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TAWWA/WEAT

MARCH-APRIL 2014

ISSUE 95

SOUTH TEXAS CHAPTER

e-Newsletter

WHAT'S THE MAGIC NUMBER ON TEXAS' WATER NEEDS?

By Neena Sajita, *The Texas Tribune*, texastribune.org

May 9, 2014

How much more water will Texas really need by 2060?

The 2012 state water plan — the state's strategy for meeting water needs — estimated that Texas would face a shortfall of 2.7 trillion gallons of water a year by 2060, and that filling the gap would take an estimated \$53 billion in new infrastructure.

But some water law and planning specialists believe that number is too high. A report for the nonprofit Texas Center for Policy Studies, an environmental research group, says that Texas would only need an additional 1.1 trillion gallons of water a year by 2060. That's in part because, according to the report, state water planners have overestimated the needs for water from the agricultural industry and from cities. Plus, it says, the plan underestimated the effects of water conservation measures.

The Texas Water Development Board, which wrote the state water plan, acknowledged that some of its assumptions might need to be revised and that demand forecasts could fall as the plan is updated every five years. But the agency also called some of the center's assumptions unrealistic, noting that every community's water needs and ability to conserve water are different.

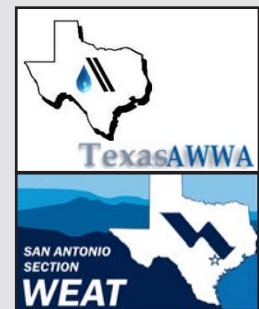
"TWDB and the regional water planning groups continually seek to refine the available data to result in the most accurate plans possible and welcome public input at all levels of planning," the agency said in a written response to the report.

If the state's water needs are far lower than projected, the implications for state policy could be significant. In November, in the throes of a historic drought, voters approved spending \$2 billion from the state's Rainy Day Fund to help finance sources of new water supplies. Good data is crucial for sustainable water planning, the report's authors say, and relying on inaccurate information could have severe consequences.

"Once policymakers, the media and the public see that single number, it tends to be taken as gospel," wrote the authors of the report by the Center for Policy Studies, Mary Kelly and Rick Lowerre, who are environmental lawyers, and Joe Trungale, an engineer and hydrologist.

That report specifically questioned the water plan's projection for water needs for agriculture, in part because a dwindling water supply in the Southern High Plains is already forcing corn and cotton growers to cut back. While irrigation in that region accounts for almost a quarter of the projected increase in water needs by 2060 — nearly 800 billion gallons a year — the Ogallala Aquifer is rapidly being sucked dry, making agricultural expansion unlikely, the report said. Even today, there are large demands for water for irrigation in the region that aren't being met, and no one has proposed viable water projects to increase agricultural water supplies.

The problem, the study's authors say, is that lowering the projected needs for the Southern High Plains makes a statement on the future of farming that area residents are not ready to embrace. (continued on page 2)



TAWWA/WEAT MAY MEETING

Date: Thursday, May 15, 2014
Place: San Antonio Water System
Tower II, 1st Floor, Room C145
2800 US Hwy 281N
Speaker: Eric Hall, PE
KBR
Topic: Application of Trenchless
Construction for Water Main
Installation

TAWWA/WEAT JUNE MEETING

Date: Thursday, June 19, 2014
Place: San Antonio Water System
Tower II, 1st Floor, Room C145
2800 US Hwy 281N
Speaker: Karen Bishop
San Antonio River Authority
Topic: Low Impact Development:
Another Tool in the Sustainable
Land Development Toolbox

EDITOR:
Heather Lindner (heather.lindner@hdrinc.com)

GRAPHIC DESIGNER:
Samantha Hopkins (samantha.hopkins@hdrinc.com)

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

As we all know, there are concerns about the future of drinking water not only here in Texas, but all over the country, as well as the world. Here in Texas we are aggressively pursuing alternative methods of water treatment to meet the needs of the growing population. Some of the treatment processes have drawn concerns from our residents. As water quality professionals, we will play a vital role in developing, designing and operating these new treatment processes.

