



Drip Newsletter

OWPCA Quarterly Publication
P. O. Box 946
Woodward, Oklahoma 73802
800-776-9722

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Letter from "Drip" and "Drop"

Hi everyone. We have some great news about this year's OWPCA Short School. The 2007 OWPCA Short School is in the works and progressing along to make this year's Short School better than ever. We have a lot of new faces and energy helping to put this one together. Plans are being made for some great improvements and changes to make this year's Short School bigger and better. Now is the time for all of you who would like to get in on some of the action to step forward to provide your ideas, expertise and support to make this year's OWPCA Short School better than ever.

Get together with your friends and colleagues to formulate what you would like to see and do at the Short School and then pass along those ideas to your District Director, OWPCA Committee Member, and / or present your ideas and support by attending one of the OWPCA Meetings at the Del City Water Plant. We are also looking for volunteers to help implement some of these great ideas at the Short School. So, if you have some expertise, knowledge, or just want to get your feet wet in helping out with this year's Short School, let your District Manager or an OWPCA Committee Member know how you want to get involved.

We are really excited about this year's OWPCA Short School. We are looking forward to hearing from you and getting you involved in the planning and implementing of this year's OWPCA Short School.

See you at the 2007 OWPCA Short School.

From "Drip" and "Drop"



About OWPCA

The Oklahoma Water and Pollution Control Association is a nonprofit operator association organized in 1926 and dedicated to the advancement of knowledge among water and wastewater system operators. OWPCA receives no state or federal funds. It is supported only through membership dues, advertising fees for the Drip Magazine, and the proceeds from its Annual Conference and Short School, held each year during the last week of October.

OWPCA works closely with the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality to provide high quality training opportunities that meet the standards for approved training credit. OWPCA District Directors and other volunteers conduct training sessions at District Meetings throughout the state. Over the years OWPCA has hosted hundreds of District Meetings providing approved Training to Operators over the State of Oklahoma.

OWPCA Mission

OWPCA is dedicated to the advancement of knowledge pertaining to the science of Water, Waste Management and Wastewater Works Operations; the promotion of cooperation among members, the American Water Works Association, AWWA, the Water Environment Federation, WEF, the Oklahoma Rural Water Association, ORWA, and the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality, ODEQ; and the interchange of experience among all groups.

What OWPCA Provides

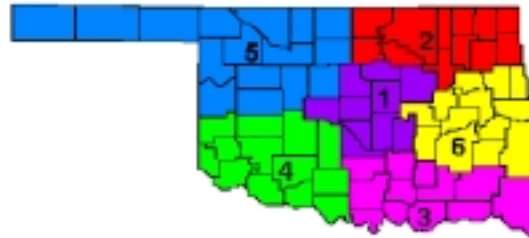
- An Annual Conference & Short School
- Approved Operator Training at District Meetings Statewide
- Operator Training Materials and Publications
- Opportunities to "Network" with fellow Operators
- Limited Operator Consultation Services
- College Scholarships for Members and Families of Members
- Special Recognition for Outstanding Plants and Operators through Annual Awards Program
- Official Representation for Operators on Oklahoma Water and Wastewater Operator Certification Advisory Council
- Representation for Oklahoma Operators in National Legislation and Policy Development through AWWA & WEF
- Statewide Employment Listings for Positions Wanted and Positions Available
- Product and Service Referrals for Vendors

Reasons To Join OWPCA

- Support your State Water, Waste Management and Wastewater Operator Association
- Receive Drip Magazine Quarterly
- Be Eligible for door prizes at OWPCA District Meetings
- Have Voting Privileges at OWPCA District Meetings
- Support Use of Most Current Operator Training Materials
- Gain a Stronger Voice in the Development of State and National Water and Pollution Control Regulation

