

SAN FRANCISCO BAY SECTION
California Water Environment Association

INKSPOT

JULY 2004

Greetings from the President, Ray Busch

A TALE OF TWO TOURS

On June 16th, I had the pleasure of hosting a plant tour of the Oro Loma Treatment plant. My guests included the O & M Committee's Technical Exchange tour. I quickly realized the difference between this tour group and the composite of all the other tours given to lay people. It took longer, much longer to cover the same amount of plant area. Why? Because there is an innate curiosity in the Operators, Mechanics, Laboratory people, and Engineers that attended the tour. The exchange rate definitely tipped in my favor that day. For every tidbit of information I put out there, the tour group returned much more in actual facts and anecdotal experience.

The technical tour was properly book ended with a presentation given by Ho-Ping Wei of HDR Engineers regarding the upcoming plant capacity restoration, and a barbeque lunch prepared by the Operators and Mechanics of Oro Loma.

Two days later I gave another plant tour to a group of seniors from a local church. As we walked and talked about the plant, people, and environment I quickly realized just how often I have taken for granted the work that we do. These members of the public were awe struck at the amount of water we treat and the low cost to treat it all. I talked to them about the many players involved with operating a treatment plant and with the efforts of putting together a big project like the one we are embarking upon. It takes a lot of people doing a lot of things day in and day out to fight the good fight for our water environment.

Looking back on the two tours I was reminded of two simple facts; people who work in this field really like it, and to the unaccustomed eye what we do is like magic.



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Musings from the Editor...



Well, this is my second article this month... no, you were not given the opportunity to read the first; I was advised that the first was 'a bit too far out there'. So... we'll see how this one goes.

I wonder how many of us seek to follow those ancient philosophical words: Know Thyself. I wonder if we even know what this entails. To me, to 'know myself', transcends the mind and the ego. It moves into other realms such as body-wisdom, intuition, the subtle body, and spirit. Since the majority of who we are resides as unconscious material, there has to be investigation of other realms for us to even touch the tip of 'knowing ourselves'. I am reminded of an iceberg, with that tip visible above the water being only a small fraction of the entire iceberg. Our conscious/unconscious is similar to this... what we are conscious of in ourselves is the tip that is visible, yet the much larger part of our makeup is 'beneath the surface'. So, only by diving in to the dark and murky waters of our unconscious, via pathways such as body, intuition, spirit, soul, can we begin to see and understand those parts of ourselves.

Okay, what does all this mean? I guess what it means is that there are forces within us that cause us to act and think in certain ways. Forces that we often don't understand. Or we think we understand, but it may only be a superficial understanding.

What drives us, really? What drives you to become an Operator V? Or an engineer or a supervisor or a utility worker? I bet many of us would say... "well, it's a living." Or, "my skills are well suited for this." How many of us would say... "I'm a manager because I am insecure in myself and therefore my ego needs that external proof that says I'm important." How many of us would say... "I'm a utility worker because my father always ridiculed me and my capabilities and now I don't have faith in myself." Very few, I would guess.

It's an extremely difficult task to "Know Thyself". Because what it involves is looking at those things about us that we don't particularly like to look at. That we don't particularly like about ourselves. That we don't want to admit about ourselves.

But... just think if we were willing to do this. Just think how much less 'blame' there would be, how much less victimhood, how much less strife in our every day encounters. If I could face that part of me that is insecure, then, when I lash out at someone for questioning my authority (for example), I can understand that it is only because of my insecurity that I'm lashing out. And, perhaps, next time, I'll realize this BEFORE I lash out, before I cause harm to another person. If I can understand this, then I have the opportunity to move into taking responsibility for myself, my words, and my actions. And, hopefully, be less likely to blame someone else for my own so-called shortcomings.

You know, if we can take off the labels of judgment; the good/bad, right/wrong, we are freed to explore the aspects of ourselves that are difficult to admit. Being insecure is not good or bad... it is just a thing. It is just an aspect that resides in all of us. It's what we DO with that insecurity, how we compensate for it, how we relate to it that is important.

2004 CWEA Golf Tournament



MONARCH BAY GOLF COURSE
13800 Neptune Drive
San Leandro
(510) 895-2162

GOLF DATE: July 16, 2004

LAST DAY TO REGISTER: July 6, 2004

- **Shotgun start - scramble: 12:30 p.m.**
- **Make your own team or join makeup team**
- **Cost: \$85.00 per person – golf, cart & dinner**
- **All players win a prize**
- **Prize for longest drive and closest to the hole**

Looking for “Tee Sponsors” – Cost: \$100

Co-sponsored by Bay Area Collection System Committee & CWEA

PLEASE CUT ALONG DOTTED LINE & FAX OR MAIL TO:

*Michele Johnson, WECO Industries, LLC, 120 Corporate Place, Suite D
Vallejo, CA 94590, Phone: (707) 644-6661 Fax: (707) 644-2632*

