



WATER ENVIRONMENT ASSOCIATION OF TEXAS

Preserving & Enhancing the Water Environment of Texas

North Texas Section e-Newsletter

July 2011
Volume 23, Number 4

July Dinner Meeting

Date: Thursday, July 21, 2011

Location: Texas Star Golf Course and Conference Centre
1400 Texas Star Parkway
Euless, Texas 76040

Agenda: 5:30 p.m. Social hour
6:30 p.m. Dinner
7 p.m. Announcements
7:15-8 p.m. Program

Speaker: Kevin Patel, automation engineer, CDM

Topic: Managing the Alarms that Manage You

Now that SCADA alarm systems are computerized we are beginning to see alarm systems at several facilities that are annunciating too many alarms. This abundance of alarms are training our operators to ignore the plant alarms until there is an adverse reaction to their process, when in reality alarms should be used to prevent adverse reactions from occurring. This presentation will go over the standards history for alarm management, what the current alarming problems are and what causes them, how an alarm is defined, regulatory concerns in relation to SCADA alarming and the alarm management lifecycle as defined by the ISA 18.2 standard.

Cost:	Members <u>and Guests</u>	Full-Time <u>Students</u>
July 15 or before	\$20	Free
After July 15 (Or payments made by check)	\$25	\$10

We offer a reduced fee to encourage early registration using our convenient online [PayPal system](#). Remember that once we give the caterer a projected head count, WEAT-NTS has to pay for your meal even if you don't attend. Checks or cash are accepted at the door for post-deadline and walk-in registrations. **RSVP:** Joe Etchegaray: joe@miautoinc.com by 7/18/11

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May Meeting Highlights

Dinner Meeting with tour of
Dallas Water Utilities
Southside Plant Co-generation Facility
May 19, 2011



Richard Wagner with the City of Dallas explains equipment and processes at Dallas' Southside Plant Co-generation Facility.



Program committee chair Dawn Anderson of CP&Y presents Richard Wagner with the City of Dallas with a token of appreciation for his presentation and tour.

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Thanks to Our May Meeting Sponsors!

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Congrats to our three Subway Gift Card winners from the May dinner meeting!

**Nash Reddy • Ahsan Moeen
Malcolm Cowdin**

Thank you for being one of the first three people to register for the dinner meeting on PayPal!

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Leadership Message

You have likely seen me at the podium the last two WEAT-NTS dinner meetings, but what else do you know about me? In fact, do you know who our current officers are without peeking to the last page of the newsletter? Perhaps not, but here's your chance to get to know your WEAT-NTS officers for 2010-2011.



Erin Flanagan,
President, WEAT-NTS

President –

Yes, that's me, Erin Flanagan.

Company and Role –

Water and Wastewater Treatment

Project Manager for Freese and Nichols (7 years)

My First Job –

Filing Assistant at an Apartment Complex in Texarkana, Texas

Interests and Hobbies –

Any activities that I can do with my two young daughters, gardening, photography, snow skiing, and running.

Favorite Phone Application –

iPhone Maps – Great app that has been able to help me find alternate routes around traffic problems (whew, I wasn't late for jury duty) and it is useful for locating places of interest.

Family (inclusive of pets) –

Bob (husband) married for 8 years, Kelly (3 years), and Allison (6 months). No pets, but my brother has a black lab that we can visit any time we need a dog fix.

Something that most people may not know about you –

I came extremely close to choosing a route to get a degree in meteorology. I enjoy the various aspects of the weather, especially when a storm rolls in from the horizon or when a cold front makes our temperatures quickly plummet.

President-Elect –

Dawn Anderson

Company and Role –

Vice President for CP&Y (10 years)

My First Job –

I grew up in the country, where there was no trash pickup. My brother and I convinced my dad to let us use his trailer and we hauled off the neighborhood trash. We pulled the trailer with the riding lawn mower, as we were not old enough to drive a car.

