

FEBRUARY 2005 NEWSLETTER

Southeast Texas Chapter of the TAWWA

MEETING NOTICE

Date: Thursday, February 24, 2005

Place: HESS Club Building
5430 Westheimer Road
Houston, TX 77056
(See www.hessclub.com for a map.)

- The meeting will be held in the Bowie Room

Luncheon: \$20 if confirmed by 2/21/05____
and an AWWA member
\$25 for non-AWWA members
\$25 for AWWA members after
2/21/05

Time: Registration at 11:30 a.m.
Lunch at 11:50 p.m.
Speaker at 12:20 p.m.

RSVP: Please include your first and last name, organization (for name tag), and e-mail your reservation to Marilyn Christian at mchristian@harriscountyhealth.com. You may call in your RSVP to Marilyn Christian at 713-439-6260. No-shows will be invoiced for their dinner.

***What topics are you interested in?
What are the issues that affect you?***

We want to meet your needs and interests. Any suggestions for topics and/or speakers are welcomed and can be forwarded to Jennifer Elms at jelms@browngay.com



Partnership for Safe Water
Be a Part of It!
<http://www.awwa.org/science/partnership/>

FEATURED PROGRAM



Faith Hambleton received her Bachelors degree from Wheaton College in Massachusetts and her Master's from the University of North Texas in 1992. As a graduate student she

studied the fate and impacts of synthetic insecticides on the aquatic environment.

Ms. Hambleton has been with the Commission and its predecessor agencies for 17 years. For the past 3 years, Faith has served as the Manager of the TMDL program, which is responsible for uncovering the source of pollutants impacting water bodies, and then implementing the solutions to bring them back into attainment with the standards. She is also responsible for overseeing 6 million dollars in contracts every year.

Faith has also participated in short courses for the Society of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry (SETAC), and is an active member of that society.

For more information on the TMDL program, call 512/239-4900, or email tmdl@tceq.state.tx.us.

- Join the TMDL E-Mail News list and receive notices of events, projects, and proposal requests of the TMDL Program, along with other water quality news.
- To join the list, send a blank e-mail to: join-tmdl@listserv.tceq.state.tx.us with no subject or message.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I trust everyone had safe and happy holidays. I don't know about you but 2005 has started out as fast and furious as 2004. Our last meeting was a big success thanks

to all who participated and thanks to David Wheelock with the Brazos River Authority for his presentation at Rice University concerning the System Operations concept that was developed in order to acquire additional water rights out of the Brazos River. Our next meeting is scheduled for February 24, 2005 at HESS.

We at the Southeast Chapter have begun a policy to attendance by employees of public agencies. Beginning with the February 24, 2005 meeting any employee of a public agency can attend the meeting at a cost of only \$10.

Plans for Texas Water 2005 are starting to heat up and many of the members of the Southeast chapter are helping out. A call for volunteers has gone out to the Southeast Chapter members. If you are driven to help out please get in contact Isabel Fung at isabel.fung@hcfcd.org

Our chapter is also looking towards next year and has developed a slate of officers to put before the membership at the February meeting. The proposed slate is **Simon Tung – President, Ed Tadlock – Vice President, and Jason Nelson – Secretary**. Please plan on attending the February Meeting to cast your vote for these officers or offer alternative nominees. **Jesse Li** will remain

Treasurer for another two years. In addition the following Committee Chairpersons will serve for the next year. **Camille Sowell**s remains as **Correspondence Chair**, **Victoria Foss** remains as **Membership Chair**, **Jennifer Elms** remains as **Program Chair**, **Gary Rabalais** remains as **Corporate Sponsor Chair**, and **Chris Varnon** steps in as **Young Professionals Chair**.

This is my last message as President of the Southeast Chapter. The time has gone by very quickly. The main goal I established for the year was to do what we can as a chapter to encourage the participation of our members from the public agencies. I would rate the success of attaining this goal as marginal. We have increased the participation of public agencies and move the meeting place around to be more convenient to the public agency people, but I believe there is more to do. Such things as changing the meeting time, changing the day the meeting is held to avoid potential conflicts and to subsidize the cost of the meetings for the public agency members still needs consideration. Joint meetings and functions with other organizations such as APWA, SAME and WEAT should be considered.

