EMERGENCY

TANK REPAIR, PREVENTION AND PREPARATION

INSIDE

• Spotlight on City of Auburn Water Works Board
• Haiti Outreach Promotes Water Independence
• The Marble Column
ENVIROMENTAL TECHNICAL SALES, INC.

*Water ... Wastewater ... Sludge ... Air Equipment – Systems – Solutions*

ETEC is a manufacturer’s representative organization which is focused on the water and wastewater treatment, sludge handling and air emission markets. By concentrating on these related areas, we can carry a broad range of product lines, thereby allowing us to offer optimum solutions to our clients’ particular problems. ETEC seeks out manufacturers that not only produce the highest quality equipment, but are also technological leaders in their field. Our territory includes Louisiana, Mississippi, Arkansas and portions of Tennessee.
Gulf Coast Underground

Full Service - “FIND & FIX” Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation

SSES
Smoke Testing * Manhole Inspections * Lateral Inspection CCTV and Cleaning Sanitary Sewer Mains

Reports & Rehabilitation recommendations are available from Professional Engineer

VERTICAL STRUCTURE LININGS/REHABILITATION
Cement Liners * Spectra-Shield Liner Systems

TRENCHLESS PIPELINE REHABILITATION
Interfit Lateral Connection Liner * Permaliner Point Repair

AREAS OF OPERATION
Alabama * Florida * Georgia
Louisiana * Mississippi * Tennessee

Gulf Coast Underground, LLC
3158 Old Shell Road
Mobile, Alabama 36607

Office – 251-725-0200
Fax – 866-471-2753
Cell - 251-406-2583

For More Information:
SPENCER TUELL, P.E., VICE PRESIDENT
e-mail - STUELL@ME.COM

www.gulfcoastunderground.com
What if your tank worked for you?

With Total Dynamic Storage you’ll meet your customers’ needs and eliminate elevated debt.

You know that elevated tanks are expensive to build and maintain. More important, once their hydraulic grade is set, you work for the tank instead of the other way around.

With Southeastern Tank’s unique Total Dynamic Storage (TDS), you not only maintain system pressure and achieve greater turnover. You save money and downtime as well. And that’s the benefit you want.

Contact us today at 615-466-5220 and discover how TDS can make your operation work better for you.
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 2,900. 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.almsawwa.org

Managing Editor: Scott Kelman, scott@kelman.ca
Layout & Design: Jackie Magat
Marketing Manager: Rod Evasion, rod@kelman.ca
Advertising Coordinator: Stefanie Hagidiakow

All rights reserved. The contents of this publication may not be reproduced in whole or in part without the express consent of the publisher.

FEATURING:

Spotlight on City of Auburn Water Works Board ........................................ 19
Water or Wastewater Treatment................................................................. 25
Plant Grade IV Operator Certification ......................................................... 28
Emergency Tank Repair, Prevention and Preparation.............................. 32
Haiti Outreach Promotes Water Independence ........................................... 32

DEPARTMENTS:
Chairman’s Report .................................................................................. 6
Director’s Report .................................................................................... 8
Manager’s Report .................................................................................... 10
Section Officers/Trustees and Committee Members .............................. 11
Operator’s Corner .................................................................................... 12
Manager’s Minute .................................................................................... 14
The Marble Column ................................................................................ 16
News & Notes ....................................................................................... 34
Member Update ...................................................................................... 36
Advertising Information Center ............................................................. 38

Managing Editor: Scott Kelman, scott@kelman.ca
Layout & Design: Jackie Magat
Marketing Manager: Rod Evasion, rod@kelman.ca
Advertising Coordinator: Stefanie Hagidiakow

All rights reserved. The contents of this publication may not be reproduced in whole or in part without the express consent of the publisher.

This document is printed on paper certified to the standards of the Forest Stewardship Council® (FSC®).
T
do the loyal members of the AL/MS AWWA, I bring you greetings and enthusiasm from your Planning Committee.

We met January 25 and 26 at the Beau Rivage for our second of three Planning Committee meetings. I have to say that the progress made and continuing to be made in all areas is amazing.

First of all, our Education Programs are blowing and going. I just heard today that our EPA-sponsored Area 2, small systems training session in Tuscaloosa had 57 folks signed up. We have more of these sessions scheduled for Alabama, and some Area 1 training later for Mississippi. For Area 2, which is basically financial, the University of North Carolina – Environmental Finance Center is supplying the teachers and the materials, we just set it up for them. For Area 1 training, we have to supply the instructor. We are closing in on a candidate there, and will be off and running in Mississippi.

Also on education, the MS Education Committee folks have a Leak Detection Seminar scheduled for March 19, which has been approved for 4.5 hours by the MSDH. It will be in Raymond, MS, and you all should have received an email from Jim Miller.

On the Scholarship front, the Board approved extension of the application deadline from Feb 1 to April 1. Much interest has been shown after awarding over $20,000 worth of scholarships last year. There are no criteria, as long as the candidate is referred by a member. Final selection of recipients will be done by the Scholarship Committee, and can include anything from graduate school to trade school operator training. Application forms are available on our website.

Also, do not forget to nominate people and systems for our annual awards: YP of the Year, Operator of the Year, Plant of the Year, and Distribution System of the Year. Application forms are available on our website.

As far as the annual Section Meeting goes, we are well down the road to another enjoyable and educational event. We will have a Sunday night social event at the new minor league ballpark across the street from the Beau, a special spouse outing, and some really cool entertainment. We will be adding an Operator’s track to the technical program, and are, once again, looking to fill the exhibit hall with quality exhibitors.

Our MAC Sponsors, as always, will play a pivotal role in the success of the Section Meeting. The meter madness and pipe tapping will be popular, and don’t forget the taste test competition. Our golf tournament will occur at the traditional Sunday afternoon slot, with all proceeds going to the Scholarship fund.

So, our slogan this year; ‘Value through Service,’” will be on display throughout the year. Whether it is online training through our 360 Water program, seminars throughout both states, scholarships, or educational programs at the Section Meeting, the value of AWWA membership is immeasurably substantial.

As the year moves on, I want to encourage each and every one of you to talk up AWWA. We have a valuable organization. We should be proud to be members and quick to encourage other individuals and utilities to join.

See you around!
Water professionals agree.

Medora Corporation helps solve water quality problems and save money.

From California to New York, water operators and engineers trust Medora Corporation to help reduce operating costs and achieve better compliance in their potable water systems, wastewater lagoons and lakes. They depend on our electric, solar and air-powered systems for fast, reliable results. And that’s just the beginning. Year after year, our customer support and long-term product performance ensure complete satisfaction.

To read the case studies and learn more, visit medoraco.com/betterwater
The AWWA Winter Meeting was held in Santa Fe, New Mexico in January. Several items were addressed at the meeting, including the approval of new standards, bylaws and policy statements. The Board also elected Jeanne Bennett-Bailey of Fairfax, VA, as the association’s next president-elect. An AWWA member since 1990, Bennett-Bailey is the public affairs officer for Fairfax Water in Fairfax, VA, the state’s largest water utility. Currently chair of the AWWA Public Affairs Council, Bennett-Bailey received AWWA’s Volunteer of the Year Award in 2014. Jeanne will begin her role as president-elect in June 2015, at the conclusion of AWWA’s Annual Conference and Exposition in Anaheim and she will serve her one-year presidential term beginning in June of 2016.

AWWA announced this week that we will establish our first International Community when we open an office this spring in India. David LaFrance made the announcement during a speech at the Indian Water Works Association’s Annual Convention in Kolkata. AWWA anticipates introducing AWWAIndia’s first executive manager in the coming months. In addition to opening an office, the executive manager’s initial focus will be on building a community of water professionals who collaborate to support public health, environmental protection and best management practices.

AWWAIndia will also develop training for operators and managers.

