

SPECIAL ISSUE

American Water Works Association
Illinois Section

NAVIGATING THE FUTURE



American Water Works Association
Illinois Section
WATERCON
Total Water Conference **2020**

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NAVIGATING THE FUTURE

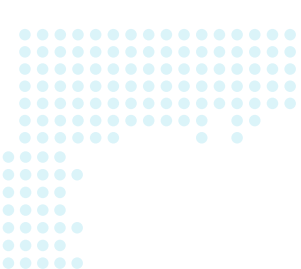


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ILLINOIS SECTION AWWA CANCELS WATERCON IN SPRINGFIELD, IL

Cancellation amid growing concerns for COVID-19

ST CHARLES, IL (March 13, 2020) – The governing board of the American Water Works Association’s Illinois Section on Friday, March 13, canceled the organization’s WATERCON Conference, slated for Springfield, IL March 23–26, 2020.

Speaking for the board, Chair Carolyn Grieves said, “The health and well-being of those who had planned to attend this event, coupled with our social and ethical responsibility to minimize the spread of COVID-19, are our top priorities.”

The State of Illinois Governor JB Pritzker and Sangamon County Public Health Department mandated that all large-scale events exceeding 1,000 individuals

be cancelled for the next 30 days. WATERCON was expected to attract more than 1,500 total attendees.

Carolyn Grieves further stated, “We are especially proud of the work that our exhibitors, presenters, committee members, volunteers, and staff have all put into preparing for the conference. However, when we considered that our most fundamental purpose is protection of public health, the only responsible decision was to consider the greater community and put safety first and foremost.”

Vice-Chair Randy Lusk stated, “We appreciate your cooperation and understanding in light of the extraordinary situation that the nation and state are currently facing.”



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“While we were not able to get together in March, we wanted to take some time to celebrate and highlight some of the awardees, committee chair activities, and outgoing and incoming Board members in print.”

NAVIGATING A NEW FUTURE

Carolyn Grieves

Chair 2019–2020, Illinois Section AWWA

I am happy to be able to introduce this special WATERCON supplement for *Splash*. It’s hard to believe that two and a half months ago the Board had to make the decision to cancel WATERCON 2020 due to COVID-19. WATERCON 2020 would have been our 111th Annual Conference! As we have all seen since March, the decision to cancel was the best decision, and only decision to keep all our members safe. Our theme was “Navigate the Future” and I feel like we have all rapidly learned new ways to navigate the future in the past few months.

As Chair I had a several “speeches” planned, and luckily, probably for you all, you were spared them! However, I did want to write a few sentences here to share why this special *Splash* supplement is so important. While we were not able to get together in March, we wanted to take some time to celebrate and highlight some of the awardees, committee chair activities, and outgoing and incoming Board members in print. We did not get to say congratulations to our awardees at the Thursday Awards Breakfast so please take this as a virtual congratulations! We still hope to get to celebrate you all in person this year! Committee chairs, volunteers, competitions participants, and many more people all planned and practiced to prepare for WATERCON; thank you for all your hard work and dedication to the Section. Please read about some of our volunteers and their activities in this insert.

We also get to thank outgoing and introduce new trustees at the conference. Thank you to all the outgoing trustees – Joe Ahlvin, Owen Keenan, Michelle Harrod, and Steve Wilson; Past Chair Lori Stenzel; and AWWA Director Theresa O’Grady. Welcome to the new trustees – Paul May, Melissa Olenick, Dean Swingler, and Keith Alexander. Welcome to the new Executive Board with Jeff Freeman as Chair, Randy Lusk as Chair Elect, and Brian Jack as Vice Chair. Thanks to everyone for your time and commitment to the Section! Get to know your Board a little more in the pages that follow in this supplement.

Finally, we were really looking forward to welcoming our new Executive Director Annie Storey and wishing Laurie Dougherty

and Sandi McGinnis congratulations on their retirements in April. While our plans were dashed, we are still thrilled to have Annie on board. Laurie and Sandi, if you are reading this, thank you for everything you have done for the Section over the years. You are why the Section has grown so strong!

I hope everyone is staying safe and healthy and I really hope to be able to see you again next year at WATERCON 2021!

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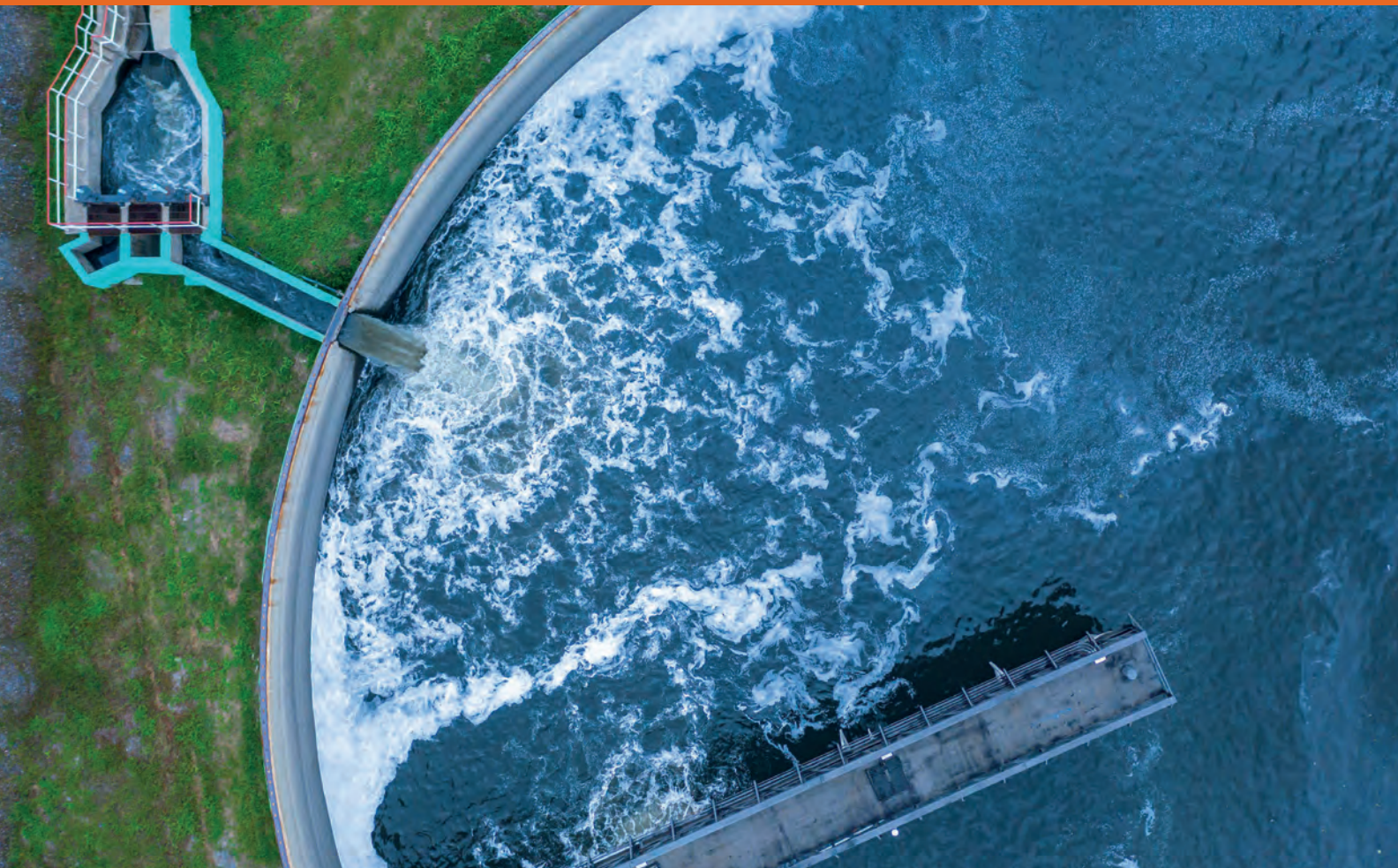
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THE COMPASSION REVOLUTION GAINS MOMENTUM

Krister Ungerböck

2021 WATERCON Keynote Speaker



Wow, how the world has changed. COVID-19 is the great equalizer that has brought families of all economic means to their knees. If there is any silver lining in the devastation that it has wrought, it's that it ushered in The Compassion Revolution.

