

# CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA WATER QUALITY ASSOCIATION

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NEWSLETTER  
[www.cpwqa.org](http://www.cpwqa.org)

President - Kevin Shannon  
Editor - Mike Mehaffey

## 2014

### Important Dates

**APRIL 11** – Plant Tour, Luncheon and Business Meeting – Gettysburg Wastewater Treatment Plant

**MAY 9** – Plant Tour, Luncheon and Business Meeting – Danville Wastewater Treatment Plant

**JUNE 1-4** - PennTech 2014, Penn Stater Conference Center, State College

**JUNE 27** – Awards Meeting/Picnic, Rich Valley Golf Course

**AUGUST 1** – GWTF Golf Tournament, Fairview Golf Course

**SEPTEMBER 12** – Plant, Luncheon and Business Meeting – TBD

**OCTOBER 29** – Trade Fair and Training Expo - The Carlisle Expo Center

## GETTYSBURG WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT



The Gettysburg Municipal Authority's (GMA) Wastewater Treatment Plant was one of more than 160 Pennsylvania facilities required to upgrade in order to comply with state and federal mandated water quality standards. Working closely with their engineer, Buchart Horn Inc., the GMA moved to upgrade processes and expand capacity to 3 million gallons-per-day at its Gettysburg Wastewater

Treatment Plant. By reusing and repurposing various existing structures at the facility, the Authority was able to reduce costs and save money. The repurposing replaced processes that had been in use since 1985 with state-of-the-art biological nutrient removal (BNR) technology. The upgrade and expansion brought the facility into compliance with recent environmental regulations limiting nitrogen and phosphorus discharges into tributaries of the Chesapeake Bay.

The design solutions converted 25 year old oxidation ditches into new BNR processes and changed four large equalization tanks into sequencing batch reactors, aerobic digesters and post equalization tanks. A new headworks



building with improved screening and grit removal machinery protects the plant from harmful materials while a new 1,000 kilowatt generator supports ongoing operations in case of a power supply outage. A computerized Process Control System provides operators with automatic control of all treatment processes as well as monitoring of all

equipment from a central location or from a remote location. Improved biosolid processing and storage including centrifuges for dewatering provide ongoing savings, as higher quality byproducts reduce hauling and disposal costs.

Increased plant capacity supports reasonable growth in the areas around Gettysburg. The project was completed on schedule without interruption to ongoing treatment. The design solutions increased average plant capacity by 20% while delivering substantial saving to the GMA by reusing existing oxidation ditches and equalization tanks and utilizing the existing ultraviolet disinfection system.

The GMA's Wastewater Treatment Plant currently serves nearly 9,000 residents in the Borough of Gettysburg and Cumberland and Straban Townships in Adams County.



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## GETTING TO KNOW YOUR CPWQA BOARD:

### Jess Rosentel



Where do you currently work and what is your position?

*I serve as the Superintendent at the Harrisburg Authority's Advanced Wastewater Treatment Facility*

Where did you go to college? *University of Pittsburgh*

Where is your hometown? *Forty Fort, PA*

What do you like most about your job?

*I really enjoy the size and scope of our facility. With an average daily flow of over 20 MGD, our ability to optimize our treatment capabilities has a great environmental significance. I am also excited about the direction in which we are headed. The Harrisburg Authority is committed to building a utility that the community can be proud of. I feel privileged to be a part of that.*

What do you dislike most about your job?

*It is very difficult dealing with aging equipment. However, we are about to undergo a major facility upgrade so many of those concerns will be addressed in the very near future.*

Do you have any pets? *I have one cat, Merlin*

What are your pet peeves about people?

*When people can't laugh at themselves*

If you could spend 15 minutes with anyone, who would you choose?

*My grandfather Sesto. He passed away when I was five but I remember him being really funny, so I think that would be an enjoyable 15 minutes*

What was your first job?

*Throughout my childhood I worked as a delivery worker for my father's small spring water company in Northeast PA. I had to carry five-gallon jugs into houses and businesses.  $5 \text{ gals.} \times 8.34 \text{ lbs/gal} = 41.7 \text{ lbs. per jug!}$  They neglected to share that with me when I started*

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

*In my 10 years in the industry I have noticed an increased prevalence of automation and SCADA control. With so many plants upgrading due to the Chesapeake Bay Tributary Strategies, even smaller facilities are now fully integrated*

How would you like to see CPWQA improved?

*I would love to see more participation on committees, especially the Certifications and Personnel Advancement Committee. The chairperson is really great to work with. Please email [jrosentel@cityofhbg.com](mailto:jrosentel@cityofhbg.com) if you are interested*

Tell me something about yourself that would surprise your peers.

