Message from the Region IV Chair

Let’s go Lightning! Clap, clap, clap, clap clap! Sorry about that, I have hockey fever. Please humor me for a moment. Having played a little hockey as a teen in New Jersey I realize what it takes to be successful at that sport. It takes stamina and perseverance. Of all the sports I participated (track, soccer and martial arts), ice hockey was by far the most challenging. Imagine sprinting as fast as you can for 45 seconds to 1.5 minutes with a 4 minute break in between over a 20 minute period times three. But getting the goal is very sweet indeed. Region IV is getting the goals indeed!

We start the 2019 Region IV calendar year with a Region IV hockey game in support of our Stanley Cup bound Tampa Bay Lightning against the St. Louis Blues on February 7, 2019! Members will have their tickets discounted and Sponsors will receive 2 tickets if we receive their annual sponsorships on or before January 31, 2019.

Region IV had a full year of activities in 2018 that enhanced our professional knowledge and network with our members in order to improve our positive impact on the world of water. Keep up the good work and I hope to see most of you at our upcoming events.

Happy New Year!

At your service,

Dan Glaser, P.E., ENV SP, Chair
Region IV, FSAWWA
(727) 464-5209

Interested in becoming a member or more active in Region IV?
Contact: amber.kiger@veolia.com

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Model Water Tower Competition!

THANK YOU 2018 REGION IV SPONSORS

[Image of sponsors]

[Image of photograph]
Committee Events!

13th Annual Region IV Charity Golf Event

The Annual Region IV event was held at the Lake Jovita North Course.

The Region IV Golf Committee hosted the thirteenth annual charity golf tournament at Lake Jovita Golf & Country Club on Friday, October 5, 2018, the North Course. There were 27 teams enjoying the fun, sun, and socializing. The proceeds from the charity event helps benefit Water for People and the Roy Likins Scholarship funds. The tournament format included individual skill prizes for men’s and women’s long drives, par 3 contests for closest to the pin, and a hula hoop toss game. Additionally, all par 3’s included hole-in-one prizes; with a cash prize of $10,000 on hole #2 but unfortunately we did not have any hole-in-one winners. The team competition included 3 flights, with 3 places per flight. Teams were randomly selected for each flight and the format was a 4-person scramble. The team and skills contest winners are shown below.

Likins Scholarship Flight
1st – PCL Construction #2 56 – Garardo Torres, Ben McDorman
    Todd Palmatier, Matt Tracy

2nd – Wharton Smith 59 – Chris Barnett, Saade Chibani
    Todd O’Donnell, Mike Nagy

3rd – MTS 63 – Bob Bierhorst, Mike Semago
    Dalas Lamberson, Jake Warren

Water for People Flight
1st – Wade Trim 55 – Tom Brzezinski, Bill Pienias
    Tom Wilson, Cameron Young

2nd – BLD Services, LLC 62 – Gordon Marshall, Tony Seufert
    Matt Wilson, Ken Carpenter

3rd – American Water Flow 63 – Rick Ratcliff, Brad Buillerm
    Logan Roberts, Renie Martin

Region IV Flight
1st – PCL Construction #1 62 – Mauricio Ramos, Ken Walker
    Dave Hartwig, Nick Charnas

2nd – Hazen 63 – Dan Schmidt, Greg Fuller
    Jacob Porter, John Schroeder

3rd – Kimley-Horn 64 – Wade Wood, Chris Collins
    Nick Wagner, Donny Adams
Following the golf tournament, all teams enjoyed a great Italian buffet lunch and door prize drawings for such prizes as bluetooth speakers, louder chairs, a cooker/smoker, $100 gift cards from Charlie’s Steak House - Bass Pro Shop – Amazon – and Top Golf, canopy, golf bag, free rounds of golf to Lake Jovita and Southern Hills, and Bose Headphones as the grand prize.

