



Drip Newsletter

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

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Letter from "DRIP" and "DROP"



Happy New Year to everyone and we hope you had a wonderful Holiday Season.

Well, the OWPCA Annual Short School during the last week of October 2008 was a big success at the new location on the Rose State College Campus.

The results of the 2008 Short School Awards are already published on the web page at www.owpca.com. Be sure to check out the pictures and Award Winners.

We welcome Arnold Miller as the new President of OWPCA. We are looking forward to his term in office. Make sure to check out the rest of the new officers on page three.

There is new information from ODEQ concerning their web site and exam retakes for all certified instructors page nine.

Let us know if you have anything interesting happening at your facilities or with your employees that you would like us to post in the OWPCA Newsletter.

From "DRIP" and "DROP"



About OWPCA

The Oklahoma Water and Pollution Control Association is a non-profit 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
- Arnold Miller
- Executive Secretary
- Kristi Hill
- Program Chair
- Alan Coffin
- Golf Tournament
- Chair - Ray Gamble
- Co-Chair - Riley Acker
- Exhibitor Committee
- Chair - Scott Gouard
- Co-Chair - Kristi Hill
- Scholarship Committee
- Chair - Arnold Miller
- Co-Chair - Carl Gray
- Co-Chair - Jim Pumphrey
- Co-Chair - Tom Tolbart
- Awards Committee
- Chair - Alan Coffin
- Co-Chair - Sam Drain
- Co-Chair - Rodger Gilchrist
- Advisory Council
- Chair - Chris Wisniewski
- Co-Chair - Bill Clark
- Co-Chair - Jim Pumphrey
- Co-Chair - Alan Coffin
- Co-Chair - Arnold Miller
- Education Committee
- Chair - Bill Clark
- Water Works Division
- Chair - Sam Drain
- Co-Chair - Vacant
- Water Pollution Control Division
- Chair - Joyce Hight
- Co-Chair - Donnell Byndom
- Membership
- Chair - Alan Coffin
- Co-Chair - Kevin Menning
- Co-Chair - Scott Gouard
- Co-Chair - Kristi Hill
- 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 2132
- District Three**
Ron Swafford
- District Four**
Mike McFall 580-225-4995
- District Five**
Joyce Hight 580-249-4919
- District Six**
Vivian Moody



2009 OWPCA Meetings

OWPCA holds District Meetings throughout the year to discuss and plan for the Annual OWPCA Short School, training classes throughout the 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 the current schedule for the OWPCA Meetings. We hope to see you there.

- 03 April 2009 Rose State College
12 June 2009 Rose State College
07 August 2009 Rose State College

October 2009

**Short School - Rose State College
Professional Training & Education Center**

The President's First Word

The 2008 OKLAHOMA WATER and POLLUTION CONTROL ASSOCIATION Short School was somewhat reminiscent of the "Old Days" when the annual training sessions were conducted on the campus of Oklahoma State University. Rose State College provided the Association with facilities, some instructors and assistance with food service throughout the duration of our time on campus. Special thanks to Kristi Hill and Alan Coffin who made sure equipment and people were in place and to the staff at Rose State College: Bill Clark, Environmental Trainer; Brian Perryman, assistant Program Director; Cortney Hileman and Cookie Nickols. All those mentioned plus the volunteers and trainers contributed to the success. Thanks to everyone that worked so hard to plan and produce the school.



Congratulations to all those fortunate enough to be in attendance for this great training opportunity. Quality instructors provided practical instruction in operation and maintenance of water and wastewater systems through fun and interesting methods. In addition to the OWPCA scholarships, Accurate Environmental Training Center awarded eight scholarships in conjunction with their Scholar's "Award of Excellence" Program.

Operators plan now to attend the 2009 Short School that will again be held on the campus of Rose State College. Sam Drain, Water Division Chair, and Joyce Hight, Wastewater Division Chair, are busy planning and scheduling a great program for the upcoming short school scheduled for October 26 - 30, 2009.

I am expecting a prosperous and exciting 2009 and am looking forward to being able to visit with you throughout the year. When the OWPCA can be of assistance to you contact us at our web site or snail mail address.

