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Digester

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The Newsletter of the Long Island Chapter - New York Water Environment Association, Inc.

STRONG TURNOUT AT ELECTION NIGHT MEETING

by Tom Immerso

The Annual Business and Election Meeting was held on December 3rd, 2008 at the Fox Hollow Inn in Woodbury with a crowd of some 65 members attending. Prior to the dinner, outgoing Chapter Chairman Bill Roesch and Nominating Committee Chairman (and incoming Chapter Chairman)



Joe Baader awarding Bill Roesch with the Past Chairman - "Gavel Plaque"

(See Election Night on page 6)

81ST ANNUAL NYWEA MEETING DRAWS HUGE CROWD

by Tom Immerso

The 81st Annual Meeting of the NYWEA was held on February 2-4, 2009 at the Marriott Marquis Hotel in New York City, celebrating the Quadricentennial (400th) Anniversary of Henry Hudson's exploration of the Hudson River. Despite some cold and snowy conditions, the meeting was well-attended with over 1200 registrants. As usual, it delivered a strong technical program, including Federal, State and Local updates during the opening general session on Monday morning, followed by 20 technical sessions over the next 2-1/2 days. Additionally, a large and increasingly diverse exhibit hall of over 175 manufacturers, vendors and consulting firms provided information on the latest equipment and services, keeping our membership aware of the rapidly changing technology in our water and wastewater environment. P.E. professional development hours (PDH's) and operator recertification credits were in high demand and applicable to most of the sessions.

The Tuesday sessions were specifically designated for operators and young professionals / students. The technical sessions included such topical items as, of course, the Hudson River (which was the theme of this year's Conference), energy management strategies, "green" concepts, as well as asset management and sustainabil-

(See NYWEA Meeting on page 5)

OFFICERS OF THE LONG ISLAND CHAPTER

Chairman
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Richard Webber
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Treasurer
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George Desmarais
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Past Chairman
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Bill Roesch
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Chris Murphy, '09	Gary Arman '10

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ARTICLES FOR THE DIGESTER

Articles for the Digester can be e-mailed in MS Word format to the Editor, Chris Korzenko at:
Korzenkoca@CDM.com

Or mailed to: CDM
 100 Crossways Park West, Suite 415
 Woodbury, NY 11797

Digester Staff
 Tom Immerso (516) 571-6850, Assistant Editor
 Steve Hearl (631) 756-8000
 Bill Roesch (631) 854-4178
 Jerry Werner (631) 289-8900
 Matt Scheiner (516) 671-8440 Photographer

The Editor reserves the right to modify submitted articles to have them fit within the space allowed and to reflect the technical nature of the magazine. Attempts will be made to notify the writer prior to publication when changes are made in articles.

THE CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE Joe Baader



Greetings to all Long Island Chapter members, and Digester readers.

I would like to briefly discuss two issues in this message. One involves the issue of raffles (simply stated: can NYWEA Chapters conduct raffles and what are the NYWEA regulations) and the input we received at the recent NYWEA State Meeting on May 31, 2009 at the West Point Technical Conference. The second involves our recent visits to local high schools to present joint NYWEA and NYSDEC awards to winners of the Eighth Annual "The Importance of Wastewater Treatment" Poster Contest.

Firstly, the raffle issue came up early during the State meeting at West Point. Our State Representative, Dennis Koehler, discussed how many Chapter functions "break even" and that the fund raising functions, the Clambake and golf outing, and the fundraising for the Operators Challenge teams rely, in part, on raffles to raise funds. Janice Jijina continued the discussion, and requested a formal statement from the State on the raffle issue. During the WEF Delegate Report, Janice's report on the additional costs to the Chapters that can result from equipment changes proposed for the Operations Challenge Teams further supported the need to raise funds. Many good points were raised on both sides of the issue. Bruce Munn, President of NYWEA, stated that the State is still gathering information, and answers to our questions will be forthcoming before their Financial Retreat, sometime in July.

The second, less contentious, issue I'd like to discuss involves my recent visit to two high schools. Dennis Koehler and I had the privilege to present award plaques and checks to the Poster Contest winners. In one of the high schools, the poster awards were part of an overall Science Awards Ceremony which also included academic excellence awards in the sciences, including Living Environment Science, Earth Science, Astronomy, Chemistry, Physics and Forensic Science. Other awards and scholarships were presented by St. Johns, Rensselaer, Bausch and Lomb, and professional societies.

