



# NH Water Works Association Newsletter

Issue 115

Winter 2018

## NHWWA

## NHWWA Welcomes New President

John Lyons was elected as President of NHWWA at the annual meeting November 2, 2017. He assumes the position after serving on the board for the past five years.

John grew up in Newbury, NH, near Lake Sunapee. He enjoyed all the outdoor activities living in NH has to offer; skiing, swimming, boating and fishing, to name a few. His father, a professor at New England College, started a nursery to help pay for his children's college educations. Consequently, John worked there full-time in the summers during his college years. The Lyons Family Nursery is still in operation in Newbury today.

John's background is in business, having earned his undergraduate

degree in Business Administration from the University of New Hampshire and his MBA from Southern New Hampshire University. John worked in commercial banking and taught as an adjunct professor for many years before acquiring Granite State Analytical Services in 2005.

Granite State Analytical Services is a full service laboratory with a focus on drinking water, and a contract water operations company servicing small water systems throughout the state. The company was formed in 1987, and has been under John's ownership since 2005. In 2014, John acquired A&L Laboratory with a lab in Auburn, ME and a service center in North Conway, NH. Granite State Analytical Services has grown from having seven employees in 2005 to presently employing 22 people. The laboratory operates under the direction of Donald A. D'Anjou, PhD.

John lives in Merrimack with his two children, Sean and Amber, and his girlfriend Melinda. Sean is studying mechanical engineering at Wentworth Institute of Technology in Boston, while Amber is a freshman at Merrimack High School. John enjoys playing golf with Sean and skiing with Amber, as well as trips to the



*John and his daughter Amber pictured with a blueberry pie they baked using berries from his parents' nursery in Newbury NH, where he grew up.*

ocean, lakes, rivers and mountains in NH.



*Outgoing President Ian Rohrbacher (center) and newly inducted President John Lyons (right) joke with Marco Philippon (bottom left) at the Annual Meeting in November 2017.*

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# Dynamic Drought Management

by Steve Del Deo, Retired Executive Director, NHWWA  
and Marco Philippon, Water Treatment Superintendent, City of Concord

One and one half years have passed since the drought of 2016, and it's the middle of a fairly wet winter, so drought preparedness and management is perhaps a fleeting notion. Last spring and early summer's abundance of rain, and this fall and winter's ample supply might also push the thought further into the background. However, as a water supply person it truly is important to have a plan especially with weather patterns being seemingly unpredictable. Below is a brief and concise discussion of how Concord Water Department has addressed supply shortfalls due to drought over the years.

In the drought of 1963, the water level in Penacook Lake, Concord's drinking supply, was 10 feet below average. Concord Water Department gained permission to transfer up to 3 million gallons per day (MGD) from Turkey Pond at

Saint Paul's School to augment Penacook Lake. The agreement was initially for one year, but was later extended through 1965.

During the drought of the 1970's the Concord Water Department constructed a temporary pump station on Penacook Lake to transfer water from the deeper sections of the lake to the treatment plant. This process worked well enough at the time, but was in fact temporary and a somewhat tenuous process. It employed a liquid gas run generator, and it was not a permanent solution.

In 1981 the state granted Concord a permit to withdraw up to 10 MGD from the Contoocook River, and the city integrated this permitted transfer into its normal operations – withdrawing over the years varying amounts based on supply conditions and the resulting need.

During the drought of 2016, which really did not show up on Concord's doorstep until mid to late summer, Concord Water Department relied heavily on the Contoocook River. But as part of its short-term strategy for drought management, Concord Water Department also implemented voluntary water restrictions in September of 2016, including the suspension of outdoor water use.

Looking toward the future, Concord is developing long-term strategies for not only drought management, but also for greater and continual efficiencies in day-to-day management of its water sources and system operations. The system's operations goals include a continued aggressive leak detection program, planned meter change-outs, and viable conservation plans.

