

# AUGUST 2005 NEWSLETTER

*Southeast Texas Chapter of the TAWWA*

## MEETING NOTICE

**Date:** Thursday, August 25, 2005

**Place:** E.B. Cape Center  
4501 Leeland  
Houston, TX 77023  
<http://www.houstontx.gov/capecenter/map.html>

**Luncheon:** \$20 if confirmed by 8/18/05 and  
an AWWA member  
\$25 for non-AWWA members  
\$25 for AWWA members after  
8/18/05

\$10 for government employees  
if reserved before 8/18/05

**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](mailto: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](mailto:jelms@browngay.com)

## **TREASURER'S REPORT**

*Jessie Li, PhD, P.E.*



AS OF JUNE 30, 2005 THE  
SOUTHEAST CHAPTER'S  
ACCOUNT BALANCE TOTAL IS  
\$4767.96



## FEATURED PROGRAM

Donna Phillips is currently the Assistant Regional Director of the TCEQ Region 12 Office in Houston, and has been in that position for almost three years.

She graduated from Texas A&M University with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Biology and Wildlife Ecology, and after college worked for the City of Houston Public Works Department in the Pretreatment Program.

In 1984, she became a Water Quality Investigator for what was then called the Texas Department of Water Resources. Through the years (and through various reorganizations and name changes), she assumed the positions of Team Leader, Program Manager, and then Water Section Manager. In 2002, she became the Assistant Director of the TCEQ Regional Office, and in this role has been required to look beyond the water issues to also handle waste and air issues within the thirteen counties that the region oversees.

Ms. Phillips will address the recent Legislative Session which resulted in a number of items and changes of interest to those involved in various water and wastewater programs in Texas. Additionally, the current Commission has many initiatives and procedural changes that it is considering, some of which will also impact these same types of programs. Additionally, the Enforcement Process Review conducted by the TCEQ last year has resulted in the implementation of a number of the recommendations made by the teams that evaluated the comments from the regulated community, the general public, and the staff.

**Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus**

**Use and Maintenance Record**

By: Edward Tadlock



In most industries today, under normal operating condition, there is no need for protection of the worker from contaminated atmospheres. In contaminated atmospheres such as those with dust, fogs, fumes, mists,

gases, smokes, sprays, or vapors a self contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) is required.

When respiratory protection is determined to be a necessity, a well-designed respiratory protection program is to be put into place to comply with 29 CFR 1910.134 (Personal Protective Equipment OSHA Regulation). An effective program requires you have the following records: Industrial hygiene monitoring data, job assignment history and medical surveillance data, respirator care and maintenance records and emergency equipment inspection/maintenance tags. This article will be on respirator care and maintenance record. This program must meet the minimal requirements of the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) standard and aim at a high degree of employee respiratory safety.

To keep an account of plant respirators, each unit should be assigned a number that should be painted on the device with a solvent-resistant/abrasion-resistant paint. A form should be completed for each respirator, indicating the current user (when permanently assigned) and its area of use or storage location.

The respirator care and maintenance record should include the following:

- Respirator ID number
- Plant name
- Respirator type
- Manufacturer
- Model number
- Date placed in service
- Assigned to whom or location of storage
- Inspection/Maintenance and Charging (SCBAs) information
- Serviced by signature block

Rigorous program administration is essential. A respirator program will not operate effectively without it. This cannot be overemphasized.

Reference:

American Industrial Hygiene Association (Second Edition Respiratory Protection)  
 OSHA regulation 29 CFR 1910.134 (Personal Protective Equipment)



**Reminder!  
 Texas Water  
 Deadline Approaching**

The deadline for Abstracts to be submitted for Texas Water 2006, the Largest Regional Water Conference in the Country, is **September 1, 2005**.

Texas Water 2006 will be in Austin, April 4-7, 2006.

Abstracts must be submitted online at

<http://www.texas-water.com/pages/131576/index.htm>

If you have questions, call 512-251-8101.

Exhibit space for Texas Water 2006 is 2/3 sold! If you wish to exhibit, go online for more information

<http://www.texas-water.com/pages/131572/index.htm>

Please call 512-251-8101 for additional information.

**AWWA Scholarships**

For applications and eligibility criteria, contact Linda Moody at 303.347.6201 or send an e-mail to [lwheeler@awwa.org](mailto:lwheeler@awwa.org).

**Abel Wolman Fellowship**

The Abel Wolman Fellowship is designed to support promising doctoral students in the U.S., Canada and Mexico pursuing advanced training and research in the field of water supply and treatment.

Support - Up to \$20,000, renewable for a second year

Deadline: January 15 Annually

**Larson Aquatic Research Support (LARS)**

The Larson Aquatic Research Support scholarship provides support for doctoral and Masters students interested in careers in the fields of corrosion control, treatment and distribution of domestic and industrial water supplies, aquatic chemistry, and/or environmental chemistry.

Support - Masters - \$5,000 one-time grant

Support - Doctoral - \$7,000 one-time grant

Deadline: January 15 Annually

**Thomas R. Camp Scholarship**

Sponsored by Camp Dresser and McKee, Inc., the Thomas R. Camp Scholarship provides support to outstanding students doing applied research in the drinking water field. It is awarded to doctoral students in even years and Masters students in odd years.

Support - \$5,000 one-time grant

Deadline: January 15 Annually

**Holly Cornell Scholarship**

Sponsored by CH2M Hill, the Holly A. Cornell Scholarship encourages and supports outstanding female and/or minority Masters students in pursuit of advanced training in the field of water supply and treatment.

Support - \$5,000 one-time grant

Deadline: January 15 Annually

**Academic Achievement Award**

The Academic Achievement Award encourages academic excellence by recognizing contributions to the field of public water supply. All Masters theses and doctoral dissertations that are relevant to the water supply industry are eligible. The manuscript must reflect the work of a single author and be submitted during the competition year in which it was submitted for the degree.

Doctoral Dissertation:

First Place: \$3,000 one-time award

Second Place: \$1,500 one-time award

Masters Thesis:

First Place: \$3,000 one-time award

Second Place: \$1,500 one-time award

Deadline: October 1 Annually



Partnership for Safe Water  
Be a Part of It!

<http://www.awwa.org/science/partnership/>

**AUGUST 2005  
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**2005 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE****OFFICERS:**

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

**Edward Tadlock - Vice-President**  
Galveston County WCID No. 1;  
281-337-7529

**Jason M. Nelson, P.E. - Secretary**  
Turner, Collie & Braden  
713-267-3257

**Jessie Li, Ph.D., P.E. – Treasurer**  
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.  
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**Scholarship – Jerry Woodward, P.E.**  
Independent Consultant  
281-899-1263

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

**CORPORATE SPONSORSHIP**

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](mailto:grabalais@pirnie.com). Checks are made payable to *SE Chapter of TAWWA*.



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/](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.