

Learning from the pros at the Spring Conference

The 2011 APWA-MN Spring Conference was another outstanding success!

Wednesday evening opened with a presentation by APWA President **George Crombie**, who shared thought-provoking words about leadership. Crombie and **Larry Stevens**, APWA Region VI Director, presented **Mike Eastling** with the APWA Top Ten Award. It was great to see one of our colleagues recognized for his contributions to the community that he works for, and to the Minnesota Chapter and its ongoing education and training efforts. In addition, the organization received the proclamation signed by Gov. Dayton for National Public Works week. Thank you to our Mn/DOT partners for their assistance in obtaining the proclamation.



Former WCCO Anchor **Don Shelby's** keynote message on Wednesday night began with his history as a "keeper of secrets," based on his extensive investigative reporting background and history as a reporter and anchor.

On Thursday, he focused on how to get your story told by working with the media. Some key points:

1. Understand the scope of your project or program and how it will impact those you serve.
2. Anticipate questions that may be asked about your work, anticipate possible reaction, and know how to respond.
3. Role play with your colleagues and look for the holes in your program or project. You may find that your program or project can be improved. You will be better prepared for questions from the public and the media.
4. When being interviewed, understand that the camera represents your audience. Talk to the camera and be mindful of your posture.

5. Build relationships with the press. They need you to do their job, and you need them to help send a message.

Next, **Lisa Schaefer Rund**, League of Minnesota Cities, provided an overview of social media, how cities are using it, and special considerations for implementing social media. **Shannon Tyree**, Saint Paul Public Works; **TK Kramaszcz**, Mn/DOT; and **Jennifer Bennerotte**, City of Edina; led a presentation about of social media. This exceptional panel of communications professionals gave examples for the effective use of YouTube, Facebook, and Twitter, and helped us recognize that social media is now mainstream communication.

Thursday morning ended with the business meeting, as well as with the Leadership Academy graduation. The 2011 class had 11 graduates, many of whom were able to attend the conference and the graduation ceremonies.

Thursday afternoon provided several technical sessions and touring options. Attendees participated in a social media workshop, or explored the Gull Lake Recreation area by bus, bike or foot.

The Membership Committee helped with the association's scholarship fund by organizing a drawing for the opportunity to win a two-night stay at Grand View Lodge. Congratulations to **Mike Rardin** for winning the drawing! Thanks to the committee for its work to raise over \$1,000 for the scholarship fund.

On Friday morning, **Craig Johnson**, League of Minnesota Cities; and **Margaret Donahoe**, Transportation Alliance; discussed legislative issues of interest to public works professionals. Mn/DOT Deputy Commissioner and Chief Engineer **Bernie Arseneau** and **Peggy Reichert** with the Mn/DOT Office of Capital Programs and Performance Measures, updated us on Mn/DOT initiatives, ranging from ADA to MinnesotaGo.

The conference concluded with **Kristofer Layon** asking us to think about the use of technology in the future. He emphasized that it is not the technology itself about which we should be excited, but how we can use technology to convey information.

(continued on page 2)

Calendar of Events

July 7	Executive Committee Meeting
July 14	Summer Golf Outing
Sept. 7	Executive Committee Meeting
Sept. 8	Education & Training Committee Meeting
Sept. 18-21	APWA Congress (Denver, Colorado)
Sept. 20	Chapter Dinner at Congress
Oct. 5-6	MN Fall Maintenance Expo
Oct. 27	Executive Committee Meeting

For the latest information or to register for training opportunities, visit the APWA-MN Chapter website at minnesota.apwa.net.

Golf Outing set for July 14



In case you haven't heard, the **APWA Minnesota Chapter Summer Golf Outing** is moving to Bunker Hills Golf Course in Coon Rapids. The event will tee off on July 14 at 12:30 p.m., and will include a light dinner after golf. Registration forms will be distributed in mid-June, so keep an eye on your inbox since this event typically fills up quickly!

Where did MPWA go?

We still constantly hear ourselves saying "MPWA" when we talk about our chapter.

The Minnesota Public Works Association has a long and proud tradition, and solid name recognition within our peer groups. Although we have officially been the Minnesota Chapter of the American Public Works Association (APWA-MN) for some time, we still struggle with what to call ourselves.