The Compassion Revolution has been building momentum for some time now. Microsoft CEO, Satya Nadella, is one of the pioneers of The Compassion Revolution. Satya is widely credited as transforming Microsoft's corporate culture from cutthroat to compassionate. In the six years since taking over in 2014, Satya's shift to compassionate leadership has created \$1 trillion in shareholder value – more than Google, Uber, Netflix, and Facebook *combined*.

Compassionate leadership works.

However, leading with compassion will be uncomfortable for many leaders – especially leaders who have achieved great success with an aggressive leadership style. Without tools to lead with compassion that *also* lead to financial success, we'll revert to the outdated leadership tools rooted in the last business revolution – the Industrial Revolution.

Talk *SHIFTS* are leadership tools to fuel The Compassion Revolution. My upcoming book, *22 Talk SHIFTS: Tools to Transform Leadership in Business, in Partnership and in Life*, provides leaders a series of valuable communication techniques that drive increased connection, compassion, and commitment. These time-tested *SHIFTS* include simple “say-this-not-that” rules, fill-in-the-blank phrases, and powerful questions that can break the cycle of strained communication – and the strained relationships that go with it.

Despite leading a global company that grew over 3,000%, I ultimately failed as the leader of my own family. This failure helped me to discover the Talk *SHIFTS*, a unified language for leading both teams and families. If you want to become a better boss, partner, or parent, the Talk *SHIFTS* are your key to less stress – and more success.

Awareness of how our words are heard by others is a critical skill in compassionate leadership. According to the Harvard Business Review, 95% of us *think* we are self-aware, but only 10 to 15% of people actually are. What if your heart is in the right place, but your words are not? Awareness is such a critical element of compassionate leadership that I've created a free tool called The Talk *SHIFT* Quiz (www.talkSHIFT.com/quiz) that you can use to discover if you're among the 85% of people who think they are self-aware, but aren't.

As a former CEO of a global tech company, shifting from an aggressive leadership style to a compassionate one was revolutionary.

And here's the thing about revolutions. They start one person at a time. The Compassion Revolution will start – or end – with you.

When you start a revolution, you never know if you're on the *edge* of something, or the *ledge* of something.

What are you on the edge of?

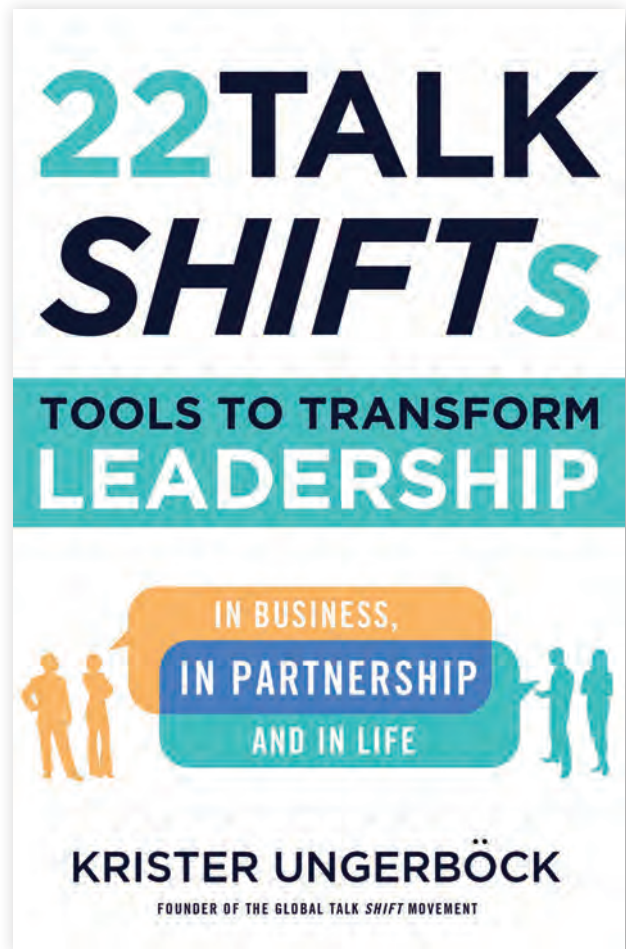
I hope it's a Talk *SHIFT*.

The world needs a Talk *SHIFT*.

Let's spark one.

Together.

To spark a Talk *SHIFT* in your world, consider buying the book, available this fall. When you purchase the book at www.talkSHIFT.com/watercon, all profits will be donated to ISAWWA's fund for Water For People.





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We look forward to seeing you
next year at **WATERCON 2021**
March 22–25, 2021.

Find us online at
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Future conference dates
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 - Lombard
 - Lake in the Hills
 - Wauconda
 - Crest Hill
 - Tinley Park
 - Mount Prospect
 - Des Plaines

- WOMEN'S**
- Chicago

METER MADNESS



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- Nasser Rafidia (Franklin Park)
- Phil Ricchetti (Westmont)
- Luis Hernandez (Franklin Park)
- Edwardo Feregrino (Chicago)
- James Barbee (Chicago)
- Peter Cajigas (Franklin Park)
- Henry Rossio (Romeoville)
- Keshang Jordan
- Brian Burton (Des Plaines)

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OUR 2020 AWARD WINNERS

By Terry McGhee, ISAWWA Awards Committee Chair



We appreciate the dedication, service, and loyalty you have demonstrated to the water industry and to AWWA. Keep your eyes and ears open for possible candidates for the upcoming year's awards; it's never too early to nominate one of your colleagues.

Here are the 2020 award winners.

GEORGE WARREN FULLER AWARD

Winner to be announced – stay tuned!



For distinguished service to the water supply field in commemoration of the sound engineering skill, brilliant diplomatic talent, and the constructive leadership which

characterized the life of George Warren Fuller.

WATER PROFESSIONAL OF THE YEAR AWARD

Jeff Freeman



This award is presented to a professional in the water industry (engineer, lab analyst, designer, representative, educator, etc.) who

has demonstrated dedication and has motivated others to pursue a career in the water industry.

Congratulations to everyone who received an award this year!

THE ROBERT T. SASMAN VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION AWARD

David Vavrek



This award recognizes section members who have demonstrated outstanding service in helping the Illinois Section AWWA achieve their goals.

OPERATOR'S MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARD

Thomas Barrett



Presented in recognition of special performance working in the capacity of shift supervisor or superintendent. Special performance is

recognized in one or more of the following areas: continuous compliance with public health standards in finished water; consistent and outstanding contribution to plant maintenance.

