

NORTH TEXAS SECTION E-NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2014—VOLUME 26, NUMBER 6



NOVEMBER DINNER MEETING

Date: Thursday, November 20, 2014

Location:

Texas Star Golf Course
1400 Texas Star Parkway
Euless, Texas 76040

Agenda:

5:30 p.m. — Social hour
6:30 p.m. — Dinner
7:00 p.m. — Announcements
7:15 – 8:00 p.m. — Program

Topic: Public-Private Partnerships: Are You Ready for the Challenge?

Speakers: Frank Crumb, PE, and Bob Pence, PE, BCEE

COST	BEFORE NOV. 17	ON/AFTER NOV. 17
Members and Guests	\$20	\$25
Full-Time Students	Free	\$10

We offer a reduced fee to encourage early registration using our **convenient online payment system**. When registering, please specify your name and company as you wish it to appear on your name tag in the instructions in the buyers' comment area. Checks, cash, and/or credit cards are accepted at the door for post-deadline and walk-in registrations.

RSVP: Mark Perkins *at* treasurer@weat-nts.org

MEETING DETAILS

The presentation will review the thorough evaluation of using a public-private partnership (PPP) to manage the Fort Worth Water Department more efficiently and at a lower cost. You'll learn the facts leading up to the investigation, the preparation of the RFI, and the detailed information included on performance metrics used by the Fort Worth Water Department to measure service levels. The role of the Water Utility Task Force will be discussed and the charge from the Mayor and Council to the Task Force. Finally, the received submittals will be reviewed, focusing on the lease-concession model for a PPP and the recommendations of the Task Force.

This meeting will also include the annual Treasurer's Report.

Interested in sponsoring WEAT-NTS?
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NOVEMBER DINNER MEETING (CONT'D)

ABOUT THE PRESENTERS



Frank Crumb, PE, BCEE, is the former director of the City of Fort Worth Water Department, which provides water and wastewater service to over 1,000,000 people in Fort Worth and surrounding communities in Tarrant

County and three adjacent counties. He has a Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering from Texas Tech University and a Masters of Engineering from Texas A&M University. Frank is a professional engineer with more than 35 years of water utility experience.



Bob Pence, PE, BCEE, is CEO of Freese and Nichols, Inc., a multiservice engineering, architecture, and environmental science firm with 15 offices in Texas and North Carolina. Bob joined Freese and Nichols as an engineer

in 1978. Throughout his time with the company, Bob has championed corporate support for professional education, fostered an atmosphere of open communication throughout the company, and focused on involvement in company-wide community service projects. In 2011, CE News recognized Freese and Nichols as the Best Civil Engineering Firm to Work For in the nation among large firms. In that same year, Bob was named CEO of the Year by the Fort Worth Business Press. Bob holds Bachelor and Master of Science degrees in Civil Engineering from Texas A&M University.

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LEADERSHIP MESSAGE



REMEMBER TO THANK A FELLOW WATER PROFESSIONAL

Getting to network with and learn more about our fellow WEAT members is one of the reasons I love this organization.

In getting to know many of you,

I have learned that the majority of us did not fall into this industry—rather, someone that we knew guided us into this profession.

*I had no choice but to be in the water/wastewater industry—my father (a Double-A operator running his own operations firm) and my mother (operating an O&M manuals and operator training firm) made that very clear. **It was their passion for our industry that was passed on to me, which I carry forward.*** I believe most of us have similar stories, wherein passion from an individual was passed to us, either by choice or “volun-tolding.” However you got here, know that we are all glad that you are here on our Water Team.

Take some time to recall your path to the Water World (*and no, this is not in reference to a Kevin Costner film*). **Remember to thank a fellow Water Professional, at any position, for all that they do.** But do not forget that only we, the people engaged in the day-to-day wonders of our water systems, have the ability to inspire and instill passion in other would-be water industry colleagues. **Pass on your story and inspire future generations to join our industry,** rising to meet the challenges that lie ahead and continuing to protect the public health and safety for years to come.

An update on our North Texas Section Mission: At the beginning of the year, I wrote to our North Texas WEATies and told y’all that we were going

to accomplish four major tasks. I am pleased to announce that we are making significant progress toward these goals:

- **New Website:** We have retained **Out of the Box Creative** to professionally update and manage our website. Finding the right website developer was the biggest hurdle, but this project will be complete by January! If you have read to this point, the first three people to e-mail me (subject line: Show Me the Money!) will win a gift certificate at the next meeting.
- **Party Like its 1984!** We celebrated our 30-year history in style with our throwback OpsTOBERFEST event on September 19. We had over 160 people at the event! Many thanks to all of our wonderful volunteers, especially **Monique Florez, Heather Compton, and Brigit Buff.**
- **Professional Management of Our Scholarship Funds:** We have handed over the reins to **Omega Securities** to manage our growing pool of scholarship funds. They will assist us in planning for the future and diversifying our investments for sustained growth.
- **Budgeting Process:** Our organization is financially healthy and we have completed the first major round of our budgeting exercise. Prior to this, we had never utilized a budget. The new process will allow us to expand our offerings and get involved in other activities (think river cleanups and YP happy hours!).

Thank you to everyone who makes this a special organization to be a part of!

Jeff Sober

WEAT-NTS President


jsober@garverusa.com • 972.377.7480

LEADERSHIP

2014-2015 WEAT-NTS OFFICERS

- PRESIDENT • JEFF SOBER
- PRESIDENT-ELECT • EVA GORGI
- VICE PRESIDENT • BRIGIT BUFF
- SECRETARY • JENNIFER MCKNIGHT
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* SUPPORT WEAT DINNER MEETINGS! *

WEAT-NTS offers three levels of dinner meeting sponsorship for the July 2014 – June 2015 year, plus multiple individuals sponsorship opportunities. See the details below for how you can support WEAT-NTS for the upcoming year. The sponsorship will allow your firm access to over 500 NTS members and is greatly appreciated.