**OWPCA
Officers**

- President
- Rodger Gilchrist
- Executive Secretary
- Kristi Hill
- Program Chair
- Carl Gray
- Golf Tournament
- Chair - Robert Turner
- Co-Chair - Ray Gamble
- Exhibitor Committee
- Chair - Scott Gouard
- Co-Chair - Kristi Hill
- Co-Chair - Kevin Menning
- Scholarship Committee
- Chair - Arnold Miller
- Co-Chair - Carl Gray
- Co-Chair - Woody Epperson
- Co-Chair - Jim Pumphrey
- Co-Chair - Tom Tolbart
- Co-Chair - Tony Lacy
- Awards Committee
- Chair - Jim Pumphrey
- Co-Chair - Alan Coffin
- Co-Chair - Sam Drain
- Co-Chair - Woody Epperson
- Advisory Council
- Chair - Chris Wisniewski
- Co-Chair - Carl Gray
- Co-Chair - Jim Pumphrey
- Co-Chair - Alan Coffin
- Co-Chair - Arnold Miller
- Education Committee
- Chair - David Rodriguez
- Co-Chair - Woody Epperson
- Water Works Division
- Chair - Sam Drain
- Co-Chair - Mike McFall
- Water Pollution Control Division
- Chair - Brian Conroy
- Co-Chair - Donnell Byndom
- Membership
- Chair - Alan Coffin
- Co-Chair - Kevin Menning
- Co-Chair - Scott Gouard
- Co-Chair - David Rodriguez
- Editor of Web & Drip Publication
- Clarke Hodson
- ODEQ Advisory Member
- Chris Wisniewski



District Managers

- District One**
Fred Rice 405-216-7696
- District Two**
Kevin Menning 1-800-227-4224 ext 2133
- District Three**
Ron Swafford
- District Four**
Mike McFall 580-225-4995
- District Five**
Joyce Hight 580-249-4919
- District Six**
Vivian Moody 888-429-1440



OWPCA Meetings

OWPCA holds District Meetings throughout the year to discuss and plan for the Annual OWPCA Short School, training classes throughout the state, and operating business of the OWPCA. The meetings are open for the public and members to attend. We do urge everyone to attend or contact your District Manager to express your interests and inputs for the organizational meetings. The following is the current schedule for the OWPCA Meetings. We hope to see you there.

- 16 February 2007 Del City Water Plant
20 April 2007 Del City water Plant
08 June 2007 Del City Water Plant
10 August 2007 Del City Water Plant
22 - 26 October 2007

Short School - Clarion Hotel

- 14 December 2007 Del City Water Plant

The President's Words

As I travel across Oklahoma and visit Treatment Plants, occasionally I get asked a few questions. The hardest subject to provide definitive answers for usually concern Management and Leadership. In this issue of the Drip, I thought I would share these Leadership Principals. I paraphrase them from a book written by the Officer who lead the first battalion across Europe in WWII and inspired the HBO Series "Brothers in Arms". I have found them to be of considerable help when I ponder how to deal with various issues from either superiors or subordinates and in establishing priorities and goals for myself. I hope they can help some of you as well.



Rodger Gilchrist

10 Principals of Leadership

1. Strive to be a leader of Courage, Competence and Character.
2. Lead from the front; Say follow me and lead the way.
3. Stay in good Physical shape; Physical shape is the root of mental toughness.
4. Develop your team; If you know your people, are fair in setting realistic goals and expectations, then lead by example, you will develop teamwork!
5. Delegate Responsibility to subordinates, then let them do their job; No one can do a good job if they don't have a chance to use their imagination or creativity.
6. Anticipate problems and prepare to overcome obstacles; Don't wait to get to a crossroads then make up your mind!
7. Remain humble; don't worry about who will get the credit; Never let power or Authority go to your head.
8. Take a moment of self reflection; Take a look in the mirror every night and ask yourself if you did your best.
9. True Satisfaction comes from getting the job done; The key to a true leader comes from earning the respect of your people not because of rank or position but because you are a leader of character!
10. Hang tough, don't quit and never give up!

