Commemorative Silver Anniversary Declaration

25 Years
1967 - 1991
DEDICATION

Welcome to the 25th anniversary celebration of the Wisconsin Wastewater Works Operators Conference, Inc.

In commemoration of this occasion, the WWWOC takes pride in the dedication of this special issue.

It is dedicated to those who serve the environment in fulfillment of the WWWOC's purpose.
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History of the Organization

Founding

The name, Wisconsin Wastewater Works Operators Conference, Inc. (WWWOC), is actually a third generation title for the Organization. Originally, the Organization was known as the Wisconsin Sewage Works Operators.

The Organization held its first Annual Fall Meeting at the Biggars Motel in Appleton in 1967. At that time, the membership set forth an objective to remove the word “sewage” from the Organization’s title.

Fulfilling that objective, the name was changed in 1968 to Wisconsin Wastewater Works Operators Conference. In 1973, the Organization formally incorporated for tax reasons. Since then, the “Inc.” has become a legal part of the name.

Purpose

Although the name has changed, the purpose for the WWWOC has not. The first Constitution and By-laws, developed in 1969, identified five elements for the Organization’s purpose. They are as follows:

“The advancement of fundamental and practical knowledge concerning the treatment of wastewater and the management of wastewater facilities.”

“The promotion of good public relations in the water pollution control field.”

“Assistance and training of personnel interested in water pollution control, management or operation.”

“The encouragement of exchanging information and experiences in the operation of wastewater treatment facilities.”

“The publication and distribution of a newsletter relating to the water pollution control field.”

Membership

From its humble beginnings, the Organization has grown by leaps and bounds. Approximately 200 members attended the 1st annual convention in Appleton. Nearly 1000 members will be attending the 25th annual convention at Lake Geneva.

Who are these people? They are dedicated professionals. Most of them are operators of wastewater treatment plants. They are members of WWWOC, spouses and guests.

WWWOC describes membership in three classifications: Active Members, Honorary Members and Life Members. Nearly all of the Organization’s members are Active Members.

WWWOC defines an Active Member as any interested person employed in administration, engineering, operation or teaching in the field of wastewater and industrial waste treatment, both public and private; or any person representing a manufacturer of products with particular application to wastewater and industrial waste treatment field or a student interested in the wastewater treatment field.
The Historical Committee

On November 5, 1975, the Wisconsin Wastewater Works Operator's Conference Inc. Historical Committee was established with John Turner being appointed Chairman. On December 5, 1975, WWWOC President John Wagner directed the Historical Committee to develop a job description. The following is the result of that directive.

Historical Committee Objectives

I. The committee shall serve as a collection point for all pertinent materials of historical value (i.e., previous Clarifiers, short course materials, press releases, general correspondence) from Wisconsin Sewage Works Operator’s Conference or Wisconsin Wastewater Works Operator’s Conference functions. All committee members shall solicit and collect said data from the membership or others and shall periodically submit this to the committee’s chairman.

II. The committee shall categorize, file and preserve all collected materials.

III. The committee shall prepare annually a comprehensive list of materials as held, and shall make said list available to all board members, the editor of the Clarifier, organization library, and to the membership at large, upon request.

IV. The committee shall take such measures to preserve and protect historical materials from fire, theft, deterioration, and loss as economics and reason dictate.

V. The committee shall establish and periodically update a list of people who have contributed significantly to organization formation and past functions. Suggestions shall be obtained from the membership and awards committee. A brief biography shall be included with each listing.

VI. The committee shall implement a program of including information of historical relevance into WWWOC functions such as through the Clarifier or by a brief presentation at the Annual Conference.

VII. The committee shall meet annually at the Annual Conference, at an organizational function whenever a quorum exists, or by other arrangement for the purpose of reviewing the committee’s objectives, activities, and accomplishments.