JOHN LECHNER AWARD OF EXCELLENCE

Todd Kerry



An individual award of excellence to recognize a Section Manufacturers/ Associates Council member who has demonstrated

exemplary service to the drinking water community and to AWWA's mission and goals.

CLIFFORD E. FORE AWARD

John Donahue



This award is presented to Section members who provide public service above and beyond the job duties required of them in the waterworks field. Recognition of a contribution to advance the state-of-the-art in the waterworks industry.

YP EXCELLENCE AWARD

Hanting Wang



This award recognizes the outstanding YP of each year based on participation, outreach, and giving more than required to improve the committee or the water profession.

E.D.U.C.A.T.E. AWARD

*Andy Caselli
Bob Spon
Jennifer Wilson*



Educating the Drinking water **U**tility Commendation **A**ward for **T**raining **E**xcellence. This award is presented by the Education Committee and recognizes an individual who has contributed valuable and significant volunteer time and effort in the field of educating the drinking water community.



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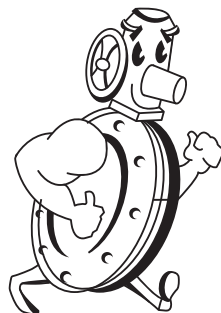
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OUR 2020 AWARD WINNERS

YOUTH OUTREACH RECOGNITION AWARD

Elizabeth Doellman



The Illinois Section AWWA Youth Outreach Recognition award was established to recognize the engagement of young students of the community in the water industry.

WATER SAVER AWARD

City of Elmhurst



This award recognizes public and private utilities in Illinois that are currently developing or implementing water efficiency projects, such as water efficiency master plans, renewable water policies and practices, watershed protection, community outreach, water loss reduction, conservation, and public education.

WOMEN IN WATER OUTSTANDING WOMEN AWARD

Brianna Huber



This award recognizes the dedicated and distinguished service of women in water. This award celebrates the outstanding achievements in female leadership demonstrating significant

impact in the water industry while inspiring participation of women in the industry and supporting outreach programs targeting girls and women.

QUARTER CENTURY SERVICE AWARD

For 25 years of service to the industry.

Mark O'Malley	City of Chicago
James Rosenthal	City of East Moline
Fred Sneade	City of East Moline
Bill Soucie	CLCJAWA
Dave Thompson	CLCJAWA

SILVER WATER DROP

Recognizes those individual members who have provided valuable service and support for AWWA programs and goals through their long-standing Association membership (25 years).

Keith Alexander	John Ingram
Chris Sosnowski	Richard Benard
Edward LaBelle	Gregory Swanson
Timothy Bronn	Lisa Perry
Rick Twait	Shelly Corban
Debra Roe	Sharon Waller
Stephen Dalton	Patricia Schaaque
Daniel Watson	Dean Gorter
Scott Shirley	Mark Wozniak

LIFE MEMBER

Recognizes those individual members who have provided valuable service and support for AWWA programs and goals through their long-standing Association membership (30 years + 65 years of age).

Michael Gauthier	Wallis Parson
Brett Hanson	David Stoneback
Larry Lawson	Fred Vogt
Kenneth Molli	Peter Wallers
Kevin O'Dea	

GOLD WATER DROP

Recognizes those individual members who have provided valuable service and support for AWWA programs and goals through their long-standing Association membership (50 years).

John Klinger
Gordon McCluskey
Vernon Snoeyink

100 YEAR CLUB AWARD

Public water supplies that have served Illinois residents for 100 years.

Clearview Subdivision
Village of Midolthian
Village of Wauconda
Village of East Alton
Village of Roxana
City of West Chicago
Village of Eldorado
Stateville Correctional

THE WATER INDUSTRY HALL OF FAME

The Hall of Fame has been established to perpetuate the memory of those living and deceased who have made the most significant contributions to the field of public water supply. The names of the members of the Hall of Fame will be engraved on a bronze plaque at the ISAWWA headquarters, and a plaque signifying membership will be presented for mounting. If deceased, the plaque will be presented to the institution or organization with whom the member is identified.

Inaugural inductees



John W. Alvord
1885–1963

John W. Alvord founded Chicago firm Alvord, Burdick & Howson, L.L.C. in 1902 and created a rich

heritage of landmark projects. Alvord was the Chief Engineer of the Department of Surveys and Grades for the 1893 Chicago World's Fair, a landmark event in American history and culture. AB&H has been involved with leading water technologies since its inception. In 1917, AB&H wrote a report on the use of ozone in the treatment of drinking water. In the 1940s, they were pioneers in the design of split-level settling basins, the technology on which plate settlers were developed. AB&H has been involved in the design of most of the water plants along the west shore of Lake Michigan, from Green Bay, Wisconsin, to Gary, Indiana, including Chicago's Jardine Water Purification Plant, which was the world's largest water filtration facility when it opened in 1964. AB&H was tapped in the 1980s for a \$380 million project to supply Lake Michigan water to 23 communities in DuPage County.



Harold E. Babbitt
1888–1970

In 1913, Harold Babbitt joined the staff of the Department of Municipal and Sanitary Engineering at the

OUR 2020 AWARD WINNERS

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign as an Instructor. In 1917, he obtained the M.S. degree from Illinois. Babbitt became Professor of Sanitary Engineering in 1925. Babbitt's professional activities included vigorous participation in numerous technical organizations and societies. These included the Water Pollution Control Federation, American Society of Civil Engineers, American Water Works Association (AWWA), National Society of Professional Engineers (as well as the Illinois Society of Professional Engineers of which he was President in 1923, and secretary-treasurer from 1925 to 1950), American Public Health Association, Central States Water Pollution Control Association, and others. He was an honorary member of the Water Pollution Control Federation and the recipient of the prestigious Fuller Award of AWWA.



John R. Baylis
1885–1963

John Baylis was an American chemist and sanitary engineer. His career extended from about 1905 to 1963 and he is best known for his work in applied research to improve drinking water purification. Baylis's first professional assignment was as manager of the Jackson, MI water works. In 1917, he was hired as a bacteriologist at the Montebello Filter Plant in Baltimore, MD. During his employment at Baltimore he developed a pH meter based on a tungsten wire. The Baltimore water treatment plant was one of the first to use pH for process control. In 1927, he moved his family to Chicago where he was put in charge of water purification research for the city. His job title was chemist, but he developed many of the advances in water treatment during the 1930s and 1940s.



Arthur M. Buswell
1888–1966

Arthur Buswell graduated from the University of Minnesota in 1910 with a BA. He received an MA

from the University of Maine in 1912 and completed his PhD at Columbia University in 1917. After serving in World War I he became the Chief of the Illinois State Water Survey in 1920, the same year he became a professor of chemistry at the U of I. Buswell served as Chief of the Water Survey until 1955. Under his guidance the survey grew in both size and scope. Buswell was a prolific author, producing more than 100 technical articles and reports. In 1953, Buswell was made a life member and honored with the Fuller Award. He received the American Chemical Society's distinguished service award in 1953.



Hardy Cross
1885–1956

Cross was born February 10, 1885, in Nansemond County, Virginia. He attended Hampden-Sydney College where he received B.A. and B.S. degrees in 1902 and 1903 respectively, at age 17 and 18. Hardy Cross was Professor of Structural Engineering in the Department of Civil Engineering at the University of Illinois from 1921 to 1937. During that period, his technical achievements significantly changed the field of structural analysis and the understanding of structural behavior. Cross was a great teacher whose courses attracted the most brilliant students. He was exacting in his requirements and would not tolerate loose and unclear thinking. His concern about matters of education led him to publish several papers in this field; one titled "Educational Inflation" was presented at MIT in 1937 and dealt primarily with the civil engineering curriculum.