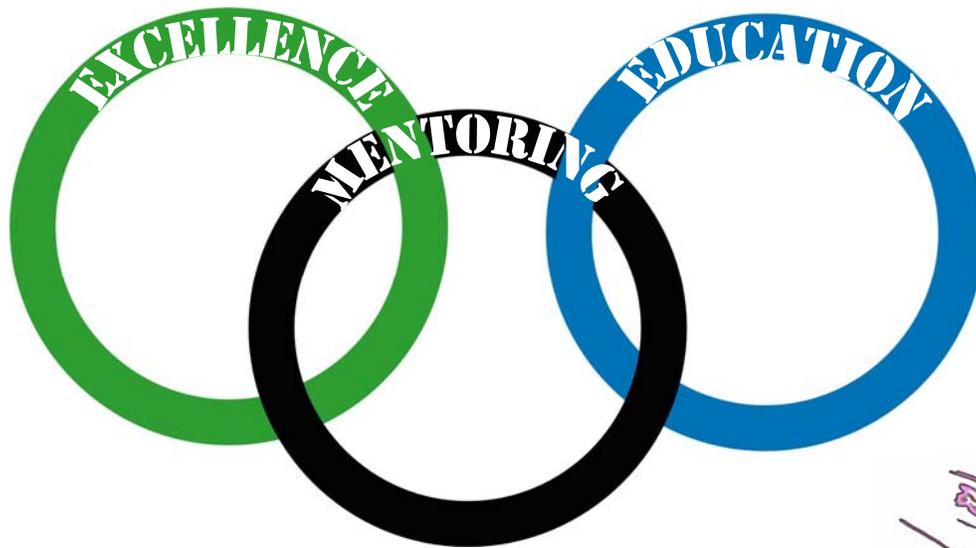
Name of Player

Daytime Phone

Please make checks payable to: CWEA

SIGN UP NOW!

GOING FOR THE GOLD



NORTHERN REGIONAL
TRAINING CONFERENCE
Sparks Nevada

September 12-14, 2004



California Water Environment Association

Protecting our water environment through education and training.

Hosted by: San Francisco Bay Section
Sacramento Area Section



And... MORE GOLF!

**Northern Regional Training Conference
Golf Tournament
Lakeridge G.C., Reno
Sunday September 12, 2004
Shotgun Start at 1:45pm**

The tournament is limited to the first 80 players, so sign up soon to guarantee your spot.

Competition will be in the format of a scramble. Teams will be formed by the Tournament Organizer unless you sign up as a foursome. Reservations **MUST** be pre-paid using the entry form below. The entry fee is \$75 per person, and includes green fee, a shared cart, prizes and dinner. Payment must be received no later than August 31, 2004.

Prizes will be awarded after the tournament.

If you have any questions about the Golf tournament, contact Zoanne Tafolla or Gillian Silva at (707) 644-8949.



**NORTHERN REGIONAL TRAINING CONFERENCE TOURNAMENT
SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 12, 2004**

Use this form to sign up as a single, or in groups of up to four players.

- | | |
|----------|----------------------|
| 1. _____ | Daytime Tel. # _____ |
| 2. _____ | Daytime Tel. # _____ |
| 3. _____ | Daytime Tel. # _____ |
| 4. _____ | Daytime Tel. # _____ |

Amount enclosed (\$75. per player) \$ _____

Make check payable to CWEA NRTC '04, and mail to CWEA, 7677 Oakport St., Ste. 525, Oakland, CA 94621-1935

Entries MUST be received by August 31, 2004



**COMING SOON...
from the**

**BACWA AIR COMMITTEE AND
SFBS PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

The Professional Development Committee and the BACWA Air Committee are currently planning an Odor Control Seminar for late August. Topics will include:

1. A perspective from the BAAQMD
2. Process control techniques for odor management
3. A review of odor control technologies and effectiveness
4. Tips for logging and responding to odor complaints and working with the public
5. Lessons learned related to odor control and complaints at an existing facility

Stay tuned for a speaker list and final date. For more information or updates, call Jason Warner, Oro Loma Sanitary District at 510-481-6961.



**TIME TO APPRECIATE
OUR SFBS COMMITTEE
VOLUNTEERS**

On July 14th, the Bay Section Board will honor those men and women who dedicate time and effort to make this the BEST SECTION IN THE STATE! If you are a volunteer, and have not yet heard about this luncheon event, be sure call Kevin Calderwood at 925-210-2234. If you are not, YET, a volunteer, well... you're missing out on some great friendship opportunities, great leadership training, great fun and satisfying times. Not to leave out, great food to share on July 14th.

Be sure to thank your fellow Bay Section members who do volunteer, for the excellent programs, seminars, training, and events that are consistently offered. Without them, this Section would not thrive as it does.

SFBS CALENDAR

JUNE 2004	
26	SCVS Sponsors Marine Science Institute Discover Day
JULY 2004	
16	SFBS Golf Tournament - see flyer
14	SFBS Committee Appreciation Lunch - Kevin Calderwood for info
24	CWEA Technical Certification Exam - CCCSD. Call CWEA Office 510-382-7800
AUGUST 2004	
5	SFBS Monthly Dinner Meeting - Kevin Calderwood for info
4-7	CASA Conference, Monterey. Call 916-446-0388
16	Pre-registration Deadline for NRTC 2004
SEPTEMBER 2004	
12-14	NORTHERN REGIONAL TRAINING CONFERENCE - see announcement

FOR MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL GO ONLINE TO
www.cwea.org/sfb/committees/membership.htm

THIS NEWSLETTER IS ALSO AVAILABLE ONLINE AT www.cwea.org/sfb

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