OWPCA Web Page Updates

If you have not been to our OWPCA Web Page lately, you are missing out on a great web site. The web site has a lot of useful information about the OWPCA organization, the people who keep it running, a month-to-month calendar, and the Annual Short School in October. The web site also has the membership applications for the different types of memberships and a brand new feature - a "Photo Album" page. So, if you have not been by to see the Great and Amazing OWPCA Web Site, you better go check it out really soon at www.owpca.com. We think you will be really surprised at what and who you will find in the OWPCA Web Site.

OWPCA Short School Updates

The schedule for the OWPCA Annual Short School, scheduled for October 22 - 26, 2007, is beginning to take form. We are still looking for possible instructors for some of the ODEQ Certification Classes and other activities. If you have the time, talent, and knowledge to share during the Annual Short School, please notify one of the committee members or District Managers of your interest to participate.

Now is a good time to begin planning to attend the OWPCA Annual Short School. You can find the 2007 Registration Forms for the Annual Short School on our web site at www.owpca.com or call Kristi Hill at 800-776-9722 to obtain the proper form(s). There are forms for Memberships, Registrations, Vendors, Sponsors and Advertisers on the web site.

As Safe As A Donut

Thursday morning, Toby and Mud Brain were standing in the lobby of the local community center treating themselves to hot coffee and donuts while waiting for class to begin. They operated a small water plant for the city of Weoya, population 1300. Mud Brain had worked in the water field for three years and thought he knew everything about anything that pertained to water, unlike Toby, who only had worked in the profession for a year and needed the four-hour class to renew his license.

Soon, the class began and both men went inside and took a seat at the back of the classroom. "Good morning, my name is Mr. Do Little," said a short man wearing thick glasses. "Before I proceed with my presentation, I would like to ask you all a question." Clearing his throat, he asked "How safe is your plant?" Silence filled the classroom, until Mud Brain sarcastically blurted, "A lot safer than these donuts." Everyone laughed, even Mr. Do Little smiled while continuing with his presentation. For three hours he talked about the dangers of chlorine gas, how to detect it, and what an operator should do if he or she encountered a leak.

Then he asked Dusty, the custodian, to dim the lights and for forty-five minutes the class watched a film on chlorine safety. Before the film ended, Mud Brain was snoring so embarrassingly loud that Mr. Do Little asked Toby to wake him up. He then told the wildest story of an operator who was found dead sitting behind his desk. Apparently, he had fallen asleep and was consumed by chlorine gas.

When class adjourned, Toby asked Mud Brain if he thought Mr. Do Little's story was true? "No way," replied Mud Brain, "They always tell stories at these classes. He probably made it up when he heard me snoring. Don't worry about it. Let's go get something to eat."

Three months later, Mud Brain was working midnights and had reported to work late as usual to relieve Toby from working swing shift. As he walked into the water plant, he notice a light chlorine smell, but there was no alarm. "Toby," he called as he made his way to the break room to grab a cup of coffee. But, the pot was empty and on the table was an open book and a half eaten sandwich.

Again he called for his friend, but still Toby did not answer. He must be in the operator room asleep again, he thought, "I'll just sneak in and scare the day lights out of him." Tip toeing quietly, he made his way to the operator room. But, Toby wasn't there. He noticed a cigarette had burned completely to the tip, the daily log sheet hadn't had an entry for five hours, and the alarm was disconnected.

"Oh, no, my God, no!" He cried frantically while running down stairs. "Toby!" He yelled. As Mud Brain reached the bottom step, he could see Toby's foot lying in the doorway of the chlorine chamber. Without thinking, he took a deep breath, ran into the chamber to rescue his friend.

"As Safe As A Donut" Continued on page 10.

Oklahoma Water & Pollution Control Association

P.O. Box 946

Woodward, OK 73802

1-800-776-9722 or 580-256-9722

www.owpca.org

Individual Active Membership Application

Name _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone Number (____) _____ - _____

E-Mail Address _____

Employer: _____

Individual Membership \$10.00

Invoice Information

City / Company Name: _____

Billing Address: _____

City: _____ State _____ Zip _____

Please mail Membership Application with Membership Dues to the above address.

