



Join us in welcoming Carol Broccoli as the Section January 2019 Spotlight Member! Carol is the Assistant Director at the Rutgers University/ NJ Agricultural Experiment Station Office of Continuing Professional Education (OCPE). This month marks her 20th anniversary with Rutgers. Carol has been an active member of AWWA and the NJ Section since she started at Rutgers. She is active with both the Education/Professional Development and Retired Professionals Committees.

For her dedication to the Section, Carol received the Thomas J Dawson Dedication Award in 2012. She has also received a special recognition award for education from the New Jersey section of the American Public Works Association and the Educational Partnership Award from the New Jersey Clean Communities Council and is certified as a Qualified Environmental Professional (QEP) by the Institute of Professional Environmental Practice.

Why did you decide to go into the field of water?

If I can say so, it was a bit accidental! Before coming to Rutgers, I was employed as an air pollution meteorologist at a large environmental consulting firm. I was involved in all sorts of permitting projects – from cement plants to petroleum tank farms and everything in between. It was becoming increasingly stressful, with long hours and lots of travel, so when I saw the posting for a position coordinating environmental education courses at Rutgers I applied and here I am!

How did you become a volunteer for AWWA? What motivates you to be active in the Section?

The person who had this position before me was a member and told me it would be helpful to join, so I did. She had not really been active but once I started meeting people and becoming involved, I realized what a great resource the Section and its members were. It has really become a two-way street, with Section folks serving as subject matter experts in classes and passing on suggestions for training topics and me helping with tips on how to keep multiple programmatic balls in the air at one time!

How long have you been an AWWA member and what have you gotten from your membership?

I became a member shortly after joining Rutgers, so it is going on 20 years at this point. Membership has brought access to great technical resources and some great relationships with folks in the water industry who I really consider as friends at this point.

Hobbies and outside interests?

I love the outdoors and enjoy hiking, biking and kayaking – especially with my husband Tony. I also enjoy gardening and knitting and cheering for all my Boston sports teams (born and raised there), which makes for some interesting game viewing with my New York team focused husband!

What legacy would you like to leave behind?

That training and education – for both personal and professional reasons – is a good thing. We should never stop learning – there is always something new out there to discover.