Interests and Hobbies –

Camping, hiking, fishing... we have a family farm that is a full time project right now. Just had a 2 acres pond installed and we are running water lines to the campsites and building a pavilion this summer.

Favorite Phone Application –

Texting

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Leadership Message

Family (inclusive of pets) –

I am a dog person...always have had dogs. I prefer the ChowChow breed, they are loyal and well mannered. Due to life circumstances, I currently have a Siberian Husky puppy (1.5 yrs) that is testing my patience. She is stubborn, destructive and talks (yelps) a lot. My niece and nephew love her, so I guess she is going to be staying around.

Something that most people may not know about you –

I don't know...if you have time ask Holly, she knows me both inside and outside work.

Vice President –

Sebastian "Buster" Fichera

Company and Role –

Assistant Water Director for the City of Fort Worth Water Department (18 years, 7months, 15 days 5 hours and 41 minutes as of 1:41 on June 15, 2011)

My First Job –

My very first job was working with my Dad and my Nonno on our shrimpboat, the WESCO 18 out of Galveston. I started going on the boat when I was about 6 years old. I was allowed to keep the fish money which amounted to about \$7 a week. My first real job for a non-family member was at the Sea View Café (now Fish Tales in Galveston). I was 13 years old and worked as a busboy for \$.50 an hour. My dad would drink coffee at the side counter and watch me. Saturdays I would work 12 hours days.

Interests and Hobbies –

I am 100 % Sicilian. BOI (Born on Island) meaning born on Galveston Island. Both sets of grandparents immigrated to this country after WWII. I have two brothers and one sister. We were the first to graduate high school in our family. I enjoy being with my family, playing guitar, fishing and hunting and restoring old furniture.

Favorite Phone Application –

Google Maps

Family (inclusive of pets) –

My wife's name is Marianne Mowery. We met in Florida and have been married for 21 years. We have three children, Wesley, age 20, is in his junior year attending the University of Texas at Dallas, majoring in Mechanical Engineering and this past semester made the Deans List with a 3.91 GPA. Marissa is 19 years old and is attending the University of Texas in Austin. Her declared major is Engineering, but has not figured out which engineering. Camille is 13 and will be entering the 8th grade this year. She wants to be a veterinarian when she grows up. We have an old golden retriever named Dakota and a Holland Lop Eared Rabbit named Cloe.

Something that most people may not know about you –

I can speak fluent Sicilian. When I went to kindergarten I could only speak Sicilian....I speaka very little english.

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Leadership Message

Treasurer –

Joe Etchegaray

Company and Role –

President and Owner of Municipal & Industrial Automation, Inc. (1 year)

My First Job –

Textbook distributor for Aldine Independent School District, Houston, TX

Interests and Hobbies –

Golf, hunting, motorcycling, 4 wheeling, get-togethers/cookouts with friends. I enjoy my son's baseball games/tournaments.

Favorite Phone Application –

The "OFF" button.

Family (inclusive of pets) –

Melissa (wife) married 12 years, daughter Dani (11 years), son Caleb (10 years), (2) 85 lb. mixed breed dogs named Barley and Hops

Something that most people may not know about you –

I don't care for cats or iguanas.

Secretary –

Jeff Sober

Company and Role –

Project Manager, Solids Handling and Co-Digestion for Carollo Engineers, Inc. (5 years)

My First Job –

My first job was mowing the 12 acres at the Block House Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant in Cedar Park, Texas. I worked my way through the wastewater world from there!

Interests and Hobbies –

I am an outside person, hiking, hunting, camping, water sports, shooting sports. I like to run, travel with my wife, grill, and gamble on the stock market.

Favorite Phone Application –

The "Delete" button

Family (inclusive of pets) –

My wife Melinda and I will celebrate our two-year anniversary in July. We are headed back to Jamaica to celebrate, where we spent our honeymoon. We have a white lab, Holly (the hunting dog), and a chocolate lab, Lexi (the companion).

