

**New England Water  
Environment Association**

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**AWARDS LUNCHEON PROGRAM**

**January 28, 2009**

**80th ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

**Marriott Copley Place Hotel  
Boston, Massachusetts**

**AWARDS Luncheon**

# NEW ENGLAND WATER ENVIRONMENT ASSOCIATION

## *2008 Executive Committee*

President	<i>Robert Cutone</i>
President-Elect	<i>Erin Mosley</i>
Vice President	<i>Howard Carter</i>
Past President	<i>Arnold T. Bevins</i>
Treasurer	<i>Katherine M. Mello</i>
Publications Director	<i>Susan K. Landon</i>
Meeting Management Director	<i>Daniel P. Bisson</i>
WEF Delegate	<i>Steven D. Freedman</i> <i>Charles W. Tyler</i> <i>Robert O. Button</i> <i>Sean Osborne</i> <i>Jeanette Brown (Delegate at-large)</i> <i>John Hart (Delegate at-large)</i>
Secretary	<i>Deborah Mahoney</i>
PWO Representative	<i>Paul Dombrowski</i>
State Directors	<i>Peter Grose – Connecticut</i> <i>Bradley L. Moore – Maine</i> <i>Joseph Witts – Massachusetts</i> <i>George C. Neill – New Hampshire</i> <i>Paul W. Desrosiers – Rhode Island</i> <i>Edward Savage – Vermont</i>

## *Conference Planners*

Meeting Management Director	<i>Daniel P. Bisson</i>
Conference Arrangements	<i>Ronald Tiberi</i>
Exhibits	<i>Jason Waterbury</i>
Program	<i>Roger Janson</i>
Registration	<i>W. Dana Green</i>
Awards	<i>Douglas Lee Miller and Norton True</i>
Sponsor	<i>George Harrington</i>
Guest Program	<i>Joy Lord</i>

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

*Elizabeth A. Cutone*  
NEWEA Staff  
*Janice E. Moran*  
*Linda M. Austin*

**AGENDA**  
**AWARDS LUNCHEON**  
**January 28, 2009**

**OPENING**

Welcome

Robert Cutone, NEWEA President

**LUNCH  
PROGRAM**

**EPA AWARDS**

Roger Janson, Chief  
Municipal NPDES Permits Branch, Office of Ecosystem Protection  
US EPA Region 1

Robert Cutone

**NEWEA AWARDS**

**Recognitions**

Stockholm Junior Water Prize  
NEWEA Scholarships

**Awards**

NEWEA Operator  
Alfred E. Peloquin  
Operator Safety  
Public Educator  
James J. Courchaine Collection System  
Founders  
E. Sherman Chase  
Clair N. Sawyer  
Wastewater Utility  
Asset Management  
Past President's Plaque and Pin

**WEF AWARDS**

Charles Tyler, WEF Delegate

**Recognitions**

2008 WEF Operations Challenge Competition  
MA Safety  
Public Education  
Public Officials

**Awards**

WEF Service  
George W. Burke, Jr.  
Laboratory Analyst Excellence  
William D. Hatfield  
Arthur Sidney Bedell

**CLOSING REMARKS AND PASSING  
OF THE GAVEL**

Robert Cutone

**ADJOURNMENT**

Erin Mosley, 2009 NEWEA President

**US ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION I - NEW ENGLAND AWARDS**

**2008 EPA - New England Regional O&M Excellence Award  
Recipients**

**MCI-NORFOLK, MASSACHUSETTS WASTEWATER  
TREATMENT PLANT**

represented by  
Michael Delaney, Chief Operator, and Michael Quick,  
Resource Department Manager

**PITTSFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS WASTEWATER  
TREATMENT PLANT**

represented by  
Thomas Landry, Superintendent, and Bruce Collingwood, DPW Commissioner

**HENNIKER, NEW HAMPSHIRE WASTEWATER  
TREATMENT PLANT**

represented by  
Kenneth Levesque, Superintendent,  
Mary Dowse, Chief Operator, and Michael Colby, Operator

**WARWICK, RHODE ISLAND WASTEWATER  
TREATMENT PLANT**

represented by  
Joel Burke, Superintendent, Gwinlin Cox, Lead Operator, and Janine Burke,  
Executive Director, Warwick Sewer Authority

**2008 Regional Wastewater On-Site Technical Assistance  
Provider Award**

**ALEXANDRE PINTO AND MATTHEW PUGLIA**

Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management

**2008 Regional Wastewater Operator Training and  
Certification Provider Award**

**BILL PATENAUE**

Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management

**2008 Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator Award**

**ARTHUR SEABURY**

Kent, Connecticut Water Pollution Control Authority

**2008 EPA National Clean Water Act Excellence Awards**

**1st Place National Award - Most Improved Plant Category**

**BRISTOL, NEW HAMPSHIRE WASTEWATER  
TREATMENT PLANT**

represented by

Paul Weston, Town Manager; Jeffrey Chartier, Superintendent;  
Jesse Lamos, Chief Wastewater Operator; Joseph Sarto, Chief Water Systems Operator;  
Joel Furmanick, Assistant Wastewater Operator; Juanita Gilman, Office Manager; and  
Burton Williams, Former Chair, Water and Sewer Commission

**NHDES - WASTEWATER ENGINEERING  
BUREAU - OPERATIONS SECTION**

(State On-site Technical Assistance Provider)

represented by

George Neill, Manager, Operations Section, and Wesley Ripple

EPA would like to thank the New England Interstate Water Pollution Control Commission for its continued sponsorship and the New England Water Environment Association for its support.