The 2018 Region IV golf committee members were Nicole Thomas, Ken Broome, Paul Haskins, Bobby Burchett, Andy Franosz and Ron Parker. The committee greatly appreciates the Regional and Tournament Sponsors participation and support for the 2018 charity event. The committee would also like to thank the volunteers; Justin Olson, Holly Kremers, Mike Condran, Justin McRae, Katherine Williams, Melanie Lasch, Pam London-Exner, Taylor McKibben, and Crystal Squires.

Please mark your calendars for next year’s event which will be held on the South Course at Lake Jovita Golf & Country Club, October 4, 2019. For more information contact Ron Parker (parkerre@bv.com) or Nicole Thomas (nThomas@tampabaywater.org).

See you next year!

Ron Parker, Region IV
Golf Committee Chair

Great American Teach In

How many glasses of water do you drink each day? How many times do you flush the toilet in a week? Where does that water come from and where does it go?

These were just some of the thought-provoking questions asked by Sharmeela Khemlani (Region IV’s Youth Education Committee Vice-Chair) to a class of 7th and 8th grade Gifted students in Carwise Middle School during the 2018 Great American Teach-In on November 14th.

“By the time I was a few minutes into the presentation, I was just as amazed with the kids’ knowledge as they were with the treatment processes I was describing,” stated Ms. Khemlani. The students were thoroughly engaged – actively asking questions and backing up their theories with what they learned in their science classes. One had even seen a drinking water treatment plant up close during a trip to Colorado! According to the class teacher, Mrs. Markham, “The students really enjoyed it. One even said, ‘I thought it was going to be boring, but it was really interesting!’"

If you haven’t heard of it, The Great American Teach-In is a day during which members of the community – e.g., police officers, fire fighters, scientists, engineers, etc. – take time to discuss and demonstrate their careers with students in Hillsborough and Pinellas County schools. It takes place every year in November, and anyone is free to volunteer to participate. Simply contact the Region IV Youth Education Committee representatives or go online to www.pcsb.org or www.sdhc.k12.fl.us to register.
Oktoberfest 2018

The second annual Oktoberfest gathering was held on October 11, 2018.

FSAWWA Region IV held its annual Oktoberfest on October 11, 2018 at Lagerhaus in Palm Harbor, FL. The event had 28 people attend despite the unpredictable weather generated by Hurricane Michael passing just offshore! Attendees enjoyed an evening of authentic German food, great German entertainment provided by Alpine Doc, and lively libations! We even had the opportunity to play a few games such as a Chicken Dancing Contest and a yodeling contest where winners received $25 gift cards for their superior skills….. or at the very least their applied efforts! The winner of the Chicken Dance by applause was Becky Cook. The winners of the yodeling contest included Dan Glaser for his superior vocal skills and Nestor Murray for his…. well….. superior entertainment skills! I look forward to next year’s event and hope all can attend! Stay tuned for more information regarding next year’s event and location!

- Kris Samples
The 11th Annual Model Water Tower Competition for Region IV was held at Walker Middle School on November 4th, 2018.

This year, we had 42 middle and high-school teams participate in this exciting STEM competition! On behalf of my Vice-Chairs, Kris Samples, Allison Rainey, and Lindsey Bohmann, we would like to thank the dozens of volunteers from across the region and the section who gave their personal time to contribute to another very successful event. We received so much positive feedback from the student participants and parents alike, and are pleased to see this annual competition continue to thrive! Special thanks to Marjorie Craig and her husband Karl from Delray Beach, for their significant efforts to come to Tampa to participate in the judging. We even had an event mascot this year – thank you Sarah Ecker for bringing Finn – the ultimate crowd pleaser!

Working with this exceptional team/committee makes it so much easier to plan something with so many moving pieces! Thank you all, and see you in 2019!

- Shelby Hughes
Model Water Tower Competition
Model Water Tower Competition
The night kicked off at the Sheraton Tampa Riverwalk Hotel with good food and “Jazz” live music (“The Jazz Phools” band sponsored by A.C. Schultes of Florida, Inc.), followed by five presentations from local utility owners about their upcoming capital improvement projects.

