



American Water Works Association  
**Pacific Northwest** Section

SUMMER 2022

# **WATER** *matters*

The Official Magazine of the  
Pacific Northwest Section – AWWA

## PNWS-AWWA's Annual Conference **RECAP**

- 
- ▶ **Creating a Framework for Effective Risk Management**
  - ▶ **Conference Award Winners**

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Message from the Chair • PNWS Association Director Report



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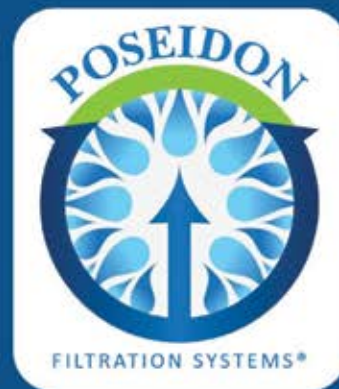
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Published by



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Sales Manager: Kris Fillion  
Advertising Coordinator: Stefanie Hagdiakow

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## Important plans for the year ahead



**H**appy summer everyone. By the time you read this in the summer edition of *Water Matters* almost two months will have passed since our Section Conference in Tacoma. It's hard to believe May 2019 was our last in-person conference prior to Tacoma. It was so energizing and good for the soul to see our membership in person again after three long years. However, I must admit, I forgot how exhausting it is to put on real clothes and engage in face-to-face conversations all... day... long. I joked with some co-workers during the conference about crawling into a deep dark hole after the conference to decompress. I'm an introvert at heart and that hole was calling my name.

The 2022 Section Conference had a new format so most of you didn't get to hear my Chair acceptance speech at the Board of Trustees meeting on Friday afternoon. I'm so thankful I did not have to eat my dinner on a stage or give my speech in front of hundreds of people. For those of you that missed my Chair acceptance speech, it is provided below with some minor tweaks (i.e., no silly tears or silly jokes). Yep, that's right, I cried during my speech. Let's just say I cry when I'm happy and passionate about something.

I'm so incredibly honored and stoked, and a wee-bit nervous, about leading our Section over the next year. During the conference, I had a few people ask me what I'd like to accomplish over the next year. My answer was I have a lot of ideas, but they currently lack a solid plan. In addition

to promising to put forth my best self over the next year, here are a few areas where I would like to focus the Section's efforts over the next year.

### Financial stability

**Jason Canady** shared his Treasurer's Report at the Trustees meeting. The Section Conference is the largest source of income and largest expense for the Section. Cancelling two in-person conferences definitely had an impact on our Section's finances and we will likely be recovering from these impacts for another year or two. However, as Jason highlighted in his report, our proactive management and ability to shift to a virtual conference and other virtual training events has resulted in a financial position that is stronger than I think many of us expected. We can't hit the gas pedal too hard just yet, though. We will need to continue to be conservative in our budget development and spending until we fully recover from the impacts of COVID, and this may mean making more hard choices about what is funded over the next couple of years.

### Diversity and inclusion

In the Summer of 2020, under **Past-Chair Ronda Farmer's** leadership, the Section established the Diversity and Inclusion Subcommittee as part of the Membership Engagement and Development Committee. The Subcommittee was established to help the Section further the mission of AWWA's Diversity and Member Inclusion

Committee. The Subcommittee has been hard at work under **Esther Chang's** leadership and hosted an excellent track at the Section Conference focused on diversity and inclusion.

One of the first activities of the Subcommittee was a diversity and inclusion survey to better understand the diversity and makeup of our Section and identify areas of improvement to promote an inclusive environment. The initial survey was distributed between April and June of 2021 with a plan to repeat the survey every year. Last year's survey only had 32 participants out of 2000+ members, so I'm challenging our membership to significantly improve participation this year. A QR code for the 2022 survey is provided below. The survey is anonymous and closes on September 2, 2022. Survey participants will be entered into a raffle to win one of two \$25 e-gift cards and a homemade pasta dinner with me at my home. I encourage you to participate in this survey as the results will inform recruiting and retention efforts and you can win a cool prize.

The Subcommittee also developed several recommendations and areas of improvement for the Board, Committee, and Subsection leaders. I'd like to see us make some more progress to support those recommendations. The Board of Trustees recently adopted changes to the Rules of Procedure which include many important updates and additions including a Commitment to Diversity and Inclusion. I would like to take this commitment one step further by incorporating a diversity and inclusion objective into the Section's Strategic Plan.

One of the Subcommittee's other recommendations was to consider supporting more focused outreach for minorities as well as high schools, paired with mentorship programs

specific to marginalized groups. I love this idea for a few reasons. One – it introduces students early to the water industry and the wide variety of career opportunities available; two – I think it will help build trust in the water industry. My project work at the Portland Water Bureau includes working with our Community Engagement Liaisons (CEL program) and through that work I've been reminded of differing cultural beliefs around tap water and the safety of tap water. Through engagement of students from different cultural backgrounds and minority groups, I'm hoping we can help build their trust and confidence. Three – it introduces students to our organization and the fun and fulfillment that comes with volunteering which may lead to careers in the water industry and future membership. Our visiting dignitary **Angela Ballard-Landers** shared some of these same sentiments at the Trustees meeting so I believe this is an important part of our work going forward.

### Networking diversity

While on the topic of diversity, I would also like to promote more diversity in our networking activities. As some of you know, I despise golf, but golf and wine and beer drinking are the two activities that make up most of our networking and fundraising events. I certainly appreciate the skills required to play golf, but I do not naturally possess those skills (much to my father's dismay) and I am not willing to spend time honing those skills. I also appreciate and enjoy the wine and beer drinking but I am committing to creating at least one networking event that does not revolve around golf, wine, or beer. I read on AWWA's website that WaterOne in Johnson City, Kansas, throws the Tower 2 Tower 5K as part of Drinking Water Week. Runners follow a course that loops between two local water towers and proceeds go to Water For People. I thought this was a fantastic idea except for the running part, because I also hate running. So maybe it is something different like amateur ski/snowboard (or maybe sled) races, a hiking or mountain biking event, a volunteer opportunity, or maybe some putt putt or water themed bingo.

Finally, I would like to express my sincerest gratitude to **John Roth** and **Ronda Farmer** for their leadership over the past two years. We have been operating in unknown territory the past couple of years and they both navigated it seamlessly. Updating the Bylaws and Rules of Procedure was a huge accomplishment and Ronda and John lead us through this mundane but necessary process with enthusiasm. They have been such great leaders and mentors and will be a tough act to follow. Ronda and John missed out on their chair receptions at the Section Conference, but next time you see them please give them a belated congratulations and thank them for their hard work.

It was so awesome to be back to "normal" for our conference and seeing everyone in person. Thanks to all of you for the time you commit to this organization and the great work you do. 🙏

Michelle Cheek  
PNWS Section Chair



**PNWS-AWWA Diversity  
and Inclusion 2022 Survey**



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## Successful return of our in-person Conference

I begin my first report as Association Director with a sincere thank you to the members of the Pacific North West Section for trusting me with the opportunity to represent the Section on the association level.

I would also like to take a moment to thank **Randy Black** for representing the Section for the past three years in this position. Randy's continued passion for serving the members of this Section is inspiring and the support and guidance he has provided to me during this transition period and over the years has been invaluable.

On the association level, 2022 was a year of firsts for the ACE Conference; for the first time since June of 2019 ACE was held as an in-person conference with a hybrid component as well.

The Conference featured a keynote address from **Dr. Thomas Zurbuchen**, NASA's Associate Administrator of Science, speaking for the first time about water on Mars. Another first for the Conference was hearing from the first African American Female Combat Pilot **Vernice "FlyGirl" Armour**.

The AWWA Water 2050 initiative was officially launched at the Conference. This collaborative initiative will help to establish a long-term vision on the future of water and chart a course for a successful and sustainable "one" water industry. This initiative will help to support the mission of the water community to provide safe water, healthy people and a sustainable planet. I look forward to sharing more information as it unfolds and develops over the next few months.

I am excited to hit the ground running and thank you for the opportunity to serve as your liaison







and information conduit to the Association and invite you to reach out me with and questions on the Association that serves you as members. I can be reached via email

at [james.dean@yakimawa.gov](mailto:james.dean@yakimawa.gov) or by phone at 509-576-6615.

