



2009-2010 ANNUAL REPORT

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PRESIDENT - Joe Foster

KWEA continues to strive to be the front-runner in the preservation and enhancement of the Kansas Water Environment through the education of its membership and the public.

Joint Conference

KWEA held the second Joint Conference with KsAWWA. In spite of the down turn in the economy, the conference was very successful and planning has already begun for the 2011 conference. The KWEA board members are looking forward to many more years of combining efforts with KsAWWA to put together an exceptional conference. More details about the success of the conference can be found in the President Elect's report below.

KWEA Committees

The committees are the backbone of the KWEA and they put in a lot of hard work in 2010. The Collection Committee was very active this year. They organized several training sessions focusing on infrastructure rehab. The Young Professionals Committee hosted several training and social events. Brian Spano accepted a nomination to KWEA Vice President. We have committee chair positions available, so if you are self motivated and a creative thinker, please consider joining our team.

Education

In March of 2010, KWEA hosted a workshop focused on Maintenance. Attendees had the opportunity to take the ABC Certification tests at the end of the workshop. This program has become very successful in the last few years because it allows wastewater professionals to demonstrate their competencies by taking the many tests offered by KWEA.

PRESIDENT-ELECT – Jeanette Klamm

The primary responsibility of the President-Elect is to chair the Program Committee for the Annual Conference. The second annual joint KWEA and KsAWWA conference was held in Topeka, Kansas at the Capitol Plaza Hotel from August 30 to September 2, 2009. Over 780 industry professionals attended the conference, which included great

information sessions, visiting with vendors, and participating in many networking opportunities. Ninety-six vendors participated in the joint conference with booth set-ups and activity sponsorships. This second joint conference was an overwhelming success due to the efforts of all of the committee chairs and both executive boards. Program highlights include:

- The Keynote Speaker was EPA Region VII Administrator Karl Brooks.
- Chris Browning, 2009-2010 Board of Trustees member for the Water Environment Federation (WEF), spoke at the opening session.
- One of the newest session tracks for this year was Innovative Technologies to showcase vendors and equipment.

VICE-PRESIDENT- Page Burks

This is the fourth annual report for KWEA.

SECRETARY TREASURER REPORT – Sylvan Coles

Summary of 2010 Program:

- KWEA has currently 464 members: 255 Active, 120 PWO, 47 Dual, 19 YP's, 7 Life, 5 Corporate, 3 Executive, 3 Retired, 2 Student, 1 Honorary, & 1 Complimentary. Fifty-two of our members are female.
- KWEA oversees the ABC Voluntary Certification Program in Kansas and currently has 519 Certificate holders in the following disciplines: 309 Collections, 110 Distribution, 55 Water & Wastewater Laboratory, 35 Plant Maintenance, 7 Industrial, & 3 Biosolids Certificates. One Hundred-Ninety exams were administered in 2010.
- KWEA's 75th Annual Conference was held jointly with the KsAWWA in 2010. Attendance was the highest on record with 780 attendees. Approximately 63 % of the attendees were KWEA affiliated with 37 % being KsAWWA. Ninety-Six exhibit booths were sold. KWEA has signed an MOU with KsAWWA through 2020. Contracts have been negotiated and are signed with the Hotels through 2015.
- KWEA held three operator workshops in 2010 with an attendance of 20-25 individuals. The workshops are intended to be low cost (revenue neutral) single day topical training events and are coupled with certification testing.

- KWEA's Annual Budget is ~ \$135,000 and we hold ~ \$120,000 in reserves. The operating budget is ~ \$40,000 which is generated primarily from the Annual Conference.
- KWEA administers a scholarship program with a reserve of ~ \$32,000. In 2010 KWEA awarded \$3250 in scholarship. The following awards are given:
 - College scholarships of \$1000 (Shirley Coles Memorial), \$750, & \$500.
 - Two vocational technical scholarships of \$500, with one being the Jerry Davies Memorial Scholarship.
 - In 2010 the Golf Tournament raised \$2028 and the SSSSS contributed \$1426 to the scholarship program leaving the reserve untouched.
 - KWEA is currently in the process of establishing an Endowment Program for the Scholarship Fund which will enable it to more formally solicit donations.

PWO TRUSTEE- Rod Philo

The Spring Specialty workshop was held on March 16, 2010 at the Best Western Atrium Gardens in Arkansas City, Kansas. Dale Vanderhoof, Wastewater Instructor at Salina Area Technical College, was the instructor. The topic was Plant Maintenance and covered pumps and controls, power, fuses and breakers, flow measurement and lock-out tag-out. There were 11 attendees. ABC certification exams were offered immediately following the workshop with 18 people taking exams.

