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October 12-14, 2014
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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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Preparations for Annual Conference going well

It is hard to believe that when you read this report, we will likely be less than two months from the 2014 Annual Conference at Marriott’s Grand Hotel in Fairhope, AL. It is even harder to believe that someone like me that has a habit of worrying too much and being too detailed oriented is relaxed. When you have a good team of volunteers supporting you lead by a Board dedicated to the Section’s success then I should not be surprised. So two months away to the completion of our Section year and the conclusion of this year’s storytelling.

Expectantly, our focus has shifted to the conference preparation. Preparations are going well. The Technical Program is almost completed and likely posted to our Section’s website (www.almsawwa.org) by the time you read this edition of the Pipeline. In addition to our standard technical presentation and regulatory updates, we have some exciting new additions to our Program. We will increase our focus on governmental affairs, both state and federal, provide opportunities for members from Alabama to provide feedback on the development of the state’s water management plan thru a forum with representatives of the Office of Water Resources, and the most exciting and maybe unpredictable, a Water Industry Relations Roundtable where a representative from a contractor, consultant, and utility will share their experiences, pitfalls, and successes working together in an open forum with interaction and questions from those in attendance. Our Section Manager Jim Miller has agreed to moderate and I will make sure the local authorities are on standby. Registration numbers are strong and tracking well ahead of previous years. Our Exhibitor registration may require us to shift some space around to allow for more opportunities to interact and learn about new technologies, innovated approaches, and new equipment to help all of us continue to provide safe drinking water to our citizens.

The Conference agenda will also provide ample opportunities for you to share your own stories with your industry peers during breakfast, session breaks, in the Exhibit Hall, our Scholarship Golf Tournament on Sunday morning at Lakewood Golf Course, Sunday night dinner at Oak Hollow Farms, Monday’s Strolling Lunch, Tuesday’s Joint Luncheon and Sponsorship Recognition, and our Banquet on Tuesday night. In addition to these structured times, the Grand Hotel provides a great setting to share stories while relaxing near the pool, in swings on the shores of Mobile Bay, and inside the historic hotel. I am excited about hearing and sharing stories and hope you will make plans to join us.

Though our focus in shifting to the Annual Conference, we still have a lot going on within the Section that is not conference related. We try to keep you updated thru e-mails from the Section, our website, and Facebook. If you have not already hit ‘LIKE’ to our Section’s page, please do so (Alabama/ Mississippi Section of AWWA). Our dedicated communication team lead by Harry Gong and Hercy Golson are doing a great job keeping our Facebook page updated.

Before I close my storytelling, I wanted to share to touch on two additional bits of information which should be of interest. This year the Section created our first ‘Operator Committee’ lead by Eddie James from Auburn Water Resources Department. Eddie has done a great job. On top of the new Operator column in the Pipeline, Eddie worked with the AWWA Nationals to provide a special $50 Operator Membership option. In our effort to continue to diversify our membership, please pass along this new rate to operators within and outside your organization so that they can take advantage of this special rate. Finally, I had the opportunity to help represent the Section at ACE14. It was a great event in Boston and our Section was well represented. At ACE14, the Water Utility Council (WUC) met to continue their efforts to keep our membership informed and influence key legislation impacting the water industry in Washington. This meeting also represented the conclusion of Frank Eskridge’s tenure on the WUC. The Section appreciates Frank’s services. Thankfully the Section will still be represented on the WUC as Mark Snow’s tenure on the WUC commenced at the same meeting. I appreciate Mark’s willingness to serve and his passion for the industry.

There are many more volunteers like Harry, Hercy, Eddie, Frank and Mark that I should recognize, but my storytelling must come to an end. I continue to solicit your feedback on input on our Section. Please contact me at david.stejskal@ch2m.com and let me know your thoughts, opinions, and suggestions. Look forward to hearing from you and seeing you in October at the Grand Hotel.
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ACE14 recap

recently represented our Section at ACE14, which was held in Boston in June. Several items were addressed at the meeting, including many routine items such as the approval of new standards, bylaws and policy statements.

One of the more pertinent items approved was the adoption of the Special Presidential Panel. In 2012, AWWA President Charlie Anderson established the Special Presidential Panel (SP2) to examine all current Association and Section operational and business practices. The panel was assigned the task to develop a re-engineered operations and business partnership model between the Sections and the Association. Fundamentally, the panel’s work focuses on identifying and leveraging the programs and services of the Association and Sections to meet the future needs of the water community.

During 2013, the panel conducted a thorough review of existing research and data. It decided to focus its work in five key areas; Education, Membership, Finances, Branding and Communications. Subject matter advisory committees (SMACs) were formed to explore opportunities in each area. After research, discussion among relevant stakeholders and vetting through the panel itself, the subject matter advisory committees each concluded their work, the results of which are included in the 2014 report, AWWA2020: A Path to One AWWA. The report is a guide for how AWWA can reach the future state envisioned by the panel’s vision, mission and ultimate recommendations. The SP2 envisions a future when all of AWWA is working toward the goals of a common strategic plan that respects interests at all levels of the Association. It recognizes the collective impact will be better if the Association and Sections are commonly branded, have a unified education program, pursue financial strategies that are in the best interests of all members, communicate efficiently both vertically and horizontally in the organization, and remain focused on bringing members together to share knowledge.

Another new program that AWWA is undertaking is the Community Engineering Corps. (CE Corps) CE Corps is an alliance between AWWA, American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) and Engineers Without Borders-USA (EWB-USA). The alliance combines the strengths of three organizations to provide technical expertise to underserved communities in the US and ensure that their infrastructure meets their community’s needs. In celebration of National Engineers Week, AWWA, ASCE and EWB-USA announced the launch of the new program on February 21, 2014 in Washington, DC. Given this is a start-up program, various operational and structural developments are being addressed, but the program is an effort to provide engineering on water projects in situations where no traditional type of engineering is available or the engineering is not affordable.

The following volunteer opportunities have been made available:

- **Domestic Application Review Committee (DARC)** – The DARC is a volunteer committee that oversees the project application process. This committee reviews project applications submitted by communities and will ensure the need for the project and lack of otherwise available engineering services. The DARC approves the projects that will be made available online for adoption by a project team. Fourteen applicants have been accepted as members of the DARC. Additional applications to DARC will be accepted on a rolling basis.

- **Technical Review Committee (TRC)** – The TRC is a quality control committee that provides technical review of project plans. Program staff has begun to collect applications for the TRC.

Volunteers will be able to view open projects as they become available via the community applications. AWWA Staff is working to increase the awareness of the program and to encourage communities in need to apply for a project.

As always, please let me know if you have any thoughts or concerns related to AWWA. Frances and I look forward to seeing you in Point Clear in October.

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AWWA: Not just writing the standards, but setting them

At its outset when men like George Warren Fuller met to compare notes on the prevention of disease by using chlorine, The American Water Works Association began to set the standard in our industry. Those of us who followed have reaped the benefits of their foresight and wisdom. Years later AWWA still writes and updates Standards. Standards are just one of the many benefits we consistently receive from membership.

Consider AWWA’s growing political presence at their Washington office and in state houses through Utility Councils. I believe if it were not for AWWA we would soon be replacing nearly all our fire hydrants to meet the new low lead requirements. The hydrant issue is just one example of AWWA guarding the interests of its members. AWWA also set the standard many are now following in making safe water available to hundreds of thousands in the world who are without it. “Water For People” now an independent, successful non-profit working across the globe got its start through the generous volunteers and professionals who make up AWWA.