TAWWA and WEAT have done a commendable job of bringing in presenters at monthly meetings, as well as the Annual Summer Seminar, to provide knowledge and perspective on these new technologies. Through these training opportunities we are provided with the resources to educate the public on the advancements that are being made on the quality of all the water in the state.

I would like to thank the members on the San Antonio Chapters of TAWWA and WEAT on their presentations at Texas Water 2014. Great Job! I would like to also thank everyone that came out to support the Sporting Clay Tournament. We had a great turn out, and raised \$6,450. Special thanks to all our sponsors for your continued support!

Here's a brief reminder of upcoming events: YP tour of the Toyota plant on May 16th 2014 (tour is at capacity), the 12th Annual Bowling Social on May 30th, 2014 and the Annual Summer Seminar on July 25th, 2014.

"The plan can't make there be more water in the aquifer," said Ken Rainwater, a professor at Texas Tech University in Lubbock who specializes in water resources management. Residents may hope that current levels of farming in the Southern High Plains can continue through 2060 and even expand, he said, but "that's just not going to happen."

The region has never come to a consensus on how to project water needs for irrigation in 50 years, said Jason Coleman, general manager of the High Plains Underground Water District, which has tried unsuccessfully to limit groundwater pumping by farmers in the Southern High Plains. Asked if he felt the number in the current state water plan is realistic, he said, "I'm not sure that anyone of the [regional planning] group members would say, we've finally figured that out."

Cities also may be overestimating their needs, the report says. The region that includes the fast-growing Dallas-Fort Worth metropolitan area projects that it will need nearly a trillion gallons more water a year by 2060. But conservation strategies, like reducing lawn watering and using more efficient appliances, have already reduced that number since an earlier plan was released in 2007.

Calculations in the report suggest that if such conservation measures are built upon as the state water plan continues to be updated, the Dallas-Fort Worth region could reduce its 2060 demand by as much as 200 billion gallons of water a year. That is about as much water as would be supplied by a controversial and expensive water project the region is considering — the \$3.3 billion Marvin Nichols Reservoir in East Texas.

"Do I think we can eliminate the need for some projects? Yes. That's what we're actively trying to accomplish," said Dan Buhman, assistant general manager of the Tarrant Regional Water District, which would benefit from Marvin Nichols. But he added that some expensive water projects would have to be built, and almost every project involves controversy.

Officials have also said that large cities like Dallas, which have big businesses and draw out-of-town residents every day, might not be able to conserve the same way that other communities would.

"I don't know when it's going to happen, but there's a certain point where there's nothing left to cut back on," said Denis Qualls, a planning manager for Dallas Water Utilities. "For life, you and I need X amount of water. What's the perfect number? I don't know."

Still, he and other North Texas water planners said, there is more opportunity for large water savings through conservation measures. Dallas recently passed an ordinance restricting lawn-watering to twice a week year-round, and other cities are considering following suit.

The consequences of overestimating water needs might already be playing out in Austin, where residents and city council members are wondering whether the city needs the \$508 million treatment plant being built in northwest Austin. The costs of the plant, which was hotly debated for years, are set to result in large water rate increases, but some critics say the plant is unnecessary because Austinites have done a much better job conserving water than expected.

But others say even if Texas does not need 2.7 trillion gallons of additional water a year within the next five decades, tens of billions of dollars in spending could still be necessary. Elizabeth Fazio, committee director and chief clerk for the Texas House Natural Resources Committee, said the state had already delayed needed water infrastructure so long that it was bound to get more expensive.

"We may be able to stretch our current water resources further by doing more conservation," Fazio said. "But the fact still remains that infrastructure still costs money, and the more people we have, the more that number is going to grow."

Officer elections are coming up in June if you're interested in participating at the leadership level for either San Antonio Chapters of TAWWA or WEAT. Please contact any of the officers for more information.

As I come to the end of my term as president of the San Antonio Chapter of WEAT, I would like to thank all the members for this prestigious opportunity that I will be ever grateful for. Thanks for your trust and kindness. The experience has helped me to grow as an operator. Lastly I would like to thank the TAWWA and WEAT officers for their guidance, patience, and mentorship. It's been truly my honor and pleasure to serve beside you.

