Letter from the Chair

by Mark Tompeck

AWWA is a dynamic organization that has shown the ability to change and adapt to the challenges of the water industry. As I assume the Chair of the New Jersey Section, I am humbled by the opportunity to serve the membership of the Section. For those of you that endured my speech at the banquet at the Annual Conference, I will not force you to experience it again. However, I would like to highlight some of the major initiatives that we will be pursuing during the upcoming year.

I am thrilled to have the opportunity to work with a Board that includes such talented and dedicated professionals. One thing that strikes me about the Board is the energy and enthusiasm that they bring to all of the Section activities. Last year, Stacy Fysz led the Section and accomplished great things. Stacy will be a tough act to follow! At the same time, the Board has some great up-and-coming Trustees in Lindsey Lento and Laura Cummings. I intend to rely heavily on the vast talents of the Board, Committees and all of the membership to help to improve the Section.

Each Committee of the Section plays an important role in providing services to the membership. This year, I will call upon several Committees to provide extra effort in order to drive the key initiatives that I discussed at the banquet.

The operators, utility managers, regulators and engineers that make up our Section are some of the best in the industry. One problem that we have is that we need to let people from outside our industry know that they can come to us for information about their drinking water. I have called on the Water Utility Council and Public Information Committee to lead us in “Raising the Profile of NJAWWA”, to help NJAWWA become recognized as the industry experts that we are.

We are looking for speakers to serve on the Section Speakers Bureau. If you are interested in serving, please contact me or Neil Goldfine.

I believe that education is the core mission of AWWA. The Section does a great job at educating our membership, and I have called on the Education and Professional Development, Research and Technology Transfer, and Technical Program Committees to develop a comprehensive and coordinated program that serves our membership.

To this end, Lindsey Lento and Laura Cummings will be leading the efforts in coordinating between the various Section Committees with education responsibilities and some outside organizations to develop an education calendar for the Section. This effort will focus on providing a wide variety of education opportunities and will hopefully avoid duplication and overlapping events.

Technology drives our society, and it is no different for the water industry. In order to keep pace with the technology needs of the Section, we will be undertaking a major upgrade to the Section website. The goal of the update is to provide greater functionality and a more user friendly website that meets the needs of our membership. The IT Committee will lead the charge of the website update and will be assisted by a task force that will establish website needs and implement the improvements. The goal is to have the updated website in operation before the end of 2008. If you have any ideas concerning the website, please contact the IT Committee.

In closing, I am excited to be leading the Section and I look forward to working with the Board and all of the membership to make our Section the best it can be.

Mark Tompeck is a Senior Vice President and the Water Practice Leader at Hatch Mott MacDonald and is the Chair of Section.

Governor Proclaims May 4 through May 10 Drinking Water Week

by Jordan Volk

NJAWWA members joined a few NYAWWA members at Rockefeller Plaza bright and early on Thursday, May 8 to be part of the Today Show crowd. Clad in “Only Tap Water Delivers” T-shirts and posters in hand, our message was read on camera by Al Roker, and we were able to provide detailed information to the Today Show staff and discuss continued on page 10
New Trustee: Ken Garrison
by Margie Gray

Ken Garrison has been the Borough of Fairlawn’s Municipal Engineer and Licensed Water Operator since 1992. He obtained an Associates Degree in Architecture and a BS in Engineering Technology from the New Jersey Institute of Technology and holds W4, T4, Professional Engineer, and Professional Planner licenses. He is also a Certified Municipal Engineer.

Ken has been a member of AWWA for 26 years and been active in volunteering for the Section for many years. He has served on the Student Affairs, Registration, Conference, and Handbook Committees and has held the position of Chair of the Recognition Committee and Co-Chair of the Registration Committee. Ken was honored at the 2007 Annual Conference with the Harold Florence Meritorious Operator Award.

When asked how he became involved in the water industry, Ken said it began in the early eighties when he was employed at the City of Jersey City, which was then the 5th largest water system in the state. He was the supervising principal engineer of the Division of Water Engineering. While in this position he obtained his water license and became the licensed operator of the system. In 1982, the State experienced a severe drought and Ken participated in the statewide water supply management plan as the representative for the Jersey City water system. It was at this time that he met people like Dean Noll, George Haskew and Wendell Inhoffer, who, as mentors, strongly encouraged him to get involved in AWWA.

Ken comments that the water industry is a very professional and close knit group. He feels that the sole purpose is to work together and help solve each other’s dilemmas and problems in the ever growing regulatory nature of the industry. As Trustee, his main goal is to ensure that this tradition continues.

New Trustee: Neil Goldfine
by Margie Gray

Neil Goldfine is Executive Director of the Atlantic City Municipal Utilities Authority (ACMUA), a position he has held for over 27 years. He obtained his BS in Civil Engineering from Lehigh University and has taken courses at NJIT toward a Masters in Environmental Engineering. He is a licensed Professional Engineer and Professional Planner.