AWWA and your Alabama-Mississippi Section are industry leaders in creating and making available professional development opportunities at little or no cost. There are continuous opportunities to learn and earn CEU’s. Some, like the Section’s 360° Water on-line training are as easy and convenient as turning on your computer. Others, including frequent on-site training coupled with web-casts offer the opportunity to interact with peers in the industry. You get a double benefit: learning ‘how they do it’ along with the latest information and research. For the ultimate experience in networking, learning, and enjoying the company of the best of the best consider attending one of many conference opportunities.

This October, in Point Clear, Alabama, at the scenic and historic Grand Hotel, the Alabama-Mississippi Section will host one of the nation’s best conferences. Over 700 water professionals from the two states, over sixty exhibitors, and three days of technical training in the hottest topics will be available for your benefit. In this economy conference expense should be something you can justify. The Point Clear conference will deliver value to your utility. Get the latest information with hands-on experience of new products and interact with others facing the same challenges you face. You are guaranteed to gain knowledge that will save your utility, city or county hard dollars and improve the delivery of safe drinking water. It won’t hurt that there will be great speakers, great entertainment and great golf as well! The Grand offers entertainment for the entire family.

Receiving all the benefits of membership requires one thing of you. Belong! Your membership whether as an individual, a service provider or as a utility keeps AWWA and the Alabama-Mississippi Section viable and doing the productive work that our rapidly evolving industry requires. It is the very thing that allows AWWA staff and Section volunteers to ensure you get the best educational opportunities, professional development, regulatory understanding, political awareness, information and, yes, the Standards we all rely on to build and maintain reliable water systems. It is my experience you will get out of it more than you put into it!

We know there are many water associations out there doing good work. Make sure you belong to and participate in the one who sets the standards for professionalism and knowledge. Use AWWA and Section services as your knowledge resource so you can ‘set the standard’ of excellence at your utility.
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The Jacksonville State University Office of Continuing Education, Workforce Development Division, has developed a training program that will prepare approved candidates for taking the Alabama Department of Environmental Management Water or Wastewater Treatment Plant Grade IV Operator Exam. This program was developed with valuable input from individuals respected within the water industry. A special thanks goes to Jim Miller, General Manager, Anniston Water Works and Sewer Board (Retired), for his support during this process and his continued involvement. This program would not have been possible without the wise counsel of the Alabama-Mississippi Section of the AWWA, in particular John Hall, John Stockton, Brian Daniel, Virgil White, and Joel Wise. This partnership has resulted in a training program that will provide the well-rounded water works professionals that are in demand within the industry.

**Requirements for this program are** 1) High school diploma or GED, 2) Proficient in reading and math at the 10th grade level, 3) Drug and criminal background screen, and 4) Must be 18 years old to apply. This program has been approved for funding through the Workforce Investment Board for displaced employees and other individuals that meet eligibility requirements. Candidates from any State may apply to participate in this program (with the exception of States that do not accept Alabama’s certification). JSU welcomes inquiries from any State. This program is designed to be mobile and can be made available in any location within the United States.

The program curriculum follows the material provided in Volumes I and II of the California State University (CSU), Sacramento, Water (or Wastewater) Treatment Plant Operation Field Study Training Program. Volume I will be completed by self-study. **Volume II will be completed within twenty-two weeks in conjunction with an on-site 440-hour internship** in an Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM) approved water or wastewater treatment plant. Prior to the exam, the student will attend up to 40 hours of classroom instruction, review for the test, and be tutored in areas of need. The student must also complete the 1900-hour, on-the-job experience requirement prior to ADEM issuing the official certification.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT**
Belinda Blackburn, Director, Jacksonville State University Office of Continuing Education
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**WATER OR WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT GRADE IV OPERATOR CERTIFICATION PROGRAM**
Making math easy
Test taking tips for the Water Treatment Exam
by Eddie James, Water Operator, City of Auburn, AL

For many water treatment operators, math can be the most intimidating part of the water treatment exam. While there is no magic solution that will instantly make all math problems a breeze, there are some things you can do to better prepare yourself for the math portion of the exam. Here are some easy tips to consider before you take your next water treatment exam.

• First, you actually have to practice working the problems before taking the test. Don’t be so intimidated by the math that you ignore it while studying everything else. You learn how to solve math problems by doing them, again and again. Practice until they become second nature.

• Once you learn how to work a certain type of problem, don’t move on to another type right away. Work several problems of the same type and with varying degrees of difficulty. This is how you retain what you have learned. It’s all about repetition.

• Don’t forget you will have a formula sheet while taking the test. Think of this as a “cheat sheet”. Not having to memorize all of the formulas should put your mind at ease. Print the formula sheet and use it when you are practicing. Being able to identify what formula to use for each problem is half the battle.

• When taking the test read the question carefully and multiple times. This can help eliminate many small mistakes that are made. Make sure you understand what the problem is asking.

• Eliminate useless information. Some problems will provide you with more data than you need to solve the problem. For example, knowing that the settled water has an NTU of 1.2 has nothing to do with calculating the chlorine dosage.

• Remember to always check your units of measurement. If you forget to convert GPM to MGD you’re going to choose the wrong answer, even if you worked the math portion correctly.

• Always take the time if possible and go back over your math problems at the end of the test. A lot of times you will spot something that you didn’t see the first time.

• Lastly, confidence is the key when it comes to math so don’t let it intimidate you!

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n the famous “Haunted Mansion” in Walt Disney World, there is a room where you see painted portraits hanging on the wall that look completely normal and innocent. That is, until the room begins to stretch upward and you see the rest of the picture. For instance, where you once saw nothing but a young girl holding a parasol, the complete picture reveals that the girl is actually walking on a tightrope over a hungry alligator below with his jaws open anticipating a quick meal! What looked completely normal at first is shown to be completely out of place when more of the picture is seen.

When your customer turns on their TV at night and sees a story about a utility crisis (water line break, sewer spill, rate increase, boil water notice, etc.), do they think of it as a “normal” event for a poorly-run utility plagued by frequent crises…or do they think it is an unusual event for a normally well-run utility operation?

Context makes all the difference. This is the pitfall of so many utility managers that try to be “invisible” or run their operation “below the radar screen”. They mistakenly think that, if they are just quiet enough, customers won’t notice them at all and therefore won’t have any reason to complain about them to the mayor, the city council or the news media. The problem with this is that it robs customers from seeing the full context of the good your utility accomplishes and the record of well-run operations you have. Without this context, customers are left to judge your utility only on what they do see… And, let’s be honest, a utility crisis will always be “news” in a way that years of stellar performance will not.

To counter this, utility managers must actively engage customers in a proactive way. We must treat customers like they are actually “customers” (not “those people who interrupt me when I am trying to get work done.”) We must build in a bias for saying “YES” to customers, rather than lecturing customers on why our policies prohibit us from helping them in any way. We must look customers in the eye and smile regularly. We must treat customers like they are important…which means, among other things, that we quit checking our cellphones every time they vibrate to see if someone “important” is trying to call you (you are already talking to the most important person on the planet at that moment…your customer).

Bad things are going to happen to your utility over time. The best way to protect your utility’s reputation is to let your customer see the full story and put things in proper context. If crises are seen as aberrations in a normally well-run operation, long term success can be yours even in the face of the worst utility crisis.
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AL/MS AWWA Section at ACE14

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Article acknowledgement:

In the Spring 2014 Issue of the PIPELINE, an article was published entitled Alabama & Mississippi Private Well Populations. During the publication of the article, contact information and author contribution was inadvertently omitted. To view the original article, please visit the PIPELINE Section of the Section website (www.almsawwa.org).