*My peers who have seen me drive would be surprised that I have never been pulled over for a traffic violation (knocking on wood now)*

What do you like to do in your spare time?

*Spending time with my wife, Beth, and our 3-year-old son, Jonah, traveling, cooking, craft beers, cheering on my Redskins, Red Sox, and Pitt Panthers*

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

*The birth of my son certainly had the most dramatic impact of any event in my life. My priorities changed instantaneously. It's amazing how quick that can happen*

Where is your favorite vacation destination?

*My favorite vacation destination is Long Beach Island, NJ. I love the family feel of it with no high rise complexes or corporate hotels*

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I would like to start by thanking the CPWQA's leaders and membership for the opportunity to serve as your President during 2014. It is truly an honor and I appreciate your confidence in me to help direct the association this year. When I graduated from Penn State 36 years ago with a B.S. in Environmental Resource Management, I had no idea that I would eventually find my way to this industry. When Cindy and I moved back to our central PA roots in 1984, I first worked at Capitol Engineers in Dillsburg, followed by a lengthy stint at Gannett Fleming. At those jobs, and now at GHD (formerly CET), I have had the privilege of working with and getting to know many of you through our honorable profession.



As I was preparing to write this article, Steve Huntzinger (WPCACP President in 2001, who recently retired and was cleaning out his desk), walked into my office with a folder containing every WPCACP/CPWQA newsletter that has been published. Volume 1 Issue 1 is dated October 1988 and the cover story features the Curwensville WWTP in Clearfield County and Plant Manager Ted Bowman. If I would take the time to read all of the newsletters, I'd never get this message written, but flipping through them, there are many familiar names and faces. Some folks have passed on, some have retired or are getting ready to retire, and many are still in the wastewater profession (most in a higher position or with a different employer). And some of you looked really young back then. I won't name anyone, but Mike Gillespie and Lee Koch come to mind... I inquired whether CPWQA has such a collection of newsletters, and Wayne Schutz informed me that we used to, but they were lost in the great flood of 2011. Steve, I know you're either on a sunny beach or the golf course right now, but thanks for helping us restore at least some of the lost archives.

As most of my predecessors did, I went back and looked at previous President's Messages for 'inspiration' in writing mine. As with most volunteer organizations with most of the offices revolving on an annual basis, it is naive for someone to come into office thinking that he or she can 'change the world overnight.' And often sweeping changes aren't necessary to start with. Therefore, I believe it is important to further the goals of my predecessors and encourage involvement by new faces with fresh ideas and energy to help us keep the association moving forward and to do a better job at serving our membership. I think it's as simple as that. How we accomplish that together is up to us.

One of the common themes in recent years is that we need to find ways to bring in younger folks to lead this association and its committees. I have had the privilege of being one of CPWQA's representatives at PWEA's annual section leadership summit for the past three years. Aging and declining membership has been a hot topic at each of those summits. When I look back at the makeup of the CPWQA Board and Committee Chairs in 2009 and compare it to our 2014 list, I am encouraged to note that our leadership does appear to be getting younger (or at least it has several younger members). In 2009, I would estimate that the average age of folks on that list was around 50. Although several of us are still on the list and 5 years older, we now have younger folks like Jess Rosentel, Mike Mehaffey, Jeremy Miller, Lisa Webb, Scott Ambrust, Erin Threet, Shannon Williams and Nick Sahd who have stepped up and volunteered when called upon to fill vacant positions as mostly older folks move on.

Another topic of concern is the challenge of getting more operators involved in CPWQA. I think it is good to remind ourselves from time to time why CPWQA was created and what our purpose is. Article 1.03 of CPWQA's bylaws, which you can find near the back of your membership directory, says "The objective of the CPWQA shall be the advancement of the knowledge of design, construction, operation, and management of municipal and industrial wastewater treatment facilities and the encouragement, through meetings of the members and otherwise, for the exchange of information and experience and to provide for affiliation with the PWEA." CPWQA and WPCACP before us have always had a mix of operators, vendors and engineers to further the objective of the association. However, the fact is, it is often easier for vendors and engineers to get the support of their employers to be involved in a professional volunteer organization like CPWQA. Understanding that operators need more support from their supervisors, boards and/or elected officials in order to have the time to get involved with our organizations, we have volunteered to assist PWEA and the other sections to present at the PSATS and PMAA conferences in an effort to 'market' our associations and make more of them realize how important and beneficial it is for their employees to join committees and take leadership roles in our professional associations. I hope these plans are put to fruition and that we can contribute.