# NEW ENGLAND WATER ENVIRONMENT ASSOCIATION

## Recognition of Meritorious Achievements

### Stockholm Junior Water Prize

State Winners

(Award given at the SJWP National Competition in June 2008)

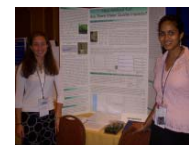


The Stockholm Junior Water Prize (SJWP) annual competition drew eight entries from four New England States. The NEWEA and Public Education Committee would like to recognize the SJWP New England Team in recognition for the outstanding science projects in water quality and environmental protection and have selected the following to receive State awards.

This year's State winners and their projects are:

**Courtney Fogell and Likhitha Aidunuthula**, Greenwich, CT, Greenwich High School

Project Title: "New Artificial Turf: Are there Water Quality Indicators?"



**William Clerx**, Seekonk MA, Bishop Feehan High School

Project Title: "Do Modern Chemical and Hydrological Processes Reduce DBP's and Improve Drinking Water Quality?"



**Carin King**, Waterville ME, Waterville Senior High School

Project Title: "Determination of Arsenic in Natural Waters Using Surface Plasmon Resonance: a Low Cost Analytical Tool for Arsenic Screening"



**Jeanette Wat**, Exeter NH, Phillips Exeter Academy

Project Title: "Biomarkers: Monitoring Chemical Pollution in Water"



**Hannah Kay**, South Burlington, VT, South Burlington High School

Project Title: "The Effects of Acid Rain"



**Alexander Grecco**, East Greenwich, RI, Bishop Hendricken High School

Project Title: "Solar Desalination"



Special thanks to the six Affiliated State Associations for sponsorship of this program.

## **NEWEA 2008 Scholarship Winners**

### **Graduate Student Scholarship - \$1,000**

#### **ROSS SINGER**

University of Rhode Island  
Providence, Rhode Island



Ross Singer

### **Undergraduate Student Scholarship - \$1,000**

#### **RYAN MAHONEY**

Northeastern University  
Woburn, Massachusetts

## **Awards**

### **Operator Award**

The **NEWEA Operator Award** is given annually to a person involved in the operations of wastewater treatment facilities in each of the six New England states. The purpose of the award is to recognize an individual whose personal service has contributed to excellence in plant operations either directly at a treatment plant or indirectly through service to plant operations personnel.

The award is also intended to be presented at each Affiliated State Association's Annual Meeting by an officer of the New England Water Environment Association.

NEWEA is pleased to present the Operator Award to:

#### **DENNIS DIEVERT**

Cheshire Water Pollution Control Department  
Cheshire, Connecticut



Dennis Dievert

Dennis became the Superintendent of the Cheshire Water Pollution Control Department in the fall of 2004. This was a very active period for the Cheshire Water Pollution Control Department. Construction work was underway on the Mountain Road Pump Station replacement and more significantly, the \$7.4 million denitrification facilities upgrade at the treatment plant was entering the construction phase. This involved the addition of a biological anoxic filter (BAF) with a methanol storage and feed system, the second BAF in New England and the first separate stage add-on denitrifying BAF in

the United States. Dennis quickly climbed the learning curve about the existing plant facilities, the town's staff and procedures, the wastewater collection system, and the Water Pollution Control Authority, and was faced with learning a new treatment process. Under his direction, the Cheshire denitrification facilities continue to operate well, often discharging total nitrogen concentrations of 2.0 mg/l or less. The success of the project was recently recognized with the publication of a technical paper that Dennis co-authored as the cover story in the May 2008 issue of Water Environment & Technology.

Prior to coming to Cheshire, Dennis was the Process Control Supervisor for the Greenwich Grass Island WWTP where he was involved in the startup and operation of a plant upgrade that provided denitrification using the MLE process. He has 16 years experience in municipal wastewater treatment and 10 years experience in industrial wastewater treatment. He is a Class 4 certified Connecticut operator, receiving his certification in 1995.

In addition to his outstanding work in Cheshire, Dennis is active in the Connecticut Water Pollution Abatement Association, and is serving a second term as one of twelve members of the DEP Wastewater Operators Certification Advisory Committee (CAC).

## **MARK SOUCY**

Town of Fort Kent  
Fort Kent, Maine

Mark Soucy is the superintendent of the Water and Wastewater Departments in Fort Kent, Maine. Mark faced a formidable situation in the Spring of 2008. Northern Maine received record snow falls during the Winter of 2007-2008 and the potential flooding was a concern. Fort Kent and areas of northern Maine withstood flooding of historical proportions in May 2008. His preparation beforehand, hard work during and persistence and thorough follow through after the event are a credit to our profession. Mark's supervision resulted in minimizing the environmental impacts in Fort Kent and the St. John River.

Even with the phenomenal recovery effort aside, Mark is an exceptionally conscientious operator. His compliance record is excellent and his day-to-day operations and maintenance of both utilities is top notch.



Mark Soucy

## **ANTHONY OLIVADESA**

City of Taunton  
Taunton, Massachusetts

Anthony Olivadesa has been involved in wastewater treatment plant operations for more than twenty years. His experience has been in operations, maintenance and management of wastewater treatment facilities. He has extensive experience in the areas of plant process control and industrial pretreatment as well as effective supervision of plant personnel, staff development and team building.



