



# WEAT

## North Texas Section



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# Leadership Message

## *Message from the* **President**

**Dear Fellow North Texas WEATers,**

With the Thanksgiving Holiday upon us and the kickoff of the Holiday Season, it is the perfect time to remind one another of the many reasons there are to be grateful.

I am grateful for our active members and volunteers who never cease to amaze me with their dedication and commitment to our North Texas Section of WEAT. I could not have asked for better fellow WEATers. Y'all have been great. At our recent **Opstoberfest** event in October, we had the most attendance ever by far since the inception of this event. It was a fantastic feeling to see that many cooking teams and general attendance at the dinner. We also had over 140+ people attend our **November lunch meeting**, making it one of the highest attendances in several years. This is great and we very much appreciate your support and dedication!!!!

Wishing you and your family lots of good eats and gratitude this season. May you enjoy a bountiful Thanksgiving, a joyous holiday season, and healthful, Happy New Year!!!

See you in January,

**Rami**



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Text WEATNTS to 22828  
to get started!



# Treasurer's Report

## Howdy, fellow WEAT-ers!

I am **Blayne Johnson**, your North Texas Section Treasurer.

Part of my duties as Treasurer are to manage the North Texas Section's sponsorship donations, meeting dues and other sources of income to ensure that the scholarships we provide, the events we host and the programs we run continue to stay sustainable into the future, despite the ups and downs of the economy.

## Investment Summary

As you probably know, 2022 has been an "interesting" year, financially. Our own civil infrastructure market has seen increases in cost of materials, equipment and labor while the stock market has had its own ups and downs. However, with the downturns come opportunities for growth. Due in large part to guidance from our financial advising team, WEAT-NTS remains in a strong position to leverage opportunities to take advantage of the market for long-term growth as things rebound.

Below is the change in WEAT-NTS investment account activity from March 31, 2022 to fiscal year end of June 30, 2022.

**North Texas Section - Water Environment Association Texas Investment Summary  
June 30, 2022**

	Ending Balance 03.31.2022	Divi- dend/ Interest	Capital Gains	Purchased	Reinvest	Gain/Loss	Ending Balance 06.30.2022
<b>AMCAP Fund-F2</b>	109,065.21	-	6,221.80	-	1,153.94	(27,507.37)	88,933.58
<b>American Balanced Fund-F2</b>	67,936.78	246.14	376.95	-	-	(7,304.04)	61,009.69
<b>Capital Income Builder-F2</b>	65,723.57	438.86	-	-	-	(5,690.02)	60,033.55
<b>Global Balanced Fund-F2</b>	124,297.11	783.75	-	-	-	(14,941.70)	109,355.41
<b>The Growth Fund of America-F2</b>	85,106.13	-	-	-	1,222.61	(18,701.07)	67,627.67
<b>The Income Fund of America-F2</b>	129,321.18	907.80	-	-	-	(11,398.67)	117,922.51
	581,449.98	2,376.55	6,598.75	-	2,376.55	(85,542.87)	504,882.41

# Treasurer's Report

## Fiscal Year-End Balance Sheet

We recently completed a reconciliation of our FY21-22 finances, (July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022). We ended FY21-22 with total assets of **\$583,841**. Below is a breakdown of our section's financial position at fiscal year end.

<b>North Texas Section - Water Environment Association Texas Balance Sheet Fiscal Year End Jun 30, 2022</b>	
Description	Amount
<b>ASSETS</b>	
1010 · Cash	2,345.00
1015 · Checking Account	76,113.81
1030 · American Funds	
AMCAP Fund-F2	88,933.58
American Balanced Fund-F2	61,009.69
Capital Income Builder-F2	60,033.55
Global Balanced Fund-F2	109,355.41
The Growth Fund of America-F2	67,627.67
The Income Fund of America-F2	117,922.51
<b>Total 1030 American Funds</b>	<b>504,882.41</b>
<b>Total Checking/Savings</b>	<b>583,341.22</b>
Prepaid Expense	500.00
<b>Total Other Current Assets</b>	<b>500.00</b>
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>583,841.22</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>583,841.22</b>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	
<b>Current Liabilities</b>	
2010 · Chase Business Card	0.00
<b>Total Other Current Liabilites</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>Equity</b>	
3015 · Unrestricted Net Assets	646,333.23
Net Income	(62,492.01)
<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>583,841.22</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	<b>583,841.22</b>

# Treasurer's Report

## 2022 Daryl Hall Memorial Golf Tournament

This year's **Daryl Hall Memorial Golf Tournament** had a great turnout and was a major success. Because of this tournament, WEAT-NTS is able to provide scholarships to students who are interested in a future in the wastewater industry (more on that below), and also makes charitable donations to Dodson's Drive, Wounded Warriors and the Children's Advocacy Center.