INDIVIDUAL SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

- Fall BBQ Picnic Cook-Off: \$250
- Sporting Clay Station: \$150
- NTS Newsletter Business Card Ad: \$150
- NTS February Seminar: \$300
- Recognition of Other Sponsors includes:
 - ✓ List of sponsors in newsletter announcement
 - ✓ List of sponsors in event reminder e-mails
 - ✓ Sign at event listing each sponsor

CLASSIC SPONSOR

- \$250.00 for one dinner meeting
- Typically five Classic Sponsors per meeting
- Recognition of Classic Sponsors:
 - ✓ Announcement on front page of newsletter (name of firm)
 - ✓ Announcement in meeting reminder e-mails (name of firm)
 - ✓ Sign at meeting listing the sponsors (name of firm)
 - ✓ Verbal recognition of sponsors by President at the beginning of the meeting

GOLD SPONSOR

- \$1,250
- 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
- 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 e-mails
 - ✓ Company logo included in sponsor sign at meeting
 - ✓ Display of digital banner at meeting (if supplied) via PowerPoint
 - ✓ 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 ad in the NTS newsletter

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

Mark Perkins

WEAT-NTS Treasurer

E-mail: treasurer@weat-nts.org

Phone: 817.719.0372

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

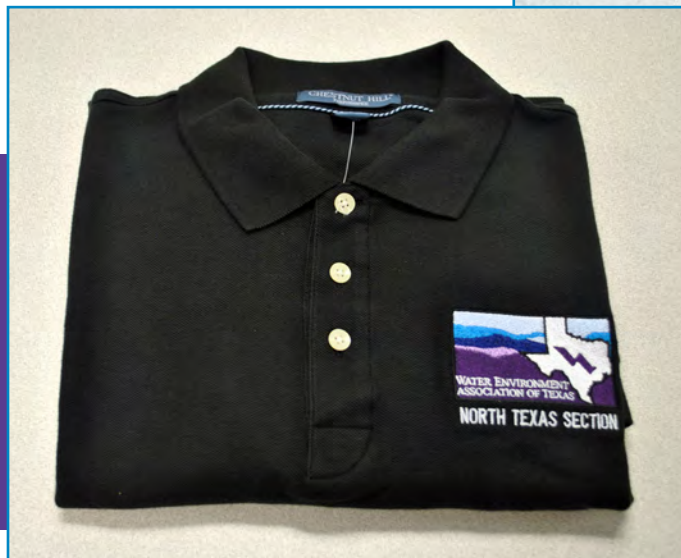
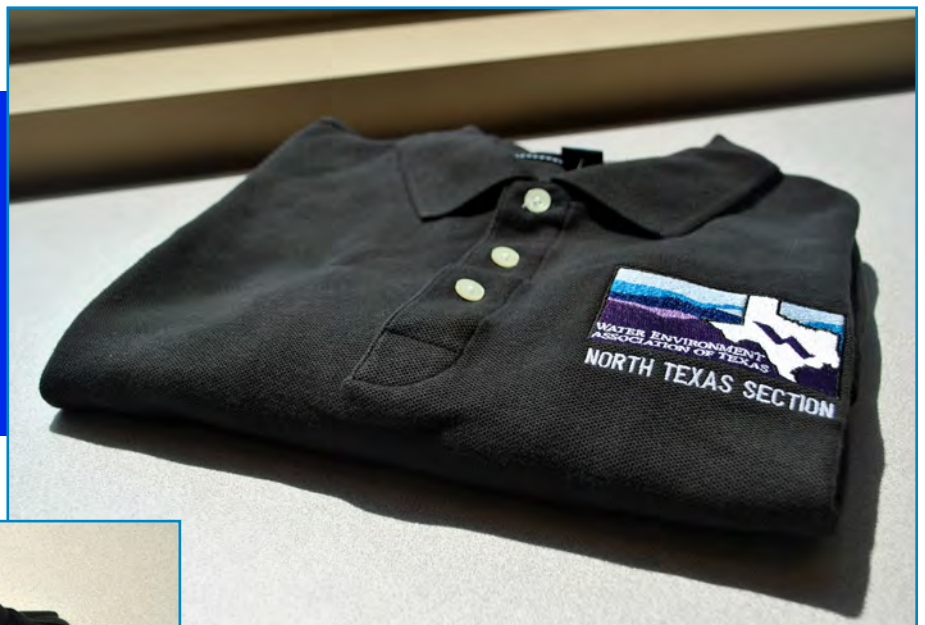
WEAT★NTS shirts For sale★

Show your support for the North Texas Section with this embroidered-logo polo t-shirt! These black Chestnut Hill shirts are available in men's small, medium, large, and extra-large sizes. Each shirt is \$30 and will be available for purchase at the registration table at WEAT-NTS meetings and events. Shirts will be shipped to you or can be picked up at the next meeting.

Shirts can be purchased by **cash**, **check**, or **credit card** (credit transaction can be conducted through WEAT-NTS's online payment system (<https://squareup.com/market/weat-nts>) or over the phone with Treasurer **Mark Perkins**). Checks can also be mailed to the following address:

Mark Perkins
c/o Perkins Engineering Consultants, Inc.
6001 Interstate 20 West, Suite 219
Arlington, Texas 76017

For more information, please contact Mark at mperkins@perkinsconsultants.com or 817.719.0372.



2014 OPSTOBERFEST COOK-OFF

A Texas-sized **"THANKS, DUDE!"** goes out to every single one of you who attended the 2014 OpsTOBERFEST Cook-Off on September 19 at the Arlington Knights of Columbus facility! This year's event not only included the traditional food and drink competitions (beef, chicken, pork, dessert, and brew), but also served as a **celebration of NTS's 30th anniversary as a WEAT section**. Attendees were encouraged to wear costumes representing the 1980s in observance of the anniversary, and some gladly accepted the invitation to wear **neon, wigs, Ghostbusters and TMNT shirts, and leg warmers**.

President **Jeff Sober** led the program with announcements and messages from Public Education Chair **Amy Robinson**, Past President **John Bennett**, and Scholarship Chair **Matt Jalbert**. Historian **Betty Jordan** prepared and facilitated a **WEAT-NTS trivia contest** along with a **running slideshow of historical photographs**. Approximately **161 most excellent individuals** attended the event and were able to sample food entries from **over 15 teams**. **All profits from the event will benefit Texas Operations Challenge teams.**

This year's event was coordinated by **Brigit Buff** and a team of highly qualified volunteers who helped make this event a success, including **Monique Florez, Buster Fichera, Heather Compton, Amy Robinson, Eva Gorgi, Erin Flanagan, and Phil Spitzer**.

TRADITIONAL BBQ PIT MASTER: AIR MAC

PORK	
1 st Place	TRA
2 nd Place	Air Mac
3 rd Place	CDM Smith

DESSERT	
1 st Place	Village Creek
2 nd Place	Air Mac
3 rd Place	Farida Goderya

BEEF	
1 st Place	Air Mac
2 nd Place	Hazen & Sawyer
3 rd Place	Black & Veatch

BEER	
1 st Place	MWH
2 nd Place	MWH
3 rd Place	Freese & Nichols

CHICKEN	
1 st Place	AECOM
2 nd Place	Air Mac
3 rd Place	TRA

MASTERS OF CONGENIALITY	
TRA	

Thanks to all who attended!
We appreciate the teams who made this event possible!

2014 OPSTOBERFEST COOK-OFF (CONT'D)



Team Air Mac swept the cookoff, placing in four of the six categories and winning the coveted Pit Master award.