Anthony Olivadesa

## **DAVID GREEN**

City of Rochester  
Rochester, New Hampshire

David has been with the city for 25 years and has worked his way up through the ranks to chief operator of the WWTF. Starting out with the water department and then joining the wastewater crew, over the next 10 years he obtained valuable experience in operations, process control, laboratory, and industrial pre-treatment. He also obtained a NHDES Wastewater Operator 4 certification as well as a grade 2 Water Treatment license. He has also received the NEWEA Grade 4 Collection Systems certificate along with a Grade 2 Laboratory Analyst certificate. Dave continues to search out ways to better both the plant and personnel and encourages operator education. He has always been willing to share his knowledge with other staff and they respect him for his willingness to jump in and get his hands dirty. He is the "go-to" guy for any problem or emergency. In 2000, he oversaw the \$18M WWTF upgrade from lagoons to tertiary activated sludge treatment.

Recently, he has worked closely with NHDES to install a pilot program to utilize solar driven mechanical mixers in the E.Q. basins and other internal energy audit operations modifications. The results have been a \$200,000/year savings in electrical costs.

## **GWINLIN COX JR.**

Warwick Sewer Authority  
Warwick, Rhode Island

Gwin Cox is the lead operator at the Warwick Sewer Authority (WSA)'s 7.7 mgd wastewater treatment facility which includes 250 miles of collection system and 45 pump stations. After only 4 years on the job, he rose to lead operator by combining hard work and common sense to make daily contributions to the successful operation and be on call 24/7. He has taken charge of the plant's BNR biological process control constantly "tweaking" the operations to balance permit compliance with O&M costs, while interacting with the laboratory technicians in implementing modifications to the biological process.. The facilities BNR exceeds permit requirements year round.



Gwinlin Cox Jr.

Gwin is actively involved in the plant's safety committee, keeping an eye out for safety related issues and advocating personal safety for fellow operators. As a result, the plant has seen a significant reduction in on-job injuries.

As an active member of NWPCA, he is a strong advocate for the profession, and participates in RIDEM's Superintendent Boot Camp. His demonstrated hard work, leadership and potential for the future are highly recognized by the WSA.

## **JAMES BRIMBLECOMBE**

Town of St. Johnsbury  
St. Johnsbury, Vermont

Jim is actually Chief Operator for three Vermont towns -- St. Johnsbury, Cabot and Marshfield WWTF's. As such, he is in unique position to make many contributions to the wastewater fielding Vermont. He is always looking for ways to improve operations, enhance effluent quality and save money for the towns he works for, but is also been providing his abilities to the towns of Barton, Danville and Lyndon on their WWTFs. Jim has spent the majority of his career in the trenches, laboring to make a difference, and always ready to lend assistance to operators in whatever town they work.



James Brimblecombe

His accomplishments include: upgrading the Marshfield facility aeration system to bring the facility into compliance; progressively working with Efficiency Vermont to install VFD projects for Cabot and St. Johnsbury; establishing a central training and lab-drop facility in St. Johnsbury; managing a successful biosolids land application program for facilities throughout the Northeast Kingdom; and maintaining a "Star Site" Voluntary Protection Program (VPP) recognizing a safe work place, a first in Vermont and one of the first in the nation.

## **Alfred E. Peloquin Award**

Established in 1991 as the NEWEA Operations Award, this award was renamed the **Alfred E. Peloquin Award** in 1992. The award is given annually to an individual from each of the six New England states who has shown a high level of interest and performance in wastewater operations and who has made a significant contribution to the wastewater field in such areas as improvements to the environment, cost-effective plant operations, public relations, innovative process control, industrial pretreatment, training, Association contributions, and related activities. The award is named in honor of NEWEA's former Executive Director in recognition of his initiatives in training programs for wastewater treatment and his many years of dedicated service to the New England Water Environment Association.

The award is also intended to be presented at each Affiliated State Association's Annual Meeting by an officer of the New England Water Environment Association.

NEWEA is pleased to present the Alfred E. Peloquin Award to:

### **MICHAEL EMOND**

Town of Manchester WPCP  
Manchester, Connecticut

Mike Emond has been the Superintendent of the Manchester Connecticut Water Pollution Control Facility since 2000, when he moved from his home state of Vermont where he worked at the Springfield wastewater facility. Mike has been working diligently with his assistant Ray Weaver and plant staff to operate an aging and deteriorating facility with limited operational flexibility and failing equipment. Under his direction, various innovative operational and equipment use scenarios have been implemented, resulting in exceptional effluent quality when considering the facility's extensive limitations. Mike has also been actively working with his director, Ed Soper, to present the case to the Town of Manchester that the improvements needed at the facility to ensure reliable performance are justified, as well as necessary to achieve strict discharge standards for nitrogen and phosphorous.

Mike is well known as an expert fly fisherman, and his commitment to wastewater treatment and understanding of the benefits is a personal and direct issue to him. He also brings this commitment to his other part-time job as a Technical Advisor for the wastewater treatment facility at a major Connecticut industrial facility, which had a history of non-compliance issues.

Mike is also an active member of the Connecticut Operators Certification Advisory Committee, the NEWEA Operations Committee, as well as being the leader of a youth group through his church.

## **JEFFREY MCBURNIE**

Soil Preparation, Inc.  
Plymouth, Maine



Jeffrey McBurnie

Since 2006, Jeff McBurnie has been the general manager for Soil Preparation, Inc., a biosolids processing facility in Plymouth, ME. Jeff was one of the original designers of the Soil Prep facility and also helped design two other biosolids processing facilities in Maine. He was hired in 2002 as Soil Prep's Technical Services/Compliance Manager. While employed by the University of Maine's Bio-Resource Engineering Department, Jeff developed and delivered a course on Compost Engineering for students in the College of Engineering.