The Executive Committee has reaffirmed the need to brand ourselves as part of a respected national association, understanding the benefit that comes from international name recognition and presence beyond our peers.

Keep an eye on our website for branding and protocol standards as we continue to transition from one proud name to another.

Goodbye MPWA, and hello APWA-MN.

Lost: Exhibit booth

The Fall Maintenance Expo Committee is looking for its exhibit booth.

Yes, we are embarrassed to say we have lost track of it. It has been loaned out for several APWA-MN Chapter events over the years and now no one seems to have it. It is a large display, contained in two grey traveling cases. It would be difficult to overlook!

If you have it or now where it was last used, please contact **Kathy Warren** at kwarren@usinternet.com.

Continued from page 1

Thank you to the Conference Planning Committee, the University of Minnesota's College of Continuing Education, **Kathy Warren**, Grand View Lodge, and participants. Special thanks to **Bob Cockriel**, Conference Planning co-chair, for his work and effort in organizing the event. Thanks to all our members who provided opportunities for networking and social gatherings. Thanks especially to SEH, who donated an iPad 2, sold chances, and raised \$356 for the Scholarship Fund. Congratulations to **Bryan Bjorgaard** for winning this really cool gift.

Submitted by **Jeannine Clancy**
APWA-MN Vice President

Chalkline is a quarterly publication of the Minnesota Chapter of the American Public Works Association (APWA-Minnesota Chapter). Publication dates are March, June, September, and December. Articles for the Fall 2011 issue may be submitted for consideration by August 29 to **Kathy Warren** at kwarren@usinternet.com. Past issues of the *Chalkline* are available in PDF format on the APWA-MN website at minnesota.apwa.net.



APWA-MN
President
Mark Maloney

Message from the President

As I write this in the first week of June, the Twin Cities metro area is having its first full taste of summer — the temperature went past the century mark and hit 102 degrees today! This coming on the heels of one of the more difficult winter seasons in recent memory.

At the same time, citizens in Minnesota are dealing with the anxiety and frustration of a potential state government shut-down following the inability of the Legislature and governor to compromise on a budget. Many of our members are directly and indirectly affected by this outcome which, sadly, had been predicted by most political insiders for quite some time.

Turbulent times it would seem.

One thing the public has to rely on, whether they always acknowledge it or not, is the professional and sustained high level of performance by the public works industry in Minnesota. APWA-MN Chapter members reflecting public and private sectors, state and local government, as well as consultants, equipment, and materials vendors remain committed to delivering products and services that establish and maintain the high quality of life that our residents and businesses enjoy. With all the climate, political, and economic challenges of 2011, our members just keep doing what they do.

Your APWA-MN Executive Committee continues to work through the summer and will be updating the chapter's strategic planning documents. This is an important process that helps the chapter adapt to changes in member demographics and needs.

Another important part of the success of the chapter is the hard work and dedication of those who serve on the committees. Some recent highlights include:

- The Conference Planning Committee delivered another excellent Spring Conference (see page 1) and is already hard at work on the details for the 2011 Fall Conference.
- The Awards Committee continues to get our members and their projects publicity and recognition for their accomplishments. The Minnesota Chapter is again well represented in APWA's National Awards Program (see page 4).
- The Membership Committee is putting the final touches on our popular Summer Golf Outing, and will be planning the social activities associated with the 2011 Fall Conference.
- And the Education and Training Committee has recently graduated another class from our hugely successful Underground Utility Inspector School (see page 8).

In addition to attending our conferences and other APWA-MN events, serving on a Chapter Committee is a great opportunity for you to make a difference in the public works industry and have a lot of fun at the same time.

Whether it's your leadership, experience, expertise, or just plain energy, I bet you've got something to contribute!

Mark Maloney, APWA-MN President

Congratulations, recipients of APWA National Awards!

2011 was another successful year for Minnesota Chapter members in the APWA awards program. The Minnesota Chapter submitted in early March a total of 18 nominations for both personnel and project awards, and received six awards. Listed below is a full roster of award nominations; the winners are noted in bold.