DELEGATES – Dan Ott and Amy Kliewer

There are two Delegate positions on KWEA's Board. Delegates are responsible for representing KWEA at the national level. The WEF House of Delegates (HOD) is the deliberative and representational body of the Federation. It advises the WEF Board of Trustees on matters of strategic direction and public policy development and has authority to elect and remove WEF Trustees and WEF Officers to the extent provided for in the Constitution and Bylaws.

KWEA's delegates are elected for a three year term. The 2009-2010 delegates are Dan Ott and Amy Kliewer. As the senior delegate, Dan ended his term at WEFTEC 2010 in New Orleans. Martha Tasker will replace Dan to be the new junior delegate. Amy Kliewer has one year remaining to the end of her term.

Dan and Amy attended the House of Delegates (HOD) meetings at WEFTEC on October 1st, 2010 in New Orleans. Over 100 delegates from local MA's attended the meeting. Each delegate participated in a work group focused on one of the following current WEF initiatives:

- Ways and Means

- WEFMAX
- Operator Outreach
- WEF/MA Relationship

Dan Ott participated in the Operator Outreach workgroup and Amy Kliewer participated in the Ways and Means workgroup. More information on the outcome of these workgroups can be found on WEF's website.

Following work group discussions, the HOD was reconvened in general session. The WEF HOD approved Board of Trustees recommendations from the nominating committee. In addition, there were discussions on future WEFTEC locations and brainstorming of improvements.

In addition to the HOD meeting in New Orleans, Amy attended the WEFMAX meeting in Cleveland, OH and Dan participated in the WEFMAX in Alexandria. A special session was held for House of Delegate business.

Another purpose of WEFMAX is to provide an opportunity for the local MA's to learn from one another and from WEF staff. Each MA in attendance provides a report of local activities and accomplishments. This exchange of ideas between MA's is very useful. It is likely that some of the ideas and information learned at the WEFMAX meetings will result in new initiatives proposed to the KWEA Executive Board.

MANUFACTURER TRUSTEE – Marc Pedrotti

The Exhibit Hall at this year's Joint Conference was filled with 90 booths. This year we had more individual compaes exhibit, but a few number of total booths. Several activities were held in the Exhibit Area to increase booth traffic for the exhibitors including: the Environmental Excellence Completion, Meter Madness, Water Taste Test, Water For People Silent Auction, Meet & Greet, and Raffle drawings. KWEA & KsAWWA will continue to work on new ideas to increase traffic in the Exhibit Area for next year's conference.

COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS

Committee descriptions and committee chair contact information are posted on www.KWEA.net. The following activities were reported by committee chairs:

Audit- Dave Hauser

ACCOUNT BALANCES

The account balances as of December 31, 2009 were as follows:

- | | |
|----------------|--|
| 1. Checking: | \$ 21,235.25; interest earned \$ 21.88 |
| 2. CD # 370001 | \$ 16,931.94; interest earned \$ 459.66 |
| 3. CD # 370003 | \$ 0.00 Cashed out-\$15,396.42; interest earned
\$ 212.36 |
| 4. CD # 370006 | \$ 58,594.73; interest earned \$ 1,480.29 |

CD# 37003 was cashed out on 7/31/09 in the amount of \$ 15,396.42 and deposited into the Checking Account to increase the checking account balance in preparation of the numerous expenses the Association faces with the upcoming Annual Conference. There was an early penalty of \$ 184.18 that was paid for the early withdrawal of this CD balance. The total balance of the 2 CDs as of 12/31/09 was \$ 75,526.67 and the annual interest made from all 3 CDs was \$ 2,152.31.

ANNUAL SPRING CONFERENCE

The following is a summary of the 2009 Annual Spring Conference:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| Expenditures: | \$ 73,346.17 (Hotel Costs- \$62,068.49 of that amount) |
| Income: | \$ 111,386.25 |
| a) Income from Exhibitors- | \$ 36,108.25 |
| b) Income from Member Registration- | <u>\$ 75,278.00</u> |
| TOTAL | \$ 111,386.25 |

The profit for the 2009 Annual Conference was \$ 38,040.08. Last year's Annual Conference profit was \$ 60,618.91 and 2007's profit was \$ 14,977.26 and 2006's profit was \$ 41,199.73 for comparison. This was the first year for the joint annual conference in some time. It is recommended that a clear accounting of income and expenses between the two organizations for the Annual Conference be maintained.

ABC WORKSHOP

There was no 2009 Fall Workshop. There was an ABC Workshop put on by the Association.

- | | |
|---------------|-------------|
| Expenditures: | \$ 3,059.10 |
| Income: | \$ 1,758.00 |

SCHOLARSHIP FUND

The following is a summary of the KWEA Scholarship funds:

Topeka Credit Union Account (as of 12/31/09).