Historical Committee Members

1975-1976  John Turner, Chairman
           William Schlueter
           Al Winter
           Russell Nehmer

1976-1980  Leo Templeton, Chairman
           Al Winter
           Joe Homel
           Gene Allen

1980-1981  Leon Gary, Chairman
           Joe Homel
           Gene Allen
           Leo Templeton

1981-1990  Joe Homel, Chairman
           Gene Allen
           Al Winter
           Leo Templeton

1990-Present Hubert Jensen, Chairman
               Joe Homel
               Al Winter
               Gene Allen
               Leo Templeton
George F. Bernauer Award

This award was created in memory of Mr. George F. Bernauer following his death in an automobile accident October 8, 1958, at the age of 48. Mr. Bernauer began his employment with the Wisconsin Board of Health February 5, 1940, and was promoted to the Central Office in 1942 as Public Health Engineer. During that time, he held increasingly responsible duties, including serving as the Board of Health engineering consultant to consulting engineers on sewage works designs and to municipalities on sewage works operations and maintenance. The award was presented at the Sewage Works Operator's Short Course at the University of Wisconsin — a course Mr. Bernauer taught and regularly participated in. His innovation and practical solutions were highly regarded by operators throughout Wisconsin.

The Bernauer Award is presented each year to a deserving municipal, industrial or institutional wastewater treatment plant operator, administrator or an educator in Wisconsin. It is not limited to members of WWWOC. Criteria for the award include successful treatment plant performance and/or successful solutions to important or complicated operating problems; and/or outstanding contributions in the field of wastewater technology in Wisconsin.

Award Recipients

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Life Members WSWO & WWWOC

Norman Albert
Russell Alsweather
Eldridge Baillie
Everett Berg
Charles Bingham
Dennis Blachy
Robert Bovin
John Budde
Walter Buske
Harold Buvid
Phillip Cieslek
Gary Coates
Charles Davis
Bill Doyle
Edwin Duszynski
Alan Engler
Larry Ernest
Ed Krueger
Grant Haugstad
Thomas Hay
L. O. Hoganson
Ed Kroeger
Bill Lammers
Clyde Lehman
David Martin
Warren Navis
Henry Oppermann
Vic Pfeiffer
Earl Probst
Louis Rabas
Melvin Ruh
Roger Soyill
Leo Templeton
John Wallendal
Al Winter
Karl Zuehlke
Retirees at 1989 Conference

Bottom Row (left to right): John Wallendal, Bud Schuelke, Bob Deering, Bill VanRooy.
Top Row (left to right): Larry Ernest, Gerald Larson, Harold Sullivan, Mystery Man?,
Gerald Quarford, Bill Kerlinske, Leo Templeton, Bill Lammers, Ward Holz, Henery Tork,
Stan Budrys.

Retired Members

Orlin Bishop
Dennis Blachly
Robert Blasier
Robert Bovin
Robert Deering
William Doyle
Joseph Elson
Alan Engler
Larry Ernest
Robert Gaber
Donald Haman
Robert Hoffman
Ward Holz
Bill Kerlinske
William Knudsen
Walter Kozlowski
Ed Krueger
Gerald Larson
Clyde Lehman
Warren Navis
Henery Oppermann
Neil Osterberg
Earl Probst
Gerald Quarford
Melvin Ruh
John Schlinz
William Schlueter
Harland Schuelke
Marvin Schwenn
Dale Stiller
Willis Stubbe
Merwyn Sorenson
Harold Sullivan
Leo Templeton
Bob Thompson
Henery Tork
Bill VanRooy
John Wallendal
Al Winter
Karl Zuehlke

Retirees at 1990 Conference

Bottom Row (left to right): Leo Templeton, Al Winter, Bud Schuelke, Bob Thompson.
Top Row (left to right): Gerald Quarford, Stan Budrys, Bob Deering, John Wallendal,
### Past Officers

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<td>Ward Holz</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Director</td>
<td>Robert Thompson</td>
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<td>Paul Nehm</td>
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<tr>
<td>1983-1984</td>
<td>President</td>
<td>Al Winter</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Frank Munsey</td>
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<td>1984-1985</td>
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### Years | Office          | Name              |
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<td>Bill DeBauche</td>
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<td>Director</td>
<td>Jerry Selin</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Director</td>
<td>Jim Krueger</td>
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<td>Director</td>
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<td>1988-1989</td>
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<td>Vern Handrick</td>
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<td>Ward Holz</td>
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<td>1990-1991</td>
<td>President</td>
<td>Don Lythjohan</td>
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## Convention Sites & Attendance