Jeff Sober and Andrea Odegard-Begay take over Basilio Chavez's grill to cook their losing meatballs.



The kids' costume contest was a fan favorite. Rock on!



The photo booth was a huge hit! Reppin' the Garver squad: Andrea Odegard-Begay, Prizemaker Heather Compton, Dean Vrla, and President Jeff Sober.

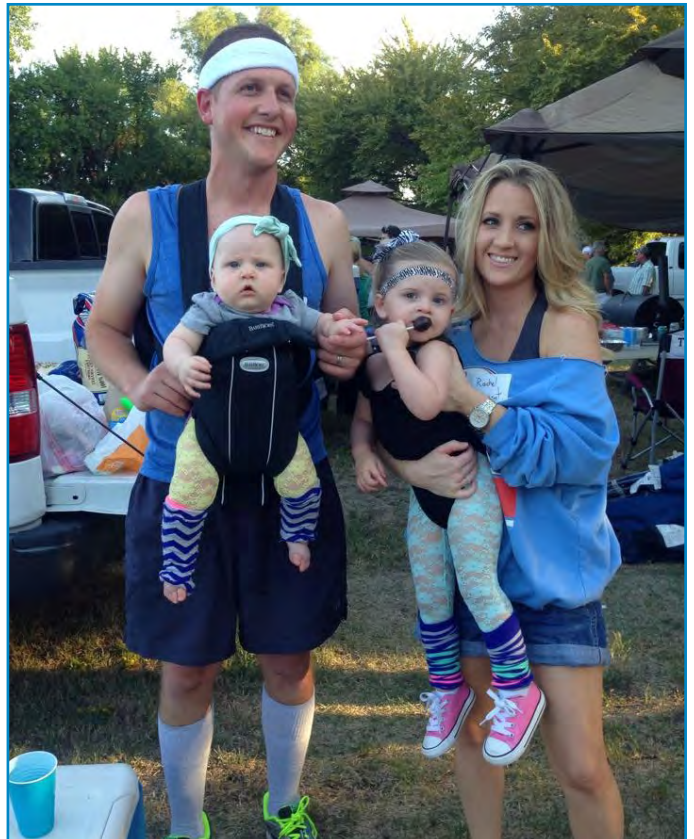
2014 OPSTOBERFEST COOK-OFF (CONT'D)



Erin Flanagan, Buster Fichera, Brigit Buff, and Heather Compton model their '80s costumes. Buster was both a fan favorite and creator of nightmares.



Team Air Mac wins another award!



Sweatin' with the Klements: Lance, Rachel, Brynlee, and Hadley show off their sweet '80s style.



Raaaaaadical, duuuuude!

2014 OPSTOBERFEST COOK-OFF (CONT'D)

A Sample of Costume Crazyiness!



Here's the Beef!



1st



2nd



3rd

Winner, Winner, Chicken Dinner!



1st



2nd



3rd

Pork and Circumstance!



1st



2nd



3rd

Don't Forget Dessert!



1st



2nd



3rd

The Brewmeisters!



1st + 2nd



3rd

*and Honorable
Mention!*

Pit Master and Mr. Congeniality!

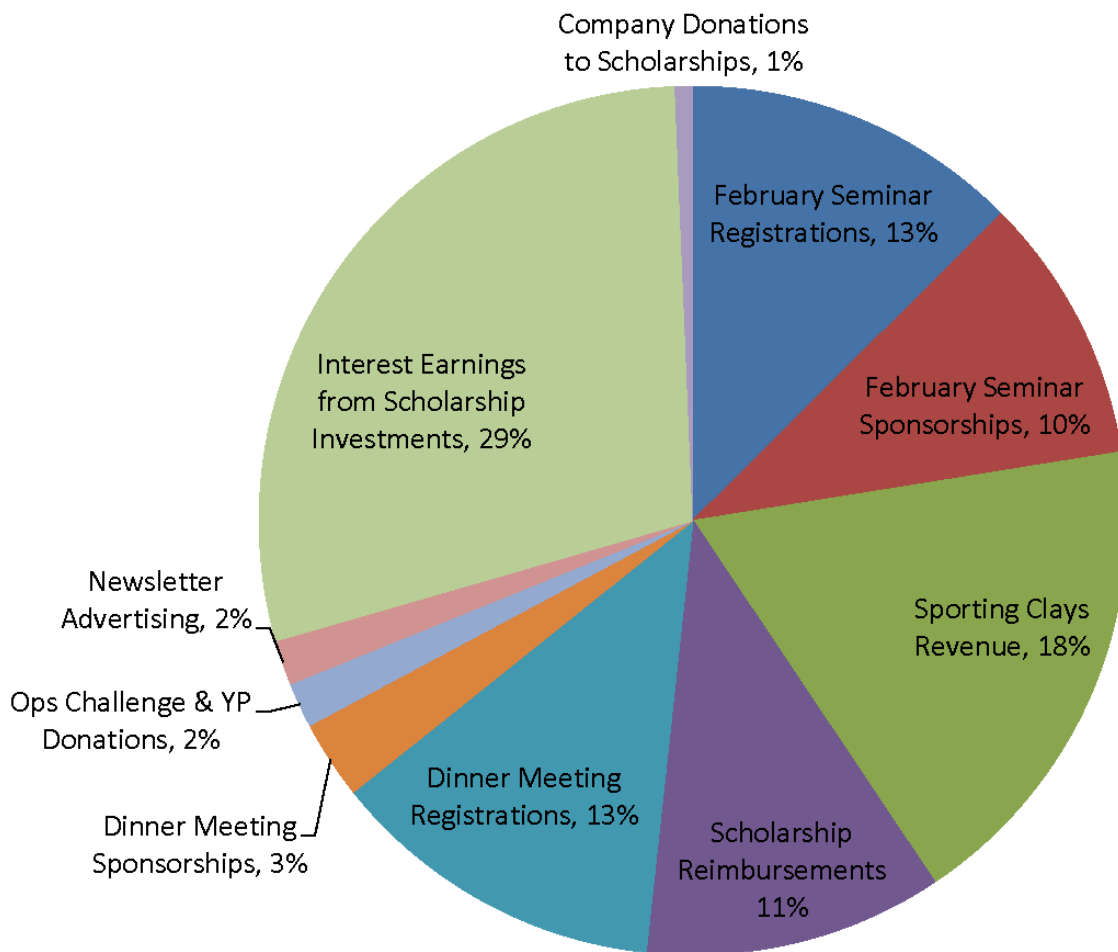


TREASURER'S REPORT: FY 2013/2014

We recently completed a financial reconciliation of the FY13/14 (fiscal year ending June 30, 2014) revenues, expenses, and account balances for the WEAT North Texas Section. This report is to give our members an idea of how your dues and other financial contributions are used.