- Russ Matthys, City of Eagan: Community Involvement.
- **Roundabout U, Washington County Public Works: Exceptional Performance/Journalism.**
- **Mark Maloney, City of Shoreview: Professional Manager of the Year, Category of Engineering and Technology.**
- **Kevin Schlangen, Dakota County: Professional Manager of the Year, Category of Public Fleet.**
- **Wayne Sandberg, Washington County: Professional Manager of the Year, Category of Transportation.**
- Ed Matthiesen, Wenck & Associates: Professional Manager of the Year, Category of Water Resources.
- **Kathy Schaefer, Mn/DOT: Donald C. Stone Award.**
- Thomas Struve, City of Minnetonka: Harry S. Swearingen Award.
- **Mike Eastling, City of Richfield: Top Ten Public Works Leaders of the Year.**
- Chris Petree, City of Lakeville: Young Leader Award.
- City of Hastings Industrial Park Area Improvements: Project of the Year, Environment (less than \$5 million).
- University of Minnesota Pleasant Street Storm Sewer and Chilled Water Line Improvements: Project of the Year, Environment (less than \$5 million).
- City of Edina Country Club District Sewer, Water,

and Street Construction: Project of the Year, Historical Restoration (\$5-\$25 million).

- City of Minneapolis Hiawatha Maintenance Facility: Project of the Year, Historical Restoration (\$5-\$25 million).
- City of Shoreview Maintenance Center Renovation: Project of the Year, Structures (\$5-\$25 million).
- City of Shoreview Woodbridge Neighborhood Road Reconstruction: Project of the Year, Transportation (less than \$5 million).
- Mn/DOT Highway 169 Saint Peter Design Build Project: Project of the Year, Transportation (\$5-\$25 million).
- Mn/DOT I-35W and TH 62 Crosstown Reconstruction: Project of the Year, Transportation (more than \$75 million).

By submitting these nominations, the Minnesota Chapter is once again eligible to receive APWA's prestigious Presidential Award for Chapter Excellence (PACE) Award. APWA awards will be presented at the 2011 APWA Congress in Denver, Colorado.

The Awards Committee will begin soliciting nominations for the 2011 Chapter Awards program in July and August. Please consider nominating deserving personnel and projects for Chapter Awards in 2011.

In addition, nominations are encouraged for the chapter's Environmental Stewardship Award. This award is presented to worthy groups of individuals or agencies that show passion for the environment, as well as a sustained commitment to environmental stewardship. Chapter awards will be presented at the Fall Conference in November.

**Submitted by Mark Hansen
Chair, Awards Committee**



Mark Maloney
City of Shoreview



Kevin Schlangen
Dakota County



Wayne Sandberg
Washington County



Kathy Schaefer
Mn/DOT



Mike Eastling
City of Richfield

Delegate's Report (May 2011)

Membership. APWA's overall membership count as of April 2011 is 28,453. The Minnesota Chapter has 919 members.

Regional Delegates Meeting. The Region VI Delegate's meeting was held May 20-21 in Kansas City. Attendees included Regional Director **Larry Stevens**; chapter delegates from South Dakota, Kansas, Iowa, Nebraska, Missouri, Kansas City Metro, and Minnesota; and APWA President **George Crombie**. Reports from each chapter were presented. Some interesting highlights included:

- Once every three years, the Missouri, Iowa, Nebraska, and Kansas chapters host the Mid-America Conference, which includes education sessions and an exhibit floor. At this year's conference, they hosted a National Public Works Week luncheon that had over 900 attendees.
- The Kansas City Metro Chapter assigns two Board members to each goal of their strategic plan for the purpose of implementation.
- The Iowa Chapter uses the APWA new member promotion in conjunction with conference registration to attract new members.
- The Missouri Chapter hosts "mock interviews" for several members of their student chapter to help prepare the students for their future.
- The Kansas Chapter is pursuing development of a database of retired professionals interested in continuing to serve public works communities on an advisory basis.
- The Manitoba Chapter will host their Spring Fling in Winnipeg on May 27, as well as the 2012

Mid-Canada Snow Conference in October. This may be an opportunity for Minnesota Chapter members to mingle with our friends to the north.