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<tr>
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<th>Site &amp; Host</th>
<th>Attendance</th>
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<tr>
<td>Oct 16-18, 1968</td>
<td>Hudson House Eau Claire</td>
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<td>Nov 5-7, 1969</td>
<td>Northland Hotel Green Bay</td>
<td>20 Spouses</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct 28-30, 1970</td>
<td>Holiday Inn Racine</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct 13-15, 1971</td>
<td>Northern Hotel Chippewa Falls</td>
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<td>Sep 13-15, 1972</td>
<td>Grand Executive Inn Sheboygan</td>
<td>201</td>
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<td>Sep 12-14, 1973</td>
<td>Holiday Inn La Crosse</td>
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<td>Oct 23-25, 1974</td>
<td>Holiday Inn Wausau</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct 22-24, 1975</td>
<td>Racine Motor Inn Racine</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct 20-22, 1976</td>
<td>Holiday Inn Rhinelander</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct 19-21, 1977</td>
<td>Midway Motor Lodge Green Bay</td>
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<td>Oct 18-20, 1978</td>
<td>Red Carpet Inn Milwaukee</td>
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<td>Oct 17-19, 1979</td>
<td>Sheraton Inn Madison</td>
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<td>Holiday Inn Eau Claire</td>
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<td>Oct 21-23, 1981</td>
<td>Holiday Inn Wausau</td>
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<td>Oct 20-22, 1982</td>
<td>Holiday Inn Stevens Point</td>
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<td>Oct 19-21, 1983</td>
<td>Holiday Inn La Crosse</td>
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<td>Oct 17-19, 1984</td>
<td>Paper Valley Hotel Appleton</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct 23-25, 1985</td>
<td>Sheraton</td>
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<td>Racine</td>
<td>+103 Spouses</td>
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<td>Oct 22-24, 1986</td>
<td>Civic Center</td>
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<td>Eau Claire</td>
<td>+118 Spouses</td>
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<td>Holiday Inn S.E.</td>
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<td>Madison</td>
<td>+107 Spouses</td>
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<td>Oct 19-21, 1988</td>
<td>Westwood Conference</td>
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<td>Center &amp; Holiday Inn Wausau</td>
<td>+100 Spouses</td>
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<td></td>
<td>&amp; Rib Mtn.</td>
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<td>Oct 4-6, 1989</td>
<td>Holiday Inn Holidome Stevens Point &amp; Marshfield</td>
<td>626</td>
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<td>Oct 17-19, 1990</td>
<td>Regency Conference</td>
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<td>Center &amp; Embassy Suites Hotel</td>
<td>+121 Spouses</td>
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<td>Oct 23-25, 1991</td>
<td>The Abbey Resort</td>
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<td>(Lake Geneva/ Fontana)</td>
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<td>Oct 21-23, 1992</td>
<td>Radisson Hotel</td>
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<td>&amp; La Crosse Center La Crosse</td>
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<td>Oct 20-22, 1993</td>
<td>Olympia Village</td>
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<td>Oconomowoc</td>
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<td>Oct 5-7, 1994</td>
<td>Regency Conference</td>
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<td>Center &amp; Embassy Suites Hotel</td>
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<td>Oct 18-20, 1995</td>
<td>Holiday Inn — West</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Madison (Tentative)</td>
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<td>Oct 16-18, 1996</td>
<td>Paper Valley Hotel</td>
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<td>Appleton</td>
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<td>Oct 22-24, 1997</td>
<td>Holiday Inn — Holidome</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Stevens Point</td>
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</table>
Wastewater Legislative Chronology

1965

Federal Water Quality Act — Increased federal grant assistance for municipal treatment plant construction and established first national water quality standards.

Wisconsin Water Resources Act — Transferred water regulatory activities of the Committee on Water Pollution, State Board of Health, and the Public Service Commission to the new Department of Resource Development.

1966

National Historic Preservation Act — Requires federal agencies to provide the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation an opportunity to comment on any federal project which will have any effect on a district, site, building, structure or object that is included in the National Register of Historic Places.

Upper Mississippi River Enforcement Conference convened.

State began bioassay studies of fish and wildlife with an investigation of bioaccumulation of DDT and dieldrin.

State financial assistance program established pursuant to s. 144.21. Stats.

1967

Wisconsin Chapter 75, Laws of 1967 — Merged the Departments of Resource Development and Conservation to form the Department of Natural Resources.

Wisconsin adopted water quality standards for all state waters.

1968

Lake Michigan Enforcement Conference convened — Recommended 80% reduction of phosphorus in municipal and industrial discharges to Lake Michigan and its tributaries.

National Flood Insurance Act — Communities within flood hazard areas must participate in the National Flood Insurance Program as a condition of receiving federal financial assistance.

Wild and Scenic Rivers Act — Grants are forbidden to projects that would have a direct and adverse effect on the values for which the river was designated.