Thank You and Welcome to the OWPCA.

To Learn or Not to Learn



There are two types of people that attend a certification training class. The first type attends class simply to gather enough information to pass the State exam. The second type attends class to become more knowledgeable in the water and / or wastewater field and to pass the State exam. Which one are you?



When you attend an OWPCA Sponsored Training Class, you will be given the necessary training that is required to pass the State exam. However, you will also be challenged with sample problems, tests, etc. This type of training has several advantages. One is you are more likely to retain what you have learned which will benefit you in your job. Another advantage is the class becomes much more interactive. For those of you who have had to set through a 24 hour class where you couldn't keep your eyes open should appreciate this.

So before you sign up for your next training class, stop and ask yourself, do I want to learn or not to learn?

Mike McFall,
District 4 Director,
WWTP Superintendent,
Water/Wastewater Instructor.

Certification and Renewal Hour Classes

All Oklahoma Licensed Operators and Lab Technicians are required to take a minimum of 4 hours of ODEQ Certified Training per year to maintain their license(s). The operators only need one 4-hour session to satisfy ODEQ's requirement to maintain their license(s), no matter how many licenses the operator or lab technician holds. They can do this by taking any ODEQ Certification Class to upgrade to a higher license or take any one of the many 4-hour renewal classes ODEQ approves.

Many operators and lab technicians have taken a lot of these 4-hour classes to meet their yearly obligations. When it came time to go for their "B" or "A" Operator license, they found out, yes, they had the required number of training hours and years of experience to qualify for the "B" or "A" license, but they had not received the knowledge needed to pass the "B" or "A" Examinations. This may be due to the fact they attended a 4-hour class or classes that did not provide them with the information they needed to acquire the knowledge and / or skill(s) to perform their responsibilities at a "B" or "A" Level. When you pick and choose the classes to attend for renewal and for certification status, please pick the classes that will give you sufficient information, knowledge and skills you desire or will need to obtain the "B" and "A" certification.

Many of these classes are provided for you to increase your knowledge and skills. Please take advantage of them. Be the best operator you can be by asking questions and be a part of the learning process. If you have a situation at your facility, by all means, ask questions about it in the class. Many times, other operators and lab technicians may have or had the same situations and can help you with a solution.

So, when you pick a certification or renewal class, pick one with more meat for the money. You will definitely come out ahead in the end.

"Rules & Regulations" Corner

Exam Application Procedures



The treatment of water and wastewater in Oklahoma is regulated by the EPA and ODEQ. The "Rules & Regulations" concerning the Oklahoma Operators and Laboratory Technicians can be found in the ODEQ Chapter 252:710

Waterworks and Wastewater Works Operator Certification on the ODEQ web site at: <http://www.deq.state.ok.us/mainlinks/deqrules.htm>.

This month's topic(s) concerns the timing of submitting the ODEQ Exam Application(s) to ODEQ prior to taking the ODEQ State Certification Examinations. According to the Rule 252: 720-1-5, the ODEQ Examination Application(s) need to be **PROPERLY** filled out **AND** mailed a **MINIMUM** (at least) **three (3) weeks prior** to taking the examination. This allows enough time for ODEQ to process the Examination Application and establish the proper exam(s) for the operator or lab technician.

The other concern about the Examination Applications is: ODEQ will **not** issue the Operator or Lab Tech their license **UNTIL** the Examination Application is completely filled out properly, received by ODEQ **AND** the proper fee(s) are paid. So, if you took an ODEQ Examination and have NOT received your license in the mail after the 2 - 3 weeks period, it is probably due to ODEQ not receiving your examination application and/or receiving your payment for the examination(s).

If you have a concern about your ODEQ Certification License, please allow the 2 - 3 week period for them to process the exam scores and mail your license to you. Please take into consideration the lag time for mail and the way holidays influence the mail and processing of the exam scores. This may also extend the time you will receive your license in the mail. If after the required 2 - 3 week period, and you still have not received your license(s), then call Angie Ratcliff at ODEQ at 405-702-8150.