Neil’s involvement with the Section includes eight years on the Water Utility Council, with seven as Chair, and one year on the Nominating Committee. He has also spent two years on the Fuller Award Committee, which is comprised of former Fuller Awardees. Neil was honored for his service to the water industry with the 2005 Fuller Award.

During his service on NJAWWA committees, Neil has enjoyed the working relationships and the friendships he has gained. He says that being on the Water Utility Council has allowed him to interact with Legislators, Commissioners and their staff and given him the opportunity to be involved in rewriting, supporting and sidetracking legislation and regulations. Due to the heavily regulated nature of our industry, creating a regulatory environment that allows the industry to provide an outstanding supply makes all of our jobs easier.

Neil first became involved in the industry when he took a job with the NJDEP, shortly after it was formed in 1970. He was assigned to the Division of Water Resources in the wastewater group and did everything from permitting and planning to enforcement. He soon became Manager of the Atlantic Coastal Basin for wastewater planning and construction and, while in that position, met the Assistant Executive Director of the ACMUA. He learned that the ACMUA had just purchased the water utility from Atlantic City and was looking to purchase the sewer system. In addition, the position of Executive Director was vacant.

Shortly thereafter, Neil was offered the job of ACMUA’s first Executive Director, and the rest is history.

When approached about the position of Trustee, Neil saw it as an opportunity to provide additional service to NJAWWA and to give others an opportunity to Chair the Water Utility Council. He believes in volunteerism, that the country runs on dedicated people giving of their personal time to make things better for others. In both the Wastewater and Water fields, he has seen the dedication of others making things better for him and New Jersey.

Margie Gray is a Project Engineer with Hatch Mott MacDonald and Chair of the Publications Committee.
New Trustee: Carol Storms
by Margie Gray

Carol Storms has been Manager of Water Quality and Wastewater for Aqua New Jersey since 2004. Prior to working for Aqua New Jersey, she spent 26 years at New Jersey American Water. She obtained a B.S in Biology at Asbury College in Kentucky and holds both T4 and W4 licenses.

For over 20 years, Carol has been a member of the Section. She has served on both the Water Utility Council and the Research and Technology Transfer Committee and has held the position of Chair on both of these committees. Carol is still active as a member of the Research and Technology Transfer Committee. She also currently serves on the Total Coliform Rule/Distribution System Federal Advisory Committee with AWWA National and the Source Water Technical Advisory Workgroup. She says that the seminars and getting people from the water and wastewater industries communicating are what she has enjoyed most about her committee service.

Carol first got involved in the water industry in 1978 as a chemist for New Jersey American Water. She credits good mentoring from her Superintendent and the plant operators at New Jersey American Water with getting her involved in the water industry. Today her industry involvement extends beyond AWWA. She also serves the industry as a member of the Drinking Water Quality Institute and the New Jersey Board of License Examiners, both of which she says keep her "tuned in" to both the regulatory environment and the need for education.

As Trustee, Carol says that she hopes to help accomplish two things: (1) increase the visibility of the organization, and (2) provide educational opportunities.

Margie Gray is a Project Engineer with Hatch Mott MacDonald and Chair of the Publications Committee.

Director’s Report
by John Young

AWWA is a professional association focused on education. A review of the 2008 AWWA operating budget reinforces that premise. Of the $32.6 million of income budgeted in 2008, 26 percent is from educational conferences, 14 percent is derived from educational publications and 3 percent is from seminars/workshops. This income does not include the $10.7 million contributed from membership dues.

The diversity of educational opportunities offered by AWWA has substantially increased over the past decade. What historically had been an education program dedicated to technical and operator training has grown to conferences and publications also supporting customer service, utility management, general business issues, information technology and workforce management. At the June AWWA Conference and Exposition in Atlanta, we were exposed to sessions dealing with public affairs, water resources and conservation, climate change and international issues. AWWA has grown to meet the educational needs of its membership and, to be sustainable, must continue to respond to the industry training needs.

It is AWWA external education, however, the education of our customers and political leaders, that may have a greater impact on the water industry. As the recognized voice for the water sector, AWWA is frequently asked to comment on water quality, infrastructure, water resource and public health issues. AWWA also is proactive in informing the public and our regulators regarding topics that impact the sustainability and reputation of our industry.

Issues that may appear to be routine or are more known to water professionals can have significant and immediate public impact if not communicated accurately to the greater public. Leaking water mains, bioterrorism and evolving micro-organisms can be scary when all the facts are not fully relayed.

Most recently, the Associated Press story on Pharmaceuticals in Drinking Water provided AWWA another opportunity to help alleviate the public’s concern about the quality of drinking water. Emphasizing our industry’s commitment to public health, research and source water protection helped rebut some of the sensational headlines.

We must speak with a common voice when responding to public inquiries. As the industry experts, it is our role to educate and inform our customers in a clear, consistent and meaningful manner. AWWA's Public Affairs Advisories and press releases can help with the development and delivery of these messages. In the future, consider the use of these AWWA resources to help enhance both your personnel and customer education activities.