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## **NH Water Works Association**

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## 2018 Legislative Update

The Association has been working hard to lobby for the best interest of public drinking water and the integrity of our profession. You will see a recurring theme in the bills below, many of which are related to perfluorinated compounds (PFC's). One thing that is clear is that there is a lot of legislation related to PFC's many of which have similar objectives. The likelihood that something is going to pass on PFC's this year is strong and we will continue to provide updates on the pending legislation as it makes its way through the House and Senate.

### NHWWA PRIORITY LEGISLATION

- HB 1101 - *regulating groundwater pollution caused by polluting emissions in the air.*
- HB 1592 - *requiring the commissioner of the department of environmental services to revise rules relative to arsenic contamination in drinking water.*
- HB 1618 - *relative to ambient water quality standards and maximum contaminant levels for perfluorinated chemicals.*
- HB 1727 - *relative to monitoring perfluorinated chemicals in public water supplies.*
- HB 1737 - *relative to the permissible level of methyl tertiary butyl ether in drinking water.*
- SB 454 - *relative to ambient water quality standards and maximum contaminant levels for certain perfluorinated chemicals.*
- SB 309 - *relative to standards for perfluorochemicals in drinking water, ambient groundwater, and surface water.*
- SB 322 - *relative to access to a water utility.*
- SB 453 - *relative to requirements and criteria for a competitive grant program for drinking water protection.*

### CARRIED OVER FROM 2017 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

- HB 485 - *relative to standards for emerging contaminants in drinking water.*
- SB 55 - *relative to backflow devices for water.*
- SB 240 - *(New Title) relative to the monitoring and treatment of contaminated wells.*

### SIGNED INTO LAW

- SB 247 - *preventing childhood lead poisoning from paint and water and making an appropriation to a special fund.* This bill is a carry-over from the previous legislative session. It was retained in committee and worked on through the summer and fall. It was signed by the Governor on February 8, 2018 with the following effective dates: I. Sections 5 and 18 Effective 07/01/2019 | II. Section 6 Effective 07/01/2021 | III. Sections 11, 12, 13 and 15 Effective 02/08/2018 | IV. Sections 14 and 16 Effective 01/01/2021 at 12:02 am | V. Remainder Effective 04/09/2018.

**INTERESTED IN KNOWING MORE?** Read NHWWA's Legislative Mailing with more detail on each of these bills at <http://bit.ly/2018febissue>. You may also contact Charity Ross at [cross@nhwwa.org](mailto:cross@nhwwa.org) or (603) 415-3959 for more information.

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## NH Drinking Water Festival Heads to the North Country

The 26th annual Drinking Water Festival and State Science Fair will be held in Plymouth on May 9, 2018.

The NH Drinking Water Coalition, which puts on the event in a different location each year, is made up of the NH Department of Environmental Services, NH Water Works Association, Granite State Rural Water Association, RCAP Solutions, the Cities of Manchester, Keene and Concord, and Merrimack Village District.

Fourth graders from Plymouth and surrounding towns will participate in hands-on activities as they learn about the importance of the water they drink, where it comes from, and how to keep it clean.



If you would like to know more about this year's festival and science fair please contact Lara Hooper at [lara.hooper@des.nh.gov](mailto:lara.hooper@des.nh.gov) or (603) 271-4071.

*Students explore the stream table at the 2017 NH Drinking Water Festival in Keene.*



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## American Water Works Association's Fly-In April 18-19, Washington, DC

Both NHHWA President John Lyons and Executive Director Charity Ross will "fly-in" to Washington, DC in April as part of American Water Works Association's (AWWA) grassroots lobbying effort. Both John and Charity will meet with the Senators and Representatives from the NH delegation. The goal of the Fly-In is to bring the water community's concerns directly to members of Congress and their

staffers. Although AWWA's focus is national, John and Charity will have the opportunity to discuss state and local concerns as well. Former NHHWA President Ian Rohrbacher attended last year. He reported that NH's representatives were very receptive to meeting with him and hearing his thoughts and concerns about the drinking water industry in NH.