Thank you,
Sterling Lee
President San Antonio WEAT Section

SPEAKER FOR MAY MEETING:

Eric Hall- KBR

Eric Hall is a registered professional engineer in Texas with over 30 years of engineering experience in the field of water, wastewater and street and drainage facility design. Mr. Hall has a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering from Texas A&M University. Mr. Hall helped develop the "Model Rural Program" which applies innovative technologies to solve rural wastewater needs within the Rio Grande Valley. He is an Executive Committee member and West Reach Chairman for the Greens Bayou Coalition Reach.

SPEAKER FOR JUNE MEETING:

Karen Bishop - San Antonio River Authority

Karen Bishop helped create and now leads SARA's Sustainable Watersheds Implementation Program. This program houses watershed master plan, low impact development, natural channel design, river restoration, and public outreach projects aimed at improving the water quality, ecosystem health, and sustainability of our basin's river system. Karen has been instrumental in developing tools to introduce triple bottom line analysis to SARA projects.

Karen project managed San Antonio's LID Design Competition held February through July of 2013. She has project managed numerous education and outreach projects for SARA and the communities of the San Antonio River Basin, and she oversees SARA's Board services functions.

Karen serves on the US Green Building Council – Balcones Chapter Board of Directors and is an advisory board member of the Brackenridge Park Conservancy.

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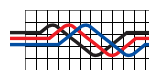
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SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR MARCH AND APRIL SPEAKERS AND SPONSORS:

Thank you to Valarica (Val) Olfers with the Texas Board of Professional Engineers for speaking about engineering ethics at the March meeting held on March 20, 2014. And thanks to GarzaBury for sponsoring!

Thank you to Jim Joyce with V&A Consulting Engineers for speaking about identifying odor and corrosion hot spots in your collection system at the April meeting held on April 10, 2014. Robert Macias gave an update on SAWS Aquifer Storage and Recovery (ASR) treatment plant. Environmental Improvements, Inc. (EI2) graciously sponsored the meeting.



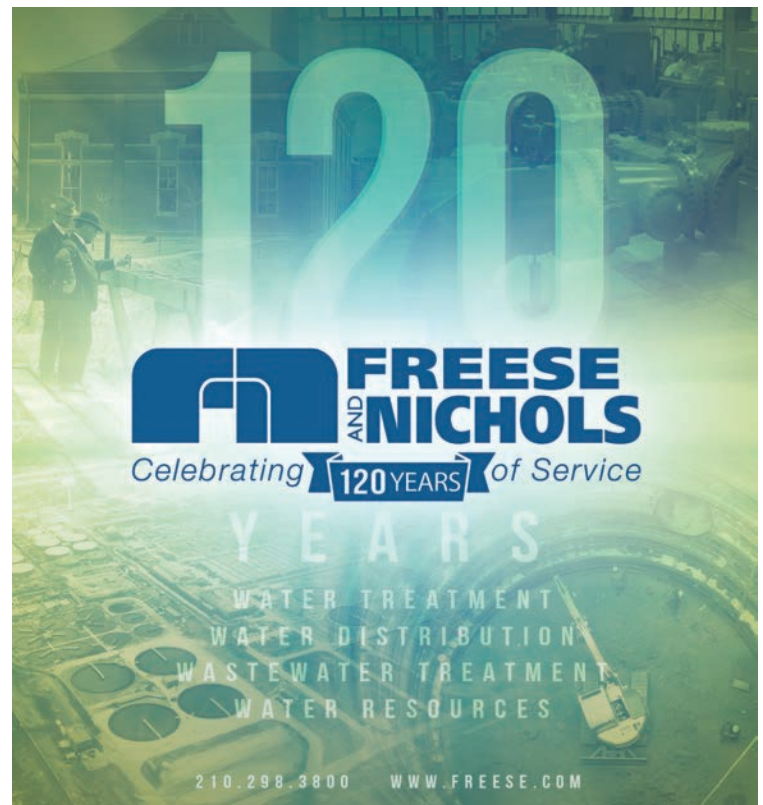
Speaker Jim Joyce - V&A Consulting Engineers



