



NH Water Works Association Newsletter

Issue 118

Winter 2019

Two Chosen to Receive Meritorious Achievement Award Cynthia Klevens, P.E., NH Department of Environmental Services and Victor St. Pierre, Assistant Director of Public Works, City of Claremont, NH

The NHWWA Board of Directors reviewed four very worthy nominations for the 2018 Meritorious Achievement Award. There having been a precedent for two recipients in one year, the Board decided to present the award to Cindy Klevens, P.E. of the NH Department of Environmental Services, and Victor St. Pierre, Assistant Director of Public Works for the City of Claremont, NH.

Cindy Klevens, was presented with one of the two awards at the New England Water Works Association/NH Water Works Association Joint Meeting on January 17 in Portsmouth, NH.

Cindy was nominated by Bruce Lewis of Lewis Engineering, PLLC, Litchfield, NH. In his nominating

letter, Bruce noted that Cindy “has worked diligently for the betterment of drinking water in the State of NH and in New England for many years. She has guided and directed a number of dedicated and talented people. Her leadership has provided excellent engineering guidance, advice, and approvals within NH in a most professional manner.” Bruce feels that Cindy is one of the key persons within NHDES Drinking Water and Ground Bureau that have allowed the State to support and help guarantee safe drinking water.

Victor St. Pierre was enjoying a well-deserved vacation in a warmer climate on January 17 so the Board plans to present him with his award at a later date.

Victor was nominated by co-worker Scott Sweet. Scott listed no less than 16 accomplishments for Victor in the three years he has been in the position in Claremont. Notable are his handling of severe drought conditions in 2016 and



Cindy Klevens (center) of the NH Department of Environmental Services received the 2018 Meritorious Achievement Award at the NEWWA/NHWWA Joint Meeting in January. Pictured with her are NHWWA President Charlie Roberts and NEWWA President-elect Barbara Cook.

his aggressive and thorough response to lead contamination. Victor identified lead water services and lead components in the city, then secured an emergency DWSRF loan to replace 150 +/- lines. He also started testing for lead in schools before it was required. As a result of his efforts, Victor received the Environmental Protection Agency’s Children’s Health Environmental Merit Award.

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NHWWA Members Recognized at the NEWWA/NHWWA Joint Meeting in January

A number of NHWWA members were recognized at the New England Water Works Association/New Hampshire Water Works Association's Joint Meeting on January 17 at Cisco Brewers in Portsmouth, NH.



Bernie Rousseau of Pennichuck Water was recognized for committee leadership for co-chairing the NEWWA Fund Raising Committee for 15 years. Presenting the award is NEWWA President-elect Barbara Cook.



Ray Talkington of Geosphere Environmental Management, Inc. received the David M. Erickson Groundwater Award. The award chair, Andrew Miller (left) presented the plaque. Also pictured is NEWWA President-elect Barbara Cook.



Tom Cravens received NEWWA's Life Member Award from NEWWA President-elect Barbara Cook.



The City of Portsmouth received the 2018 Public Communications Award. There to receive the award were (from left to right) Al Pratt, Jesse Bodwell, Brian Goetz, Brenna Woodman and Amy Chastain of Portsmouth, and Barbara Cook of NEWWA.



2019 Legislative Update

by Marco Philippon,
NHWWA Legislative Committee

The NHWWA Legislative Committee is currently watching 18 bills. Several are due to pass either the House or the Senate before crossing over. The

crossover dates are coming up, March 28 for the Senate and April 4 for the House. So we will watch to see if the bills that passed one legislative body will survive the second.

Bills voted "Ought to Pass" in the House

HB 107 making appropriations for costs involved in controlling invasive aquatic species. (Referred to Finance.)

HB 192 abolishing fluoridation in water.

HB 261 requiring the commissioner of the department of environmental services to revise rules relative to arsenic contamination in drinking water.

HB 443 relative to municipal watering restrictions.

HB 495 establishing a commission on drinking water.

HB 557 creating a revolving fund for dredging the seacoast. (Referred to Finance.)

HB 682 establishing a water resources fund in the department of environmental services. (Referred to Way & Means.)