Revenues. The pie chart below summarizes the sources of our FY13/14 revenues. This last financial

year, we received \$127,417, up substantially from the previous year's total of \$96,996. The increase is largely attributable to strong investment earnings from our scholarship account. Growth in this fund allows us to move toward our long-term goal of establishing a sustainable scholarship fund and has allowed us to continue to increase the number of scholarships we have made available.

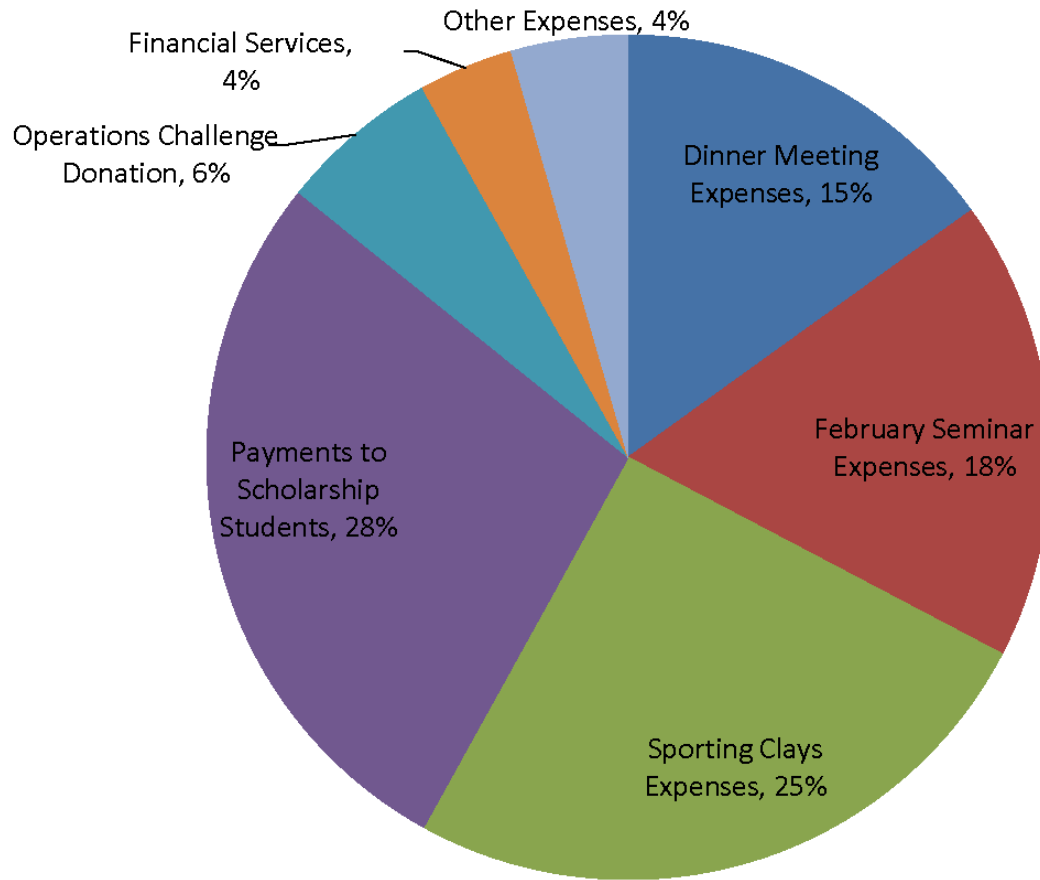


Summary of FY13/14 Revenues

TREASURER'S REPORT: FY 2013/2014 (CONT'D)

Expenses. As shown in the pie chart below, expenses were \$64,588, about 1% higher than the previous year. As was reported last year, our scholarship payments have been increasing for

several years now and are more than double 1998 levels. Seminar, dinner meeting, and sporting clay event costs were relatively unchanged from the previous year.



Summary of FY13/14 Expenses

TREASURER'S REPORT: FY 2013/2014 (CONT'D)

Breakdown of Revenues and Expenses. The table below shows a detailed profit and loss statement for FY13/14. We ended the fiscal year with total assets of \$266,112, up from last year's close of \$210,283. This balance puts the

North Texas Section on a strong footing to fund additional programs in the coming year, to continue increasing scholarships, and to continue moving toward our goal of having a sustainable scholarship program.

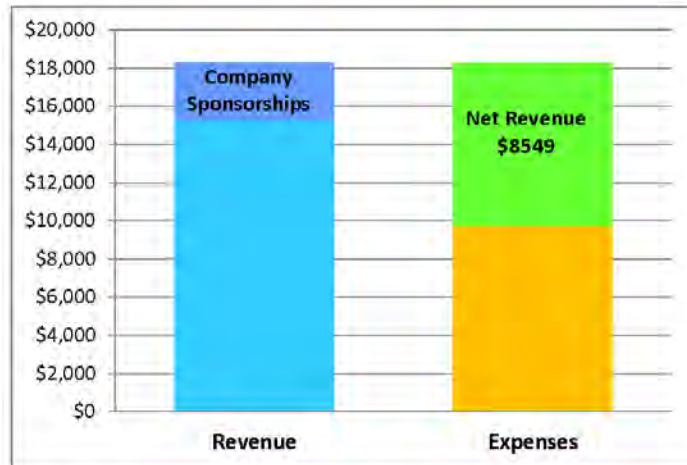
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
Company Sponsorships	
Young Professionals	225.93
Meeting Sponsors	11,182.00
Newsletter Advertisements	150.00
February Seminar Sponsors	7,050.00
Scholarship Donations	13,500.00
Company Sponsorships - Other	1,805.00
Total Company Sponsorships	33,912.93
Meeting Fees	
Dinner Meeting Registrations	15,238.51
February Seminar Registrations	14,260.00
Sporting Clay Event	22,030.00
Total Meeting Fees	51,528.51
V.G. Funds - Inc Div & Cap Gain	
V.G. Prime Money Mkt Fund	4.17
V.G. Balanced Index Fund	6,680.00
V.G. 500 Index Fund Invest	14,680.62
V.G. Morgan Growth Fund Invest	13,611.09
Total V.G. Funds - Inc Div & Cap Gain	34,975.88
Total Income	120,417.32
Expense	
Meeting/Event Expenses	
Young Professionals	325.93
Dinner Meeting Expenses	9,739.89
February Seminar Expenses	11,368.82
Sporting Clay Event Exp	16,383.35
Total Meeting/Event Expenses	37,817.99
Sponsorships	
Scholarships Expense	17,250.00
Sponsorships Exp	625.00
Science Fair	410.00
Operations Challenge	1,150.00
Total Sponsorships	19,435.00
Bank Fees	
Bank Service Charge	1,613.54
Total Bank Fees	1,613.54
Miscellaneous Expenses	
Travel	2,808.19
Supplies	143.00
Accounting Services	728.75
Misc Expenses	2,041.64
Total Miscellaneous Expenses	5,721.58
Total Expense	64,588.11
Net Ordinary Income	55,829.21
Net Income	55,829.21