Jeff has been a member of the Maine Waste Water Control Association since 1999 and has served on the Residuals Management Committee since 2002 (Vice-Chair, 2004-2006; Chair, 2007-Present) and the MWWCA Executive Committee (2007-Present). Through his association with the Maine Rural Water Association and the Atlantic States Rural Water and Wastewater Association, Jeff has also provided training in Maine, Rhode Island and Connecticut for wastewater operators seeking licensure or grade advancement.

## **MICHAEL BURKE**

Holyoke WWTP  
Holyoke, Massachusetts

Mike started his career in the wastewater field as an operator for the Palmer WWTF and is currently Assistant Manager for United Water at their Holyoke plant. He has seen both plants go through major upgrades and participated actively in these upgrades. Mike has worked tirelessly for the Massachusetts Water Pollution Control Association as President, Past President and Board of Directors member for many years. He was NEWEA State Director for the last 3 years. Mike has devoted great amounts of his time to the Operations Challenge program both on the Operations Challenge Committee, as Coach, and a Judge.



Michael Burke

## **SEAN GREIG**

Town of Newmarket WWTF  
Newmarket, New Hampshire

Sean is known to most of us as the New Hampshire Operations Challenge Team "Motivator" and he has certainly been that over the last 8 years. He has motivated, and then as Captain, lead two New Hampshire Operations Challenge teams to impressive New England and National Challenge wins, including 1st Place Division II trophies, and a National First Place Division II Championship in 2004.

But Sean is much more than a Challenge Team GURU. His 14-year career in wastewater operations has culminated in his current position as Assistant Public Works Director. He is New Hampshire Grade Certified in Wastewater Operations, Collection Systems, Water Distribution and Laboratory Analysis. He applies his years of experience plus his hands-on approach to addressing and resolving equipment repair/replacement activities and solving problems to remain within his yearly operating budget. He has implemented numerous modifications to the WWTF and pump stations, and has restructured the Wastewater Department, to save Newmarket thousands in annual operating costs.

He is a past Director of NHWPCA and was also active in the Scholarship Committee liaison with area schools.

## **DENNIS COLBERG**

Quonset Point WWTF  
North Kingstown, Rhode Island

Dennis has been involved in the Rhode Island wastewater industry for over 28 years and has been plant Superintendent of the Quonset Point facility for the past 14 years. Through his leadership, the WWTF has undergone several upgrades and he is personally responsible for many of the upgrade and energy improvements through more efficient equipment such as the replacement of influent screw pumps to high efficiency submersibles resulting in significant energy savings.

Dennis is best recognized by his peers through his dedicated volunteer service to the Narragansett Water Pollution Control Association (NWPCA), logging in new milestones in membership growth, sponsorship of operator training days, assisting with the annual clam bakes and trade shows, writing the operator profile for the trade journal, serving on the Executive Board, and now as Vice President. As a result of his efforts in improving the Association to better assist its members, he was awarded the James Marvelle Award in 2007.



Dennis Colberg

## **STEVEN CROSBY**

City of South Burlington WWTF  
South Burlington, Vermont

Steve is currently Superintendent of the Water Quality Department for the city, in responsible charge of two wastewater treatment facilities and 30 pump stations. One of those WWTFs is about to undergo a \$25M upgrade and expansion. The other is a recent EPA National OHM Excellence Award winner. Prior to the Superintendent position, Steve was laboratory manager, in charge of all laboratory and process control operations including staff training and environmental testing of City beaches, streams and stormwater analysis. He has worked with several environmental groups in the Burlington area providing water quality training in sampling and analysis. He has also been active in mentoring area high school students participating in the Stockholm Junior Water Prize competition.



Steven Crosby

Steve was a member and then coach of the Vermont Operations Challenge teams, during which period of several years, the teams won 10 New England first place titles and a second place National title.

He has been an active member of WEF, NEWEA and the GMWEA for many years, serving as secretary and director, and will be President of GMWEA in 2012. He is a member of the WEF Quarter Century Operators Club and the recipient of the GMWEA Fish Laboratory Excellence Award.

## **Operator Safety Award**

Established in 1995, the NEWEA Operator Safety Award is presented, based on the Safety Committee's recommendation, to an operations employee from New England who has shown outstanding safety initiative, and who has worked to promote a high consciousness of safety in the workplace.

This year's NEWEA Safety Award winner is:

## **MARIE SABO**

Stamford Water Pollution Control Authority  
Stamford, Connecticut

Marie, the plant Laboratory Director, has written numerous safety procedures and policies for the 24 employees at the WPCA. She conducts surveys and safety training. She monitors and updates the equipment and personal protective equipment (PPE) for all of the employees at the plant. Injuries have been reduced by 81% in her first year as the voluntary Site Safety Officer. Marie has been recommended for this award by the City's Safety Officer, Paul Cundiff.

## Public Educator Award

The **NEWEA Public Educator Award** was established in 1989 to acknowledge those in New England who warrant merit for their contributions and service to the public education goals of the Association. This award is extended to an individual or group who has helped NEWEA achieve its objective of promoting clean water and increasing public awareness of and action in water pollution control.