John Young is the Chief Operating Officer of American Water and NJAWWA’s Director.
Water Utility Council
by Steve Tambini

The Water Utility Council (WUC) is the conduit between those making the laws and regulations and the members of NJAWWA. The WUC meets quarterly to review new legislative and regulatory measures and recommends appropriate action to shape, drive and influence government decisions at all levels. Members are appointed by the Section Chair and given the authority to vote on any substantive action taken by the Council. For the past 8 years, Neil Goldfine, Executive Director of the Atlantic City MUA has led the Council and positioned it as a leading resource for legislative and regulatory matters in Trenton and across the State. After recently being appointed to the NJAWWA Board of Trustees (see page 2), Neil has stepped down from the Chair’s position and handed the reigns to Steve Tambini, V.P. Operations for New Jersey American Water. Steve has been a member of the WUC for 2 years and also serves on the Governor’s Water Supply Advisory Committee.

One example of current WUC activity is the ongoing review of Senator Bob Smith’s (D-17) “water tax” legislation. S-1454 would impose a water consumption and diversion user fee of $0.40 per thousand gallons of water delivered. If passed, the funds generated by the user fee would be used for the acquisition and development of lands for recreation and conservation purposes. After thorough review of the issue, the Council will adopt a position on the legislation and implement steps to promote that position to policy makers in Trenton. Historically, the majority of water utilities in New Jersey have been opposed to any tax on water. The “water tax” is just one of the many issues that the WUC is monitoring. Nevertheless, they are always soliciting feedback and suggestions from the AWWA membership. If there is an issue you think the WUC should address, please contact Steve via email at steve.tambini@amwater.com.

Stay tuned for more updates on WUC activities.

Steve Tambini is Vice President of Operations for New Jersey American Water and Chair of the Water Utility Council.

Ground Water Rule Seminar Draws Record Attendance
by Josh Hutson

One of the main goals of the Education and Professional Development (EPD) Committee is to sponsor educational events for the Section. On February 7, 2008, the EPD Committee co-sponsored a seminar with the Operators and Small Systems Committee entitled “Preparation for the Ground Water Rule.” One hundred and forty people consisting of operators, engineers, managers and regulators from various entities around New Jersey, participated in the seminar held at the Middlesex Fire Academy in Sayreville. It was a great event and drew a larger attendance than any previous seminar put on by the EPD Committee.

The purpose of the event was to shed light on the upcoming Ground Water Rule (GWR). The event began with a national perspective and introduction to the GWR from Steve Via, who is with the Regulatory Affairs Office of AWWA in Washington D.C. Karen Fell and Barker Hamill of the NJDEP provided an overview of how the GWR will be implemented in New Jersey, as well as how utilities can begin to plan for compliance. Frank Marascia from Southeast Morris County MUA gave the utility perspective, while Carol Storms of Aqua America lead a problem solving session for calculating CT. The day wrapped up with a Q&A session with all of the speakers. In addition, a number of vendors held demonstrations of equipment necessary for compliance with the future rule. Thanks again to everyone who helped make this event such a success.

The Section is currently planning the education program for 2008-2009.

There have been a lot of great ideas already discussed, but everyone is encouraged to pass on any suggestions for potential seminar topics to the EPD Committee. For more information about the upcoming educational program for 2008-2009 please contact Josh Hutson at (210) 291-4420 or joshua.d.hutson@mwhglobal.com.

Josh Hutson is a Supervising Engineer with MWH and Chair of the Education and Professional Development Committee.

Water Fore!! People Update
by Joe Goodwill

On May 5, 2008, the Water For People Committee held its 5th annual golf outing, the Committee’s largest fundraiser of the year. While some play was undeniably poor, the generosity of participants and sponsors was obviously abundantly. Fifty-two sponsors and 158 golfers participated in the outing, combining to raise over $35,000. These funds will significantly reduce poverty conditions in developing countries by providing people with access to safe drinking water and sanitation. The entire committee would like to thank all of the sponsors and participants of the golf outing. We hope to see you again next year.

Another successful fundraiser was conducted at the NJAWWA annual conference at Atlantic City. The WFP committee held a silent auction; tickets for bidding were sold at the WFP booth. Auction items were donated by vendors, and the drawing was held Thursday, at the conference. The generous donations from vendors and great participation from the conference attendees helped the event raise $2,100.

Recently, the committee has come under new leadership, with Bob McIntyre from Stone Hill Contracting taking over the chair position. Under his leadership, the committee will continue to raise awareness of the conditions of poverty in developing countries as well as raise money for Water For People. The next event hosted by the Water For People Committee will be the annual wine tasting. The event will be held after the fall meeting of NJAWWA, and details will be available in the proceeding issue of the Pipeline. Potential sponsors should contact Sandy Kurzinger at kurzingerl@cdm.com. Thank you all for your continued support!