For more information on private well populations in Alabama, Mississippi, and/or public water supplies, contact one of the following agencies:

Center for Government and Community Development
Mississippi State University
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(662) 325-3141

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Young Professionals Notice

Join AL/MS Section of AWWA Young Professionals (YP) Committee in activities, events and as a volunteer. The YP Programs help you forge your career in the water industry. Participating in AWWA can help you create a professional network, enhance your resume, and become a leader. Also look on the website (www.almsawwa.org) for updates on YP Activities that will be happening at the upcoming Conference in Point Clear, AL in October and on potential YP Socials in your area in the future. If you are interested in becoming a part of this committee and participating in upcoming events, please contact the YP committee chairs. LaQuoyah McDaniel, LaQuoyah.McDaniel@bwwb.org or Chris Bryson, Chris.Bryson@ridgelandsms.org

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Allen & Hoshall recently completed its biannual water rate survey of Municipalities in Mississippi. Cities and Towns were asked to complete a survey of their water, wastewater and garbage rates. Approximately 100 municipalities across the State of Mississippi participated in the survey and a summation of the various minimum, average and maximum water rates for various rates of consumption were compiled. Most of the participants were smaller towns and cities, with populations consisting of less than 25,000 people.

The lowest minimum rate was $4.00 a month for zero consumption. The lowest minimum rate that included water use was $7.49 per month and included up to 3,000 gallons of water. The highest minimum rate was $24.35 per month and this amount included up to 8,333 gallons of water. The survey also requested the amount charged for five thousand, ten thousand and one million gallons of water, as well as the difference in rates assessed for customers inside and outside of the city limits.

The average rate for 5,000 gallons of water inside of a city was $18.30 per month; the average rate for 10,000 gallons was $30.84 per month and the average rate for 1,000,000 gallons was $2,364.67 per month.

The maximum rate for 5,000 gallons of water inside a city was $55.75 per month, the maximum rate for 10,000 gallons was $101.75 per month and the maximum rate for 1,000,000 gallons was $4,599.28.

Water rates for customers residing outside the city limits were usually higher, with water rates 20 to 100 percent greater than those charged within the city. Commercial water rates were also requested in the survey, and those municipalities that utilized a separate commercial rate structure generally utilized rate structures that assessed higher rates for business and industrial customers, although some utilized a sliding scale that reduced rates on higher consumptions of water.

A summation of the rates obtained in the survey is shown below that enumerates various statistical values for the monthly cost of different rates of consumption.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Water Inside City Limits</th>
<th>MINIMUM</th>
<th>CHARGE FOR GALLONS</th>
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<tr>
<td>BILL</td>
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<td>$55.75</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lowest Bill for Class</td>
<td>$4.00</td>
<td>$5.25</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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bmannning@utilityservice.com

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337-258-1644
tanglejr@utilityservice.com

Alabama
Cole Rigney
205-902-9331
crigney@utilityservice.com

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(800) 329-2255  kenwalker@carterverplanck.com

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Conference Agenda

SUNDAY October 12, 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>EVENT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:00 am - 4:30 pm</td>
<td>Exhibit Hall Setup</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00 am - 4:30 pm</td>
<td>Registration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00 am - 11:00 am</td>
<td>Putting Competition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:00 am - 4:30 pm</td>
<td>Golf Tournament</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:30 pm - 6:00 pm</td>
<td>Wine and Cheese Reception in Exhibit Hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:30 pm - 6:00 pm</td>
<td>Buses Depart for Oak Hollow Farms Dinner and Entertainment by Sugarcane Jane</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00 pm - 8:30 pm</td>
<td>Buses Depart for Grand Marriott</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

MONDAY October 13, 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>EVENT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6:30 am - 8:30 am</td>
<td>Breakfast Buffet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:30 am - 4:00 pm</td>
<td>Registration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00 am - 10:00 am</td>
<td>Opening General Session</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00 am - 10:15 am</td>
<td>Break</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00 am - 5:00 pm</td>
<td>Exhibit Hall Open</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:15 am - 11:15 am</td>
<td>Motivational Speaker Chette Williams</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:15 am - 12:00 pm</td>
<td>Business Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:00 pm - 1:30 pm</td>
<td>Strolling Lunch in Exhibit Hall and YP Taste Test</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:30 pm - 3:00 pm</td>
<td>Technical Sessions (3 Concurrent)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:00 pm - 3:30 pm</td>
<td>Break</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:30 pm - 5:00 pm</td>
<td>Technical Sessions (3 Concurrent)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:30 pm - 6:00 pm</td>
<td>YP Forum &amp; Social</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: No scheduled activities for Monday night - on your own for dinner

Visit our website for the most up to date information and schedules. www.almsawwa.org
Conference Agenda continued

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TIME</th>
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</tr>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>8:00 am - 12:00 pm</td>
<td>Exhibit Hall Open</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00 am - 10:00 am</td>
<td>Technical Sessions (3 Concurrent)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00 am - 10:30 am</td>
<td>Break</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:30 am - 12:00 pm</td>
<td>Technical Sessions (3 Concurrent)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:00 pm - 1:30 pm</td>
<td>Joint Luncheon: Sponsor Recognition, Scholarships &amp; Taste Test Winners</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:30 pm - 2:30 pm</td>
<td>Technical Sessions (3 Concurrent)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:30 pm - 3:45 pm</td>
<td>Top Ops and Meter Madness Competition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:00 pm - 3:30 pm</td>
<td>Break: Ice Cream Social</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:00 pm - 4:00 pm</td>
<td>Technical Sessions (1 Track Only)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:00 pm - 7:00 pm</td>
<td>Banquet Reception</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:00 pm - 9:00 pm</td>
<td>Awards Banquet and Entertainment - Story Musgrave</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**It’s a Necessity, Not a Luxury**  
Mississippi needs infrastructure investment to move forward  
⇒ Economic Growth  
⇒ Jobs Creation  
⇒ Increased Tax Revenues  
⇒ Improved Safety and Mobility  
⇒ Enhanced Quality of Life

**AWWA National Representative**

**MICHAEL SIMPSON**  
Vice-President (2013-2015)  
American Water Works Association

Michael D. Simpson is the CEO of M.E. Simpson Company, Inc. He oversees the company as a whole, concentrating on financial management and business development. Michael began his career with the company as a technician testing and repairing large water meters. He implemented the company’s leak detection program, which has now developed into the company’s Water Loss Control and Water Distribution System Evaluation Programs.

Michael joined AWWA in 1983 and is extremely involved in the Indiana Section AWWA, as well as the Illinois Section AWWA and the AZ Water Association. He has taught classes on water loss control and water distribution system evaluations throughout the United States. Michael serves on AWWA’s Water Loss Control Committee, is member of AWWA’s Manufacturers Associates Council and AWWA’s Diversity Committee. Michael also serves as a liaison to the Membership Engagement and Development Committee.

Michael lives in Valparaiso, Indiana with his wife Sharon.
Conference Venues

GRAND HOTEL MARRIOTT RESORT, GOLF CLUB & SPA

Here are some facts about the Grand Hotel:
• AAA Four Diamond Award for the Resort
• AAA Four Diamond Award for the Grand Dining Room
• Travel + Leisure Top 500 Hotels in the World 2013
• Travel + Leisure Top 100 Resorts Continental US & Canada 2010
• Travel + Leisure Top Hotel Spas in North America 2011
• Top 25 in the Southern Region 2012
• Tennis Magazine’s Top 50 Tennis Resorts in the U.S. for 2012
• Golf Digest July 2013 ~ America’s Top 50 Golf Courses for Women
• Golf Magazine’s Premier Resorts category, 2012 Silver Medal Winner
• ADEM Eco Stars Green Hospitality Program—October 2012
  - Alabama’s 1st Green Hotel
• Top Rated Marriott Spa for Guest Satisfaction Internationally
• #1 Property Rank within Marriott Resort Brand

OAK HALLOW FARM
AL/MS AWWA COMPETITIONS

PIPE TAPPING
Fast-paced competition of a team of four (three workers and the coach). The team has to drill and tap a pressurized Class 52 6” ductile iron pipe. They also have to cut and flare Type K 3/4” Copper that will be connected to the main. This competition not only tests their speed and skills, it also judges the safety and quality of their workmanship.