1969

National Environmental Policy Act — Requires that federal agencies include in their decision-making processes appropriate and careful consideration of all environmental effects of proposed actions.

Lake Superior Enforcement Conference convened — Recommends 80% reduction of phosphorus from discharges in the drainage basin.

Mathematical modelling is initiated on the Lower Fox River.

The Natural Resources Board adopts policies on proliferation of wastewater treatment plants and phosphorus removal from effluents.

The Department of Natural Resources begins a mandatory certification program for waterworks and sewage treatment plant operators.

ORAP-200 — State bonding program that eventually provided $155.5 million in grants to Wisconsin municipalities for wastewater collection and treatment projects.
Wastewater Legislative Chronology (continued)

1970

U. S. Environmental Protection Agency is created.

The Natural Resources Board adopts a policy on wastewater treatment plant outfalls.

1971

Chapter 125, Laws of 1971 — Established a monitoring, reporting and environmental fee program for discharges of industrial wastes, toxic and hazardous substances or air contaminants.

1972

The Federal Water Pollution Control Act Amendments of 1972:

- Substantially increased federal grants for planning, designing and construction of municipal wastewater treatment plants.
- Required all dischargers to surface waters to obtain a National Pollutant Discharge elimination system (NPDES) discharge permit.
- Required that municipal wastewater dischargers provide secondary treatment by July 1, 1977.
- Set specific goals: (1) That waters of every state be fishable and swimmable by 1983; (2) that discharge of pollutants into navigable waters be eliminated by 1985.
- Required each state to set their own water quality standards to achieve the fishable/swimmable goals.
- Required EPA to promulgate standards for pollutants not susceptible to treatment by POTWs.

Coastal Zone Management Act — If an approved Coastal Zone Management (OZM) plan exists, new facilities must be consistent with the plan. OZM plans are developed by coastal states, including those bordering the Great Lakes.

Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement between Canada and the U. S. is signed.

Wisconsin Environmental Policy Act — All agencies of the state required to include in major action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment a detailed statement substantially following the guidelines issued by the U. S. Council on Environmental Quality.

1973

Endangered Species Act — Requires federal agencies to insure that any actions they authorize, fund or carryout do not jeopardize the continued existence of species listed as endangered or threatened and do not modify their critical habitats.

Chapter 147, Pollution Discharge elimination — Provided statutory authority for Wisconsin to seek delegation of and administer the NPDES permit program in the state.

Federal secondary treatment and disinfection regulations promulgated.

1974

Major rewrite of Chapter NR110, Administrative Code — Design requirements for sewage collection and treatment facilities.

U. S. EPA approves Wisconsin's WPDES program.
Wastewater Legislative Chronology (continued)

1975


1976

s. NR110.05 Revised — Provides for sewer moratoriums for sewage bypassing or failure to provide acceptable levels of treatment.

1977

Archaeological and Historic Preservation Act — Provides a funding authority and mechanism through which scientific, prehistoric, historic and archaeological resources can be salvaged when threatened by a federally funded, licensed or assisted project.

President’s Executive Order 11988, Flood Plain Management.

President’s Executive Order 11990, Protection of Wetlands.

Chapter NR101, Administrative Code — Implements a monitoring, reporting and environmental fee program for discharges of industrial wastes.

Amendments to Water pollution Control Act — Extends deadline for municipal wastewater dischargers to provide secondary treatment from July 1, 1977 to July 1, 1983.

1978

DNR Lake Michigan District operation and maintenance team established.

U. S. EPA issues the 40 CFR Part 403 general pretreatment regulations.

Wisconsin Fund started.

s. NR195 — Wetlands preservation, protection and management policy.

1979

Chapter NR150 — Implementation of Wisconsin Environmental Policy Act.

Five year limitation on phosphorus content of detergents goes into effect.

1980

Development of the general permit program.

U. S. EPA approves the Wisconsin pretreatment program and delegates program authority to the state.

1981

DNR begins to require plan review for pretreatment systems.

1983

Wisconsin Act 410, Laws of 1983, Groundwater Protection Standards — Establishes an administrative process to produce numerical groundwater standards; establishes laboratory certification program.

Over 90% of municipal dischargers and 95% of industrial dischargers meet the July 1, 1983, deadline for achieving appropriate effluent quality.

1984

The limitation on phosphorus content of detergents was reinstated, this time with no sunset provision.