Arnold Miller

OWPCA Web Page Updates

Check out the OWPCA Web Page at www.owpca.com. The results of the 2008 Annual Short School are listed along with new employment opportunities. If you have some plant photos or employment opportunities at your facility, please contact Clarke Hodson at Accurate Environmental Training Center at 1-800-516-5227, or e-mail him at clarke@accuratelabs.com or docentstw@brightok.net.

Oklahoma Water & Pollution Control Association

P.O. Box 946

Woodward, OK 73802

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

www.owpca.com

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.

We are looking for news & information about our members and communities that we can "Brag About." If you have a story to tell and would like to see it in the DRIP Newsletter and or the OWPCA Web Page, send it along to any of the Executive Committee Members or to Clarke Hodson at docentstw@brightok.net and ask them to consider it for the DRIP Newsletter and or the Web Page. We will try to utilize it as space is allowed. We reserve the right to edit it as necessary to accommodate it to the space available.

* * *

**2008 OWPCA Short School
Award Winners**

Water Plant Awards

Large Water Plant	City of Tulsa - Mohawk Park
Medium Water Plant	City of Altus
Small Water Plant	City of Madill
Water Well System	City of Mustang
Most Improved Water System	Sherwood Forest
Water Operator of the Year	Ron Jones
Water Supervisor	Mark Roberts
Water Distribution System	Justin Madison
Water Maintenance	Donald Goforth
Water Well Operator	Richard Hernandez
Water Lab Technician	Tom Urban
Water Newcomer	Michael Jackson
President Award	Joyce Hight
President Award	Clarke Hodson
Exhibitor of the Year	Rose State College
Instructor of the Year	Larry Cook
Past President Award	Rodger Gilchrist

Wastewater Plant Awards

Small Wastewater Plant	City of Cleveland
Medium Wastewater Plant	City of McAlester
Wastewater Plant Supervisor	Michael Bostwick
Wastewater Distribution System Supervisor	Norman Owens
Wastewater Plant Newcomer	Chris Luker

* * * * *



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>.

mainlinks/deqrules.htm.

One of the new rules governing "Instructor Status" is found under 252:710-3-37.

252:710-3-37. Approved instructor.

The DEQ may establish special requirements for instructors of approved training courses.

(1) **Standard course.** To be an instructor of a standard course for certification of any type, a person must have at least a C Certification in the subject to be taught and have one of the following:

- (A) have made at least 80% on the exam for the standard course to be taught; or
- (B) have made at least 80% on exams at a higher type of certification than the course taught.

Persons who were approved instructors before the effective date of this Chapter are not required to comply with this subsection for the level of instruction approved. To change approved instructor status to a higher level, compliance with this subsection is required.

(2) **Exemption.** A person who is approved as an instructor before July 1, 2002 pursuant to (1)(B) above, must take the appropriate exam before December 31, 2004 and meet or exceed the scores listed in (1)(A) or (1)(B) of this section.

(3) **Fees.** For any certified operator, retaking an exam at a class certification level already obtained, for the purposes of becoming an approved instructor, the application fee is waived for the initial time to take the exam. For any subsequent exams, the certified operator shall pay the application fee.

(4) **Exam Failure.** An applicant who fails to answer at least 80% of the questions correctly may not take the exam again for thirty (30) days.

(5) **Exam Review.** No instructor will be allowed to review the exam during the six-month period prior to taking the exam.

(6) **Instruction.** At least four (4) hours of documented instruction must be completed each certificate year to maintain approved instructor status. Each person must retake the exam at least once every four (4) years and obtain a score of 80% or above to retain certification as an approved instructor.

(7) **Renewal training class.** The teaching by an instructor of a renewal training class shall be deemed as compliance with the continuing education requirement located at 252:710-1-7(c) for the certificate year the class is taught.

So, to have the fullest understanding of operator and laboratory technician requirements and responsibilities, 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.

WORK

is why you are here

Only if you learn how to work
can you become that incredible person you were meant to be.

In work you'll discover who you are, what you can do,
and what special gifts you have to share with the world.

We need you and what you have to give.

**Nothing is as important as the work you're doing right now.
Do your best!**

Why OWPCA?