Amanda Rice, PE, Assistant Executive Director of Southwest Florida Water Management District provided a “District Update” on current and incoming projects. Megan E. Ross, PE, Utilities Director for Pinellas County Utilities presented on “Driving Change Through Vision”. David Porter, PE, Public Utilities Director for the City of Clearwater spoke about their “CIP Planning and Challenges”. Vivek Galav, PE, Division Director of Technical Services Division of Hillsborough County Public Utilities Department discussed the CIP Programs.

Thanks to the planning committee Doug Calderone (George F. Young), Pam London-Exner, Nicole Thomas (Tampa Bay Water), Dan Glaser (Pinellas County), Russell Ferlita (City of Dunedin), Bryan Edgerton (A.C. Schultes) and the event aides.

Looking forward to seeing you at the 2019 Sponsoring Event!

- Nestor Murray

Technical & Education Committee Events

Our Fall and Winter TEC seminars had terrific turnouts with over 45 attendees for each seminar. The events were held at Brio in the International Mall but it wasn’t just the delicious food that brought out the crowd. Thanks to the 2017 survey responses, the TEC committee was able to provide relevant topics that affect our industry and meet the needs of our members.

The Fall TEC seminar focused on techniques for maintain public confidence and establishing utility-consumer trust. George Gonzales, Pinellas County’s Customer Services Director for Utilities, set the stage discussing the importance of government branding and how to implement private-sector marketing techniques to inform and educate utility customers. Koni Cassini offered her testimony as the Hillsborough County Chief Financial Director of Public Utilities and Solid Waste Department, on how effective communication can reduced opposition to invasive construction projects by discussing the success of the Hillsborough County’s WWTP consolation project. The Director of Hillsborough County’s Public Utilities, George Cassidy, ended the seminar with a discussion on public confidence reports and how Hillsborough County is using branding and quality service to encourage their users to “Take it from the Tap.”

The Final TEC seminar provided a timely update to the 2018 legislative and regulatory activities as well as some insights in what to expect in 2019. Laura Jacobs Donaldson, with Manson Bolves Donaldson Varn, educated our members on the complexity of the legislative process, summarized the results of the Florida elections and provided a fresh look at the state’s political field over the next 2 years. Overall we expect there will be a big push on reclaimed water use, funding for items related to the everglades and red tide, and legislation related to increasing treatment requirements for septic tanks.

-David Yonge
1. Why did you join FSAWWA?

I joined FSAWWA within the first few months after graduating from Georgia Tech and starting my career at Kimley-Horn. I was interested in becoming involved in the organization to meet people in the water industry and to learn more about the industry in general. As a graduate from Georgia Tech, my network in Florida was small, and FSAWWA was a perfect place to start to grow. I also was looking for a meaningful way to develop my leadership skills, and at my first Region IV board meeting, I volunteered for a YP leadership position focused on growing and maintaining AWWA connections with USF students.

2. What is the most important thing you’ve gained from FSAWWA?

By far the most important thing I have gained from FSAWWA is a network of colleagues that are passionate about the water industry, eager to teach and learn new things, and are just overall fun people. I feel very fortunate to be a part of Region IV of FSAWWA, because the passion of our board and members is contagious. I believe this influences each of us to better serve our community through our roles in the water industry.

3. How did you get into the Water industry?

I honestly just fell into the water industry. My coursework in college naturally led to me to this career, and luckily I loved it. Working in this industry is very meaningful as well as challenging. I am given the opportunity to really focus on crunching numbers and solving tough problems while in turn ultimately serving and improving the local community.

4. What is the last book, newspaper, magazine, etc. that you read?

I am currently reading “The Happy Runner” by David Roche and Megan Roche. Although written in relation to distance running and racing, this book emphasizes the importance of appreciating the process when it comes to reaching a goal - or the failure to reach a goal. We all work hard to achieve our goals, and if we can learn to love the process of putting in hard work, achieving our goals will be that much sweeter.