Bills voted "Ought to Pass" in the Senate

SB 160 allowing swimming at non-motorized boat launches.

SB 254 Same as HB713 (Wastewater project funding.)

SB 203 making modifications to legal requirements for wetlands and environmental council administrative rules.

SB 271 relative to requiring prevailing wages on state funded public works projects.

SB 164 establishing a committee to study the long term sustainability of the drinking and groundwater trust fund.

SB 286 relative to aggregation of electric customers by municipalities and counties.

Bills still in deliberation

HB 700 relative to municipal valuation of utility properties regulated by the public utilities commission.

HB 204 establishing a committee to review and update the penalties for contaminating drinking water and groundwater.

HB 707 relative to settlement money from actions pertaining to the contamination of groundwater or drinking water.

HB 543 relating to the protection of wetlands.

HB 352 appropriating funds to the department of environmental services for the purpose of funding eligible wastewater projects under the state aid grant program.

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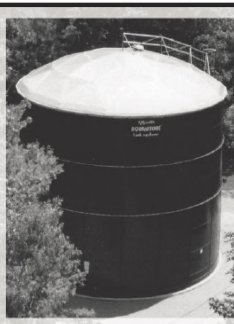


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Safe, Directional, Drought-Resistant Dug Well

As those in the drinking water industry know, dug wells have long been considered bad news due to the likelihood of contamination and inconsistent supply. Drilled wells have been the go-to for decades now. But Joe Ayotte of the United State Geological Survey (USGS) is shaking up the assumption that a drilled well is always the better choice. In an effort to address arsenic contamination in drilled wells, Joe, on behalf of USGS, has patented the safe, directional, drought-resistant dug well (SDDW).

At a SDDW test well in Concord, his staff pumped 160 gallons a minute for almost an hour, indicating a storage of more than 8,000 gallons. To address concerns that come with dug wells, the design includes a sanitary cap that is tight-packed to keep out contaminants.

The design involves a much larger hole than the traditional dug well. It is actually a large cube measuring 15 by 15 feet or more. This provides 10 times the surface area which produces a much higher storage volume and recharge rate. The well structure includes slotted horizontal collectors connected laterally to a fitting connector. A well casing is connected to a top of the fitting connector. The fitting connector is positioned in a bottom of the well bore such that the horizontal collectors are perpendicular to groundwater flow. Crushed stones are deposited in a lower portion of the well bore and allow groundwater to flow down and

into the slots of the horizontal collectors. A geotextile filter fabric is placed over the crushed-stone fill. A pump is placed in the well casing to pump the groundwater to the land surface. A loam soil fill is deposited over the geotextile filter fabric. A seal is placed around the well casing under the land surface. A vented, removable cap with a rubber seal is placed over a top of the well casing and secured.

Joe believes we need to give more consideration to the viability of the shallow aquifer. Dug wells tend to be slightly more acidic with higher dissolved oxygen so the water is less likely to disturb the arsenic. Another advantage is that the cost is not prohibitive. Construction runs equivalent to or cheaper than drilled wells.



SDDW well at a maple sugar producer to provide water for operation of their facility and data collection platform for transmitting real-time water level and temperature data.

Nominations Being Accepted for Aquarion Environmental Champion Awards

The Aquarion Water Company is inviting Seacoast residents to submit nominations for its annual Aquarion Environmental Champion awards. The award includes three categories: Individual, Business and Non-Profit Organization. Awards include a \$1,000 contribution to an environmental non-profit organization of choice for each winner.

Awards will be given to volunteer projects that excel at significantly contributing to the improvement of the environmental quality through the protection, conservation, restoration and/or stewardship of the NH seacoast's natural resources. Any nominated program must have been in place for at least one year prior to submission.

More information is available at <http://www.aquarion.com/NH/2018-award-details>, including tips for submitting a successful nomination.

The deadline for nominations is April 1, 2019.