The main goal for increasing AWWA’s presence in India is to help the water professionals improve public health by providing solutions to effectively manage water in India. AWWA has determined that it cannot easily achieve this goal without a presence in India that will also allow North American AWWA members to learn from Indian water professionals and to share technological solutions to water problems. AWWA is already a recognized brand with Indian water professionals and our presence would fill a void that currently exists in the water market. The challenges will be steep, but the opportunities to expand international membership and knowledge exchange are also significant.

As always, please let me know if you have any thoughts or concerns related to AWWA.

“...
When you’re having too many problems with your system’s centrifugal grinder pumps, it can wear you down. And wear you out.

If you’re tired of constant service calls resulting from grease-fouled floats, jammed grinders, burned-out motors, and other grinder pump problems, it’s time to upgrade — with E/One’s Extreme Series Upgrade. Our aftermarket, semi-positive displacement grinder pump works and goes on working without any preventive maintenance. We have it down to a science, with an average mean time of 10 years between service calls. So replace that troublesome grinder pump with the Upgrade from E/One.

Do you have a problem grinder pump?

Now being represented in Alabama by:
Morrow Water Technologies
7440 Cahaba Valley Rd
Birmingham AL 35242
Tel 205-408-6680
www.morrowwater.com
STRATEGIC
As of this report, we have completed our first EPA Small Systems Grant training session/workshop. It is somewhat counterintuitive, but this was Area 2. You recall this one is done in cooperation with the folks at UNCC Environmental Finance Center Network and was on the subject of financial management for small utilities. This session was done at the Tuscaloosa Fire Logistics Building on McFarland Blvd. in Tuscaloosa, AL. The building was made available for no charge through the Tuscaloosa Water Department’s Jimmy Junkin.

All indications are that this session was a success. We had 58 attendees, which far surpasses Denver and EPA’s goal of 20 per session. Fortunately, the majority of attendees were from target utilities—those sized at less than 10,000 customers. We did have a couple from Mississippi. The feedback received from attendees during and after the session was positive. Denver is pleased with the turnout and all indications are that the EFCN folks were very pleased. We handled all logistics including signage, A/V, set-up and cleanup. The Section provided boxed lunches, donuts and coffee as well as soft drinks for breaks and lunch. We were also able to produce certificates of attendance on site and hand those out as attendees left. They will also be e-mailed a certificate from Denver. But most were happy to have something in hand when they left.

I have written attendee evaluations, which I will review and send to Denver as required. I will also be preparing an invoice tomorrow to send to Denver. You will recall that this cannot exceed $2,800. But that should cover most everything. (Keep in mind EPA will not allow us to recover costs for food.) Of that amount, $500 is the Section’s in-kind contribution, which mainly consists of marketing through our e-blasts and my advertisements at other events.

I met and talked extensively to the lady who has been hired as the RCAP representative in Alabama. She was unsure about who does what in the Area 1 sessions, but with some back and forth those issues have been resolved and she is now on track. We are looking at the first AREA 1 session occurring in Cullman, AL, with the date to be determined on venue availability. Please advise if this is not suitable, as I will be calling my Cullman contacts in the next few days.

RCAP has asked to participate in a second Area 1 session in Alabama as well, possibly in Tuscaloosa again. That gives us both the advantage of additional marketing in each session. **AMY, Will you reach out to Tommy and see when and where RCAP is thinking we should do AREA 1 in Mississippi? Or just let me have his contact info and I will give him a call. I’m assuming that will be in Jackson. Please advise what time of the year you think we should shoot for. We will be paid expenses up to $3,700 for Area 1 sessions—one for Alabama and once for Mississippi. However, it is my understanding the Board wanted to try to do two in each state.

Two other educational sessions were also scheduled. Eddie James and Matt McDougald held a session on coagulation in Auburn on February 19, while Mauricka McKenzie and Alan Barefield have a leak detection seminar scheduled for March 19 in Raymond, MS. We may set a record! The education committee also has another joint session planned with AWEA for November.

ADMINISTRATIVE
We have had a number of inquiries about scholarships. I believe we will have plenty of applicants. I dropped packages by both Jasper Water Works and Curry Water Authority in the last month. I have also continued to work with Belinda Blackburn on the Jacksonville State Operator Training program. They are tweaking the literature as well as the name of the program and the certificate. It is getting sharp!

I hope those of you who are going to Key Largo for the RMSO in March have made a hotel reservation. They are booked tight!

As always, if you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact me.
2015 OFFICERS/TRUSTEES

CHAIR – Sam Agnew
PAST CHAIR – David Stejskal
VICE-CHAIR – Brian Shelton
DIRECTOR – Jim Nelson
SECRETARY/TREASURER – Chris Griffin
TRUSTEE-AT-LARGE ALABAMA – Drusilla Hudson
TRUSTEE-AT-LARGE MISSISSIPPI – Amy McLeod
SECTION MANAGER – Jim Miller

2015 Officers: Front Row: Amy McLeod, Brian Shelton, Sam Agnew, Drusilla Hudson
Back Row: David Stejskal, Jim Nelson, Chris Griffin

2015 COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Program Chair – Phillip Gibson
Assistant to Chair – Nick Freeman
Entertainment – John Hall
Exhibits Chair – Doug Clark
Assistant to Chair – Jeremy Gwin
MAC Chair – Ryan Bailey
MAC Assistant to Chair – Chris Morrow
Registration Chair – Anna Yamat
Assistant to Chair – Shannon Bailey
Education - Co-Chair AL – Matt McDougald
Education - Co-Chair MS – Mauricia McKenzie
Operators Chair – Eddie James

Competitions Chair – Jimmy Eckman
Media, Communications & Pipeline – Harry Gong
Assistant to Chair (Website/Social Media) – Hercy Golson
Communications Committee – Miranda Duke
Governmental Affairs - Co-Chair AL – Frank Eskridge
Governmental Affairs - Co-Chair MS – Mark Snow
Young Professionals - Co-Chair AL – Jaquice Boyd
Young Professionals - Co-Chair MS – Chris Bryson
Awards Chair – Matthew Horton

Assistant to Chair – LaQuoyah McDaniel
Water for People Chair – Ben Benvenutti
Assistant to Chair – Chris Griffin
Scholarship Chair – Danny Hutcherson
Scholarship committee – David Bass
Scholarship Committee – Eddie James
Scholarship Committee – Jason Barrett
Membership (MS) – Hugh Smith
Membership (AL) – David Stejskal
Section Manager – Jim Miller
AWWA National – Christopher McGinness

WIPE OUT!

Problem: Sanitary wipes and other solids are causing major problems with ragging and downtime at wastewater plants.

Solution: Franklin Miller’s powerful grinders! Call 973-535-9200 today to wipe out problem solids at your facility.

Visit our website to view our full line of grinders, screens, septage receiving and washing systems.
What a great start to our operator training for 2015! We have just wrapped up a wonderful session with the folks from Chemtrac. Twelve operators from East Alabama came to Auburn on a cold February day to get educated on Optimizing Coagulation with Streaming Current Measurement. This was a highly interactive and hands-on training that was well taught by our instructor Mark VanDiver. If you could not make it out, here is what you missed.

The discussion started with talking about how streaming current works. Principles of coagulation and flocculation were discussed. This led to talking about how streaming current changes and what causes those changes. Controlling chemical feed rate based on flow rate and chemical demand helps us use a streaming current monitor in our plants. We then shifted gears to talking about troubleshooting any problems with a monitor and what to do. General maintenance and cleaning of the monitor were also discussed.

After a short break, we headed up to the laboratory to get some hands-on training. Mark brought an actual unit and demonstrated exactly how it works. He then did a chemical dose test to show how different chemicals affected the readings on the monitor. The operators got to fill out a workbook along the way that helped us to understand what we were seeing.