Speaker Val Olfers - Texas Board of Professional Engineers

OLMOS BASIN ALLIANCE

The Olmos Basin Alliance (OBA) is a newly formed advisory committee to address the problem of man-made trash in Olmos Basin Park and the surrounding areas. The OBA includes representatives from the San Antonio River Authority, City of San Antonio, Bexar County, among many others. If you're interested in finding out more about the OBA or receiving the OBA's Good Neighbors to Nature newsletter, please contact Karen Bishop at 210-302-3642, or kbishop@sara-tx.org. More information can also be found on the OBA's Facebook page at www.Facebook.com/OlmosBasinAlliance.



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The South Texas Chapter of TAWWA and San Antonio Section of WEAT are now on Facebook!

Please go to the link below and "Like" South Texas Water Professionals to be connected and stay informed about upcoming events and activities.



visit us at

www.facebook.com/SouthTexasWaterProfessionals

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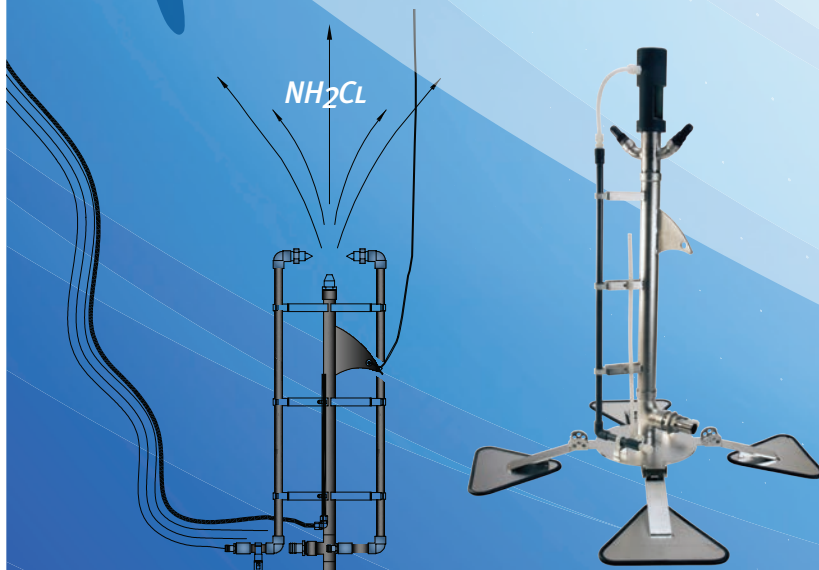
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Please join
the South Texas
AWWA/WEAT Joint Chapter
in discussing the emerging issues
in the water/wastewater industry.

Friday, July 25, 2014
8 AM - 4 PM

San Antonio Water System
Tower II, 1st Floor
Rooms CR-145 & CR-154
2800 US Hwy 281 North
San Antonio, TX 78212

If you would like to be a sponsor for this event,
please contact Josh Marazzini
at jmarazzini@cpyi.com for more details.



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SOUTH TEXAS SECTION JUNE MONTHLY MEETING



When:

Thursday, June 19th, 2014
11:30 A.M.

Where:

San Antonio Water System
Tower II – 1st Floor
Room C145
2800 US Hwy. 281 North
San Antonio, Texas

Speaker:

Karen Bishop,
San Antonio River Authority



Topic: “Low Impact Development:
Another Tool in the Sustainable
Land Development Toolbox”

***THIS MONTH'S MEETING IS SPONSORED IN PART BY
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Please RSVP by noon, Tuesday, June 17th, 2014 to:
Heather Lindner, Secretary, San Antonio Chapter, WEAT
Email: heather.lindner@hdrinc.com Phone: 210-841-2826
The price for lunch is **\$12.00** with RSVP, **\$15.00** without RSVP



**The South Texas
Chapter of AWWA
is Seeking a
Few Good Officers**

The South Texas Chapter of AWWA is accepting nominations for Chapter Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer.

