In Search of the 2006 Fuller Award Winner

By Bill Hutchinson

The Fuller Award Committee is seeking nominations for the 2006 Fuller Award. The criteria for nomination for this award are as follows:

A candidate must:

a. be a member or representative (employee) of an organization member of the AWWA.

b. have demonstrated during his/her career outstanding or extraordinary achievement which elevates or otherwise enhances the waterworks profession. This achievement may include accomplishments in any profession, i.e. finance, legal, engineering, science, public health, administration, or any other related disciplines.

c. have performed his/her duties in an outstanding or extraordinary manner that is easily recognizable as such by peers.

Service that does not rise to the level described in these criteria would not qualify a person for consideration for a Fuller Award. After assessment of the nominee(s), using these criteria, it is possible that a nomination would not be made during any one year.

Nominations should be submitted on the official nomination form and mailed to: William Hutchinson, The Southeast Morris County Municipal Utilities Authority, 19 Saddle Road, Cedar Knolls, New Jersey 07927. Nomination forms are available on our website at www.njawwa.org or by contacting Alene Rizzi at SMCAUA, 973-326-6867.

Nominations received after December 15, 2005 may not be considered this year.

Bill Hutchinson is the Executive Director of Southeast Morris County Municipal Utilities Authority and the Chair of the Fuller Award Committee.

Letter from the Chair

By John Fracasso

The section is going strong and doing well. Our 2005/2006 budgets have been approved and distributed to all committee chairs. The conference in 2006 will be at the Bocage from March 21 through 24 and the Board will be performing an encore performance at the banquet Thursday Night. The Technical Program and Manufacturers Committee are hard at work organizing the program for next year.

In my last article in Pipeline back during the summer, I discussed two initiatives during my term as section chair. The first is the Ad Hoc Governance Committee that has been meeting regularly to discuss how the section governance can improve so that we have a strong section going forward. The committee is looking at the structure of the board, membership retention and growth issues, and partnerships with other organizations among other possible initiatives. The committee is looking for feedback from the membership and has developed a survey that was initially distributed at the Fall Conference and will continue to be used at other seminars and meetings.

The other initiative is the Road Show that has resulted in a number of meetings with high-level managers for their feedback on the section. Over the last few months, we have met with a number of individuals and have appointments set with others in the weeks to come. A major concern for most is the time commitment associated with volunteering for the section. That certainly is a concern, but the flip side of that issue is that members and volunteers can benefit with training, TCHs and the social aspect of the section.

Training and TCHs are important especially for those maintaining their licenses. Two seminars scheduled for October were “Emerging Issues and Surface and Ground Waters” on October 12 sponsored by the Research and Technology Transfer Committee and “Introduction to Jac’Trac” on October 26 sponsored by the Education and Professional Development Committee.

Along the same lines of training some expressed an interest in training away from the traditional lines of regulations, operations and engineering and more towards customer service and management training. The pre-conference workshop in March 2006 will focus on customer service and public relations as a start. A goal for the section going forward should be to strike a balance between science/engineering and management. That is something we can achieve given the level of expertise present in New Jersey and among our members.

Some suggested that the section should have more influence in legislative and regulatory issues. The Water Utility Council this year has been proactive in formulating opinions on fluoride and MTBE among others. The real issue, I believe, has to do with the way the section is perceived by the media, legislators and the general public. When it comes to the subject of water, we need to be New Jersey and among our members. The Water Utility Council this year has been proactive in formulating opinions on fluoride and MTBE among others. The real issue, I believe, has to do with the way the section is perceived by the media, legislators and the general public. When it comes to the subject of water, we need to be

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If you or your company has services that you can provide, the site allows one to register and place offers of assistance. One can offer professional expertise and personnel or donate water-related equipment, supplies and other resources. I encourage your organizations to provide whatever support you can or help through the offers of assistance or by donating to organizations that are helping the hurricane victims.

