

Nebraska Section AWWA Fall Conference, November 6-7, 2003, Kearney, NE



Kristine Ranslem, City of Albion, Nebraska Section chair; Todd Boling, City of Norfolk; Rick Silbert, City of Omaha; Rob Pierce, League of Nebraska Municipalities.



Public Notification Session, Howard Isaacs, Nebraska Health and Human Services, presenter.



Attendees at the Nebraska Section AWWA and WEF lunch program.



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Attendees at the Nebraska Section AWWA and WEF lunch program; right: Paul Dammann, City of Seward.



Attendees at the Nebraska Section AWWA and WEF lunch program; Elizabeth Esseks, Nebraska Health and Human Services.



Attendees at the Nebraska Section AWWA sessions. Mike Wentink, Ralph Nabor, Nebraska Health and Human Services, John Craiglow, Lincoln Water System, in foreground group.



Scholarship winner Gina Rust with her father, Milo Rust, City of Chadron.

Scholarship Winners



Scholarship winners: From left, front: Doug Youngblood, Gina Rust, Laurel Kozimor (WEF Scholarship); Bill Taylor, water operator, City of Sidney. Back: Craig Reinsch, Kisham Ginige, Yun Hyun.

Doug Youngblood (\$350): Doug is working on a masters degree in environmental engineering at UNL. He earned an undergraduate degree in civil engineering last spring. He is president of the AWWA/WEF student chapter at UNL and plans to pursue a career in the drinking water industry.

Gina Rust (\$700): Gina is an undergraduate student at UNL majoring in civil engineering. She plans to pursue a masters degree in environmental engineering. Gina currently works with Dr. Bruce Dvorak on a storm water-monitoring project and has working during the summer months for a consultant doing land surveys.

Bill Taylor (\$250): Bill is a water operator for the City of Sidney and received a water operator scholarship to attend the Annual AWWA Fall Conference.

Craig Reinsch (\$350): Craig is pursuing a masters degree in civil engineering at UNL. He plans to work as a consultant. His thesis

focuses on the reduction of soil erosion that enters surface waters by using compost as a control measure.

Kisham Ginige (\$350): Kisham is working a masters degree in civil engineering. He earned his undergraduate degree from the University of Moratuwa-Sri Lanka. He plans to pursue a career in the water treatment, distribution and utilization field. He serves as vice-president of the AWWA/WEF student chapter at UNL.

Yun Hyun (\$700): Yun is pursuing a masters degree in environmental engineering. He earned an undergraduate degree in civil engineering from South Korean Military Academy. He plans to follow a career in the drinking water industry, improving water quality on South Korea's military bases. The government estimates 45 percent of the bases have poor water quality with ammunition plant waste as the major contaminant.

Vendors

Thanks to the 50-plus vendors who helped to make our conference a success. Here a couple of our patrons.



Brett Bleske, Jerry Hart and Steve Hoambrecker, Griffin Pipe Co.



John Miriovsky, Lincoln Water System and director, Nebraska Section AWWA, with Pat Grummer, EAI West, Inc.



Representatives of National Waterworks with Joe and Mary Rossbach. Joe is a 1979 Fuller Award winner and retired engineer from the Metropolitan Utilities District.

Top Ops Competition



Top Ops time scorekeepers, Craig Wilson and Jon Harger, Vessco, Inc. The Top Ops Competition was coordinated by Chris Koenig and Ron Tekippe, HGM Associates.



2002 defending champions, Kirk Stocker, City of Kearney; Julie Frandsen, City of Grand Island; Matt Helzer, City of St. Paul; Connelley Rice, City of Kearney; Scorekeepers Craig Wilson, Jon Harger, Vessco, Inc., and 2003 Second Place Winners: Masa Niiya, Mike Koenig, Jim Shields, George Reed, Metropolitan Utilities District.

2003 First Place Winners



2003 First Place Winners, from left, front: Tom Dittrick, Central District Department of Health, Grand Island; Richard Heydenreich, City of Papillion. Back: Brian Bruce, City of Papillion, and Alan Slater, City of Fairbury.



2003 Third Place Winners, from left, Mike Nuttleman, Chad Roberts, City of Norfolk; Dan Freese, Kearney, and Steve Kelley, City of Beatrice.

Nebraska Section AWWA Fall Conference Award Winners

George Warren Fuller Award

Joel G. Christensen, Metropolitan Utilities District

Gold Water Drop Award for 50 years of AWWA Membership

City of Crete

Charles W. Durham, HDR Engineering, Inc., Omaha, NE

City of Holdrege

Lincoln Water System

Metropolitan Utilities District, Omaha, NE

City of North Platte

John E. Olsson, Olsson & Associates, Lincoln, NE

Joe Rossbach, retired, Metropolitan Utilities District



2003 George Warren Fuller Award Winner Joel G. Christensen, manager of Water Operations, Metropolitan Utilities District, and Lynn Stovall, immediate past president, National AWWA.