This year's tournament generated **\$19,185** in net income from registration sponsorships and event day ticket sales. Thanks to all who participated, especially to those who shot from the Ladies' Tees!

## Scholarship Awards

For this Fall 2022 semester, WEAT-NTS was able to donate **\$15,050** to 17 qualified recipients who are interested in careers in the wastewater industry. 13 students received a total of \$10,000 from the WEAT-NTS Scholarship, and 4 students received \$5,050 from the Daryl Hall Scholarship. WEAT-NTS looks forward to continuing aiding these students as they work hard pursuing their college degrees!

## Opstoberfest

**Opstoberfest 2022** was a record-breaking year for attendance. The weather was great, the aroma of BBQ was in the air, and I was able to sample quite a few smoked treats from the many hospitable pitmasters. The event generated over **\$1,200** in net income, which goes directly toward funding travel expenses for utility teams competing at WEFTEC and Texas Water. A big thank you to all volunteers and participants who helped put this event together!

## Internal Audit

An audit committee was appointed by our President, Rami Issa, and an internal audit was performed earlier this month. The goal of the audit is to provide transparency and improve how the section's income sources and expenses are organized. We plan to spend additional time and resources to increase how expenses are categorized to improve budget forecasts for future fiscal years.

## Closing Comments

One of the other reasons we remain in strong financial standing is due to the generous support of our annual sponsors who continue to support WEAT-NTS year to year. We cannot thank you enough! I look forward to seeing you all at our November Meeting and at future events. Please do not hesitate to reach out to me for any questions at [johnsonbj@trinityra.org](mailto:johnsonbj@trinityra.org).

Sincerely,

Blayne Johnson, Treasurer



# WEAT-NTS & WEF Events

Date	Event	Location
12/8/22	<b>YP Bowling Happy Hour</b>	Main Event 3941 Central Expy Plano, Tx 75023
02/07/23	<b>February Seminar</b>	Hurst Conference Center 1601 Campus Drive Hurst, Tx 76054
03/03/23	<b>WEAT-NTS Sporting Clays Tournament</b>	TBD
04/11/23- 04/14/23	<b>Texas Water 2023</b>	Houston, Tx

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## February Seminar

If you are interested in joining the February Seminar subcommittee,  
please contact **Paula Monaco**:  
pmonaco@plummer.com  
817-806-1718

# Officers & Committee Chairs

## PRESIDENT

Rami Issa  
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[Email](#)



## PRESIDENT-ELECT

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## VICE PRESIDENT

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<b>Awards</b> Andre Garces 214-631-6100   <a href="#">Email</a>	<b>Historian</b> Paul Roach 214-638-0500   <a href="#">Email</a>	<b>Scholarships</b> Agata Ristow 469-640-6593   <a href="#">Email</a>	Ola Wenno 214-346-3337   <a href="#">Email</a>
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<b>Darryl Hall</b> Brandt Miller 469-250-3784   <a href="#">Email</a>	<b>Programs</b> Heather Wootton 972-377-7480   <a href="#">Email</a>	<b>Social Media</b> Maria Contreras 214-619-9028   <a href="#">Email</a>	Kevin Flinn 682-747-5389   <a href="#">Email</a>
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# Eckenfelder Lecture Series

## Thank you Planning Committee!



Paula Monaco



Dylan Christensen



Prachi Salekar



Raj Bhattarai



Ajay Shrivastav



Ana Peña-Tijerina



Brandy Martinez



Steven Hand



Water Environment  
Association of Texas



## Thank you Eckenfelder Sponsors!



Water Environment  
Association of Texas



# Eckenfelder Lecture Series

WEAT held the **12<sup>th</sup> Annual Eckenfelder Lecture Series** on Thursday, November 3<sup>rd</sup> at the City of Austin's Center for Environmental Research Auditorium at Hornsby Bend. A series of speakers presented on nutrient regulations, biological nutrient removal design and optimization. The Series partnered with the WEAT Nutrient Committee and WEAT Student Design Competition to bring professionals, academics, students, and utilities together.

Thank you to our accomplished speakers:

## Thank you Speakers!



Water Environment  
Association of Texas

Left to right (**WEAT-NTS members are in bold**): Keith Sears (AECOM), Joel Rife (Jacobs), Kristin O'Neill (Brown and Caldwell), Chris Pasch (Plummer), Dylan Christenson (Black and Veatch), Leon Downing (Black and Veatch), Noe Martinez (Austin Water), Peter Reale (Plummer), **Paula Monaco (Plummer)**, Tanja Rauch-Williams (Carollo), **Anton Dapcic (Carollo)**, Felipe Gutierrez (Texas State University) and Julie Nahrgang (WEAT)