This year's award is presented to:

### **JEFFREY KALMES**

Billerica, MA

Every March for the past 14 years, Jeff Kalmes, Laboratory Technician at the Billerica Wastewater Treatment Plant, begins a task that will occupy him for many hours in the next two months. During this time, Jeff visits almost 100 classrooms in the town, teaching third, fourth, and fifth graders about water. He has developed a 4-year curriculum



Jeffrey Kalmes

that covers the water cycle, operation of the water plant and wastewater plant, stormwater, and water conservation. Jeff carries with him a poster of the Merrimack River showing all the water plant intakes and wastewater plant outfalls, thus creating a powerful message to the students to know the water they are drinking was cleaned by a wastewater plant upstream. He follows up with his classroom visits by arranging tours of water and wastewater plants for some of the interested students. Last year, Jeff added a new dimension to his public outreach, when he hosted the local cable T.V. station for a tour of the Billerica WWTP, thus making the program accessible to the adult residents as well. Jeff was instrumental in bringing to Massachusetts schools, and also promotes while visiting each classroom, the Clean Water Poster Contest sponsored by the Massachusetts Water Pollution Control Association. He actively seeks out Billerica students for that contest and they have been winners four out of the last five years.

Jeffrey Kalmes brings his energy, enthusiasm and commitment to the preservation of water resources, not only to his official job as laboratory technician, but also to his volunteer work teaching all the citizens of the Town, especially it's youngest.

## James J. Courchaine Collection Systems Award

The Collection Systems Award was established in 1995 and named the James J. Courchaine Collection Systems Award in 1996. The award honors NEWEA member James Courchaine for his many contributions to the collection systems field. The award is extended to a NEWEA member to recognize his/her outstanding efforts in the operations, maintenance, management, or design of a wastewater collections system.

NEWEA is pleased to present the James J. Courchaine Collections Systems Award to:

### **RICHARD PEREZ**

Hoyle, Tanner & Associates  
Burlington, Vermont

There is no question that Dick exemplifies the qualities and characteristics of this Award. For most of his 34-year career, Dick has been involved in wastewater system work -- but not just involved -- tackling collection system issues is "in his blood". To



Richard Perez

quote the founder of this award: "Dick is always teaching, coaching, mentoring in some capacity because it's the right thing to do!" Even in his early years, out of Memphis, Tennessee, he was in the forefront of development of new technologies used for the construction of wastewater collection systems. In 1978 he founded Vermont Pipeline Services (VPS) (an HTA subsidiary), which soon brought Dick and his talents the reputation of one of the northeast's premiere sewer service contractors. In 1983, Dick helped develop the vacuum tester for acceptance of newly constructed and rehabilitated manholes. As trenchless rehabilitation became a reality, VPS became the first company in New

England to successfully pioneer many new sewer rehabilitation services.

His credentials in the collection systems industry are unequalled. He holds certifications in Collections Systems Facility Operator Grade IV, and is a NASSCO master trainer for Pipeline Assessment and Certification Program (PACP) and Manhole Assessment and Certification Program (MACP).

Dick continues to make contributions to the industry and the Associations that support it. He is assistant event coordinator for Collection Systems at WEFTEC Operations Challenge, Operations Challenge Committee chair for NEWEA, and board member and chair of Collection Systems committee for the GMWEA. Dick's most rewarding recent endeavor is the coordination of field training facilities of the Northern New England Training Center at Vermont Technical College where hands-on demonstrations and training are held. He is a driving force of the success of that program, and is a regular trainer, and presenter at the Center.

Today, after rejoining his long time friend and colleague Nelson Thibault at Hoyle Tanner & Associates, Dick is the collection system "consultant of consultants", helping all who ask him for his advice and the benefit of his experience.

## Founders Award

In 1928, 12 renowned engineers from the New England area met to establish a professional organization dedicated to the “exchange of knowledge” for the treatment of sewage and industrial wastewater. They envisioned the need to maintain a forum for free discussion and exchange of state-of-the-art information. In honor of these founding engineers and their vision for the present organization, which we now call the “New England Water Environment Association,” the Executive Committee established the Founders Award. It is given as considered appropriate by the Executive Committee in recognition of long-term contributions to NEWEA, dedicated service to the industry in any facet of water pollution control, notable achievements or accomplishments in the environmental field, or recognition to a renowned individual or individuals.

This year’s Founders award is presented to:

### **NED BEECHER**

North East Biosolids and Residuals Association  
Tamworth, New Hampshire

For the past 10 years, Ned Beecher, Executive Director of NEBRA, has been a driving force in improving public perception of biosolids use for the wastewater industry. Through his research, workshops, and direct involvement with programs in need of assistance, Ned has brought people together and acted as an authoritative resource for wastewater professionals. His skills as a lobbyist, combined with his organizing efforts and scientific research, has been a driving force in enabling legislation that has fostered the safe and effective recycling of biosolids and other residuals in many New England states.

In association with NEWEA, he has been instrumental in the organization, planning and implementation of the annual Biosolids Conference. NEWEA would like to recognize Ned's exceptional contribution and dedicated service to the wastewater industry.



Ned Beecher

## **E. Sherman Chase Award**

The E. Sherman Chase Award was established in 1960 to recognize members engaged in the operations of municipal and/or industrial wastewater treatment works, and demonstrating notable or meritorious achievements in, but not limited to: equipment or process, public relations, management, operations and maintenance, economics, and contributions of information useful to the profession. The award honors E. Sherman Chase, an outstanding professional engineer and pioneer treatment plant operator.