James J. Doland
1890–1960

For 32 years, James Doland was on the faculty of the University of Illinois Department of Civil Engineering; he was made a Professor of Hydraulic Engineering Emeritus in 1958. Mr. Doland

worked with the Bureau of Reclamation for 12 years; also served as consultant to the National resources Planning Board from 1936 to 1944; was the principal engineer for the United States Engineering Department on several lend-lease bases in 1941, one being in the West Indies; and from 1943 to 1944 he was consultant for the War Production Board. He was president of the Illinois Union Board; Engineer in charge of the University of Illinois Airport; Chairman of the University Senate Committee on Student Affairs; and served on the Board of Trustees of Burnham Hospital in Champaign from 1941 to 1948, serving as its President during the last two years.



Clifford H. Fore
1907–1982

Clifford Fore was a graduate of SIU when it was named "Southern Illinois State Teachers College." He served on the Alumni Board. He was honored in 1983 posthumously by the SIU Board of Trustees, who named the Environmental Resources Training Center for him. He worked tirelessly to improve water quality and wastewater treatment as the Assistant Water Engineer for Illinois Commerce Commission, and spent time working in Africa with his wife to improve water standards in Liberian villages under the auspices of the USAID Program. He was a devoted father, grandfather, and Christian.



Louis R. Howson
1887–1985

Born in Folletts, Iowa, Mr. Howson was graduated from the University of Wisconsin with a Bachelor of Science degree in civil engineering in 1908 and a professional degree in civil engineering in 1912. In 1949, the University honored Louis Howson with a Certificate of Achievement for his many accomplishments in the field of engineering. Howson, who received a

Bachelor of Engineering degree from the University of Wisconsin in 1908, retired in 1981. He was affectionately known as "Mr. Waterworks," a representative of his firm said. He helped design several hundred water systems and water treatment plants.



**Herbert E. Hudson
1910–1983**

Herbert E. Hudson was born in Chicago on September 21, 1910. He entered the University of Illinois at Urbana in 1927 and graduated in 1931 with a B.S. in civil engineering. Between 1941 and 1942, Hudson worked on the design of Chicago's South Filtration Plant and thereafter became a research associate in the chemistry department at the University of Illinois, working on the removal of chemical warfare agents from water and on the development of needed analytical methods. He was an active member of the American Water Works Association. He held several positions: Director, Education Committee Chairman, Chairman and secretary of the Illinois Section, and Chairman of the Water Resources and Water Purification Division. He was elected to the National Academy of Engineering in 1978 and was President of the American Academy of Environmental Engineers.



**Omar H. Jewell
1842–1931**

Omar Jewell invented the Jewell water filter, which consisted of a series of sand filters for filtering and treating water for drinking purposes that made use of gravity to allow water to percolate through a column of sand inside cylindrical cisterns that was widely used in the early twentieth century. Omar and his sons established the Jewell Pure Water Company in Chicago in 1890. Jewell water filters were used in many city water supply systems across the world and modified versions continue to be in use.

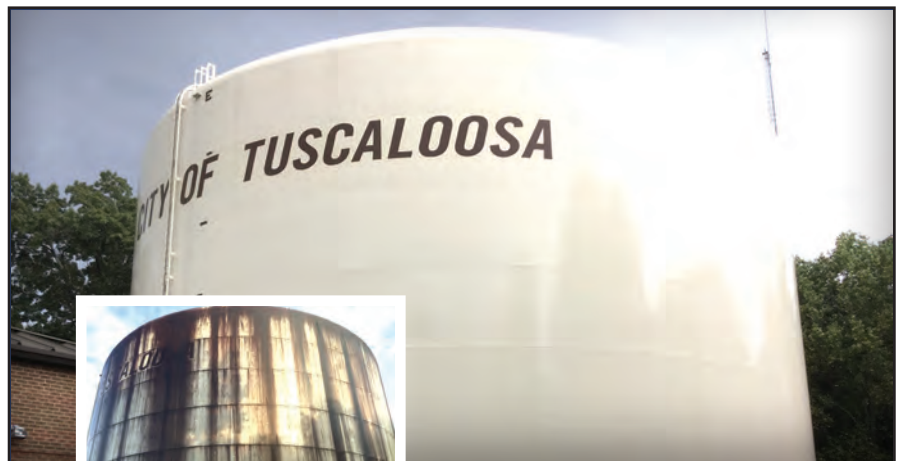


**Thurston E. Larson
1910–1984**

Thurston Larson was born in Chicago, Illinois, on March 3, 1910. He earned a B.S. in chemical engineering in 1932 and a Ph.D. in sanitary chemistry in 1937 from the University of Illinois. He was a

registered professional engineer in Illinois.

Dr. Larson's principal work was carried out for the Illinois State Water Survey, where he began his career as an assistant chemist in 1932. By 1937 he had risen to the position of chemist; he became head of the Chemistry Section in 1948. In 1956 he was appointed assistant chief of the Water Survey, a position he held until his retirement in 1977.



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OUR 2020 AWARD WINNERS



**William Richardson
1930–1997**

William Richardson was a long-time Chicago civil engineer who was significant in designing the DuPage Water

Commission water supply project and the water system for Monrovia, Liberia. Mr. Richardson worked at the engineering firm of Alvord, Burdick & Howson. After retiring, he started the William Richardson consulting firm in Des Plaines, where he worked until his death. He was a past-president and member of the American Water Works Association, and past-president of the International Water Supply Association. For his work in the capital city of Monrovia during the 1960s, Richardson received the Star of Liberia. In 1988, Great Britain’s Institute of Water and Environment Management presented Richardson with the Friendship Medal.



Robert Sasman

Bob Sasman started working for Illinois State Water Survey in 1956. Bob became a member of AWWA in 1957. During his time

as a member of AWWA, Bob has held the position of Secretary, Chair, and Director. During his time with AWWA, Bob has also been recognized with many different honors and awards, which include:

- ISAWWA Fuller Award**
- Ambassador Award**
- Quarter Century Award**
- Honorary life Member**
- Silver Presidential Award**
- Clifford H. Fore Award**
- AWWA Special Recognition Award**
- Zenno Gorder Award**
- Golden Drop Award**
- AWWA Hall of induction**



**Charles H. Spaulding
1888–1968**

Described at his death as “the nation’s foremost water technologist,” Charles Spaulding provided

the technical innovations that enabled his brother, Willis J. Spaulding to carry out his vision of a publicly-owned Springfield water system. Charles Spaulding designed and supervised City Water, Light and Power’s innovative filtration and precipitation systems, technology that later spread across the nation and the world, but turned down royalties for his patents. “He was a scientist, not a financier looking for personal gain,” CWLP said in a memorial when Spaulding died.

“Charles was a quiet, unobtrusive, unselfish man, who engaged in fierce battles to give Springfield one of the finest utility systems in the world,” the CWLP statement said.

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RECOGNIZING OUR 2020 SCHOLARSHIP AWARDEES



ISAWWA would like to recognize the awardees of the Safe Water and One AWWA scholarships from the past year.