- The other chapters were very interested in Minnesota's young professional stipend program and have asked us to prepare an article for the next Bridge's newsletter. There was also interest in the success of our chapter's outsourcing of the bookkeeper/accounting function to APWA. The Minnesota Chapter was one of the first chapters to pilot this new service agreement with APWA, and many chapters would like to follow.
- Many thanks from APWA President **George Crombie** and Regional Director **Larry Stevens** for the wonderful education sessions and hospitality that they received during the Minnesota Chapter's Spring Conference. They enjoyed meeting everyone.

APWA Services Available to the Chapter Members.

APWA has conference call lines available to APWA members for use.

Educational Opportunities. APWA Sustainability in Public Works Conference will be held June 27-29 in Portland, Oregon. The conference is designed to explore and promote the evolving role of public works professionals in the creation of sustainable communities.

The 2011 APWA Congress and Exposition will be held in Denver, Colorado, September 18-22. Registration information can be found on the website.

Submitted by **Angela Popenhagen**
APWA-MN Delegate

Treasurer's Report (June 1, 2011)

ASSETS	2/28/11	4/30/11	5/31/11
Cash/Bank Accounts:			
Cash	\$34,023	\$48,405	\$33,397
Operating Investments	\$566	\$566	\$1566
Total Cash/Bank Accounts	\$34,589	\$48,971	\$33,963
Investments:			
Short-term	\$0	\$0	\$0
Long-term	\$105,962	\$109,617	\$111,254
Total Investments	\$105,962	\$109,617	\$111,254
TOTAL ASSETS	\$140,551	\$158,588	\$145,217
LIABILITIES	\$0	\$0	\$0
OVERALL TOTAL	\$140,551	\$158,588	\$145,217

Submitted by **Lee Gustafson**
APWA-MN Secretary/Treasurer

City of Woodbury wins environmental award

On January 12, the Minnesota Chapter presented its 2010 Environmental Stewardship Award to the Woodbury City Council. The presentation followed the award presentation at the chapter's Fall Conference in November. The award highlighted Woodbury's long-term commitment to environmental protection and stewardship.

The Awards Committee and Environmental Committee noted that the city's environmental efforts involve all departments, particularly the Engineering, Public Works, and Parks departments and environmental divisions, who cooperated in submitting the award application. The city's commitments and staffing for environmental programs and projects began in 1994.

The annual Environmental Stewardship Award is given to a group, individual, or organization that demonstrates a sustained effort and long-term commitment to environmental stewardship. The recipient must identify tangible benefits to the community, and how its efforts address public works values such as cost-effectiveness and consideration of operation and maintenance needs.

Some of Woodbury's strongest environmental efforts include its storm water management initiatives, strategic initiatives related to water conservation and pricing, "complete streets" approach to roadway corridor design, snow and ice control program, and fleet and building

management strategies that implement sustainable practices.



Woodbury's application demonstrated benefits to city residents, businesses, and the community. It identified leadership among departments that is actively exploring new strategies to improve services across departments to protect and enhance the environment.

Mayor **Mary Giuliani Stephens** accepted the award on behalf of the Council and the city. She thanked the Minnesota Chapter, and noted that the Council is committed to the sustainability goals and principles that are the focus of Woodbury's 2030 Comprehensive Plan.

The City of Shoreview also submitted a strong application for the Environmental Stewardship Award in 2010. Shoreview has a strong commitment to sustainable storm water, building design, energy use, and transit practices.

The Environmental Stewardship Award is presented annually to celebrate the efforts that many public works departments, professionals and staff are making to protect and improve the environment, manage costs, and use resources effectively.

**Submitted by Sherri Buss
Chair, Environmental Committee**

Membership Committee sponsors tour of Metrodome

Members of the Minnesota Chapter gathered on April 28 for a chapter-coordinated luncheon, tour, and discussion of the repairs being conducted to the roof at the Metrodome/Mall of America.

The tour/discussion was hosted by **Steve Maki**, director of facilities and engineering for the Metropolitan Sports Facilities Commission (MSFC). Steve is intimately familiar with most every facet of the existing Metrodome and its nearly 30-year history, as well as being integrally involved in the ongoing replacement of the Teflon-coated fiberglass roof. Repairs are scheduled to be

completed by August 1, in time for the start of the Vikings football season.