I must extend a big thanks to Simon Tung, Ed Tadlock, Jesse Li, David Dow, Camille Sowell, Victoria Foss, Jennifer Elms, Greg Lentz, Gary Rabalais and the entire Leadership Committee for all their hard work over the last year that made my life easier.

This Chapter is yours – SUPPORT IT.

TMDL PROGRAM STATUS

Since the publication of the *Statewide Watershed Management Approach* in 1996, the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) has made great strides with its Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Program. Progress is strong in efforts to restore water quality in the impaired surface waters of the state. Beneficial uses—such as recreation, fishing, and support of aquatic life—are defined for all surface waters in the *Texas Surface Water Quality Standards*.

Every two years, the TCEQ prepares a list of surface waters that do not meet standards, as required under Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act. The list places each water body into one of five categories, depending on the assessment results. Water bodies in Category 5 constitute the 303(d) List. TMDLs are developed by the state using the best available scientific tools and methods. TMDLs must be approved by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). If the EPA disapproves a state’s TMDL, or if the state fails to establish required TMDLs, the EPA has authority to establish TMDLs for the state. Texas is one of the few state’s that is NOT under a court ordered schedule.

Completing a TMDL is just the first step in restoring water quality to meet standards. The point, nonpoint, and atmospheric source allocations described in TMDLs must be implemented through a variety of activities involving numerous government agencies and local

stakeholders. Implementation is integral to the success of the TMDL Program’s efforts to restore beneficial uses in Texas streams, lakes, and bays. A TMDL without an implementation plan is like a well-built bicycle without a rider — it won’t go anywhere.

Even after plans are fully implemented, it is difficult to accurately predict how long it will take for improvement in water quality to occur, or how much improvement will be seen. In the meantime, the TMDL Program tracks the activities and steps taken toward implementing the measures outlined in the plans. If environmental data eventually indicate that there has not been sufficient change in water quality, these programmatic measures may indicate whether implementation efforts have been incomplete or erratic. The plans can then be reassessed, and adjustments made as needed.

The TMDL Program is working with multiple partner organizations to implement TMDLs. Nine implementation plans and one watershed protection plan are in place. Those plans address 50 pollutants in 31 water bodies. TMDLs are being implemented in 25 counties



Focus on Membership

Victoria A. Foss, P.E.

THE FOCUS THIS YEAR FOR THE SOUTHEAST TEXAS AWWA CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP IS TO INCREASE THE PARTICIPATION FROM MEMBERS OF VARIOUS PUBLIC AGENCIES. ONE OF THE WAYS WE ARE DOING THIS IS BY SUBSIDIZING A PORTION OF THE MEETING COSTS TO ALL MEMBERS OF THESE AGENCIES.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR

Detailed planning for Texas Water 2005, which will be held April 5–8 at Moody Gardens in Galveston, is well underway. The effort is being led by co-chairs Gary Smith of Black & Veatch representing TAWWA and Brian Broussard of MWH representing WEAT. Chairs have been selected for the committees. As the conference draws closer, there will be a need for additional volunteers. If you want to be added to the list, contact Isabel Fung at the Harris County Flood Control District. She can be reached at 713-684-4140 or by e-mail at isf@hcfcd.co.tx.us. If you would like to get additional information about the activities of any of the committees, contact the committee chairs listed below.

Conference Co-Chair

Gary Smith, 713-260-0403
smithgr@bv.com

Brian Broussard, 713-403-1669
brian.d.broussard@mwhglobal.com

AV Equipment

Betty Jordan, 817-284-2724
bjordan@apaienv.com

Convention Center

Michelle Wilkins, 713-684-4063
mcw@hcfcd.co.harris.tx.us

Door Prizes

Naomi Azulai, 713-266-6900
nazulai@lan-inc.com

Events

Dave Scholler, 281-558-8700
dscholler@browngay.com

Facility Tours

Jane McLamarrah, 713-403-1634
jane.mclamarrah@mwhglobal.com

Finance

Fred Bauhof, 713-403-1600
fred.bauhof@mwhglobal.com

Golf

Chris Canonico, 713-850-1921
canonicocg@cdm.com

Operations Events

Eric Sabolsice, 281-487-6624
esabolice@amwater.com

John Bennett, 817-430-5647
bennettj@trinityra.org

Signs

Chuck Gilman, 713-960-7422
cgilman@pirnie.com

Transportation

Nancy Matthews, 409-943-4522
gcwamis@swbell.net

Registration

Marilyn Christian, (713) 439-6266
mchristian@harriscountyhealth.com

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2005 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