Your membership, participation and support in OWPCA is the single most beneficial investment you can make to improve the quality of your service to the citizens and customers of your water and wastewater system. The environmental impacts of what we do or don't do every day depend on the quality of our performance as managers and operators.

How many of us actually went to college to get a degree in water and wastewater distribution & collection? A small percentage, I'm sure. Where do we gain the knowledge and expertise to perform the skills necessary to protect the health and well being of the citizens, our friends and own families that, though they may take for granted, depend on the quality water delivery and wastewater pollution control in the systems we work for and live in? How do we learn about the advancements in technology in our industry and apply them? Many of the people hired to work and operate our systems have little or no training. It may take years of "On-The-Job-Training" to acquire a basic understanding. Even those employees and managers who have worked for five, ten, twenty, or more years need a cost efficient way to stay in touch with the incredible advancements in technology. Also, networking with your peers in this industry is a priceless way to learn and share the experiences we gain in everyday life as an operator.

Let us not forget, or let us realize, that our water and wastewater operators are our greatest assets in an asset management program. OWPCA is the answer for all these questions. We are concerned with the same concerns. We face the same problems and seek the same answers. We are the same as you, because we are you. We, the leadership of this fine organization and tradition called OWPCA, seek to provide the forum for you and your fellow employees to participate, learn and share in the knowledge, fellowship and enjoyment that is focused on protecting and serving the finest water & wastewater quality available. OWPCA - That's Why!

New Operator Public Search Web Page

There is a new website that lists all licensed water, wastewater, laboratory, and distribution/collection operators in the State. You can access the website by going to <https://www.ok.gov/deq/search/index.php>. Another way to access the website is by clicking on the button listed on the Operator Certification webpage. If you notice an error, such as your address is incorrect, contact the Operator Certification Section at 405 702-8100. Keep in mind that if operators fail to renew a license, they are not currently licensed so their names will not appear on the website as licensed operators.



ODEQ

Certified Instructor Reminder

According to the Waterworks and Wastewater Works Operator Certification Regulations (252:710) each DEQ approved instructor must retake the exam once every four years. A score of 80% or more on the appropriate exam is required to retain certification as an instructor. If you have questions, or are not certain of the date you must retest, contact Mark Kurklin of the Operator Certification Section.



Games & Comic Relief

Award Winners

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



Chris Luker
City of Altus
City of Cleveland
City of Madill
City of McAlester
City of Mustang
City of Tulsa Mohawk Park
Clarke Hodson

Donald Goforth
Joyce Hight
Justin Madison
Larry Cook
Mark Roberts
Michael Bostwick
Michael Jackson
Norman Owens

Richard Hernandez
Rodger Gilchreist
Ron Jones
Rose State College
Sherwood Forest
Tom Urban

Can you find the misspelled name?

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 your advertisement today.

Advertisers

Duke's Root Control, Inc.

Brian Conroy
1020 Hiawatha Blvd., West
Syracuse, New York 13204
315-472-4781
www.dukes.com

Frontier Logging Corporation

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

Haynes Equipment Company

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

Nomography Training

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

Advertisers

Oklahoma One-Call System, Inc.

Jerry West
2831 NW 59th Street
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73112
405-840-9955 Ext. 7241
www.callok.com
dmacmillan@callok.com

OMNI Water Consultants, Inc.

P. O. Box 89
Vinita, OK 74301
918-323-0001

Rose State College

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

Southwest Chemical Services, Inc.

Rodger Gilchrist
1227 East Washington
McAlester, Oklahoma 74502
1-800-256-3345
rodger_gilchrist@yahoo.com

Southwest Service and Equipment

Tom Tolbart
9898 North 167 East Avenue
Owasso, Oklahoma 74055
918-272-5273
Sswse1@aol.com



Wow! Look at my company's advertisement in the **OWPCA Drip Newsletter**. It looks **GREAT!** I am so glad I advertise in the **OWPCA DRIP Newsletter**.

Drip Newsletter

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Drip is the official publication of the Oklahoma Water and Pollution Control Association (OWPCA), published quarterly by the Publication Committee. The Association is a non-profit 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.

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Woodward, Oklahoma 73802-0946