Joe Goodwill is a Civil Engineer with Black & Veatch and Secretary of the Water For People Committee.
Certificates Get Makeover
by Joseph duRocher

Although the services that water and wastewater operators perform have become more critical now than ever, sometimes recognition of job performance diminishes over time. For instance, years ago, DEP provided newly licensed operators with certificates that were suitable for hanging on the wall. However, with the advent of the computer age and the automated processing of these certificates, their quality has unintentionally suffered. As a result, most operators no longer proudly display their license certificates, since their appearance has often not proved worthy of framing or even taking up space on a wall.

We believe that operators should receive a certificate that more adequately reflects the importance of the job facing them, the increased responsibility placed on them, and the difficulty of passing a State exam. Therefore, the Bureau of Safe Drinking Water is pleased to announce that we have introduced an improved version of the wall certificates issued in recognition of passing an exam. These newly revised certificates will begin being issued to individuals who passed the March 2008 examinations. Furthermore, we plan to issue revised certificates to all class four license holders shortly, since they cannot upgrade their license. The revised certificates are printed on fine parchment paper, are embossed with a bright blue raised foil seal, and are signed by an official DEP signatory.

We hope that operators are proud to display these improved certificates as we continue to encourage them to advance and maintain their licenses.

Joseph duRocher is an Environmental Specialist with NJDEP’s Bureau of Safe Drinking Water and a member of the Small Systems Committee.

Congratulations to the City of Gloucester and the Gloucester City Water Works
by Margie Gray

The City of Gloucester and the Gloucester City Water Works received a Joint Legislative Commendation from State Senator Dana L. Redd, Assembly Speaker Joseph J. Roberts, Jr. and Assemblywoman Nilsa Cruz-Perez honoring and congratulating them on their 11th Annual Environmental Day Celebration and the 125th anniversary of Gloucester City Water Works’ service to the City of Gloucester. The commendation stated that “the strength and success of The State of New Jersey and the effectiveness of our American Society depend, in great measure, upon concerned individuals and institutions, exemplified by The City of Gloucester and Gloucester City Water Works, who use their considerable talents and resources for the common good.” It concluded by honoring “The City of Gloucester and Gloucester City Water Works for services [they] have provided through these many years, and for the noble and vital job that [they] do raising awareness about critically important environmental issue.”

Margie Gray is a Project Engineer with Hatch Mott MacDonald and Chair of the Publications Committee.

Water and Wastewater Operator Wall
Certificates Get Makeover by Joseph duRocher

With Spring finally breaking in New Jersey, the United Water Tapping Team found themselves competing for not only bragging rights in the state, but a little time in the shade. On Friday, April 18, United Water hosted the NJAWWA’s 2008 Tapping Contest at their Hackensack Yard location. United Water’s team won the competition to send the best and fastest team from the New Jersey Section to the AWWA Annual Conference and Exposition in Atlanta.

United Water’s winning team, which was lead by coach Victor Peraino, earned the crown with a winning time of 2 minutes and 11 seconds. Fortified with years of professional experience, teammates Jim LaGrosa, John Crolla and Curtis Patterson used their on-the-job skills, speed, desire to win and company pride to motivate toward victory.

The United Water team competed against Passaic Valley Water Commission’s best, Mark Romain, Steve Sateary, Jeff Baig and Rock Rosas, including a showdown where the champions were determined by raw muscle, nerve and seconds.

The Tapping Contest is an example of what water companies across America do everyday – install a 3/4-inch tap into a 6-inch water main. The difference in the competition and reality is simple – in competition the tapping is above ground, clean and reduced pressure (40-45 psi)… Not to mention being timed and in front of an audience.

Judges for the event included Don MacMillan (former Chair of NJAWWA and retired United Water employee), Scott Azsmann of Middlesex Water Company, and Andy Clauchs of Mueller Co.

A special thank you goes to Jack McNaughton, John Dyksen and Robyn Ashmen, who worked hard to organize the event.

Robyn Ashmen is Manager of Strategic Marketing at United Water and a member of Conference Committee.

Thanks to Our 2007-2008 Sponsors!
• Black & Veatch
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• Klenzoid, Inc.
• Layne Christensen Company
• Metcalf & Eddy
• Middlesex Water Company
• Mount Construction
• MWH
• Suburban Consulting Engineers

NJAWWA appreciates the support of all of our sponsors throughout the year. For more information on the NJAWWA Sponsorship Program, visit our website at www.njawwa.org.

Drinking Water Crossword Puzzle
Do you miss NJAWWA Drinking Water Crossword Puzzle? Don’t worry. The Spring/Summer crossword puzzle can be found at our website on the Small Systems and Operators Committee page. Follow the link from our home page www.njawwa.org and test your drinking water knowledge!
This year’s Guest Program included lunch on Wednesday and a Floral Design Workshop. Sandy Kutzing was presented with the Kenneth J. Miller Founders’ Award by outgoing Water For People Committee Chair, Chris Evans. The award was created by the Water For People organization to recognize volunteers for their outstanding service and leadership in the advancement of the Water For People mission at the local Committee/Regional level.