Regular Shares (Savings Account):	\$ 3,230.00
18-month CD:	\$ 1,538.70
24-month CD:	\$ 23,535.81
24-month CD:	<u>\$ 1,121.60</u>
SUBTOTAL	\$ 29,426.11 (12/31/09 Total Balance);
	annual interest earned \$ 828.62

The KWEA Scholarship Committee awarded \$ 2,750.00 in 2009. The Scholarship Fund had approximately \$ 1,144.00 donated to it and the Conference Golf Tournament contributed another \$ 630.00.

MISCELLANEOUS

The Association has consolidated its Internet, fax and phone into one AT&T bill for approximately \$ 143 per month. The Association’s expense for the on-line payment (credit card) for payment to the conference registration is approximately 3 percent per transaction and amounted to \$ 2,185.12 this past year. There were office expenses in the amount of \$ 7,728.79, which included such major items as Corporation Fees, Equipment, Insurance, General Mailings, Miscellaneous, Supplies, Tax Statements and Telephone Costs. The Association’s website had expenses of \$ 3,022.00.

The Association’s list of paid employees and the annual amounts they received are as follows:

- Darci Hernden (Website) \$ 3,640.00
- Tina Leitzel (Intercan/Splashings) \$ 2,412.50
- Sylvan Coles (Sec./Treasurer) \$ 16,455.00

TOTAL \$ 22,507.50

Darci has left the organization and now Tina does both Splashings and the Website.

The Association received \$ 4,935.00 in WEF Membership dues.

Biosolids – Alicia Gilley

After being open for over 3 years, the Biosolids Committee chair has been filled by Alicia Gilley with the City of Olathe. Primary objectives of the Biosolids Committee

include providing papers and topics for the annual conference and spring workshop, items for *Splashings*, and promotion of the Annual Biosolids and Residuals Awards.

Collections Systems – Chris Burns

The Collection Systems Committee's (CSC) objectives are to provide information to the Association's membership regarding collection systems topics and issues. The committee strives to inform collection systems workers, as well as management, on the following topics:

- Ongoing operation and maintenance.
- Rehabilitation and repair technology.
- Training and certification of collection systems personnel.
- Safety issues.
- Proper management of collection systems.
- Current and future State and Federal Regulations

The Committee met six times over the past 12 months. There are approximately 22 active members on the committee, with a good mix of industry representation – municipalities, consultants, and equipment representatives. All members join at least one of seven sub-committees which cover a variety of areas within the collections systems field.

- The Annual Conference and Workshops Sub-committee assisted with gathering presentations for three technical sessions at the 2010 Joint Conference (Asset Management, Collection Systems Topics, and Pipe/Manhole Rehabilitation Methods). Additionally, the committee conducted the Second Annual Collection Systems Pre-conference Workshop prior to the Joint Conference. The committee also helped organize the Annual Golf Tournament and the Clay Shoots Competition (and collected approximately \$2,000) for the Scholarship Fund. This year it will be assisting with the technical program for the 2011 Joint Conference.
- The Training and Certification Sub-committee conducted one (1) two-day workshop for KWEA members on close-circuit TV pipeline and manhole training (PACP/MACP) certification by local NASSCO-trained individuals at a reasonable cost. A total of 12 attendees came from Kansas and Missouri. The committee will also look at identifying more training opportunities.
- The Publications Sub-committee kept meeting minutes and submitted them to the Publications chair for the *Splashings* newsletter. Agency Collection System profiles and other articles were submitted on a variety of collection system topics. A CSC Facebook page was created.
- The Awards Sub-committee reviewed nominations for the Collection Systems Award, with the following results:
 - Category I – None
 - Category II – City of Olathe, Kansas
 - Category III – Johnson County Wastewater, Kansas

The Golden Manhole Society (GMS) inducted two new members at the annual conference.

- The CSC Committee created the Raymond E. Stillwell Collection Systems Award in recognition of an individual for outstanding services in the collection systems field. Martha Tasker was the second recipient of this award this year at the Awards Banquet, who will be submitted for the WEF National Collection System Award.
- The National Issues sub-committee reported on the status of collection system issues, specifically the issues on pending EPA SSO regulations. Other collections system conference dates and locations were shared.
- The Technology Transfer Sub-committee looked into hotlinks for the CSC website and provided specific articles for Splashing. The video library was enhanced to offer more pertinent information on technologies to the membership.
- The Safety Sub-committee continues to look into safety related issues that impact collection systems personnel.

Constitution and Bylaws – Jim Martin

Several major changes to the KWEA Constitution and Bylaws were proposed for 2010. These included:

- Designation of the PWO Board Representative to represent operator training on the KWEA Board of Directors
- Provided for an appointment of a Trustee to represent Young Professionals
- Set the term for the Industrial Trustee at three years and the term of the Young Professional's Trustee at one year
- Redefinition of the basis for categorizing municipal wastewater treatment plants for plant award nominations in terms of gallons per day (GPD)
- Redefinition of the basis for categorizing industrial wastewater treatment plants for plant award nominations in terms of Pretreatment, Secondary, or Advanced

The proposed changes were published for membership review for the required term prior to the annual conference..