So, to have the fullest understanding of submitting your Examination Application, please take some time to read and understand the "Rules & Regulations" regulating our industry. Remember, if you want the public and your city administrators to treat you and pay you like a professional, you must act like a professional. Follow the "Rules & Regulations" as mandated by the EPA and ODEQ.

* * *

Famous Quotes

"If a man does his best, what else is there?"

- General George S. Patton (1885-1945)

"I find that the harder I work, the more luck I seem to have."

- Thomas Jefferson (1743-1826)

"Whether you think that you can, or that you can't, you are usually right."

- Henry Ford (1863-1947)

Games & Comic Relief



Wastewater Word Search

S B F G V M P E U G U X X N H C G U B R
 C A A W W D R M O I H Y A N V A P L O D
 R X L A Z M E I I B M I Q O G C N M U Q
 E C C S S O T V H X I N U I R T L J C Z
 T X U T C Q L E A D X I L T G I Z G L M
 S A L E B Z I N E I L P H U O V V H D F
 E L T W K E F B R S P I J L V A H O V P
 G K A A F S G Y O I O K F L S T S O C B
 I Q T T R D N P B N R I K O D E R P Z N
 D Y I E K I I A I F B D I P G D W G U U
 O D V R W L L S C E X K U R I S Z E M A
 Y H E P Y O K S V C P P T E S L K X I O
 P R P L P S C E C T H L U T Q U J B L I
 E R O A P O I C R I M O N A F D O M G B
 E S N N B I R L T O T M F W S G R Z O X
 R E D T P B T F A N L H T P I E G J F M

- | | |
|----------------------|------------------|
| Activated Sludge | Disinfection |
| Aerobic Falcultative | Pond |
| Biosolids | Trickling Filter |
| Bypass | Wastewater Plant |
| Digester | Water Pollution |

Riddles

 I am weightless, but you can see me.
 Put me in a bucket, and I'll make it lighter.
 What am I?

Answer: "A Hole"

 Glittering points that downward thrust,
 Sparkling spears that never rust.
 What am I?

Answer: "An Icicle"

 Lighter than what I'm made of,
 More of me is hidden than is seen.
 What am I?

Answer: "An Iceberg"



Quiz Questions

- What is the volume of a basin with a 70' diameter and 15' depth?
 - 3,846.5 Gallons
 - 57,697.5 Gallons
 - 431,577.3 Gallons
- What is the volume of a 8 inch pipe that is one mile long?
 - 13,504.95 Gallons
 - 1,984,198.60 Gallons
 - 949,679.74 Gallons
- The Chlorine that remains after the chlorine demand has been satisfied is called the:
 - Chlorine Dose
 - Chlorine Residual
 - Chlorine Demand

Answers: 1.c, 2.a, 3.b

The next day, Mud Brain woke up in the hospital yelling, "Toby, Toby!" Soon, Mrs. Kitty, the nurse, rushed in to calm him. Frantically he asked if his friend was allright. With a stern, but compassionate voice, she assured him Toby was going to pull through. As Mrs. Kitty started to leave the room, she turned and said, "You have a visitor. Would you like me to send him in?" Mud Brain approved with a nod.

Slowly the door opened and in came a short man with thick glasses. Mud Brain was surprised to see that it was Mr. Do Little. Clearing his throat, he said, "I heard about you and Toby's accident and thought I'd drop by to see you guys." While Mud Brain desperately tried to fight back the tears, he replied, "Thanks." Placing his hand on Mud Brain's shoulder, Mr. Do Little reassured him that everything was going to be allright and that he would keep them in his prayers. The two men had talked for about twenty minutes before Mud Brain asked Mr. Do Little if the story he had told in class was true. He dropped his head and replied, "It sure was. The operator who died was my oldest son." "I am sorry," replied Mud Brain.

As Mr. Do Little was about to leave the room, he turned and with a slight smile, asked, "How safe Is Your Plant?" Mud Brain replied, "Not Half as Safe As Those Donuts."