James Dean  
PNWS - AWWA Director

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### Member Engagement and Development Committee (MEDC) and 2020 Vision Subcommittee

**MEDC Purpose:** To support the Pacific Northwest Section of AWWA (PNWS) in the engagement, retention, and growth of membership

**2020 Vision:** To align with AWWA's strategic initiative for a sustainable future by bridging young talent with the water industry.

#### PNWS Conference Fun

It was great to be back in person after a two-year break at the PNWS-AWWA Conference in Tacoma, WA. The MEDC had a great time connecting with Members at the First-Timer's Meet and Greet and the Membership Booth. Special thanks to **Natalie Reilly** and **Alena Thurman** (Carollo Engineers) for putting on the Meet and Greet and providing an opportunity for first time attendees to network and learn how to get the most out of the conference experience and their membership. We're already excited to plan for next year's conference in Kennewick, WA.

#### Mentorship Program Update:

The PNWS Mentorship Program, first established in 2015 to connect mentors and protégé across the section, is launching again this summer. The program is self-paced, consisting of 5-6 one-hour sessions with your mentor/protégé over the course of six months, focused on topics of career development and growth. The MEDC



*Having fun connecting at the PNWS conference with Esther Chang, Andrea Boyd, and Joanie Stultz.*



*Yay for membership! Chris Young (outgoing MEDC Chair) and Joanie Stultz (incoming Chair) cheer in celebration of a successful conference and year of member engagement.*

held a Virtual Mentorship Meet-up on April 13 for interested folks to learn about the program and meet other PNWS members. Shout out to **Kyle Wong** (Sammamish Plateau Water), and **Claire Litsky** (Tacoma Water) for putting on the event. We had 18 attendees in four breakout rooms lead by room moderators **Michael Grimm**, **Jim Konigsfeld**, **Nicki Pozos**, and **Lynn Stephens**. Interested in being a mentor or protégé? Look out for the Application link this summer through the PNWS E-newsletter and website.

#### Need help with reaching your Subsection members?

Let us know! We can pull member lists that are specific to your

subsection and renewal date to outreach specific members. Please reach out to the MEDC Chair, **Joanie Stultz** at [jstultz@brwncaled.com](mailto:jstultz@brwncaled.com), or visit us at: <https://www.pnws-awwa.org/member-groups/committees/membership-committee>

Special thanks to our MEDC Committee Members **Chris Young** (outgoing chair), **Joanie Stultz**, **Randy Black**, **Esther Chang**, **Kyle Wong**, **John Roth**, **Natalie Reilly**, **Doug Schleppe**, **DeEtta Fosbury**, supported by Trustee, **Tyler Clary**.

**Congratulations to our own Chris Young, for receiving this year's Heart and Soul Award.** Your dedication to the Section has a lasting impact. Thank you, Chris! 🎉


### Young Professionals Committee

#### YP Scavenger Hunt back in action

Back by popular demand, the Young Professionals Committee hosted a Scavenger Hunt at the PNWS Conference this year! Six teams of three to five young professionals raced against the clock, and each other, to gather pictures and answer trivia about Tacoma and the AWWA. The Scavenger Hunt finish line was Hotel Murano, where teams gathered for celebratory drinks and hors d'oeuvres. The victorious teams were awarded Yeti drinkware and bragging rights for the year to come. Special shout out to **Cole Benak**, for leading the planning effort, and **Claire Litsky**, **Tess Young**, and **Alex Puryear** for stepping in to plan the event. The Young Professionals Committee worked throughout the year to put on the event for YP members and is underway with plans for more



opportunities to connect YPs. If you're interested in getting involved in the YP Committee or learning more, reach out

to the **YP Chair Annabel Warnell** at [awarnell@landauinc.com](mailto:awarnell@landauinc.com) to be added to the list for meeting announcements. 

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## Diversity & Inclusion (D&I) Subcommittee

The D&I Committee aims to foster a welcoming and inclusive AWWA culture that champions meaningful institutional and individual change regarding diversity and equity in the water industry. The committee is looking to spotlight members more regularly in the D&I Water Matters updates, to share members' stories and the impact AWWA has had on their career. To nominate yourself or others, please reach out to D&I Chair, Esther Chang at [esther.chang@jacobs.com](mailto:esther.chang@jacobs.com). **Interested in getting involved? The committee meets every first Wednesday of the month and welcomes new members to the table.**

### Membership Survey – How Inclusive is PNWS? We want to hear from you.

This anonymous survey helps the PNW Section better understand the demographics of our membership, and identify areas of improvement to promote an inclusive environment where all members feel welcome. This annual voluntary data will be used by the subcommittee to help plan for recruiting and retention efforts.

Participants that complete the survey by **Friday September 2, 2022**, will be entered into a raffle for prizes (one homemade meal with Section Chair Michelle Cheek, two \$25 e-gift cards). Once you've completed the survey, additional directions will be provided to enter the raffle to assure anonymity from one's responses. Raffle winners will be notified by September 9.

### D&I Conference Track a success

The D&I subcommittee sponsored the first Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) conference track at PNWS this year. Solicitation for abstracts will be out May 23 – July 22, with a call for abstracts for next year's DEI track. Topics can include any number of ideas relating to DEI; in the workplace, project execution, collaborating with the community, or other best practices.

### PNWS inaugural Diversity and Inclusion award

The D&I subcommittee is excited to celebrate our recipient of the inaugural Diversity and Inclusion award, **Nicki Pozos, PhD, PE, Principal of The Formation Lab**. The purpose of this award is to recognize an individual, group, or organization that has created, promoted, and maintained diversity and inclusion by establishing an environment that recognizes, encourages, and effectively utilizes each individual's talents.

As a recognized leader in equity within the water industry, Nicki began by creating opportunities for women's leadership through cofounding the Women in Leadership Symposium. Now she serves as a minority evaluator for the City of Portland, leads equity programs on capital projects for the Portland Water Bureau and Portland Bureau of Environmental

Services, and serves as president and cofounder of Women Leading Water, which takes an intersectional approach to promoting equity in the water industry. Nicki has presented on equity, diversity, and bias at numerous local and regional conferences, ranging from local

operator trainings to a keynote presentations, presenting evolving best practices for the water industry, while helping to foster diversity and inclusion. And in the words of her nominator, "Nicki's efforts in diversity and inclusion changes lives. She opens our eyes and our hearts to an equitable world and the work we need to do to get there." 🙌



American Water Works Association  
**Pacific Northwest Section**

## JOIN THE DIVERSITY & INCLUSION SUBCOMMITTEE

**Our Mission: To foster a welcoming and inclusive AWWA culture that champions meaningful institutional and individual change regarding diversity and equity in the water industry.**

Fill out our annual demographics & feedback survey by Sept 2 to be entered into a raffle for a homemade meal with Section Chair Michelle Cheek and gift cards!

Brainstorm & execute new events & initiatives

Help us identify gaps and promote D&I across the Section

Develop D&I technical training and promote D&I award for 2023

Collaborate across the Section and membership

Email [Esther.Chang@jacobs.com](mailto:Esther.Chang@jacobs.com) to join the next MS Teams meeting and listserv

## Public Information Committee

### Winning communications efforts recognized by Section Award

The 2022 PNWS-AWWA Excellence in Communications Award winning entries and utilities were selected by a panel of judges. Some of this year's judges are PNWS-AWWA members and some were communication professionals from other industries. This year the contest entries were scored on: Message, Idea, Goal, and the entries connection to the Need-to-Know criteria for continuing education units in Idaho, Oregon and Washington.

The entrants will receive the judges' comments by email.

For the second contest in a row, Spokane Water won the Best in Show Award. This year's winning entry was, "Go Gold to Save Blue."