The proposed 2010 changes were submitted to the association's membership at the Annual Conference in September 2010 and were accepted. Following the Annual Conference, the newly elected KWEA president indicated a desire to initiate a broad based review of the Association's By Laws, with respect to the creation and term of committees. Based on the possibility of additional Constitution and Bylaws changes, the 2010 approved changes have not yet been sent to the WEF for final review and approval. The Constitution and By-Laws documents remain current with KWEA and WEF requirements pending approval of the 2010 changes. A review committee has been formed, by the KWEA President, and will meet in the near term to determine the extent and scope of the additional review and the future timing of further submittals to the membership and the WEF. It is anticipated that all changes will be submitted for review and approval by the WEF prior to November 2011.

Finance Committee – Chris Burns

The main objectives of this committee are to a) provide a stable and sound economic base for the KWEA, b) ensure compliance with federal and state requirements for a 503(c) not-for-profit organization, c) provide fiscal consistency related to revenue and expenditures, d) maximize returns on investments, and e) establish/maintain/modify financial policies, processes and procedures, as is appropriate.

The committee met and performed the following tasks:

1. Established the 2009-2010 Annual Budget with input from various committees and Board members.
2. Determined and maintained the appropriate reserve funds.
3. Reviewed appropriate fees, rates, and charges for memberships, annual conference registration, fall and other workshops registration, booth charges, advertising, etc.
4. Reviewed current revenue streams and provided recommendations.
5. Reviewed the Scholarship Fund and provided information to the Scholarship Committee related to scholarship amounts.

Government Affairs – John Metzler

The Government Affairs performed the following activities:

- The committee consistently provided timely articles in *Splashings* on topics of interest to KWEA members. This is important, as one of our key charges is to provide information on government affairs issues to the membership.
- The committee closely tracked and provided support on the controversy over blending that started nationally with the Lawrence permit objection by EPA.
- We developed comments for EPA's SSO Rule "Listening Tour".
- We closely tracked the Friends of the Kaw proposed lawsuit on nutrients, similar to Florida lawsuit.
- The government affairs session for the annual KWEA conference was a success. This year's focus was on wet weather and nutrient issues.

Planned Activities for 2011 include monitoring upcoming EPA (and possibly KDHE) proposals on SSO's , blending, and nutrient criteria.

Industrial – Betsy Betros

The committee once again organized the industrial session for the annual conference, unfortunately, attendance was down considerably from previous years. The pretreatment programs in Kansas continue to garner a high number of KWEA Gold and Silver Awards amongst our industrial base.

Laboratory – Kathy Windham

The Laboratory committee met once in person during the year. Due to recent cutbacks throughout the state, most of our meetings were held via e-mail and telephone.

The committee sponsored the NELAC Workshop at the 2010 annual joint conference. The workshop was presented as the laboratory session at the conference. It was well received and well attended. Based on the feedback, the committee will work to plan another session for a future conference. Both the presenters and attendees would like more sessions like this.

The Crystal Crucible was awarded to four people. The recipients were: Michelle Ward and Michelle Probasco – both with KDH&E, Tori Koester with the City of Derby and Manuel Carrera with the City of Leavenworth. Tori Koester was also received the Laboratory Analyst of the year. We are accepting nominations for next year’s recipients for both awards.

We added another member to the committee bringing the number to fifteen. The members are Carolyn Woodhead, Scott Craig, Rod Philo, DeWayne McAllister, Dale South, Cathy Rider, Mike Bader, Tommy Bowman, Heath Horyna, Clay Campbell, Peggy Williams, Jeff Graham, Ed Bonham, Karla Pierce and myself.

The committee continues to work with other organizations and learning institutions to provide laboratory personnel with the training and review they need to help make Kansas a leader in the laboratory field.

Membership – Doug Nolkemper

WEF’s membership data base changed in Dec 2010 for the third time in six years that I have been chair. Looks like 2011 will bring plenty of opportunity for learning the new system!

As such, the depth and format of the membership annual report will be different this year.

December 2010 Membership Statistics:

- Corporate 7
- Executive 4
- Honorary 1
- Life 9
- Professional 289
- PWO 123
- Retired 3
- Student 2

- Young Professional 21
- Current 459

While there has been some past confusion as to paid status in the database, this appears to be an approximate decrease of 15 - 20 members from the 2010 Annual Report. I'm sure the slow economic conditions are a factor in this decrease.