METER MADNESS
An individual competition that measures ones skill at assembling a meter quickly, totally and accurately. All parts will be assembled in a proper manner and the reassembled meter shall be tested by the judges for the ability to meter water and for water leakage.

TOP OPS
The “college bowl” of the water industry. Teams of one, two, or three water operators compete against each other in a competitive, fast-paced question-and-answer tournament. A moderator poses a broad range of technical questions and the team scoring the most points in the championship round is awarded a trophy as the Top Ops Champions.

Videos and information for each competition may be found on the AWWA website: http://www.awwa.org/conferences-education/conferences/annual-conference/competitions.aspx
To answer questions about each competition, to inquire how to set up a team, or to inquire how to register for any of these competitions for the Section Conference in October, please contact the Section’s Competition Chair Jim Caudle at jcaudle@daphneutilities.com or his Assistant Jimmy Eckman at jimmyeckman@meridianms.org.

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2014 AL-MS AWWA SPONSORSHIP BENEFITS

Bronze Level ($250)
- Company Name Listed in Program
- Company Name on Sponsorship Sign at Conference Registration and other major events
- Recognized on Scrolling Slide and Verbally at Tuesday Joint Luncheon/Sponsor Recognition

Silver Level ($750)
All of the Bronze Level benefits, including:
- Named sponsor for groups of technical sessions on Monday or Tuesday. Sponsor name will be placed on sign in front of event. Total of 16 spots available

Gold Level ($1,500)
All of the Bronze Level benefits, including:
- Named sponsor of the Technical session breaks (3 available), Monday Breakfast Buffet, Tuesday Breakfast Buffet, Tuesday afternoon Ice Cream Social, Tuesday Pipe Tapping Competition, Tuesday Meter Madness Competition, YP Event and Monday YP Social, or Tuesday Banquet Reception. Sponsor name will be placed on sign in front of event. Total of 11 spots available
- Receive Plaque at Tuesday Joint Luncheon/Sponsor Recognition

Platinum Level ($2,500)
All of the Bronze Level benefits, including:
- Named sponsor of Sunday Wine and Cheese Social and Entertainment, Sunday Dinner/Entertainment, Monday Motivational Speaker, Monday Strolling Lunch, Tuesday Joint Luncheon/Sponsor Recognition, and Tuesday Banquet/Entertainment. Sponsor name will be placed on sign in front of event and listed in the Conference Program. Total of 6 spots available
- In the event there are more than 6 Platinum Sponsors, Platinum Sponsors will be given the option of 1 Gold Level Sponsored Event and 1 Silver Level Sponsored Event.
- Receive Plaque at Tuesday Joint Luncheon/Sponsor Recognition
- Company Logo on Banners in Registration Booth Area
- Company Logo placed on AL-MS Section 2014 Conference Website
Dear AWWA Spouses,

The first AL-MS Section Conference I attended was in 2005 at the Pearl River Resort in Mississippi. At first I was hesitant to actually attend the spouse’s events. I did not know many of the ladies nor did I know what to expect. However, I did attend that year and every year since have continued to become more involved. Now eight years later I call many of these ladies friends and I look forward to spending a few days every year with them. So as this year’s conference approaches I want to invite each of you, whether this is your 1st conference or your 21st to attend the spouse program this year.

This year we will be heading to the Grand Hotel in beautiful Point Clear, Alabama. As a native of the area, I have many fond memories of the Grand Hotel and excited to be your host for a couple of days this October. It has been 16 years since we last visited the Grand Hotel. Since that time Hurricane Ivan helped change the landscape as well as numerous recent upgrades and enhancements to further expand upon the beauty of this resort located on Mobile Bay. The Grand Hotel has activities such as biking, sailing, and a full spa (#1 ranked of all Marriott resorts) or you can take a stroll thru their beautiful gardens, walk along the bay front or sit out by their amazing pool. Not to be forgotten, the Grand Hotel is just minutes from downtown Fairhope and all of the unique shopping and restaurants the City has to offer.

Beyond the resort activities, we have an exciting program for each of you to take part in. Sunday night we will be heading out to Oak Hollow Farms for a relaxing and good ole southern meal and some laid back entertainment. Monday’s activities will include a Pinterest Party in the morning where each lady will be able to make a craft to bring home with them. We will then have lunch in the Grand Ballroom. Monday afternoon will be free to allow you time to take advantage of the resort’s amenities or get some shopping done. Tuesday will be highlighted by our annual BINGO event in the morning in addition to the Joint Luncheon where we will recognize the Conference sponsors. Our program concludes Tuesday night with our Reception and Banquet headlined by our speaker Story Musgrave. Over Story’s 30 year career with NASA from the 1960’s to the 1990’s, his career spanned from the Apollo era right thru the Space Shuttle program. Story is the only astronaut to fly on missions with all five Space Shuttles.

So come join us, come meet and make new friends, and come enjoy all that the Grand Hotel and the Eastern Shore area have to offer. I look forward to seeing you in October.

Best Regards,

Mindy Stejskal

Downtown Fairhope Merchants

**ANTIOQUES**
1. A Fairhope Antiquary
   100 North Section St.
2. Antiques and Uniques of Fairhope
   108 North Section St.
3. Aubergine
   315 De La Mare Ave.
4. Betty Haynie Antiques and Fine Art
   15 North Section St.
5. Crown and Colony Antiques
   34 South Section St.
6. Fine Furnishings
   150 N Section Street
7. RF Architectural
   61 South Church Street

**APPAREL & ACCESSORIES**
8. Abigail’s Closet
   Tooth Consignment
   5 Church St. N Suite 4
9. Adrenaline
   328 Fairhope Avenue
10. Cat’s Meow
    995-B Fairhope Avenue
11. CK Collection
    320 Fairhope Avenue
12. CK Collection Men’s
    316 De La Mare Ave.
13. Déjà vu
    112 North Section St.
14. East Bay Clothiers
    39 North Section St.
15. Gigi & Jay’s
    400 Fairhope Avenue
16. Heritage’s Second Edition
    330 Fairhope Avenue
17. M & F Casuals
    380 Fairhope Avenue
18. Private Gallery
    218 Fairhope Avenue
19. Shoefly
    8 S. Church Street
20. The Colony Shop, Inc.
    27 South Section St.
21. The Fairhope Store
    32 S. Section Street
22. Town & Country LLC
    42 1/2 S. Section Street
23. Younique Boutique
    56 South Section St.

**ART GALLERIES**
24. Eastern Shore Art Center
    401 Oak Street
25. Fairhope Artists Gallery
    18 S. Section Street
26. Lyons Share Custom Frame & Gallery
    330 De La Mare Ave.
27. The Fairhope Connection
    7 South Church Street
28. The Kiln
    Studio and Gallery
    60 North Section St.
29. BEAUTY, SPA AND COSMETICS
30. CK Collection Cosmetics
    320 Fairhope Avenue
31. Tami’s Mask and Mirror Studio
    406 Pine Avenue
32. The Fairhope Salon and Spa
    323 De La Mare Ave.
33. Rondale Overstreet Cosmetology Kinetics
    52 South Section St.
34. Warlock’s Hair Salon
    52 South Section St.

