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GAS AND WATER DEPARTMENT

INSIDE

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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:

AWWA PIPELINE
ATTN: Harry Gong, Editor
Phone: (601) 576-7518
Fax: (601) 576-7974
P.O. Box 4651
Jackson, MS 39296-4651
Email: Harry.Gong@msdh.state.ms.us
www.almssawwa.org

Managing Editor: Scott Kelman, scott@kelman.ca
Layout & Design: Kiersten Drysdale
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The stories we tell

As the weather turns warmer, much to my delight, the Section sits with six months in the rear view mirror and six more months to go on my term as your Section Chair. Mixed emotions. Excited about what your Section has accomplished and the story we have told, but knowing we have more storytelling to do. I am blessed to have strong backs of our dedicated volunteers on our Committee to lean on.

In my last report, we had just concluded our January Planning Meeting. As I type this letter, we are in the mist of our April Planning Meeting. Spending a couple of days at Marriott’s Grand Hotel, enjoying all that is has to offer, certainly makes attending and participating in our meeting, even when led by me, a very enjoyable experience. This truly is an amazing resort. If you have been here, you do not need my feedback. If you have not been here, take my word for it. Top-notch service, a plethora of amenities, and breath-taking views reminds me of why my wife gave me little choice as to where to hold this year’s conference.

The even better story is our technical conference is coming together really well. The technical program is going to be full of a lot of diverse presentations, regulatory updates, and forums, which should appeal to everyone from a board member to an operator. This was our goal and it is coming together. Considering we often do not start registration until May, our registration numbers are off to a good start. This is definitely a good sign as it will provide a lot of opportunities to network with others in the industry and learn about new products and offerings in our exhibit hall as well as our technical program. Our Conference entertainment is coming together nicely as well. Sunday night at Oak Hollow Farms will allow us to enjoy some casual fellowship, outdoor activities, or just strolling thru the surrounding areas. Run by friends of my family and long-time Baldwin County residents, Oak Hollow host many exciting events throughout the year and they are excited to have us join them. Monday morning will bring Bro. Chette Williams, chaplain for my beloved Auburn Tigers and 2015 Football National Champions (as least I can hope), motivate us by sharing his stories about his life, sprinkling in some football I am sure. I am grateful that he has agreed to take time out of his busy Fall schedule to join us. Our banquet on Tuesday night will feature Story Musgrave (http://www.spacestory.com/storyf.htm). A 30-year career as an astronaut and the only individual to fly on all five space shuttles should lead to some exciting and interesting stories. Given my focus on “storytelling,” having a guy with the first name Story fits right in. If you are coming, go ahead and come early and enjoy a round of golf at our Scholarship Golf Tournament on Sunday morning at the Lakewood Golf Course, a member of the Robert Trent Jones Trail, across the street from the Grand Hotel. Four days at the Grand Hotel including a round at Lakewood would be a great vacation in and of itself even without a conference.

As for the rest of our Section activities, I have more stories to tell than can be fit in my report. I do want to touch on two though. In early April, I joined our AL-MS delegation as well as delegations from other Sections as we told our story in our nation’s capital. Providing more innovative ways to finance our utility member’s capital needs thru WIFIA, maintaining SRF funding, protecting against the growing threat of cyber-security, and ensuring more cooperative sharing during water quality crisis (see the West Virginia story) are just some of the items we touched on. Our Section Governmental Affairs team is definitely on top of things and helped us convey our story to our congressional delegations. Our continued presence is leading to more recognition by our delegation and their staff. I appreciate our Section members taking an active role. We went into a meeting with Congressman Mo Brooks’ office only to learn that his staff has recently received a call from Huntsville Utilities asking about some of the same items we were talking about. Great lead in for our meeting.

Lastly, I am grateful for the contributions of our Scholarship Committee led by Danny Hucherson. In just a year, they have established the foundation for a viable long-term scholarship program focused on educating our workforce, both thru traditional college degree programs and technical training programs for potential or current operators. The Committee recommended and the Trustees endorsed awarding 6 individuals from our Section a combined $18,000 in scholarships. This is definitely a story worth telling.

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.
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How much do you value your drinking water?

Most of us take water for granted. Unlike our ancestors who had to go out to a well or perhaps a river or creek to obtain water, we can turn on a faucet and fill up our glass with sparkling clean water. Water is always available to bathe, cook, and irrigate our lawns and to even fight fires.