This year there were three entries in the student poster competition. The winning poster, entitled “Water for Developing Communities – La Ceiba, El Salvador”, was presented by Jesse Kidd and Karl Martensen from Rowan University (middle). The poster described their work on a water supply project for Engineers Without Borders.

Vendors generously donated auction items, and the Water For People Committee held a silent auction in the vendor exhibit area that helped raise $2,100.

Steve Tambini presented Gene Golub with the Water Utility Council’s Public Service Award. Gene was presented this award in recognition of his extensive resume in education and leadership in the water community.
2008 Fuller Award Winner: Richard Russo

by The Fuller Award Committee

At the 2008 Annual Conference, Richard Russo, a Vice President with Hatch Mott MacDonald, was presented the 2008 George Warren Fuller Award. The Fuller Award is conferred to a member each year for “distinguished service in the water supply field and in commemoration of the sound engineering skill, brilliant diplomatic talent, and the constructive leadership of persons in the Association which characterized the life of George Warren Fuller.” The following is an excerpt of the Fuller Award Citation read by Nick DeNichilo at the Annual Conference.

“The Fuller Awardee for this year is a professional engineer and licensed T4 and W4 water system operator. He has been in charge of operations for both large municipal and investor owned water utilities. As an engineer he has directed extensive capital programs worth tens of millions and was responsible for the upgrading of one of the largest municipal water treatment plants in New Jersey.

Our Awardee was brought in to run that municipal system after it suffered a major breakdown and water crisis. He hired a number of talented people, and proceeded to turn the system around. Many of the people he hired and mentored through that time have gone on to have great careers and have contributed mightily to the New Jersey Section...

Our Awardee has long been an advocate for the New Jersey Section. He has mentored dozens more AWWA members in the grand tradition of Hal Florence. He has served the Section as Chairman and International Director and has been on the Board of the AWWA Research Foundation. Currently, he is a member of the Water and Wastewater Licensing Board…and employed by one of the major engineering firms.

Ladies and Gentlemen, please acknowledge the Fuller Award winner for 2008, Mr. Richard A. Russo.”

Harold V. Florence Jr. Meritorious Operator Award: Fred Schindler

by The Harold V. Florence Jr. Operator Award Committee

Fred Schindler graduated Camden County Technical School’s water and wastewater treatment technology class with honors at the age of 18. He started his career at the Mount Holly Wastewater Treatment Plant where he qualified to sit for his first NJDEP license at the age of 21. He passed and received his license as one of the youngest persons ever to receive a license.

He then worked for the Gloucester County MUA, Mount Laurel MUA and currently is the Operations Manager for the Gloucester City Environmental Utilities Department, with whom he has been for the past 10 years.

He has been instrumental in teaching in both the water and wastewater field for the past 30 years. He served as past President of the South Jersey Water Environment Association from 1988 thru 1992. He was also part of the Operator Challenge committee, program committee and served on various local and state committees in our industry.

He presently is a member of the NJAWWA, NJWEA and NJ Water Association. He is a member of the South Jersey Water Professional Association Executive Committee, Chairman of the Licensed Operator Committee, President of his local Rotary Club, and Chairman of the Annual Environmental Day.

His hard and dedicated work has made Annual Environmental Day event a huge success over the past 8 years. This event brings together all organizations associated with the responsibility and understanding of water and wastewater systems in order to educate the public we serve.

Michael Johnson Wins the 2008 Fresh Ideas Award

by Hetal Mistry

At the 2008 NJAWWA Annual Conference, thirteen young professionals participated in the annual Fresh Ideas competition. Fresh Ideas is a National AWWA initiative in which young professionals (35 and under) receive recognition and a cash award for presenting the best paper at their respective section’s Annual Conference.

All of young professionals presented very well and deserve recognition for their individual efforts in this year’s competition. Similar to prior years, it was extremely competitive due to the high level of participation in this year’s Fresh Ideas program. The Fresh Ideas competition was judged by a panel comprised of the NJAWWA Membership Services Committee members and members-at-large.

After a fair amount of deliberation, the 2008 Fresh Ideas winner was selected to be Michael Johnson of Buck Seifert & Jost, Inc. who co-presented with Manoj Patel of NJ American Water on their paper entitled “Water Main Replacement Over Route 78 With Steel and DIP”. Michael was awarded $300 and a Fresh Ideas plaque along with free registration to ACE08 in Atlanta, Georgia. With support from his employer, Michael will display his award-winning paper during the Fresh Ideas Poster Session at ACE08. Congratulations to Michael for winning this year’s Fresh Ideas competition!

For more information on the Fresh Ideas Program, please contact Hetal Mistry at (732) 638-7530 or hmistry@middlesexwater.com.