Fiction Writer - Michael Harris, Del City Water Plant

Advertisers

Advertisers

Duke's Root Control, Inc.
Brian Conroy
1020 Hiawatha Blvd., West
Syracuse, New York 13204
315-472-4781
www.dukes.com

Nomography Training
Gaines Bradford Jackson
1260 Three Oaks Circle
Midwest City, Oklahoma 73130-5309
www.geocities.com/gainesb2000
sewage1@juno.com

Frontier Logging Corporation
Francis Weedon & Johnny Just
7221 NW Third
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73127
www.frontierlogging.com
borholog@sbcglobal.net

Oklahoma One-Call System, Inc.
Doug MacMillan
2831 NW 59th Street
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73112
www.callokie.com
dmacmillan@callokie.com

Haynes Equipment Company
117 NW 132nd
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73114
405-755-1357
info@haynes-equipment.com

Rose State College
Stan Greil & Bill Clark
6420 SE 15th Street
Midwest City, Ok 73110
405-733-7488

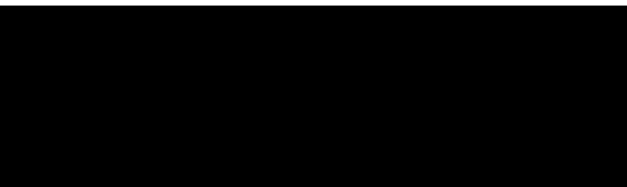
Southwest Service and Equipment
Tom Tolbart
9898 North 167 East Avenue
Owasso, Oklahoma 74055
918-272-5273
Sswsel@aol.com



Advertise in The Drip Newsletter

How would you like to get your company's name and advertisement seen by hundreds, maybe thousands, of operators, supervisors, superintendents, and city officials? You know, advertisements that would be seen by the actual people who buy your products. You can do that by placing your company's advertisement in the **OWPCA Drip Newsletter**. Go to the OWPCA web page at **www.owpca.com** and check out the advertisement form and send it in today. Not only will you get big advertisement for your dollars, you will also be supporting a great organization. So, what are you waiting for, go place an advertisement today.

Wow! Look at my company's
I am so glad I did.



ter. It looks **GREAT!**

2007 OWPCA Advertisement Form

Please mail to: Kristi Hill or FAX to: 580-256-5867
OWPCA
P. O. Box 946
Woodward, Oklahoma 73802

Advertisements are due by **15 June 2007** to be included in this year's issues.

The OWPCA Drip Newsletter is a quarterly publication, published on, or near, the following dates each year:

01 April 01 July (Expanded Issue) 01 October 01 January

Billing Information

Company Name: _____

Contact Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone Number: (____) _____ - _____

Information for the Advertisement

Company Name: _____

Contact Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone Number: (____) _____ - _____

Web Page: _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Sample Advertisement Entry: Company ABC
John Doe
1234 Someplace Road, Somewhere, State 01010
800-555-1234
www.companyabc.com johndoe@companyabc.com

Advertisement Fees

Annual Fees - \$240 per year for four issues (April, July, October, January)

Advertisement Order

Annual Fees _____ X \$240 = _____

Drip Newsletter

Volume 32 Issue 2 April - June 2007

Drip is the official publication of the Oklahoma Water and Pollution Control Association (OWPCA), published quarterly by the Publication Committee. The Association is a nonprofit corporation dedicated to the improvement of water quality through operator training in the state of Oklahoma. Opinions of editorials and / or the Publication Committee do not necessarily reflect the official positions of the association or officers. Neither the Association or ***Drip*** accept responsibility for statements or claims made by advertisers for their products and / or services nor for published articles. Submit news articles, organization-related correspondence and letters to Clarke Hodson, OWPCA, P. O. Box 946, Woodward, Oklahoma 73802. Subscription to ***Drip*** is through membership in the Oklahoma Water and Pollution Control Association.

Oklahoma Water & Pollution Control Association
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