**Go Gold to Save Blue**




*Kristen Zimmer, Conservation Program Manager and Loren Searl, Director of Water and Hydroelectric Services are pictured here with Spokane Water's 2022 Excellence in Communications Awards.*



*Mason PUD #1 has consistently submitted winning communications work into the awards program. Kristin Masteller, General Manager and Brandy Milroy, Water Resources Manager with their 2022 Excellence in Communications Awards.*

Additional Contest winners are:

- COVID-19 Communications – Mason PUD
- Calendars – Emergency Preparedness Calendar by Tualatin Valley Water District
- Multi-Modal Communications – Response to Holiday Fire – EWEB – Eugene Water and Electric Board and Cross Connection Control Campaign Mason PUD
- Video or Sound Productions – Talkin' Water customer webinar series by Tualatin Valley Water District and Podcast: This Month in Water History A CRW Production by Clackamas River Water – Honorable Mention
- Consumer Confidence Reports (CCR) – Tualatin Valley Water District and Mason PUD - Honorable Mention
- Social Media – Go Gold to Save Blue by Spokane Water and Oak Lodge Water Services 2021 Annual Report by Oak Lodge Water Services and Social Media by Mason PUD
- Wildcard – *The Connector* Newsletter by Mason PUD and *Say Hello to Tacoma Water* Activity Booklet by Tacoma Water
- Internal Communications – Well Station Evaluation by Spokane Water

efforts. 

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### Scholarship Committee

The Pacific Northwest Section began providing scholarships in 1971. The Section Board formally established the Education and Training (E&T) fund in 1985 to help provide a stable funding base for these scholarships. Since 1995, the Section has awarded over \$742,000 in scholarships to 316 students. A solid, conservative investment strategy, supported and enhanced by ongoing legacy and direct contributions from PNW individuals and Subsections, has built a strong scholarship fund.

This year E&T proceeds augmented by direct contributions from the NW Washington Subsection, Kelman Publishing (our Newsletter publisher), and One Operator matching funds given by the NW Washington Subsection and One Operator National, enabled the committee to award a total of \$51,500 to eleven scholarship recipients. In addition to this, \$12,000 was reserved for Short School scholarships. The total available education and training funding this year was \$63,500. We celebrated these awards and marked this progress at our 2022 Annual Spring Conference in April.



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(L to R): Gina Hortillosa, Kyle Arnhart, and Geneva Schlepp.

Here is the list of recipients for the 2022 Scholarships:

**Tyler Kleinsasser** was awarded the Allen A. Alsing, NW Washington, and E&T scholarships totaling \$6,000. Tyler, a member of the PNWS, is pursuing a bachelor's degree in Engineering at the South Dakota School of Mines and Technology.

**Geneva Schlepp** was awarded the NW Washington Subsection Direct Scholarship of \$6,000. Geneva is pursuing a master's degree in Civil Engineering at the University of Washington.

*"I am truly grateful for the PNWS AWWA section scholarship which allows me to pursue my dreams of becoming an impactful engineer. The organization's commitment to my learning motivates me to continue giving my all in my studies and inspires me to one day give back in my own career through involvement in the AWWA."*

**Gina Hortillosa** was awarded the Chris Uber Memorial, Allen A. Alsing, and E&T scholarships totaling \$6,000. Gina is a Professional Engineer who is completing a master's degree in

Infrastructure Planning and Management at the University of Washington. Gina works at the Alderwood Water and Wastewater District.

**Josh Gottlieb** was awarded the SW Idaho Subsection, Skiles/Pettie, Legacy, Inland Empire Subsection, and E&T scholarships totaling \$6,000. Josh is pursuing a master's degree in Water Resources Engineering at Portland State University.

**Kyle Arnhart** was awarded the Kelman, NW Washington, Kathy Merry, and E&T scholarships totaling \$5,000. Kyle is pursuing a bachelor's degree in Emergency Management and Water Resources. Kyle works at the City of Tigard and serves as their Safety Committee Chair.

**Kathryn Hall** was awarded the Southern Oregon Subsection, Lower Columbia Subsection and E&T scholarships totaling \$5,000. Kathryn is a student at Portland State University, pursuing a bachelor's degree in Environmental Engineering, and works at the Clark Regional Wastewater District as an Engineering Technician.



**Wen-Qiang Zheng** was awarded the James Doane Family, Archie Rice, NW Washington, Wubben Family and E&T scholarships totaling \$5,000. Wen-Qiang is studying at Portland State University, completing a bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering in Spring 2022, and subsequently a master's degree in Civil Engineering.


**Karoline Herkamp** was awarded E&T, John Aho, Bill & Teddy Beckman, Alan Jones, and Past Chairs scholarships totaling \$4,000. Karoline is pursuing bachelor's degree(s) in Civil Engineering and Environmental Science, and concurrently, a master's degree in Civil Engineering, at the Oregon Institute of Technology.

**Austin Popoff** was awarded E&T, Cynthia Driscoll and King County Subsection scholarships totaling \$4,000. Austin is pursuing a bachelor's degree in Chemical Engineering at Washington State University.

**Kamryne Presgrove** was awarded Past Chairs, E&T and One Operator National scholarships totaling \$2,500. Kamryne is pursuing an associate degree in Process Technology at Bellingham Technical College and plans to become an operator.

**Dolton Biehle** was awarded Past Chairs, One Operator National, and E&T scholarships totaling \$2,500. Dolton is pursuing an associate degree in Process

Technology at Bellingham Technical College and plans to become an operator.

Let's keep it going! The dream of having a viable self-supporting PNWS Education and Training fund is being realized due to the strong support from all of us. Let's continue this good work. If you would like to make a tax-deductible contribution to the Education and Training Endowment Fund, please contact Bob Willis, E & T Committee Chair, or Kyle Kihs, PNW Section Executive Director. Thank you for supporting the future of our organization, our communities and in particular, these outstanding students. Contact Cory Baune or LaDonne Harris or the scholarship committee with any questions: [scholarship@pnws-awwa.org](mailto:scholarship@pnws-awwa.org) 

## ORWARN Committee Report


### ORWARN Cyber Tabletop Exercise – Save the Date!

ORWARN is bringing its membership another exciting training opportunity. The Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) will be hosting a free cyber tabletop exercise on August 16, 2022. Watch for more information in the near future but mark your calendars to save the date.

### ORWARN Website

Please remember to keep your organization's information up to date on the website. If you need help logging in or have questions, please email [info@orwarn.org](mailto:info@orwarn.org). One of the Board Members will respond.

### Membership

ORWARN's membership continues to grow. We are up to 165 members and associate members. If you know of a utility that is not yet a member of ORWARN, please ask them to contact us at [info@orwarn.org](mailto:info@orwarn.org) for more information. 

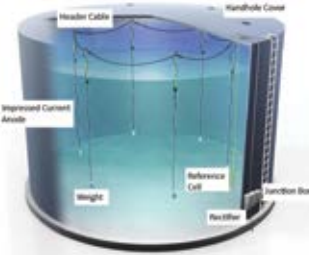


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### Engineering Committee

#### RSVP to Avoid Corrosion

Join us August 11 for a one-day corrosion symposium lead by regional experts. CEU's, beverages, and lunch will be provided. Space is limited at the Tualatin Valley Water District's office in Beaverton, OR. See the engineering committee website for details and a registration link. Send questions to **Taylor Stockton** ([tstockton@rh2.com](mailto:tstockton@rh2.com)).

#### Committee Meetings Schedule – New Day

Have an idea for engineering-related learning or industry collaboration? Jump into one of our regular committee meetings – now the first Wednesday of each month, Noon – 1 PM over Teams.

#### Thank You and More Tour Ideas

In April, Beaverton and Murraysmith hosted a great tour of the City's Cooper Mountain Reservoir project. Thank you! It was a beautiful day, great facilities, and a full happy hour afterwards. Reach out with your idea for the next tour!



American Water Works Association  
**Pacific Northwest Section**

#### 2023 Call for Abstracts

The deadline for submitting abstracts for next year's conference in Kennewick, WA, May 3–5, 2023 is **July 30, 2022**.

#### Please visit

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeyQu214XjudQAzOy3o7Gx562AtIKjtnklgP2m3Zy3chUiuhA/viewform> to submit abstracts.



#### 2022 Excellence in Engineering award winners

The PNWS-AWWA Engineering Committee is thrilled to be able to announce the 2022 Excellence in Engineering award winners. These awards recognize excellence in engineering for water supply, treatment, or conveyance projects. For the awards this year, the judges were looking for projects which incorporated innovative technology, overcame difficult challenges, included sustainable elements, and considered system resilience.