The session concluded with a small test that all operators discussed the answers to. This was a very informative and well taught class. I hope that you can attend the next one soon, as Matt McDougald, one of our Education chairs, is looking at getting them to come back to another part of Alabama later in the year. You do not want to miss that.

Mississippi operators, look out for training in your state soon, and all operators from both states, get ready for our first ever Operator’s Day at this year’s 2015 Conference – a whole day dedicated to getting CEUs. I am looking forward to seeing and meeting all of you sometime soon.
Interested in Pursuing a Career in the Water Works Industry?...

OUR SECTION CAN HELP!

Scholarship applications will be accepted until April 1

For individuals pursuing advanced licensure or training in the water works (science) field:
• Sponsored by an AL-MS AWWA Water Utility Member
(Up to three awarded + $1,000 upon completion and employed within the Section)

For individuals pursuing an undergraduate or graduate degree in the water works (science) field:
• Graduate Level (Up to three awarded + $1,000 upon completion and employed within the Section)
• Undergraduate Level (Up to three awarded + $1,000 upon completion and employed within the Section)

For more information, please visit our website at http://www.almawwa.org or contact: Jim Miller, Section Manager
Alabama/Mississippi Section of the American Water Works Association
P.O. Box 637, Sumiton, AL 35148-0637
Phone: 256-310-3646  Email: millerwatermark@gmail.com
The implementation of technology

By Ed Turner – General Manager, Anniston Water Works & Sewer Board

The advances in technology over the past 50 years have made life easier. As we become more accustomed to changes, we expect the changes to make our lives easier. Unfortunately, life is not easy and neither is implementing technology. Knowing how and when to utilize technology can be the difference between saving money and costing money.

CUTTING EDGE OR BLEEDING MONEY

There are many famous people associated with firsts. Ask anyone over the age of 30 who the first man on the moon was and more than likely they will answer “Neil Armstrong.” Ask that same person who the second man on the moon was and odds are they will answer “I don’t know.” To be honest I didn’t remember until I ‘googled’ it. It is Buzz Aldrin, if anyone was wondering. The fact that Buzz Aldrin was the second man to walk on the moon does not diminish his accomplishment. It only makes him less well known. Anonymity isn’t all bad. Sometimes being second can be a good thing.

Learning from the great ideas of other utilities can be less expensive and just as productive. Sometimes being the first also means making first time mistakes. The best part about copying another utility’s idea is there is almost always a way to improve a project. Advances in technology and materials can mean a better product at a reduced cost.

One example would be the SCADA systems first installed. Today’s SCADA systems allow utilities to monitor their systems more efficiently and are less expensive to implement than they were 20 years ago. This allows smaller utilities to take advantage of SCADA without having a huge capital expense.

Another example would be the AMR systems first installed. Cost and time to install an AMR system would have been prohibitive for a smaller system 15 years ago. Today, AMR is allowing all utilities to read meters and bill customers more efficiently. As utilities progress to an AMI system, the savings on fleet and labor cost will only become greater.

SETTING THE BAR HIGHER

While technology has led to many improvements, it has also led to greater expectations from the customer. Managing these expectations can be difficult at times. Today’s customers expect information about their accounts to be available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The days of calling during business hours or paying during business hours are a thing of the past.

What are the wants and needs of today’s customers? Multiple payment methods, usage history, and outstanding customer service are a few items that customers desire. Since our expenses are paid by the customers, it is always in our best interest to take extremely good care of them.

Using the internet and social media we can educate our customers, offer several payment options and supply them with information about their accounts. Keeping the customers informed can help during major projects or rate increases. That does not mean the customers are going to be happy about a rate increase, but supplying the information can prevent bad publicity.

PREPARING FOR THE FUTURE

No one knows what the future may bring. As technology changes the way we live, it also changes the way we manage our water and wastewater utilities. Educating customers and providing exceptional customer service will be essential to the success of every utility. The jobs of employees are evolving. Future employees will need skills the employees of 20 years ago never needed. Change is inevitable. Doing nothing is not an option. I believe Benjamin Franklin said it best: “By failing to prepare, you are preparing to fail.”
Looking for a Low Cost, Pre-Engineered Packaged System Designed to Handle a Wide Range of Water Filtration Applications?

New

H&T “Plug & Play” Greensand Plus™ Systems provide the quality and durability you’ve come to expect from H&T backed by the experience of an industry leader in pure water technology for over 100 years.

Designed to handle flows from 20 to 3,000 gpm, “Plug & Play” Skid-Mounted Filtration Systems are available with 1-3 tanks, in diameters from 36” to 144” in 6” increments, complete with piping, valves, actuators, instruments, and controls.

Simply set in place, hook up water & electrical connections, load & condition media, and the system is operational for: Iron, Manganese, Arsenic, Radium, and Hydrogen Sulfide Removal

Complete line of systems also available for:

- Nitrate and Perchlorate Removal
- Forced Draft and Vacuum Degasification
- Softening, Condensate Polishing, and Complete Demineralization

For more information, contact our local representatives

The Eshelman Company (AL)
PO Box 361984 • Birmingham, AL 35236
P: 205-424-7570 • F: 205-424-4281 • billputney@mindspring.com

Environmental Tec. Sales, Inc. (AR, LA, MS, TN)
7731 Office Park Blvd. • Baton Rouge, LA 70809
P: 225-295-1200 • F: 225-295-1800 • sagnew@etec-sales.com

www.hungerfordterry.com • sales@hungerfordterry.com • 856-881-3200
The current session of the Mississippi Legislature has been relatively quiet. They are still in session at this time and we will continue to monitor any pertinent activity.

We are monitoring ongoing litigation concerning the ‘victims of domestic violence rule’ now in effect by the Public Service Commission. The Mississippi Rural Water Association has challenged this rule for various reasons and we are awaiting further activity. We will keep AWWA members informed of any changes and/or the final outcome.

This March, Amy McLeod and I will be traveling to Washington for the annual AWWA Water Matters! Fly-In. AWWA is currently preparing issues and talking points and we will be following up with you when we receive these. I expect there will be continued discussion regarding financing, cyber security, and proposed regulations. I will also be staying over an extra day to attend the spring meeting of the AWWA Water Utility Council. It will be interesting in Washington now that Republicans hold majority in both houses.

As always, I encourage any member to contact me if they become aware of any issue I could assist with.
First Annual Alabama Utility Management Conference
On Wednesday, January 14, 2015, the first annual Utility Management Conference was held at the offices of the ADECA Office of Water Resources in Montgomery, Alabama. Sixty-nine water and wastewater utility leaders from around the State of Alabama gathered to get legislative and regulatory updates on topics of interest for the coming Legislative Session. ADEM updates were provided by Dennis Harrison and Emily Anderson, while Wesley Helton, a member of Governor Bentley’s staff, provided insights as to the Governor’s plans for water supply issues. State Representative Mark Tuggle shared his thoughts regarding the Legislature’s goals for water policy legislation in the coming year. Tom Littlepage, and Brian Atkins (of the Office of Water Resources, the hosts for the event) addressed ongoing efforts to develop Alabama Water Policy. Robert Sasser of the Sasser, Sefton, and Brown law firm discussed the latest information on the ‘water wars’ with the State of Georgia, and Stephanie Norrell of McMillan and Associates updated the audience on legislative activities that will involve members of the water and wastewater utility community in the 2015 Legislative Session. Jarrod Milligan with the City of Tuscaloosa gave a presentation to the assembled group concerning the Capacity Management Operation and Maintenance (CMOM) program implementation that is being pursued there. This event was conducted as a joint effort between the Alabama Mississippi AWWA Section and the Alabama Water Environment Association. A special thank you to Specification Rubber Products, Inc. for sponsoring the breaks. Scott Cummings of the AWEA was instrumental in arranging the logistics associated with the event, and we would like to extend our gratitude to Kimberly Polifka of the AWEA for handling the registration duties. This event was a tremendous success, so be sure to watch your calendars for the 2016 event.