Hetal Mistry is a Senior Project Engineer with Middlesex Water Company and Vice-Chair of the Membership Services Committee.
Next Generation Award Winner: Teresa Peterson by Chris Olson

According to the great thinkers of our time, the future of the water industry rests firmly in the hands of the female workers. Since the inception of the New Jersey Section’s Next Generation Award, 4 out of 5 of the award winners, the future leaders of the Section, have been women, and the trend is unwavering. The 2008 Next Generation Award was presented to Teresa Peterson during the awards banquet at the Annual Conference. Teresa received a strong nomination and overwhelming approval by the judges for her hard work as a member of the Conference Committee and Co-chair of the Conference Recognition Committee. Her enthusiasm and ubiquitous support deserve the gratitude of the Section. Thank you and congratulations to Teresa!

Chris Olson is a Technical Manager with CMX and Chair of the Recognition Committee.

NJDEP Honors Inaugural Recipients of the Four Tops Award by Joseph duRocher

On March 26, 2008, at the Annual Conference in Atlantic City, the NJDEP presented a newly created award to honor those individuals possessing the top four water supply and wastewater licenses. The Four Tops Award recognizes the select few who possess New Jersey T-4, S-4, W-4, and C-4 licenses. Of more than 4,500 license holders in New Jersey, only 12 individuals comprised the 2008 inaugural admission into this elite club. The 2008 Four Tops Award recipients are:

Carl M. DeMarcantonio, Jr. • Richard A. Finlay
Robert W. Grodeska • Jerry Haimowitz • David H. Knowles
Frank P. Koczur • William S. Kowalski • Rocco J. Maiellano
Frederick J. Mucci • Joseph B. Pryor • Edward S. Rainer
Bruce D. Smith

Alan S. Dillon of the Bureau of Safe Drinking Water presented the awards in front of the 2008 Operator Bowl audience, who spontaneously responded with a standing ovation to honor these individuals. The NJDEP congratulates these recipients for their truly outstanding achievement, and recognizes their accomplishment as a model of excellence to which all present and future operators may aspire to reach the top levels of licensure.

Joseph duRocher is an Environmental Specialist with NJDEP’s Bureau of Safe Drinking Water and a member of the Small Systems Committee.

2008 New Operator Recognition and Top Ops Competition by Chris Andreasen

NJAWWA’s Small Systems and Operators Committee concluded the Wednesday activities at the Annual Conference with a program of recognition, competition and fun. The program started with NJDEP’s presentation to the top operator licensees in the “Four Tops presentation”, and continued with the Section’s recognition of operators who have recently achieved new operator licenses (see “Local Leaks” on page 9) and the rollout of the new program recognizing all licensed operators with recognition pins for W (distribution system) and T (treatment) licenses for water operation.

The finale was the Annual Top Ops Operator Bowl contest which has become an annual tradition and crowd pleaser as the Section’s top operators showcased their knowledge used in the day to day operations of New Jersey’s water systems.

As the three time New Jersey champion “Smooth Operators” took a much deserved break and cheered the new participants from the audience, master of ceremonies Larry Coslow guided three three-man teams in a high spirited question and answer competition, which this year included its share of twists and turns. Teams from Brick Township MUA (Lex Walus, Steve Czapinski, and Ed Slocum) and Passaic Valley Water Commission (the “Aquamen” – Drew Saskowitz, Dave Melnick, and Mark Romain) joined our good natured team of managers (the “Last Minutemen” – John Dyksen, Jim Cowley, and Dennis Cierniecki) as they competed on stage in front of the judges and their peers.

To assist with the broad range of questions, this year “lifelines” were added to allow the request of help from consultants, regulators, or the audience, although the “help” received might not have always been considered helpful. But it certainly was entertaining and demonstrated the sometimes conflicting issues that face operators and water systems every day with regulations, customer needs, and operations. In the end, the PVWC “Aquamen” edged out the Brick team and the “Last Minutemen” to take the trophy, earning the privilege to represent the New Jersey Section at the National competition this June at the Annual Conference and Exhibition in Atlanta, Georgia. Congratulations and thank you to the winners and participants for another great contest.

Chris Andreasen is the Director of Engineering for Middelsex Water Company and a member of the Small Systems and Operators Committee.

SAVE THE DATES!

NJAWWA Fall Conference
October 2, 2008
Eagle Ridge Golf Club
Lakewood, New Jersey

NJAWWA 74th Annual Conference
March 31–April 3, 2009
Trump Taj Mahal
Atlantic City, New Jersey
The 2008 Annual Conference Technical Program was a success on many fronts. Congratulations should be extended to Carol Walczyk and Steve Blankenship, the immediate past chairs of the Annual Conference and Technical Program Committees, respectively. A summary of the highlights is as follows:

- Attendance was up on average by over 17% for the three day program from that experienced in 2007.
- The Education Committee graciously responded to a call for help in providing presiding officers (POs) and assistant presiding officers (APOs).
- The new scanners recommended by the IT Committee greatly simplified the attendance process for the TCH program.
- The subject of Rate Making was covered in-depth for the first time at the conference during the Tuesday session and had nearly a 38% increase in attendance over last year's topic.
- The Conference was at a new venue and was well received relative to the room sizing and layout.
- In general, regulatory topics attract the largest audience. Treatment topics also tended to attract significant numbers as did the Operator sessions.