The Science Award Ceremony room was filled with students, teachers, parents and presenters. It was a privilege to share the experience with all the students who received awards. It was extremely comforting to know that this type of ceremony, involving many talented students, is repeated throughout the country, resulting in a wave of new talent. These students, many of whom will be majoring in Engineering and the Sciences, will be leaving high school and successfully completing rigorous college curriculums in the future and then entering their professions.

The success of our nation truly depends on the abilities of the upcoming scientists, engineers and professionals to successfully respond to the challenges facing our nations. The students we encountered this day gave us confidence that the future will be in good hands. It was our privilege to be a small part of the ceremonies.

Regards,

Joseph F. Baader

NEW MEMBERS

by Peter Petriccione

Welcome to the Chapters' new members:

- ★ Jesse Horsford - Gannett Fleming
- ★ Laura Taenzer - SCDHS

- Richard Reuter - Dvirka & Bartilucci
- William Sherrard - GNWPCD

SEWER PLANT UPGRADES CUT NITROGEN BY 90 PERCENT

Town meets 2014 water quality standards ahead of schedule; wins prestigious award

Continuing its commitment and dedication to maintaining and protecting Huntington Harbor and Long Island Sound, the Town of Huntington recently completed \$18 million in upgrades to its sewage treatment plant, reducing the plant's nitrogen discharge by 90 percent and earning the town a Platinum Award from the American Council of Engineering Companies.

The project included upgrading the nitrogen removal system at the plant and installation of an ultraviolet disinfection system, which allowed the existing disinfection chemical storage and handling facilities to be taken out of service and eliminated the need to construct storage and handling facilities for a chemical that would remove chlorine

The new and upgraded facility will greatly improve the health of the Sound and reduce the potential for Red Tides and Brown Tides by reducing "hypoxia" – a deficiency in the amount of oxygen in the water caused by excess nitrogen. That, in turn, causes more Phytoplankton to die and sink to the bottom of the Sound, causing more oxygen to be consumed in the deeper portions of the Sound and making it an unfit habitat for marine life during the summer months.

In 1998, the Long Island Sound Study (LISS) Management Conference found that hypoxia affects a substantial portion of the Sound marine habitat and merited special attention. To address hypoxia, the state imposed limits to reduce nitrogen discharged from the twelve municipal treatment plants located on the north shore of Long Island. The Huntington Sewer District was among districts that needed to upgrade their wastewater treatment facility to reduce total nitrogen discharged from the Town's treatment plant to the Long Island Sound by 80.6% by August 2014. With completion of this project, the Town is years ahead of that schedule.

"These upgrades demonstrate our deep commitment to preserving the marine heritage that is a hallmark of Huntington's history and part of what makes this such a desirable town to live in," Supervisor Frank P. Petrone said. "We are additionally pleased that in completing this project, Huntington already has met the 2014 federal and state deadline for all facilities that discharge nitrogen. And we are gratified that our efforts have been recognized by the American Council of Engineering Companies with their Platinum Award."



(See Nitrogen on page 5)

(NYWEA Meeting from page 1)

ity. In addition, the highly successful University Research Forum involving the 8th annual student paper competition and Young Professionals' Session were effective in discussing the process, obligations and benefits of the engineering profession in today's demanding business world. New this year, Public Education provided a 'spin-off' poster session, which proved interesting and timely. The "Water For People" concept was again promoted, as well as other informative topics including Biosolids and Nutrient Removal. The always popular Environmental Science and Young Professionals sessions, which provided information running the gamut from global warming trends to aging infrastructure modifications required at wastewater facilities, provided a timely relevance to the pending Federal stimulus package that could infuse some much-needed environmental funding.

The Awards Luncheon on Wednesday served to recognize those individuals and institutions within both the WEF and the NYWEA who have worked diligently to ensure the protection of our water environment. Steve Fangmann (D&B) was recognized in the Opening General Session as the latest Hall of Fame Inductee, commemorating over 33 years of service. Among those recognized for WEA awards within the Long Island Chapter were (again!) Steve Fangmann for the Board of Directors Service Award, Chris Korzenko (CDM) for the Public Education Award, Lars Augustin (GF) for the Young Professionals Award and, posthumously, Bob Carballeira, for the John Chester Brigham Award in recognition of his many years of outstanding service to the Association. (We miss you, Bobby!) Congratulations to all the Long Island Chapter award recipients.



