



Our Spotlight Member for March is Giselle Diaz! We all know her as Gigi! Many of you will recognize Gigi as she has been a fixture at the Registration Desk for the Section Conference for many years. When she is not attending sessions, you will see her at the desk helping our members. And, for many years she has graciously volunteered to staff the desk after normal hours on Tuesday so that those attending the Meet and Greet can pick up their badges!

Gigi has been a member of AWWA since 2000. She is a Licensed Professional Engineer in New Jersey and New York and is currently the Head of the Water/Wastewater Department for Boswell Engineering, where she has been employed since 1996.

Gigi has been active in the section since she's has been a member. She has served on various committees including Recognition, Infrastructure Management, Registration, and Membership. She has been Chair of the Membership Committee and she is currently the Chair of the Recognition Committee.

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

I graduated with a Bachelor of Engineering in Environmental Engineering. One of my teachers for Senior Design was Russell Ford, who introduced us to the water/wastewater field. It definitely left an impression on me and when an opening came up at my firm to move into the water/wastewater division, I jumped at the opportunity.

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

My supervisor thought it would be beneficial to join AWWA. Once I became a member, Nicole Wiley encouraged me to get involved and volunteer on the membership and registration committees. My biggest motivation is the sense of community and level of support from the wealth of valuable resources in the Section. Since I became involved, everyone has been so willing to help both for the success of each committee and throughout my professional career. Any time I have a technical question, I know I have this large network of people I can reach out to. Another benefit of being on the registration committee is getting to know our members as they check-in at the annual conference. (And sing the "Good Morning" song).

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

I have been a member for 18 years. I feel I am a stronger asset to the water industry and my clients because of my membership. The technical seminars keep me updated with all upcoming State and Federal regulations and new technologies. From a personal standpoint, AWWA has introduced me to many members that are not only colleagues but have become great friends.

What are your hobbies and outside interests?

My hobbies are traveling, going down the shore and watching my daughters play basketball and softball.

What legacy would you like to leave behind?

I would love my legacy to be that I made a difference in the communities I work with to ensure the continued delivery of clean and safe drinking water. It makes me proud to tell my daughters that our industry is essential for the well being of so many people.

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