Breakdown of FY13/14 Revenues and Expenses

TREASURER'S REPORT: FY 2013/2014 (CONT'D)

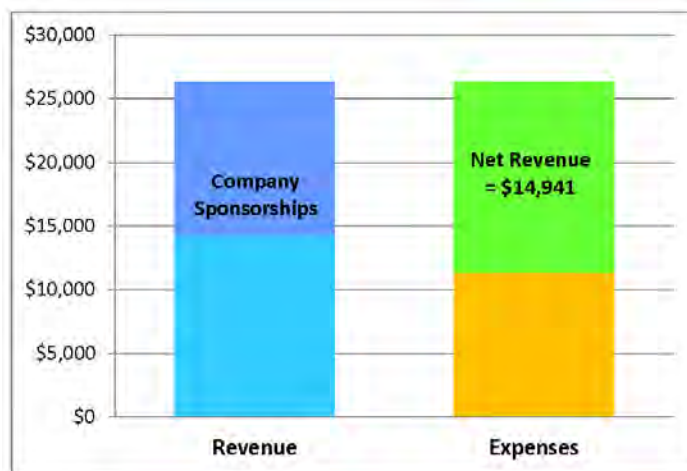
Dinner Meetings. As shown in the bar chart below, in we had positive net revenue of \$8,549 on dinner meetings. For dinner meetings held at Texas Star, actual costs per attendee exceed the amount we charge. Our net gain was attributable to company sponsorships, our annual picnic, and food being

cooked on-site by members at meetings held at treatment facilities, substantially reducing the food costs for those meetings. Discounts are offered to operators and students at our dinner meetings (these discounts are subsidized by other revenues).



February Seminar. The 2014 February Seminar was a successful event, despite a last-minute schedule modification due to a threatened ice storm. Net revenues of \$14,941 are attributed to the seminar after accounting for dozens of

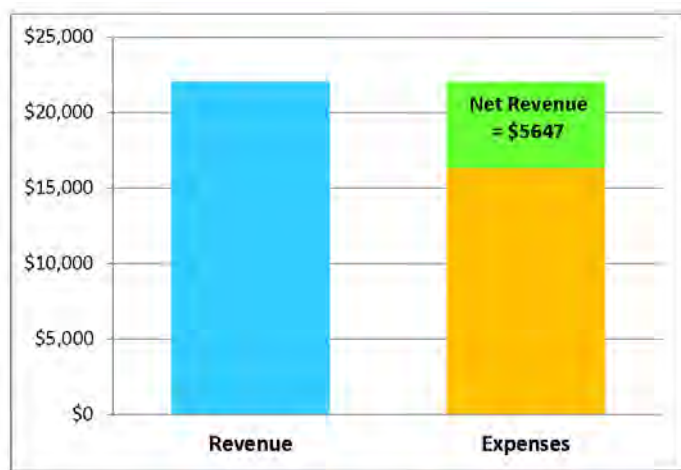
corporate sponsorships and for participant fees. A number of students and regulators attended the seminar at reduced rates subsidized by corporate sponsorships and other fees.



TREASURER'S REPORT: FY 2013/2014 (CONT'D)

Sporting Clays. The 2014 Sporting Clays event created \$5,647 in net revenue for WEAT-NTS thanks to participating teams and firm sponsorship. Events such as this demonstrate the importance of your participation in our events to help support

our organization. Each year, we hope to continue to increase our turnout and participation at our events such as the seminar and sporting clays, and we are open to any other ideas or feedback on what you would like to attend.



Concluding Comments. Members of the Executive Committee invest considerable time behind the scenes planning and managing the Section's finances. For the upcoming year, a comprehensive budgeting initiative has been undertaken, and the Executive Committee has initiated the process of placing the scholarship funds under professional management.

The Section remains on strong financial footing. Recently, we were excited to issue checks for 20 scholarships through both the WEAT-NTS scholarship fund and the Daryl Hall Scholarship fund. Our scholarship program has grown to

be a competitive program and now requires hard decisions to be made by our scholarship committee. Most importantly, this is a testament to WEAT-NTS's determination to continue our success and devotion to the enrichment of our industry.

Please continue to support us through your attendance, participation, and sponsorships! Additional detailed information on these financials and other trends will be presented at the November 2014 WEAT dinner meeting, so we look forward to seeing you there!

Respectfully submitted,
Mark A. Perkins, Treasurer

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

As reported in the previous issue of *Texas WET*, the summer/fall of 2014 seemed to be a summer of rulewriting and comment letters. WEAT either commented, assisted in providing comments, or is currently drafting comments on:

- Draft rules for the State Water Implementation Fund for Texas (SWIFT)
- Critical Habitat Rule Changes
- 217 draft rule changes for wastewater design criteria. The informal comment period deadline was October 10, but look for the revised draft to be posted on the Texas Register in April or May 2015 followed by a 30-day official public comment period.
- Waters of the U.S. Rule (WOTUS). **Comments due November 12**; draft rules can be found at <http://water.epa.gov/lawsregs/guidance/wetlands/CWAwaters.cfm>.

This fall will certainly see a changing landscape in the Texas Legislature in the upcoming 84th Legislative Session. November 4th elections will usher in an unprecedented number of new state leaders including a new Governor, Lieutenant Governor (who presides over the Senate), Comptroller, Attorney General, Agriculture Commissioner, General Land Officer, and Railroad Commissioner. We will also see many new House members and chair assignments in both the House and the Senate. New chairs of interest to WEAT are the House Natural Resources, Senate Finance, Senate State Affairs, and House Appropriations. The majority of the Texas House members will either be serving their first or second terms. WEAT is viewing the next session as an incredible opportunity for educating our lawmakers. WEAT has already met with a number of key lawmakers' staff in the interim and will continue these efforts throughout the legislative session. There is much work to be done in relating to our lawmakers who we are and the important work and service water professionals provide.