In this issue

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Members Making a Difference

Pre Conference Sessions to Identify Ways Utilities and Other Organizations Can Become More “Customer Focused”

Recognition Committee Seeks Nominations

NJAWWA Welcomes New Members and Recruiters

In Search of the 2006 Fuller Award Winner

Printed on Recycled Paper

New Jersey Section

The Newsletter of NJAWWA
To thank more than 57,000 members for their outstanding dedication and support, AWWA is celebrating the 2nd annual Member Appreciation Week November 6–12, 2005. During that time, members will be honored with special activities and offers, and other token of appreciation. The New Jersey Section of AWWA has planned many activities to celebrate...
Pre-Conference Session to Identify Water Utilities and other Organizations Can Become More “Customer Focused”

By Bernadette M. Sohler

Meeting customer expectations will be the focus of a March 21 Pre-Conference Workshop to be presented cooperatively by the section’s Technical Program and Public Information Committee. The workshop, geared for all utility discipline backgrounds, will clarify what customers expect and what other stakeholders expect from their water utilities and will discuss the key strategies utilities can employ to influence customer perceptions and improve customer satisfaction. The session is expected to include a discussion on perception of the water industry, the use of Consumer Confidence Reports as a marketing/educational tool and the role of preparation and communication in mitigating crisis situations. For more information about the workshop, please call 866-436-1120.

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Recognition Committee Seeks Nominees
By Nicole Wiley

The Recognition Committee is seeking nominees for the following awards, which are traditionally presented at the Annual Conference. Please contact the section office or the Recognition Committee Chair, Nicole Wiley at njawwa@njawwa.org, or (732) 916-9300, for information on the awards and nomination forms. Nominations forms can be obtained at the NJ AWWA website www.njawwa.org. Nominations are due by January 15th.

Dedication Award
Awarded to a NJ-AWWA member who has demonstrated outstanding service and dedication to the Association through leadership and active participation in NJAWA programs. Nominations must be in good standing with the AWWA, have maintained membership in the NJ-AWWA for a minimum of 7 years, have exhibited leadership in Association events for at least one year and displayed distinctive leadership and meritorious services to the Association in each of the following areas: service, good fellowship and participation.

Next Generation Award
Awarded to a NJ-AWWA member who is a young professional (under the age of 35) who is actively participating in the Association activities and programs. This award has been developed in an effort to encourage young professionals to become active in NJ-AWWA and to encourage employees to consider allowing their young professional to participate. The nominee must be in good standing with the AWWA, have maintained membership in the NJ-AWWA for a minimum of 2 years, have exhibited leadership in Association events for at least one year and displayed distinctive leadership and meritorious services in each of the following areas: service, good fellowship and participation.

Buddy Program Recognition
By Nicole Wiley

A Project Engineer with CH2M Hill and Chair of the NJ-AWWA Recognition Committee.

NJAWWA began its Section Sponsorship program in 2003, and received a strong, positive response from members to the opportunity for year-long company recognition. In order to continue providing the best possible service to our members, the Associate Committee sought feedback from both sponsors and non-sponsors regarding the Section Sponsorship Program.

Based on that feedback, NJAWWA has made some significant revisions to the Sponsorship Program. It seemed that many members continue to want the benefits of year-long recognition for their companies through newsletter listings, website links, and recognition at all Section events, while others wanted to – and got more value from – their involvement at such events as the Annual Conference.

NJAWWA now offers one level of Annual Section Sponsorship, featuring year-long recognition for companies with an active link on the NJAWWA website, a company listing in the NJAWWA newsletter, company name recognition on all seminar and event flyers mailed to NJAWWA’s 1400 members and company name listing on the “Section Sponsors” sign that is prominently displayed at all Section events, plus an opportunity for a tabletop display at one of our educational seminars or networking events, and a $250 donation to the NJAWWA Drinking Water Careers Scholarship and/or Water for People. NJAWWA is also introducing a new Annual Conference Sponsorship opportunity. This new sponsorship offers companies the option of selecting either a complimentary booth (plus an additional full registration), obtaining four (4) full registrations, or receiving additional, comprehensive recognition at all conference events & activities, including print recognition in the Conference Program, the opportunity to have their company name imprinted on the Conference Bag, to insert a company giveaway in the Conference Bag that’s given to all (700+) attendees, and more.

We hope that you find these changes as exciting as we do – and we look forward to welcoming you to the NEW NJAWWA Section Sponsorship Program!

Congratulations to the following award-winning drinking water utilities!