As essential as water is to our daily lives, few people stop to consider its value and importance, especially when compared to the cost of bottled water and other everyday products.

In Mississippi, the average residential cost for 5,000 gallons of water is just $16.96, which is a real bargain. The cost of just one gallon of water is about 0.0034 of a penny. Meanwhile, a gallon of milk is usually about four dollars a gallon and if you compare tap waters cost to the cost of bottled water, the difference is astounding.

A 16 ounce bottle of water will cost about the same as a soft drink at any sporting event or quick stop, so if you pay on dollar for the bottle, that is $8.00 a gallon or to equate it back to the cost of 5,000 gallons of tap water, it would cost you $40,000!

Your tap water is a true bargain considering all of the energy, chemical cost, personnel cost and expertise it takes to treat and deliver safe and reliable water to American’s every day. Customers of public water systems get more than just a reliable product for their money. They are getting reliable service that includes ongoing maintenance, sophisticated water quality testing and treatment, and highly trained personnel. Simply put, tap water is one of the best bargains around.

Water is also valuable in many other ways, as your personal usage of water is very tangible, but have you ever considered all of the less tangible ways that water will affect your daily life? Almost every product will utilize on a daily basis utilizes water at some point during its manufacturing process, as water has been used in almost everything.

Here are a few uses of water you may not have heard before

- It takes 1,500 gallons of water to process one barrel of beer.
- It takes 101 gallons of water to make one pound of wool or cotton.
- It takes 1,851 gallons of water to refine one barrel of crude oil.
- It takes 62,600 gallons of water to produce one ton of steel.

Here are a few more facts about water.

- Although a person can live without food for more than a month, a person can only live without water for approximately one week.
- Only 1% of the earth’s water is suitable for drinking water.
- The average person in the United States uses 100-150 gallons of water each day, Europeans use an average of 74 gallons, Africans use 17 gallons and the Chinese use about 23 gallons.
- About 70% of water is used for agriculture globally, while 20% is used for industry and 10% for residential use.
- Asia has significant water challenges with 36% of the world’s water supply, yet 60% of the total population.
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There will never be another Kenny McCool. We were very fortunate over the past ten or so years to have Kenny looking after the business of the Section and making sure all the essential work got done. I am honored to be able to follow in his footsteps. But, there will only ever be one Kenny. He has a unique style all his own. Judging from an email I got from him a couple of days ago accompanied by a snap shot of the cherry blossoms in D.C. he is enjoying his next career. Apparently, the only thing Kenny is not good at is retirement! I know you all join me in wishing Kenny and Cynthia well and looking forward to their continuing to be a part of the AL-MS family.

Just a few things to mention.
The AL-MS Section’s efforts in awarding scholarships will be featured at the Regional Meeting of Section Officers next month in Williamsburg, VA. In late April the Scholarship Committee recommended recipients of the first scholarships since the restructuring of that important effort. Members in Alabama just wrapped up the first year of benefitting from a partnership with the Alabama Water and Wastewater Institute in monitoring the state legislature and offering input on bills and resolutions, which could potentially impact the water industry. Alabama members should have been receiving email updates on the session regularly. If you have not received these, please contact me. Members in Mississippi will soon have the benefit of this service as Mark Snow, Canton, MS is working hard on forming a Water Utility Council in MS for the same purpose. If you have suggestions for Mark please contact him. I am sure he will welcome your thoughts.

Thanks to those of you who spent some of your valuable time with me talking about ways the Section can add value to your membership.

In the first months of my service I have visited several of our existing utility members and some who should be! Thanks to those of you who spent some of your valuable time with me talking about ways the Section can add value to your membership. If you are an individual member but your utility is not a corporate member, consider a Utility Membership. You will join the leading utilities in the industry and help determine the direction of AWWA policy, the industry, and our Section. I look forward to visiting more utilities and members this year and hearing what you have to say about making AWWA and, particularly, the AL-MS Section more valuable to its membership.
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lean water is essential for everyday life. Most of the American public fills a glass from their kitchen faucet without a second thought, using that water for consumption, cooking, cleaning, and so much more. In the past 100 years, drinking water has gone from being a deadly mixture of contaminants to a natural, expected part of our lives, widely taken for granted. Water treatment plant and distribution system operators know exactly where the water comes from, where it goes, how it gets there, and what it takes to make it safe for use and human consumption.