Our latest foray into liaising with legislators and regulators is in the form of an educational and high-level conference: Texas Water Environment Horizon, November 13 at Long Center in Austin. WEAT and TACWA have put together an impressive list of speakers including but not limited to:

- Representative Lucio III, House Natural Resources Committee Member
- Representative Todd Hunter, Joint Committee on Desalination Co-Chair

- Representative Lyle Larson, House Natural Resources Committee Member
- Bech Bruun, Texas Water Development Board, Board Member
- Stephanie Bergeron Perdue, Deputy Executive Director, TCEQ
- Todd Chenoweth, Senior Advisor, TWDB
- Heather Harward, Executive Director, H₂O4 Texas Coalition
- Robert Mace, Deputy Executive Administrator, TWDB
- Brad Castleberry, Principal, Lloyd Gosselink Attorneys at Law
- Russell Schreiber, Director of Public Works, City of Wichita Falls
- Steve Clouse, Chief Operating Officer, San Antonio Water Systems

This is a biennial conference meant to ready our membership for and provide an outlook on the legislative and regulatory landscape facing Texas in the 84th Legislative session and 2015. The timing of the conference is particularly serendipitous given TWDB's recent announcement. The SWIFT rules will, in all likelihood, be adopted by the TWDB on November 6. The Horizon Conference will feature a panel discussion on HB 4 Implementation that includes the rules' main author, Todd Chenoweth, Senior Advisor of the TWDB. The SWIFT rules as published in the Texas register can be found at <http://www.twdb.state.tx.us/board/2014/11/Board/Brd02.pdf>.

Stay tuned to all of the hot legislative and regulatory issues important to utilities through WEAT's Legislative and Regulatory Roundup. Our first issue was initially delayed but will commence next week! To subscribe, send an e-mail to julie@weat.org with "Subscribe" in the subject line to be added to the Roundup list.

As a reminder, bill prefilings begins on November 10. Just as we did in previous sessions, WEAT will be monitoring key bills in the upcoming 84th legislative session. This should be another water-heavy legislative session. Don't miss any of the newsletter notices of bills affecting our industry and notes from Senate and House Natural Resources Committee meetings. *Until next time!*

SEMINARS • WORKSHOPS • TRAINING

WEAT E&I COMMITTEE NOVEMBER SEMINAR

The WEAT E&I Committee will be sponsoring its next technical seminar on November 19. This month's session will cover counterfeit electrical equipment.

- **Date:** Wednesday, November 19, 2014
- **Time:** 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
 - ✓ Meet & Greet begins at 8:30 a.m.
- **Location:** Eaton Corporation Training and Education Facility
637 Cambridge Road, Suite 200
Grapevine, Texas 76051
- **Speakers:**
 - ✓ Tom Grace (Eaton Corporation): *Counterfeit Equipment Procurement and Methods to Combat It*
 - ✓ Larry Simms (Vector Controls and Automation): *Internet and Equipment Sourcing and Product Support*

Upon arrival, we will have a donation jar for Water For People. This will be an ongoing effort, and it will continue to be entirely voluntary. Plans are to donate 100% of the amount collected to charity. As you know, we have not charged—nor do we plan to begin charging—any fee for participation in these seminars. This opportunity to make a totally voluntary charitable donation is intended to make a difference, so your generosity is appreciated.

Contact: George Luke at gluke@gaiconsulting.com

NEWSLETTER SPONSORS



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817-719-0372

The image shows the HDR Solutions logo, which includes the word "Solutions" in a large, white, serif font over a background of a water treatment facility. Below "Solutions" are the words "Bridge", "Environmental", "Facilities", "Right-of-Way", "Traffic", "Transportation", "Wastewater", and "Water" in a smaller, white, sans-serif font. To the right of the logo is the HDR logo and the website "HDRINC.COM".

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SEEKING SPEAKERS
FOR THE WEAT
STUDENT CHAPTERS



CONTACT
JASON CRAWLEY
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Preserving & Enhancing the Water Environment of Texas

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THELMA BOX JOINS PACHECO KOCH

Thelma Flores Box, PE, recently joined Pacheco Koch Consulting Engineers, Inc., as the Director of Utility Infrastructure with the task of managing various water and wastewater projects for the public and private sectors. Thelma has more than 31 years of experience in the development,



design, and management of utility infrastructure construction projects and studies in North Texas. Her expertise includes water and wastewater rehabilitation design, water and wastewater treatment facilities, inflow and infiltration studies, sanitary sewer evaluation surveys, and regulatory assistance. Thelma has also served as an instructor for continuing education courses on wastewater discharge permit applications, water quality, and water and wastewater laboratory and analytical procedures.

CDM SMITH WELCOMES BOOTH, BOND

Emily Booth, a longtime Austin resident, has joined the CDM Smith Fort Worth office. She is a recent graduate from The University of Colorado at Boulder with an M.S. in civil engineering. Emily holds her EIT and is working in the Technical Services Unit of CDM Smith.

Daniel Bond has joined CDM Smith's Dallas office as an environmental engineer. He returns to Texas after completing his M.S. at the University of Arizona and gaining two years of work experience in the Phoenix area. In addition to celebrating his new position, Daniel welcomed the newest member of the Bond family into the world on September 16. Daniel has his EIT and is working in CDM's Technical Services Unit.

CH2M HILL WELCOMES JASON CARROLL

Jason Carroll transferred to the Dallas office from Minneapolis / St. Paul in March. He graduated from Iowa State University with an M.S. in Civil Engineering focusing on low-impact development and implementation in a lakeside community. Jason is a registered Professional Engineer and has been with CH2M HILL since 2008. He is currently working on the Pioneer Natural Resources project at the client's offices in Irving, Texas.



SHARON MILLER ARRIVES AT PERKINS

Perkins Engineering Consultants, Inc. is pleased to announce that **Sharon Miller, PE**, has joined the firm. Sharon holds a B.S. from the University of Nebraska at Omaha and an M.S. from the University of Nebraska at Lincoln. She is a licensed wastewater treatment plant operator (Nebraska) and a licensed Professional Engineer in Texas, Oklahoma, and Nebraska. She brings 20 years of experience with plant and pipeline projects in multiple states. She serves on the WEF Air Quality and Odor Control Committee, is the WEAT PCOC Publications Subcommittee Chair, and has held numerous other positions within WEF and WEAT at the state and national levels.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

MWH RELOCATES RON CASS TO DALLAS



Ron Cass has relocated to the MWH Dallas office to take on the role of treatment practice leader for the Central Region. Ron's experience during his 25 years with MWH has focused on the evaluation, design, and construction of municipal and industrial

water treatment plants across the globe, including facilities in Australia and Trinidad and Tobago. The 30+ plants in which Ron has led the design include brackish reverse osmosis, seawater desalination, and surface water treatment plants, along with conventional active sludge wastewater plants and supporting facilities. His leadership in project delivery of water and wastewater projects in conventional, alternate delivery, and unique methods adds to the company's project development, design, and construction management across the Texas region. Ron

holds a B.S. in Civil Engineering from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, is a registered engineer in five states, and is a certified Project Management Professional.

WEATHERSBEE JOINS GARVER'S DFW TEAM

Garver is pleased to announce that **Burt Weathersbee** will now serve in the Frisco office as a project manager. Burt has decades of extensive experience within the water industry specifically working on water infrastructure programs

and managing a wide range of infrastructure, pipeline, and flood control design projects. Burt previously worked on an award-winning dredge pipeline project that won recognition for being the nation's longest dredge pipeline project for the City of Dallas. Burt graduated from the University of Texas and is a registered Professional Engineer in Texas and California.