You have demonstrated your commitment to providing superior quality water to your customers beyond the requirements of the USEPA regulations. The Partnership for Safe Water is a voluntary initiative sponsored by USEPA, and five other safe drinking water organizations. For more information on the Partnership for Safe Water contact the American Water Works Association using our web site, www.awwa.org/science/partnership, or call 303.794.7711.

American Water Services New Jersey American Water

You Can Still Sign Up to be an Annual Conference Sponsor!

Download a registration form www.njawwa.org/science/par PARTNERSHIPS or via Mona Cavalcoli at 866-436-1120 or via ncavalcoli@njawwa.org.
The Winner is...

The Winner is... 2005 Acknowledgement of Employer Support Award

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Not only as NJAWWA member at the top of my profession, but as a human being, they have good human hearts. Read on for some future劢ally available stories by NJAWWA members.

252 Miles for Charity

The summer, Section Administrative Monu Cardal and Emily Kells reviewed 120 miles and raised over $2,900 for charity. She participated in the Princess Tour de Cure for Diabetes, a 5-day ride for ALS (Lou Gehrig’s Disease), and then in September, rode 110 miles throughout north-central NJ for Multiple Schlema.

“An amazing experience.” Mona: “Sure, there are times it burns and I want to quit, but then I think about my dad, my friend John, or Lindsey’s mom, or Carol Seenie friend – they can’t quit having diabetes or MS so why can’t I?” What I’m doing is nothing compared to what many people struggle with everyday. So, a boat full of leukemia, a couple the fires, and two missing legs, Mona, would like to thank everyone for the Section that supported her efforts – and hopes that next year, some brave souls will join her in riding to raise funds and awareness for illnesses that affect so many people.

Read more about Carl’s experiences in the October newsletter.

Proceeds from the NJAWWA Fall Conference 50/50 raffles were donated to the Red Cross with section matching funds for a total donation of $770.

The Bridgeport Mall & Edible Wonders will donate 10% of sales to njawwa’s depths to promote the round of clock shifts during a minimum 3-month stay; another staff member is waiting to hear the results.

Aqua America employees contributed $75,000 Company-wide and Aqua America matched that amount for a total of $74,000 raised for the hurricane relief fund.

The volunteer of Hatch Mott MacDonald donated and donated approximately 20 hours of diapers, baby spoons, pet food and other essentials to hurricane victims, along with a company donation of $10,000.

A WWA International has set up a Hurricane Help Center on its website at www.awwa.org. The center includes a database to match up offers of assistance from number utilities, manufacturers, contractors and individuals with those who need the expertise or equipment being offered.

Would you want a different? Send details to pipeline@njawwa.org for possible inclusion in a future issue.

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On September 22, 2005, the Young Professionals of the NJAWWA and NJWEA (New Jersey Water Environmental Association) held a joint networking event to bring together professionals from both the water and wastewater fields. The event was entitled an “End of Summer Bash” and how fitting it was! Held as a Green in Belmar, the event was held as summer officially turned to fall. Under the first night of fall, we gathered outside, under the star-studded sky for the networking part of the event. We saw old friends and took the opportunity to catch up with them since the last time we saw them. We also met new friends and took the time to get to know them and share our water and wastewater knowledge and experiences. Like other networking events I’ve attended, once the first few awkward quiet moments were over, there was much laughter and talking and sharing of experiences, both personal and professional. It was a great way to end the summer season and begin the new fall season.

Young Professional Networking Events are about meeting new individuals and strengthening the ties that we have to our industry. While the events are geared towards Young Professionals, we encourage Experienced Professionals to attend and join in the fun, to participate and to share their career experiences and knowledge with the newer and younger members of our Section. The event is a great way to socialize with other professionals in the water and wastewater fields. Hope to see you at our next event!

Stacy Fiza is a Management Specialist with Trenton Water Works and a 4-year member of NJAWWA.

2005 Acknowledgement of Employer Support Award Winner: Schoor DePalma
By Chris Olson

The Acknowledgement of Young Professional Employer Support Award recognizes employers that support their employees’ growth and development process through continuing education, involvement in National and New Jersey Section AWWA activities, participation in NJAWWA committees, and encouraging presentations at conferences and publications in national and technical journals. At the September 8 NJAWWA Fall Conference, the Membership Committee presented the 4th Annual Employer Support Award to Manalapan-based consulting firm Schoor DePalma.