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## NHWWA Calendar of Events

When	What	Where
March 13, 15, 20 & 22	Grade 1A Certification Exam Course	NHDES, Concord
March 20, 27, April 3 & 10	Water Works Operator Certification Exam Preparatory Course	Concord Treatment Plant
March 29, April 5 & 12	Basic Water Works Math	Concord Treatment Plant
April 17 & 18	Advanced Distribution System Operation & Maintenance	Dover
April	Technical Meeting	TBA
May 1, 3, 8, 10	Operator Roundtables Continuing Education Seminars	Various
May 22	8-Hour Asbestos Training	Concord Treatment Plant
June 5	Pump Installers Training	NHDES, Concord
June 28	Fisher Cats Outing	Manchester
August 1	Construction Field Day	TBA
September	Technical Meeting	TBA
September 18, 20, 25 & 27	Grade 1A Certification Exam Course	NHDES, Concord
October 25	NH Drinking Water Expo & Trade Show	Grappone Center Concord

View upcoming meetings and events at NHWWA's website at [www.nhwwa.org](http://www.nhwwa.org). Stay tuned for more events being planned.

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# Nigeria Groundwater Project

by Gene Schrager-Senior Hydrogeologist, GS Environmental and Groundwater Associates, Inc., Portsmouth, NH

GS Environmental Hydrogeologist, Gene Schrager, has been working on a groundwater exploration/development project for an Asian beverage company who acquired a plant in the Agbara Industrial District of Lagos, Nigeria. The site is located approximately 100 kilometers west of Lagos. The plant currently produces several energy drinks with plans for expansion into bottled water. During a several-month period in 2017, Gene conducted 2-D geophysical surveys, borehole camera inspections, and pump testing of six existing overburden production wells. The production wells are screened at various depths. The results of the project indicated that the site is underlain by a multi-aquifer system, each aquifer exhibiting its own distinct water quality and water bearing characteristics. The productive wells at the site are 8-inch diameter gravel-packed wells screened between 450 and 600 feet in depth exhibiting yields between 300 and 400 gallons per minute (gpm). Well yields were limited due to electrical power restrictions and by well construction design limitations. It was also determined that a good quality engineered gravel pack could not be sourced in Nigeria, and therefore, it was speculated that the gravel pack well designs may not produce optimal yield performances.

As a result, future phases of the project include the design and installation of a 14-inch by 12-inch pre-packed well screen (Muni-Pak



*Test pumping a production well in Lagos, Nigeria.*

Screen) manufactured by the Aqseptence Group (formerly Johnson Screen). The pre-packed design includes the use of silica beads as the gravel pack material. This application is often used in horizontal well systems, including the Ranney Collector well systems. Projected yields of future wells at the site are estimated to be between 800 and 1200 gpm.

# 2017 Expo & Trade Show Introduces New Elements

Attendees at the 2017 NH Drinking Water Expo & Trade Show gave glowing reviews of the new additions at the show: the Hydrant Hysteria competition, a box lunch, the expanded raffle and the post-show happy hour. The show would not have been possible without our sponsors, numerous volunteers, presenters, NH Department of Environmental Services and our Trade Show Coordinator, Patricia Beavers.

*The Concord Team won the Hydrant Hysteria competition at the 2017 Expo & Trade Show. They will go on to compete in the New England Water Works competition in Worcester this April. Team members are Charles Barry (left) and Nathan Whiteman (right). In the middle is Ryan Blaine who cheered on his co-workers.*



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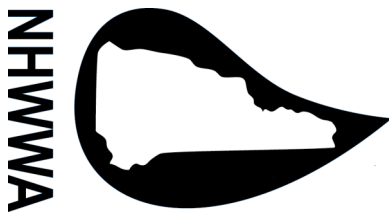


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