Something that most people may not know about you –

I was born at a wastewater treatment plant. I am extremely uncoordinated and break everything I touch. I like to watch live plays at various theatres around Dallas.

The above officers are only a hand-full of the people who make WEAT-NTS one of the most exciting and active members sections of WEAT. It is certainly a group effort, and all the people listed on the back page of the newsletter should be recognized for their efforts. Take a moment to check out our WEAT-NTS Contacts page, there may be other names you know.

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Leadership Message

I would like to thank Darryl Corbin for his dedication and impact he has had on WEAT-NTS for the past five years. We are forever grateful for your spreadsheet analyses of our finances, a contributor to the original brainstorming for the Clay Shooting event, and for you and your wife's extraordinary volunteering for the Operations Challenge Cook-Off. Thank you Darryl!

I can speak for all of the officers in that we are looking forward to another exciting year for WEAT-NTS. All of your favorites will be back, including, the Operations Challenge Cook-Off, February Seminar, and the Clay Shooting Event. Dawn, Buster, Joe, Jeff, and I are here to promote WEAT-NTS goals and objectives in addition to enhancing involvement for our current and future members.

Erin Flanagan
WEAT-NTS President

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Don't See Your
Business Card Ad Listed?

Please contact joe@miautoinc.com (Joe Etchegaray) for information on sponsorship of the WEAT-NTS Newsletter.



WEAT-NTS is now offering three levels of dinner meeting sponsorship for July 2011 – June 2012. See the details below for how you can support WEAT-NTS and have your organization recognized by 500 recipients of the WEAT-NTS newsletter and up to 120 attendees at each of our dinner meetings. Your support is vital and greatly appreciated.

WEAT-NTS Dinner Meeting Sponsorship Levels

Classic Sponsor

- \$250
- Typically 5 Classic Sponsors per meeting
- Recognition of Classic Sponsors:
 - ✓ Announcement on front page of newsletter (names of firms only)
 - ✓ Announcement in meeting reminder emails (names of firms only)
 - ✓ Sign at meeting listing the sponsors (names of firms only)
 - ✓ Verbal recognition of sponsors by President at the beginning of the meeting

Gold Sponsor

- \$1,250.00
- Recognition at **ALL** six meetings (for the price of five)
- Recognition of Gold Sponsor is the same as Classic Sponsor at **ALL** six meetings

Platinum Sponsor

- \$1,850.00
- Recognition at **ALL** six meetings
- Recognition of Platinum Sponsor is same as Gold Sponsor plus:
 - ✓ Company name included in newsletter announcement
 - ✓ Company logo included in meeting reminder emails
 - ✓ Company logo included in sponsor sign at meeting
 - ✓ Display of digital banner at meeting via power point
 - ✓ Recognition of Platinum Sponsor by President at the beginning of the meeting
 - ✓ **Includes sponsorship of:**
 1. February Seminar
 2. WEAT-NTS Scholarship
 3. Daryl Hall Scholarship
 4. Business Card/Newsletter

If you are interested in supporting the WEAT-NTS organization with a new sponsorship or want to renew an existing sponsorship, please contact:

*Joe Etchegaray
WEAT-NTS Treasurer
Email: joe@miautoinc.com
Phone: 469-744-2373*

To pay by credit card, please visit www.weat-nts.org and utilize our PayPal option.