The lunch/tour was attended by approximately 40 current and retired members of the Minnesota

Chapter who shared in traditional ballpark-fare before hearing Steve recount the memorable events of the December 12, 2010, snow-storm, and the MSFC's subsequent response to repair the facility in a timely fashion.



**Submitted by Jason Sprague
Chair, Membership Committee**

Communications efforts ensure members stay in the loop

How we communicate personally and professionally continues to evolve at a dizzying clip. APWA and APWA-MN are working toward improving our communication with members in many different ways.

Website. We both have ongoing efforts to improve our website. APWA has a new look and feel for its website (www.apwa.net) and is reaching out to chapters to identify options for partnering on the development of their websites. Meanwhile, APWA-MN is moving ahead with our own website initiative, establishing a Website Development Task Force to identify what features our members would like to incorporate into our next version. The Task Force has met to identify what should be included in the new website, and is now getting ready to move toward options for developing the new website.

Chalkline and other publications. As we have noted before, the *Chalkline* and other chapter and national notices and publications are continuing to move toward digital-only distribution. We will be publishing the *Chalkline* to members in digital form only beginning in 2012. Not only does this save on the chapter's budget, it also allows us to link to other resources to give members better access to more detailed information. The vast majority of members have noted their email



addresses with their membership information, but for those of you that haven't, we suggest that you update your member profile on the APWA site.

Electronic voting. The chapter's 2011 elections will use electronic voting. This process has worked extremely well for many APWA chapters, as well as for the City Engineers Association of Minnesota. This will allow us to increase and improve the information provided and streamline our operations, while also saving cost and effort. Again, we recommend that members take full advantage of their membership by visiting the Member Tools section of the website and double-checking:

- Do we have your most current mailing address, phone, fax, and email address?
- Is your Member Profile information current?
- Have you taken advantage of the free subscriptions to all the infoNOW communities which cover topics you're interested in?
- Are you interested in serving in a leadership role in your local chapter?

Submitted by **John Rodeberg**
Chair, Communications Committee

Public Works Program builds experience and advances careers

The Public Works Certificate Program at North Hennepin Community College has been in existence for over 30 years and has seen hundreds of public works professionals complete the program during that time. For many front line maintenance workers, the program has helped them to advance into public works supervisory roles.

The program consists of 23 credits, 16 of which are considered the core public works courses with the remaining seven credits coming from an elective communications course and a writing course. The four public works courses that make up the core 16 credits of the program are: Public Works Management and Communication, Public Works Operations and Maintenance, Public Works Organization and Administration, and Technical Aspects of Public Works. These core courses are taught by public works practitioners that have extensive knowledge and experience in their field.

The current instructors include **Gary Brown, Rod Pletan, Tom Struve, and Paul Backer**. These individuals are the reason the program has continued to be so highly regarded by agencies and professionals in the public works field.

In the past 18 months, the APWA-MN Education & Training Committee has formed a Public Works Certificate Program Steering Committee. The committee has been working with the instructors and college to ensure the program remains strong and vibrant for years to come. The committee has met numerous times and is currently pursuing new initiatives and possible course offerings for the program.

If you or your staff have not completed this outstanding program, I highly encourage you to do so. It can have a tremendous impact on your career.

Submitted by **Chris Petree**
APWA-MN Director

Certificates awarded for UUIS

On May 17th, students from the second graduating class of the Underground Utilities Inspector School (UUIS) were awarded their certificates.

While Mn/DOT offers training and certification for roadway construction, there is a lack of available training for inspectors of underground utility construction. The UUIS addresses this gap, along with providing training on project administration, communications, and record keeping. The UUIS consists of eight half-day classes held once a month from October to May.