NEWEA is pleased to present the E. Sherman Chase Award to:

### **CARL HENDRICKSON**

CDM

Chelmsford, Massachusetts

Through a lot of hard work and determination, Carl has initiated corporate and facility changes that provide a platform for others to more easily become successful in the application of his or her job. His vision and the application of that vision goes beyond the scope of himself, into his employees and the success of his facility (already an Award winner), but much more, in that it benefits those on the periphery of wastewater treatment -- the local governing bodies, the rate payers, and all those "down-stream" of the process. A good example of this is Carl's vision of a need in New England to organize and disseminate information to managers, superintendents, and collection system managers on a variety of subjects. Carl brought these subjects to NEWEA, then headed up an ad-hoc committee to refine and address current issues and goals. This committee was immediately successful and has become a standing committee -- the Utility Management Committee.

Through Carl's hard work and dedication, he has taken his vision and turned it into a reality that has enabled many in the wastewater field to draw their own success from.

## Clair N. Sawyer Award

The **Clair N. Sawyer Award** was established in 1976 to honor those who have given truly outstanding services to the Association. The award is named for Dr. Clair N. Sawyer, who served New England, the nation and the world as a professor, consultant, and technical author, and who pioneered many innovative concepts in wastewater treatment technology.

NEWEA is pleased to present the Clair N. Sawyer Award to:

### **MICHAEL BISI**

Town of Glastonbury  
Glastonbury, Connecticut



Michael Bisi

Mike has been involved in water pollution control efforts in the Town of Glastonbury, CT for the past 35 years. He is now the Superintendent of Sanitation for the town. Mike has been active in the Connecticut Water Pollution Abatement Association since 1975 and has served in many official positions chairing committees and on the Board of Directors including President of the Association. He has been active in NEWEA as the State Director from Connecticut (twice), Professional Wastewater Operator's Division Director, co-chair of the Safety Committee and participated in many other NEWEA committees and assignments. He is also the past recipient of the William D. Hatfield Award in 1993 and the Operator Award in 1985.

## **Wastewater Utility Award**

Established in 2006 by the Executive Committee and recommended by the Utility Management Committee, it is awarded to a New England wastewater utility or utilities division in recognition of outstanding performance and management based on a 17-point nomination criteria.

NEWEA is pleased to present the Utility Award to:

### **CITY OF SOUTH BURLINGTON**

South Burlington, Vermont

Represented by: Chuck Haftner, City Manager

The City of South Burlington has the highest number of streams impaired by stormwater runoff in Vermont. The city took a leadership role to address these challenges by establishing the first stormwater utility in the state which has since been cleaning streams and improving water quality. The South Burlington Stormwater Utility has exhibited outstanding performance in many ways: managing 54 miles of pipeline, 4,300 stormwater structures, utilizing appropriate cutting-edge technologies (GPS, GIS, digital camera trucks), implementing professional management tools for budgeting and maintenance management, and ensuring that staff is well trained and supported. The processes, the people involved, and the customer satisfaction explain why they have been previously awarded the EPA Merit Award and this year's Utility Award.

## **Asset Management Award**

Established in 2007 by the Executive Committee and recommended by the Asset Management Committee, it is awarded to a New England agency, organization or an individual within an agency who demonstrates initiative and leadership in the area of asset management.

NEWEA is pleased to present the Asset Management Award to:

### **CHRISTOPHER CROVO**

Portland Water District

Portland, Maine

Chris Crovo has led the effort to incorporate asset management principles and ideas into the daily goals and objectives of the Portland Water District (PWD). Chris championed the idea of a Technology Steering Committee (TSC) to address the need for oversight and direction for the Asset Register Initiative. He has emphasized several underlying principles to help guide the move toward a higher level of asset manage-



Christopher Crovo

ment. The PWD is now able to support the asset management effort to the high level it does because of the alignment between the existing corporate goals and the asset management outcomes achieved. The asset management efforts supported have widespread applicability throughout the PWD and support improved asset knowledge and decision-making for a wide range of users.

Chris is an enthusiastic supporter of building a broader understanding of Asset Management in the Water/Wastewater industry. He encouraged efforts to have PWD host the US EPA's two-day Asset Management workshop and invited other area utilities to participate. More than 40 district employees attended the workshop and several water utilities and consultants also sent staff. Chris has supported common asset management training and implementation opportunities at the Southern Maine Regional Water Council (an organization of seven southern Maine water utilities including PWD). Chris enjoys having staff "share the message" of PWD's experiences with other utilities and stakeholders. The PWD staff have made presentations to water and wastewater conferences, visited other utilities to provide thoughts on their efforts and hosted small discussion sessions about what has and has not worked for the PWD.

## **Past President's Plaque**

The Past President's Plaque and pin are presented to the immediate Past President in appreciation of demonstrated leadership, contributions, and dedicated services to the Association.

NEWEA is pleased to present the Past President's Plaque and pin to:

### **ARNOLD BEVINS**

Vernon Water Pollution Control Facility  
Vernon, Connecticut



Arnold Bevins

## **Water Environment Federation Awards**

### **Recognition of Meritorious Achievements**

(Awards presented at WEFTEC 2008 in Chicago, Illinois)

### **2008 Operations Challenge Competition**

#### **Process Control Event - Division 1 -- Second Place**

WEF is pleased to present:

### **SEACOAST SEWER SNAKES**

New Hampshire

Paula Anania, City of Portsmouth  
Mike Carle, Town of Hampton  
Sean Greig, Town of Newmarket  
Ed Rushbrook, Underwood Engineers  
Paul Fritz, City of Portsmouth  
Dave Lovely, City of Rochester



New Hampshire

### **WEF Member Association Safety Award**

Recognize Member Association programs that stimulate safety awareness and practices and that encourage the collection of injury statistics on a national basis.