New Alabama Co-Chair for Government Affairs

Ed Turner, General Manager of the Anniston Water Works and Sewer Board, has agreed to serve as the Alabama Co-Chair of the Section’s Government Affairs Committee. He will be getting off to a quick start as he, Section Past-Chair David Stejskal, and AWEA colleague Scott Cummings represent Alabama during the AWWA Fly-In in Washington DC on March 18-19, 2015. Be sure to share any concerns or questions you would want our team to put before the Alabama Congressional offices during their Fly-In visits.
THE RIGHT PERSPECTIVE MAKES ALL THE DIFFERENCE.

Over thirty-five years of proven success has given us the perspective to help you achieve your goals.

WAGGONERENG.COM

Plan
Engineer
Manage

PUTTING IT IN — EASY.
GETTING THE DATA YOU NEED OUT — EVEN EASIER.

The ultimate answer to high bill complaints is Neptune’s E-Coder® R900™, combining the field-proven R900® RF MIU and the E-Code® solid state absolute encoder into one easy-to-install, wireless package. Putting it in is simple, saving time and labor – while advanced leak detection and timely meter data keep the savings coming.  neptunetg.com

LEARN MORE ON HOW NEPTUNE PROVIDES 1-OF-A-KIND CONFIDENCE THROUGH THE MIGRATABLE R900® SYSTEM AT NEPTUNETG.COM.
SPOTLIGHT

AUBURN, ALABAMA
The Water Works Board of the City of Auburn

City of Auburn
The City of Auburn, Alabama, founded in 1836, is known as one of the most progressive and fastest growing cities in the United States. It is home to Auburn University, a nationally recognized institute of higher learning with a college enrollment of approximately 25,000 students. With a current population of approximately 56,900, the City of Auburn has been recognized by the U.S. Census as the sixth fastest growing city in the United States since 2010.

The City of Auburn is located along Interstate 85 at the geological junction of the Piedmont Plateau and the Coastal Plains, and is strategically located between several major cities and tourist destinations. The City of Auburn is approximately 50 miles east of Montgomery, Alabama; 110 miles southwest of Atlanta, Georgia; 120 miles southeast of Birmingham, Alabama; and 200 miles from the white, sandy beaches of the Gulf of Mexico.

The City of Auburn’s public school system has been recognized as the fastest growing school district in Alabama over the past five years and is consistently ranked as one of the top public school systems in the United States.

With the allure of Auburn University, the City’s nationally ranked public school system, a positive business environment, and a capable workforce, it is no secret why the City of Auburn is ranked by numerous publications and websites as one of the fastest growing and best small cities in the United States.

Water Resource Management Department
The City of Auburn’s Water Resource Management Department is responsible for overseeing and managing water treatment and water distribution for the Water Works Board of the City of Auburn (AWWB), as well as wastewater collection, wastewater treatment (outsourced to a private company), and watershed management within the City of Auburn. The City’s Water Resource Management Department is comprised of approximately 50 employees in the following divisions: administrative/engineering, water distribution, water treatment, wastewater collection, and watershed management.

With a rapidly growing and educated community come numerous challenges and rewards for the City of Auburn and the Water Resource Management Department. The Department prides itself on providing high quality drinking water, safe and adequate wastewater services, and a comprehensive watershed management program, as well as having a highly trained and courteous staff to provide timely, effective and accurate responses to its citizens.

Auburn’s water sources
The City of Auburn is fortunate to have three major drinking water sources. The AWWB’s primary water source is Lake Ogletree, a 300-acre impoundment on Chewacla Creek that was constructed by Alabama Power Company in the early 1940s. In 1952, a new raw water pump station was constructed at Lake Ogletree, allowing the AWWB to utilize Lake Ogletree as a drinking water source. As the City of Auburn continued to grow, a new raw water pump station and two new raw water pumps were added in the 1960s. In 2014, the AWWB completed a project at Lake Ogletree to replace both of the old, original raw water pump stations with a new raw water pump station that has three variable frequency drive raw water pumps with a firm capacity of 8.5 million gallons per day (MGD).

The AWWB currently has a project...
under design to replace the original sharp-crested weir spillway at Lake Ogletree with a more efficient labyrinth weir spillway, as well as improvements to the dam outlet structure. This project will also allow the AWWB to raise the lake approximately 0.5 feet, adding approximately 50 million gallons of additional capacity to the reservoir. Construction of this project is expected to begin in the fall of 2015 and last approximately one year.

For over 40 years, the AWWB has implemented a comprehensive source-water monitoring program for evaluating water quality in the Lake Ogletree watershed. This program has allowed staff to better understand the watershed and water quality within Lake Ogletree, leading to more effective and efficient water treatment and improved water quality over the years. In 2015, the Water Resource Management Department took this program in-house after contracting it out for over 40 years.

As mentioned earlier, Auburn sits in a unique geologic position at the divide of the Piedmont Plateau to the north and the Coastal Plains to the south. Groundwater is often much more plentiful in the Coastal Plains area of the
In 2012, the AWWB completed construction of a new groundwater supply well that supplies an additional 1.3 MGD to the system. Water from the well is disinfected via onsite sodium hypochlorite generation prior to being sent into the distribution system.

The AWWB also has three system-interconnection sites with Opelika Utilities that allow the AWWB to supplement its drinking water supply. The AWWB has a contract with Opelika Utilities that allows the AWWB to pull up to 3.6 MGD from the three system interconnections. These interconnections are valuable in that they provide a supplemental source of water as well as being a secondary source of water should something occur with Lake Ogletree or the well.

James E. Estes Water Treatment Plant (WTP)
The AWWB’s water treatment plant is named for James E. Estes. Mr. Estes served as a water plant operator and plant manager for the AWWB for 38 years, from 1959 to 1997. The James Estes WTP is an 8 MGD conventional-surface water plant that utilizes alum for coagulation in the flash mixer followed by slow mix flocculation, sedimentation, filtration with eight dual media filters consisting of anthracite and sand, and disinfection using bulk sodium hypochlorite. During the spring, raw water is diverted into a carbon contact basin where carbon is added for treatment of taste and odor issues that may be caused by algal blooms in Lake Ogletree. Lime is added for pH adjustment, along with fluoride and C-9 (corrosion inhibitor) in the mechanical post mixer. Turbidity in the filters and sedimentation basins is monitored continuously with in-line turbidimeters, and plant operations are monitored by a supervisory control and data acquisition (SCADA) system.

The WTP is operated and maintained by a staff of seven employees: four Grade IV certified operators, one maintenance technician, a chief operator and the plant manager. The plant is manned 24 hours a day, seven days a week in compliance with state and federal regulations.

The AWWB’s James E. Estes Water Treatment Plant (WTP) sits on the site of Auburn’s first water source, Binford Springs. The first building was erected in 1924 and used Lake Wilmore as its source water. In 1952, a new raw water pump station, additional filters and new finished water pumps were added to treat water from Lake Ogletree. In the 1960s, more filters and new sedimentation basins were constructed, as well as a new lab and break room. In the early 1980s, the oldest part of the plant was decommissioned and only the current eight filters were left in use.