Submitted by Tom Montgomery
Chair, Education & Training Committee

Front row, left to right: Liz Finnegan, Richfield; Carolyn Fakler, Hennepin County; Titus Jaafaru, Minneapolis; Rachel Banasiak, Apple Valley; Paul Pasko, SEH and Underground Inspector School Facilitator; Mike Sanders, Woodbury. **Second row, left to right:** DJ Goman, Spring Lake Park; Danyell Lundell, Woodbury; Al Montague, Wayzata; Kristi Hanson, Minneapolis; Eric Schoon, Bloomington; Curt Fakler, Mn/DOT; Mark Ray, Golden Valley; Bill Thurston, St. Louis Park. **Back row, left to right:** Mark Maloney, Shoreview and President APWA-MN; Wayde Schroeder, Woodbury; Dave Cain, St. Louis Park; Will Shutte, Minneapolis; Kyle Wallace, Minneapolis; Matt Yokiell, Hastings; Mark Fremder, St. Louis Park; Brian Dahlberg, Golden Valley; Mitch Hoelt, Golden Valley. **Not pictured:** Greg Randahl, Bloomington; Jeff Remer, Burnsville; Jason Stroth, Richfield; Cori Wallis, Chanhausen.



Leadership Academy graduates fifth class in May

Students from the fifth graduating class of the Leadership Academy were awarded their certificates at the annual APWA-MN Spring Conference at Grandview Lodge this May. The Leadership Academy is a mini-masters program that provides practical knowledge, tools, and skills public works professionals need to manage effectively.

The academy is partnered through Hamline University, and provides 90 hours of training, meeting one-and-a-half days a month for seven months.

Left to right: Bill Joynes, John Nelson, Mike Weber, Phil Olson, Mark Hall, Linda Mullen, Kevin Chmielewski, Jesse Struve, Brent Thompson, Bryan Bjorgaard, Wally Wysopal. **Not pictured:** Nick Fleichhacker, Alex Grovik, Robert Lacina, Keith Stachowski

Submitted by Tom Montgomery
Chair, Education & Training Committee

APWA-MN volunteers at Feed My Starving Children

APWA-MN members assembled over 16,000 meals on March 29 at the Eagan location of Feed My Starving Children. Members also volunteered at the Coon Rapids and Chanhausen locations.

Submitted by Shannon Tyree
Membership & Outreach Committee



Left to right: Jack Griffen, Cara Geheren, Gary Warren, Lane Christiansen, Mark Kasma and Tom Struve

Where are they now? John Kirtland

If you think you been involved with our Minnesota Chapter for a long time, let me re-introduce you to John Kirtland. You'd have to go way back to 1968 when he was our chapter president to compare stories about the good old days. Fortunately, John has stayed in contact with our organization over the years and was easy to catch up with for this article.



Past Presidents at 60th Anniversary in 2006
John Kirtland seated in front row, center

John started his career working in the aircraft industry in California just before Pearl Harbor. He was a flight engineer and co-pilot testing B25's on their maiden flights. Shortly thereafter, he enlisted in the Navy and eventually was stationed at Wold Chamberlain when the war ended. He courted his future wife, BettyAnn, on the shores of Lake Calhoun and they were married in February 1947.

John started his public works career with the Hennepin County Highway Department on a survey crew and as an inspector. An early memory was his supervision of the concrete paving of County Road 15 through Wayzata, Spring Park, and Mound. After a short three months as the assistant, John inherited the maintenance engineer position when Erick Jensen unexpectedly passed away in April of 1952. John quickly realized he needed the professional support of other public works professionals as he assumed his new responsibilities.

It was in the very early 1950s that he remembers attending his first public works meeting at the University of Minnesota. The relationships that John made at those meetings were very helpful with future dealings.

The 1961 APWA Congress held in Minneapolis opened his eyes to the enormous amount of information that was readily available. Through information gained at the various conferences, Hennepin County equipped their trucks with ground speed oriented spreaders and underbody plows, and the county was the first to use tandem trucks for snow plowing.

John was also instrumental in securing the county's first asphalt plant, a major step toward getting Hennepin County "out of the mud."

Since 1961, he attended every Congress (missing only one) and numerous Snow Conferences until he retired in 1985.

A personal high point for John's APWA-Minnesota involvement was when he developed the first Minnesota Inspector's School. He specifically mentioned the great work all the instructors did to make it a success. He also teamed up with Kent Lande (1974 APWA-MN president) to develop courses at North Hennepin College for public works personnel that continue to this day. John was also one of the original founders of the Minnesota Street Superintendents Association (MSSA).