DNR began requiring bioassays to be submitted with applications for reissuance of paper mill permits.
Wastewater Legislative Chronology (continued)

1985
NR140, Groundwater Quality
NR204, Municipal Sludge Management
NR206, Land Disposal of Municipal and Domestic Wastewaters
DILHR adopts provisions of NR110.05, administrative code, to determine eligibility for approval of private main sewers.

1986
Chapter NR149 — Laboratory Certification and Registration.
Chapter NR210 — Revised to provide for seasonal disinfection.

1987
Chapter NR208 — Establishes and implements municipal compliance maintenance program.

1988
Chapter NR445 — Regulations to protect residents from hazardous air pollutants.

1989
NR106, Procedures for Calculating Water Quality Based Effluent Limitations for Toxic and Organoleptic Substances Discharged to Surface Waters.
NR207, Water Quality Antidegradation.

1990
Clean Water Fund established.
Wastewater Special Study on treatment plant air emissions completed. Final report submitted to DNR Board.
Revisions to NR110 and NR206 — Requirements for municipal sludge storage; effluent limits for land disposal.
Federal regulations for storm water discharge permits.

Editor's Note: We wish to express our sincere appreciation to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources for providing this Wastewater Legislative Chronology.
The Evolution
of
The Clarifier
The First WWWOC Clarifier Issue (October 1968)

(The Clarifier was first published in September of 1967. At that time, the Organization was known as the Conference of Wisconsin Sewage Works Operators. Shown below is the 1st edition of the WWWOC's Clarifier.

The Clarifier
(Published Bi-monthly by the Wisconsin Wastewater Works Operators Conference)

October 1968

I saw the program for the Fall meeting. Very good. Be sure to be there, October 16th, 17th and 18th. The drive up there will be beautiful.

In Rhinelander they have a new operator. George Gering is his name. Good hunting and fishing on your free time Ernie Trumpe.

WANTED IN FONTANA, WIS. - assistant to water and water-waste treatment plant superintendent. Must be high school graduate, have ability to qualify for operators license. Previous utility experience or technical training desirable but not required. Send resume of education, experience, and references to Village Clerk, Village of Fontana, Fontana, Wisconsin 53125. In Fontana they are putting in use a new water reservoir that has a capacity of 200,000 gallons.

Influence of Raw water Characteristics of Treatment is the title of the Eleventh Sanitary Engineering Conference to be held in Urbana, Illinois on February 5 and 6, 1969. This Conference is planned for sanitary engineers in government, industry or in private practice, and water works managers and operators. The Division of Sanitary Engineering, Illinois Department of Public Health and the Department of Civil Engineering, University of Illinois are the joint sponsors. Further information may be obtained from John H. Austin, Associate Professor of Sanitary Engineering, 3235 Civil Engineering Building, University of Illinois, Urbana, Illinois, 61801. C. W. Sassen, Chief Sanitary Engineer, Department of Public Health, Springfield, Illinois 62704. Or from Richard Ulrich, Librarian, Illinois Hall, Division of University Extension, University of Illinois, Urbana, Illinois, 61801.

One fellow told me that he had heard that a fellow in Madison was going to get an address in Green Bay.

In Waupun the activated sludge end of the plant got fouled up. The cause is not known. So we put in pump to discharge to sludge lagoon. Pump out the tank and start over again. As of today it is working good.

Am I the only Muskie fisherman in the outfit? So far I have landed three. Will do better later this fall.

Yours truly

John Wallendal
223 South Watertown Street
Waupun, Wisconsin 53963
History of the Clarifier Cover

The 1st Cover Logo

(The 1st logo appeared in December of 1974. As shown, the top included a clarifier basin with trees in the background, a title section and a symbol of Wisconsin highlighting WWOOC.)

New Cover Logo

(Several design changes were made to the cover, beginning with the February, 1983 edition. A new logo was presented in blue. This was the first occasion of multiple colors. The cover also presented information about the forthcoming convention.)
The First Cover Photo

(A picture of the Appleton WWTP appeared as the 1st cover photo in May, 1984.)

APPLETON, WISCONSIN
WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT
Host of the 1984 Conference

18TH ANNUAL WWWOC CONFERENCE
October 17-19, 1984 • Paper Valley • Appleton, WI
President’s Message
First Message — September, 1980

My year as your President is soon coming to an end. The cooperation and work effort by you, the members, has made the President’s job very rewarding.