Ballots will be picked up at the June meeting!

Submit nominations to Steve Renneker (President) via email at steven.renneker@kbr.com

The Vice President will:

- Preside at conferences and meetings in the absence of the President.
- Act as President in his/her stead as required.
- Perform other duties as required.

The Secretary will:

- Prepare agendas for officer's meetings; attend meetings, and record/distribute the proceedings of meetings.
- Attend all Chapter meetings and assist in making the necessary preparations for the meetings
- Perform other duties as needed.

The Treasurer will:

- Be the financial officer of the Chapter.

Official ballots will be distributed at the June meeting where all those that are attending who work in the water/wastewater industry are eligible to vote.



**The San Antonio Section
of WEAT
is Seeking a
Few Good Officers**

The San Antonio Section of WEAT is accepting nominations for Chapter Vice President and Secretary.

Ballots will be picked up at the June meeting!

Submit nominations to Sterling Lee (President) via email at sterling@sara-tx-org.

The Vice President will:

- Preside at conferences and meetings in the absence of the President.
- Act as President in his/her stead as required.
- Perform other duties as required.

The Secretary will:

- Prepare agendas for officer's meetings; attend meetings, and record/distribute the proceedings of meetings.
- Attend all Chapter meetings and assist in making the necessary preparations for the meetings
- Perform other duties as needed.

Official ballots will be distributed at the June meeting where all those that are attending who work in the water/wastewater industry are eligible to vote.

SCHOLARSHIP NEWS

2014 WEAT Scholarship Applications



TAWWA

The 2014 TAWWA scholarship applications must be postmarked by Friday, July 11, 2014. The applicant must be either a TAWWA member or immediate family member of a TAWWA member.



WEAT

Scholarships will be awarded to local students with an interest in water-related studies. Email Josh Marazzini at CP&Y (jmarazzini@cpyi.com) if you are interested in receiving an application or go to <http://www.weat.org/sanantonio/main/scholarships.php> for more information. The deadline for submission will be Friday, September 5, 2014.

2014 ALAMO REGIONAL SCIENCE FAIR AND ENGINEERING FAIR

On March 3, 2014, members of the local sections of TAWWA and WEAT participated as special judges for water and environmental related projects in the junior and senior division at the annual Alamo Regional Science Fair, held at St. Mary's University.



Science fair judges, from left to right: Cale Underberg, Heather Lindner, Dennis Laskowski, Alissa Lockett, Matthew Rivera, and Marcia Munoz

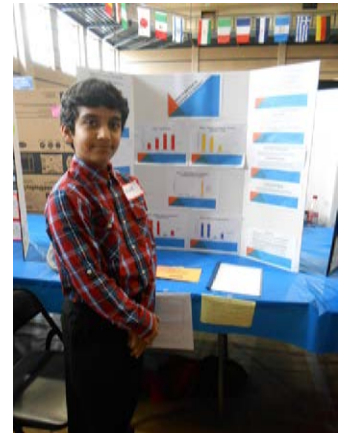


**Third Place Senior Division:
Randall Scharmen**

*Project Title: "Lack of Pressure"
Vacuum Purification*

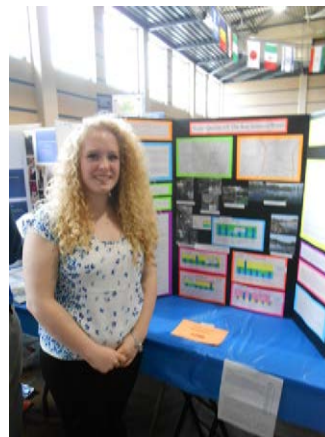
**First Place Junior Division:
Sisir Inagandla**

*Project Title: Which Water is
Safest to Drink*



**First Place Senior Division:
Brandon Franco**

*Project Title: Analysis of Moringa
Oleifera Seeds as a Coagulant
for Effective and Efficient Water
Purification*



**Second Place Junior Division:
Marissa Hunter**

*Project Title: Water Quality of the
San Antonio River*

**Second Place Senior Division:
John Derry**

*Project Title: Recycled Remediation:
An Analysis of Bacterial Remediation
through Recycled Medium*



**Third Place Junior Division:
Michael Reyes**

*Project Title: Pure, Clean Water...
Or is it?*



SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR PAST PRESIDENTS!