However, we cannot rest on our laurels and must immediately start planning programs for the Fall and 2009 Annual Conferences. It is vital that we stay ahead of the curve.

2008 NJAWWA Annual Spring Conference Summary and Call for Papers
by Joe Stanley

The 2008 Annual NJAWWA Conference was held from May 8-10, 2008 in Atlantic City, NJ. The conference was well attended with over 17% increase in attendance over that of 2007.

The Technology Program Committee (TPC) strives to provide an opportunity at the Annual Conference to present a diversified program with research findings, regulatory updates, treatment developments and to generally share information with our fellow water industry colleagues. In addition, the TPC strongly encourages individuals who have not submitted previously or who have not submitted in recent years to consider this opportunity, especially operators. Remember – only your participation will continue to help make each conference technically stronger than the last.

Please be on the lookout for the request for papers notice on the Section’s website, http://www.njawwa.org, for the Annual Conference, which will be held at the Trump Taj Mahal on March 31 through April 3.

ABSTRACT SUBMISSION:
In order to secure the necessary Technical Contact Hours (TCHs) for the program, abstracts must be submitted for consideration by September 5, 2008.

Individuals interested in submitting an abstract must utilize the downloadable form found on the NJAWWA website at www.njawwa.org. Abstract submission in electronic format is required. To be considered, your abstract must be received by the TPC no later than Friday, September 5, 2008. Abstract review will commence soon after the September 5 deadline. Abstracts will be selected based on their technical merit, originality, timeliness and relevance. Abstracts received after the deadline may not be accepted.

The abstract should also clearly indicate the following information:
- Speaker name and title
- Organization
- Presentation title
- Address
- City / State / Zip
- Tel / Fax / Email
- Brief biographical information including education and qualifications
- A brief abstract limited to 300 words describing your proposed presentation

We can only accept abstracts this year using the electronic form found on the section’s website since it enables us to utilize a tracking database.

NOTIFICATION OF ACCEPTANCE AND SUBMITTAL DATES:
Acceptance notification will be made to the corresponding author by the end of December 2008. Submittals of all presentations will be required by February 20, 2009. Speakers are encouraged to submit a written paper as well as their presentation by February 20, 2009. Copies of abstracts, papers and presentations are normally included in the Conference Proceedings.

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION:
Speakers will be offered a complimentary one-day registration for the day of their presentation only.

Please Note: All speakers are required to cover the costs associated with attending the conference. These costs include, but are not limited to, conference registration (for days when not speaking), lodging, meals and travel.

QUESTIONS:
Please direct your inquiries to Dave Blair, Chair – Annual Conference Committee at (908) 947-0273 or dave.blair@m-e.aecom.com; or Joe Stanley, Chair – Technical Program Committee at (973) 912-2485 or joseph.stanley@hatchmott.com.

I feel very fortunate in inheriting a strong committee of hard-working individuals. We will work diligently on developing good programs for the Fall Conference, which will be held on October 2, 2008 at Eagle Ridge in Lakewood, and the previously mentioned Annual Conference in Atlantic City. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any ideas that you may have to make these programs stronger.

Joe Stanley is a Vice President with Hatch Mott MacDonald and Chair of the Technical Program Committee.

Got a leak? Submit news about NJAWWA members’ professional and personal milestones for publication in Pipeline. See page 12 for editor contact information.
Governor Proclaims Drinking Water Week (continued from page 1)

the importance of drinking water with many people also visiting the Plaza.

On May 8, members of NJAWWA were presented with a proclamation, signed by Governor Jon Corzine, officially acknowledging May 4 – 10 as Drinking Water Week and calling upon all New Jersey residents to practice wise water use and protect source waters from pollution.

The Public Information Committee and other NJAWWA members visited the Statehouse on May 12, 2008 to promote the importance of safe drinking water in New Jersey. NJAWWA members, including representation from Middlesex Water Company, New Jersey American Water, Aqua NJ, Hatch Mott MacDonald, and CMX, took the opportunity to speak with legislators about NJAWWA's role as the premiere organization in the State dedicated to preserving public health and welfare by insuring the highest quality drinking water. Section Chair, Mark Tompeck, led the event and spoke on the importance of public and private sector water suppliers working with legislators and regulators to secure a safe and adequate water supply, which is critical to the public health and the economic welfare of New Jersey's citizens. Each year, the State's municipal and investor-owned utilities deliver over 500 billion gallons of water to the 7.5 million New Jersey residents who depend on public water supplies. New Jersey public water systems should be proud that from 2000-2006, over $1.4 billion dollars were invested in New Jersey water infrastructure to ensure safe, reliable drinking water supply.