Individual Sponsorship Opportunities

- NTS - BBQ Cook Off - \$250.00
- WEAT – NTS Scholarship - \$100.00
- Daryl Hall Scholarship - \$100.00
- NTS – Newsletter Business Card Ad, July through June - \$150.00
- NTS - February Seminar - \$250.00
- NTS - Young Professionals - \$100.00
- NTS - Operations Challenge - \$100.00
- Recognition of Other Sponsors includes:
 - ✓ List of sponsors in newsletter announcement
 - ✓ List of sponsors in event reminder emails
 - ✓ Sign at event listing each sponsor

Seminars • Workshops • Training

WEAT E&I Technical Seminar

On Wednesday, May 18, the Electrical & Instrumentation Committee held its third technical seminar of 2011. This one was on "Alternative Energy" and there were over 40 attendees from across the area. The presenters were:

1. Optimizing Energy Usage Through Institutional Energy Programs (CLEAResult)
2. Assessing the Need for Alternative Energy and Integrating Need into a Energy Management Plan (Gresham Smith & Partners)
3. Application of Alternative Energy
 - Combined Heat & Power (Texas CHP Initiative)
 - Solar (Shaw Group)
 - Small Hydropower (Lucid Energy)
 - Co-Digestion (Carollo)
4. Energy Savings Performance Contracting & Availability of Funding (McKinstry)

Copies of each of these seven presentations are available for download from the NTS-WEAT website. The meeting was held at The Reynolds Company's facility in Fort Worth and they provided lunch as well. A total of \$92 was collected for Water For People.

See information below to attend the next E&I Technical Seminar.

Topic: Large Motors

Date: Wednesday, July 13, 2011

Time: 8:30 a.m. meet & greet
9 a.m. to 12:00
Lunch to be provided immediately following presentations)

Location: Freese & Nichols - Fort Worth Office
4055 International Plaza, Suite 200
Texas 76109

Please note that this is the *second* Wednesday of the month.

Expected presenters will be from Teco-Westinghouse, Hyundai-Ideal, and GE. The topics will vary from motor design and construction to operational considerations.

Look for details by email and on the NTS-WEAT website.

George Luke, PE
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Texas Water Utilities Association Training

Management.....July 18-20
Pump and PumpingAug. 9-11
Calculations Sept. 13-15

Location: 4750 Josey Lane, Carrollton

Contact: Jody Byerly, 972-466-4206

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Notices go out well in advance of the meetings and also serve to notify of events and changes. You will receive about three e-mails every other month.



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PayPal Now Available

WEAT-NTS sponsors and dinner meeting attendees can now pay with PayPal at www.weat-nts.org.

Companies and individuals can sponsor dinner meetings and/or the newsletter or donate to scholarship funds at the WEAT-NTS website.

Members can register early for dinner meetings and take advantage of reduced fees by paying online.

Announcements

Moeen founds new firm 2M Associates, LLC

Ahsan Moeen, PE has founded a new firm called 2M Associates, LLC (2M). 2M provides a wide range of services in the areas of water, wastewater infrastructure and treatment, site civil, land development, facility design and street/roadway design. 2M is MBE certified with NCTRCA and HUB certified in the state of Texas. Ahsan previously served as a program manager for the Water Infrastructure Group of Jacobs Engineering's Dallas office.



Contact 2M at 214-663-1377 or amoeen@two-mm.com.

Harris joins CH2M HILL team

Rhonda Harris, a 35-year veteran of the water industry and past-president of the Water Environment Federation, has joined CH2M HILL as director of consulting services to develop and support the company's operations and maintenance initiatives in Texas.



For the past 16 years, Harris has owned Profession Operations Inc., which provides contractual services for engineering firms, utilities and contractors.

Harris served as WEF president in 1998-99 and as president of the Water Environment Association of Texas from 1995-96.

Caillouet joins Pierce Pump Company

Sam Caillouet has joined Pierce Pump Company's municipal sales department. Caillouet brings over 23 years of experience in selling equipment in the municipal market.

Hartwell Opens Tulsa Office

Hartwell Environmental Corporation is pleased to announce the completion of its new office building in the Tulsa area effective July 1, 2011, with Jim Beer as manager. Contact Hartwell in Tulsa at 15038 South Grant Street, Bixby,

OK 74008, 918-299-8555 or 918-299-8554 Fax.