Greg Swoboda and David Bennett, past presidents of TAWWA and WEAT, respectively, were recently honored for their outstanding service to the organizations. Thanks to Greg and David for continuing to improve the chapter's participation, events and benefits to the membership and local community.



Current TAWWA President
Steve Renneker and
Past TAWWA President
Greg Swoboda



Current WEAT Vice President
Cale Underberg and Past WEAT
President David Bennett

YP EVENTS

The local TAWWA/WEAT YPs have been busy this spring! Odessa Pumps sponsored tickets in a box suite for the San Antonio Spurs vs. Detroit Pistons game on February 26, 2014. Tickets were only granted to YPs that were active members and participated in a survey regarding local YP events. Everyone had a great time!



On April 25, 2014, the YP committee organized a tour of the Toyota Manufacturing Facility, featuring Toyota's water treatment and conservation practices.

The YPs also gathered at the Brick House Tavern & Tap for March Madness happy hour on March 20, 2014, sponsored by Hartwell Environmental. Upcoming YP events include a tour of the SARA MBR WWTP, happy hours, and the annual Fall Seminar in November.

12TH ANNUAL SOUTH TEXAS TAWWA/ WEAT BOWLING SOCIAL

BENEFITTING
THE BRAD GROVES SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Come join us for an evening of bowling with your friends and family. Door prizes will be given away along with popcorn and pizza!

PLACE: AMF Country Lanes
13307 San Pedro (281 & Bitters)
210-496-3811

TIME: 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

DATE: Friday, May 30, 2014

COST*: \$12.00 per Adult
\$8.00 per Child (12 & under)

*Cost includes soda, food, shoes and all games played between 7:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m.

Please RSVP no later than Wednesday, May 28 to
Lauren Hawa (Lauren.Hawa@freese.com)

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Ryan Wessels, P.E.

South Texas Regional Manager
South Texas Regional Office
Victoria, Texas
ryan.wessels@dntanks.com
361.799.9566

LOCAL TAWWA / WEAT CONTACTS

TAWWA, South Texas Chapter Officers

Office	Name	Day Phone	Fax No.	E-mail
President	Steve Renneker, P.E.	210-321-5327		steven.renneker@kbr.com
Past President	Greg Swoboda, P.E.	210-841-2800	210-841-2828	greg.swoboda@hdrinc.com
Vice President	Robert Jenkins, P.E.	210-227-1373		jenkinsr2@bv.com
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Trustee	Marisa Vergara, P.E.	210-494-8004	210-494-8286	mvergara@cpyi.com
Deputy Trustee	Melissa Bryant, P.E.	210-302-3611	210-302-3692	mbryant@sara-tx.org
Communications Chair	Alissa Lockett, P.E.	210-233-3401	210-233-4494	alockett@saws.org
Finance Chair	Andrew Hunt, P.E.	210-321-4353	210-854-9518	ahunt@rkci.com
Scholarships Chair	Andrea Beymer, P.E.	210-233-3490	210-233-5490	abeymer@saws.org
Water For People Chair	Jonathan Vorheis, P.E.	210-321-6256	210-349-8944	jonathan.vorheis@CH2M.com
YP Representative	Kira Iles, E.I.T.	210-404-1330	210-404-1370	llesK@BV.com
YP Representative	Christina Preddice, E.I.T.	210-233-3441	210-233-4373	christina.preddice@saws.org

