auburn University
Ike Square, Birmingham Water Works Board
Charcey Glenn, Leeds Water Works Board
Cliff Price, Leeds Water Works Board
Lee Barnes, Leeds Water Works Board
David Mack Drake, AMERICAN Cast Iron Pipe Company
John Patterson, Leeds Water Works Board
Dennis Abernathy, Leeds Water Works Board
William Thornton, Opelika Utilities
Richard Alexander, Engineering Plus Inc.
Frank Campbell, Lillian, AL
Joseph Eckhardt, Auburn Water Works Board
John Hannah, West Jackson County Utility District
Tammy Wilson, Birmingham Water Works Board
Justin L. Kirkland, Birmingham Water Works Board
Sharpie Smith, Waynesboro, MS
Steven Smith, Specification Rubber Prod. Inc.
Joe F. Tipton, Trussville, AL
Kathryn Paige Cawood, Birmingham, AL
Rusty Jessup, City of Riverside
Benjamin Blackstock, Auburn Water Works Board
Randy Morrison, Huntsville Utilities
Richard Knox, Huntsville Utilities
JW Schwartz, Rancho Cordova, CA
Martin Stap, AMERICAN Flow Control
Sheldon Anderson, Matchpoint
George Cox, Alabama Department of Environmental Management
Alphonso Patrick, Bessemer, AL
Danielle McCrory, Satsuma Water and Sewer
Richard Feist, City of Saltillo
David Lyles, Belforest Water System
George M. Callahan, Mobile Country Water, Sewer & FPA
Echols Bryant, Calhoun County Water Authority
Bill Rutledge, Mississippi 811, Inc.
Chris Bryson, City of Ridgeland
Peter Gioko, Birmingham Water Works Board
Rohana Yamat, Mississippi State Department of Health

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE NOTICE

Volunteers are needed to serve on the Communications Committee for the Alabama/Mississippi Section of AWWA. If you are interested in working on the Section Website or the Section Newsletter, please contact the Communication’s Chair Harry Gong at Harry.Gong@msdh.state.ms.us or at (601) 576-7527.

NEWSMAKERS NOTICE

If you have recently been promoted, passed an exam, become certified, retired, become a parent, etc... the PIPELINE would like for you to submit a small write-up and a profile picture for consideration for the Newsmakers Section. Please send the information to Harry.Gong@msdh.state.ms.us or call Harry Gong at (601) 576-7527.
Newsmakers

JESSICA ARNOLD

Jessica Arnold of Jackson, MS had the honor of being a Senior Maid of the 2012 Homecoming Court at Mississippi State University (MSU). Jessica is the daughter of AWWA member and Past Chair (2011) Hunter Arnold. Jessica is a Biological Engineering major and a member of the Delta Gamma Sorority. As a student at MSU, Jessica has been a part of the Alumni Delegates, served as the Vice President of Membership for the Order of Omega Honor’s Society, and co-founded the MSU Chapter of Young Life. The AWWA Section congratulates Hunter’s daughter on her achievement.

AMY MCLEOD

Outgoing Secretary/Treasurer Amy McLeod of Brandon, MS is pleased to announce the birth of her daughter, Ms. Claire Elaine McLeod. She was born on September 21, 2012 and weighted 5-lbs 4-oz and 18 ¾ inches in length. The Alabama-Mississippi Section of AWWA congratulates Amy and her husband James on their new addition.

ACE13 registration opens in January of 2013. Register by March 29, 2013 for the lowest registration fees.

Denver, Colorado | June 9–13, 2013 | www.awwa.org/ace13/leaders
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Rod Evason, Marketing Manager
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