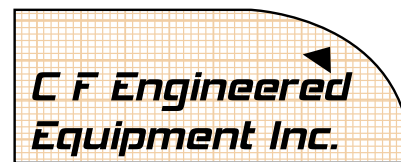
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Announcements

McDonald and Rackley join APAI board of directors

Dr. Ellen McDonald, PE, and Bill Rackley, PE, were instated on April 19 to the Alan Plummer Associates Inc. board of directors. McDonald has served APAI for 12 years in water resources and water reuse planning, hydraulic and water quality evaluations, and water and wastewater system studies. Rackley has provided expertise in construction contracting and management of new plants and rehabilitation projects as well as operation and maintenance on wastewater treatment plants, pipelines, and pumping stations at APAI for 10 years.

Balfour Beatty acquires Fru-Con

Balfour Beatty Infrastructure Inc. announces the acquisition of Fru-Con, a water and wastewater infrastructure contractor based in Virginia. Balfour Beatty is a civil engineering and construction company with a focus on transportation and water infrastructure projects. Fru-Con brings water and wastewater treatment plant construction abilities to the firm.

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Save the Date

Daryl Hall Memorial Golf Tournament

September 16, 2011
Waterchase Golf Course
Fort Worth



Announcements

On June 9, the DFW Young Professionals volunteered at Trinity River Vision Authority's Rockin' the River tubing event in Fort Worth. YPs passed out tubes and greeted tubers on the shuttle bus. Special thanks to Tania Ho, Lauren Plunk, Sarah Seamands, Julie Shaffer and Rick Shaffer for volunteering at this event! For more information on Rockin' the River, visit <http://trinityrivervision.org/tubing>.

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JUNE 23 AUG 11
JULY 14 AUG 25
Dates subject to change. For more info, visit trinityrivervision.org/tubing

LIVE PERFORMANCES

JUNE 9	JOSH WEATHERS BAND	JUNE 23	BLEU EDMONDSON
JULY 14	ELEVEN HUNDRED SPRINGS	JULY 28	RYAN TURNER
AUG 11	KYLE BENNETT BAND	AUG 25	THE WILL CALLERS

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Announcements

Call for Volunteers for the CAST Conference

CAST (Conference for the Advancement of Science Teaching) is coming to the Dallas Convention Center from November 17-19. We need volunteers for three different areas:

- The WEAT/TAWWA booth, aka the Texas Partnership for Water Education.
- The WEF booth. WEF is providing one staff member to man a booth with materials on World Water Monitoring Day, Stockholm Junior Water Prize, etc.
- The WEF Teach workshop. WEF has a proposal into CAST to perform a workshop titled: Stream Assessment: An Integrated Approach to Science Learning. Three volunteers are needed to participate in this workshop who have expertise in performing stream assessments and/or monitoring. Our volunteers need to be able to teach people how to do the habitat, macroinvertebrate, and water chemistry assessments using an active learning approach rather than just making a presentation.

Booth materials and coordination with WEF will be provided. We are looking for help setting up and dismantling booth space, along with smiling faces to answer questions and pass out the material, and perform hands-on demonstrations at the workshop.

As North Texas is one of the largest WEAT memberships in Texas, we expect a huge list of volunteers! Please don't assume "someone else will do it" – mark your calendars and sign up today to Karen Bick at (214) 665-7539 (Bick.Karen@epamail.epa.gov) or Sharon Miller at (972) 960-4437 (sharon.miller@hdrinc.com). As we get closer to the conference, we will post the volunteer schedule. Contact either Karen or Sharon for further information. Thank you!