The Board of Directors, which represents each member, has made this year one of educational in-service meetings, listening to everyone’s needs. We find that each member in his own field, when united by our organization, brings more quality to his work. This professionalism in yourself and your work, has earned you the respect of City Councils and your peer group. United in occupational pride, we strive to educate each Village, Township, and City that WWWOC members stand for quality.

Just being a member is not enough! Participation, in some manner in WWWOC will enhance our mutual goals and personal benefits of representation. Our membership has increased this year. We welcome our new members. I’d like to challenge new and old members alike to play an active role in WWWOC.

Attendance at our State Conference this October 22, 23 and 24 will give you substantial credits towards your recertification for 1980. Each district meeting varies in credit hours, yet helps towards recertification. This is our "caut!" Make the time and effort to attend these meetings. We need your presence and your ideas.

Attend our Annual Conference in Eau Claire and see fellowship reign supreme. Make reservations early, and bring your ladies. The women’s program has been a growing highlight each year. Lasting memories and friendships are made by all who attend.

I have always felt it of mutual importance to have a united front, especially in an occupational field that needs knowledgeable representation. I intend to continue my sincere support and help to WWWOC. My involvement with the Executive Board may be at a close, yet my feelings for each member and his needs are sincere, for they are my needs also.

I shall miss my activities with the Board. Thanks for the memories and honor of representing WWWOC and our fellow members. Please give all the support to our future Board members that you have given me.

Yours sincerely,
Pete Albers
President, WWWOC

First Message with Photo — June, 1986

My Presidential travels have taken me to four of the six regional groups so far, with only the North Central and Lake Michigan groups for me to visit. There appears to be approximately 100 people at most of the meetings on the average, and to me that shows more and more people are interested in getting involved and taking pride in the profession. I wouldn’t have it any other way. There are a tremendous amount of excellent topics and speakers available for meetings, at little or no costs, so let’s take advantage of this and make each meeting better than the last one. Being a regional officer can be a training ground for a position in WWWOC and new people and new ideas are always welcomed in both groups.

Plans for the State Convention, Oct. 22-24 in Eau Claire, are being finalized under the expert guidance of Karl Zuehlke. This is my first year in which I’m really involved with most of the planning. It’s unbelievable the amount of logistics that are needed to entertain 600+ people for three days, and now I know what others have gone through. Remember to make your hotel/motel reservations where the ‘shuttle bus’ will be running, and let them know your part of WWWOC. We have blocks of rooms reserved until Oct. 15, 1986 at five hotel/motels (mentioned elsewhere in this issue) for us. Take advantage of it.

One last item of recent significance is the DNR has announced recently, due to budget cutbacks, Operator certification Programs may be severely scaled down. At this time, I do not know what the full impact will eventually be, but do stay in contact with your regional DNR people.

Do have a ‘major league’ summer, and get your local officials involved with your plant, regional group, and WWWOC. Take pride!

Enthusiastically,
Ron Perkovich
President, WWWOC
A Chronology of Clarifier Editors & Management

1967 to 1973

John Wallendal (Waupun, WI) was the 1st major contributing editor. John diligently reported the news and kept everyone informed of the latest fishing activities. John also frequently shared his operating skills through a section he entitled “How to Do It.”

1973 to 1980

Al Winter (Kaukauna, WI) was the second editor. Al became known through the Clarifier as “Old Dad” for all of his words of wisdom. Synonymously, Al’s typewriter gained fame and notoriety for its misspellings and unique grammar. Al’s Clarifiers were colorful, but works of art ... maybe not!

1980 to 1984

Bob Deering and Lynda Bentley (Green Bay, WI) became co-editors following Old Dad. Providing them with supporting editorial assistance were Bob Thompson and Kurt Dally (also from Green Bay). Obviously, the task of producing a Clarifier was becoming more formidable.

1984

WWWOC Board appoints Al Winter to chair Ad Hoc committee for Clarifier management.

1984 to 1987

Lynda Bentley and Carol Townsend (Green Bay) serve as co-editors.

1985

Bill DeBauche (Green Bay) appointed to chair Clarifier Management Committee.

1987 to 1991

Dan Busch (Green Bay) joins Lynda and Carol as Clarifier co-editors.
The geese are flying, The deer are out every night. The ice fishing has been good all winter. The water is high. The pumps run all the time. I have been pushing about three times normal amount through the plant. Our new addition is coming along very good. One tank is under water.