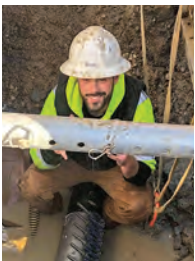
Michael Lubben



Safe Water Scholarship awardee **Michael Lubben** was attending classes at the Environmental Resources Training Center (ERTC) at Southern University in Edwardsville to become a wastewater operator when the pandemic struck. Regarding the scholarship, he states, "The scholarship was by far the

timeliest star that shined during this pandemic." Upon learning that ERTC was going to close due to the current pandemic, the scholarship could not have been awarded at a better time as he used it to purchase a computer in order to complete his education online. Currently he is waiting for the EPA to open back up for testing so he can gain his Wastewater certification. Michael already possesses a Class C drinking water operator-in-training designation but he is currently focused on his wastewater certification. To pass the time during the pandemic, Michael has been running and cycling to train for a triathlon in Chicago. The running and cycling has helped clear his mind from stress of school and studying for my certification. Regarding his education, Michael states, "ERTC has groomed me into a future professional in the water industry and I am excited to showcase my skills once this pandemic is over."

Bryan Pittman



Bryan Pittman, Village of Montgomery, is another Safe Water Scholarship awardee. Bryan is currently a Class C water operator. Bryan is working towards attaining his Class A water operator's license as well as taking classes towards a business administration degree. He, too, was preparing to take his water operator's exam, which was delayed during the pandemic.

Regarding his two-phased approach towards improving his professional career, he commented, "I look to become a water superintendent over the next five years and possibly a director after that. I have been in public works since May 2015 as just a seasonal and started full-time street department in July of 2016. I made the move into the water department in October of 2018 and it has been the best move of my professional career. With this bachelor's degree, I know it will help me achieve my goals of becoming superintendent and director in the future."

Joseph Perri



Our One AWWA Scholarship awardee is **Joseph Perri**. Joseph is a maintenance worker in the water and sewer division for the Village of Wilmette. Joseph was enrolled in College of DuPage's Construction Management Program working towards an Associates in Arts and Sciences degree

when he submitted his scholarship application. His future plans are to attain a BS in Construction Management and then a Master's degree in Public Administration from Indiana State University. Regarding his career as a public works employee at the Village, Joseph stated, "I am fond of providing the environment with the essentials to succeed and achieve greatness. I also believe the true glory for a greener, healthier environment is within public works. The hard work I have learned and achieved as an employee will better benefit the community as I continue to pursue my goal in supervision and leadership."

ISAWWA would like to congratulate these three scholarship awardees for their hard work and determination to continue their educational goals through embracing a safe water and a clean environment.

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“MISS A LITTLE, MISS A LOT!” – SPECIAL WATERCON 2020 EDITION

You all know by now, for the very first time in ISAWWA’s history, WATERCON 2020 was canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. I know, just call me “Captain Obvious.” However, the positive spin is: ISAWWA’s volunteers and staff (including the Water Utility Council) have stepped up in a major way to respond to the emergency and help members and utilities “Navigate the Future” (and the Present). How do you like the way I slipped in the theme of WATERCON 2020?

While I will be highlighting some of the work the WUC has been doing in the wake of COVID-19 in my regular *Splash* column “Making the Sausage,” I am focusing this article on some of what we all missed by not being able to attend WATERCON.

I think we can all agree the single greatest disappointment from missing WATERCON was we did not have the opportunity to recognize our Executive Director Laurie Dougherty and Office Manager Sandi McGinnis on their retirements. These ladies have been directly responsible for much of the success of ISAWWA and WATERCON for many years and they will be dearly missed. They were truly dedicated individuals and while I know they will be recognized elsewhere in this insert, I felt it was worth mentioning more than once.



Thank you for all of your valuable contributions!

In keeping with the retirement theme, two long-standing members of the Water Utility Council will be retiring later this year: Ted Meckes (City, Water, Light and Power) and Dennis Ross (Otter Lake Water Commission). Both of these dedicated volunteers have made significant contributions to the WUC over the years by making themselves available at a moment’s notice to run over to the State Capital to testify on behalf of ISAWWA on a variety of issues, and actively participate in meetings with members of the Illinois General Assembly and their staff.



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Dennis Ross, Ted Meckes,
Kyle Saunders & Bill Soucie

In addition, both Ted and Dennis have represented the ISAWWA at the AWWA Fly-in in Washington, D.C. and their contributions have most certainly made a difference to our industry. On behalf of the WUC, I wish to express my sincere gratitude and appreciation for all of their hard work. I am truly hopeful they will continue to remain engaged in the industry even after they retire.

**TECHNICAL PAPERS,
LEGISLATIVE AND
REGULATORY UPDATES,
AND GENERAL "SOCIAL
CLOSENESS ACTIVITIES"**

Along with recognizing our peers for a "job well done," we missed out on a fantastic technical program. All of the volunteers and staff involved in creating, managing, and presenting the technical program must be congratulated for all of their hard work. Some of the issues being addressed related to WUC activities were:


- A discussion on the recently adopted Title 35 (Environmental Protection), Part 604 changes (Design, Operation & Maintenance Criteria)
- An update to the Proposed Federal Lead and Copper Rule
- Proposed changes to the PFAS & PFOA (both federal and state)
- Ongoing concerns related to customer affordability
- A variety of opportunities to meet and speak with members of IEPA and IDPH on a variety of issues
- Updates to proposed federal and state legislation and how we (ISAWWA) can interact with the process

The Water Utility Council and ISAWWA fully understands the importance of all of these technical papers and will work hard in the coming months to work with presenters to provide this information in a virtual format to make sure you and your utility doesn't miss out.

Finally, for many (like me) we missed the "social closeness" of which we all have a renewed and profound appreciation.


We missed the opportunity to meet with friends and colleagues, catch up with each other, discuss issues of common concern and share insights, and generally have a great time with one another. I hope and pray by this time next year we will have returned to a time where we are all comfortable with that professional contact we have appreciated in the past. In the meantime, be well.

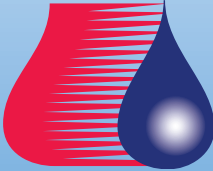
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MEET THE 2020-2021 ISAWWA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Take a look at this year's leaders and learn more about why they serve ISAWWA and their advice to members interested in getting involved.



JEFF FREEMAN

Chair
Volunteer Since 2005
Board Member Since 2016
Engineering Enterprises

Why I'm Involved: I wanted to help represent the

water industry.

Advice to Members: I guarantee the benefits will outweigh the time invested. You will thoroughly enjoy working with others in the water industry for a common goal. You will improve your own skills working with groups. You will meet new people who you will someday define as friends. You will help others and make a difference in their lives. Never stop learning.



RANDY LUSK

Chair Elect
Volunteer Since 2004
Board Member Since 2016
ME Simpson Company

Why I'm Involved: At first it just seemed like the

natural progression as you volunteer. Once I really looked at the Board I realized that I get to see so many people making a difference in the Section and communities in the state of Illinois. I then decided I wanted to be part of that team in helping make a difference.

You don't realize the knowledge network you establish while being a volunteer. I know if I don't know something, I can get the answer from someone I trust.

Advice to Members: Take it slow and do not be afraid to ask for guidance.



BRIAN JACK

Vice-Chair
Volunteer Since 2008
Board Member Since 2016
Village of Lombard

Why I'm Involved: I wanted to be a part of

building the direction of the Section as well as its role at the Association level. Everyone involved is passionate about water and it shows through their enthusiasm and commitment. The comradery is tremendous.