**BOOKS & PRINTING**
35. Page and Palette
    32 South Section St.
36. Post Net
    10 North Section St.
37. The Book Inn
    15 S. Section Street

**GIFTS & COLLECTIBLES**
38. Christmas Round the Corner
    316 Fairhope Avenue
39. In The Company of Angels
    328 De La Mare Ave.
40. The Picture Show
    332 Fairhope Avenue
41. Village Peddler
    418 Fairhope Avenue

**JEWELRY & ACCESSORIES**
42. Analece Design
    395 A Fairhope Ave
43. Brenny’s Jewelry
    333 Fairhope Avenue
44. Estate Jewelers of Fairhope
    309 De La Mare Ave.
45. Fairhope Estate
    Jewelry and Coin Company
    2 South Church Street
46. Metal Benders
    Jewelry Gallery
    314 De La Mare Ave.
47. Steve’s Jewelers
    393 Fairhope Avenue

**LODGING & RECREATION**
48. Bay Breeze Guest House
    742 South Mobile St.
49. Church Street Inn
    51 South Church Street
50. Grand Hotel Marriott
    Resort, Golf Club & Spa
    One Grand Boulevard
51. Hampton Inn
    Fairhope-Mobile Bay
    23 North Section St.
52. Puffin’s Cliff
    East of Fairhope on Highway 181
53. Quail Creek Golf Club
    57 S. Section Street
54. Sandpiper Inn
    Fairhope Mobile Bay
    33 South Church Street
55. The Fairhope Store
    2 South Church Street
56. The Fairhope Store
    314 South Church Street
57. The Image Shop
    320 Fairhope Avenue
58. The Picture Show
    332 Fairhope Avenue
59. Village Peddler
    418 Fairhope Avenue

**OPEN AIR MARKET**
60. Fairhope Farm Market
    742 South Mobile St.

**REAL ESTATE**
61. Fairhope Realty Group
    11 North Section St.
62. Fairhope Real Estate
    50 South Church Street
63. Coulter & Company
    11 South Section St.

**RESTAURANTS**
64. Bear’s Diner
    311 Fairhope Avenue
65. Dragon Fly
    319 Fairhope Ave
Story Musgrave

Story Musgrave was born in 1935 on a dairy farm in Stockbridge, MA. He was in the forests alone at 3 and by 5 floated his homebuilt rafts on the rivers. He rode combines at 5, drove trucks and tractors at 10 and when alone in remote fields repaired them by 13.

He never finished school, ran off to Korea with the U. S. Marines where he was an aircraft electrician and engine mechanic. He started flying with the Marines and over the next 58 years accumulated 18,000 hours in over 160 aircraft. He is a parachutist with over 800 freefalls.

He has six graduate degrees in math, computers, chemistry, medicine, physiology, and literature. He has been awarded 20 honorary doctorates. He was a part-time trauma surgeon for the duration of his astronaut career.

He was a NASA astronaut for over 30 years and flew on six spaceflights. He performed the first shuttle spacewalk on Challenger’s first flight, was a pilot on an astronomy mission, conducted two classified DOD missions, was the lead spacewalker on the Hubble Telescope repair mission and operated an electronic chip manufacturing satellite on Columbia. He was the communicator in mission control for 25 missions.

Today he is a producer/director of multimedia, a landscape architect, a heavy equipment operator, an innovator with Applied Minds Inc, and a professor of design at Art Center College of Design in Pasadena, CA. Story also performs multimedia corporate presentations on the topics of design driven innovation, project management, operations, human performance, reliability, quality and safety.

He has seven beautiful children: Lorelei, Scott, Holly, Todd, Jeff, Lane and Story, ranging from age 55 to eight years, three beautiful grandchildren, and a beautiful wife, Amanda.

Web sites:
www.storymusgrave.com
www.spacestory.com
www.lannistoria.com www.t38jet.com
E-mail: storymusgrave@hotmail.com
Phone: 407-390-0221

Chette Williams

In the fall of 1999, Rev. Chette Williams, Sr. was called to serve as Auburn University’s football team chaplain and the campus director for the Auburn University Chapter of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA).

A noted speaker, author and vital member of the Auburn football program, Williams ministers on a daily basis not only to coaches, players and their families, but to numerous staff throughout the athletic department as well. Through Bible studies and counseling sessions with players and coaches, he counts it a privilege to serve the Auburn Family. Whether offering guidance, encouragement or spiritual direction; his impact on both players and coaches has been profound and God-inspired, resulting in many souls saved and many wayward Christians brought back to a growing and productive life in Christ.

In recognition of his servant leadership Williams was named the 2008 Keystone Leader-in-Residence by Auburn University’s College of Education. He has also received the “Most Distinguished Alumnus” by New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary and the Chilton County Auburn Club’s Unsung Hero Award.

Chette’s Auburn roots run deep. He was a three-year letterman on the Tigers football team in the early 80’s. During his football career Auburn won the Sugar Bowl, the Citrus Bowl and the Liberty Bowl. He graduated in 1985 with a Bachelor of Science in Adult Education. Chette went on to New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, where he earned a Masters of Divinity in 1993.

Before returning to Auburn to take on the role of team chaplain, Williams served as the president of IMPACT Ministries in Spartanburg, S.C. from 1995-99, as pastor of New Covenant Baptist Church in New Orleans, LA.

from 1993-95 and as Associate Pastor of New Song Baptist Church in Mobile, AL. From 1991-93.

Born September 3, 1963, Williams is married to the former Lakeba Hibbler. They have two daughters, Lauren Denise, 12, Caitlyn Mae, 10, and one son, 8-year-old Chette LaRue, Jr.

www.chettewilliamsministries.com/index.htm
Sugarcane Jane Band

Anthony Crawford - Although born in Birmingham, Alabama, Nashville became home to Anthony, where he resided for nearly three decades performing live at Opryland, touring with the Sonny James Band, and appearing on television’s Hee Haw and The Ralph Emery Show. His guitar and vocal work with such artists as Steve Winwood, Neil Young, Vince Gill, Rosanne Cash, and Steve Forbert earned him a contract with Rounder Records. With a heavy folk-pop sound, his self-titled debut album appeared in late 1993 produced by Pete Anderson. Despite his solo success, he was persuaded back into touring by legends like Neil Young and the International Harvesters, the Shocking Pinks, and the Electric Band as well as Steve Winwood, Dwight Yoakam, Nicolette Larson, and country band Blackhawk with his old friend, Henry Paul.

A prolific songwriter, Crawford has over four hundred songs to his credit, many recorded by artists including Steve Winwood, Pegi Young, Kenny Rogers, Lee Greenwood, the Nitty Gritty Dirt Band, Sawyer Brown, Billy Burnett, and Lorrie Morgan. Anthony’s solo career has been productive as well, recording several albums. His solo efforts include a self-titled debut album, Unintentional Decoy, Radio Cafe, OTRWARS, and his latest, Five Is Red—his strongest solo accomplishment to date. The collaborative album was recorded with Everest and Bo Koster from My Morning Jacket.

Anthony’s known in the industry as both a multi-instrumental musical prodigy, gifted photographer and videographer. During a Neil Young rehearsal at Broken Arrow Ranch in Redwood City, California he was drawn to photograph Neil’s dilapidated cars. One of which landed on the cover of Neil Young’s Chrome Dreams II album, and his photography has since been displayed at various museums across the country. Anthony’s elusive videos titled “On the Road with a Rock Star” come and go on youtube.com/woottoots and capture day-to-day life with Neil Young and the gang as well as internal thoughts and views while on the road.