SUBMIT A NEWSLETTER ANNOUNCEMENT!

The WEAT-NTS newsletter is circulated six times a year to 500 water environment professionals, treatment plant technicians, public officials, regulatory agency personnel, manufacturers, and individuals in the North Texas area. We welcome relevant announcements and news items for future newsletters.

SUBMITTAL GUIDELINES

- You may submit relevant news items such as new hires and acquisitions, project awards and recognition, and other relevant news announcements.
- Announcements should be broadly relevant to the WEAT-NTS membership and the North Texas community.
- We will not accept promotional materials or commercial advertising.
- The Electronic Communications committee will edit announcements for brevity, clarity, and suitability.
- The WEAT-NTS Executive Committee reserves the right to reject all submissions deemed unsuitable.

OPERATIONS CORNER

CALLING ALL OPERATORS!

WEAT is your organization, too.

By Jerry Pressley, Superintendent of Operations and Maintenance, Fort Worth Water Department, Village Creek Water Reclamation Facility, and newly-appointed WEAT-NTS PWO Chair

A few months ago, my boss, Buster Fichera (in his then-capacity as WEAT-NTS President—and, oh, yeah, did I mention he is my boss?) volunteered me to participate as the PWO Chair for the North Texas Section of WEAT. I had no idea what that meant, but I've known Buster for the better part of 20 years, and I have worked directly for him for the past 18. We've had some amazing adventures and accomplished much along the way. He has never led me astray—well, there was the Goodwill store tour through a somewhat sketchy section of Beverly Hills, a cab ride in Los Angeles with a driver who seemed intent on qualifying for the NASCAR circuit with us in tow, laughing so hard we couldn't talk at an Oklahoma department store as we contemplated purchasing matching pajamas for our wives, and... I probably shouldn't say any more.

And, OK, so I retract the whole "Buster never led me astray" thing.

Anyway, like any good minion, I embraced the "voluntary" PWO assignment and set out to determine what I had gotten myself into. Don't get me wrong: I like fumbling around and bumping into walls as much as the next guy as I try to figure out what I'm doing. *Oh, wait; no, I don't.* So, I made a couple of phone calls and sent out some e-mails, trying to better understand that which is expected of me in this capacity as PWO Chair. My first question was "What in the world is a PWO?"

It was explained to me by Julie Nahrgang that **the Professional Wastewater Operator (PWO) Committee is to be the "voice of the operators" in our organization.**

"That's just great!" I remember thinking. I mean, I can't repeat most of the things uttered by the "voices of the operators" with whom I work closely—at least not in mixed company... and definitely not in writing.

Fortunately, there is more to it than my lampooning brain was conjuring. I have recently come to know, thanks to President Jeff Sober, that the duties of our Committee are to:

- Promote the careers of wastewater operators (Village Creek WRF is hiring, by the way);
- Support and develop activities, such as the Operations Challenge, that improve the recognition and develop the skills of wastewater operators; and
- Enhance the visibility and recognition of wastewater operators who are dedicated professionals that make water quality a reality.

These are duties I can get behind, but I think that this is where we should cue the theme music to *Mission Impossible*.

Your mission, professional operators, should you choose to accept it:

Ideas are needed for how we can achieve the duties stated above, and volunteers are needed to put action to those ideas and to serve on the PWO Committee as the need arises and in fostering operator participation in WEAT-NTS.

Here is the chance for your voice to be heard:

Contact me with your thoughts or to put your name in the hat as a possible committee volunteer. I can be reached at jerry.pressley@fortworthtexas.gov or 817.392.4926.

I look forward to hearing from you—and to helping your voices be heard in our organization.



PUBLIC EDUCATION

SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

WEAT-NTS is proud to announce a record 21 scholarship recipients for both the WEAT-NTS and Daryl Hall scholarships for the 2014–2015 school year!

- **Steven Walden** is the son of WEAT member Steve Walden. Steven is an Energy Management major at the University of Oklahoma.
- **Alex Lored** is the son of WEAT member Joe Lored. Alex is a senior Chemistry major at the University of Texas at Austin. Alex will pursue his Master's Degree in Chemical Engineering.
- **Connie Xavier** is the daughter of WEAT member Cyriac Xavier. Connie is a Civil Engineering major at Texas A&M University.
- **Kinny Xavier** is the daughter of WEAT member Cyriac Xavier. Kinny is a sophomore Biochemistry major at the University of North Texas
- **Andres Hernandez** is the son of WEAT member Jacob Peña Sr. Andres will be senior Environmental Engineering major at Arizona State University – Tempe. He plans to pursue is Master's degree as well.
- **Emily Benton** is the daughter of WEAT member Terry Benton. Emily will be a junior Broadcast Communications major at Dallas Baptist University.
- **Annie Reck** is the daughter of WEAT member Todd Reck. Annie will be a sophomore Chemical Engineering major at Texas A&M University.
- **Aaron Reck** is the son of WEAT member Todd Reck. Aaron will be a junior Mechanical Engineering major at Texas A&M University.

- **Claudia Gorgi** is the daughter of WEAT member Eva Gorgi. Claudia will be a junior Kinesiology major at the University of Arkansas.
- **Kylee Kittrell** is the daughter of WEAT member Ken Hall. Annie will be a junior Accounting major at the University of North Texas.

In addition to our returning students, we are proud to announce that we are awarding four additional scholarships for the coming year. Our new students are:

- **Beth Allen**, the daughter of WEAT member Fiona Allen. Beth will be a junior Chemical Engineering major with a minor in General Business at Texas Tech University.
- **Emily Smith**, the daughter of WEAT member Gary Smith. Emily will be a freshman Engineering major at the University of North Texas.
- **Collin McDonald**, the son of WEAT member Ellen McDonald. Collin will be a freshman Mechanical Engineering major at the University of Texas at Austin.
- **Suzanne Wen**, the daughter of WEAT member Hong Wu. Suzanne will be a junior Bioengineering major at Rice University.

The scholarship committee would like to congratulate our returning students and our new recipients for this year. We are proud of your accomplishments and are looking forward to watching your growth and development as you pursue your chosen degree programs. ***Best of luck for this school year!***



PUBLIC EDUCATION (CONT'D)

The Darryl Hall scholarship program supports those men and women who work for North Texas wastewater utilities in operations, maintenance, and laboratory services. We are proud to announce the recipients for the 2014–2015 school year. Returning students include:

- **John Bennett**, a Business Management major at Dallas Baptist University.