The comradery is tremendous.

Advice to Members: Start small to get your feet wet and find something you are interested in. Reach out to other members as resources. You only get out of it what you put in, so take advantage of the networking and knowledge of your peers.



CAROLYN GRIEVES

Past Chair
Volunteer Since 2005
Board Member Since 2015
Baxter & Woodman

Why I'm Involved: I had been a volunteer and

a committee chair for many years with the Section. I have loved being involved on many different levels. When the opportunity came to be able to help guide the Section to the future and help make decisions as a Board member I was excited to participate. I believe this is an incredible industry and an amazing association. I also believe the best thing you can do is to step forward and be an active participant.

Advice to Members: Do it! There are so many avenues in the Section to get involved. Find something you have an interest in or connect with. I know volunteer time is hard to carve out with a busy career, life, and family. You will get so much out of that small amount of time you contribute. The relationships and experience will be worth it – I promise!



ROBYN DOESCHLER

Secretary/Treasurer
Volunteer Since 1990
Board Member Since 2012
Retired

Why I'm Involved: To give back to the organization

that had given me so much.

Advice to Members: You get twice back what you put in. Get involved you won't regret it!



JOHN H. VAN ARSDEL

AWWA Director
Volunteer Since 2000
Previous Board Member 2006-2014 and
NEW role as of 2020
ME Simpson Company

Why I'm Involved: To work with a lot of talented and gifted individuals, learning from them and sharing ideas and friendships. Sharing of experiences, friendships, meeting other members from all over.

Advice to Members: Jump in with both feet. You will learn by doing. Any mistake you will make, someone else has already made and can help you resolve your issue.

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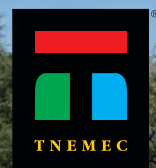
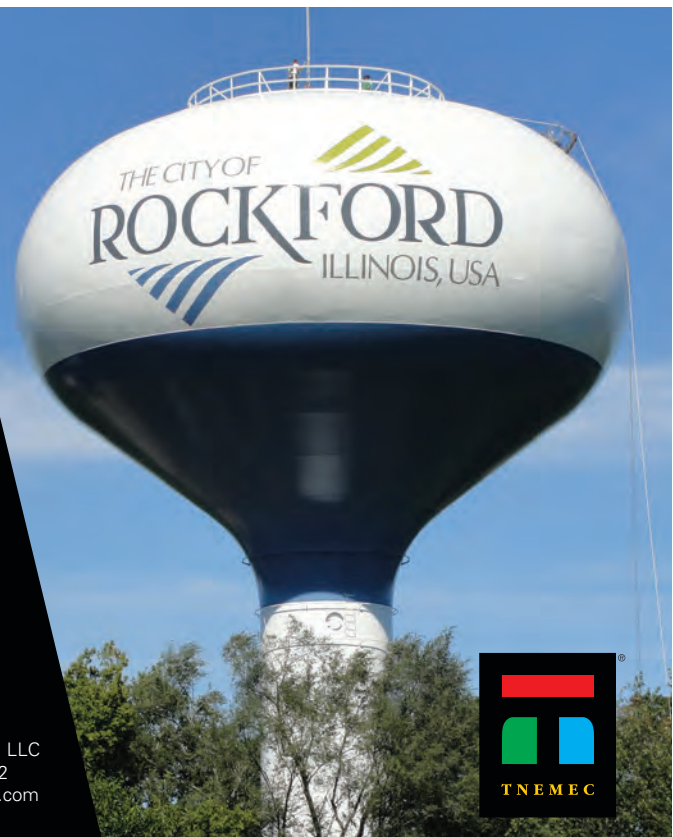
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MEET THE 2020-2021 ISAWWA BOARD OF DIRECTORS



DAWN WALKER
Trustee At Large
Volunteer Since 2012
Board Member Since 2019
Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of
Greater Chicago

Why I'm Involved: As long I've been an ISAWWA member I've wanted to join the Board. I've always been deeply committed to sustainable water resources and diversity. I was deeply interested in sharing my personal and professional skill sets and talents with the board on both subjects. I felt it important to also have a voice on the board that represents people of color since their experiences may differ from many already represented.

Advice to Members: Don't wait... just do it! It will change your professional outlook and enrich your personal life. ISAWWA members are passionate, kind, team players and leaders. Join and let all those positive vibes ooze into your personal and professional life! You won't regret it.



JAMIE ROTT
District 1 Trustee
Volunteer Since 2014
District 1 Trustee since 2017
City of Rockford

Why I'm Involved: I initially became involved with ISAWWA because I wanted to serve the water industry but over the years the relationships built and the knowledge gained has made it so much more! I have really enjoyed the fellowship, working with other water professionals to encourage interest in the water industry, and also being part of an organization that offers training and regulatory guidance for the water industry.

Advice to Members: Join a committee! There are so many opportunities to network, learn, and be involved!



PAUL MAY
District 2A Trustee
Volunteer Since 2008
NEW! Board Member Since 2020
Northwest Suburban Municipal Joint
Action Water Agency

Why I'm Involved: I have enjoyed working with colleagues and peer organizations to advance water utility objectives and public perception, and to ensure that our personnel are provided with practical training and knowledge sharing opportunities to ensure we all continue to develop and advance our capabilities.

Advice to Members: Don't be shy! Feel free to engage, ask questions, and learn from your peers. Join a committee and search out the training opportunities for your particular interests.



MELISSA OLENICK
2B Trustee
Volunteer Since 2015
NEW! Board Member Since 2020
Central Lake County Joint Action
Water Agency

Why I'm Involved: The networking. Meeting new people who you can turn to for questions or another perspective on water treatment.

Advice to Members: Get involved and be an active participant in shaping the world of water.



DAVID MOODY
District 2C Trustee
Volunteer Since 2014
NEW! Board Member Since 2020
Village of Downers Grove

Why I'm Involved: I want to be more involved with an organization that has provided so much to me while working in the water industry. We have so many great people in this industry. I've enjoyed my time on the MAC committee helping with WATERCON. It is fun to be a part of such a great conference.

Advice to Members: Get involved, there are so many great benefits, new friends, new colleagues, and new opportunities.



BRENT STUDNICKA
District 2D Trustee
Volunteer Since 2008
Board member since 2019
Strand Associates

Why I'm Involved: To use my experience and expertise to help make a great organization even better.

Advice to Members: If you are interested in helping in any way, don't hold back. I used to think no one would be interested in what I could offer as a volunteer. I was really wrong.



TODD LAFOUNTAIN
District 3 Trustee
Volunteer Since 2020
Board Member Since 2019
City Water Light & Power

Why I'm Involved: To be able to give back to the industry and network with other water industry professionals.

Advice to Members: Getting started in something new is tough. The group as a whole is, however, receptive and encouraging to new participants. Once you get footing, you won't regret your decision to participate. Shared experiences in the industry make conversation easy and informative.

MEET THE 2020-2021 ISAWWA BOARD OF DIRECTORS



DEAN SWINGLER

Trustee District 4
Volunteer Since 2020
NEW! Board Member Since 2020
EJ Water Co-Op

Why I'm Involved: I have been a member of ISAWWA for several years and always impressed with the leaders and volunteers, how they were so passionate about their profession. I got an opportunity to be on the Board. I hope I can continue the good job of supporting and helping the members in my district that others have before me. Getting involved is a great way to keep learning.