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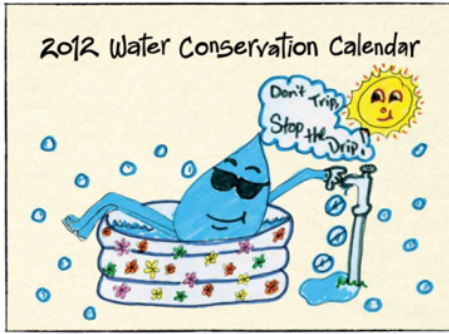
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Announcements

2012 Water for People Calendars For Sale - \$10



WEAT is promoting the sale of the 2012 Water for People Calendars. These calendars were printed by the Dallas Water Utilities that has for many years been involved with the young people in their service area by participating in creative programs as a way to teach younger generations about the importance of conserving water. Children in North Texas created the pictures used in this calendar in the summer of 2010. The City of Dallas Water Utilities invited elementary and middle school students to draw a picture of typical water conservation habits that might take place during their birth month.

Approximately 1,500 children accepted this "challenge", and the pictures chosen for use in this calendar were judged to be among the best.

All proceeds from the sale of this calendar will benefit Water for People. Water For People is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, ID #84-1166148. Gifts are tax-deductible to the extent allowable by law. To purchase a calendar, please submit form below or go to www.weat.org. Shipping and handling is provided by WEAT.

Firm Name _____

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MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO: WEAT
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Water Environment Association of Texas (WEAT)
1825 Fort View Rd., Suite 102, Austin, TX 78704
Phone: (512) 693-0060, Fax: (512) 693-0062
Email: julie@weat.org



Announcements

Fort Worth Receives Award For Reclaimed Water Project

Representatives from the Texas Water Development Board presented Fort Worth Mayor Mike Moncrief the EPA Award for Sustainable Public Health Protection in a ceremony at the Village Creek Water Reclamation Facility.

The award recognizes communities nationwide that have advanced innovative and effective Drinking Water State Revolving Fund projects that further the goal of clean and safe water through exceptional planning, management, and finance. TWDB, which oversees the state revolving fund, nominated Fort Worth's Village Creek Reclaimed Water Project from a field of close to a hundred active DWSRF projects.

Reclaimed water, also known as reuse or recycled water, is highly treated wastewater used for a beneficial purpose and must meet strict water quality standards as established by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality.

Reclaimed water is important to the region's future water supply needs. The 2010 Region C Water Plan indicates that 23 percent of water supply in 2060 will come from conservation and reuse of our existing water resources.

State Stockholm Junior Water Prize winners from North Texas

The 2nd and 3rd place projects submitted for the State Stockholm Junior Water Prize competition were from the North Texas area. Eszter Mihaly won second place for her project, "Fatal Attraction: Using Magnetic Nanoparticles to Remove Toxins From Water" and Anna Mihaly won third place for her project "Saline Survivors: Bioaccumulation and Toxicity of PAHs from Crude Oil in Mysid Shrimp." Eszter won \$100 and a trophy, and Anna won \$50 and a trophy. Awards were presented to each student at her high school campus.



WEAT-NTS Section Representative Amy Robinson is seen here on the right with Eszter Mihaly who won second place for her project, "Fatal Attraction: Using Magnetic Nanoparticles to Remove Toxins From Water."



Anna Mihaly, seen here on the right, won third place for her project "Saline Survivors" Bioaccumulation and Toxicity of PAHs from Crude Oil in Mysid Shrimp."

WEAT Legislative Update

Track current legislation

An updated list of the bills that WEAT is tracking can be found at <http://www.weat.org/legislative-affairs.shtml>. Scroll to the bottom of the page for the bill tracking tables. Click on “Current Status” to view the full text of these bills. We will update this page and the bill tracking table regularly.

HB 965 on continuing education credits

Of particular note on this update is HB 965 filed by Rep. Callegari. This bill will allow A and B water and wastewater operators to self-report continuing education credit for renewals, thus making it easier for licensees to use webinars for renewal credit. **Passed.**

SB 448 OSSF permit fees

Also, for those utilities that operate as an authorized agent for TCEQ in the OSSF program, please note SB 448 relating to the amount of a fee that can be charged for an OSSF permit. **Failed.**

See <http://www.weat.org/legislative-affairs.shtml>. for more indepth information on both these bills and many others tracked by WEAT.

