

SAN FRANCISCO BAY SECTION

California Water Environment Association

Inkspot



April 2014

SFBS President's Message for the March

The Bay Section Board is meeting regularly to hammer out the fiscal year 2014/15 annual budget. As many of you know when it comes to setting up budgets, it can be a long and arduous process. This year will be another active year as every committee chair is looking forward to providing some more excellent training for each wastewater professional. If you have any great ideas for training in your career profession, seek out your committee chair to share your ideas. You will find their names listed at the end of this newsletter. Two committee chairs, Leswin Dcunha with SYPC and Gary Warren with PDC provided me with an overview of the events their committees recently hosted in the month of February. Read below how these events were successful to meeting the SFBS goals of providing quality training and events for our membership in 2014.

The February Dinner Meeting was hosted by the Students and Young Professionals Committee (SYPC) as the Annual Evening with Industry. The event was held on February 13, 2014 at Spenger's in Berkeley and was the most successful one in recent years with over 100 attendees- 50+ students from 9 local colleges and universities, and 45+ wastewater professionals representing 13 firms and 7 agencies. It was rewarding to see some students who secured employment from the past year's events returning as professionals. All participating firms and agencies set up information booths providing students a great opportunity to network with some of the best in the industry. Following dinner, there was a panel discussion by young and mid-level wastewater professionals on "Exploration of Wastewater Careers".

Students were given a glimpse of the nature, opportunities, benefits, and challenges of the various career tracks in the wastewater profession in both the private and the public sector. The students provided good feedback with a common theme being that it is one of the best local networking events. Students were excited about the section-sponsored free membership to WEF/CWEA; 36 applications were received by the end of the night. A big shout goes out to the SYPC members for all their efforts and the SBFS professionals who contributed to making this a great event.

Leswin Dcunha, Chair for SFBS SYPC

Apparently, asset management is a topic of interest to SFBS members. The SFBS's Professional Development Committee held a sold-out, one day seminar on "Asset Management for Plants and Equipment" on February 27th at the Central Contra Costa Sanitary District's office, followed by a tour of their plant. Participation by Central San may have influenced the location of the seminar – they sent over 30 of the attendees, one of the speakers and several of the volunteers who helped organize this event. Topics covered included an introduction of asset management programs, corrosion assessments, vibration and ultrasonic monitoring, thermal imaging equipment, software solutions, and lessons

President's Message (continued)



SYPC Annual Evening with Industry 2014!

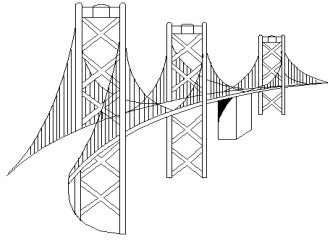


PDC's "Asset Management Seminar at CCCSD"

learned from a recent asset management project by San Francisco's PUC. One of the speakers brought in a range of thermal imaging cameras that were passed around during the talk. From the interest, I'm guessing local sales of those cameras are peaking. Based on the positive feedback at the end of the day, we'll likely plan a follow-up seminar on this topic next year. Thanks go out to all the speakers, attendees and volunteers who made the day a success. For more information on the PDC, and/or suggestions for future seminars, please contact Tony Park (TPark@leei.com) or Gary Warren.

In the month of March the O&M committee hosted a plant tour of the City of Brentwood's WWTP. This plant was the Bay Section's representative for the CWEA Medium-size plant of the year. Wish them all well as they compete for this award. In closing, let me remind the membership that the Annual Conference in April is fast approaching and I hope to see many of our members there in full force. Whatever that means?

Steve Dominguez



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CWEA San Francisco Bay Section Dinner Meeting – April 3, 2014

Featuring : Mary Lou Esparza, Central Contra Costa Sanitary District, Martinez, CA

Mary Lou Esparza is Lab Superintendent at Central Contra Costa Sanitary District. She has 24 years of experience and has served the wastewater industry in the capacity of bench chemist, Gas Chromatography/Mass Spectrometry operator, Quality Assurance officer and Lab Manager in the past.