As in year's past, the award was given in three different project categories: **Engineering Planning**, **Small Projects** (<\$5M construction), and **Large Projects** (>\$5M construction). *Congratulations to this year's winners!*

#### Engineering Planning

##### City of Keizer Risk and Resilience Assessment

**Project Owner:** City of Keizer

**Project Engineer:** 4B Engineering and Consulting

**Description:** Keizer's water system consists of 17 wells and supplies water to approximately 38,000 people without using disinfection processes or substantial water storage. The risk and resilience assessment looked at the city's overall water system to evaluate various risks including cyberterrorism, biothreats, natural hazards, and operation malfunctions. This important planning study helped to prioritize these risks in terms of severity, cost, and probability of failure. The results of this study will lead to improvements in reliability and resilience for the city of Keizer.

#### Small Projects

##### Olympic Water and Sewer Groundwater Chlorination and Filtration Facilities

**Project Owner:** Olympic Water and Sewer Inc. (OWSI)

**Project Engineer:** HDR

**Description:** For decades OWSI operated their system as an unchlorinated water supply. However, in 2018 persistent total coliform detections began to appear in their Zone B pressure system. When a comprehensive system investigation couldn't pinpoint a specific source of contamination, HDR and OWSI made the decision to install chlorine storage, feed, and monitoring systems at all five of their wells. Because of high levels of manganese in the well water, the addition of chlorine also required the renovation and addition of new greensand filters to address concerns of discolored water. Despite numerous challenges, the team was able to successfully establish design requirements, secure project funding, and address multiple water quality issues for the system.

*Constructed Cost: \$1.7 Million*

#### Large Projects

##### Cherry Crest Pump Station

**Project Owner:** City of Bellevue

**Project Engineer:** Murraysmith

**Description:** In 2016, Murraysmith began working with the City of Bellevue to provide an alternatives analysis for replacing the Pike's peak pump station. This study led to the idea of moving the Pikes pump pumping station to the Cherry Crest Park. The existing pump station at Cherry Crest was experiencing reliability problems and was also scheduled for upgrades in the coming years. This project became an opportunity to consolidated two water booster pump stations under a single roof. The new pump station serves three different pressure zones using six pumps with variable frequency drives. The process improvements of this project helped to save costs, improve pumping efficiency and simplify maintenance.

*Constructed Cost: \$6.5 Million*

Congratulations to the 2022 winners! 🎉





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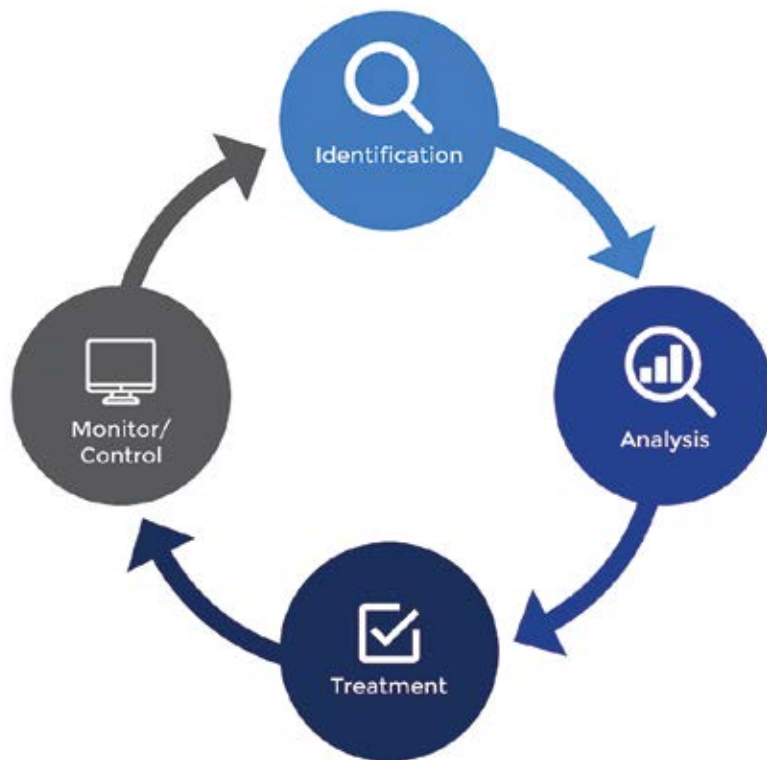
## Creating a framework for effective risk management

By Elizabeth S. Kelly, PE, IAM, Senior Vice President, Parametrix &

Greg Brink, CVS, PMP, PMI-RMP, PMI-PBA, CCEA, ENV SP, National Director - Strategic Advisory Services, Parametrix

Risk management is a core function executed by water utilities staff on many levels, whether or not it is a deliberate and well-defined part of the management activities. When done well, risk management supports interfaces across the enterprise and program/project levels by enhancing investment decision-making (including project prioritization), project implementation, organizational efficiency and effectiveness, safety, social equity, and achievement of community values.

Effective risk management typically includes establishment of a risk framework, which is an internal guidance document intended to help staff and consultants who are engaged with the risk or asset management work obtain a common understanding for management of risk within the broader context of the organization and its objectives. The framework seeks to standardize how the organization intends to identify, analyze, treat, and monitor/control risk in a repeatable fashion while meeting its regulatory obligations and community expectations. It can help staff understand the concepts of risk management and provide guidance to ensure consistent application of principles across the broader spectrum of the organization's resources (including assets), processes, and technology.



Fortunately, such a framework can be very simple and can bring risk management into the light.

Generally, the goal of a defined risk framework is to communicate three things: 1) why risk management is important, 2) how does the organization define terms used in risk management, and 3) general instructions regarding risk management activities at the

organization, including risk governance and interfaces across different organizational functions and responsibilities.

Many public sector infrastructure-intensive organizations have defined a risk framework that defines and addresses risk in four separate and interrelated categories. These types of risk include Corporate, Project, Operational, and Asset. For each of these types of risk there are different ways to identify, analyze, treat, and monitor/control risks in a cyclical and repeatable process, as illustrated by the table on page 21.

The responsibilities for each of these stages of the risk management process commonly reside in different parts of the organization, depending on the category of risk. There are also four primary activities of risk management – identification, analysis,

The framework seeks to standardize how the organization intends to identify, analyze, treat, and monitor/control risk in a repeatable fashion while meeting its regulatory obligations and community expectations.




RISK MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES				
RISK CATEGORIES	Identification	Analysis	Treatment	Monitor/Control
Corporate	How do we identify corporate risks and who is responsible?	How do we analyze (qualitatively and quantitatively) corporate risks and who is responsible?	How do we determine effective treatment of threats and opportunities (i.e., Threats: avoid, mitigate, transfer, accept; Opportunities: enhance, share, exploit) of investments for corporate risks and who is responsible?	How do we monitor and control (i.e., frequency and priority) risks for the corporate enterprise and who is responsible?
Project	How do we identify project risks and who is responsible?	How do we analyze qualitatively and quantitatively) project risks and who is responsible?	How do we determine effective treatment of threats and opportunities for project development and delivery risks and who is responsible?	How do we monitor and control risks for project development and delivery processes and who is responsible?
Operational	How do we identify operational risks and who is responsible?	How do we analyze (qualitatively and quantitatively) operational risks and who is responsible?	How do we determine effective treatment of threats and opportunities for operational risks and who is responsible?	How do we monitor and control risks for the operational profile and who is responsible?
Asset	How do we identify asset risks and who is responsible?	How do we analyze (qualitatively and quantitatively) asset risks and who is responsible?	How do we determine effective treatment of threats and opportunities for asset and maintenance risks and who is responsible?	How do we monitor and control risks for assets and who is responsible?

treatment, and monitor/control of risks, including threats (i.e., uncertain events with a negative impact) and opportunities (i.e., uncertain events with a positive impact).

When risk management is performed by applying industry best and effective practices, it is iterative in

nature, drawing on new experiences and emphasizing learning, continual improvement, knowledge, and analysis for the revision of process elements, actions, and controls at each stage of the process. Risk-based decision-making ideally leans heavily on both staff knowledge in the context of the

organizational culture and objective data. When a risk management framework is employed with the overlay of data-driven analysis and decision-making, the results are demonstrably improved in terms of the organizational capability to achieve, and in many instances, exceed its objectives. 



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## PACE Engineers, Inc. celebrates 30 years

2022 marks a celebratory year. It is PACE Engineers' 30th anniversary, and it is the year H.R. 3684, the *Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act* of 2021 funding becomes available, which is monumental to our industry. The \$55 billion set aside for water infrastructure is the single largest federal investment in water. This act will lead to one of the biggest impacts waterworks have ever seen. According to the United States Environmental Protection Agency website, Clean Water and Drinking Water State Revolving Funds for Washington will be \$152,987,000 and Oregon will be \$92,075,000. These funds will also create more than 3,700 jobs between the two states.