Advice to Members: If you want to learn about the water industry, ISAWWA is right place to be, for there is an abundance of training, webinars, books on anything you need or want to know.



KEITH ALEXANDER

District 5 Trustee
Volunteer Since 2005
NEW! Board Member Since 2020
City of Decatur

Why I'm Involved: ISAWWA has been extremely beneficial to my career and proficiency as a water professional. I'd like to pay back that debt.

Advice to Members: Let us never forget the challenging and highly rewarding responsibility that our communities have placed with us to provide the highest quality water that we can purify and deliver to each and every citizen.

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CONNECTING WITH OUR PREVIOUS BOARD MEMBERS

Thank you to the following previous board members for their service to ISAWWA!



JOE AHLVIN

District 4 Trustee

Board Service: 4 years

Contribution to ISAWWA: Engaging new members through listening to their stories and identifying volunteer opportunities.

Highlights of Board Service: I've most appreciated observing the leadership qualities of fellow board members and volunteers and having opportunities to network and learn from their individual styles.



MICHELLE HARROD

District 2B Trustee

Board Service: 2 years

Contribution to ISAWWA: I have really enjoyed writing the *Splash* articles. I chose to interview communities within the 2B District and it was

really great to check out their facilities and learn more about how they treat and distribute water!

Highlights of Board Service: RMSO was a great opportunity to learn more about what AWWA is doing around the country and for the sections. You meet some great people who are passionate about their sections and their industry and their passion becomes contagious.



OWEN KEENAN, PE

District 2A Trustee

Board Service: 4 years

Contribution to ISAWWA: I feel my biggest contribution has been mentoring young professionals like Aaron Horbovetz and Albert

Wtorkowski. My biggest personal success was when I won the Best Paper award with Alan Stark for our WATERCON presentation in 2003.

Highlights of Board Service: As a volunteer, I enjoyed helping the City of Chicago form their first water main tapping team to compete at WATERCON. As a committee member and later Chair, I enjoyed helping to grow the annual Water Distribution conference into the second most attended.



STEVE WILSON

District 5 Trustee

Board Service: 4 years

Contribution to ISAWWA: By far, helping with the Small Systems committee was my biggest contribution. I was a so-so board member, but

supporting small systems is where I wanted to be, and Jon Meyer has been a great leader there, keeping us moving forward and motivated.

Highlights of Board Service: The connections I have made, the things I have learned from people like Laurie and Owen.



LORI STENZEL

Past Chair

Board Service: 8 years

Contribution to ISAWWA: I thoroughly enjoyed writing articles for *Splash* with my signature always being "Until next time!" I was very involved

with the Outreach committee, especially with the Operator in Training program, Bridge the Gap toolkit, and PSA for water.

Highlights of Board Service: My highlights with our Section always involved activities pertaining to getting our youth excited about our industry. The camaraderie you develop over the time in our Section will last a lifetime. The passion our members have for our industry shines in the success and leader our Section has become over the years. The network of folks you meet along the way become a lifeline throughout your career and beyond. I have become a better person by being involved in ISAWWA and the people who have touched my life... Thank you!



THERESA O'GRADY

Past AWWA Director

Board Service: 11 years

Contribution to ISAWWA: While on the Board, I made sure to dedicate the time to do it right.

I did not want to be a rubber stamp on the status quo. I asked tough questions and always looked out for the interest of the members.

Highlights of Board Service: Attending conferences, meeting lots of people, and having the opportunity to be a part of the water industry in Illinois.



RETIREMENT NEWS

CONGRATULATIONS TO SANDI MCGINNIS!

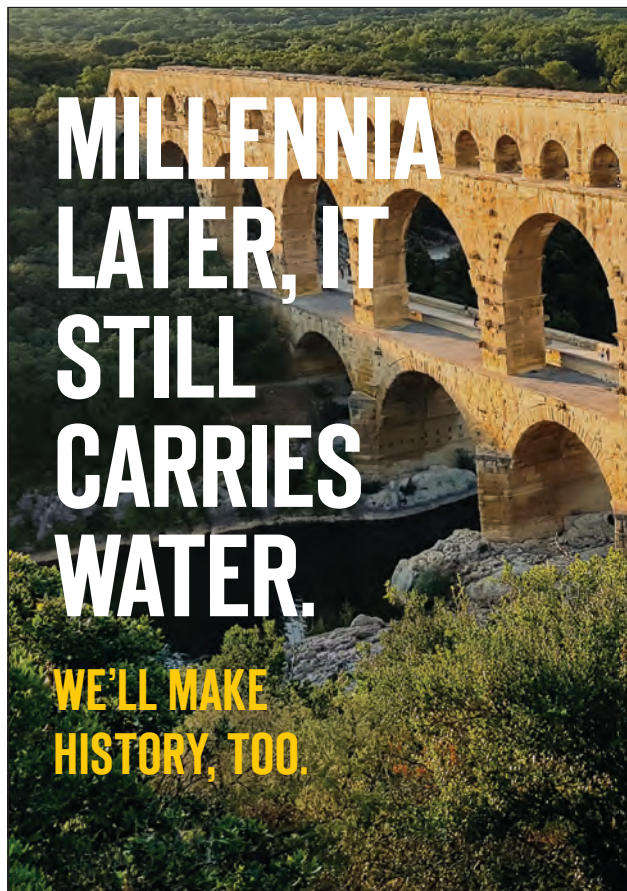
After 18 years of dedicated service, Sandi McGinnis retired as Office Manager of the Illinois Section AWWA on March 27, 2020. Sandi's career started at ISAWWA on a request from former Executive Director, Laurie Dougherty. At the time, Laurie was the only employee of ISAWWA and was looking for a part-time person to assist her with data entry. Laurie estimated she'd only need Sandi for a few hours per week to keep up with the workload.

Well, let's just say after Sandi was hired that "times were changing" at ISAWWA. Undoubtedly, with Sandi coming to work at ISAWWA, it allowed Laurie to focus on other tasks at hand. In particular, Sandi's organizational skills and work ethic made it easy for Laurie to expound her efforts with member engagement, set goals and policies, and do strategic planning to move ISAWWA forward.

To say Sandi was a "jack of all trades" in the office would be an understatement. As many folks who work in small (tiny) offices you just have to be a "do it all" type of person, and Sandi fit that profile exceptionally. It was not unusual for Sandi to pull out her handy-dandy toolbox and start fixing chairs, do a little plumbing, hang blinds, fix computers or printers, put shelves together, etc., etc. The list goes on!



Sandi was also a whiz with computer software issues and other technology. She often made a variety of signage and did a lot of graphic artwork which facilitated the smooth flow of traffic at ISAWWA conferences and training sessions and helped promote ISAWWA sponsors and partners.



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Aside from her dedication to ISAWWA, Sandi had her favorite hobbies, two of which were “all things related to Disney” and, along with her husband Terry, their Model A car hobby. As a matter of fact, after retirement from ISAWWA, Sandi is working part-time, and joining her husband where he works, at an antique car museum.

Sandi also has a large extended family of kids and grandkids, all of whom live in close proximity, so we’re pretty sure “Grandma Sandi” will be fully occupied during her retirement.

On behalf of the Section membership, we all wish Sandi good health and much happiness during her retirement. Congratulations Sandi!

