



Alberta Utility Operator

39th Annual Operators Seminar March 10 – 14, 2014 Banff, Alberta

In This Issue:

- Operators Seminar1
- Pre-seminar Workshops 1-2
- Old Operator3
- Upcoming Courses.....4
- Math Corner5
- Bylaws - Proposed Change6
- Charitable Donations7
- Guest Program.....8

The Alberta Water & Wastewater Operators Association is once again pleased to invite you to attend the Annual Operators Seminar held at the Banff Park Lodge, 222 Lynx Street, Banff. The Annual Operators Seminar offers an entertaining and informative program and over 150 displays.

A Technical Program featuring 25 - 30 technical presentations takes place Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday. Events included with your registration begin on Monday, March 10th:

- 12:00 Noon: Delegate Registration in the Lobby
- 1:00 PM: Trade Show Displays Open
- 6:30 PM: Wine and Cheese Reception

Six pre-seminar workshops held at the Banff Rocky Mountain Resort require separate registration. Descriptions follow below. Please check the website (awwoa.ca) for more information and to register.

1. Large Pipe Inspection and Trunkline Entry

Lynn Lebirk, Drainage Trainer, City of Edmonton
8:30 AM, Monday, March 10, 2014

An overview of the methods and practices used for entry and inspection of large trunklines will be provided. A review of associated risks and safety considerations will be provided along with learnings developed through practice within the City of Edmonton's operations.

2. Algae Control and Mitigation

Jason Stusick & Luke Schoening, MPE Engineering,
8:30 AM, Monday, March 10, 2014

Algae and Cyanobacteria (blue-green algae) present a challenge for many water professionals in Alberta and across the Canadian Prairies. Annual or occasional blooms can be disruptive and difficult for potable water, wastewater and storm water system operations and can occasionally present risks to the public. This workshop will attempt to look at control and mitigation solutions for algae concerns through all phases of water supply and treatment with a focus primarily on potable water systems.

3. Chemical Handling 101

Mike Cawson, B.Sc.
ClearTech Industries Inc.
1:00 PM, Monday, March 10, 2014

A look inside the water treatment chemical industry featuring chemical handling of hazardous goods (including safety/PPE, shipping/handling logistics, transfer pumps, metering pumps, disposal/environmental considerations).

4. Horizontal Directional Drilling - Good Practices

Jason Lueke, Ph. D., P.Eng., NASTT
1:00 PM, Monday, March 10, 2014

The HDD Good Practices Guidelines course provides an in-depth overview of Horizontal Directional Drilling (HDD) and covers six topics: (1) operation and application; (2) equipment and materials; (3) planning, including surface and geological investigations, utility surveys, bore planning, and regulations and permitting; (4) jobsite safety; (5) risk reduction, trouble shooting and mitigation; and (6) design.

5. Using Repair Clamps Effectively

Stephen Kratko and Todd Keffaber,
Ford Meterbox
8:30 AM, Tuesday, March 11, 2014

This workshop will review the different types of clamps used in the industry today with a focus on installation techniques, trouble shooting, the importance of passivation, types of materials, and pressure ratings.

6. FOG in Co-Digestion - Benefits and Drawbacks

Dr. Lalith Liyanage, Associated Engineering
Dr. Shahid Malik, EWMCE
Barry Brookes, City of Red Deer
8:30 AM, Tuesday, March 11, 2014

The case for enhancing biogas production in digestion through introduction of Fat, Oil & Grease (FOG) is compelling, but understanding the practical implications is critical to success. This seminar provides an overview of the benefits of FOG use, provides insight into optimal conditions through review of pilot and full-scale results, and develops an understanding of important considerations as derived from some of the latest industry experiences.

Information about the [Guest Program](#) and [Friday's Technical Session](#) continues on page 8.

Continuing Education Unit Information for Operators Seminar:

Attending Tues. Wed. and Thurs.	0.9 CEUs
Attending a Pre-Seminar Workshop: (separate pre-registration)	0.3 CEUs
Attending Friday Technical Session:	0.3 CEUs

(NOTE: you must attend to receive the CEUs)

Registration:

Registrations for the Seminar accepted until March 1, 2014. Anyone who has not been confirmed as registered by March 1 will need to register in Banff.