Municipal Management – John O’Neil

The municipal management committee met by conference calls in 2010 and put together a technical session for the 2010 annual KsAWWA/KWEA joint conference. The Municipal Management technical sessions were well attended. The committee consists of seven members representing both private and public sector. We are actively looking for more representation from the public sector, especially from smaller communities and would like to involve public works directors and even city administrators from those communities.

Municipal Technology Transfer – Phil Burns

The Municipal Tech Transfer committee met several times during the last year to discuss the the annual conference and the activities of the Executive Board meeting. There are approximately 15 members on the MTT committee. Committee business is handled during meetings or via e-mail. The MTT committee provided several papers for the annual conference and moderators for several of the sessions.

Nominating Committee – Michael Rudy (Past President)

The Nominating Committee approved the nomination of Brian Spano as incoming Vice-President beginning at the Annual Conference in September 2010. This nomination was accepted at the Annual Conference Meeting.

Plant Awards – Jamie Belden

The Plant Awards are presented to municipalities and industries for recognition of those plant operators who have done an outstanding job of plant operation and maintenance. The award winners recognized at the 2010 KWEA/KsAWWA Joint Conference include:

- Class IA: Moran Lagoons
- Class IB: Colwich Lagoons
- Class II: Garnett WWTF
- Class III: Maize WWTF
- Class IV: El Dorado
- Class V: Lawrence WWTF
- Class VIB: Cintas 451 (Wichita)

Publications – Isaac Crabtree

Four quarterly issues of *Splashings* were prepared to provide the membership with information on the annual conference and other KWEA events. Articles from the membership are solicited on a regular basis for publication.

This year was the first year of the new *Splashings* format which was designed to be more appealing to KWEA members. The new cover and general layout were designed and assembled by Tina Leitzel, KWEA Webmaster.

New ideas for next year include the addition of more light-hearted articles to increase enjoyment and readership of *Splashings* as well as electronic distribution to KWEA members to cut down on mailing/printing costs and to conserve resources.

Publicity and WEF Awards – Brian Spano

At the annual conference, the Committee continued to highlight the 2009 year by setting up the KWEA booth with pictures of activities that took place at the 2009 conference. Signage and posters were prepared and located throughout the 2010 Annual Conference to assist attendees in locating presentations and events that took place throughout the event. Articles and photos for the annual conference were prepared and submitted to *Splashings* for publication. Press releases were completed for all of the award winners.

WEF Award Winners this year were as follows:

- Arthur Sydney Bedell Award: John Metzler, JCW
- William D. Hatfield Award: Bill Johnson, City of Kingman
- Raymond E. Stillwell Award: Martha Tasker, City of Salina
- Quarter Century Operator Club Award: Sylvan Coles, City of Topeka
- Laboratory Analyst Excellence Award: Tori Koester, City of Derby

Public Education – Rajbarath Penneerselvam and Vinta Varghese

This year the public education committee focused their efforts on educating our younger generation on wastewater treatment and the value of being an engineer. We met with 25 third graders at Line Creek Elementary School and taught them the various components that make up water quality like pH, temperature, alkalinity, etc. The kids were so thrilled that at the end of the presentation they all wanted to be engineers.

We also met with high school students at West Port High School. Feedback received from West Port High School was extremely positive. Faculty remarked that the presentation was interesting and inspiring. One teacher remarked that she had a girl come up to her later that week expressing a desire to become an engineer.

Safety – Joe Foster

It was the Safety Committee's honor to recognize several treatment facilities throughout the State of Kansas at our annual KWEA & AWWA joint conference held in October 2010.

The Safety awards are presented to municipalities and industries for recognition of industrial and wastewater plant operators and maintenance staff that have done an outstanding job in the area of safety. The 2009 winners include:

Design Capacity A - Less than 1.0 MGD Treatment Facility
The City of Edgerton Kansas Wastewater Treatment Facility

Design Capacity B - 1.0 to 5.0 MGD Treatment Facility
No Nomination

Design Capacity C - 5.0 MGD and Larger Treatment Facility
The City of Lawrence Kansas Wastewater Treatment Facility

Design Capacity D - Industrial Treatment Facility
Environmental Management Corporation/Mid-American Coca Cola Bottling
Lenexa Kansas

Scholarship – Joe Mester

Scholarship Committee:
Joe Mester, Chairman
Jim Martin
Rebecca Gagnon
Mike Hafling
Page Burks, KWEA Vice-President

This year, based on proceeds from the KWEA Golf tournament, individual donations (mainly from donations received at the 5S breakfast), and interest income from the scholarship endowment, the Board voted to allow the Scholarship Committee to award \$3250 in scholarships. We received a number of exceptional applicants and choosing the winners was a difficult task. Since we did not offer a vo-tech award the last two years, we choose to use those funds and award two more \$500 university scholarships. We awarded

one \$1000 Shirley Coles Memorial University scholarship, one \$750 University scholarship, and three \$500 University scholarships. Two vo-tech financial assistance awards are still available for the remainder of this year.