In the Spring 2022 issue of *Water Matters*, we read an article outlining about 50 bullet points of funding from this act. The big questions public

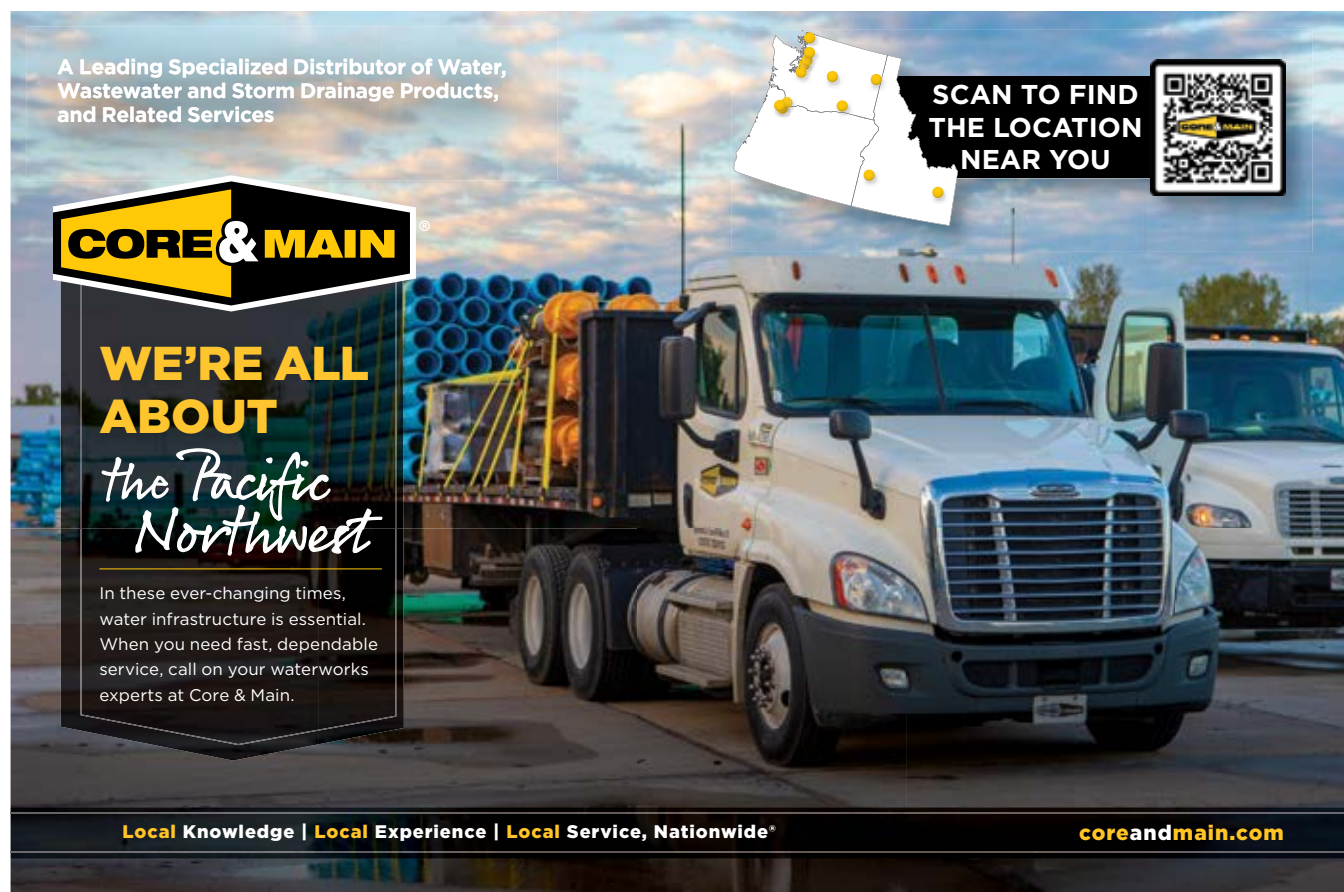
agencies will be asking are "what do we qualify for" and "how do we apply." To answer this, we are doing three things:

1. Diligently staying informed on funding.
2. Working with our clients to establish capital requirements.
3. Assisting in securing needed funding for various projects and programs through grants or loans.

Over the past 30 years, PACE has assisted our public agency clients to obtain over \$100 million in funding for public works projects through grants, low-interest loans, bonds, and ULIDs. The list of programs we have assisted with include: Public Works Trust Fund (PWTF); Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF); USDA Rural Development grants and loans; Community Development Block Grants in Snohomish and King Counties (CDBG), State Tribal Assistance Grants

(STAG), State appropriations. We help clients prioritize capital improvement programs by assessing identified projects for funding eligibility, project priority, and impacts on the system to develop a list of the most economically effective projects to secure funding.

PACE Engineers is an employee-owned company that offers our clients civil and structural engineering, utility planning, land surveying, GIS, environmental services, and construction inspection and management services. We operate throughout the Pacific Northwest, with offices in Kirkland, Everett, and Wenatchee, Washington, and Lake Oswego, Oregon. Contact **Bill Reynolds** at 425-827-2014 or [billr@paceengrs.com](mailto:billr@paceengrs.com) for more information on how PACE can help you take advantage of funding programs. 



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# PNWS-AWWA's Annual Conference

April 27-29, 2022 | Tacoma, Washington

## RECAP

### Tacoma delivers another great conference

After three long years, what fun we had reconnecting in person with old and new friends while learning, collaborating, eating, celebrating, and participating in activities. Here are just a few highlights from the event.

The conference opened on Wednesday with two concurrent preconference sessions on cybersecurity and supply resilience. Sessions continued through Thursday and Friday covering a total of 11 different disciplines. The Tacoma Convention Center rooms were full of engaged speakers and attendees.

Across Commencement Bay, over 100 attendees started their conference experience on Wednesday at North Shore Golf Course to win a team, individual or raffle prize.

Back at the Convention Center, competitions continued Wednesday evening with the **Best Tasting Water** contest with **NE Sammamish Sewer & Water District** declared the winner. Conference attendees also participated in a rousing trivia event with top prizes for the winners.

Sponsors and vendors kicked off their part of the conference with a meet and greet reception on Wednesday and all-day Thursday in the Exhibit Hall.

The Silent Auction ran throughout the conference offering enticing gifts to attendees to place bids and benefit PNWS-AWWA's philanthropic efforts, **Water For People**, **The Water Equation**, and the **Education & Training Fund**.

The **Young Professionals Scavenger Hunt** on Thursday evening was an exciting adventure for individuals new to the industry to learn about the section and socialize with new professional networks while exploring downtown Tacoma.

Attendees participated in various award presentations and recognition events throughout the conference with the final reception to witness the passing of the gavel from **Section Chair John Roth** to **Incoming Chair Michelle Cheek**. Thank you, John for all your work over the last year.

This successful event was all made possible through the support of many. A HUGE thank you to the committees, vendors, sponsors, speakers, volunteers, and attendees. We also want to thank our AWWA Conference Visiting Officer, **Angela Ballard-Landers**, board members and supportive organizations.

We'll see you in Kennewick next year. 📍



# Conference awards

Both the Section and AWWA present awards annually to some of our outstanding volunteers. Recognized by their peers, these awards are presented for either professional expertise or outstanding volunteer effort at the local and/or national level. The awards listed below were presented at our Awards Luncheon or the Board of Trustees meeting at our Conference in Tacoma.

## SUBSECTION ADVISORY COUNCIL AWARDS

Presented to individuals who have done an outstanding job promoting subsection activities and provides an example of what involved participation looks like at the local Subsection level in our three states.

### Michelle Henry from the Lower Columbia Subsection



Michelle is a City of Vancouver employee and has been a board member and secretary of the Lower Columbia Subsection since 2014. Her duties include taking monthly board meeting minutes, sending out training invites via Constant Contact, tracking the CEU process for all workshops and events, managing the attendee rosters, organizing workshops and events and she has provided training topics of her own to speak about during our workshops. She attends every workshop and event to lend a helping hand to ensure the success of the Subsection and the members of AWWA. Michelle is an asset to her subsection and everyone that has had the pleasure to meet her.