WEF is proud to present the Member Association Safety award to:

### **New England Water Environment Association**

Represented by:

James Skrabak (CDM), NEWEA Safety Committee Chair

Leonard Young (MWRA), NEWEA Safety Committee Vice Chair



James Skrabak and  
Leonard Young

## **Public Education Award** - Individual Category

The WEF Public Education Awards recognize WEF members for significant accomplishments in promoting awareness and understanding of water environment issues among the general public, through the development of and implementation of public education programs.

WEF is pleased to present the Public Education award to:

### **ISABEL TOURKANTONIS**

CDM  
Cambridge, Massachusetts

Isabel is one of the most energetic, hardest working members of NEWEA and has served as chair of the very successful Public Education Committee (PEC). Under her leadership, this committee achieved new heights in public education for the New England region. The list of new programs, not just undertaken, but successfully carried out by the committee under Isabel's direction is almost too long to fit on the page. Here are some highlights:

- Establishment of a Careers Outreach Taskforce.
- Extremely successful Environmental Careers Day Workshop - March 2007.
- Development of "Drinking Water and Wastewater Treatment Industries - Career Opportunities Reference Guide"
- First NEWEA Family Night and Big Brother/Big Sister Night with "Mr. & Mrs. Fish" - January 2008.
- Expansion of the Stockholm Junior Water Prize competition throughout N.E.
- Education Session and Tour of local WWTF during joint NEWEA/NYWEA Meeting - June 2006
- Highly attended technical session at National Science Teachers Association Annual Conference - October 2005



Isabel Tourkantonis

All the while Isabel is finding time to do her excellent volunteer work for NEWEA, she is a full time Project Manager and Environmental Scientist for CDM in Cambridge, MA.

Isabel has performed above and beyond the call of duty for NEWEA. She has sustained a high level of achievement as Chair of the PEC by expanding education and communications about NEWEA and its mission. With her inherent humility, warmth and consideration, she will always point to others as being the reason for her committee's success. Her contribution of time and energy, her dedication to making NEWEA a better association, and her energizing optimism only accentuate her outstanding achievements!

## Public Officials Award

The Public Officials Award is presented to an elected or appointed public official that has made a documented, significant contribution in the areas of clean water legislation, public policy, government service, or another area of public prominence that resulted in improvements to the water environment. The award can be presented for public service at the local, state or federal level.

WEF is pleased to present the Public Officials award to:

### **HON. THOMAS M. MENINO**

Mayor, City of Boston



Mayor Thomas Menino

For his significant contribution to the areas of clean water legislation, public policy and government service as Mayor of the City of Boston

Mayor Menino is serving his fourth term as mayor of the City of Boston, winning his historic fourth election with 68% of the vote. Why is he so popular? Partially because of his long standing record on the environment, his leadership of the Boston Harbor clean-up and other notable environmental milestones! Mayor Menino's reputation for getting the job done has extended deep under the streets of Boston.

During his more than 25 years as an elected official, Mayor Menino has demonstrated his Environmental Stewardship for the city with the following accomplishments:

- Leadership for extensive BWSC and MWRA planning and investments in the City's aging water and sewer infrastructure - investments that protect the environment, support sustainable economic development and draw people back to Boston Harbor. The Boston Harbor cleanup is now widely considered one of the most successful environmental restoration initiatives in our country's history.
- Establishing Groundwater Conservation Zoning that protects groundwater levels in historic neighborhoods and reduces inflow into sewer infrastructure.
- Proposing that EPA designate Boston Harbor a "No Discharge Area (NDA), becoming the largest city with NDA designation on the East Coast.
- Creating a new urban forestry initiative called "Grow Boston Greener," which will plant 100,000 new trees by 2020 and increase the city's tree canopy 20%.

- Issuing a sweeping Executive Order relative to Climate Action to solidify the city's national leadership role in sustainability including aggressive green house gas reduction goals.
- Implementing the first in the nation Green Building Zoning, requiring large development projects to meet the U.S. Green Building Council's LEED standards at a "certifiable" level.
- Supporting the creation of the Boston Harbor Islands National Recreation Areas, including the rehabilitation of the 121-acre Spectacle Island, a former landfill, at the entrance to Boston Harbor.

In addition to the Mayor's leadership with environmental policy issues, he has been a strong supporter of NEWEA activities including; Keynote Speaker for the 1998 and 2009 Annual Conferences; and supporting the participation of Boston Public School children in the annual Award Winning Mr. & Mrs. Fish Program of water environment education.

## **AWARDS**

### **WEF Service Award**

In recognition of outstanding service to the Water Environment Federation.

WEF is pleased to present the Federation Service award to:

### **WEF Retiring House of Delegates:**

#### **STEVEN FREEDMAN**

Brown and Caldwell  
Portland, Maine



Steven Freedman

## George W. Burke, Jr. Award

The George W. Burke, Jr. Award was established in 1982 in honor of George W. Burke, Jr. for his many years of service both to the water pollution control field and to the Federation as Manager of Technical Services. Mr. Burke was instrumental in developing the Federation's annual safety survey and assisting in the production of several safety training aids and promotional packets. The purpose of the award is to encourage an active and effective safety program in municipal or industrial wastewater facilities, and to stimulate the collection and reporting of injury data. The documented and illustrated safety program and safety record of the facility for the preceding year are the primary criteria for the award.