The plant operators of plants that have gas circulation installed in their primary digesters are hereby requested to write an article on the advantage of this system. What does it do? How long each day is it used? Do you have more gas? Do you have higher solids content of digested sludge? What is the quality of supernatant, more or less? Do you need more all to keep up to temperature? Could you use a smaller digester or larger? These are just a few questions asked by various people. I would like these articles sometime in May so I can put some in each Clarifier this summer.

Chilton: The city is experimenting with infrared heat lamps at the sewage plant in an attempt to keep the trickling filters there operating during cold weather. Nine 31 by 11 inch, gold-plated lamps have been installed at the plant. They contain two long lights of 5,000 wattage each and are extended out over the filter bed on 6 foot metal poles. Due to a late start in getting the transformers and hook up connections in operation, this year could not be considered as a good test year. So next spring send to me a report on the operation of these lights.

I had a few letters on address changes. So if you are not getting the Clarifier send me your address again. I can make mistakes too.

Do not forget the FALL meeting in Chippewa Falls this October. Clyde has some new things that he is proud of and wants to show us. I am getting some practice at shooting pool. I could use some names for the George Bernauer award. Also could use some news to print in future issues.

Yours truly
John Wallendal
Al (Old Dad) Winter’s 1st Issue
(July, 1973)

The Clarifier
(Published Bimonthly by the Wisconsin Wastewater Works Operators Conference)

JULY 1973

I had hoped that this issue of the Clarifier would still be put out by Old Sod Jack John as he so ably did for a good many years. But it seems the fickle finger of fate has again struck. So here goes.

Annual Operator’s Conference will be September 12-13th.
Where: LaCrosse, Wisconsin
At: Holiday Inn, 529 Park Plaza Drive, LaCrosse, Wis. 54601
So get your reservations in.

You will in the near future get a complete mailing on the activities. So start working on your City, Village, Town and or whatever you work for to get to the Conference. I assure you that it will be a goody. And if you’re looking for the way out, contact the Metro twins and ye shall learn. Our able scouts have been searching, the byways and outer limits since early last fall, so their supply should be good.

This is what the nominating committee came up with for Officers......
President: Tom O’Keefe
President Elect: Robert Deering
Vice President: John Wagner
Directors: Vic Pfeiffer and Stan Budrys
If there are any other nominations, please submit them to the committee.

Also I would like the following people to get in touch with me regarding the news and of this publication. I would like you people to help me with the work of publishing this paper.

Mr. Bill Lammers, Mr. John Wagner, Mr. Tom O’Keefe, Mr. Jerry Nise and all who will send me news to put in this paper. I would like those people I named to me news of their regional meetings. And if any new districts start meetings, please send in your meeting notes.

We at Kaukauna have now been in the phosphate removal work for about 3 months. The first thing we found was that it’s expensive. Also that the tests for removal are not the easiest. But we are making progress, and we feel in the long run it will help our plant reduction in other than phosphate removal. We are using alum no polymers. By the end of the years we will know more about it.

Northeast Wisconsin Waste Water Operator meeting will be at the Dome Supper Club, July 26th. Will give report on meeting in next issue.

I will close with these observations:
SIGN IN MACHINE SHOP: Girls, if your sweater is too big, look out for the machine. If it is too tight, look out for the machinist.
DANGEROUS PARENT: Our generation is caught in the middle. Our Parents told us to pay attention to our Kids, and now we’re told to listen to our Children?
If you haven’t as yet guessed who got selected for Clarifier (editor), well here it is?
Al. J. Winter
103 Horace Court
Kaukauna, Wisconsin 54130

P.S. I will with a few helpers, try and keep this going. See you at the Convention.
And invite all comments and gripes.
Editor's Poem
(Bob & Lynda — December 1980)

A Christmas Message From the Editors

Two weeks before Christmas at old M.S.D.
Sat Lynda and Bob just as sad as could be.
The pressure was on to produce the next issue.
Cried Lynda to Bob, "Please pass me a tissue
For the work's piled high and we'll never complete
This issue in time so the deadline we'll meet."

We had stifled our sobs, when from out in the hall
Came a girl, with a sack, crying "Here's mail call!"
More news to be entered; more stories to write.
"Good grief" moaned Bob Deering, "We'll be here all night!"
Our eyes will grow weary, our dinner is late,
Our fingers will cramp, still we won't make that date.

