

CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA WATER QUALITY ASSOCIATION

Volume 25 - Issue 1
March 2013

NEWSLETTER
www.cpwqa.org

President - Fran McGovern
Editor - Mike Mehaffey

2013 IMPORTANT DATES

APRIL 12, 2013

Plant Tour, Luncheon
and Business Meeting –
North Londonderry
Twsp Authority WWTP

MAY 10, 2013

Plant Tour, Luncheon
and Business Meeting –
Huntingdon WWTP

JUNE 2-5, 2013

PennTech 2013,
Lancaster County
Convention Center /
Marriott Lancaster Penn
Square

JUNE 21, 2013

Awards Meeting/Picnic,
Rich Valley Golf Course

AUGUST 2, 2013

GWTF Golf
Tournament, Fairview
Golf Course

SEPTEMBER 13, 2013

Plant Tour, Luncheon
and Business Meeting –
TBD

OCTOBER 31, 2013

Trade Fair and Training
Expo, Sheraton
Harrisburg Hershey
Hotel

NORTH LONDONDERRY TOWNSHIP AUTHORITY WWTP

The April 2013 CPWQA plant tour will be held at the North Londonderry Township Authority (NLTA) WWTP, located in South Annville Township, Lebanon County. The NLTA plant serves the Borough of Palmyra and portions of North Londonderry Township. This new facility was constructed in 2011/2012 to replace the aging Palmyra treatment works with a plant capable of meeting the stringent Chesapeake Bay Strategy

requirements. The NLTA plant currently treats approximately 900,000 gallons of wastewater a day, from residential, commercial, and industrial sources.



The new facility has a design capability of 1.5 MGD, with a peak hydraulic capacity of 6.0 MGD. As such, process equipment was selected to allow for turndown at current conditions to maximize energy efficiency, while still meeting

capacity requirements to treat the ultimate loadings. The plant features submersible raw pumps, fine screening, combined grit and grease removal, and continuously sequencing reactors to achieve BOD reduction and low effluent nitrogen in the same tank. Real time DO and Nitrate monitoring allows the system to adjust the aerobic and anoxic cycle length in the basins, and also determines the appropriate amount of blowers to run at any given time. Cloth media filters and UV disinfection complete the wet end of the process, while an above ground aerobic digester, centrifuge, lime system and storage pad complete the solids handling portion.

Novel features used in the construction of the plant include passive solar lighting in the administration building hallways, leaving available real estate on the south face of every building on site to allow for future addition of solar panels, at the point





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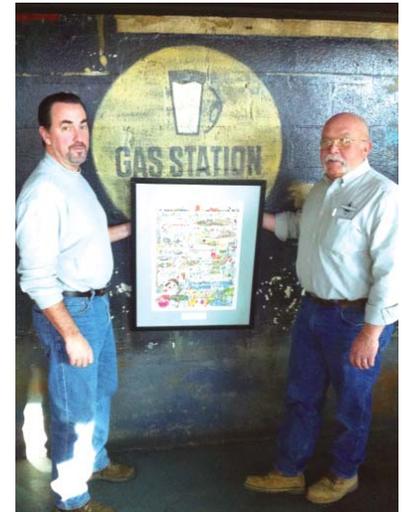
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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The first thing I would like to do is wish everyone a belated Happy New Years. I can't believe just how fast these years are coming around. It's been nearly 40 years since I first stepped foot into a wastewater facility and it almost seems like yesterday. I did say almost. All I have to do is look in the mirror and I am reminded of just how many years have gone by. I would also like to say that I am honored for the opportunity to serve as your president. I look at the impressive list of my predecessors and I know I have big shoes to fill. In this profession, I have always been proud to be called an operator. Although rarely in the spotlight, unless something goes wrong, it has been a very rewarding career for me. I have been able to meet and work with many interesting people over the years and felt that our work as a whole has made a significant improvement to the environment around us.



There are two themes that I would like to continue with from last year president Rich Heinick. First is strongly encouraging younger professionals to become active members in this organization. Not that I don't mind seeing the faces that I have grown up with but younger ideas as well as new energy will help carry this organization well into the future. Second is the professional development of our members. With the many challenges that new regulations have put on the wastewater community, with upgrades, retrofits, as well as completely new facilities, adequate and continued training for the operators needs to remain a priority for all of us. An important aspect of both of these themes is simply the ability to make them happen. It is easy to sit back and say they are great ideas but unless there is support at the administrative level, with time and resources, they won't happen. We need to educate the members of the Councils, Authorities, and various Boards that the investment of the operator's time and access to minimal resources will pay huge dividends now and in the future.

Another area that I would like to see expanded is access to the vast knowledge base of our operators. In this world of instant communications operators should be able to access one of the social media networks to discuss any operational difficulties that they may be experiencing at their facility. This could greatly reduce the lag time from solving the problem and help in maintaining compliance.

We have all heard the saying that an organization is only as good as its members. The CPWQA has a lot of great members but we need help. I would like to challenge the members that have not been involved in the Section so far to get involved and participate in making this organization even better than it is now. We as an industry will benefit from it now and in the future.