### Gerald Arrendondo from the Northwest Oregon Subsection

Gerald is a City of Salem employee and has been the NW Oregon Activities Chair for 10 years. Additionally, he is responsible for coordinating the Meter Madness Competition at the Section level. He always has a positive attitude and energy to interact with people during competitions. He is fun, welcoming, and engaging, not to mention a great MC. Without his encouragement I don't think our Subsection would be as successful with competition engagement. We are grateful for the time and energy Gerald puts in to make our Subsection great.

### Lance Peterson from the Inland Empire Subsection

As president of the Inland Empire Subsection, Lance updated the Subsection Bylaws, and reinstated the Annual Subsection Golf Tournament which funds our Inland Empire Section Scholarship. He moved our Annual Truck Rodeo to a new venue that not only was less expensive than our previous location but also allows for a larger attendance, thereby allowing us to increase the number of technical sessions we can offer our attendees. A past Section Small Committee Chair, Lance has a lot of great ideas, enough energy to power a small city and is a proven leader. He is a great asset to our Subsection.

## HEART AND SOUL AWARD

Recognizes outstanding service and exceptional devotion by either a member or an organization in the activities of the section. Recipients of this award often put in many hours of behind-the-scenes contributions to make our Section great. This award is given at the discretion of the Section Chair.

### Chris Young – Murraysmith



Chris Young is the epitome of these qualities and is the consummate volunteer. He has served in a multitude of capacities, from the behind-the-scenes volunteer to serving on our section board of trustees. I have been impressed by his ability to transition from the role of tireless worker bee seamlessly and interchangeably to being a mentor and a leader. Always encouraging, always helpful, and always solution oriented but conscientious and accountable. He is a valuable role model and someone whom I consider to be a giant in the business. No task is too small or menial and always ready to jump in on large complex projects in service of the Section and more specifically our members. His presence has been ubiquitous where servant leadership has been needed. Chris has brought innovation to meetings and technical sessions, engaging participants' by actively incorporating them into the lessons and the subject material, there are no casual observers. His positive and "let's roll up our sleeves" attitude is inspiring and motivational to those around him. But the thing I admire the most about him is his devotion to his family and work life balance. With everything he does for the Section, he is able to balance and prioritize his home life. Quynn, Emmet, Logan, and Remy thank you for sharing your dad.



### POWELL LINDSAY AWARD

This award is the highest award our Section can present. The Powell Lindsey award is presented to someone whose service to the Section is representative of the extraordinary service of W.H. Powell and Alexander Lindsay and exceptional service to the Pacific Northwest Section of AWWA.

#### Bill Carr – Carollo



A longstanding member of AWWA and of the Pacific Northwest Section, Bill Carr aspired to become a schoolteacher, but instead started a career with a municipal water supply treatment plant and became a Water Treatment Operator who later relocated to the Pacific Northwest to manage treatment plants. He has served on the Education Committee, the Training Coordination Committee, the Scholarship Committee, the Subsection Advisory Council, and the PNWS Board of Directors, including Section Chair.

Bill is devoted to promoting professionalism and excellence in water treatment and operations and holds high level Treatment and Distribution Certifications in Oregon, Idaho, California and Texas, level 4 Professional Operator certifications in both Distribution and Treatment and has been active in the Partnership for Safe Water. Committed to developing and mentoring fellow water professionals he is an active supporter and fundraiser for Water For People and the Education and Training Fund. After retiring from his work for Suez, he took up a role for Carollo Engineers supporting Operators of Water Treatment Plants for treatment design, and optimization. A George Warren Fuller awardee, this gentleman and

Cowboy Poet is often known to “sing for his supper” while at events and is a talented member of the Boise Idaho Master Chorale as well as local opera.

### OPERATORS MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARD

This award is presented annually to individuals who are:

- in continuous compliance with all public health standards in treated drinking water
- outstanding contribution to plant maintenance
- the development of new and or modified equipment or significant process modifications for more efficient treatment
- special effort in training operators
- special acts not directly related to treatment; and
- consistent contributions to operations and maintenance of distribution systems.

#### Zachary Hardwick – Spokane Water District #3

It was a very challenging year for the District. Not only the pandemic, but our field supervisor accepted a position with another utility to be closer to home, and we also suffered the unexpected death of one of our field crew that left us all on our heels. Zac stepped up and took over the supervision of the crew and was able to keep up with production while being short staffed. All while he was studying and passing his WDM 1 test. Although Zac has only two years in the water industry he has also mentored two new employees with no experience. He is truly a team player and an outstanding leader.

#### Greg Keith – City of Issaquah

As the City of Issaquah has grown from a small town of about 15,000 to that of over 40,000 since 1995, Greg Keith has been present and involved, guiding

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the water department in the operation and maintenance of the of the water system expansion. Through this, he has upheld the highest standards in both the existing and new systems. With the addition of a surface water supply to supplement the City's groundwater

sources, there was a need to develop a blending and treatment station. Greg was there to guide the City through the planning, development, and construction process.

A landslide within the City required decisive action to ensure that hundreds

of homes, in two separate pressure zones, would not be without water service. Greg developed an action plan to provide emergency water mains and establish distribution systems in response – maintaining the water supply until a permanent solution could be established. On the heel of this, the City was impacted by PFAS and had to develop a response plan to safeguard its residents – Greg was in the center of this effort.

In the face of the day to day demands of operating a water system, together with the immense challenges associated with explosive growth, natural disasters and groundwater contamination, Greg has remained focused, calm and determined to ensure that the water supply meets the demand and is safe to drink.

## THE GEORGE WARREN FULLER AWARD

The highest award given by AWWA. It is bestowed on individuals for:

- distinguished service in the water supply field
- brilliant diplomatic talent; and
- constructive leadership as characterized by the life and work of George Warren Fuller

## Bob James – Washington State Department of Health



Bob James has spent over four decades serving the water profession and the public. Born in Spokane, his path to service in the water supply field was destined with his father and both grandfathers having successful and influential careers in waterworks. While he was born on the east side, he moved west and became a fervent Husky, earning his undergrad degree in Civil Engineering at UW. He started his career working for a small

## GOLD SPONSOR OF THE PNWS-AWWA ANNUAL CONFERENCE



Ted Ressler, Jason Melady, Larry Eaton, Ryan Dougherty, DeEtta Fosbury

It was a pleasure to see so many familiar faces and introduce our new firm at the PNWS-AWWA conference this spring! With 80+ years of combined experience in the region, we look forward to finding innovative solutions to your water supply challenges.

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consulting firm in Spokane. Then in 1979, became a public servant with the Washington State Department of Health & Human Services (eventually renamed the Department of Health) with the Office of Drinking Water.

His passion and commitment to safe drinking water, public health, and good governance is unwavering. In his career, he has helped hundreds of communities with their drinking water supplies and built countless long-standing relationships. For over four decades, he has been a thought leader in his agency and invaluable mentor for hundreds of teammates and young professionals. He has positively impacted not just the drinking water industry, but his efforts have directly impacted most of the people of WA State.

He is a lifelong AWWA member and has been steadfast in support of subsection training events. A specific example: along with the Northwest Washington Subsection, he helped to pioneer the concept of a day-long workshop for regulators and utilities: "A Day with DOH". This workshop is now an annual event in many Subsections throughout Washington. He has provided tremendous support for his employees to be actively involved in AWWA with numerous members of his staff serving on committees from the subsection level to the national level. His support for his staff is unparalleled and most of them describe him as being willing to give the shirt off his back for them.

He was involved in the design-build regulatory process for most major treatment plants in the state (both SPU plants, Tacoma, and Everett) that serve about 80% of the state's population. His focus on public health and support for utilities has contributed to their day-to-day successes as well as emergency responses.

His lasting contribution is that he has taught multiple generations of Washington DOH staff that public health focus, compassion, good judgement, and long-term relationships are the ultimate tools to ensure safe and reliable drinking water. And circling back to what I mentioned earlier about those ancestors that were in the waterworks profession, his father,

Roger James received the Fuller award in 1975, and his grandfather, Alex Lindsay received the Fuller award in 1939.