Carol Batterton
Executive Director, WEAT

WEAT-NTS Calendar of Events

July dinner meeting	July 21, 2011	Texas Star Golf and Conference Center
Ops Challenge picnic and cookoff	October 7 (Tentative)	Lake Arlington
November dinner meeting	November 17, 2011	Cowboys Golf Club
January dinner meeting	January 19, 2012	Texas Star Golf and Conference Center

Appreciation for 2010-2011 Scholarship Sponsors

WEAT-NTS Scholarship

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WEAT membership has advantages

Are you a member of WEF or WEAT? Or do you know someone who needs to join?
Visit www.weat.org and click on “About WEAT” and then “Join WEAT” for an application.

WEAT-NTS Contacts

OFFICER	NAME	PHONE	FAX	E-MAIL
President	Erin Flanagan	(214) 217-2261	(214) 217-2201	ecf@freese.com
President-Elect	Dawn Anderson	(214) 638-0500	(214) 638-3723	danderson@cpyi.com
Vice President	Buster Fichera	(817) 392-4978	(817) 392-4957	buster.fichera@fortworthgov.org
Treasurer	Joe Etchegaray	(469) 744-2373	(817) 394-0524	joe@miautoinc.com
Secretary	Jeff Sober	972-239-9949	(972)239-9117	jsober@carollo.com
Past President	Darryl Corbin	(972) 239-9949	(972) 239-9117	dcorbin@carollo.com
Section Rep	Amy Robinson	(817) 332-8727	(817) 332-6870	robinsonar@cdm.com
Past Section Rep	Becky Guthrie	(940) 349-8938	(940) 349-8951	rebecca.guthrie@cityofdenton.com

COMMITTEE	CHAIR	PHONE	FAX	E-MAIL
Audit	Dawn Anderson	(214) 638-0500	(214) 638-3723	danderson@cpyi.com
Awards	Phil Spitzer	(214) 631-6100	(214) 631-6109	pspitzer@apaienv.com
Constitution/Bylaws	Amy Robinson	(817) 332-8727	(817) 332-6870	robinsonar@cdm.com
Finance	Joe Etchegaray	(469) 744-2373		joe@miautoinc.com
Fund Raising	Jeff Sober	(972) 239-9949	(972) 239-9117	jsober@carollo.com
Electronic Communications	Michelle Clark	(817) 493-5121	(817) 417-0367	clarkm@trinityra.org
	Debbie Bronson	(817) 493-5122	(817) 417-0367	bronsond@trinityra.org
Nominations	Darryl Corbin	(972) 239-9949	(972) 239-9117	dcorbin@carollo.com
PWO	Mike Young	(972) 262-5186	(817) 589-0072	youngm@trinityra.org
Photography	Malcolm Cowdin	(972) 262-5186	(972) 219-7521	cowdinm@trinityra.org
Program	Buster Fichera	(817) 392-4978	(817) 392-4957	buster.fichera@fortworthgov.org
Public Education/Science Fair	Amy Robinson	(817) 332-8727	(817) 332-6870	robinsonar@cdm.com
Scholarship Fund	David Jackson	(214) 217-2257	(214) 217-2201	drj@freese.com
Scholarship Fund Co-Chair	Matt Jalbert	(214) 217-2246	(214) 217-2201	msj@freese.com
Seminar	Jeff Sober	(972) 239-9949	(972) 239-9117	jsober@carollo.com
Young Professionals-Dallas	Meera Victor	(972) 239-9949	(972) 239-9117	mvictor@carollo.com
	Corinne Kluge	(972) 239-9949	(972) 239-9117	ckluge@carollo.com
Young Professionals-Ft Worth	Rick Shaffer	(817) 392-6821		rshaffer@cpyi.com
	Lauren Plunk	(817) 806-1745	(817) 870-2536	lplunk@apaienv.com