A reception was held at the Celtic Fox in Topeka on April 29 in conjunction with the KWEA poster competition and the following awards were announced and presented:

\$1000 Shirley Coles Memorial awarded to Lindsey Witthaus. Lindsey has come full circle as she graduated from Free State HS, Lawrence, went out of state for college, went out of country for further study, and is now come back to Kansas as a graduate student at the University of Kansas where she has just started working toward a doctorate degree. Lindsey completed her undergraduate degree in Environmental Studies at the University of Pittsburgh (Pa.) with a 3.85 grade point average. During her undergraduate years she researched paleolimnology which culminated in an undergraduate thesis with presentations of her work at several professional scientific conferences. She was active in a number of campus organizations and was president of the environmental club and a student representative on a faculty senate committee working on sustainable policies for the University. Following graduation, she spent a year in Brazil on a Fulbright scholarship studying rural land management and the social impacts of bauxite mining on the area residents. Lindsey is currently studying ecological control on algal lipid production for biodiesel and analyzing nutrient export data from various crop types, biofuel and others, and relating data to water quality impacts. She indicates in her application that she would like to pursue a career in academia where she can contribute to environmental science research and mentor the next generation of scientists.

\$750 awarded to Chelsea Corkins. Chelsea is completing her Sophomore year at Kansas State University with a 3.6 grade point average in environmental engineering. She is active on campus in the American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineers and has held leadership positions at an honors residence hall where she has been Vice-president and New Member President, and is now President. She writes in her essay that a HS elective class sparked her interest in pursuing a career in the environmental field. She is paying some of that back by going into the area schools and teaching high school and junior high school girls about science and engineering in their lives. Chelsea wants to be able to help our world adapt to the changing environment.

\$500 awarded to Amanda Green. Amanda is a Senior at the University of Kansas pursuing a degree in civil engineering with an environmental emphasis and is planning on continuing in the graduate program at KU. She has been the Secretary for the Chi Epsilon Engineering Fraternity and a mentor for freshman women for the Society of Women in Engineering. For the last two years she has worked as an undergraduate researcher at the KU environmental lab on contaminant removal from wastewater reactors and algae fuel production. She has significant interests in the area of water treatment, contaminant removal, industrial water reuse, and preserving natural waters and habitats. Amanda indicates that water is such a valuable and limited resource and there is tremendous opportunity for research and technological advancement in the water areas.

\$500 awarded to Kelly Borgen. Kelly is a Junior at Kansas State University majoring in Biological Engineering and has a 3.9 grade point average. She is active in K-State's Engineer's Without Borders chapter as the International Project Lead and as the theme designer for the Fountain Wars Design Team. Kelly indicates in her essay that it is up to each individual to make a difference and protect our environment. She wants to use her skills to develop processes that are more sustainable and environmentally friendly.

\$500 awarded to Rahul Desai. Rahul is a Senior at the University of Kansas pursuing a degree in civil engineering with an environmental emphasis and is planning on continuing in the graduate program at KU. He has been treasurer of the KU chapter of the American Institute of Chemical Engineers and has been a student member of the American Concrete Institute chapter. Rahul indicates that the US needs improved water resource management and other infrastructure related improvements. He also indicates that civil and environmental engineering are attractive to him because he wants to solve problems on a level that improves people's lives.

Student and Young Professionals – Lorrie Hill

Committee Structure

Committee Chair: Lorrie Hill

Vice Committee Chair: Travis Stryker

Past Chair: Garrett Sheehan

Committee Members: Mike Hafling, Lorrie Hill, Ed McGrath, Dan Ott, Travis Stryker, Maya Turner, Kayla Manning, Lindsey Bergsven, Garrett Sheehan

Activities During the 2009-2010 Program Year

The committee's activities this year were focused mainly on young professional events at both the Annual Conference as well as outside activities.

Young Professional Activities

The committee includes a group of four people, known as the "Fab Four", that organize various professional development, social, and fundraising activities throughout the year. While traditionally we have focused on YP events at the Annual Conference, we were successful in organizing other activities to increase YP involvement.

On June 12, 2010, KWEA YPs participated in a joint tour and social event with other YPs from Kansas AWWA, Missouri WEA, and Missouri AWWA. Approximately 30 people total attended the event. This activity included tour of the Boulevard Brewery in Kansas City, Missouri followed by a social event at the brewery with appetizers. Boulevard Brewery provided their chief engineer to explain their wastewater practices and answer questions. Following the event each organization concluded the joint event was a success and that future joint events would be agreeable.

On August 31, the KWEA YP committee hosted an event at the Annual Conference. This event is described below.