Congratulations to Schoor DePalma, and the other nominees, Haritz Mott MacDonald and The Pompton Lakes Borough Municipal Utilities Authority, as this year’s race was as close as ever. After the final vote was cast, judges revealed that the number of active young professional NJAWWA committee members from Schoor DePalma was the deciding factor in the selection of the winning employer.

Chris Okorie is a Staff Engineer with Schoor DePalma and a member of the Membership Services Committee.

Not only are NJAWWA members at the top of their game when it comes to drinking water, they have good humor too. Read on for some humorous and durable anecdotes by NJAWWA members.

252 Miles for Charities
The summer, Section Administrator Mona Cardinale, and 252 miles and raised over $2,000 for charity. She participated in the Princeton Tour de Cure for Diabetes, a 3-day ride for ALS (Lou Gehrig’s Disease), and then in September, rode 110 miles throughout north-central NJ for Multiple Sclerosis.

“Is it an amazing experience?” Mona. “Sure, there are times it looms and I want to quit, but then I think about my dad, or my friend John, or Landry’s mom, or Carol & Smokey friend – they can’t just quit having Diabetes or MS, either. What I’m doing is nothing compared to what many people struggle with every day.”

So, one of the highlights of the summer, a couple of miles, and two active legs later, Mona would like to thank everyone from the Section that supported her efforts – and hopes that next year, some brave souls will join her in riding to raise funds and awareness for illnesses that affect so many people.

Banner Year for the Water for People Committee

By Cynthia Hartley

It has been a banner year for the New Jersey Water For People Committee. Through the dedication, passion and hard work of our team, we have raised an incredible $75,000 for Water For People (WFP). This has surpassed our expectations, as we found that, with a concerted effort to achieving our four-year goal of $50,000 per year. Our fundraising accomplishments could not have been possible without the generosity of NJAWWA, and all members supporting us through contributions, participation and their usage.

WFP committee jump-started our efforts in October 2004 with our 2nd Annual Water For People Golf Tournament sponsored by American Water. We had a great turnout, and proceeds went towards funding a water pumping system project in Belton. This was followed by the NJAWWA Annual Conference in Atlantic City, and here WFP presented its first Technical Seminar in which attendees participated in discussions on water conflict issues - both domestically and abroad - WFP: America’s Removal Program in India, and how WFP projects are organized and managed from inception to completion.

Despite the seasons that forced the rescheduling of the 2nd Annual Water For People Golf Tournament at the Pia Barone Golf Club in May, the New Jersey WFP committee ended our final year with a bang. The Pia Barone Golf Club was a beautiful course. We could not have asked for a more perfect day. The brilliant sun shone warmly on the golfers who tackled their calendar to join us for a 7:00 a.m. start. Those who could not make the event were givenouchers to play their round on a more convenient day. The 2nd Annual Water For People Golf Tournament raised over $11,000 for Water For People – almost twice that of last year’s event.

A heartfelt thank you to Barbara Lankis, of Pine Barrens Golf Club, for donating a night of fun for the New Jersey WFP committee.

We had so much fun at Pine Barrens and enjoyed the time so much that the 3rd Annual Water For People Committee will be held on May 22nd. Keep an eye out for the date.

Following on the heels of a successful 2004 year, the 2005 fiscal year started off with a splash. Southwest Florida Water For People Committee held its 1st Annual Family & Friends Canoe/Kayaking Event. As with the golf tournament, we could not have asked for a more perfect day. The clear blue water of Whitman State Forest continued on page 7

Local Leaks

In July 2005, Glenn M. Ramsteiner, Eng. of Rock, Soffer & Jon received his New Jersey Professional Engineer’s license, and Leonid Brude, an Electrical Engineer also with Rock, Soffer & Jon, received his Vermont Professional Engineer’s license.

Got a leak? Submit news about NJAWWA members’ professional and personal milestones for publication in Pipeline. See page 8 for content submission information.
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by Bernadette M. Sohler

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Awarded to a NJ-AWWA member who is a young professional under the age of 30 and who is actively participating in the Association activities and programs. The award has been developed in an effort to encourage young professionals to become active in NJAWWA and to recognize the contributions of young professionals in the water profession.

TCH Reciprocity: Committee

TCH Reciprocity: Committee is working with representatives from Pennsylvania and New York to gain approval from these states for the recognition of TCH earned at NJAWWA seminars. This would also include TCH requirements for New York Professional Engineering licenses.