Over the last 30-plus years, additional improvements have been constructed at the James E. Estes WTP to improve water treatment and provide more effective service for the citizens of Auburn. In 1997, a Crom-domed, pre-stressed, one million gallon concrete clear well was constructed to give the plant more storage capacity along with two new 1.5 MGD pumps and a new backwash pump. In 1999, generators were installed at the James E. Estes WTP and the raw water pump station to provide backup power in the event of a power outage. In 2001, the plant was upgraded with new filter underdrains and media. The old
pneumatic/hydraulic filter controls were replaced with a new SCADA system, tube settlers were installed, and a new sludge removal system was added to the sedimentation basins. In addition, a new flash mixer and flocculators were installed at this time. In 2008, the AWWB switched from gas chlorine to bulk sodium hypochlorite disinfection for safety reasons. Two bulk sodium hypochlorite tanks, a transfer pump, two day tanks and a feed pump were installed for disinfection. Softened finished water is used to push the sodium hypochlorite to the feed points just before and after filtration. In 2012, two old clear wells were replaced with a new 500,000-gallon clear well and new finished water and backwash pumps were installed. During this project, some of the old plant piping was upgraded to increase effluent flow while decreasing discharge pressure. In 2012, the old fluoride, C-9 and alum tanks were also replaced. 2014 brought significant changes to the James E. Estes WTP with a complete renovation of the plant’s exterior as well as multiple improvements to the interior of the facility. A new roof, lobby, break room, training room, offices for the plant manager and maintenance technician, lab improvements and exterior painting were all part of this renovation. The plant staff did an exceptional job of running the facility and meeting all applicable state and federal water quality requirements while these improvements were being constructed.

Water distribution
The AWWB’s water distribution system is comprised of approximately 300 miles of cast iron and ductile iron water main, six water storage tanks, two booster pumps stations, 2,700 fire hydrants and 22,000 radio-read Neptune water meters. The configuration of the AWWB’s water distribution system requires that the AWWB have three separate pressure zones for water service across the City.

The water distribution staff is composed of approximately 20 employees who respond to approximately 20,000 water service calls on an annual basis. Staff are responsible for main breaks, meter reading, cut-ons and cut-offs, and general facility maintenance of the AWWB’s water distribution infrastructure.

Summary
In summary, the AWWB prides itself on providing safe and reliable drinking water and fire protection for the citizens of Auburn and providing timely and effective responses to citizen concerns. Staff are continually planning and evaluating new technologies to ensure that the water needs of the City of Auburn are met for many years to come.
Jim House & Associates Inc.

H2O
environmental water solutions

Real Solutions for Real Problems
Providing Superior Products and Customer Service Since 1957

Home Office
1401 Georgia Road
Irondale, AL 35210
205-592-6302 / 800-292-6335
205-951-0291 FAX

Gulf Coast Office
24312 Highway 98
Fairhope, AL 36532
251-928-7867 / 800-919-7867
251-928-7804 FAX

Register by March 29, for the Best Rates!

ACE15 provides an environment for all water professionals to present and discuss solutions for the most pressing water utility challenges. Nowhere else can you find a similar experience where experts from around the world provide leadership and guidance for the future of our water.

For a full agenda, visit www.awwa.org/ace15

June 7–10, 2015
Anaheim, CA
www.awwa.org/ace15

Spring 2015 | Pipeline 23
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
The mission of the Jacksonville State University Office of Continuing Education is to source for workforce development programs that will offer job retraining in emerging career fields. Working in collaboration with general managers, superintendents, Grade IV operators and other key individuals within the Alabama/Mississippi Section of the American Water Works Association (AWWA) and the Alabama Water and Wastewater Institute (AWWI), Jacksonville State University’s Office of Continuing Education set out to develop a certification program that serves the training needs of individuals, municipalities and industry, alike.

Careers in the water or wastewater treatment field have been identified as ‘high-wage, high-impact’ jobs and have been approved for Workforce Investment Act (WIA) funding by the Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs (ADECA) Workforce Development Division. This funding is earmarked for individuals who are seeking training in approved career fields. Contact your Alabama Career Center System to determine your WIA eligibility. This program is mobile, so if your locale is outside Alabama, please contact the Career Center System in your area. This program is available from anywhere in the United States.

The Alabama/Mississippi Section of the American Water Works Association has scholarships available for individuals interested in pursuing careers in the water works industry in Alabama and Mississippi. Visit their website to download an application and view the process: http://www.almsawwa.org/

The Alabama Water and Wastewater Institute (AWWI) will be providing valuable scholarships for plant operator candidates within its member utilities. If you are employed by an AWWI utility, please contact your manager for more information.

PROGRAM ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

- High school graduate (or GED)
- Current driver’s license
- At least 18 years of age to apply
- Proficient in reading and math at the grade 10 level. Will be tested by CareerLink and Jacksonville State University
- Complete the Jacksonville State University application and interview process
- Commit to the 26-week program and passing the Grade IV exam
- Must pass a drug screen and extensive background check
- The superintendent at the internship location will be given the option to meet the intern and will have the right of refusal for their location

PROGRAM TIMELINE AND CURRICULUM

- 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. Participants will be monitored by the Jacksonville State University Office of Continuing Education to ensure progress through the
material and will proctor chapter exams. Volume I will be completed by self-study and progress will be monitored by the Jacksonville State University Office of Continuing Education. The participant may choose to study at home or at the Jacksonville State University McClellan campus. Volume I must be completed within three weeks. This includes passing all eleven chapter tests (proctored by Jacksonville State University). After CSU certifies that Volume I is complete, the participant will be assigned to a water or wastewater treatment facility for a 22-week internship.

• Study in Volume II will begin once the participant is on-site at the water treatment facility. The participant will be required to complete all chapters in Volume II along with the accompanying tests. Participants will learn both by reading and hands-on exposure to the tasks covered in Volume II (always under the supervision of qualified operators at the facility).

• Participants will work up to 20 hours per week on-site. Scheduling will be at the discretion of plant superintendent and may be on any shift. In addition to the 22-week internship, the participants will be required to attend 40 hours of classroom training. This training will consist of exam prep and tutoring in the areas of need. Every effort will be made to source instructors and tutors from within the facility where the intern is working, if available, and compensated for their time. If not available at that location, we will seek recommendations from general managers and superintendents.

• On occasion (in lieu of a 20-hour week), Jacksonville State University will invite general managers, superintendents and Grade IV operators to talk with the interns. These speakers will address the water industry in general and their own experience as it relates to the path to management. The speaker(s) will also encourage interaction and answer any questions about issues that arise in their leadership role as well as any other topics of interest, i.e., advancement potential.

PROGRAM COMPLETION

• After the completion of all training elements, the participant will apply to the Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM) to take the Grade IV (Water or Wastewater) exam.

• Once ADEM approves the application, the participant will be notified and scheduled for the exam.

• If the exam is passed, the student must also have 1900 hours of on-the-job experience prior to ADEM issuing the official certification. After ADEM issues the certification, Jacksonville State University will bestow the designation of ‘Certified Water Treatment Professional.’

For more information, please contact:
Belinda Blackburn, Director
Jacksonville State University
Office of Continuing Education
JSU McClellan Education Consortium
100 Gamecock Drive, Anniston, AL 36205
Phone: (256) 782-5956    Email: blackbur@jsu.edu
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.
Tank Repair, Prevention and Preparation

By Erika Henderson, Director of Research, Pittsburg Tank & Tower, Inc. www.watertank.com

Drinking water tanks are surrounded by threats daily, but most problems associated with emergency tank repairs can be prevented. Extra time and maintenance may be needed to ensure the tank is protected, and water operators should have an effective plan to restore water services if a tank emergency does occur.

Most problems that lead to emergency tank repairs can be prevented with proper maintenance and regular inspections. Obtaining accurate information and saving the documentation of every inspection and repair can enable a deeper level of understanding about the tank’s history. The knowledge gained from its history can then be used to help create a more effective strategy in preventing and limiting future tank repairs.

Harsh winter weather often increases the risk for tank damage and emergency repairs. Last winter, several drinking water tanks nationwide experienced damage, leaks, and failures. A Minnesota tank froze twice over the winter because of the prolonged deep freeze. And, according to The Old Farmer’s Almanac for 2014-2015, “this winter will be another Arctic blast with above-normal snowfall throughout much of the nation.” Therefore, measures should be taken now to protect the tanks and help prevent damage that could be caused by snow, ice and freezing temperatures.