Other noted accomplishments over the past 5 years included an improved website and the addition of Christine Gacono as our Administrative Management Assistant. Moving forward, we recently assembled a new Membership Committee that is charged with working with Christine to update our membership and past president's databases. In addition, they will be working on putting out a new directory in 2014. As usual, we will have plant tours in April, May and September, and the annual golf outing/picnic/awards meeting will be in June and the Trade Fair and Training Expo will be held at the Carlisle Expo Center in October. Important dates to put on your calendar are on the front cover of this newsletter. If you are interested in getting involved in CPWQA or have any suggestions for us to consider, please send an email to Christine at [info@cpwqa.org](mailto:info@cpwqa.org). Dave Seibert is our Program Committee Chair and is always looking for suggestions for upcoming plant tour locations. If you would like to host a CPWQA meeting at your facility or if you know a facility that you believe would be willing to host a CPWQA meeting, please email Christine. Thanks again and I look forward to working with you all as your President in 2014.

*Kevin B. Shannon*

## EFFLUENT AFFLUENCE

[ARTICLE #3 IN A SERIES DEALING WITH PERSONAL FINANCIAL ADVICE]

**DIFFERENT ACCOUNTS, DIFFERENT BENEFITS** There are four common types of investment accounts, Qualified, IRA, Roth and Non-Qualified. Types of Qualified accounts include a 401k, 403b and 457. Your employer may offer you this type of plan. One of the benefits of a Qualified account is that it allows for you to make a contribution to your account before taxes are assessed to your paycheck and can allow for tax deferred growth. If you withdraw the funds invested after age 59 ½ you will be taxed on the total amount withdrawn based on your current tax bracket. An IRA (Individual Retirement Account) has similar benefits to a Qualified plan, but you will be the one to establish an IRA instead of your employer. A Roth IRA or Roth 401k will allow you to make post-tax contributions. The account can allow for tax deferred growth as well. If the account is held for 5 years and you're 59 ½ years of age you can take tax free withdrawals. With a Non-Qualified account, contributions are made post-tax. Depending on how your account is established, you might receive a 1099 at the end of every year; this is common if you invest in mutual funds. Capital Gains tax is paid on the gain only, not the entire amount with a Non-Qualified account. Due to the details with each account and the uniqueness of every person, it is best that you meet with a financial advisor to discuss your options. Next quarter will start our Risk Management sections of your Financial Plan, starting with "Life Insurance." Questions/Comments can be directed to [chadchubb@pfginc.com](mailto:chadchubb@pfginc.com) or 717-443-1759. *Written by Chad Chubb with PFG Wealth Advisors.*

*Opinions expressed are not intended as specific investment advice. Registered Representative offering securities through Cetera Advisor Networks LLC, member FINRA/SIPC. Cetera is under separate ownership from any other named entity. Advisory Services and Financial Planning offered through PFG Financial Advisors, a Registered Investment Advisor.*

## MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

### NEW MEMBERS

Foreman, Bruce W  
Forney, Douglas  
Brugger, Ann  
Olivier, Michael , PE  
Bender, Russell  
Chilson, Dave  
Keirn, Aaron , PE  
Bowra, Jeffrey K  
Derr, Victor  
Laraway, Wayne  
McCoy-Caretti, Tanya M  
Zearing, Travis  
Hart, Sierra

### LIFE MEMBERS

Reigle, William  
Ravida, Raymond  
Ritter, Richard  
Rider, Lawrence  
Kreiser, Mike  
Ingiosi, John  
Megonnell, Robert  
Latsha, John  
Seward, Keith  
Ryan, James  
Suprum, Joseph  
Shadle Jr, John

Craig, Larry  
Debo, Maynard  
Decker, Gene  
Hoskavich, Steve  
Barnhart, Eugene  
Beistline, D  
Deparasis, Orlando  
Gump, Robert  
Heller, Glenn  
Hinish, Donald  
DeVore, Thomas  
Eshleman, Rufus  
Greene, Richard

### ARE YOU A LIFE MEMBER??

Article 2.05 of the Bylaws of the CPWQA state that, "Any person, who has been a member of the CPWQA for a period of ten or more years and has retired, shall be considered for life membership by the Board of Directors. Life membership shall be active membership. The additional privileges of life membership shall include free membership and free admission to all regular meetings of CPWQA. Additional privileges shall be granted by the Board of Directors and listed in these Bylaws." If you meet these qualifications, please notify a Board Member so that you can be considered for this classification.

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## CPWQA 2014 TRADE FAIR

Mark your calendars now for the 2014 CPWQA Trade Fair and Training Exposition, to be held **Wednesday, October 29, 2014**. The Trade Fair will be held at the Carlisle Expo Center. 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](mailto:rheinick@gfnet.com) ) prior to July 1, 2014.

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