Living on Alabama’s Gulf Coast with wife/singing partner Savana Lee, they created Sugarcane Jane in 2009 and tour the southeast. Anthony opened his recording studio Admiral Bean in 2010, and has been busy recording artists from around the country. Crawford says south Alabama is “a great place to land,” as he looks out over pasture and into the woods of his backyard.

Savana Lee - Savana was raised along Alabama’s Gulf Coast and has been a talented artist and musician since she was a young girl. She spent her teen years singing and playing percussion with a local band from her hometown in Baldwin County while honing her visual art talents with pen and ink, scratchboard, and pencil drawings. Being a natural drifter, Savana moved to New Orleans after high school, performing in the downtown clubs of NOLA and slidell. Expanding her outlook and living the dream, “laissez les bons temps rouler.” “I had a great time….I was 21 years old and loving my independence and freedom. New Orleans is a city with a pulse that I love.” In 1999 Savana decided to take her vocal skills to the next level and moved to Nashville, Tennessee.

In Music City Savana befriended Loretta’s Lynn’s sound engineer, Tim Townsend and began her Nashville recordings; six songs titled Untamed, recorded with Loretta Lynn’s touring band. The songs were never officially released but Townsend was a fan and played Savana’s songs for the crowd before all of Loretta’s concerts throughout the United States (1999).

In January of 2000 while living in Nashville, she spent time writing and performing at the world renowned Bluebird Cafe, Broken Spoke, Douglas Corner, the Boardwalk, and other popular writer’s hangouts. Savana’s dreams of being an artist led to her co-owning and managing a well-respected vintage analog studio in Nashville, TN called Deepfield Studio. Savana’s studio recorded many major label artists, including Lucinda Williams whose work there was nominated for a Grammy for her recording on the Hank Williams Tribute Album ‘Cold Cold Heart’, Rodney Crowell, Bruce Cockburn You’ve Never Seen Everything, Emmylou Harris, Terri Clark, Lee Anne Womack, Jack Ingram, Keb Mo, Colin Linden, Blackie & The Rodeo Kings, Susan Werner, and eventually, Anthony Crawford.

Savana met Anthony Crawford while he was recording his own tracks at Deepfield Studio. He recruited her to sing a few demos for him and they began an everlasting friendship and brotherhood. “I was an immediate fan of Anthony’s writing and musicianship. I fell in love with him as an artist and then as a human being. He is an amazing person and my soul mate. I am so lucky to be his wife.” Creating harmonies typically heard only from siblings the two decided to record their first album together, Redbird.
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REGISTRATION FORM

Please complete and return to AL/MS AWWA, c/o Chris Griffin, 4121 Carmichael Rd; Suite 400; Montgomery, AL 36106
Make Check Payable To: “AL/MS Section AWWA”

Name: _____________________________________________ Name/Nickname for Badge: _____________________________
Spouse’s Name: __________________________________ Name/Nickname for Badge: _____________________________
Firm/Municipality/Organization: ____________________________ Title: _____________________________
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 or younger)? ___________ Spouse’s E-mail Address (If registered): ___________
Are You/Spouse planning to attend Sunday’s dinner? ___________ Are You/Spouse planning to attend Tuesday’s dinner? ___________
Spouse ONLY, will you eat lunch in Fairhope on Monday? ___________
For Exhibitors: 1st Choice Booth Space ________ 2nd Choice ________ 3rd Choice _______

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Total Amount Enclosed

Conference registration cancellations after September 19, 2014 are not refundable, but substitutions are accepted.
If paying by credit card, please fill out the following Information:

Master Card ☐ Visa ☐ American Express ☐
Credit Card Number: ______________________________________ CVV# ___________ Expiration Date: ______________
Signature: ___________________________________________ Billing Address __________________________

If you have any questions, please contact Nick Freeman, 334-215-9093 or Nicholas.Freeman@CH2M.com. To register online,
go to http://www.almsawwa.org and click on 2014 Annual Conference for links for online registration and online hotel reservation.
Hotel rooms reservation shall be made separately. Visit the website for booking information and details.
REGISTRATION FOR SCHOLARSHIP TOURNAMENT ONLY*

Where: The RTJ Trail Lakewood Golf Club – Azalea Course
       Point Clear, Alabama

When: Sunday, October 12, 2014
       Shotgun start at 11:00 a.m.
       Registration/Putting Competition begins at 9:00 am

Format: 4-Man Scramble

Entry Fees: $100 per person
            Mulligan Package for $20 (Limit 1 per golfer)
            * Purchased Mulligan has you entered into Prize Drawing!!!

Prizes: Team Competition – 1st, 2nd & 3rd Place Gross & Net • Closest to the Pin – Holes #4, #7, #13 & #15 • Closest to the Pin – Approach Shot to Signature Hole #14 • Hole-In-One Contest – Holes #4, #7, #13 & #15 • Longest Put Made Contest – Hole #6 • Longest Drive In Fairway – Hole #16 • Straightest Drive Used By Team – Hole #1 • Putting Contest – Practice Green

Contact Information for Individual & Team Players, and/or Sponsors

Name: ______________________________________ Company: ______________________________________

Address: _____________________________________________________________________________________

City, State, Zip: _______________________________________________________________________________

Phone: ______________ Email: __________________________________________________________

TEAM

Handicap or Avg. Score

Player 1 Name: ______________________ Handicap _______ Email ______________________ Cell#: ____________

Player 2 Name: ______________________ Handicap _______ Email ______________________ Cell#: ____________

Player 3 Name: ______________________ Handicap _______ Email ______________________ Cell#: ____________

Player 4 Name: ______________________ Handicap _______ Email ______________________ Cell#: ____________

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Please indicate if you would like to sponsor the scholarship golf tournament through one (or more) of the options listed.

In addition to the Course Signage, your company will be recognized on the AL/MS Website (www.almsawwa.org), the quarterly newsletter (Pipeline) and at the Sponsorship Luncheon. Please contact Rob Coleman at (205) 821-2511 or rcoleman@morrowwater.com.

☐ Tournament Sponsor ($800) - Includes 1 Team, 4 Mulligans, Hole Signage, Name/Logo on Banner
☐ Tournament Lunch Sponsor ($400) - Includes Sign at Lunch, Hole Signage, Name/Logo on Banner
☐ Hole Sponsor ($200) - Includes Recognition Hole Signage (OPTIONS), Name/Logo on Banner
☐ Snack & Beverage Cart Sponsor ($500) - Includes Sign on Beverage Cart, Name/Logo on Banner
☐ Individual Entry Fee ($100) - 18 holes, practice & lunch; please indicate quantity
☐ Mulligan Package ($20) - 1 max per golfer, 4 max per team; please indicate quantity X _____ = $_____

* Mulligan package consists of mulligan, throw & string

PAYMENT INFORMATION

You can Register online for the Golf Tournament using a credit card, www.almsawwa.org

If Registering by Mail, complete & return this form to: AL/MS AWWA Golf Tournament, Attention: Rob Coleman, Morrow Water Technologies, 7440 Cahaba Valley Road, Birmingham, AL 35242 – Checks made out to AL-MS AWWA

If you would like to be invoiced, complete this form and send to Rob Coleman at address above.

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WATER INFRASTRUCTURE FINANCING AND INNOVATION ACT (WIFIA) BECOMES LAW

In early June of 2014 the President signed H.R. 3080 into law. The reason this is important to water and wastewater utilities all over the country is that this bill included provisions for a new and different financing tool to be administered by the Environmental Protection Agency – the Water Infrastructure Financing and Innovation Act or WIFIA.