Cost:

Full Seminar Registration - AWWOA members (Monday - Friday)	\$265 + GST
Full Seminar Registration - Non members (Monday - Friday)	\$380 + GST
Display Viewing (One Day)	\$100 + GST
Single Day Registration (Wednesday or Thursday)	\$150 + GST
Guest Program (One Day Program)	\$100 + GST
Banquet Ticket - (Includes two beverage tickets)	\$ 65 + GST
Pre-Seminar Workshops	\$100 + GST

Dealing With Our Troubles

It seems lately I have encountered many folks who are overwhelmed by their troubles. As long as we are on this earth we will have troubles and tribulations. They will follow us from birth till death. To quote the movie Oklahoma, "Oh what a beautiful morning, oh what a beautiful day, I've got a beautiful feeling, everything is going my way." And that's usually when something goes wrong and we've got trouble. For me, how you deal with your troubles will greatly determine your happiness.

When I meet people and am carrying on a conversation with them, many times I get the distinct feeling, even though they are standing right in front of me, they are somewhere else. How many times when you are talking to someone do you find yourself thinking of what you will do in the next hour or day or next week. If this is true of your situation, you are worrying about time that has not yet arrived, you can certainly do nothing about it and your worries may never manifest themselves. If you want to conserve energy rather than expend it, do yourself and the person you are visiting with a big favor. Live in the moment! Enjoy and savor every minute of every day you have been blessed with. Your imagined troubles are just that, imagined. And they may never arrive at your doorstep.

If you feel defeated because you are making one mistake after another, take a deep breath and know your life experience is enhanced every time you fail. Very little is ever gleaned when things go right for us. Life is a great teacher; it gives the test first and the lesson after. You may not feel it at the time but you are gaining positive life knowledge every time you have to work through a tough problem that has been thrown at you. I think sometimes we let our troubles overwhelm us and we freeze, afraid to take the next step because we will encounter more troubles. The road to recovery, like climbing a mountain, is accomplished not by giant steps but by one small step at a time. Take the next small step.

About 10 or so years ago, I read a story in a workplace pamphlet about an old carpenter who was hired to restore a farmhouse. He had just finished a very tough

first day; a flat tire on his truck, a new saw that would not run and then his pickup quit. His employer drove him home, the two sitting beside each other in silence. Upon arriving at the old carpenter's home, he invited his new employer into the house to meet his family. On the walk to the front door the employer noticed the old carpenter paused and gently touched the tips of the branches of a small bush with both hands. Upon entering the house the old carpenter's face beamed with smiles as he hugged his two children and kissed his wife. An amazing transformation had taken place.

Afterward the old carpenter walked his new employer back to the car. As they passed the little bush the employer's curiosity got the best of him and he asked the old carpenter about what he had done with the bush before entering his home. The old carpenter said, "Oh that's my trouble tree. I can't help having troubles on the job, but one thing for sure, troubles don't belong in the house with my wife and children." The old carpenter went on to say, I just hang my troubles up on the tree every night when I come home and every morning I pick them up again.

The funny thing is, in the morning there aren't near as many troubles as I remember hanging up the night before."

Here is my recipe for well

being and leaving your troubles behind: ample optimism to provide hope, a dash of pessimism to prevent complacency and enough realism to discriminate those things we can control from those we cannot. Sometimes we hold onto troubles when we really don't have to. You may have been taught that holding on makes you strong, but sometimes the real wisdom and strength in life is in letting go. At least that's how I see it.

The Old Operator.

Doug Thorson

Your imagined troubles are just that, imagined. And they may never arrive at your doorstep.