Water Industry Service Awards (WISA)

Larry Andreasen, City of Fremont

Ron Benson, JEO Consulting Group, Inc.

Bill Fish, Lincoln Water System

Richard Heydenreich, City of Papillion

Ron Mausbach, retired, Metropolitan Utilities District

Gold Water Drop Awards

Safety Award of Excellence

City of Hastings

Water Operator Awards

Bob Smith, Grand Island Water & Light

Bill Taylor, City of Sidney



Chief Engineer of the Waterworks Jerry Obrist accepted the Gold Water Drop Award for the Lincoln Water System from Stovall.



Lifetime Member Award

Orville Davidson, City of York



Kevin Crosier accepted the Gold Water Drop Award for the City of North Platte from Stovall.



Joe Rossbach, retired engineer, Metropolitan Utilities District received the Gold Water Drop Award from Stovall.



Assistant General Manager of Operations Jerry E. Gohr accepted the Gold Water Drop Award for the Metropolitan Utilities District from Stovall.

Joe's comments upon accepting the award:

The American Water Works Association and the Nebraska Section provide a great educational and technical stimulus for their members.

Their meetings, like this one today, provide members a good camaraderie and place to get to know others in the water industry. Their meetings provide an atmosphere where one can learn by listening, learn by discussing and learn from others who have similar problems.

I really enjoyed participating in the sessions at the national and state level, in the learning process and in meeting others in the field. **It was part of my life.**

My recommendation is to get involved! Be part of the organization and let it help you be better in your job, no matter what your job is. **Get involved!**

Joe is past chair and director of the Nebraska Section. He received the Fuller Award in 1979.

Water Industry Service Awards (WISA)



Larry Andreasen, water and sewer superintendent, City of Fremont and chair-elect of the Nebraska Section AWWA, received the WISA Award from Awards Committee Chair Steve Kelley, City of Beatrice.



Bill Fish, water operator, Lincoln Water System, and Kelley.



Ron Benson, branch manager and project engineer, JEO Consulting Group, Inc. and Kelley.



Richard Heydenreich, water operator, City of Papillion, and Kelley.

Water Operator Award



Ron Mausbach, retired, superintendent of Water Distribution, and Kelley.



Bill Taylor, right, water operator, City of Sidney, received the Water Operator Award from Nebraska Health and Human Services.



Award winners, from left, front: Joel Christensen, Joe Rossbach, Metropolitan Utilities District; National AWWA Past President Lynn Stovall, City of North Platte, represented by Kevin Crosier; Lincoln Water System, represented by Jerry Obrist.

Back: Metropolitan Utilities District, represented by Jerry Gohr; Bill Taylor, City of Sidney; Bill Fish, Lincoln Water System; Ron Benson, JEO Consulting Group, Inc.; Larry Andreasen, City of Fremont; Richard Heydenreich, City of Papillion; Ron Mausbach, Metropolitan Utilities District.

Thank you to our national representative



The Nebraska Section AWWA thanked National AWWA Past President Lynn Stovall and his wife, Susie, for participating in the conference with a photo of UNL's Memorial Stadium. A native of Kearney, NE, Lynn earned a bachelor of civil engineering from UNL. He is general manager of the Greenville Water System, Greenville, SC. The system serves more than 147,000 customers.

The Section also presented Stovall with the Water Wheel Award, presented by Treasurer Kevin Tobin.

2004 Board of Trustees



From left, front: Director Joel Christensen, Metropolitan Utilities District; Chair Elect Larry Andreasen, City of Fremont; National AWWA Past President Lynn Stovall; Chair Kristine Ranslem, City of Albion (Ranslem is the first woman to chair the Nebraska Section).

Back: Trustee John S. Olsson, Olsson Associates; Treasurer Kevin Tobin, Metropolitan Utilities District; Vice-Chair Tony Bilek, Mc2, Inc.; Trustee and Past Chair Dennis Watts, City of Norfolk.



Secretary Mike Wentink
Nebraska Health and Human Services



Trustee Dr. Bruce Dvorak
University of Nebraska Department of
Civil Engineering

2004 Committee Chairs

The Board of Trustees strongly encourages members to get involved in the committees. Besides the benefits of networking and abreast of what's happening in the state water supply system, it helps you do your job better and become a more valuable asset to your employer. Please contact one of the committee chairs to volunteer.

Awards: Steve Kelley, Beatrice Board of Public Works, 402.228.2210; e-mail: skelley@bpw.ci.beatrice.ne.us

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