Steve Fangmann (Hall of Fame Inductee and Board of Directors Service Award recipient with former NYWEA President Bob Kukenburger

Seeing as perhaps the most important aspect of the Conference is the opportunity for members to interact and discuss environmental issues facing our profession, a gala "81st Annual Meeting Reception" buffet dinner was held on Monday night along with an Exhibitor Reception and Women's Networking Session. On Tuesday night, various 'hospitality receptions' arranged by consultants afforded attendees the opportunity to meet with past and present colleagues and business associates. Also offered was the opportunity to have various committees and chapters interrelate, inclusive of a New Member "Meet 'n Greet," and Young Professionals' Sponsored Reception, to arrange future functions through numerous meetings over the three-day period.

Finally, all Scholarship Fund Contributors (corporate and individual) were recognized via a prominent display board for their financial support during the Phase I (1999-2004) and Phase II (2005-2010) periods. The ongoing Campaign Fund continues to solicit pledges and contributions as either a renewal of your prior commitment or a new donation. To make a donation or for further information, please contact Pat Cerro-Reehil at (315) 422-7811.

Following up on the great success of the Annual Meeting, please mark your calendars for the upcoming Spring Technical Conference and Exhibition to be held from May 31 – June 3, 2009 at the historical Thayer Hotel in West Point, overlooking the majestic Hudson River Highlands. It's sure to pack a full agenda, inclusive of a full-day Operations Challenge Competition, and undoubtedly will prove to be both informative and exciting for all. Hope to see you there! ■

(Nitrogen from page 4)

"The Platinum Award is exceptional recognition and a crowning achievement of this very successful project," said Gary E. Loesch, P.E., executive vice president of Holzmacher, McLendon & Murrell, P.C., the Town's design and construction engineer on the project. ACEC calls the award the Academy Awards of the engineering consulting world.

The project was partially funded by \$9.2 million in state grants. ■

(Election Night from page 1)

Joe Baader announced the following slate of new and reelected officers for 2009, which was approved by the membership:

<u>Position</u>	<u>Term</u>	<u>Candidate</u>
Director	2009-2011	Steve Hearl
Director	2009-2011	Greg Smith
Director	2009-2011	Bert Stipe
Director	2009-2010	Gary Arman
Chapter Representative	2009-2010	Dennis Koehler

Our speaker for the evening was Nassau County Department of Public Works Commissioner Ray Ribeiro, P.E., who spoke on the present and future status of the County concerning ongoing and proposed water and wastewater projects, budgetary constraints in light of the changing economy, and the labor situation concerning County facilities. The County is hoping that Federal grant monies will once again be made available under the incoming presidential administration to help allow major County projects to be addressed. Lastly, he touched on the ‘greening’ of the County as new and innovative measures are being examined in an effort to conserve resources and lower energy consumption within many of the County facilities.



Evening's speaker - Nassau County Public Works Commissioner Ray Ribeiro

Numerous guests were in attendance, including members of our talented and successful Operators Challenge Team, which represented LI in the WEF National Operators Challenge, held in Chicago this past October, where they placed 9th overall in Division 1. (Congrats one more time, guys!)

The evening closed with a special holiday raffle - with many gift baskets and bottles of wine provided by our

very generous sponsors. The cash prize winners were speaker Ray Ribeiro, \$50, Olga Mubarak-Jaramillo, who took home an early holiday present of \$100 for the second year in a row, Charlie Clayton, \$100 and, in an encore performance, Ray Ribeiro once again, for \$100 more! (Not bad pay for a speaking engagement, Ray!) One hour of operator recertification credit was applied for by the association and will be applicable. Thanks once again to Dennis Koehler and Joe Baader for their endless energy in making all the arrangements and coordinating to make the night a success – as usual!

A special note of thanks goes out to our sponsorship for the meeting, which included:

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Long Island Chapter Scholarship Application

(All blanks must be filled in or else application will be deemed incomplete)

Please tear off and submit with appropriate materials.