NHWWA Calendar of Events

| When | What | Where |
|---|--|-------------------------|
| March 19, 21, 25, 28, 2019 | Small System Operator Intro C1A Course | NHDES, Concord |
| March 21, 28, April 4 & 11, 2019 | Water Works Operator Certification Exam Preparatory Course | Concord Treatment Plant |
| March 22, 29, April 5, 2019 | Basic Water Works Math | Concord Treatment Plant |
| April 16, 2019 | Technical Meeting | Manchester |
| April 23 & 24, 2019 | Advanced Distribution Workshop | Dover Public Works |
| May 14, 2019 | Roundtables for Small System Operators | Littleton |
| May 16, 2019 | Roundtables for Small System Operators | Newfields |
| May 20, 2019 | Roundtables for Small System Operators | Wolfeboro |
| May 23, 2019 | Roundtables for Small System Operators | Peterborough |
| June TBD | Operator Training | Portsmouth |
| August 7, 2019 | Construction Field Day | Portsmouth |
| View upcoming meetings and events on our website - www.nhwwa.org . | | |

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NH Drinking Water Festival Plans to Expand

As the NH Drinking Water Festival enters its 27th year, the NH Drinking Water Coalition is working to expanding the reach of the event. The Coalition has been meeting and planning over the past year to establish a structure of festivals that are held in four rotating locations. Those locations will be Manchester, Keene, Plymouth and a yet-to-be-determined site in the seacoast area. By focusing on four locations, the Coalition plans to enlarge the festival and attract schools state-wide. In addition to increasing attendance at the festival, the Coalition is working to expand the number of schools in the state that participate in the science fair.

The Coalition has also focused on its internal structure, forming subcommittees, and clarifying internal communication, outreach materials and methods. In order to

expand the size and reach of the festival, the Coalition is broadening its fundraising goals. There has been a concerted effort to apply for grants and enlarge the festival's donor base.

This year's festival will be held at the Manchester Water Treatment Plant on May 8. Close to 400 fourth graders are already scheduled to attend. The Coalition is lining up the 20 plus exhibitors and presenters that will engage the students with hands-on water activities.

The state finals of the Water Science Fair will also be held during the festival. The water themed poetry contest that was introduced at the Plymouth festival last year is being held again. WMUR Meteorologist Hayley LaPoint is scheduled to present the awards.



Winners of the state-wide Water Science Fair and the Poetry Contest at the 2018 NH Drinking Water Festival in Plymouth, NH.

Mark your Calendars

This year's Expo & Trade Show will be held on **Thursday, October 24, 2019** at the Grappone Center in Concord.

NEWWA Spring Conference in Worcester, Mass., to Include *Partnership* Optimization Programs

Dave Miller, 2019 NEWWA President, has talked about association goals centered around improving and sustaining public trust in drinking water by actively encouraging the optimization of treatment plant, distribution system and wastewater treatment plant operations. Miller also shares that the Partnership for Safe Water & Partnership for Clean Water offer optimization programs for utilities of all sizes and configurations to help improve performance. For more than 20 years, the *Partnership* has grown to a subscribership of nearly 750 utility treatment plants, distribution systems, and wastewater facilities.

At the Spring Conference April 3-4 in Worcester, Massachusetts, NEWWA members can meet *Partnership* program leaders and volunteers who will explain how utilities across North America and internationally are improving operations by optimizing with the *Partnership's* self-assessment guidance and how they are establishing community trust.

Combined, *Partnership Programs* offer resources related to the entire water usage cycle—from source water to drinking water treatment and distribution system delivery to wastewater treatment plants and back to the source. The Clean Water program also features an energy management component that helps address high-energy usage at wastewater facilities. Soon, the Partnership for Small Systems will be offered as another component of AWWA's Total Water Solutions® set of resources. For more than 20 years the *Partnership* has supported NEWWA and AWWA Sections, and look forward to doing the same throughout 2019. Learn more about *Partnership* activities by attending the sessions at the NEWWA Spring Conference in Worcester, access program information and newsletters on the AWWA website, and participate in *Partnership* activities at ACE19 in Denver this June 10-12.

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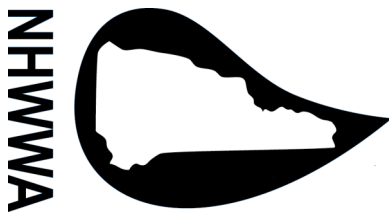


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