In addition to our returning students, we are proud to announce that we are awarding six additional scholarships for the coming year. Our new students are:

- **Stephanie Willey**, the daughter of WEAT member Kevin Willey. Stephanie will be a freshman General Studies major at Ranger College.
- **Emily Willey**, the daughter of WEAT member Kevin Willey. Emily will be a freshman Science major at Ranger College.
- **Angelle Wilson**, the daughter of WEAT member Jesse White III. Angelle will be a junior Nursing major at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette.
- **Ryan Cottingame**, the son of WEAT member Marc Cottingame. Ryan will be a sophomore Science major at Trinity Valley Community College and after completing his associate's degree, he plans to transfer to a university and pursue a degree in biology and/or engineering.
- **Chantella Juarez**, the daughter of WEAT member Raudel Juarez. Chantella will be a sophomore dental hygienist major at Tarrant County College.
- **Hanna Foster**, the daughter of WEAT member Tom Foster. Hanna will be a sophomore Journalism major at Texas State University.

UPCOMING EVENTS

CAREER DAY

When you were a kid, what did you want to be when you grew up? **Career Day encourages children to begin thinking about what they might want to be when they grow up.** As another school year begins, so does the opportunity for us to participate in Career Day at our children's school! Career Day is a day in school where students learn about different careers and vocations by exposing them to fascinating, important, and COOL careers, opening their minds to exciting worlds they may not normally see. Plus, our children are proud to have their parent talk to their friends about what they do.

Many school districts have already scheduled their Career Day events, so check out your child's school district website or ask their teachers about how you can get involved. **Let's make a difference in our community and teach our children and their friends about what we do for our community and environment.** Contact Amy Robinson at robinsonar@cdmsmith.com or 817.916.2927 for more information or ideas for Career Day presentations or activities.

CAST CONFERENCE

Calling all WEAT-NTS volunteers! WEAT has a joint booth with TAWWA and EPA Region 6 at the CAST Conference in Dallas on November 20–22 at the Hilton Anatole. **CAST is the Conference for the Advancement of Science Teachers and is attended by K–12 science teachers from throughout the State of Texas.** The North Texas Section is looking for volunteers to help with the booth. Planning is underway, so if you are

PUBLIC EDUCATION

interested in volunteering a few hours of your time, please contact Amy Robinson at robinsonar@cdmsmith.com or at 817.916.2927.

FUTURE CITY PROGRAM

Future City is a project-based educational program for student in 6th, 7th, and 8th grade that engages and challenges them to develop their vision of a livable city of the future. It is a great way to introduce these students to engineering and expose them to a rewarding career opportunity. Surveys show that students exhibit more interest in math, science, and engineering after completing Future City. WEAT-NTS has sponsored the Future City Competition for the past couple of years and we are looking to increase our involvement this year. Our level of involvement depends on our level of volunteers. If you are interested in volunteering your time to be an Engineer-Mentor for a project team, please contact Amy Robinson at robinsonar@cdmsmith.com or at 817.916.2927.

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NTS WEAT YP Winter Social!

When: December 11, 2014
6:00pm – 8:30pm

Where: Top Golf Dallas
8787 Park Ln
Dallas, TX 75231

Cost: \$20 for YPs who sign up before Dec 5th
\$25 for All Other Members & Guests

Details: Heavy apps, drink ticket, and 2 ½ hours
of golf!

Register
Online
SOON!

Bring \$\$\$ for Golf
Contests and Raffles!!

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Questions: Charles Norman
charles@pumpsolutions.net
(817) 684-0900



The 2014 Fantasy Football Season kicked off with 12 TEAMS signing up in the 1st ever WEAT / AWWA NTS YPs Fantasy Football League!!!!!! With 6 more games to play before PLAYOFFS begin, the competition is sure to heat up! Entry was \$25 per team, allowing the total prize to be \$300 which will be split between the League's Champion and the YPs Social Events Fund!

EAST Division CURRENT STANDINGS

TEAM	RECORD
Team Ged (Evan Ged / CH2MHILL)	6-1
Dallas Beats by Ray (Kory Peterson / RAMA Enterprises)	5-2
Odessa Pumps (Jonathan Gaffney / Odessa Pumps)	4-3
Pump Solutions (Charles Norman / Pump Solutions)	3-4
Team Simple Man (Jacob Niemeier / GarzaBury)	2-5
DFW Western Summit (Jeff McCord / Western Summit Constructors)	1-6

WEST Division CURRENT STANDINGS

TEAM	RECORD
Dallas CPYI_2 (Pawan Gunjur / CP&Y)	5-2
Team Landes (Nicholas Landes / Freese & Nichols)	4-3
Winston's Warriors (Matt Dobbertien / Carollo)	4-3
Team Acosta (Antonio Acosta / Pump Solutions)	3-4
Dallas CPYI_1 (Dario Sanchez / CP&Y)	3-4
Team Jacobs (Grace Wike / Jacobs)	2-5

OF NOTE...

SIGN UP FOR E-MAIL NOTICES

E-mail weatnts@weat-nts.org to be added to the distribution list.

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

Should you wish to unsubscribe, please send a request to weatnts@weat-nts.org.

ONLINE PAYMENT AVAILABLE

WEAT-NTS sponsors and dinner meeting attendees can now pay online 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.

WEAT-NTS CALENDAR OF EVENTS

EVENT	DATE	LOCATION	TOPIC
WEAT-NTS November Dinner Meeting	November 20, 2014	Texas Star	Public-Private Partnerships: Are You Ready for the Challenge?
WEAT-NTS January Dinner Meeting	January 22, 2015	TBD	Potable Reuse
2015 February Seminar	February 10, 2015	CityPlace – Dallas	Resource Recovery in Wastewater Treatment
WEAT-NTS March Dinner Meeting	March 19, 2015	TBD	Tentative: TCEQ Updates
Sporting Clays Tournament	March 20, 2015	Elm Fork Shooting Range	Pew! Pew! Pew!
WEAT-NTS May Dinner Meeting	May 21, 2015	TBD	DWU Central IPS
WEAT-NTS July Dinner Meeting	July 16, 2015	TBD	Trinity Compact

WEAT-NTS CONTACTS

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President	Jeff Sober	972.377.7480	jlsobor@garverusa.com
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Vice President	Brigit Buff	972.533.2499	brigit.buff@ch2m.com
Treasurer	Mark Perkins	817.719.0372	treasurer@weat-nts.org
Secretary	Jennifer McKnight	817.403.2376	jmcknight@tcmud.org
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Past Section Rep	Darryl Corbin	972.239.9949	dcorbin@carollo.com

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Programs	Eva Gorgi	214.671.2804	eva.gorgi@dallascityhall.com
Public Education / Science Fair	Amy Robinson	817.332.8727	robinsonar@cdmsmith.com
Scholarship Fund	Matt Jalbert	817.887.8051	matthewjalbert@kennedyjenks.com
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