The significance of WIFIA stems from the fact that this initiative was wholly created by the members and staff of the American Water Works Association. In 2006, with the nation’s water and wastewater infrastructure in growing need of replacement and rehabilitation, and with local utilities falling further and further behind in their ability to access money to accomplish this work, some undesirable ideas were being discussed – the possibility of a "trust fund" to address this problem, or more probably, a federal water tax. The AWWA knew that the Federal Government’s ability to create a trust fund and then use it for its intended purpose was negligible. The idea of the Federal Government taxing communities who had done a good job with infrastructure replacement over the decades to pay for work in places where similar planning and execution of capital improvements had not occurred was not equitable. The AWWA was faced with a problem, and all the solutions being proposed were not good.

Not just the party of NO!
Instead of just opposing every idea that came along, the AWWA developed the WIFIA concept where the Federal Government would make money available for capital construction loans to water and wastewater utilities from the Treasury at below-market rates. The savings on interest would make these low-cost, long-term loans attractive, and would eventually become a money-maker for the Government as the loans are repaid. The target audience for this program is the group of utilities who need to pursue projects in excess of $20 million.

Siege Warfare
Over the next eight years, the AWWA continued to advocate for the WIFIA program, developing legislative language that Congress could consider, and shepherding the idea through the minefield that any good idea must survive to become reality. Through an unprecedented coordination of grassroots utility advocacy and skillful management of the legislative process by the AWWA Government Affairs office headed by Tom Curtis, our efforts were rewarded with success this year.

We made it happen
Our role in getting this bill passed involved the Alabama-Mississippi team participating...
in the annual Water Matters Fly-In events hosted by the AWWA every spring. Our repeated visits to our states’ Congressional offices effectively established relationships with the Congressional members and their staffs. By the time we visited again earlier this year, they recognized us when we walked into their office. They knew what we were talking about when we referred to WIFIA. This is a process that does not happen overnight, and your Section officers are to be congratulated for participating in the Fly-In events so enthusiastically.

MARK SNOW (AL/MS GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS CO-CHAIR FOR MISSISSIPPI) JOINS THE AWWA WATER UTILITY COUNCIL

At the AWWA Annual Conference and Exposition in Boston, Massachusetts this June, Mark Snow began his term on the AWWA Water Utility Council (WUC). Mark will be representing not only our section, but the utilities of the entire AWWA as he participates in the quarterly WUC meetings, and provides weekly input on matters of immediate concern that the AWWA Government Affairs office shares with the WUC via email and conference call. Mark will have a unique opportunity to bring some “Mississippi” to the table as national issues are discussed. Mark replaces Alabama Government Affairs Co-Chair Frank Eskridge on the Water Utility Council. Frank’s six years of service to the WUC ended at the conclusion of the AWWA ACE in June.

In addition to Mark’s work on the WUC, he is continuing to monitor any proposed bills that may affect the water industry at a state level in Mississippi. A damage prevention bill continues to be pursued to further protect the utility and the public. Also the activities by the Mississippi Public Service Commission is being closely watched to see if any issues may change how many of the utilities in the state operate their business.

Please be sure to contact your Government Affairs leadership if we can be of assistance to you. We look forward to seeing you at the AL/MS Fall Conference in Point Clear, Alabama, October 12-15, 2014.
HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA
Huntsville Utilities Water Department

“The oldest public water system west of the Appalachians with over 150 years of public experience.”

FACTS:
- 91,400 Customers
- Over 1,300 miles of Distribution Lines
- Two Surface Water Treatment Plants:
  - South Parkway Plant (48 MGD)
  - Southwest Plant (48 MGD)
- Groundwater Plants and Wells:
  - Lincoln/Dallas Plant (9 MGD)
  - Hampton Cove Plant (2 MGD)
  - Williams Well (4.5 MGD)
- Average daily pumpage 40 MGD or about 27,800 GPM (Gallons per Minute)
- Maximum day pumpage 75 million gallons
- Total Storage Capacity – 55 MGD
- 35 Distribution Storage Tanks
- 34 Pump Stations
- Pump to 21 different Pressure Zones
- Earned the 2006 EPA Region IV Award of Excellence
- AWPCA Best Operated Plant w/ capacity 30.1 MGD – 40 MGD (2008)
- CDC Water Fluoridation Quality Award (2009 & 2011)
- AWPCA Best Operated System w/ 50,001-100,000 meters (2010-2012)
- AWPCA Excellence Award for Systems in AL w/ 50,001-100,000 meters (2009)

Huntsville Utilities History
The Huntsville Waterworks, duly named and franchised for construction and operation to a citizen named Hunter Peel, was the first municipal waterworks in the state of Alabama and one of the earliest in the nation. The organization known today as Huntsville Utilities, had its beginning with a single spring of water. This single spring was founded by John Hunt, a pioneer-Revolutionary War veteran, in 1805. Later being called “Hunt’s Spring.” News of Hunt’s spring and its plentiful supply of pure, fresh water spread rapidly as more and more people arrived and began building their homes farther and farther from the spring. The early growth of the small town was rapid and dramatic. By 1823, with a population of just over 1,300, construction got underway on a waterworks system.

Huntsville Waterworks system installed its first cast iron pipe in 1836 under the workmanship of several employees serving approximately 111 customers. The water works was purchased in 1858 by the City of

Huntsville Utilities Mission Statement:
“To add value to our community by providing superior utility service.”
Huntsville, Alabama for $10,000 and Huntsville Utilities was formed years after in 1954. This began a promising future for the utility company.

Huntsville Utilities now supplies drinking water to approximately 91,400 customers from both surface water and groundwater sources. The surface water source is pumped from the Tennessee River and processed through the South Parkway Treatment Plant built in 1964 and the Southwest Treatment Plant built in 1988. Both of these facilities have had extensive improvements and capacity additions since their original construction. The groundwater sources are supplied by groundwater wells from limestone aquifers and are processed and supplied from the Lincoln and Dallas Wells. The water is then treated at the Lincoln Dallas Water Treatment Plant which was built in 1992. The other groundwater source comes from the Hampton Cove Well and is treated at the Hampton Cove Treatment Plant, which was built in 1996.

Huntsville Utilities has been a long-lasting member of the American Water Works Association and a member of the Alabama/Mississippi Section of AWWA. Huntsville Utilities Water Department is unique in that most of the projects proposed are done mostly internally such as design, installations, maintenance of large mains, boosters, pump stations, and fire hydrants and valves maintenance. Huntsville Utilities Water Department is staffed by 61 dedicated employees who ensure the installation and maintenance of the water facilities exceeds system expectations. Huntsville Utilities Water Supply Section is staffed by 31 experienced employees who ensure that the quality and distribution of our water system meets the demands of our community. Huntsville Utilities Engineering Services Department is staffed by six water employees who oversee the design and construction of the water facilities that make up the water system. During the April 27, 2011 tornado disaster, the water department realized how teamwork and communication help to provide the necessity customers value. Through this event, the water department was able to continue to provide water service to its customers until power was restored which took approximately five days.

Southeast Water Treatment Plant Project
Due to the area’s economic growth and development, Huntsville Utilities, just like other municipalities, is working to keep up with the supply and demand of providing safe, reliable drinking water to our customers. To aide in this effort, Huntsville Utilities Gas & Water Board approved $126 million for a future plant expansion near the Guntersville Lake Dam in Guntersville, Alabama located off of U. S. Highway 431 South to increase its water supply capacity. This future plant will be able to have a treatment capacity of 24 MGD within three years and expand out to approximately 96 MGD overall. Construction is scheduled to begin in 2015 and be finished in 2018.