5. What activities do you enjoy in your free time?

My favorite activity is distance running. I joined the cross-country team in high school and have been running ever since. The last race I ran was a 25k in Sky Valley Georgia called Sky to Summit 25k. This race was an approximately 16-mile race through the beautiful North Georgia mountains. It is my goal to run my first marathon before the end of 2020. My boyfriend and my dog Finnley are my favorite running buddies. We love to spend time in the outdoors.
Regional Sponsor Request

The Region IV Florida Section American Water Works Association Board is again seeking Annual Regional Sponsors for 2019 for our 2019 events and quarterly newsletters. We represent over 600 AWWA members residing in Hillsborough, Polk, Pinellas, Hernando, Citrus, Sumter and Pasco Counties.

In 2018, our 31 sponsors helped Region IV successfully publish four (4) Region IV newsletters and host or participate in 30 regional events, including the following: YP-USF Networking Event, two USF Career Fairs, Region IV Annual Best Tasting Drinking Water Competition, Young Professionals Networking Social, MAC New Technology Showcase, Spring Seminar, Summer Seminar, Membership Appreciation Night (at Clearwater’s Bright House Field), Young Professional Summer Seminar, Annual Charity Golf Tournament, Water For People Charity Event, Annual Model Water Tower Competition, Oktoberfest Social, Annual Regional Sponsors Appreciation Event, and a Winter Seminar.

We are asking for your sponsorship in 2019 to keep our momentum going and offer your company name recognition for 2019. One of our annual sponsors said “this is a small investment to get our company name out there in the community where we work.”

As in past years, we are offering the opportunity for Regional Sponsors to be recognized throughout the entire year at a minimum of 20 Region IV events. Benefits include:

1. Company logo included on our “2019 Regional Sponsors Banner” displayed at all regional events, advertisement in our quarterly newsletters and all correspondence to Region IV members including emails, letters, flyers, etc.
2. Two free registrations at all regional events and seminars, unless otherwise noted.
3. Eagle Sponsorship at our 2019 Annual Golf Charity Event ($900.00 value), including: one foursome, advertisement in flyer announcement, company logo on two tee box signs and at registration desk, 4 skills tickets, and acknowledgement at awards presentation.
4. As an added incentive, if you pledge or submit your regional sponsorship before January 15, 2019, you will receive 2 tickets to the Tampa Bay Lightning versus the St. Louis Blues on February 7, 2019.

The cost for becoming a “2019 Regional Sponsor” is a one-time donation of $1,800, which represents a $1,650 savings over sponsorship of all of the individual events. Please provide payment or pledge of sponsorship by January 15, 2019 along with an electronic file of your company logo (high resolution) to the address listed at the bottom of the Sponsorship Form (separate Excel spreadsheet file).

For details on this sponsorship opportunity, please contact:

Ken Broome, PE, PMP
FSAWWA Region IV Vice Chair
(813) 204-3305
kenneth.broome@stantec.com

Thank you for your consideration and we look forward to a successful 2019!
Announcements

Calling All Young Professionals!

If you have any helpful information to contribute from our region for YP’s, please feel free to do so!

If you have any questions, please contact Neil Coffman.

The link to the YP Section Folder is:

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1dG6T2NzdWyyOkWZatuOOqc5kO60WrAMfk?usp=sharing

Be The Thunder Membership Event!

Join us on Thursday, February 7th for the Tampa Bay Lightning and St. Louis Blues. For each $45 ticket, participants will have access to the Budweiser Biergarten starting at 6PM. All you can eat and drink is included until puck drop. Annual Sponsors will receive two free tickets to entry.

Please contact Tim Smith at (813) 956-3020 or SmithTim@cdmsmith.com

Calendar of Events

January 2019

Wednesday, January 23rd, Region IV Officer’s Meeting
Dan Glaser | dglaser@co.pinellas.fl.us

February 2019

Thursday February 7th, Be the Thunder Membership Event
Tim Smith | smithtim@cdmsmith.com

Friday, February 8th, Region IV Board Meeting
Dan Glaser | dglaser@co.pinellas.fl.us

March 2019

Friday, March 8th, Annual Taste Test, Land O’ Lakes
Nick Makris | nmakris@ctsfl.us

Thursday, March 21st, T&E Committee Lunch (Emerging Water Quality Issues), Brio Tuscan Grill
David Yonge | dyonge@jonesedmunds.com