WEF is pleased to present the George W. Burke, Jr. Award to the:

### **CITY OF SACO WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT**

Saco, Maine

Represented by:

Michael Bolduc, Director, Department of Public Works



Howard Carter, Travis Peaslee,  
John Hart

Plant management and personnel have been shown to be very safety minded and forward thinking people. They have made a commitment at the Saco WWTP that they needed more than the typical safety plan. In just two years, they created an impressive plan that allows them to service their customers safely for years to come. Documentation of their safety activities is well prepared and there was ample evidence presented during the site visit that the program was enthusiastically implemented by site personnel and supported by site management

## Laboratory Analyst Excellence Award

The Laboratory Analyst Excellence Award was established by the WEF Board of Control in 1993 to recognize for outstanding performance, professionalism, and contribution to the water quality analysis profession.

WEF is pleased to present the Laboratory Analyst Excellence award to:

### **ANN MASTROIANNI**

Town of Barnstable  
Barnstable, Massachusetts



Ann Mastroianni

Ann has served in the Massachusetts Water Pollution Control Association where she has been recognized with the Laboratory Proficiency Award in 2006. She has also been helping NEWEA's Laboratory Practices Committee (LPC) by obtaining equipment and information that has allowed the LPC to support this year's Operations Challenge. Ann works with students from Cape Cod Community College in laboratory practice classes as well as provides water education sessions to elementary students. Ann has a BA in Biology/Chemistry, NEWEA Grade 2 Laboratory Analyst Certificate, and a Massachusetts Grade 4 Operator's Certification. Ann has written her plant laboratory's Standard Operating Procedures, Chemical Hygiene Plan, and updated the QA/QC manual.

## **William D. Hatfield Award**

The **William D. Hatfield Award** is given to operators of wastewater treatment plants who, through their outstanding performance and professionalism, deserve commendation. The Member Associations control the process of selection, but the Federation has set up a general system of criteria. These include a successful system of reports from the operator to his/her superiors that fulfill the informational requirements of his/her supervisors and provide the operator with a forum for suggestions or improvements. Consideration is also given to the financial acumen of the candidate and the use of a good public relations program. Finally, the nominee should have contributed to the dissemination of information concerning advancements in the field. The award was established in honor of Dr. William D. Hatfield's years of service as a treatment plant operator.

WEF is pleased to present the William D. Hatfield Award to:

**DAVID BILLIPS**  
City of Westfield  
Westfield, Massachusetts



David Billips

David is a chemical engineer who began his municipal career, for the City of Westfield Water and Sewer Department, in wastewater treatment operations in 1982. In 2003 he assumed the position of Superintendent of the newly created Water Resources Department when a significant wastewater plant upgrade was under construction. Through his leadership the new treatment facilities were brought online. Dave has raised the profile of the plant and its operators within the City, frequently lobbying the Mayor and City Council for the benefit of the Department and its work. He participates in public meetings, hearings and has been interviewed on local TV several times bringing the public information on water and wastewater infrastructure status in their area.

Dave's positive impact on the profession reaches beyond the City. He has authored several papers and presentations including the cover article for the New England Water Works Association Journal, December 2007 on the water system in Westfield; and in September 2004, he co-authored the Westfield River Fish Passage Study that was presented as a poster at the 2004 NEWEA Annual Conference.

## **Arthur Sidney Bedell Award**

The Arthur Sidney Bedell Award was established to acknowledge extraordinary personal service to a Member Association. General criteria may include organizational leadership, administrative services, membership activity, stimulation of technical functions, or similar participation. However, the Member Association has ultimate control over the selection criteria. The award is named for the second President of the Federation, who exemplified its purpose by his long devotion and service to the New York Sewage and Industrial Wastes Association, now the New York Water Environment Association.

WEF is pleased to present the Arthur Sidney Bedell Award to:

### **MICHAEL BONOMO**

ADS Environmental  
Monroe, Connecticut

Mike began his work with NEWEA as an Exhibitors Representative. His experience, enthusiasm and willingness to be a "giver more than a receiver" has helped him make his mark in the collection systems industry and in NEWEA. For the last three years, Mike has been a supporter of the growth of NEWEA as its membership chair, helping to pioneer new ways to reach the prospective students, young professionals, and utility members. He has been an active member of NEWEA's new planning retreats and has helped bring new ideas and improvements to the organization. Mike has been diligent in promoting NEWEA and has brought value to everything he has done.

**NEWEA thanks the following retiring officers and committee chairs for their dedicated service to the Association:**

*Office*

Past President  
WEF Delegate  
Vermont State Director  
Rhode Island State Director

*Officer*

Arnold Bevins  
Steven Freedman  
Edward Savage  
Paul Desrosiers

*Committee*

Awards  
Collection Systems Certification  
Finance  
Long Range Planning  
Manufacturers Representative  
Management Review  
Membership  
Nominating  
Program  
Residuals Management  
Review  
Safety  
Small Community Outreach  
Student Activities

*Chair*

Douglas Lee Miller  
Robert Kerry  
Erin Mosley  
Howard Carter  
Gary MacDonald  
Arnold Bevins  
Michael Bonomo  
Douglas Lee Miller  
Roger Janson  
Thomas Schwartz  
Phyllis Arnold Rand  
James Skrabak  
John Dold  
Frank Occhipinti

Special Thanks to the 2008 NEWEA Awards Committee for their selection of this year's Award recipients:

Douglas Lee Miller – Chair  
Norton True - Co-Chair  
Peter Grose, CT  
Joseph Witts, MA  
Bradley Moore, ME  
George Neill, NH  
Paul Desrosiers, RI

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