Drinking water tanks are more susceptible to freeze during nighttime hours when water demand and turnover rate is low. Moving water is less prone to freezing, so keeping the turnover rate high or adding a mixing system can help. The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) recommends maintaining the water temperature at or above 42°F to prevent tank freezing, and the water temperature can be monitored by installing a low-water temperature alarm. But, to maintain appropriate temperature, heating may be necessary. Insulation and standby electric heaters can be used for systems not already set up for steam or hot water.

All heater pipes, heating elements and temperature alarms should be tested, inspected and replaced as needed before the heating season begins and monthly thereafter, or malfunctions are likely to occur.

For example, the heater in a wooden Chicago water tank malfunctioned in March and the water inside froze solid. The tank’s structural integrity was compromised and the tank had to be dismantled later that month.

Changes in temperature can cause pipes to expand and contract, making them vulnerable to breaks and leaks. Therefore, all pipes subjected to freezing or temperature change should be protected with insulation and heat tracing. The pipes inside small dry risers of elevated water tanks should also be insulated to prevent the inlet and outlet pipes from freezing. In January, a water pipe broke underneath the foundation of a Minnesota water tower and nearly 500,000 gallons of water was drained from the tank in a mere 30 minutes.

Frozen EWT
Pipe connections and expansion joint connections should be monitored closely for leaks. Leaks hidden behind insulation can be difficult to locate, and insulation should be inspected and replaced as needed to reveal any hidden defects. The American Water Works Association (AWWA), NFPA and Occupational Safety & Health Association (OSHA) have devised a system of codes and standards that contain several recommendations on pipe inspections and a suggested timetable for inspecting each type of pipe.

Pumps, altitude valves, and overflow pipes should be checked before winter to prevent malfunctions. An overflow to grade may freeze solid if screens are plugged or flap valves are stuck, and vents can become clogged with ice and snow if they are not vacuum pressured and frost proof. Pumps or altitude valves that fail to shut off during tank filling can cause the tank to overflow. AWWA states, “A properly operated tank should not overflow during normal operation. An overflowing tank is considered an emergency condition and the malfunction causing the overflow should be determined and corrected as soon
as possible.” AWWA does not recommend the use of an internal overflow, because if an overflow failure occurs it could go unnoticed and empty the tank. This past winter, five water distribution pumps in Arkansas froze overnight, leaving the city’s above-ground storage tanks empty. Without water, the city’s fire hydrants became useless and firefighters were left with nothing but the water on their trucks.

All valves, pipes, controls, alarms, and liquid level indicators must be in proper working order for adequate water to be available. Failure of any component could have dire consequences, and all components may need to be inspected daily during extreme weather for signs of frozen, cracked or damaged areas. Sometimes, despite all measures taken, emergency repairs may still be needed. Therefore, effective strategies must be devised for a quick response and recovery. An established relationship with a dependable and experienced tank professional, already familiar with the tank, can be extremely useful. The selected full-service tank company should be educated, certified and have received the proper safety training necessary to perform tank inspections, repairs and modifications. They should be available 365 days a year to answer questions, address concerns, and be flexible enough in their scheduling to make emergency repairs when needed. For more information on emergency tank repairs, contact the author or Don Johnston at djohnston@watertank.com 270-826-9000.


Erika N. Henderson is the director of research at Pittsburg Tank & Tower Group. She received a bachelor’s degree in International Relations from University of Southern Indiana, and she has been published in numerous water publications. Please contact her at 270-826-9000 ext.350 or ehenderson@watertank.com for more information about water tanks.

Act Fast and Save—Join Now!

Pass the test! Earn CEUs!
Operators join now for only $50
www.awwa.org/join  code ALMSOP
Volkert provides engineering, environmental, and construction services in more than twenty areas of specialization through offices in eleven states and the District of Columbia. These offices are supplemented by construction and right-of-way acquisition field offices throughout our geographic area.

Office Locations:
Alabama: Mobile, Montgomery, Birmingham, and Foley
Mississippi: Jackson

Contact Us:
Tim Patton, PE  |  tim.patton@volkert.com
Kirk Mills, PE   |  kirk.mills@volkert.com
Darrell Broome, PE |  darrell.broome@volkert.com

www.volkert.com

YOUR CHOICE
for High Performance Water & Wastewater Systems
Professionals in the water industry in the United States appreciate the quality of drinking water most Americans receive and that many take for granted. These professionals also know that many places in the world aren’t as fortunate and that a lack of safe water is a major factor in problems – both health and economic – that developing countries face.

Some are far away, such as Africa, but a group called Haiti Outreach Inc. is focused on an area only 600 miles from the United States. Sharing the island of Hispaniola with the Dominican Republic – flanked by the Atlantic Ocean and the Caribbean Sea to the north and south and by Cuba and Puerto Rico to the west and east – Haiti is trying to work its way back to the standards of life of its neighbors.

The challenges of many Latin American countries and commonwealths are not as acute as those in Haiti, which is ranked as the poorest in the Americas by the Human Development Index, using statistics related to life expectancy, education, and income. The 30-year reign of François “Papa Doc” and Jean-Claude “Baby Doc” Duvalier caused many citizens to leave the country from 1957 to 1986. “Their dictatorship wiped out more than a generation of the middle class,” said Dale Snyder, the executive director of Haiti Outreach, of the Duvaliers. “The country has not recovered, and it might take another 20 years.” A devastating 2010 earthquake near the capital city of Port-au-Prince was another setback to Haiti’s recovery.

With regard to water, Haiti ranked last of the 147 countries studied by Keele University of England for clean and available water.

Haiti Outreach has been working since 1977 to forward its vision of Haiti becoming a developed country with clean water, adequate food, proper sanitation and medical care, electricity and infrastructure, and education and job opportunities for all. Its mission is based on sustainable development and not relief. Snyder said 90 percent of the organization’s work focuses on water and that community ownership, management training, and effective use of the economic system are the keys to their work and what distinguishes their organization. “Many relief-based non-profits, however well-intentioned, create dependency, which is counterproductive to moving Haiti forward as a developed country.”

Snyder explained that Haitian communities must make a request for engagement and then meet certain criteria. “If, for example, they want a well, they need a letter signed by five people, three of whom must be women. The project ideas must originate from them. They must initiate and take action.” The community must purchase the land for the well so that it is on
A Haitian woman pumps water from a new well, part of a project from Haiti Outreach, a Minnesota-based organization that is helping Haiti to become a developed country with most of its focus on water.

Ron Axel and Dale Snyder.

A Haitian woman pumps water from a new well, part of a project from Haiti Outreach, a Minnesota-based organization that is helping Haiti to become a developed country with most of its focus on water.

A wellhouse under construction in Haiti.

public, not private, land. The average well depth is 200 feet, which is below the reach of human contamination. As an undeveloped country with little industry, Haiti has little pollution. “Almost everything is organic,” said Snyder.

The communities elect a water-management committee, and Haiti Outreach sends trainers (called animators) to teach them how to manage and maintain the wells, develop their own rules and regulations, and raise money for future repairs. The management committee consists of volunteers, although they will hire a guard at the wellhouse to manage it when it is open, and the committee will raise money with subscriptions to cover the annual maintenance fee of approximately $25.

Only subscribers to the system may get water, but the subscription fee is only about 50 cents per year. Even with average income of only $2 a day, the fee is affordable. “For that, they get clean water,” Snyder said, adding that there is still some resistance because water is seen as free. “This is a cultural change.”