SALUTE TO FORMER ISAWWA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR LAURIE DOUGHERTY

After 28 years of dedication to ISAWWA, Laurie Dougherty, Executive Director, retired on April 30, 2020. During Laurie’s tenure as Executive Director, she grew ISAWWA from a one-person, part-time position into one of AWWA’s largest and most dynamic Sections within the Association.

Laurie’s ability to recruit and motivate ISAWWA staff and volunteers (numbering in the hundreds) allowed ISAWWA to develop outstanding membership opportunities including training, outreach, advocacy, and networking. Laurie was instrumental in bringing ISAWWA into the 21st Century technological world while recognizing that member-to-member social networking and mentoring was instrumental for engaging the ISAWWA community of operators, engineers, manufacturers, and consultants.

Laurie also felt strongly about developing training and networking opportunities for new generations of water and wastewater professionals (Mentoring and Young Professionals committees) and worked diligently on behalf of the Women in Water committee. ISAWWA has also been a strong supporter of the Water For People non-profit organization to bring safe drinking water to impoverished areas around the world, and she encouraged ISAWWA volunteers to take an aggressive hands-on approach toward these worthy causes.

As we have all experienced over the past several weeks, sometimes the best laid plans have been upended by the COVID crisis. As such, ISAWWA members were looking forward to sending Laurie off into retirement with a party and farewell wishes. But with Laurie’s retirement in April, she expedited her departure to her new full-time home-base of Florida where she and Rich are now enjoying the warm ocean breezes and sunshine offered by their southern Florida climate.

In closing, Laurie, on behalf of all those who came before you, worked side-by-side with you, and from those whom you have given your full support and friendship over the years, we all wish you happiness and relaxation during your well-deserved retirement!



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1948 H. Frye
 1949 J. Moomau
 1950 W. Geltson
 1951 E. Alt
 1952 O. Gullans
 1953 H. Hudson
 1954 C. Klassen
 1955 C. Abplanap
 1956 G. Davis
 1957 C. Baylor
 1958 T. Larson
 1959 A. Lund
 1960 J. Vaughn
 1961 K. Steel
 1962 W. Downer
 1963 M. Gamet
 1964 E. Healy
 1965 L. Domke
 1966 J. Whisler
 1967 H. Merz
 1968 O. Hallden
 1969 NJ Davoust
 1970 R. Engelbrecht
 1971 P. Farrington

1972 W. Holmes
 1973 C. Reich
 1974 Bob Sasman
 1975 L. Madden
 1976 N. Knuttel
 1977 W. O'Connell
 1978 Harry VonHuben
 1979 D. Loveland
 1980 Robert Shierry
 1981 Ken Ficek
 1982 Howard Peskator
 1983 Mike Curry
 1984 Allen Panek
 1985 Frank Lewis
 1986 Robert Stanberry
 1987 Garold Fields
 1988 Chuck Smith
 1989 Gerald Bever
 1990 Ellen Flanagan
 1991 Kurt Wirth
 1992 Larry Thomas
 1993 John Boll
 1994 Ellis Sanderson
 1995 Dennis Leslie

1996 John Donahue
 1997 Lou Allyn Byus
 1998 Mike Winegard
 1999 Angela Podesta
 2000 Craig Cummings
 2001 Karen Cooper
 2002 Sue Atherton
 2003 R. J. Fischer
 2004 Melanie VanHeirseele
 2005 John Callan
 2006 Kyla Jacobsen
 2007 Tom Skelly
 2008 Jeff Musinski
 2009 Terry McGhee
 2010 John Smith
 2011 Dennis Ross
 2012 Kevin Lookis
 2013 John Van Arsdel
 2014 Theresa O'Grady
 2015 Greg Swanson
 2016 Ted Meckes
 2017 Chris Ulm
 2018 Lori Stenzel
 2019 Carolyn Grieves

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1940	Charles H. Spaulding	1967	L. C. Domke	1994	Charles H. Smith
1941	Frank C. Amsbary, Sr.	1968	Merrill B. Gamet	1995	Ellen P. Flanagan
1942	Herbert E. Hudson, Jr.	1969	Clarence W. Klassen	1996	Lawrence E. Thomas
1943	Louis R. Howson	1970	James W. Jardine	1997	Joseph Szawica
1944	Winifred D. Gerber	1971	Edward R. Healy	1998	Dennis Leslie
1945	None	1972	Otto S. Hallden	1999	Allan L. Rae
1946	Adolph E. Anderson	1973	Norbert J. Davoust	2000	Roger Selburg
1947	Clifford H. Fore	1974	Richard S. Engelbrecht	2001	David Wyness
1948	None	1975	William C. Ackermann	2002	Robert Martin
1949	Harold E. Babbitt	1976	Robert T. Sasman	2003	Gerald Bever
1950	Lewis I. Birdsall	1977	Walter Ginsburg	2004	Michael Winegard
1951	J. J. Woltman	1978	Lawrence M. Madden	2005	William (Burr) Koepsel
1952	William J. Downer	1979	Ira M. Markwood	2006	R. J. Fischer (Jeff)
1953	Arthur M. Buswell	1980	Howard W. Peskator	2007	Harry Von Huben
1954	Wilford W. DeBerard	1981	Barbara G. Fox	2008	Melanie VanHeirseesele
1955	Hyman H. Gerstein	1982	Jack Knauss	2009	John Donahue
1956	Edward E. Alt	1983	Arthur W. Horwitz	2010	John Callan
1957	Horace R. Frye	1984	William H. Richardson	2011	Laurie Dougherty
1958	Dewey W. Johnson	1985	Michael D. Curry	2012	Kyla Jacobsen
1959	Gerald L. Davis	1986	Vernon L. Snoeyink	2013	Thomas Skelly
1960	John P. Harris	1987	Kenneth J. Ficek	2014	Dennis Ross
1961	Thurston E. Larson	1988	Donald C. Renner	2015	John VanArsdel
1962	Oscar Gullans	1989	Robert S. Shierry	2016	Terry McGhee
1963	W. R. Gelston, Jr	1990	Clarence A. Blanck	2017	Greg Swanson
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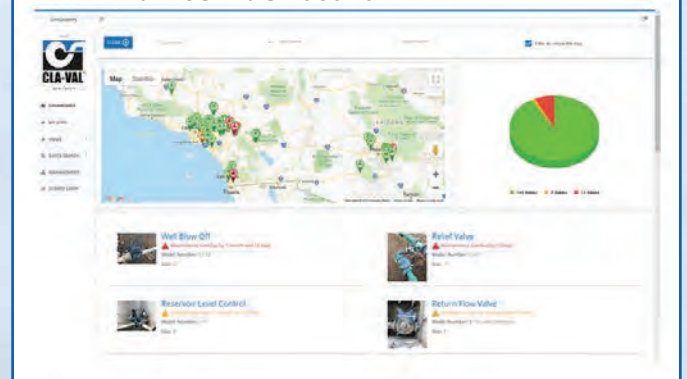
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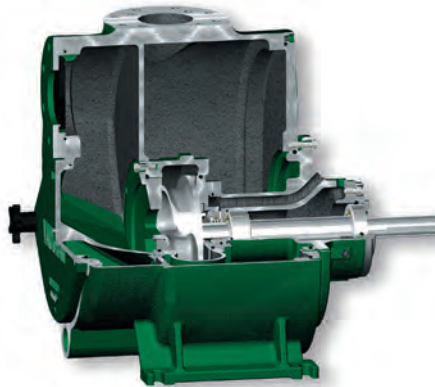
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