



Meet our January member superstar, Brian Applegate.... Brian has been an AWWA NJ member since 2012. He is an EIT at Mott MacDonald and awaiting the spring when he will take is PE Exam!

Brian began his AWWA NJ career while an intern at Mott MacDonald. His supervisor, Anthony Tomasello, suggested that it would be good for him to get involved in the Association and asked him to help out on the Publications Committee. And so, his involvement began! Brian worked his way from a committee volunteer to the Chair of the Publications Committee with the responsibility of producing the paper and then electronic editions of the

Pipeline. When the Publication Committee merged with the Public Information Committee, he shared chairpersonship duties with Summer Defeo. Brian has also been a long-standing volunteer of the Student Affairs Committee where he was involved in the establishment and maintaining of the viable student NJIT AWWA NJ Student Chapter. While working closely with Sophia Heng, former chair of the Student Affairs Committee, Brian helped to initiate and develop the Student Filter Competition. This year Brian has taken on a new challenge at the Section, he is co-chairing the Conference Committee.

Brian stays involved in the Section because of the large community of individuals with technical expertise with whom he interacts daily. Not only does he gain technical insight from these individuals, he also finds that the broad expanse of knowledge helps him be a better engineer and consultant. He sees this value as part of continuing his education.

When asked how he became involved in the water industry, Brian tells the story of when he was attending NJIT he had professors from various disciplines. Out of all the teachers who still practiced Consulting Engineering, it was the fluid dynamics professor, Thomas Olenik, who enjoyed his job in the water industry. Other teaching engineers doing structural work or transportation work often seemed overstressed. Brian found the hydraulics discipline interesting, realistic, and as an additional plus, he found that working in the water industry was a means to give back to the community, and to help enhance the quality of life for others.

In his personal life, Brian enjoys spending time with his wife Samantha, son Oliver, and planning for the birth of his second son, Toby, in February. And when this busy schedule allows ... he enjoys rock climbing and hiking.

In thinking of the future and his legacy, Brian is still working on it ... the one thing he is certain about is that he plans on continuing on in the water industry and in the NJ Section.

January 2018