Water treatment operators are responsible for making safe, high quality drinking water from wells, rivers, reservoirs and other natural sources. Distribution system operators are responsible for maintaining the safe quality of that water after it leaves the treatment plant by way of proper maintenance and repair of the pipeline system carrying water to our homes, water for fighting fires, and water to power our economy.

Even though machines and treatment equipment do most of the functions, human intervention and expertise in specialized treatment technologies is required more often than not. The Alabama/Mississippi Section of the American Water Works Association recognizes that expertise. No matter the number of years you have been licensed treating water or repairing and maintaining the pipeline that carries that water to your customers, benefits from serving as a valued member of the AL/MS AWWA remains countless.

So what can you expect from being a member of the AL/MS AWWA? It gives you a chance to connect with other operators from not only Alabama but Mississippi as well by being able to obtain new perspectives and share information. It gives you a chance to connect with other operators from not only Alabama but Mississippi as well by being able to obtain new perspectives and share information.

By recognizing that what we do does make a difference, drinking water operators and distribution operators are continuously growing to reach higher competencies and professional development. As a member of AL/MS AWWA, we have one more avenue to reach that level of success.

Consider joining AL/MS AWWA as an Operator Member today. Remember, Operator memberships are only $50.00 a year. Join online at www.awwa.org and use the promotional code ALAOP at checkout or you can mail your membership in as well. Checkout our website at www.almsawwa.org for updates and information or join us on Facebook. If you have any other questions or comments about membership or operations feel free to contact me at ejames@auburnalabama.org.

It gives you a chance to connect with other operators from not only Alabama but Mississippi as well by being able to obtain new perspectives and share information.
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
blackbur@jsu.edu or (256) 782-5956
Preparing for a “newsworthy” event

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You know it is not going to be a good day when 60 Minutes is unloading cameras in the front parking lot.”

Sooner or later, whether it is a broken water main, a sewer overflow or some other “newsworthy” event we all will face the dreaded interview. Here are a few ways to make the best of it.

Prepare before it happens. Take any opportunity you get to develop a relationship with the local newspaper, radio or TV station. It is usually easiest to work with the local paper. But all news outlets need news on “slow news days.” If your utility is involved in a worthwhile good news event that is positive for your utility take it to the news people. You may be surprised what they will be interested in. Don’t rely on a press release to get the word out. Take the story to them in person if you can. By establishing a relationship when there is no pressure you can develop credibility before things go bump in the night. It matters to be trusted!

In a negative event such as one where there is property damage expect and prepare for the questions: who, what, when, where and especially, why? Reporters and the public appreciate someone who is forthright, informative and knowledgeable. You can make that impression by answering those questions before you are interviewed. They also appreciate someone who is caring and sympathetic toward someone who has been harmed or perceives that they have been harmed. Take care to do that without admitting guilt. Remember, bad things happen. What matters is how you react to them.

Be mindful that reporters are not water works people. Technical jargon will likely only confuse them. Do what you can to educate them in plain language. Keep in mind they are on a tight time frame. They have only a few short hours to get the story, become a subject matter expert, write or tape the story, verify your comments, proof it and get it to the editor. It is a good idea (although you might not think so) to give them your cell number and invite them to call you back if they need clarification or more information. The ability to reach you when they are actually writing or taping the story can cut down on mistakes. On some occasions that call may be your first clue that they are writing an article on your utility.

Be honest. But don’t be stupid. Some things are better left unsaid. Random comments made when you are on the defensive or trying to win your argument can open up a whole new line of questions that you don’t want to have to answer. We live in a litigious society. Try not to make comments you might later have to explain in a deposition.

Above all, relax and treat an interview as your moment to shine in representing your utility and coworkers. Most of the audience will sympathize with you and give you the benefit of the doubt. At worst, the sun will likely still come up in the morning… Even if your picture is on the front page of the morning edition!
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The AL/MS Section of the American Water Works Association is now accepting abstracts for presentations and posters for the 2014 Annual Conference technical program. Presentations will be limited to 20-30 minutes with the opportunity for questions to be submitted from the audience afterward. Abstracts should include the title, a detailed description of the topic, approximate length (time) of presentation, authors’ names, and short bio for the primary contact. Abstracts should be limited to 500 words or less. The Section plans to place a special emphasis on Operator training and Student involvement so presenters from each of those groups are encouraged to participate. General categories for the technical program include:

- Operations/Management
- Regulatory Compliance
- Finance and Administration
- Billing and Customer Service
- Water Resources
- Surface Water
- Groundwater
- Distribution System Management
- Water System Security and Disaster Recovery
- Research from Universities
- Emerging/New Technologies
- Asset and Data Management Systems

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

**Submission Timeline:**

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Please submit abstracts and questions to Matt McDougald [matthew.mcdougald@ch2m.com; (205) 209-3010] or Phillip Gibson [gibsonpw@gibsonengineeringms.com; (601) 594-1545]. Materials may also be mailed to CH2M Hill, The Plaza Building, 2112 11th Ave. South, Suite 320, Birmingham, Alabama 35205 ATTN: Matt McDougald.