Looking ahead to 2006, the committee is working on a seminar for the New Jersey Long Term 2 Enhanced Surface Water Rule and Stage 2 D/DBP Rule. Some of the topics would include case studies, potential revisions to the Total Coliform Rule, flushing and blending of water quality. These are just some of the items the committee is working on. We are always looking to membership for their input and suggestions. In addition the committee welcomes new members.

If you would like to join or have an idea or suggestion feel free to contact us through the NJAWWA web site. Frank Falco is the Director of Production for Mutual Water Company and a member of the NJAWWA Educational and Professional Development Committee.

Educational & Professional Development Committee Update

by Frank Falco

The Education and Professional Development Committee has been busy planning educational seminars and working towards additional benefits for NJAWWA members.

Some of the highlights are:

- Introduction to Jar Testing for Water Treatment in late October. This seminar gives operators a chance to gain “hands on” experience as well as networking with other professionals.
- Students Get Free!! The Committee is continually looking at ways to attract young people to the water industry, such as its policy that NJAWWA seminars as will be free for students whenever possible.

Committee members are also organizing a list of key university contacts. The goal is to collect their involvement in attracting students to the industry.

International Director’s Report

by Rich Russo

Subsequently to the June 11, 2005 Special Board meeting, the Ad Hoc Committee on Governance and Structure has completed its Interim Report to the New Jersey AWWA Board of Directors for review and approval. The report is due to the Board by December 31, 2005. After that date, the ad hoc committee will draft its final report recommendations for review and action by the Board of Directors at its February 2006 meeting in Austin, Texas. If you would like to discuss any aspect of this important initiative, please contact me at (973) 912-2518 or richard.russo@ch2m.com.

In other actions, at the Board meeting in June, the Board approved amendments to the bylaws concerning membership requirements to the Volunteer Services Travel Policy, changes to the structure of the AWWA Audio Committees and confirmed Oahu, Hawaii as the site for the Winter 2007 Board meeting.

Finally AWWA members and staff met in Washington during August to develop recommendations for a proposal developed by EPA to help develop regulations for effluent from drinking water plants. AWWA offered an amendment ensuring that if EPA does issue such guidelines, that they are practical for drinking water utilities.

Rob Rossi is a Vice President with Harsh-MacDonald and the International Director of NJAWWA.

NJAWWA would like to welcome its 2005-2006 Annual Conference Sponsors!

- Bud, Soifer & Joint, Inc.
- CDM
- CH2M Hill
- GeoEye & Harris
- Harsh Mart McDonald
- Harper International
- Mowiel & Edly, Inc.
- MWH

NJAWWA would like to welcome the following companies that have already signed up to be Annual Conference Sponsors!

- Budget Meter
- Black & Veatch
- Bud, Soifer & Joint, Inc.
- CH2M Hill
- CMI Associates
- Delta Cooling Towers
- The Dorna-Tech Group
- Harper International
- Water Works Supply Company

Congratulations to the following award-winning drinking water utilities!

You have demonstrated your commitment to providing superior quality water to your customers beyond the requirements of the USEPA regulations. The Partnership for Safe Water is a voluntary initiative sponsored by USEPA, and five other safe drinking water organizations. For more information on the Partnership for Safe Water contact the American Water Works Association using our web site, www.awwa.org/science/partnership, or call 303.794.7711.

American Water Services New Jersey American Water

You Can Still Sign Up to be an Annual Conference Sponsor!

Download a registration form from www.njawa.org/science/partnership or contact Marc Casko at 866-436-1120 ext. 5 or email casko.marcc@ch2m.com

American Water Services New Jersey American Water
The New Jersey Section and AWWA Celebrate 2nd Annual Member Appreciation Week 6-12

To thank members for their outstanding dedication and support, AWWA is celebrating the 2nd annual Member Appreciation Week June 6-12, 2005. During that time, members will be honored with special activities and offers, and other tokens of appreciation. The New Jersey Section of AWWA is organizing these special activities.

Member Appreciation Week 2005 takes place as AWWA approaches its 125-year anniversary in 2006. The Association began in March 1881, when 22 organizers got together to discuss creating a charitable organization for better water systems. This type of dedication is still evident in the membership today.