# Opstoberfest Recap



WEAT  
North Texas Section

## Opstoberfest

### **OPStoberfest: From a crazy inception to an incredible event!!**

The **15<sup>th</sup> Annual WEAT-NTS OPStoberfest** was held on Friday, October 14<sup>th</sup> at St. Jude Venue in Arlington, Texas. After a week in New Orleans at WEFTEC, a record number of over 30 teams participated in various categories to compete for the title of **Pit Master**. The BBQ CookOff continues to raise funds for the North Texas Ops Challenge teams to go to national competitions. Many of the cookoff teams started at least a day in advance with preparation to smoking meat and then setting up tent stations all day for the evening family-friendly event. A larger-than-expected crowd of more than 250 people enjoyed fantastic food, mingling, and cheered as awards were given for best chicken, beef, pork, wild game, home-brewed beer, and homemade dessert. Additional awards went for Pit Master, Most Hospitable Team, and Best Kids' Costume.

OPStoberfest was born out of the WEAT-NTS Executive Committee around 2008, which was being led by Jeff Sober, John Bennett, Dawn Anderson, and Buster Fichera (AKA the crazy idea committee!). Due to the ongoing economic crisis, typical sponsors had pulled back on donating to sponsorships for WEAT, WEF and other organizations as a normal course of business. Because of this, at the State level of WEAT, John as the PWO Chair and Jeff as the Operations Challenge Chair were facing a potential elimination of WEAT Operations Challenge Teams from WEF. WEAT didn't have enough money in the budget to send their normal complement of Texas Teams to the national competition, which at the time, was mostly comprised of North Texas Teams. To combat lack of funds and to ensure the ability to send all the teams to WEF, the executive committee brainstormed possible ways to raise additional funds. The idea behind OPStoberfest was born out of the aforementioned executive committee while meeting at the local favorite Esparza's in Grapevine. The idea was to have a cook-off that was themed and celebrated multiple ways: 1) as a Halloween event 2) as an Oktoberfest event 3) as a WEAT-NTS meeting and 4) as a way to celebrate Operators and Operations Challenge. The first several events were held at a City Park in Lake Arlington – and we quickly outgrew that space. The event actually used to raise a lot of money. At some point, to gather more interest, we began refunding municipal based teams for purchases towards the competition and reduced the price to make it more about community and the experience. The event has grown every year since and the new leaders of it have added more and more activities and games beyond the initial comedy routine and costume contest.

# Opstoberfest Recap

At the first competition there were four cooking teams. TRA (John Bennett/Ken Moore), TRA (CReWSers), EI2 (Eric Fields) and Rotork (Joe Etchegaray). We had just under 75 people that showed up and it was universally considered a success by all that attended. Some people in the neighborhood surrounding the event even came over and donated money for food. What a success!!



"I appreciate all of the support for this program and the incredible dedication of the WEAT-NTS and the operations community. This year's event was nothing short of a magical experience."

**-John Bennett**



# Opstoberfest Recap



**Hospitality Award—City of Fort Worth**



**Best Kids Costume—Mad Hatter**



**Best in Cooking—PIT MASTER  
RJN Group**

Beer	
1st Place	Relevant Industrial
2nd Place	Garver
3rd Place	Jacobs
Thank you to our Beer Judges: Ana Pena-Tijerina—Plummer Kevin Flinn—Garver Marc Cottingame—Dallas Water Utilities	

Dessert	
1st Place	Hazen Heat
2nd Place	Fort Worth Outlaws
3rd Place	RJN Group
Thank you to our Dessert Judges: Gina Mongardo—Andritz Tanya Miro—Kimley Horn Katherine Sepassi—Arcadis	

# Opstoberfest Recap

## Pork

1st Place	Signature Automation (Signature Smokers)
2nd Place	RJN Group
3rd Place	Garver
<p>Thank you to our Pork Judges:</p> <p>Eva Gorgi—Dallas Water Utilities Celeste Wilson—Andritz Jacob Duncan—Kimley Horn</p>	

## Beef

1st Place	RJN Group
2nd Place	Fort Worth Outlaws
3rd Place	Black & Veatch
<p>Thank you to our Beef Judges:</p> <p>Melanie Perkins—Signature Automation Leo Montemayor—City of Dallas Josh Kerch—Kimley Horn</p>	

## Chicken

1st Place	Fort Worth (The Outlaws)
2nd Place	RJN Group
3rd Place	Fort Worth (6 Pack BBQ)
<p>Thank you to our Chicken Judges:</p> <p>Nancy Honeysuckle—Fort Worth Paul Allison—Carollo Julianna Stevenson—Jacobs</p>	

## Wild Game

1st Place	NTMWD (Centrifugal Force)
2nd Place	FNI
3rd Place	TRA
<p>Thank you to our Wild Game Judges:</p> <p>Kimberly Pool—Fort Worth Jerome Walters—Fort Worth Maria Wang—Fort Worth</p>	

## WEAT Ops Teams!



# Scholarships

Over the past couple of months, the **WEAT-NTS Scholarship committee** has been busy reviewing scholarship applications for academic year 2022-2023. After reviewing close to 20 applications, the committee selected **17 candidates**, based on academic prowess, community involvement, and prospective career paths. While 12 of the recipients are returning candidates, 5 new applicants were awarded first-time scholarships for the 2022-2023 calendar year.