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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 _______

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Before Sept. 5, 2014</th>
<th>After Sept. 5, 2014</th>
<th>Total Amount</th>
</tr>
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<tr>
<td>Lifetime Member</td>
<td></td>
<td>$ 175.00</td>
<td>$ 175.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>AWWA Member (Utility, Government)</td>
<td></td>
<td>$ 275.00</td>
<td>$ 325.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>AWWA Member (Manufacturer, Consultant, Contractor, Additional Exhibitor)</td>
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<td>$ 325.00</td>
<td>$ 375.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Non-member (Does not include a 1 year membership to AWWA national)</td>
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<td>$ 400.00</td>
<td>$ 450.00</td>
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<td>$ 500.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spouse</td>
<td></td>
<td>$ 125.00</td>
<td>$ 150.00</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Golf Tournament Registration (1 player) (Complete Golf registration form)</td>
<td></td>
<td>$ 100.00</td>
<td>$ 100.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Golf Tournament Hole Sponsorship (includes Hole Signage) (Complete Golf registration form)</td>
<td></td>
<td>$ 200.00</td>
<td>$ 200.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Golf Tournament Sponsor (includes 1 Team of 4, 4 Mulligan’s, 1 Hole Sign, Plaque, Sponsor Name/Logo on board) (Complete Golf registration form)</td>
<td></td>
<td>$ 800.00</td>
<td>$ 800.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Golf Tournament Lunch Sponsor (includes 1 Hole Sign, Plaque, Sponsor Name/Logo on sponsorship board)</td>
<td></td>
<td>$ 400.00</td>
<td>$ 400.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exhibitors Registration (Includes ONLY one registration and exhibit booth)</td>
<td></td>
<td>$ 750.00</td>
<td>$ 800.00</td>
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<tr>
<td><em><strong>Additional exhibitor must register separately</strong></em></td>
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<tr>
<td>First Time Young Professional (age 35 or younger only)</td>
<td></td>
<td>$ 40.00</td>
<td>$ 65.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Includes 1 Day Pass for Monday only (No technical sessions are included)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Conference Sponsorship Donation (Platinum $2,500, Gold $1,500, Silver $750, Bronze $250)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Total Amount Enclosed</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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 Putt
        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

Player 1  Name: ____________________________ Handicap _______ Email ____________________________ Cell#: _____________
Player 2  Name: ____________________________ Handicap _______ Email ____________________________ Cell#: _____________
Player 3  Name: ____________________________ Handicap _______ Email ____________________________ Cell#: _____________
Player 4  Name: ____________________________ Handicap _______ Email ____________________________ Cell#: _____________

Sponsorship Opportunities

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.

Lakewood Golf Club Dress Code: NO METAL SPIKES, Collared Shirts with Slacks or Shorts ONLY, no Jeans
Jim House & Associates Inc.

H₂

environmental water solutions

Real Solutions for Real Problems
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Home Office</th>
<th>Gulf Coast Office</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 16 North 49th Street  
Birmingham, AL 35222  
205-592-6302 / 800-292-6335  
205-592-6209 FAX | 24312 Highway 98  
Fairhope, AL 36532  
251-928-7867 / 800-919-7867  
251-928-7804 FAX |
BE A CONFERENCE SPONSOR

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
How will your utility address critical infrastructure challenges?

Gain the tools you need for robust water infrastructure planning, reinvestment strategies, comprehensive emergency preparedness planning and enhanced security measures. The four-day Water Infrastructure Conference will provide an interactive learning experience with technical sessions, an exposition, and workshops.