2014 AWWOA Classroom Courses

DATE	LOCATION	COURSE
January 30 & 31, 2014	Calgary	Part A, Level I Certification Preparation Course
February 27 & 28, 2014	Calgary	Part B, Level I Certification Preparation Course
February 4 & 5, 2014	Red Deer	Pump & Systems Hydraulics
February 6, 2014	Red Deer	Fire Hydrant Flow Testing
February 10 - 13, 2014	Edmonton	Level III/IV Water Treatment Certification Preparation Course
February 12 & 13, 2014	Calgary	Entry Level Training Course
February 19 & 20, 2014	Edmonton	Entry Level Training Course
February 24 & 25, 2014	Edmonton	Process Control Intermediate
March 10 - 14, 2014	Banff	Annual Operators Seminar
March 10, 2014	Banff	ESRD Certification Exams
March 26 & 27, 2014	Edmonton	Part A Level I Certification Preparation Course
April 23 & 24, 2014	Edmonton	Part B Level I Certification Preparation Course
April 2 & 3, 2014	Calgary	Level II Certification Preparation Course
April 7 & 8, 2014	Lethbridge	Water Distribution Systems
April 10 & 11, 2014	Lethbridge	Wastewater Collection Systems
April 10, 2014	ESRD Application Deadline Date for May ESRD Certification Exams	
April 28, 2014	Edmonton	Small Water Systems Course
April 28 – May 2, 2014	Edmonton	Cross Connection Control – Testers
April 29, 2014	Edmonton	Small Wastewater Systems Course
April 30 & May 1 & 2, 2014	Red Deer	Chlorination Workshop
May 5 & 6, 2014	Calgary	Excel Water and Wastewater Operator Training
May 7 & 8, 2014	Calgary	Support Systems & Applied Math Certification Preparation

For additional information or to register for any of the AWWOA courses, please go to www.awwoa.ca

register for all courses at
www.awwoa.ca



Alberta Water and Wastewater
Operators Association

AWWOA Careers Certification Publications Seminar Suppliers Technical Training

Your AWWOA Needs You: That's Right, You!

If you are an AWWOA member in good standing and planning to attend the Operators Seminar in March 2014, your AWWOA Executive has an opportunity for you.

In the past you may have been thinking of letting your name stand for nomination to the AWWOA Executive. You may have hesitated because you didn't know exactly what you might be getting yourself into, then this opportunity may change your mind.

With the busy schedule of the Seminar, it takes many hands to make everything come together smoothly. Your Executive is looking for approximately 12 people who could contribute 10 hours each during the seminar. The duties would include but not be limited to assisting with technical presentations, front desk registration, charitable donations or other activities.

Your assistance would provide you with some additional experience on some of the activities required of elected members to the AWWOA Executive. It is our hope this experience may encourage you to put your name forward for future elections to the AWWOA Executive.

If you should decide in favor of committing to 10 hours of volunteer duties during the upcoming 2014 Seminar, your Executive will provide you with a free seminar registration and banquet ticket for your commitment. You can contact Nancy McAteer preferably via e-mail at nancymcateer@shaw.ca or at her business phone 403-886-4265.

Your Executive members look forward to working with you to make our 2014 Operators Seminar in March the best ever.

From your AWWOA Executive

Math Corner

Math Corner is an effort to improve an operator's technical skills. Your answer(s) should be correct and match those of co-workers. Correct answers will be included in the next newsletter. Send any questions or submissions for Math Corner to training@awwoa.ca.

New Problem, Winter 2014

6 ML of treated water has been chlorinated for the purpose of disinfection with 21 kg of chlorine. Lab results show a free chlorine residual of 1.4 mg/l and a total chlorine residual of 2.5 mg/l. Calculate the chlorine demand of the water and the combined chlorine residual.

Problem from Issue 20:

The storage lagoon in a community has a 3 ML capacity and is 75% full. The wastewater flow from the community is 80 cubic metres per month. What is the minimum amount of wastewater that must be released today if a future release is scheduled for 12 months from now?

Answer:

80 cubic metres per month x 12 months = 960 m³ or 0.96 ML

Current capacity is 3 ML x .75 = 2.25 ML so there is currently room for 0.75 ML

If we have room for 0.75 ML and 0.96 ML is coming we must release a minimum of 0.21 ML.

Math corner is submitted by Dave Noack.

Annual General Meeting (AGM)

AWWOA's AGM will be held on Wednesday, March 12, 2014 in Banff.

Notification of Ratification of Proposed Amendments to the Bylaws

At the 2014 AWWOA AGM, the following proposed amendments to the Association's Bylaws will be voted on. The changes have been proposed due to the population changes within the province and to better reflect the current state of population distribution.