As a part of this project, there are several improvement projects that are budgeted to take place before this major expansion begins. These improvements to the Hampton Cove System will aide in the company’s effort in providing a safe, reliable water resource to this community.

Thanks to Tony Owens (Vice-President of Operations), Gary Bailey (Water Supply Superintendent), Hercy Golson (Engineering Services – Project Manager), and Carson Smith (Engineering Services – Project Manager) for their time and assistance in providing information for this article.

Value Statement:
“We do what is best for our customers, our employees, and our operations.”
Dear Mr. Hutcherson and committee members,

I would like to say thank you to the members of the Alabama-Mississippi Section of the American Water Works Association, the Section Trustees, and the Section Scholarship Committee for selecting me to receive a scholarship award. It means a lot to me that I was selected for this award and it shows that someone is seeing how hard I am working and trying to earn my degree. I look forward to continuing my education and finishing with my degree. I also plan to stay in the water and sewer business and look forward to a long career in the field. On behalf of my family, I would just say thank you again.

Sincerely,
Brian T. Ninesling

Dear Mr. Stejskal,

I am honored to be a recipient of the AWWA AL/MS Section Academic Scholarship. I wanted to take this opportunity to thank the Section, the Section Trustees and Scholarship Selection Committee for selecting me for the scholarship in furthering my education in the water works industry.

As you may already know, I am currently majoring in Civil Engineering Technology at Gadsden State Community College and plan to graduate in the fall of 2015. I have been able to apply what I have learned in school to everyday situations I deal with at the Anniston Water Works and Sewer Board (AWWSB). I appreciate the committee's confidence in selecting me for this honor and willingness to provide the scholarship will alleviate the financial burden of going to school while working a fulltime job. It will also help allow me to focus on my education.

Once again, I would like to extend my thanks for the generosity the AL/MS Section has shown me. I promise to work very hard in everything I do and to make an impact in our industry. I plan to give back to others; either as a volunteer, mentor or possibly support a scholarship for future students like myself.

Sincerely,
Heath Denton

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Dear Mr. James D. Miller,

I am most grateful for the scholarship from the Alabama-Mississippi Section of the American Water Works Association. Understandably, there are many students who applied for this award and I am thankful to have been among those selected for the scholarship. I appreciate the effort that goes into the award process.

I am additionally appreciative to the Association for your financial support of my academic endeavors. I look forward to presenting and discussing my research with you at the Annual Conference. Thank you again!

Sincerely,
Austin R. Omer
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# NEW MEMBERS

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<th>Barbara Drummond – Mobile Area Water &amp; Sewer</th>
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<td>Gary Huffman – Krebs Architecture &amp; Engineering Inc.</td>
<td>Sam Jones – Mobile Area Water &amp; Sewer</td>
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<td>Ouida Brown – Tuscumbia Utilities</td>
<td>Larry Ingram – Northport, AL</td>
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<td>Matt Connell – Univ. of South Alabama</td>
<td>Ellis Koonce – Town of Tunica</td>
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<td>Markus Moore – Mobile, AL</td>
<td>Andy Moore – Neptune Technology Group Inc.</td>
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<td>Sean Brunlett – Southern Pipe &amp; Supply Co.</td>
<td>Leon Glass – Calera Water Dept.</td>
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<td>Scott Carpenter – Southern Pipe &amp; Supply Co</td>
<td>Jody Solomon – Praestare Engineering</td>
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<td>Heath Denton – Anniston Water Works</td>
<td>James Stewart – City of Irondale Water System</td>
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<td>Paul Bethune – Birmingham Water Works</td>
<td>Jimmy Evans – Decatur Utilities</td>
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<td>Jackie Robinson – Birmingham Water Works Board</td>
<td>LT Long – Town of Butler</td>
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<td>Charles Hyland – Mobile Area Water &amp; Sewer</td>
<td>Janis Dinardo – Neel-Schaffer</td>
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<td>Christine Justice – Ocean Springs, MS</td>
<td>Shan Paden – Governmental Utility Services Corp</td>
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<td>Gary Whitley – Huntsville Utilities</td>
<td>Gary Wright – Alabaster Water</td>
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<td>Dan Crabtree – Hoover, AL</td>
<td>Donald Scharr – Harrison County Utility Authority</td>
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**Newsmakers**

**THE WATER WORKS BOARD OF THE CITY OF BIRMINGHAM RECOGNIZED FOR OPTIMIZED PERFORMANCE BY THE PARTNERSHIP FOR SAFE WATER®**

*Barb Martin, CWP – AWWA/Partnership for Safe Water*

The Water Works Board of the City of Birmingham’s Western Filter Plant received the Partnership for Safe Water’s Phase IV Excellence in Water Treatment Award at the 2014 AWWA Annual Conference this June. The Western Filter Plant joins a group of only 12 other water treatment facilities in North America to achieve this level of performance. The Water Works Board of the City of Birmingham has participated in the Partnership for Safe Water since 2000. The city has a total of four treatment plants active in the Partnership program, three of which have received the Directors Award, including the Western Filter Plant, the H.Y. Carson Filter Plant, and the Putnam Filter Plant.

The Partnership for Safe Water program was founded in 1995. Its treatment plant and distribution system optimization programs were established to encourage water utilities to voluntarily improve water quality and enhance public health protection through optimizing operational practices. Utilities earn the Directors Award by completing a self-assessment of treatment plant or distribution system performance. The self-assessment helps to identify factors limiting optimized performance so an action plan for improvement can be developed. The Phase IV Excellence in Water Treatment Award is awarded to plants demonstrating full optimization based on the Partnership for Safe Water’s stringent optimization goals for turbidity performance and plant operational practices.

The Partnership for Safe Water is an alliance of AWWA, USEPA, the Association of Metropolitan Water Companies, the Association of State Drinking Water Administrators, the National Association of Water Companies, and the Water Research Foundation. Learn more about the Partnership for Safe Water at [www.awwa.org/partnership](http://www.awwa.org/partnership).
Newsmakers

NEEL-SCHAFFER’S JONES ELECTED TO NATIONAL ENGINEERING BOARD

JACKSON, Miss. (July 16, 2014) – Neel-Schaffer engineer Chris Jones, P.E., BCEE, F.NSPE, was recently elected to represent the Southeast Region on the Board of Directors of the National Society of Professional Engineers.

Jones joined Neel-Schaffer in 1991 and works out of the company’s headquarters office in Jackson. He specializes in the disciplines of water and wastewater.

As the Southeast Region representative on the NSPE board, Jones will represent Mississippi, Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, North Carolina, Puerto Rico, South Carolina, Tennessee and Virginia. His term runs through July of 2016, and he replaces Jim Currey of Nashville, who works for the Tennessee Department of Transportation.

“Chris and I talked … in Biloxi about the Southeast Region Director,” said Currey. “I really liked him. He is knowledgeable, bright, personable and energetic. He’ll have his hands full but he is just what we need in a leader. Right person at the right time.”

“It is truly an honor and privilege to have been elected to this position by my peers to assist in fulfilling the NSPE mission of promotion, protection and enhancement of licensure and opportunities for the Professional Engineer,” said Jones. “As the Southeast Region Director, I intend to represent the best interests of the region and profession through education, licensure advocacy, leadership training, multidisciplinary networking and outreach. I humbly pledge to perform my duties to the best of my ability, while protecting the public health, safety, and welfare above all other considerations."

Jones holds two Civil Engineering degrees from Mississippi State University, a Bachelor of Science awarded in 1990 and Master of Science awarded in 1996.

About Neel-Schaffer Inc.

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