Coming to Atlanta, Georgia—October 26–29, 2014

Conference topics will include

- Infrastructure and asset management
- Capital project delivery
- Applying AWWA's pipe replacement modeling tool
- Technology for utility management and operations
- Affordability assessment tool for federal water mandates
- Condition assessment
- Sustainable infrastructure
- Water and wastewater treatment plant design
- Distribution system design
- Water main rehabilitation
- Water loss control
- Wastewater and stormwater collection system design
- Emergency response and recovery
- Infrastructure protection
- Cybersecurity for enterprise and process control systems
- Risk and resilience management

Topics are subject to change.

Relevant | Smart | New

www.awwa.org/H2Oinfcon
The AWWA Fly-In occurred April 1-2, 2014, in Washington D.C. Participating on behalf of the Alabama-Mississippi Section were Government Affairs Co-Chairs Mark Snow (MS) and Frank Eskridge (AL). Also participating were Section MS Trustee At-Large Amy McLeod, and Section Chair David Stejskal (AL), and Scott Cummings participated with the Alabama contingent. Our main topic of advocacy was the Water Infrastructure Financing and Innovation Act (WIFIA) which would provide loans with below-market interest rates for projects costing over $20 million. Just a 2% reduction in loan interest rates can result in a 25% reduction in the overall cost of a project to a community. Other issues discussed with the Alabama and Mississippi Congressional offices included the following:

1. Ongoing support for the State Revolving Loan Fund program for both water and wastewater
2. Support for the continued existence of tax free municipal bonds
3. Removal of the limits on the use of Private Activity Bonds for water and wastewater projects
4. More information sharing by Federal agencies with utilities regarding cyber-security and cyber threats
5. Strengthening of legislation that addresses notification requirements for parties who have chemical storage facilities that could pollute raw water sources (in response to situations that occurred recently in West Virginia and North Carolina where waterways were polluted with chemicals and coal ash pond slurry).

It was a whirlwind effort to visit all of the Congressional offices for Alabama and Mississippi in two, half-day efforts, but we got it done! Below are some scenes from this year’s Fly-In.
## ALABAMA ACTIVITIES

Alabama-Mississippi Section Manager Jim Miller, and Alabama Government Affairs Committee Co-Chair Frank Eskridge have participated in monthly meetings of the Alabama Water and Wastewater Institute (AWWI) on behalf of the Section since January of 2014. Hopefully, Section members have noticed the regular legislative updates disseminating information regarding Alabama State legislative efforts during that time. With the Alabama legislative session for 2014 drawing to a close, some of the legislation that was enacted is listed here:

1. The “One Call” bill (Act #14-220) was enacted – it maintains provisions for voluntary participation by water and wastewater utilities.
2. A bill requiring disclosure of purchases of real property (Act #14-133) passed. Utilities will need to review these new requirements related to public notification after the purchase of property or easements/rights-of-way.
3. The Drought Assessment Bill received final passage. The two bills regarding tort reform to protect individual utility employees acting within the scope of their official capacities from personal claims, judgments, and lawsuits (SB 260 and House Bill (HB) 339) did not pass.

We will need to participate in efforts next year to make this legislation a priority, and we plan to coordinate our activities with municipal organizations throughout the State.

We are extremely grateful for the excellent representation our utilities have received this year from Stephanie Norrell of McMillan & Associates via our involvement with the AWWI.

Please be sure to contact your Government Affairs leadership if we can be of assistance to you.

## MISSISSIPPI ACTIVITIES

Efforts continue to establish a Water Utility Council in Mississippi. Numerous members and possible stakeholders have been contacted and the interest level continues to be very high. Efforts will continue until this Council is formally established. Any member interested in working on this effort should contact Mark Snow or Jim Miller. We certainly have need for an extra set of hands and eyes as we monitor legislative and regulatory activities in Mississippi.
The North Lauderdale Water Association, Bailey, MS had problems and challenges removing iron from their drinking water especially during high demand periods. Originally established in 1966 NLWA consisted of one well that pumped 250 gpm, one iron removal filter, approximately 62 miles of distribution lines and two 200,000 gallon storage tanks. Today NLWA has seven wells and four iron removed treatment plants. Distribution lines have grown to approximately 800 miles and they have six storage tanks with a combined treatment of 3,120 gallons per minute and storage of 1,200,000 gallons.

According to Stanley Spradling, Calvert Spradling Engineers, West Point, MS, the North Lauderdale Water Association experienced a problem at the water treatment facility that consisted of treated water short-circuiting filters. Due to inadequate storage during high demand periods, treated water was being sucked through the filters that did not allow them to work as efficiently as they should to remove iron and other organics.