The New York Water Environment Association, Long Island Chapter
Gannett Fleming, P.O. Box 707, 480 Forest Avenue, Locust Valley, NY 11560 - (516) 671-8440

Applicant Information (Applicant must be a resident of New York State)

Name: _____ Phone: (____)____-____
Street Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____
E-Mail: _____ Date of Birth: ____/____/____
County: _____ Social Security: ____-____-____ Female Male

School Information

Name of School: _____
Anticipated Graduation Date: _____ Grade Point Average: _____
SAT / ACT Score: _____ Class Rank: _____ out of _____
Honors or Awards Received: _____

Extracurricular Activities: _____

Hobbies: _____
Education Goals: _____

Career Goals: _____

Current Employer, if any: _____
Hours per week: _____
Please specify college or university you will be attending, or if still unknown, schools applied to:

Intended Major: _____

Other Scholarship Information

Are you the recipient of any other scholarship this year Yes No

If yes, please list from which organization(s) and the amounts:

Essay Questions

Please complete responses to each of the following questions. It will be necessary to use separate sheets of paper, since your response to each question should be 500 to 600 words. Please type your responses. **Points will be deducted if responses are not typed.**

ANSWER 'A' AND EITHER NUMBER 1 OR 2.

A. It has been said that water is the most precious commodity which we have. Describe what personal efforts and initiatives you might take or have taken to help ensure the protection of this resource for future generations.

1. What actions have you taken to affect or initiate change with respect to the environment?

2. Describe how your career choice would positively impact the environment?

Certification and Release Authorization

The following information must be completed for the applicant to be considered for scholarship awards.

I certify this information is true, complete and accurate. I also authorize the release of this information to confirm and/or verify this application.

Student's Signature: _____ Date: ____/____/____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: ____/____/____

Checklist:

For a submission to be considered for a scholarship, it must be complete. Fax applications will not be accepted. The following items are all required:

Complete and sign application. Please type or print neatly. All blanks filled in. Please attach to the completed application the following information:

1. Requested essays.
2. Official school transcript (copies not accepted).
3. A minimum of two letters of recommendation, one must be from a teacher; the others must be from someone not related to the applicant.

WE WILL MISS YOU...IF YOU DO NOT PROVIDE YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS.

To help reduce printing and postage expense, the LIWEA Board of Directors has decided to eliminate mailing of meeting announcements. Funds saved will be used to support other programs.

If your name is on the following list, NYWEA does not have your e-mail address. If you are scheduled to renew before the end of 2008, please add your e-mail address to the renewal application. To have your e-mail address added more quickly to the Chapter database, please e-mail Steven Hearl at shearl@h2m.com.

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Total Enclosed \$ _____

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Send application and payment to:

Peter Petriccione, H2M, PC
 575 Broad Hollow Road., Melville, NY 11747

Add-On Options:

One or more of the following WEF periodicals may be *ADDED* to your membership package if they are not already included. Please enter the *Periodical* and *Cost* in the allocated spaces above.

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	Water quality research—Print plus Online	\$125.00
<i>WEF Solutions</i>	Laboratory problems & issues	\$50.00
<i>WEF Watch</i>	State of changes in laws & regulations	\$50.00
<i>Industrial Wastewater</i>	All aspects of industrial wastewater mgmt.	\$89.00
<i>Biosolids Technical Bulletin</i>	All aspects of biosolids mgmt.	\$89.00
<i>Watershed & Wet Weather Technical Bulletin</i>	Wet weather issues	\$89.00
<i>Utility Executive</i>	Utility management issues	\$89.00

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June 1 - 3, 2009 - NYWEA Spring Conference - Hotel Thayer, West Point
June 16, 2009 - Board of Directors Meeting
June 19, 2009 - Clam Bake at Cedar Creek Park, Wantagh
June 23, 2009 - O&M Committee Golf Outing—Towers Country Club, Floral Park
June 2009 - Operator Challenge Events

July 16, 2009 - Young Professionals Fishing Trip—Captree

Aug 12, 2009 - O&M Committee Meeting
Aug 14, 2009 - Environmental Science Canoe Trip - Peconic River, Riverhead
Aug 21, 2009 - Rain Date Environmental Science Canoe Trip

Please Send Articles to Digester

Sept 11, 2009 - O & M Meet & Greet/Board of Directors, Franks Dockside Café, W. Babylon
Sept 19, 2009 - O&M Committee Duck's Game

Oct 8, 2009 - Royal Golf Outing
Oct 10 - 14, 2009 - WEF Convention, Orlando FL
Oct 14, 2009 - O&M Committee Meeting
Oct 23, 2009 - Dinner Dance – 8PM Woodbury Country Club
Oct 24, 2009 - Cold Spring Harbor Fish Hatchery Fall Fair

Nov 11, 2009 - O&M Committee Meeting

Dec 2, 2009 - Election Night – Fox Hollow, Woodbury

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