MOTION: Move to change and update the Bylaws as per the following:

Current

Section 5.2 Composition

5.2.1 At least twelve (12) Directors, who are Full Members of the Association, including a minimum of:

- a) Two (2) elected Directors from municipalities over 100,000 populations.
- b) Two (2) elected Directors from communities over 10,000 but under 100,000 population.
- c) Two (2) elected Directors from communities over 3,000 but under 10,000 population.
- d) Four (4) elected Directors from communities under 3,000 populations.
- e) One (1) elected Director who shall be the Alberta Provincial Director appointee to the WCWWA Board of Directors.
- f) One (1) elected Director from Public Facilities.

5.2.2 The Chair who shall be an ex officio Director.

5.2.3 The Past Chair who shall be an ex officio Director.

5.2.4 One (1) elected Director who is a Life or Honorary Life Member.

5.2.5 One (1) non-voting and non-elected Director, who may or may not be a member appointed by Alberta Environment (not elected).

5.2.6 One (1) non-voting and non-elected Director who may or may not be a member appointed by NAIT (not elected).

5.2.7 One (1) non-voting and non-elected Director, who will be the Webmaster and provide website reports and information to the Executive Board.

5.2.8 The elected Directors must be members in good standing, reside in the Province of Alberta, and elected by the Voting Members in accordance with these Bylaws.

Proposed for Member Approval at 2014 AGM:

Section 5.2 Composition

5.2.1 **Thirteen (13) Directors**, who are Full Members of the Association, including a minimum of:

- a) Two (2) elected Directors from municipalities over **150,000** population.
- b) Two (2) elected Directors from communities over **25,000 but at or** under **150,000** population.
- c) **Three (3)** elected Directors from communities over **5,000 but at or** under **25,000** population.
- d) **Three (3)** elected Directors from communities **5,000 or under** population.
- e) One (1) elected Director who shall be the Alberta Provincial Director appointee to the **Western Canada Water** Board of Directors.
- f) One (1) elected Director from Public Facilities.
- g) One (1) elected Director who is a Life or Honorary Life Member.

5.2.2 The Chair who shall be an ex officio Director.

5.2.3 The Past Chair who shall be an ex officio Director.

5.2.4 One (1) non-voting and non-elected Director, who may or may not be a member appointed by Alberta Environment.

5.2.5 One (1) non-voting and non-elected Director, who may or may not be a member appointed by NAIT.

5.2.6 One (1) non-voting and non-elected Director, who will be the Webmaster and provide website reports and information to the Executive Board.

5.2.7 The elected Directors must be members in good standing, reside in the Province of Alberta, and elected by the Voting Members in accordance with these Bylaws.

Charitable Donations Report, Winter 2014

Here we are on the eve of our AWWOA Operators seminar for March 2014. Your AWWOA and Charitable Donations Committee are again eager to support a children's school in Uganda as well as the ongoing efforts of Water For People Canada in Bolivia. By ourselves, your AWWOA Executive can do very little. But if all of us commit to donating funds to these worthy projects, school children, teachers and parents lives will be forever changed for the better. Life has taught me there are few burdens too heavy to lift if we all lift together. When you contribute to the plight of these needy children you send a clear message that even if people doubt what we say, they will always believe what we do.

I would like to take a moment to say to all of you, when I reflect on the generosity of you, our AWWOA members, our Suppliers and Friends, I am always left overwhelmed. Everyday we are each given opportunities to bring someone joy. This joy can be life changing to them as well as make a huge difference in our life. You have taught me over and over we can be generous, kind and compassionate to people we don't even know. It costs each of us so little. But when you add all these little gestures together the impact is significant. Children have become healthier. Some children's lives have been saved, their quality of life forever improved, and yes, new

opportunities for education. All because of your willingness to help people you don't know, will surely never meet, and who don't have the means to thank you. That is true charity in working clothes.