The engineer modified the treatment process to allow the treated water from the filters to gravity flow into a clear well tank that would provide the additional storage needed. The price for the initial concrete storage tank was significantly higher than originally budgeted. According to Marc Nichols, Southeastern Tank, Lebanon, TN, they had the opportunity to quote a glass-fused-to-steel tank. The Southeastern team determined that a 59’x10’, 200,000 gallon Aquastore tank would support the modified treatment process and they were awarded the project.

In order for the gravity fed system to work with the above ground Aquastore tank, the construction site had to be reworked to help with drainage. Control ditches and drainage pipes were installed. Backfill was not required to partially bury the tank which resulted in reduced construction time and money.

The tank was completed on-time in 2013 and Spradling reported that “NLWA is extremely pleased with performance of the Aquastore. The interior and exterior coatings have stood up well and the tank is pretty well maintenance free.” Spradling explained that the Southeastern Tank Team is extremely professional with special attention to detail. They do an excellent job providing accurate estimates as many projects have a one to two year lead time.”

The additional storage added to the overall capacity of the water treatment plant that now has the ability to pump 800 gpm and store 1.2 million gallons per day. The fact that iron further settles out in the Aquastore tank so that improved water quality is delivered to 4,000 customers is the biggest benefit of all.

**Benefits**
- Fast, economical construction
- Low tank maintenance costs
- Provided solution to problem of additional storage and removal of iron from drinking water
- Tank never needs painting

**Contact Information:**
Name: Kim Mathis
Title: Global Marketing Director, CST Industries, Inc.
Phone: +1 (713) 351-3769
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www.envexp.com
In the northeast corner of Mississippi, located at the crossroads of both Civil War-era railroads and modern highways, the City of Corinth exudes a unique blend of history and new growth. And like its host City, the Corinth Gas & Water Department has a rich tradition and boundless future, recently taking the significant step of converting from a shrinking groundwater supply source to an award-winning surface water supply system. With this new water source, CGW is capable of serving the needs of a much larger region, spanning portions of three counties, Alcorn, Prentiss, and Tishomingo.

The City of Corinth was founded in 1853 as Cross City, so-called because it served as a junction for the Mobile & Ohio and Memphis & Charleston railroads. The city was eventually renamed Corinth, after the city in Greece that also served as a crossroads. Today there are approximately 14,000 people, 6,220 households, and 3,800 families residing in the city of Corinth. Considered the “Crossroads of the South,” Corinth offers great access to Memphis, Nashville and Birmingham and is located just 20 minutes away from Pickwick Lake, a beautiful recreational lake with over 90 miles of shoreline.

In 1954, Corinth’s Mayor and Board of Aldermen created the Corinth Public Utilities Commission by special charter in order to assure the availability of an adequate source of natural gas and water. The Corinth Gas and Water Department is a not-for-profit municipal utility governed by the Corinth Public Utilities Commission. This commission controls, manages and operates the natural gas and water distribution systems for the City of Corinth. The Commission, a separate governing authority, consists of five members who receive no compensation for their services. The Utility Commission is accountable to the residents of Corinth in accordance with the laws of the State of Mississippi. They discharge their responsibilities by delegating duties to its employees through directives, policy bulletins, resolutions and other actions. The Commission’s commitment to quality and good management practices is evidenced by their long-standing utility membership in the American Water Works Association. Corinth Gas & Water has been an active member in the Alabama-Mississippi Section of AWWA since 1973.

Corinth Gas & Water Department is staffed by 45 dedicated employees who keep the systems in top operational order. The water system has earned an Overall Maximum Rating of 5 issued by Health Department for the past 2 years (2012-13). The operation of the Corinth gas system is also a source of pride to CGW, currently listed in “Top 200” Leading Gas Distribution Utilities in Nation by Pipeline & Gas Journal Magazine.

A Water Supply for the Future, and for the Region

Corinth has just completed a significant “journey” to transform, stabilize, and increase its water supply capacity. From a groundwater supply barely able to sustain the City’s 3.5 million gallons

FACTS:
- 6,900 Customers
- 250 Miles of Distribution Lines
- 4.5 M Gal Storage Capacity in the City (7 Water Tanks)
- 3 M Gal Storage Capacity at SWTF (2 Water Tanks)
- Average Daily Use – 3.5 M Gal
- Normal Summer Peak Use – 6 M Gal
- Surface Water Daily Volume Capacity – 10 M Gal
- Total FY 13 Water Volumes – over 1.1 B Gal
- Earned an Overall Maximum Rating of 5 issued by Health Department for the past 2 years (2012-13).
- Supplies two of the largest industries in Alcorn County, Caterpillar, Inc. and Kimberly Clark Corporation.
SPOTLIGHT

per day, Corinth Gas and Water Department has just completed a $50 million 10 MGD water supply and treatment system using the Tenn Tom Waterway as a surface water supply source. Now Corinth is capable of serving the entire region spanning three counties, and of providing a peak day usage of up to 16.5 MGD of high quality drinking water.