Staff from Haiti Outreach inspects the well monthly for two years after it is drilled and stresses maintenance. They also conduct sanitation education and train volunteer teachers to continue that education in each community. Over the last three years, the organization has seen a 99-percent success rate with wells being maintained. Snyder said, “with some success,” they have convinced the national government to become involved with registering public wells and certifying the water systems in addition to training inspectors. “Eventually we can back out of this business and have the government take over,” said Snyder, although he doesn’t think it will be soon. “If it can happen in 10 years, I’ll be floored.”

Headquartered in Hopkins, Minnesota, Haiti Outreach is a non-profit organization funded by foundations and donations from individuals, churches, and civic groups. Rotary International has been a key contributor for water projects in Haiti and other parts of the world. Ron Axel, a Rotary member and active participant in Haiti Outreach, recalls a “magical quote” he heard after Rotary drilled a well: “Since Rotary, the children have stopped dying.”

Haiti Outreach is now on a 100-well initiative in northeast Haiti in collaboration with the national government over the next three years, but they must raise money for it. “Water brings everyone together. There is no argument over need,” says Snyder, always emphasizing the importance of self-sufficiency and communities taking ownership of the water systems.

Haiti Outreach leads education and work trips to Haiti about six times a year. The trips are usually about eight days long. More information about group trips is available at http://www.haitioutreach.org.
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 which is a member or be an individual member of the AL/MS Section of AWWA
• Submission deadline: July 31, 2015

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 31, 2015

Water Plant of the Year Award
• Eligibility requirements:
  ○ The plant must be operated by a utility which is a member or employ an individual member of the AL/MS Section of AWWA
• Submission deadline: July 31, 2015

Distribution System of the Year Award
• Eligibility requirements:
  ○ The distribution system must be operated by a utility which is a member or employ an individual member of the AL/MS Section of AWWA
• Submission deadline: July 31, 2015

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 HortonMR@cdmsmith.com or printed using the print box on the form and mailed to the following:

Matthew Horton, CDM Smith
210 E Capitol St Ste 1050
Jackson, MS 39201-2300

Applications must be received by July 31, 2015

If there are any questions please contact the following:
Matthew Horton
Phone: 601-960-6440
Email: HortonMR@cdmsmith.com

AL/MS Section – AWWA Annual Conference
CALL FOR PRESENTATIONS

Beau Rivage Resort and Casino l Biloxi, Mississippi l October 11-13, 2015

The AL/MS Section of the American Water Works Association is now accepting abstracts for presentations for the 2015 Annual Conference technical program. Presentations will be limited to 20-25 minutes with 5-10 minutes 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 current and future regulatory changes and operator training so presenters from each of those groups are encouraged to participate. General categories for the technical program include:

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

SUBMISSION TIMELINE:
Abstract Deadline: June 30, 2015
Presenter Notification: July 18, 2015
Submit Materials Digitally: Sept. 9, 2015

SELECTION CRITERIA
- Originality
- Content
- Relevance to industry
- Audience range
- Innovation
- Case Studies

Please submit abstracts and questions to Phillip Gibson (gibsonpw@gibsonengineeringms.com); (601) 594-1545. Materials may also be mailed to:

Gibson Engineering, Inc.
210 East Capitol Street, Suite 1050
Jackson, MS 39201 or
Gibson Engineering, Inc.
P.O. Box 390, Jackson, MS 39205
Attention Phillip Gibson.
**ALABAMA/MISSISSIPPI SECTION**
**AMERICAN WATER WORKS ASSOCIATION**
**68th ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

**October 11 – 13, 2015**
Beau Rivage Resort and Casino, Biloxi, Mississippi

REGISTRATION FORM

Please complete and return to AL/MS AWWA, c/o Chris Griffin, 580 County Road 64, Deatsville, AL 36022.
Make check payable to "AL/MS Section AWWA".

| Name: (First) ___________________________ (Last): ___________________________ Name/Nickname for Badge: ___________________________ |
| Spouse’s Name: (First) ___________________________ (Last): ___________________________ Name/Nickname for Badge: ___________________________ |
| Firm/Municipality/Organization/Company: ___________________________________________ |
| Address: ___________________________________________ |
| City: ___________________________ State: ______ Zip: __________ Phone: (____) ______ - ----- Date: ______/____/____ |
| AWWA Membership #/Operator Certification #: ___________________________ E-Mail Address: ___________________________ |
| Is this your first time attending the Alabama – Mississippi AWWA Conference? Yes ______ No ______ Spouse’s? Yes ___ No ____ N/A ____ |
| Are you a Young Professional (35 age and younger)? Yes ___ No _____ Spouse’s Email Address: ___________________________ |
| Are you/spouse planning to attend Sunday’s dinner? Yes _____ No _____ Are you planning to attend Tuesday’s dinner? Yes _____ No _____ |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>AWWA Member (Utility, Government)</strong></th>
<th>Qty</th>
<th>Before Sept. 4, 2015</th>
<th>After Sept. 4, 2015</th>
<th>Total Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AWWA Member (Manufacturer, Consultant, Contractor, Additional Exhibitor)</td>
<td></td>
<td>$325.00</td>
<td>$375.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-member (includes 1 year membership to AWWA national)</td>
<td></td>
<td>$450.00</td>
<td>$500.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lifetime Member (30 cumulative years of membership and at least 65 years of age)</td>
<td></td>
<td>$175.00</td>
<td>$175.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spouse</td>
<td></td>
<td>$125.00</td>
<td>$150.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Time Operator (includes technical sessions and day pass for Tuesday only)</td>
<td></td>
<td>$60.00</td>
<td>$85.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Time Young Professional (Age 35 or younger only. Includes day pass for Monday only)</td>
<td></td>
<td>$40.00</td>
<td>$65.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exhibitor Registration (Exhibit booth and one exhibitor only. Additional exhibitor must register separately)</td>
<td></td>
<td>$750.00</td>
<td>800.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conference Sponsorship Donation (Platinum - $2,500, Gold - $1,500, Silver - $750, Bronze - $250)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<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 – Complete Golf Registration Form (includes 1 Team of 4, 4 Mulligans, 1 Hole Sign, Plaque, Sponsor Name/Logo on Board)</td>
<td></td>
<td>$800.00</td>
<td>$800.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Golf Tournament Lunch Sponsor – Complete Golf Registration Form (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>Plant Tour (City of Pascagoula)</td>
<td></td>
<td>$5.00</td>
<td>$5.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total Amount Enclosed $_________**

Conf **ference registration cancellations after September 4, 2015 are not refundable, but substitutions are accepted.**

If paying by credit card, please fill out the following information:
MasterCard: ______ Visa: ______ American Express: _______ CVV#: ______ Expiration Date (MM/YYYY): ______/

Credit Card Number: ___________________________ Signature: ___________________________

If you have any questions, please contact Anna Yamat at 601-576-7518, (fax) 601-576-7974, or rohana.yamat@msdh.ms.gov. To register online and make a hotel reservation, go to [www.almsawwa.org](http://www.almsawwa.org) and click on 2015 Conference. Hotel reservations can be made directly with the Beau Rivage Resort & Casino at 1-888-567-6667. To receive the group rate, tell the reservation desk you are attending the American Water Works Association Conference. Hotel reservations must be made by September 4, 2015 and cancellations must be made 48 hours prior to arrival date.
MEMBERS UPDATE