The strength of AWWA’s membership is in its diversity and dedication. Today, AWWA’s members represent every facet of the water industry, forming a powerful collective voice that belyingly shapes the world of water,” comments AWWA Executive Director, Jack Hoffhause.

AWWA has planned a variety of activities to thank our members during Member Appreciation Week in November. Some highlights are:

- Individual members will receive a special coupon book in the mail.
- Individual members celebrating their 5-, 10-, 15-, 20- and 25-year anniversary will receive a membership pin recognition.
- Organizational members will receive special thank you gifts.
- All members will be eligible to participate in a Web site treasure hunt.

More information about Member Appreciation Week will be provided through emails, publications, and on the AWWA Web site, www.awwa.org.

On Tuesday, November 8, 2005 NJAWWA will be holding a special luncheon to welcome new members who have joined the association since November 2004. The luncheon will be held at Old Man Rafferty’s restaurant in New Brunswick.

The New Jersey Team Experience

By Carrie F. Feuer

The New Jersey Team Experience was an opportunity to see what the exhibits were about and what they were made of. It was a great experience and a way to get a good look at some of the best ideas in the industry.

The New Jersey Section is Celebrating Member Appreciation Week, Too!

First, all Section members are invited to participate in a random prize drawing to win one of three (3) fabulous prizes, just by signing up on the NJAWWA website! Just visit www.njawwa.org and sign up before Nov 7 and Nov 11 to enter the random drawing, which will take place on Monday Nov. 14. Just for being a member, you could win:
- Digital camera
- DVD/CD player
- iPod Shuffle

Annual Financial Summary for New Jersey Section

By Carrie F. Feuer

I am pleased to present you a pie chart summary of the 2004 - 2005 income and expenditures for the Section. Income totaled $286,920 and expenditures totaled $266,060. The budget year ran from July 1, 2004 to June 30, 2005. The total budget for 2005 - 2006 is $354,375.

Income

- Conferences, Seminars & Programs: 65%
- Membership Fees: 18%
- Miscellaneous: 6%

Expenditures

- Conferences, Seminars & Programs: 28%
- Administrative/Assoc./Reserve: 25%

The AWWA International Top Ops Competition: The New Jersey Team Experience

By Carol Waltzky

As the AWWA National Conference in the Spring of 2005, the team of Roger Budd (Barnegat Twp, Utilities), Carl Rehnuma (City of Cape May, and Steve Decke (Usual Water) won the New Jersey Section Top Ops competition. As the winners of the local competition, they were invited to participate in the International competition at the AWWA Annual Conference and Exposition in San Francisco, California in June. AWWA offers costumes for the exhibit hall, where the Top Ops competition was held. NJAWWA contributed expenses, and the contestants’ employers allowed them time off to attend the competition.

Recently, contestants Roger Budd and Carl Rehnuma took a few minutes out of their busy schedule to tell Pipeline about their experience at the International Top Ops competition.

“It was a great opportunity to represent the New Jersey Section,” Roger said. “The team was extremely competitive with the other states, but friendly. We met many interesting people from all over the country.”

According to Roger, most of the other Section teams consisted of members from a single utility, and the teams had been together for several years. It was not unusual for teams to have been preparing for the competition for some time. Many teams had special Top Ops team shirts. “Considering that it was our first time competing, a team we did very well.”

The success of the NJAWWA’s Top Ops competition is due in part to the efforts of Mona Cavalcoli, the Secretary-Treasurer of NJAWWA.

Mona Cavalcoli is the Section Manager of NJAWWA.

Announcements

Edited by Carrie F. Feuer

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In Search of the 2006 Fuller Award Winner

By Bill Hutchinson

The Fuller Award Committee is seeking nominations for the 2006 Fuller Award. The criteria for nomination for this award are as follows:

- A candidate must:
  - have demonstrated during his/her career outstanding or extraordinary achievements which elevate or otherwise enhance the waterworks profession.
  - have demonstrated during his/her career accomplishments in any profession, i.e. finance, legal, engineering, science, public health, administration, or any other related disciplines.
- have performed heroic duties in an outstanding or extraordinary manner that is easily recognizable as such by peers.

Service that does not rise to the level described in these criteria would not qualify a person for consideration for a Fuller Award. After assessment of the nominee(s), using these criteria, it is possible that a nominee would not be made during any one year.