Until 2013, Corinth’s water source was groundwater coming entirely from the Paleozoic Aquifer deep underground and pumped from 12 operational wells scattered in and around Corinth. These wells averaged a little more than 500 feet in depth and were screened off in the fractured limestone of the aquifer. The raw water had to be treated and disinfected separately at each well site, hence the water quality would vary at each location. Large pressure filters were utilized at five of the production sites to remove dissolved minerals (primarily iron and manganese) prior to entering the distribution system.

In April 2013, the 10 MGD Clifford Worsham Water Treatment Facility was fully operational providing treated water to the City of Corinth. The treatment facility is provided with raw water by a river intake and pumping station located on the Tenn Tom Waterway in Tishomingo County, and over 10 miles of 36-inch raw water pipeline. The treated water is delivered to the City of Corinth by 12 miles of 36-inch treated water pipeline. Once the raw water arrives at the treatment plant, it is dosed with hydrated lime, polymers, and a coagulant blend before being introduced to the solids-contact clarifier. The clarified water is applied to the dual-media anthracite sand filter beds, and is disinfected with chlorine. The treatment facility is designed to allow the use of an alternative disinfectant in the future, if needed. The final water is treated with liquid lime to elevate the pH to a stable level for the sake of the distribution system and for water stability.

Award-Winning Project
Corinth Gas & Water Department’s achievement in completing the Clifford Worsham Water Treatment Facility has been met with wide acclaim across the State of Mississippi and beyond. Awards include:

- 2013 recipient of the Mississippi Municipal League “Best Overall” Excellence Award
- 2014 recipient of two awards from the ACEC-Mississippi Chapter
  - Engineering Excellence Honor Award
  - Engineering Excellence People’s Choice Award

Thanks to John Rhodes, General Manager, Corinth Gas and Water Department, and his staff, including David Bass, Operator, for their time and assistance in providing information for this article.

Corinth Gas & Water’s Mission Statement:
“To serve and to protect the public health and welfare by providing a safe, reliable, and sufficient supply of water and natural gas with quality service at a reasonable cost to our customers using effective management and sound business practices.”
Partner with us to Optimize Operations and Improve Water Quality

The Partnership is an alliance of six prestigious drinking water organizations.

www.awwa.org/partnership

The Partnership for Safe Water guides over 200 utilities to greater optimization, helping to provide clean, safe water to 85 million people.

Systems that complete the Partnership’s self-assessment process reduce filtered water turbidity by an average of over 60%!

That’s an impressive accomplishment—and one that builds confidence with customers and regulators.

Subscribe today and join the hundreds of utilities that rely on our guidance to optimize performance and deliver safe, high-quality water.
NEW MEMBERS

Individuals
Alex Beck – City of Madison Water & Wastewater, AL
Ronnie McCullars – MUB – Albertville
Eric Williams – Mississippi State Dept. of Health-Water Supply
Sharon Tow – Skywave Antennas, Inc.
Gerald Long – Utilities Board of Tuskegee
Michael Digmon – Wetumpka Water Works
Bryan Smith – City of Trussville Utilities Board

Utility Member
Randolph County Water, Sewer & Fire Protection Authority – Wedowee, AL

Service Providers
SkyWave Antennas, Inc. – Huntsville, AL

SECTION SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

Mr. Danny Hutcherson, Chair of the Scholarship Committee, Mr. David Stejskal, Section Board Chair and the Board of Trustees have authorized the award of six major scholarships for the 2014 year. The Section will award three scholarships at a value of $4,000 each to three Utility Member employees who are furthering their education and will likely remain both in the area and in the industry. Additionally, three scholarships valued at $2,000 each will be awarded to students attending colleges and universities in the states Alabama and Mississippi within areas of study related to the water works field.