OFFICERS:

President - Dave Scholler, P.E., Brown & Gay Engineers, Inc.; 281-558-8700

Vice-President - Simon Tung, P.E., City of Houston; 713-837-7025

Secretary - Edward Tadlock, Galveston County WCID No. 1; 281-337-7529

Treasurer - Jessie Li, Ph.D., P.E., City of Houston; 713-842-4001

COMMITTEE CHAIRS:

Corporate Sponsorship – Gary Rabalais, P.E., Malcolm Pirnie, Inc. 713-960-7428

Correspondence – Camille Sowell, P.E., Camp, Dresser & McKee Inc.; 713-850-1921

Membership - Victoria Foss, P.E., Independent Consultant; 281-491-7470

Program - Jennifer Elms, P.E., Brown & Gay Engineers, Inc.; 281-558-8700

Scholarship – Jerry Woodward, P.E., Independent Consultant, 281-899-1263

Young Professional – Chris Varnon, Camp, Dresser & McKee, Inc.; 713-850-1921

TREASURER'S REPORT

Jessie Li, PhD, P.E.



AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2004, THE SOUTHEAST CHAPTER'S ACCOUNT BALANCE TOTAL IS \$3301.14

CORPORATE SPONSORSHIP COMMITTEE

Corporate sponsorship is a great way to get your company in front of our over 400-strong SE Chapter membership. Sponsorships are available for each of our SE Chapter meetings, as well as in our bi-monthly newsletters.

What are the sponsorship funds used for? Your contributions allow the SE Chapter to award college scholarships through TAWWA and cash prizes for science fair award recipients. In August 2004, the Texas Section awarded \$14,000 in scholarships to seven students throughout Texas.

What are the sponsorship options?

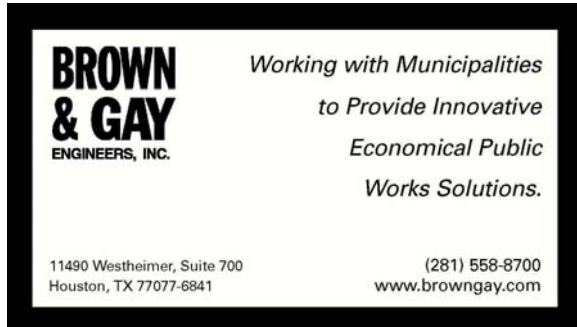
\$200/Luncheon/Dinner Meeting: Corporate sponsors will be announced during the meeting and attending firm members will be publicly acknowledged. The Chapter will also acknowledge the meeting sponsors on a bulletin board at the registration table, and they may distribute brochures about their company. In addition, they will be able to place a 0.25 page color ad about their company in our newsletter prior to the meeting they sponsor. Up to four sponsors per meeting.

\$100/Year Color Business Card: Your company's business card can appear in each of our bi-monthly newsletters for one calendar year (January through December) under the section entitled "Professional Services Directory." Prorated amounts for starting between these times can be arranged.

\$100/Newsletter Professional Job Position: A company/agency can place professional job position openings in the newsletter and on our website. The position will be published once in our bi-monthly newsletter and simultaneously on our website for that same two-month period.

If you are interested in being a Chapter sponsor, please contact Gary Rabalais, Corporate Sponsorship Chair, at 713-960-7428, or at grabalais@pirnie.com. Checks are made payable to *SE Chapter of TAWWA*.