Nominations should be submitted on the official nomination form and mailed to: William Hutchinson, The Southeast Morris County Municipal Utilities Authority, 19 Saddle Road, Cedar Knolls, New Jersey 07927.

Nomination forms are available on our web site at www.fulleraward.org by contacting Mona Cavalcoli at SMCARU, 973-526-6867.

Nominations received after December 15, 2005 may not be considered this year.

Bill Hutchinson is the Executive Director of Southeast Morris County Municipal Utilities Authority and the Chair of the Fuller Award Committee.

Letter from the Chair

By John Hroncich

The section is going strong and doing well. Our 2005-2006 budget has been approved and distributed to all committee chairs. The conference in 2006 will be at the Burga from March 21 through 24 and the Council will be performing an encore performance at the banquet Thursday evening. The Technical Program and Manufacturers Show Committee are hard at work organizing the program for next year.

In my last article in Pipeline back during the summer, I discussed two initiatives during my term as section chair. The first is the Ad Hoc Governance Committee that has been meeting regularly to discuss how the section governance can improve so that we have a strong section going forward. The committee is looking to the structure of the board, membership retention and growth issues, and partnerships with other organizations among other possible initiatives. The committee is looking for feedback from the membership and has developed a survey that was initially distributed at the Fall Conference and will continue to be used at other seminars and meetings.

The other initiative is the Road Show that has resulted in a number of meetings with high-level managers for their feedback on the section. Over the last few months, we have met with a number of individuals and have appointments set with others in the weeks to come. A major concern for most is the time commitment associated with volunteering for the section. That certainly is a concern, but the flip side of that issue is that members and volunteers can have more say, training, and the social aspect of the section.

Training and TCHs are important especially for those maintaining their licenses. Two seminars scheduled for October were “Emerging Issues and Surface and Ground Water” on October 12 sponsored by the Research and Technology Transfer Committee and “Introduction to ‘Jac’ Training” on October 26 sponsored by the Education and Professional Development Committee.

Along the same lines of training some exposure an interest in training away from the traditional lines of regulations, operations and engineering and more towards customer service and management training. The pre-conference workshop in March 2006 will focus on customer service and public relations as a start. A goal for the section going forward should be to strike a balance between science/engineering and management. That is something we can achieve given the level of expertise present in New Jersey and among our members.

Some suggested that the section should have more influence in legislative and regulatory issues. The Water Utility Council this year has been proactive in formulating opinions on franchise and MTBE among other. The real issue, I believe, has to do with the way the section is perceived by the media, legislators and the general public. When it comes to the subject of water, we need to do a better job educating the organization everyone goes to for information. That has been something that we have been working to improve especially with a very active Public Information Committee and Publications Committee working in concert with the Water Utility Council. I am proud of the work these committees have done this year.

Another item discussed is the social aspect to the section. Over the last few years the section social activities have increased significantly especially with the work done by the Membership Committee. A number of VP events have taken place this year with many planned. On September 23 the Membership Committee held their VP event at the MMHC Executive Director’s home in Tinton Falls, New Jersey. Other VP events are anticipated and all professionals are welcome. The Membership Committee has an innovative program planned for Membership Week scheduled for the first week in November. Stay in touch with what is going on with the section by going to the website regularly, it has a good deal to offer members. The Fall Conference and Gulf Coast in early September was a success on two fronts, the technical sessions were well attended and golf had a good day for playing. Here we combined both training with the social aspect and many benefited.

At the Fall Conference I announced that the section would donate to the Red Cross the amount collected for the 50/50 and match that amount dollar for dollar. The section will be donating a total of $470 to the Red Cross for victims of hurricanes Katrina and Rita. AWWA Donors has in recent weeks provided a means for water industry professionals and companies to provide support and assistance to the hurricane victims. Go to the section web site at njawwa.org and click the “Hurricane Help Cartoon” link where you can offer assistance, materials and money that would directly assist to the victims in the Gulf coast. If you or your company has services that you can provide, the site allows you to register and place offers of assistance. One can offer professional expertise and personnel or donate water related equipment, supplies and other resources. I encourage your organizations to provide whatever support you can whether through the offers of assistance or by donating to organizations that are helping the hurricane victims.