Benefits and Advantages of FSAWWA Operator Membership

By now you may have guessed that the theme surrounding my monthly articles involves membership and its benefits. The focus has been on utilities, and we have covered a wide range of opportunities for them to engage with FSAWWA and be rewarded for doing so. In keeping with that theme, I would like to focus this month’s article on our distinguished water treatment plant and distribution operators. Ladies and gentlemen, here to discuss the benefits of operator membership in our organization is the FSAWWA’s Operator’s Council chair, Steve Soltau.

The Importance of Membership

No matter the number of years you’ve been licensed, if you clean and process drinking water for public consumption, or if you repair and maintain the pipeline carrying that water to our customers, benefits from serving as a valued member of the Florida Section of the American Water Works Association remain countless.

Here are some of the advantages you can expect by being a licensed operator and a member of FSAWWA:
- Build up a resume
- Growth and leadership development
- Statewide recognition for you and your utility
- Connect with others also on track to be future leaders
- Internationally recognized for professional excellence
- Operator scholarships for upgrading your license and college classes
- Gain a sense of community with others
- Obtain new perspectives
- Share information
- Career opportunities
- Unique educational programs at local venues

Realizing it is difficult to attain that first organizational and creative experience, opportunities are made available to FSAWWA members for development and promotion of their skills. In addition, members typically enjoy the support of their directors and boards. The value of membership and service to the profession is recognized by the decision makers leading our organizations.

For those operators, like me, whose careers have matured over the years, FSAWWA membership provides the honor of mentoring this new and exciting generation of operators as they begin their new-found careers.

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

Testimonials from Operators

- “I was approved to attend the conference in Orlando!”
- “I believe my FSAWWA membership noted on my resume helped me obtain my new job making $5,000 more a year!”
- “My CEUs are so much easier to obtain now.”
- “I’ve received greater recognition at work. I’ve been asked to report back on FSAWWA information pertaining to my treatment plant.”
- “The FSAWWA members I’ve met from around Florida have opened my eyes to the opportunities within our profession.”

Consider joining FSAWWA as an operator member today. Membership forms can be found at http://www.fsawwa.org/display-common.cfm?an=1&subarticlenbr=19.