A special memory for John was the 1968 chapter dinner in Miami when he was president. He fondly remembered the three APWA past presidents in attendance: **Hugo**

Erickson of Minneapolis, **Milt Rosen** of Saint Paul, and **Edwin Booth** of Bismarck.

While retirement in 1985 was a long time ago, John stayed in touch with our chapter during his second career with Advanced Storage

Technology, Inc. (salt storage buildings) for the next 23 years! He called this his "dream job" because he continued to attend all the APWA Congresses and Snow Conferences and stayed in touch with his many contacts in the public works field.

John has always been the strongest of supporters of the public works profession, and a class act who was definitely a cornerstone in the foundation that makes our chapter what it is today.



John Kirtland with Gov. Harold Lavander
(and Pete Wilczek) proclaiming
National Public Works Week

Submitted by **Tom Colbert**
Chair, History Committee

Idea Center: More snow = less salt

Everybody knows chloride levels peak in downstream water bodies during the spring snow melt. And maybe everyone knows it only takes one teaspoon of salt to pollute 5 gallons of water forever.

But did you know that a proactive review of your salt application procedures and a few helpful hints put to practice can result in significant reductions in salt usage without compromising safety? Yeah right, I felt the same way.

The Challenge. When I first learned that the Nine Mile Creek Watershed District (NMCWD) was suggesting a 62 percent reduction in salt applications for its MS4 Cities, I quickly went from shocked to angry. Sixty-two percent sounded like an unrealistic goal, and our main concern was the compromised safety and reduced quality of service the traveling public would encounter.

I spent a fair amount of office time lamenting with Richfield Street Operations Manager Chris Link about NMCWD's wild and unrealistic allocations. But, instead of waiting for the MPCA to tie the TMDL requirements to our MS4 permit, Chris and I registered for the Winter Maintenance of Roads Workshop offered by NMCWD to see what they had to offer.

From there, Chris quickly stepped up to test the reasonableness of such a lofty goal.

The Test. His plan of attack was simple and easy to implement:

- All operations staff attended the free Winter Maintenance of Roads Workshop offered by NMCWD.

Based on what was learned at the workshop, staff:

- Calibrated the equipment.
- Adjusted application rates based on pavement temperature.
- Applied salt at the crown of the road rather than across the surface.
- Applied pretreated salt during colder weather events.



The Results. After one of the snowiest winters on record, Chris is proud to report that the Richfield Streets Department reduced its salt usage by over 50 percent, without receiving one complaint or sacrificing the safety of the traveling public.

Chris is committed to ongoing reviews of the city's salt application methods and will continue to make changes that will offer further reductions in usage. He can be reached at (612) 861-9174.

Submitted by Kristin Asher
APWA-MN Director

Welcome, new members!

The APWA-MN Chapter welcomes our newest members:

- **James Archer**, Hennepin County
- **Brett Baldry**, Kraus-Anderson Construction Company
- **Todd Berg**, City of Brooklyn Center
- **Glen Birnstengel**, City of South Saint Paul
- **Michael Burns**, City of Rochester
- **Mike Cash**, White Bear Township
- **Matthew Clark**, Bonestroo
- **Jason Crotty**, City of Marine on St Croix
- **Morgan Dawley**, City of Saint Paul Park
- **Ryan Goodman**, Bonestroo
- **Louis Gravel**, Bonestroo
- **Lee Gregory**, Sir Lines-A-Lot
- **Charlie Grill**, City of Shoreview
- **Kris Hageman**, City of Saint Paul
- **Jeremy Hauser**, Bonestroo
- **Roger Hoyum**, JDI Contracts
- **Thomas Kaldunski**, City of Inver Grove Heights
- **Thomas Kellogg**, Bonestroo
- **Matthew Loberg**, RedZone Robotics Inc
- **Christopher Long**, Bonestroo
- **Matthew Morreim**, City of Saint Paul
- **Tyler Newhall**, Bonestroo
- **Daniel Pince**, City of South Saint Paul
- **Daniel Pirkl**, City of Owatonna
- **Mark Ray**, City of Golden Valley
- **David Sanocki**, Bonestroo
- **Kellie Schlegel**, Bonestroo
- **Ronald Segner**, City of Owatonna
- **Mark Statz**, Bonestroo
- **Karl Stuemke**, White Bear Township
- **Brian Vitek**, City of Saint Paul
- **Michael Warner**, Bonestroo
- **John Witt**, Hennepin County

News Around Town

AE2S (Advanced Engineering and Environmental Services, Inc.)