### LECHNER AWARD OF EXCELLENCE

The Lechner Award of Excellence is presented annually to recognize a Section Service Provider such as a vendor or consultant who has demonstrated exemplary service to the drinking water community and to AWWA's Mission and Goals. While this award is a Section Award, we also have the opportunity annually to submit our section recipient to the association for national consideration. This year's winner has been selected as the National Award winner as well and will be attending ACE in San Antonio to receive their national award.

#### Corianne Burnett – Carollo



Corianne has been an AWWA member for over 15 years. She has volunteered her time in numerous Section and National Committees, is a past trustee of the Section and currently serves on the AWWA Board as a Service Provider Director at Large.

### DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION AWARD

The purpose of this award is to recognize an individual, group, or organization that has created, promoted, and maintained diversity and inclusion by establishing an environment that recognizes, encourages, and effectively utilizes each individual's talents.

#### Nicki Pozos



As a recognized leader in equity within the water industry, Nicki began by creating opportunities for women's leadership through co-founding the Women in Leadership Symposium. She now serves as a Minority Evaluator for the City of Portland, leads equity programs on capital projects for the Portland Water Bureau and Portland Bureau of Environmental Services, and serves as President and Cofounder of Women Leading Water, which takes an intersectional approach to promoting equity in the water industry.

She has presented on equity, diversity, and bias at numerous local and regional conferences, ranging from local operator trainings to a

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keynote presentation at the CA-NV American Water Works Association Conference. She also presented multiple times at our Section's Conference within its inaugural Diversity & Inclusion technical track. Her equity and inclusion trainings and presentations have reached thousands of technical professionals at organizations including municipal agencies, consulting firms, and professional associations. These trainings incorporate evolving best practices for the water industry and help foster diversity and inclusion.

Nicki is an unstoppable force for diversity and inclusion and has been working in equity for 10 years seeking ways to make our communities more equitable and livable. As she says, "When I am at my best, I enable people to leap from where they are to a whole new vantage point. That new perspective makes the impossible possible."

### A.P. BLACK AWARD

The A.P. Black Award was established in 1967 in honor of Dr. A.P. Black to recognize outstanding research contributions to water science and water supply rendered over an appreciable period of time.

### Melinda Friedman – Confluence Engineering



While this award is presented annually at AWWA's Annual Conference and Exposition we

wanted to share the good news that this year's recipient is from our Section. Throughout her distinguished career in the drinking water industry, Melinda Friedman has helped improve public health for millions of people through her tremendous contributions to vital research on drinking water quality. She has been able to personally implement practical application of her work by providing technical resolution to several system challenges, including two of the most high-profile distribution system upsets: the 2014 Flint, MI and 2002 Washington, DC lead release events. Furthermore, her specific research outcomes were adopted by the AWWA Partnership for Safe Water guidelines for distribution systems, a program now followed by over 150 utilities serving 38 million persons across the United States. [AWWA](#)

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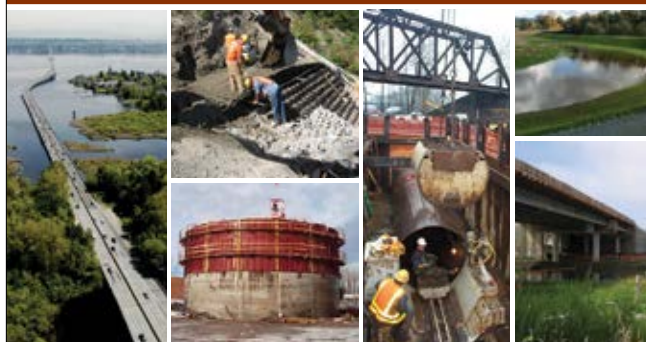
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### Northwest Oregon (NWOR) Subsection

Wait! So, it's not too late to register for the 2022 Virtual Waterworks School? Don't delay and register right away. Last day for registration is June 20.

*Thank you to our WWSS Committee and Speakers for presenting this summer.*



#### Competent Person Training – Tuesday, October 11

Training will be held in Wilsonville and is pending CEU Approval.

Competent person is defined as one who is capable of identifying existing and predictable hazards in the surroundings or working conditions which are unsanitary, hazardous, or dangerous to employees, and who has authorization to take prompt corrective measures to eliminate them.

*Max: 30 attendees*

#### 2022 Holiday Party – December 16, 2022


The 2022 Holiday Party is planned for a new venue – **The Oregon Zoo**. It's never too early to be hunting for that perfect ugly sweater.



#### Contact

Receiving our monthly announcements? Have questions? Interest in any of these opportunities or would you like to host a training? Please connect with **Kyle Arnhart** at [kylea@tigard-or.gov](mailto:kylea@tigard-or.gov).

#### Connected on Social Media

Send us your photos! We'd love to see what your city or company is doing. Visit us on our social media accounts! 



#### We need volunteers

Are you interested in getting more involved in the Subsection? Check out the open positions below. Please reach out to **Kyle Arnhart** at [kylea@tigard-or.gov](mailto:kylea@tigard-or.gov) if you're interested in learning more.

#### Opportunities

##### Incoming Subsection Officer

The Secretary prepares monthly meeting minutes and submits them to the appropriate person to be included in the announcements for upcoming meetings. Takes meeting minutes at Subsection Board meetings and compiles them for occasional submittal to the bank. Assists the Treasurer with the collection of money at regular monthly meetings and may also assist the other officers with the preparation of the Subsection's annual report.

##### Short School Committee

The Committee organizes the annual three-day waterworks school which is normally held at Clackamas

Community College. The Committee is responsible for soliciting speakers and vendors for the three-day event, working with the college regarding logistics, as well as classroom monitoring and other functions during the waterworks school.

#### Save the Date

##### John Aho Memorial

##### Golf Tournament – Friday, July 15

Join us at the 28th Annual Golf Tournament. We're ready to come back strong this year and raise as much money as possible for these great causes. All proceeds from this year's tournament will be split between the John Aho Memorial Scholarship Fund and Water For People. WFP funds will go towards general project support for water supply and sanitation projects throughout WFP's action countries.

If you're interested in sponsoring a hole, cart or would like to donate raffle prizes, please contact **Justin Ford** at [justin.ford@murraysmith.us](mailto:justin.ford@murraysmith.us).

### South Sound Subsection

It was so great to see many of you at the PNWS-AWWA Conference in Tacoma. Hope you enjoyed your time here, and to be able to see you again soon. The South Sound Subsection continues to meet virtually each month, which couldn't be easier to stop in and see what we are up to. We are working hard to continue to bring valuable trainings and excited for a couple upcoming events.

We hosted an internal Best Tasting Water competition at Spanaway Water on March 25. Thank you to our judges, **Steve Hulsman** (DOH), and Board Members **Kali Kocdemir** (Smart Earth Technologies) and **Will Smythe** (Parametrix). With nine entries, first place went to **Fruitland Mutual Water Company**, second place to **Silverdale Water District**, and third to **Lakewood Water District**. **Steve Hulsman** from DOH gave a huge complement to our South Sound Operators, he stated, "The operators are doing a really good job in optimizing their treatment to obtain really good water quality." Thank you, operators.

#### Trainings

In March, Waterworks 101 kicked off our 2022 trainings. Three more trainings are



being planned with topics around **Asset Management 2.0, System Planning, Safety and Customer Service**. Watch our Subsection site for information and dates as they come together.

#### Upcoming events

Register now for the **South Sound Subsection 9th Annual Charity Golf Tournament**, benefitting Living Access

Support Alliance (LASA) on **July 22** at the Oakbrook Golf Club in Lakewood, WA. Shotgun start at 1:00pm, join a team or be a sponsor – we are excited to see you!

Save the Date for **South Sound Subsection Social** on **Friday, August 26** at Dystopian State Brewing in Tacoma, WA. More information and registration will be available soon. [📅](#)

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## Inland Empire Subsection

As you're reading this, I'm already gone. During the month of May, we changed Board positions. Now serving as Past President, I am charged with coordinating our **19th Annual Truck Rodeo**. Wanting to avoid conflicts, we plan to move this to a Wednesday in the middle/end of February. Here's hoping we get to the 20th.

**PEW, PEW, CRACK, BOOM, PKEWWFFF, CABOOOOM!** Grab a foursome or come by yourself, but get signed up to hear the 7:30 am shotgun start at **Downriver Golf Course**. Break out the nickers and work the links with some old chums. Not only will you have the time of your life on **Friday, July 29, 2022**, you will also support our efforts in raising funds for the **One Operator Scholarship**. Thank you, **Dan and Muara Kegley** for organizing this again.