Fran McGovern

GETTING TO KNOW YOUR CPWQA BOARD:

Trudy Johnston



1. How influential were your first jobs in shaping your career?

My first position was assistant superintendent at Annville WWTP. The boss was ex-Marine drill sergeant and he wasn't sure how to deal with a woman in the workplace. Regardless, worked in the lab and had the opportunity to set up lab, learn so much about plant operations, and the freedom to work on stream and other plant studies. Worked as the superintendent at Columbia where I was able to develop management skills, interact with PADEP, and learn about politics. Then had opportunity to work at Gannett Fleming with great engineers like Howard Haines and Dale Shope. Learned about excellence and ethics, and had freedom to pursue new and interesting projects.

2. How long have you been a member of CPWQA?

Forever; or at least 27 years.

3. Where do you work and what is your position?

President of Material Matters, or chief cook and bottle washer.

4. Where did you go to college?

PSU main campus

5. Where is your hometown?

Grew up in Hummelstown, lived in Elizabethtown for last 30 years.

6. Do you have any pets?

Yes, get the 5-cat discount at my vet. Pumpkin, Lucy, Gia, Mama kitty, and Mrs. Mau (note they are all girls). Cats rule.

7. What are your pet peeves about people?

Not being ethical and fair, or offering information that can't be supported.

8. If you could spend 5 minutes with anyone, who would you choose?

Mozart...he wrote and performed the most beautiful music ever created.

9. What do you think is the most noticeable change in the Wastewater Industry

We're all getting old. Saw influence of college-educated workers in early 80's, and now less interest in wastewater from graduating students. Also focus on local water quality improvements and environment.

10. How would you like to see CPWQA improved?

Better communication with members about things that affect their municipality and how they do their jobs.

11. Tell me something about yourself that would surprise your peers

I'm sensitive. OK, how about I cherish personal relationships with family, friends, and co-workers.

12. What do you like to do in your spare time?

Wow, lots of things like; gardening, running, hiking, biking, tennis, scuba...you get the picture. Also like to spend time with grandkids watching their baseball/football/basketball games.

13. Have you ever thought of a bucket list, and what you would have on it?

Travel to most remote locations and run, hike, bike, scuba....you get the picture. If it doesn't require work to get there, it isn't worth going.

14. What events in your life have had the most influence on you?

Having a child (now that she is grown) and having grandchildren. They are so much fun. Also, having the opportunity to go to college and study science with many exceptional professors.

**PASS IT ON...
AND BE
REWARDED!!!!!!**

Recruit new members for a chance to win prizes or a discount off your next CPWQA registration! **PLUS** – earn the Ripple Effect Award when you recruit the most new members in 2013!

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North Londonderry... continued from page 1

where the payback is justified. The administration building also uses a heat exchange system to heat and cool the building using treatment plant effluent. High R value block was also used in the construction of all the new buildings, and metal roofing with an improved lifespan over traditional asphalt shingles was used for all the buildings as well. The new garage facility includes infrared heating, so that in the winter when a vehicle is removed, the remaining surfaces will radiate heat to more quickly warm the space, rather than the air.

Automated equipment and a SCADA system minimize the staffing requirements at the wastewater facility. The entire treatment plant, including a full time accredited lab, is run by a staff of just four. Automated systems handle pumping, grit removal, sludge wasting, alum addition, filter backwashing, and UV dosage. Energy is saved by running only the minimum equipment required, especially in the case of raw sewage pumps, blowers, and UV equipment. These three main portions of process equipment contain self-regulating control loops that monitor operating conditions and notify operators as soon as a parameter goes out of range. Collection system maintenance and repairs are handled by the Township staff, leaving the Authority staff to handle the maintenance of the plant.

As the plant is near commercial shopping centers and restaurants, rural farm fields, homes, and a major state highway, special attention was given to keeping the plant out of sight. To that end the site was laid out around an existing fieldstone barn, and 20 large eighty year old sycamore trees, while the treatment works are partially concealed up on a hill behind the new garage and administration building. Fencing was set back from the busy streetscape to allow for unobtrusive security, metal roofs were used on the old and new buildings to tie the site together, and process equipment was laid out on site to present the minimum silhouette. Construction stormwater retention facilities were re-used for final infiltration basins, and the site was laid out specifically to prevent the majority of the run-off from entering the treatment process.

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CPWQA 2013 TRADE FAIR

Mark your calendars now for the 2013 CPWQA Trade Fair and Training Exposition, to be held **Thursday, October 31, 2013**. The Trade Fair will be held at the Harrisburg-Hershey Sheraton located on Lindle Road, just east of Route 283. The Trade Show will feature up to 54 vendor exhibits between 10:00 am and 1:30 pm. CPWQA will award one DEP contact hour to those who spend time in the exhibit room and complete two exhibitor interaction activities. The Trade Fair will also offer training sessions between 8:00 am and 10:00 am and between 3:00 pm and 5:00 pm for which DEP contact hours will be awarded. Regular admission price will be \$35, however, discount vouchers, priced at \$30.00 can be obtained by contacting Rich Heinick (rheinick@gfnet.com) prior to July 1, 2013.