Other NJAWWA Section Drinking Water Week activities included a statewide student poster contest, and a fundraising event for Water for People (see the articles on this page and page 4).

For more information relating to the activities of the NJAWWA Public Information Committee, please contact Jordan Volk at (732) 577-9000 or jvvolk@cmxengineering.com.

Jordan Volk is a Senior Project Engineer with CMX and Chair of the Public Information Committee.

Student Poster Competition Winners Announced

by Eddie Gajek

The NJAWWA Student Affairs Committee recently sponsored their third annual National Drinking Water Week poster competition for students in kindergarten through 5th grade. The theme of this year's poster competition was “Only Tap Water Delivers”. Thank you to all the students and NJAWWA members that participated in this year's student poster competition.

Six year-old Albert Grayson from Tuckerton Elementary School was the overall winner in the kindergarten and 1st grade category. Mrs. Marge Selfridge's 1st grade class, also from Tuckerton Elementary School, was the winner of a classroom participation prize. Mrs. Selfridge's class received a pizza party, prizes and a classroom presentation on water from NJAWWA. In addition, Mrs. Selfridge received $100 to be used at the AWWA online bookstore or towards NJ Project WET.

Eight year-old Mugdha Parulekar from South End School in Cedar Grove was the overall winner in the 2nd and 3rd grade category. Eleven year-old Emily Walczyk from Lafayette Avenue School in Chatham was the overall winner in the 4th and 5th grade category. Each winning student in their grade category received $100 and a framed copy of their winning poster. All children who participated in this year's competition received prizes for their creativity and efforts.

For a look at the students' posters, please be sure to visit www.njawwa.org where you can view this year's artistic and imaginative entries. Once again, thank you to all who participated and helped to make this event successful.

Eddie Gajek is an Associate with Hatch Mott MacDonald and a member of the Student Affairs Committee.

NJAWWA Section members are presented the Drinking Water Week Proclamation by members of NJDEP Pictureed (left to right) Barker Hamill (NJDEP Assistant Director of Water Supply Operations), Lisa Jackson (NJDEP Commissioner), Scott Connor (NJAWC), Mark Tompeck (NJAWWA Chair), Neil Goldfine (ACMUA), Vince Monaco (NJDEP Bureau of Water Systems and Well Permitting Chief), Carol Storms (Aqua NJ), Bill Davies (Aqua NJ).

Al Roker talks about Drinking Water Week on the Today Show. Pictured (left to right) Justina Luna, Mark Tompeck, Jordan Volk, Katie Hoek, Mona Cavalloli, Eileen Feldman, Margie Gray, (not pictured, Fran Blackwell).
The Pennsylvania Section of AWWA (PA-AWWA), in partnership with the Water Works Operators’ Association of Pennsylvania (WWOAP), coordinates a program called the “PA-AWWA and WWOAP Operator Training Zone”. Below are a number of upcoming courses and events. For more information visit their website at www.paaawwa.org.

**July 23** – EPA’s ICS 100 and NIMS 700 Courses for Water and Wastewater Operators

**Aug. 18-22** – Operator Certification Academy

**Aug. 27** – PADEP Operator Certification Review and Exam

**Sept. 18** – Waterfest IV (tentative date)

**Sept. 22-25** – Backflow Prevention Device Tester Training

**Oct. 16** – Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response Refresher Training

**Oct. 20** - PADEP Operator Certification Exam


**Nov. 6** – Process Safety Mgt. (PSM) and Chemical Safety (Chlorine), Ammonia Safety

**Nov. 20** – Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response Refresher Training

**Chesapeake Section of AWWA**

The Chesapeake Section of AWWA, which includes Maryland, Delaware and Washington, DC, is also actively planning events. For information, please visit their website at www.csawwa.org.

**PA-AWWA Upcoming Event Calendar**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event Date</th>
<th>Event Details</th>
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<tr>
<td>Oct. 20</td>
<td>PADEP Operator Certification Exam</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov. 6</td>
<td>Process Safety Mgt. (PSM) and Chemical Safety (Chlorine), Ammonia Safety</td>
</tr>
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**Publications Committee**

Mona Cavalcoli  
NJAWWA Section Manager  
Carol Walczyk  
Hatch Mott MacDonald

We encourage and support varied and differing viewpoints that stimulate thought and discussion. Opinions expressed are exclusively those of the author and do not suggest or indicate Section policies or procedures. Pipeline editors reserve the right not to publish any article or notice deemed inappropriate or contrary to the purpose and mission of the newsletter. Editors reserve the right to edit written material for style and readability while maintaining the intent and stated purpose of the material.

**New Jersey AWWA**

American Water Works Association  
Margie Gray  
Hatch Mott MacDonald  
27 Bleeker Street  
Millburn, NJ 07041-1008