WEAT, South Texas Section Officers

Office	Name	Day Phone	Fax No.	E-mail
President	Sterling Lee	210-302-4220	210-302-3692	sterling@sara-tx.org
Past President	David Bennett, P.E.	210-298-3829	210-298-3801	dtb@freese.com
Vice President	Cale Underberg, P.E.	210-841-2917	210-841-2828	cale.underberg@hdrinc.com
Secretary	Heather Lindner, P.E.	210-841-2826	210-841-2828	heather.lindner@hdrinc.com
Treasurer	James Scardami	210-268-3434	210-658-5830	jscardami@ccmatx.org
Section Representative	Josh Marazzini, P.E.	210-494-8004	210-494-8286	jmarazzini@cpyi.com
Scholarships Chair	Josh Marazzini, P.E.	210-494-8004	210-494-8286	jmarazzini@cpyi.com
YP Representative	Lance Rothe, P.E.	210-841-2910	210-841-2828	lance.rothe@hdrinc.com
YP Representative	Denyce Alcorta, E.I.T.	210-321-3420		denyce.alcorta@kimley-horn.com

LOGIC PUZZLE

		First Names				Cheeses				Hobbies			
		Amber	America	Ayla	Baylee	feta	fontina	mascarpone	mozzarella	astronomy	carpentry	music	painting
Reservations	6:00pm												
	6:30pm												
	7:00pm												
	7:30pm												
Hobbies	astronomy												
	carpentry												
	music												
	painting												
Cheeses	feta												
	fontina												
	mascarpone												
	mozzarella												



CLUES

- The person who enjoys carpentry has a later reservation than Amber.
- The fontina enthusiast is not Baylee.
- Either the person with a reservation at 7:00pm or the person with a reservation at 7:30pm loves feta.
- The person with a reservation at 7:30pm is not America.
- The person who enjoys music is Ayla.
- Of Baylee and America, one has the 6:00pm reservation and the other loves feta.
- The person who enjoys astronomy has an earlier reservation than America.
- The person who enjoys painting doesn't like mascarpone.
- The person who enjoys music loves mozzarella.

Reservations	First Names	Cheeses	Hobbies
6:00pm			
6:30pm			
7:00pm			
7:30pm			

Answer to logic puzzle on page 16.

UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS

Date	Topic/Presenter	Event Host	Location
May 15, 2014	Monthly Meeting: "Application of Trenchless Construction for Water Main Installation"	TAWWA/WEAT	SAWS
May 16, 2014	YP Tour of Toyota Manufacturing Facility	TAWWA/WEAT	Toyota Manufacturing Facility
May 18-21, 2014	WEF Residuals and Biosolids	WEF/WEAT	Austin, TX
May 30, 2014	12th Annual Bowling Social	TAWWA/WEAT	AMF Country Lanes 13307 San Pedro San Antonio, TX 78216
June 3, 2014	Eckenfelder Lecture Series	WEAT	Austin, TX
June 8-12, 2014	AWWA-ACE Annual Conference & Exposition	AWWA	Boston, MA
July 18, 2014	Water Reuse in Texas Seminar	WEAT/TAWWA/WRT	Houston, TX
July 25, 2014	San Antonio Summer Seminar	TAWWA/WEAT	San Antonio, TX
August 18-19, 2014	CMOM Workshop	WEAT	Austin, TX
August 22, 2014	Water for People 6th Annual Golf Tournament	Water for People	Canyon Springs Golf Course San Antonio, TX
September 27-October 1, 2014	WEFTEC	WEF	New Orleans, LA

CALLING ALL YOUNG PROFESSIONALS!

In an attempt to better serve the Young Professional (YP) members, we are asking that all members under the age of 35, or less than 10 years in the industry, please e-mail Heather Lindner at: heather.lindner@hdrinc.com with their name, e-mail, and phone number.

If there are others in your offices who are not yet TAWWA/WEAT members, but might also be interested in participating in YP events and functions, please pass this request on to them.

Thanks!

LOGIC PUZZLE ANSWERS

6:00pm	Baylee	Mascarpone	Astronomy
6:30pm	Amber	Fontina	Painting
7:00pm	America	Feta	Carpentry
7:30pm	Ayla	Mozzarella	Music



ARE YOU RECEIVING THIS E-NEWSLETTER IN ERROR?

Please e-mail Heather Lindner (heather.lindner@hdrinc.com) to be removed from the list.