While I acknowledge your generosity was selfless (you did not expect anything in return) just maybe you have become a little richer. You see, kindness can be its own unselfish motive; we are made kind by being kind. An old Latin proverb states, "By learning, you will teach; by teaching you will learn." By your continued unselfish giving to our water and wastewater projects, you are teaching those around you what it means to put others first. The greatest power of freedom is when we overcome hatred and violence and turn the creator's gifts of men and women into the pursuits of peace. That is what you have done by your generous giving. Greater than all this is when we can give without remembering and take without forgetting.

Our 2014 project will be the Kayongo Primary school in Dei Parish Uganda in the district of Nebbe. The school teaches grades one to seven with 13 teachers and 923 students. The children suffer from stomach cramps, diarrhea, typhoid and cholera. These children really need our help.

Your Charitable Donations Committee hope that if you attend

our 2014 Operators Seminar you will participate in some of our activities and visit with us. As you know, we are hoping some of our membership may volunteer in some of our seminar activities. Make it the Charitable Donations activities. We would welcome your help and perspective.

Doug Thorson
Charitable Donations Chair

The Alberta Utility Operator Newsletter provides a forum for communication and networking among AWWOA members in the areas of new technologies and research, regulatory concerns and changes, outstanding service and other Association concerns. Editors welcome suggestions for content from the membership.

The Alberta Utility Operator Newsletter is published three times a year by the Alberta Water and Wastewater Operators Association with assistance from Alberta Environment.

Deadlines for submission are in January, April and August.

Contacts:
Newsletter:
Gayle Sacuta
gayleis@telusplanet.net

Association Office:
John Voyer
Executive Director, AWWOA
email: jvoyer@awwoa.ca

Cathie Monson
Training Coordinator
email: training@awwoa.ca

Ashley Nichol
Member Services
email: register@awwoa.ca

Views expressed in The Alberta Utility Operator are those of the writers. Unless otherwise stated, articles should not be interpreted as policy or regulation and do not necessarily reflect organizational or editorial policy.

39th Annual Operator Seminar Friday Technical Session:

Emergency Response: Plan to Practice

Garry Drachenberg
Associated Engineering

A review of the requirements and challenges around water management in the aftermath of Alberta's 'State of Emergency'. What does it take to restore service and how does a Utility weigh through the challenges and conflicting priorities? The session takes place Friday, March 14, from 9:00 - 12:00 at Banff Park Lodge.

Were You or Your Municipality Affected by Recent Weather Events in Alberta?

Were you or your municipality affected by recent weather events in Alberta? Not just the south, but anywhere in Alberta?

Would you be willing to tell your story?

Do you have pictures you can share?

Do you know of someone who went above and beyond the call?

The AWWOA is putting together a little "something", hoping to share the stories with all operators. Please email your stories and pictures to: training@awwoa.ca

If you have any questions, please contact Cathie Monson at 1-877-454-7745 ext. 224.

AWWOA Guest Program

*Wednesday March 12, 2014
starting at 8:30 am*

8:30 AM - Get Acquainted Breakfast - location at the Banff Park Lodge Restaurant (Chinook Private - back of the restaurant)

9:40 AM - Bus pick up at Banff Park Lodge - travel to Banff Centre

10:00 AM - Arrive at the Eric Harvie Theatre and welcome by Jim Olver the Director of Guest Services

10:15 AM – 12:15 PM - Guided tour of creative spaces and activities on campus including some or all of the following (based on activity and time)

- Backstage theatre tour including stages, Costume Shop and Properties Shop
- Music rehearsal and performance spaces and the piano maintenance shop
- Leighton Artists' Colony
- Audio and video studios in the Jeanne & Peter Loughheed Building
- Library tour in the Paul D. Fleck Library & Archives
- Visual Arts on display in the Kinnear Centre for Creativity & Innovation

12:30 PM – 2:00 PM - Lunch in one of the new Dining Rooms, great food with spectacular panoramic views of the Bow Valley (Vistas dining room)

2:15 PM - 3:15 PM – Musical Performance by participant(s) in the Winter Music Program

3:30 PM - Load on the Bus for return to Banff Park Lodge, arrival approximately 3:45 PM

Alberta Water & Wastewater Operators Association
10806 – 119 Street, Edmonton, Alberta, T5H 3P2
Toll free: 1-877-454-7745, Local: 780-454-7745, Fax: 780-454-7758

www.awwoa.ca