Topic : Does Elevated Ammonia Negatively Impact Phytoplankton Biomass and Community Composition?

Mary Lou will be presenting data for a field study conducted in Pacheco Slough, Contra Costa County, during the summer of 2012. During the study period fully treated wastewater was discharged into the Slough for approximately 3 months. Data from the study contradict the hypothesis that elevated NH₄ results in low phytoplankton biomass. The field data shows that a) elevated NH₄ does not negatively impact phytoplankton biomass and b) increased NH₄:NO₃ and N:P ratios do not negatively impact diatom abundance.

Where : Zio Fraedo's ([map](#))
611 Gregory Lane,
Pleasant Hill, CA
(925) 933-9091

Dinner : \$30.00 CWEA Members
\$45.00 Non-CWEA Members
\$15.00 Students
Free Guest WW Professionals*

When : Thursday, April 3, 2014
4:30 – Board Meeting
5:30 – Social Hour
6:30 – Dinner
7:30 – Presentation

Menu Choices: Appetizer & Salad; Choice 1 of
New York Steak
Chicken Toscana
Grilled Salmon
Pasta Primavera (veg)
Dessert & Coffee

Contact : Arvind Akela, CDM Smith or Lani Good, West Yost at cweasfbs@gmail.com for dinner reservations. Please include your name, your agency or company, and **your menu selection**. If you require dietary or other special accommodations, please email a description of your needs. **Reservation deadline is 5:00 pm on Monday, March 31st. A reservation is a commitment to pay.**

* Bring a colleague from the wastewater industry who hasn't attended a SFBS event in the past two years, and as long as they RSVP on time, they're FREE! (Limit 5 per month.)

Save the Date!
May 15, 2014

We Listened To YOU!
New Location
New Format

Supervisor's Safety Seminar

Hosted by SFBS Safety Committee

NEW FORMAT! MORE TRAINING AND HOURS!



***Supervising in the
New Millennium***
***Learn valuable safety skills,
safety trends, liability, safety
culture, and more to improve your
workplace safety performance.***

- ⇒ **Thursday, May 15, 2014**
- ⇒ **8:30 am to 3:00 pm**
- ⇒ **Shannon Center in Dublin**
11600 Shannon Ave, Dublin, CA 94568
- ⇒ **Cost is \$25 per person (\$35 after 4/30/14)**
- ⇒ **Price includes Continental Breakfast
& a BBQ Lunch**

**For more information
contact:**

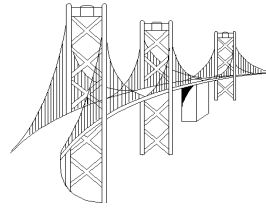
Kerri Greene
(707) 290-0127
greenek@eorm.com

REGISTRATION OPENS
March 1, 2014

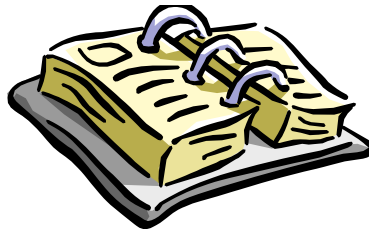
**For the BEST VALUE —
REGISTER BEFORE 4/30/14**



California Water Environment Association
Protecting our water environment through education and training.



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California Water Environment Association



SFBS CALENDAR

April 2014	
3	SFBS Dinner Meeting, Zio Fraedo's in, Pleasant Hill, Mary Lou Esparza with Central Contra Costa Sanitary District a Laboratory Presentation
29 - May 2	CWEA Annual Conference, Santa Clara Convention Center, Santa Clara
May 2014	
15	Supervisors Safety Seminar, Dublin
15	SFBS Dinner Meeting, Location TBA
June 2014	
4	SFBS Collections Committee Vendor Fair, Union San
5	SFBS Dinner Meeting, Location TBA

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