NEW MEMBERS

INDIVIDUALS
Lafelton Norman
– Greenwood Utilities
William Craven – Orlando, FL
Cedric Montgomery
– Bessemer Water Service
Cynthia Hill – Jackson Water Works
Thomas Mobley – Auburn, AL
Joshua Pierce
– Goodwyn Mills and Cawood Inc
Jeffery Harrison – CDG
Christopher Lovelace
– Alabama Rural Water Assn.
Jeremey Aldridge – Town of Pine Hill
Diane Cannon
– University of Alabama
Wayne Hyde
– Jackson County Port Authority
Jonathan Bittles – Birmingham, AL
Randy Myers – Tuscumbia, AL
Russell Ware – Burk-Kleinpeter Inc
Erin Cooper – Specification Rubber Products, Inc.
Paige Harkins – Specification Rubber Products, Inc.
Bahareh Kokabian – Starkville, MS
Donna Gossett
– V.A.W. Water System Inc
Hal Mülkiff – Hydra Service
Elisabeth Ingram
– City of Auburn - WRM
Jim Lambert
– U.S. Pipe & Foundry Company
Sean Lamberts
– U.S. Pipe & Foundry Company
Parker Capps – Oxford, MS
Greg Davis – M&H Valve
Jerriot Smash – Jackson Water Works
Charles Williams
– Jackson Water Works
Jonathan Yaeger
– Jackson Water Works
Terry Williamson
– Jackson Water Works
Derrick Stephens – Pinson, AL
Belinda Blackburn
– Jacksonville State University

COMPANY MEMBERS
University of Alabama – Tuscaloosa, AL
Specification Rubber Products, Inc.
– Alabaster, AL

EDUCATION – AREA 2 TRAINING

Tuscaloosa Small Systems Financial Workshop

Montgomery Management Workshop

IN MEMORIAM: CONGRESSMAN ALAN NUNNELEE

On February 6, 2015, House Representative Alan Nunnelee (R-MS) passed away at his home in Tupelo, Mississippi at the age of 56. Congressman Nunnelee served the 1st Congressional District of Mississippi and served on the House Committee on Appropriations.

The accompanying photo is one that was taken during the 2012 Fly-In in Washington, D.C. with Mississippi Trustee Amy McLeod and Mississippi Governmental Affairs Chair Mark Snow. The Congressman was very supportive of our organization’s goals for providing safe and affordable drinking water to the public and our representatives appreciated the time he took to listen and discuss the pressing issues that face our utilities in achieving our goals.

The Alabama-Mississippi Section of the American Water Works Association is deeply saddened by the Congressman’s passing and our prayers are with his family and those who loved and supported him.
MEMBER UPDATE

Online Operator Training

Members now have access to an Online Training Site for Continuing Education and Professional Development Hours with 360Water.

Visit us online
www.almsawwa.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.

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.

Follow us on Facebook and LinkedIn

http://www.linkedin.com/groups?gid=7430440
https://www.facebook.com/pages/AlabamaMississippi-Section-of-AWWA/59359000676076
Pipeline would not be possible without the advertising support of these companies and organizations. Please think of them when you require a product or service. We have tried to make it easier for you to contact these suppliers by including their telephone numbers and websites.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COMPANY NAME</th>
<th>PAGE</th>
<th>PHONE</th>
<th>WEB ADDRESS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Allen &amp; Hoshall</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>601-977-8993</td>
<td><a href="http://www.allenhoshall.com">www.allenhoshall.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Cast Iron Pipe Company</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>205-325-7701</td>
<td><a href="http://www.american-usa.com">www.american-usa.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Flow Control</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>800-326-8051</td>
<td><a href="http://www.american-usa.com">www.american-usa.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARCADIS</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>720-344-3500</td>
<td><a href="http://www.arcadis-us.com">www.arcadis-us.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carter &amp; VerPlanck</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>800-329-2255</td>
<td><a href="http://www.carterverplanck.com">www.carterverplanck.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CB&amp;I Inc</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>678-935-3650</td>
<td><a href="http://www.ch2m.com">www.ch2m.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CH2M HILL</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>334-271-1444</td>
<td><a href="http://www.ch2mhill.com">www.ch2mhill.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environmental Technical Sales, Inc. (ETEC)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>225-295-1200</td>
<td><a href="http://www.etec-sales.com">www.etec-sales.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evoqua Water Technologies</td>
<td>12</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="http://www.evoqua.com">www.evoqua.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Franklin Miller</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>800-932-0599</td>
<td><a href="http://www.franklinmiller.com">www.franklinmiller.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Garver</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>256-534-5512</td>
<td><a href="http://www.garverusa.com">www.garverusa.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gulf Coast Underground</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>251-406-2583</td>
<td><a href="http://www.gulfcoastunderground.com">www.gulfcoastunderground.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hazen and Sawyer</td>
<td>9</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="http://www.hazenandsawyer.com">www.hazenandsawyer.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hungerford &amp; Terry, Inc.</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>856-881-3200</td>
<td><a href="http://www.hungerfordterry.com">www.hungerfordterry.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hydra Service, Inc.</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>800-749-3569</td>
<td><a href="http://www.hydraservice.net">www.hydraservice.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jacksonville State University</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>205-782-5956</td>
<td><a href="mailto:blackbur@jsu.edu">blackbur@jsu.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jim House &amp; Associates Inc.</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>205-592-6302</td>
<td><a href="http://www.jimhouse.com">www.jimhouse.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kamstrup</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>404-835-6716</td>
<td><a href="http://www.kamstrup.com">www.kamstrup.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Krebs Engineering, Inc.</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>205-987-7411</td>
<td><a href="http://www.krebseng.com">www.krebseng.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M&amp;H Valve Company</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>256-237-3521</td>
<td><a href="http://www.mh-valve.com">www.mh-valve.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medora Corporation</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>866-437-8076</td>
<td><a href="http://www.medora.com">www.medora.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MERRICK Industries, Inc.</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>850-265-3611</td>
<td><a href="http://www.merrick-inc.com">www.merrick-inc.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Morrow Water Technologies</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>205-408-6680</td>
<td><a href="http://www.morrowwater.com">www.morrowwater.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Pump Company</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>623-979-3560</td>
<td><a href="http://www.nationalpumpcompany.com">www.nationalpumpcompany.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neel-Schaffer, Inc.</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>800-264-6335</td>
<td><a href="http://www.neel-schaffer.com">www.neel-schaffer.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neptune Technology Group Inc.</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>334-283-6555</td>
<td><a href="http://www.neptunetg.com">www.neptunetg.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pittsburg Tank &amp; Tower Company Inc.</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>270-826-9000</td>
<td><a href="http://www.watertank.com">www.watertank.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Smith Seckman Reid, Inc.</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>615-383-1113</td>
<td><a href="http://www.ssr-inc.com">www.ssr-inc.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southeastern Tank, Inc.</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>615-466-5220</td>
<td><a href="http://www.southeasterntank.com">www.southeasterntank.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Crom Corporation</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>352-372-3436</td>
<td><a href="http://www.cromcorp.com">www.cromcorp.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Ford Meter Box Co., Inc.</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>260-563-3171</td>
<td><a href="http://www.fordmeterbox.com">www.fordmeterbox.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Systems</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>800-455-3293</td>
<td><a href="http://www.united-systems.com">www.united-systems.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Utility Service Co., Inc.</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>855-526-4413</td>
<td><a href="http://www.utilityservice.com">www.utilityservice.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vesconite</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>866-635-7596</td>
<td>www-vesconite.com</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volkert, Inc</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>251-342-1070</td>
<td><a href="http://www.volker.com">www.volker.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waggoner Engineering, Inc.</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>800-661-3733</td>
<td><a href="http://www.waggonereng.com">www.waggonereng.com</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Take production to the next level with Bobcat® compact excavators. Designed to produce more horsepower from a lighter machine, these hard workers offer ultimate digging performance, exceptional pushing power and more. Whatever the job calls for, these machines are ready to deliver.

Bobcat® and the Bobcat logo are trademarks of Bobcat Company.
M&H Valve presents “Hydrant” vs. “The Dragon” in

FLAMES OF FURY

Built to last. Built to fight.

Donny “The Dragon” Chan

No flame can handle the Sixth Degree fire-fighting black belt of M&H Hydrants.

M&H Valve Company | www.mh-valve.com

Made in America since 1878.
M&H Valve Company | www.mh-valve.com
M&H Valve is a division of McWane, Inc.
McWane. For Generations.