Annual Student Poster Contest

The goal of the Student Poster Contest is to involve students at local universities with KWEA activities. Students were encouraged to enter a poster based on their research or area of interest related to water quality issues. This year the event was held at the Celtic Fox on April 29, 2010. This event is held in the Spring in lieu of at the Annual Conference to allow the student winners to make travel plans to WEFTEC.

This year, six posters were submitted by students from both KU and KSU. Short oral presentations by each author were followed by questions and answers from the judges. Judges this year were Garrett Sheehan, Carollo; Dan Ott, Johnson County Wastewater; Travis Stryker, CAS Construction. The 2010 Student Poster Contest winners included:

First Place (\$400): “Effects of pH, Alkalinity, and Cell Density on Coagulation Effectiveness of Algae Cells,” by Ryan Coiner, student in Civil, Environmental, and Architectural Engineering, University of Kansas.

Second Place (\$200): “Effectiveness of Bioretention Cells on Treating Stormwater Runoff in Northeast Kansas,” by Xialou Chen, graduate student in Civil, Environmental, and Architectural Engineering, University of Kansas.

Third Place (\$100): “Impact of Hydraulic Residence Time and Nitrogen to Phosphorus Ratio on Lipid Content of *Ankistrodesmus* Algae,” by Matthew Hiatt, student in Civil, Environmental and Architectural Engineering, University of Kansas.

This year Ryan Coiner will be attending WEFTEC 2010 in New Orleans, LA. As the highest placing undergraduate poster presenters, he is eligible to be reimbursed for up to \$750 in conference related expenses. This reimbursement is made possible by KWEA to recognize student contributions and encourage continued involvement in water quality issues and KWEA.

Students and judges all did superb jobs!

KWEA/KSAWWA Joint Conference Activities

A session dedicated to career development issues was organized at the Joint Conference. The goal of this separate technical session was to present topics of interest specifically targeted to young professionals as well as students who were attending that day. The presentations for the YP Networking Session included topics such as mentoring, KU’s Certified Public Manager program, voluntary certifications, and the Leadership and Learning Public Works University program at the City of Lee’s Summit, MO. The sessions were very well attended and included many students, young professionals, and seasoned professionals.

As part of the Dinner & Entertainment Program at this year's KsAWWA/KWEA Joint Conference, the YP Committees of both organizations joined forces and hosted the second annual 'YPalooza' game booth event in the upper level of the Rooster Tail that incorporated an element of amusement and amazement to the entertaining evening. Game stations were set up for all to enjoy for a cost of \$1 per play. Games included:

- Bobbing for Floaties - players retrieved, by mouth, edible floating items from the tub of water within a given amount of time.
- Water Transmission Race - players raced to fill their empty cup by transferring water from one cup to the other using only a plastic spoon for a given duration. The player with the most water in their transfer cup at the end of time was declared the winner.
- Tic-Tac-Golf - players competed against each other to put a golf ball onto the tic-tac-toe style game mat. The first player to get three golf bows in a line was declared the winner.
- Wii™ Sports - players competed against one another on various Wii™ video games, including Mario Kart, boxing, and golf.
- Toilet Paper Toss - players competed against one another to toss toilet paper into a receptacle. The receptacles were a sink (for KsAWWA) and a toilet bowl (for KWEA). The player with the most successful tosses was declared the winner.

The winner of the game received a point for their respective organization as well as an entry into the grand prize raffle drawing. The grand prize was a \$200 Visa gift card sponsored by KWEA and KsAWWA. A fun time was had by all and next year the YP Committees hope to add even more games and activities to this event.

Young Professionals Summit in Puerto Rico

On March 11, 2010, KWEA sponsored two Young Professionals from our member association to attend the Young Professionals (YP) Summit in Puerto Rico. Maya Turner with Carollo Engineers and Ed McGrath with R.E. Pedrotti, represented KWEA at the YP Summit.

The goal of the YP Summit was to provide a forum for young professionals to learn from leaders in our organizations and to work together to develop and promote a better understanding of the needs of young professionals in our industry. The Summit was an excellent opportunity for networking, professional development, and sharing of ideas. This year's Summit focused on several key topics pertinent in today's workplace including the work/life balance and career path planning. Approximately 70 young professionals from various Member Associations (MAs) across the country attended this summit this year.

This year's summit actually began with a tour of the Bacardi Plant on Wednesday, March 10th. Approximately 25 registrants participated in the plant tour which included the basic plant tour, as well as an exclusive guided tour of the on-site wastewater treatment facilities. One of the chief plant operators provided attendees with an overview of their operating procedures and sustainability efforts. Over the past few years, Bacardi has

implemented several operational and process improvements to support numerous sustainable efforts at the processing plant, and be self-sufficient in providing their own power. These include: conversion of their low-pressure boilers to a high-pressure system which generates steam that is used with their turbines in the distillery process. Also since last year, the on-site plant also treats its own domestic wastewater for 100% reuse throughout the plant for their utilities, in conjunction with the untreated wastewater from the fermentation of the molasses (which is the basis for their delightful rums). The carbon dioxide produced from the fermentation process, is also recovered, compressed, and sold as liquid CO₂. Many of the wooden barrels used to store the processed rum for aging, is sold to the manufacturer of Jack Daniels for reuse. The Bacardi Tour ended with free samples of their signature rum and mixed drinks.