The One Operator Scholarship is working toward a stand-alone, perpetual, fund. Let's all help them get there.

You guessed it; you are going to want an Uber XL to help haul your loot away from this auction. This year's **No Water No Beer** event will be at Genus Brewery on **Friday, August 19, 2022** from 5-9 pm. One sip of their sweet nectar and you will realize it's time to give up the keys and prepare for the taxi hail. Back from the COVID hiatus, once again raising funds for Water For People and scholarships. We look forward to breaking bread with you. Thank you, **Seth McIntosh, Elishiva Walters** and the rest of the NWNB Committee for bringing this back.

The One Operator Scholarship is working toward a stand-alone, perpetual, fund. Let's all help them get there. The Inland Empire Subsection adamantly supports this goal. This year, we were able to donate over \$2,000. We would like to challenge all other subsections to help raise funds for this great cause.

With any luck, we will again be enjoying Smokin' Rose's World Famous Smoked Brisket at the **IESS Appreciation Picnic** at Millwood Park. Be watching for more information and sign ups. It wouldn't surprise me if it doesn't sell out this year... oh wait, it's free and we have lots of room, just RSVP please.

Our current Board is:

- **Seth McIntosh**, City of Spokane, President
- **Branden Rose**, Hayden Lake Irrigation District, Vice President
- **Andy Wilson**, Consolidated Supply, Director #1
- **Jessica Waller**, JUB Engineer, Director #2
- **Doug Greenlund**, City of Spokane, Director #3
- **Kyle Meschko**, Keller Associates, Inc, Director #4
- **Eric Delbo**, Spokane County Water District #3, Director #5
- **Maura Kegley**, Secretary and Treasurer
- **Bob Cunningham**, Irvin Water District No. 6, Past President

Keep an eye out for more classes, events, and activities. Thank you all who have made this ride so beneficial and enjoyable. I am proud to have served on this great Board in this great organization. As always, please reach out with questions or comments.

Best Regards,  
Bob Cunningham  
[irvinwater@windwireless.net](mailto:irvinwater@windwireless.net)  
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### King County Subsection

This summer season has been busy with officer transitions, the Annual PNWS Conference in Tacoma, and planning for the upcoming trainings and events. Planning is already underway for the Annual Charity Golf Tournament, and we are looking forward to more in-person events. The Board would also like to welcome new members since the spring and celebrate our continued growth as a Section. If you're interested in joining for a meeting to learn more about the KCSS, please reach out to our **Board Secretary Beth Mende** at [elizabeth.mende@hdrinc.com](mailto:elizabeth.mende@hdrinc.com) for the meeting invitation. We meet on the third Wednesday from 12-1pm.

#### Events

##### UPDATE – 2022 Water Olympics – Featuring Best Tasting Water, March 10, 2022

On March 10, the KCSS hosted the **Annual Water Olympics** – featuring **Best Tasting Water**. The event was held at Sumerian Brewery, in Woodinville, WA, following local requirements for COVID safety. The event was a blast, bringing together KCSS members for some friendly competition and celebration of providing clean and safe drinking water to our communities. For the BTW competition, the KCSS has two winners, one for Best Overall, and one for Best Treated Water. We would like to congratulate the following winners:

**Best Tasting Overall – Northeast Sammamish Sewer and Water District, and Best Tasting Treated Water – Covington Water District; Sugar Loaf Source** (photo below – **Dan Sleeth, Glenn Stockman**). We would also like to thank all the BTW participants. A special thanks to our judges, **Cheryl Capron, Kyle Kihs, and Brietta Carter**. Furthermore, we couldn't have done the event without our sponsors; WECI, David, Evans and Associates, M&H Valve Company, Brown and Caldwell, Stantec, RH2, Core & Main, Mueller Systems, Murraysmith, Pace Engineers, PumpTech, Branom Instruments, and HDR.

**Congratulations to NE Sammamish Water District for winning “Best of the Northwest Taste Contest”!**  
The District represented King County



Best Tasting Treated Water – Covington Water District; Sugar Loaf Source (Dan Sleeth, Glenn Stockman)



A special thanks to our judges, Cheryl Capron, Kyle Kihs, and Brietta Carter.

in the competition at the PNWS conference, and won the **AWWA Best of the Northwest Taste Contest** after facing off against competing water districts from across Washington, Oregon and Idaho (photo below: **Laura Keough and Wayne DeMeester** (NESSWD), **Doug Schlepp** (RH2)). The District will compete at the national level at ACE in June.



Laura Keough, Wayne DeMeester and Doug Schlepp

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### Training

The Subsection is committed to offering classes to help our members meet their CEU requirements. The goal of the Board is to offer at least four classes within the calendar year. Planning is underway for the 2022 technical program with more virtual classes, as well initial plans for the return of in-person classes. Look out for further announcements and registration information. For questions related to classes, whether that is an idea for a class, suggestion for speakers, or general information about training and CEU's, please contact our Associate Program Director **Bella Campbell** at [bella.campbell@murraysmith.us](mailto:bella.campbell@murraysmith.us).

### KCSS Board Transitions and Recruitment

With the start of the new PNWS year, the KCSS welcomes new Officers for 2022-23:

#### Officers

- Caren Gallion – President
- Jon Miner – Vice President
- Amerika Stodola – Treasurer
- Beth Mende – Secretary
- Maeve Harris – YP Liaison
- Frank Spevak – Major Events Chair (Golf Tournament Coordinator)
- Ted Stonebridge – 2-year Events Director (Water Olympics Coordinator)
- Bella Campbell – Associate Program Director 1
- Max Woody – Associate Program Director 2

#### Past Officers

- Joanie Stultz – Past President
- Jim Konigsfeld – Past Program Director
- Bill Reynolds – Past Major Events Chair

#### Open Roles

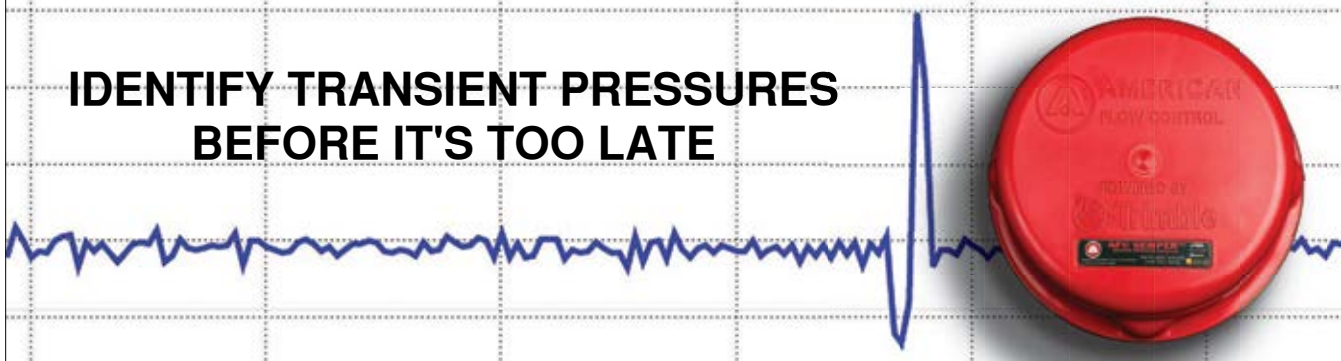
- Program Director
- PAC Liaison (1-year Director)
- Communications Chair

Please reach out to the subsection President, **Caren Gallion**, if you are interested in any of the open roles [caren.gallion@covingtonwater.com](mailto:caren.gallion@covingtonwater.com). 

### Upcoming Event: Its Tee Time! September 9, 2022

Save the date for KCSS's Annual Charity Golf Tournament, planned for September 9, 2022. Look out for registration information in the PNWS website under Events. To our past and new Sponsors, WE NEED YOU! We invite you to consider sponsoring the Golf Tournament. Specific details on sponsor levels will be sent out in the coming weeks. Join us again this year for a fun-filled event that will raise funds for great causes! If you are interested in playing or sponsoring, contact **Frank Spevak** [frank.spevak@emerson.com](mailto:frank.spevak@emerson.com) or 206-979-1953 with questions!

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