Notification of the recipients is in process and the six students will be recognized at the Section’s annual conference this October in Point Clear, Alabama at the Grand Hotel. They will also receive free registration to the conference and one night’s free stay at the Grand Hotel. Students or Utility Member employees who are interested in applying for the 2015 scholarships should monitor the Section’s publications, web-site and “friend” the Section on Facebook for notifications related to future Scholarship awards.

YOUNG PROFESSIONALS COMMITTEE

Join AL/MS Section of AWWA Young Professionals Committee in activities, events and as a volunteer. The Young Professionals 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. 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@bw wb.org

OR

Chris Bryson
Chris.Bryson@ridgelandms.org

NEWSMAKERS NOTICE

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

Follow us on Facebook and LinkedIn

http://www.linkedin.com/groups?gid=7430440
https://www.facebook.com/pages/AlabamaMississippi-Section-of-AWWA/593590000676076
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Ductile Iron Pipe is the SMaRT Choice.

Made from up to 95 percent recycled materials, ductile iron pipe has always been environmentally friendly. It’s trusted in thousands of utilities, and more than 600 have had it in continuous use for more than 100 years. Our Sustainable Gold rating and SMaRT certification from the Institute for Market Transformation to Sustainability is further proof that AMERICAN ductile iron pipe is made the right way. Because doing things the right way is the AMERICAN way.

AMERICAN
The Right Way

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- Flow Control
- International
- SpiralWeld Pipe
- Steel Pipe

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MEMBER UPDATE

2014 AWWA ALABAMA/MISSISSIPPI AWARDS ANNOUNCEMENT

REQUESTING APPLICATIONS AND NOMINATIONS
AL/MS Section will select one Water Plant, Distribution System, Water Operator and Young Professional from Mississippi and one from Alabama whose outstanding performance during the preceding year deserves special recognition by the section.

Water Operator of the Year Award
• Eligibility Requirements:
  ▶ The Operator must be employed by a Utility who is a member or be an individual member of the AL/MS Section of AWWA
• Submission Deadline
  ▶ July 31st, 2014

Young Professional of the Year Award
• Eligibility Requirements:
  ▶ The Nominee must be under 35 years of age with less than 10 years of experience in the water industry.
  ▶ The Nominee must be an individual member of the AL/MS Section of AWWA or be employed by a member organization of the AL/MS Section of AWWA.
• Submission Deadline
  ▶ July 31st, 2014

Water Plant of the Year Award
• Eligibility Requirements:
  ▶ The Plant must be operated by a Utility who is a member or employ an individual member of the AL/MS Section of AWWA
  ▶ The Plant must be in regulatory compliance
• Submission Deadline
  ▶ July 31st, 2014

Distribution System of the Year Award
• Eligibility Requirements:
  ▶ The Distribution System must be operated by a Utility who is a member or employ an individual member of the AL/MS Section of AWWA
  ▶ The Distribution System must be in regulatory compliance
• Submission Deadline
  ▶ July 31st, 2014

Completed Application forms are available for download from the Awards Section of the website (www.almsawwa.org) and may be either saved to your computer and emailed to jhall@awwsb.org or HortonMR@cdmsmith.com or printed using the print box on the form and mailed to the following:

John A. Hall, Anniston Water Works and Sewer Board, P.O. Box 2268
Anniston, AL 36202-2268

Applications must be received by July 31, 2014.

If there are any questions please contact the following:

John A. Hall
Phone: 256-241-5036
Email: jhall@awwsb.org

Matthew Horton
Phone: 601-960-6440
Email: HortonMR@cdmsmith.com

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’s Pipeline magazine, please contact the Communication’s Chair Harry Gong at Harry.Gong@msdh.state.ms.us or at (601) 576-7527.
Algae Control Without Chemicals

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BEFORE

“...what we have seen thus far indicates that we have significantly improved our wastewater discharge lab results. Before the device a good BODS result was in the 20s (our permit limit is 30). Now it’s not uncommon for us to get single digit results.”

Stephen H. Sorrells, Comer City Clerk
Comer, Georgia

AFTER

“...after 4 years we have not had to take these tanks offline once to address Nitrification and we have been able to maintain optimum combined residuals and free Ammonia levels to date. SonicSolutions ultrasonic units offer a first line defense against the formation of biofilm and ground storage tank Nitrification.”

Steven Miller, Water Production Manager
Port Orange Florida Potable Water Plant

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- We ensure that an efficient recycling program is used for all printing plates and all waste paper.
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