The conference session at the Summit began with inspirational speeches by both the WEF Vice President (and KWEA member) and AWWA Present, Matt Bond and Craig Woolard, respectively, encouraging YP's to realize their importance and how to strive for work/life balance and avoid getting "stuck" in your career.

Following a buffet-style lunch of authentic Puerto Rican food, the afternoon session began with a presentation on the various career paths within our industry, including: technical, management, and the financial sector. There was also a brief presentation on the differences in managing Generation, X'ers versus Y's versus Millenials, which led into discussions surrounding YP Recruitment.

Representatives from several of the MA's presented a brief presentation on the successes their sections have had with recruiting both YP's and college students for membership:

- The Ontario Section of WEF reported that they have established 11 student chapters in 5 years, and also have joint WEF/AWWA student chapters.
- The Pacific Northwest Section hosts a pre-conference seminar each year, prior to their regional conference, to promote team building, and includes a Scavenger Hunt. They have also established sub-sections within the section to cover their large geography. The sub-sections come together for at least 4 events each year.
- The California/Nevada Section of AWWA makes a visit to local colleges the week preceding their annual conference to invite the students to attend the conference, which allows them an opportunity for exposure to the conference without the pressure to be a member. The students are also provided with opportunities to win scholarship funds toward future conference events. There is also a scavenger hunt designed as part of the trade show in an effort to encourage students to get to know who and what each vendor represents.

There were many more stories of success, and even some not-so-successful experiences shared for all to glean from. From these presentations and the roundtable discussions that followed, several ideas were generated for the KWEA-YP Committee to consider, including rotation of events across the various major cities in the state; division of the section into geographic sub-sections, with a joint event between all sub-sections at least

once/year; have representatives from each sub-section meet regularly to plan joint events; and conduct lunch seminars via webcast to encourage more participation.

The evening ended with a luau-type social event. Even though the event was not able to be held outdoors as originally planned due to the inclement weather, a great time was had by all with Puerto Rican food (including a spit-fire pig!), fun and music.

We also took an opportunity to briefly network with WEFMAX attendees at their WEF Briefing Session the morning following the YP Summit, where we were able to get an update on the state of the organization.

This year's YP Summit was especially revitalizing with the location (the YP Summit hotel was located directly on the beach), fun-filled pre-Summit tour, and joint efforts between the AWWA and WEF organizations.

Planned Activities for 2010-2011 Program Year

The committee will again be rotating its leadership to make sure that a young professional will always be a chair of the committee. This rotation is an arrangement similar to that done by the Executive Board where once a person enters the committee leadership "queue", they will continue to move up and through the leadership positions. We have a Vice-Chair, a Chair, and a Past-Chair role. This year, Lorrie Hill will become Past-Chair and will help Travis Stryker learn his new role as Chair. Maya Turner will take the role of Vice-Chair. Each year everyone will move up "one notch" in the hierarchy. It is envisioned that this approach will maintain continuity in leadership but also keep a young professional in the most visible leadership roles at all times.

The committee will again organize the annual Poster Session. Our goal is to keep increasing the number of student members and poster submittals. This year we will need to work closely with the program committee and AWWA to determine how to best implement this goal at a joint conference that is being held at the same time classes are starting on local university and college campuses.

Continued relationships with the Universities are vital to continuing the recruiting effort and not just prior to the annual conference. Visits are planned at regular intervals to keep the KWEA and WEF names in front of the students. The committee will work on new ways to assist and involve students.

To increase young professionals (YP's) involvement, the committee is working to establish contacts (preferably YP's themselves) at cities and companies to "champion" the program with other YP's they work with. In addition, we are planning to organize presentations that provide CEU credits and organize field trips to facilities/projects/areas of interest that coincide with at least two regular KWEA board meetings. This will provide the opportunity for board and committee members to invite YP's from their organizations. This activity is anticipated to provide the opportunity for YP's to interact and develop professional relationships with more experienced KWEA members.

We are also looking at collaborating with the Missouri WEA Young Professionals Committee. This group has recently become active in the Kansas City area and we believe there are opportunities for joint events that will benefit both organizations. We also have a number of new people interested in joining our committee and hope to get them actively involved as soon as possible.

Watershed Management – Andy Sauer and Lee Kellenberger
No Report