The list of the recipients is provided below:

## WEAT-NTS:

◆ Ania Cadena

◆ Emma Bush

◆ Razan Bayan

◆ Kaylin Jackson

◆ Samantha Christian

◆ Ramitha Irrinki

◆ Mary Young

◆ Emma Young

◆ Brennan Welch

◆ Preston Davis

◆ Gracie James

◆ Hernan Tijerina

◆ Julia Gorthey

## Daryl Hall:

◆ Daniel Manrique

◆ Neelam Patel

◆ Daniel Kiskadden

◆ Sarah DeBaro

More information regarding the two types of scholarships offered through WEAT North Texas can be found on the [WEAT North Texas website](#).

As always, WEAT-NTS would like to thank our sponsors and members without whom none of this would be possible!

WEAT-NTS is excited to be able to support our recipients through their academic years and is eager to see what the future has in store for them!

# YP Update

## Opstoberfest Cookie Decorating Recap:

The YP co-chairs enjoyed setting up the Kids Craft Table at Opstoberfest which featured Halloween cookie decorating. Both the kiddos and WEAT-NTS members alike had a great time decorating (and eating) their spooky creations!



Save the date (**12/8**) for a YP (and YP at heart) **bowling happy hour** at Main Event in Plano!  
More details to come!



# Public Outreach

On November 5th WEAT-NTS volunteers gathered together at Frasier Dam Recreation Area for Redeem the Stream. The volunteers picked up 43 bags of trash, debris, and 20 tires for a total of 2,480.02 pounds of trash!

Thanks to all who came out and cleaned up one of our local parks!



**FOLLOW WEAT ON SOCIAL MEDIA!**



# Thank you to our Sponsors!

Platinum Sponsors



# Thank you to our Sponsors!

Gold Sponsors



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& Newnam, Inc.**  
A LEO A DALY COMPANY



ADD YOUR NAME HERE  
See Sponsorship Opportunities on page 19 or [CLICK HERE](#).  
Contact [Lance Phillips](#) with questions.



# Sponsorship Opportunities

WEAT-NTS offers three levels of sponsorships for the July 2021 – June 2022 year, plus multiple individual sponsorship opportunities.

Sponsorships will support:

- WEAT-NTS and Daryl Hall Scholarship Funds
  - Dinner Meetings
  - Section Activities (Fall BBQ and Sporting Clays Tournament)
  - February Seminar
  - Young Professionals
- Outreach Programs (Science Fair, Future Cities, Trinity River Cleanup, etc.)

<p>Classic Dinner Sponsor \$250</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•For One Dinner Meeting</li> <li>•Recognition of Classic Sponsors:           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Announcement on front page of newsletter (name of firm) for the sponsored meeting</li> <li>- Announcement in meeting reminder emails (name of firm)</li> <li>- Display of digital banner at meeting (if supplied) via PowerPoint</li> <li>- Verbal recognition of sponsors by President at the beginning of the meeting</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
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WEAT-NTS Scholarship Fund Contributions	\$100
Newsletter Advertising (6 issues) and web-site link	\$150
NTS February Seminar	\$300
NTS February Seminar Table Sponsor	\$500
NTS February Seminar Break Area Sponsor	\$1,000

<p>Gold Sponsor \$1,250</p> <p>Recognition at ALL six meetings (includes Fall Cook-off) (for the price of five)</p> <p>Recognition of Gold Sponsor is the same as Classic Sponsor at ALL six meetings</p>
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\*Daryl Hall Golf Tournament and Sporting Clays events sponsorships are advertised separately.

<p>Platinum \$1,950</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Recognition as a platinum sponsor at ALL SIX meetings, including the fall BBQ</li> <li>•Recognition of Platinum Sponsor is same as Gold Sponsor, plus:           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Company name included in all newsletters, meeting announcements, meeting reminder emails, and link on website</li> <li>- Display of digital banner at meeting (if supplied) via PowerPoint</li> <li>- Recognition of Platinum Sponsor by President at the beginning of each meeting</li> <li>- Recognition as February Seminar Sponsor including logo display in advertising and at event</li> <li>- Recognition as YP Sponsor, with \$100 from sponsorship being earmarked toward local YP events</li> <li>- Recognition as WEAT NTS and Daryl Hall scholarship fund contributor</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
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