AE2S (Advanced Engineering and Environmental Services, Inc.) has been honored for its work on the **Western Area Water Supply (WAWS) project**. The **Williston Area Development Foundation** presented a regional achievement award to AE2S and the water boards that helped turn WAWS into legislation. WAWS is a project that will deliver high-quality drinking water from the Missouri River to people who live in Williams and McKenzie counties in North Dakota, as well as the communities of Williston, Ray, Watford City, Stanley, Wildrose, Alexander, and Tioga, ND. In addition to providing drinking water to rural areas in northwestern North Dakota, the water system will bring excess capacity water from the system closer to the area's booming oil fields, which will in turn help pay for the system and have additional benefits such as lessening wear and tear on roads. The award presented to AE2S recognizes the firm for its "foresight, vision, determination, drive and enthusiasm in improving the quality of life and diversifying the economic base of the region."

Bonestroo

With the addition of mechanical engineers **David C. Lindahl, PE**, and **Andrew P. Vollhaber, PE**, Bonestroo has expanded its mechanical engineering services. Lindahl has 30 years of experience as a mechanical engineer. He has more than 10 years of experience commissioning systems for buildings and more than 15 years of experience designing plumbing, fire sprinkler, and HVAC systems for commercial, institutional, and industrial buildings. Vollhaber has more than 15 years of experience as a mechanical design engineer. His expertise includes designing HVAC and plumbing systems for a variety of building and facility types.

Bonestroo also welcomes **Jesse Narr**, an engineer with extensive contaminant management expertise. With nine years of experience in engineering and environmental consulting, Narr deals primarily with property assessment and contaminant management projects. She works with **David Constant, PG**, who leads Bonestroo's work in brownfield assessment and redevelopment, Phase I and II Environmental Site Assessments, and contaminant management projects. Together, Constant and Narr are working to expand the firm's environmental consulting presence in Minnesota and the Dakotas.

TKDA

TKDA is pleased to report the addition of new staff to its team in response to its increased workload. **Frank**

Ticknor II, PE, recently joined TKDA's Municipal Services Division as a client services manager. Ticknor has over 12 years experience planning, designing, and building public infrastructure for Minnesota cities and will help TKDA to expand services in the municipal market sector.

Thomas Russell also joined TKDA's Municipal Services Division as a senior construction manager. Russell has over 28 years of construction oversight experience with public infrastructure projects.

Bret Farmer, PE, has been named TKDA's rail division manager. The promotion will transition Farmer from the company's Surface Transportation Division where he served as a project manager and senior registered engineer for several years. His new role will build upon the working relationships he has established with BNSF Railway Company, Canadian Pacific, Union Pacific, and various short line railroads.

TKDA is proud to be named as the **2010-2011 Firm of the Year** by the **American Council of Engineering Companies/Minnesota (ACEC/MN)**. The Firm of the Year Award is presented to an ACEC/MN member firm that, through their activities, has made a significant contribution to the advancement of ACEC/MN and the consulting engineering profession.

WSB & Associates, Inc.

WSB & Associates, Inc. received the **2011 Project Achievement Award** from the **American Concrete Pipe Association (ACPA)**.

The award recognized the creativity and excellence in concrete pipe and box culvert design and installation projects. CSAH 21 in Scott County, serves as a north-south principal arterial. The extension of CSAH 21 from CSAH 42 to TH 169 provides and improves other minor arterials in the area.

WSB staff members took part in **National Rebuilding Day** on April 30. Across the country, Rebuilding Together



affiliates partnered with volunteers to make critical home repairs for thousands of homeowners in need. Rebuilding Together Twin Cities is completed repairs for 15 low-income homeowners in Minneapolis. Repairs focused on ensuring the homeowners could live independently in homes that are safe and warm.





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