Professional Service Directory

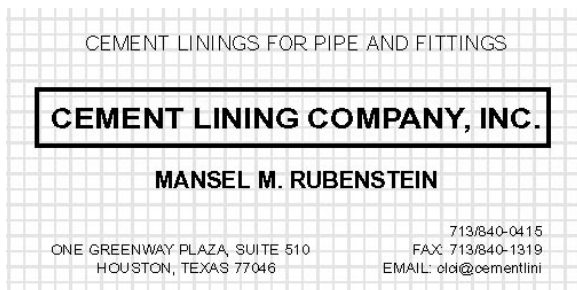


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**SCIENCE ENGINEERING FAIR
VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!**

The Science Engineering Fair of Houston is coming up on March 17-19, 2005. TAWWA and WEAT members team up to judge water-related science projects. Volunteers are needed for the event. Interested volunteers can contact Chris Varnon at CDM at 713-850-1921 or VarnonCK@cdm.com. For more information on the Science Fair, the website link is:

<http://www.uhd.edu/academic/colleges/sciences/naturalscience/SEFH>



AWWA is the authoritative resource for knowledge, information, and advocacy to improve the quality and supply of drinking water in North America and beyond. AWWA is the largest organization of water professionals in the world. AWWA advances public health, safety and welfare by uniting the efforts of the full spectrum of the drinking water community. Through our collective strength we become better stewards of water for the greatest good of the people and the environment.

Founded in 1881, AWWA is the largest organization of water supply professionals in the world. Its more than 57,000 members represent the full spectrum of the drinking water community: treatment plant operators and managers, scientists, environmentalists, manufacturers, academicians, regulators, and others who hold genuine interest in water supply and public health. Membership includes more than 4,700 utilities that supply water to roughly 180 million people in North America.

ABOUT SE CHAPTER

If you're a member of the Southeast Texas Chapter of the Texas Section American Water Works Association, this is a great opportunity to meet and build relationships with your peers in the water community. If you're not a member, this is your opportunity to attend with other water professionals, share ideas and information, and see what AWWA has to offer. Luncheon or dinner meetings are held on a bi-monthly basis and are open to both AWWA members and non-members. It is a 501 (c) (3) exempt scientific/education organization.

Chapters of the Texas Section AWWA provide training and other opportunities to share information and ideas on *important issues and topics*. *The grassroots nature of Chapters gives the Texas Section AWWA the strength of nearly 3200 members statewide.*

Southeast Texas Chapter Website:

http://groups.yahoo.com/group/SE_CHAPTER_TAWWA/



Safe drinking water, basic health, hygiene education and sanitation facilities are nonexistent for impoverished people in the developing countries throughout the world. WHO/UNICEF estimates that the combination of these conditions results in 6,000 deaths everyday, mostly children.

In response, a dedicated handful of North American water professionals from the **American Water Works Association** established Water For People in 1991 and Water For People-Canada in 1995. They saw this as a natural extension of what their 57,000 members already do on a daily basis -- bring safe, sufficient drinking water to their own communities.

Water For People is an international nonprofit development organization committed to the long-term impact of increased access to safe drinking water and improved sanitation and health.

**Save the Date!**
Calendar of Events**February 23, 2005**

Seminar - Arsenic Removal (Arlington, TX)

For more information:

<http://www.awwa.org/Education/seminars/index.cfm?SemID=15>

February 24, 2005

SE TAWWA Chapter Meeting (Houston, TX)

For more information:

http://groups.yahoo.com/group/SE_CHAPTER_TAWWA/

February 27-March 2, 2005

AWWA/WEF Joint Management Conference (Atlanta, GA)

For more information:

<http://www.awwa.org/conferences/jmc/>

March 6-9, 2005

Membrane Technology Conference (Phoenix, AZ)

For more information:

<http://www.awwa.org/conferences/membrane/>

March 10, 2005

Satellite Teleconference - Excellence in Water Quality Distribution

For more information:

<http://www.awwa.org/education/teleconf/>

March 20 - 24, 2005

Membrane & Separations Short Course (College Station, TX)

For more information:

<http://foodprotein.tamu.edu/separations/scupco ming.htm>

April 5-8, 2005

Texas Section Annual Conf. (Galveston, TX)

For more information: <http://www.tawwa.org/>

FEBRUARY PROGRAM CORPORATE SPONSOR



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At Brown & Gay, we understand water, wastewater, and flood control systems of all sizes, from major urban areas to small subdivisions. This understanding allows us not only to design efficient new utility systems, but also to determine the upgrades or repairs needed to keep existing systems working, now and in the future.



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