We quieted down and went straight to the task.
To publish or perish was all we could ask
Of each other this late while having no fun.
At the end of the evening, the issue was done.
"It's finished!" said Lynda and Bob gave a cheer.
Merry Christmas to all, we'll sleep till next year.
Quotes from the past
As they appeared (punctuation, etc.)

“What happened to all the news everyone was going to send? Not enough money? Didn’t think it was important? Come on members let’s get on the ball. Give me a little work. Feel guilty taking this big salary without working. (My Wife’s comment: There’s something wrong with you? How come you can find time to do that and not stuff around the house?) Course they are a little prejudiced. I think Ward has found this out.”

“With the initiation of the Wisconsin Pollution Discharge Elimination system Permit program will come more stringent laboratory work by the operators. New plants are being furnished with well stocked labs, and older plants are being equipped with labs. The purpose of mandatory lab. testing is to encourage operators to learn trouble signs and determine solutions. In the long run, it is intended to provide the municipality with best results possible from their investment in a treatment plant. Each DNR distr. has an operator trainer to assist operators in setting up labs and learning to run the necessary tests. Operators should take advantage of these services.

“And now here is a message from your Editor: With 527 members in camp, let’s not stop. Keep up the good work. Also let’s send in a few notes of interest to me. I sure need news. Here I am the first day of the deer season writing the Clarifier. It’s raining. The deer hunters are all in the Taverns or Saloons as they were called a few years back, telling each other tomorrow we’ll get the big one. The wives are probably out Christmas shopping — well either way it’s a good day. Keep sending in news. I sure wouldn’t want to loose this job. (What am I saying? Advertising for work? A man who has spent a life time trying to avoid it). But really I think I picked a good field to work in. A job which in future will show a way of saving our most important natural resources, Water. So all you younger men in the field, hang in there. It has its ups and downs. But I truly believe the men in this field are proud of their work and have proved it with their plants operating to the best of their abilities. (Excuse the sermon, but this is what I believe).”

“As Editor I would like to comment on the above. Having started some 27 yrs. ago in a small plant, I wish to say this. It can not be done, unless the DNR gets off their doff and hits the Towns, Villages and smaller Cities with fines and make them provide the plant operator with people to run plants. Also there is no one man who can do lab. work which DNR plans to have, take care of his mechanical work and cleaning with one man operation. As the man says its hard to remember your objective was to drain the swamp, when you are up to your ass in Alligators, so lets have a few comments from you One man Plants. I could go on and on, but all I will finish with is to say don’t tell the Operators, God knows they have been trying, talk to the heads of the Cities, Towns, Villages and your consulting Engineers. (Sorry this has been a sad story of mine for years). Also pay them what their worth.”
Quotes from the past
(continued)

“I have been asked by the Board of Directors of WWWOC in future issues to ask you people to write me feature stories, and then, I should write my comments about the stories. I don’t really know what is mean’t by this, but it could mean they want me shot by someone or else they want a new editor? So! Start sending me stories. I may even in the near future write one and wait for your comments to come in.

Also I have heard that we are going to have a better camera, for our next Conference in Racine, Oct. 22nd thru 24th, Racine Motor Inn. Someone can also take some at Regional meetings. All you need is clear black and white pictures. And I will gladly put them in the Clarifier.”

“A little honey is good for a man’s health, provided his Wife doesn’t find out.”

“If you think two and two make four every time, you’ve never watched a man figure his deductions for Church contributions.”

“JOB OPPORTUNITY”

“If an award was to be issued for goofing off I would apply. I forgot to drain a digested sludge line in January so in February no sludge was able to get to the sludge beds. We were able to thaw the line out so all is well again.”

“The Bobby twins have already scouted the LaCrosse area in anticipation of the September, 1973 meeting, and have reported that the following seemed to be the highspots for the “after activities” places to go. The Yum Yum Tree and the Twilight Inn!”

“Boy time sure flies, Summer is almost here and I am starting my 4th. year of writing “The Clarifier.” Also have passed two other milestones in this year. 30 years in the wastewater field March and 30 years with the same Wife on May 17th. No wonder Old Dad is getting tired. In all fairness I wish to say that with out my Wife’s understanding and loyalty. I know I would’nt have succeeded in either. So with all this history. Here goes another issue of the paper. Sure is hard to get started on such a nice Saturday am.”

“JOB OPPORTUNITIES”

“In Chilton the rock filter is all lit up. They are using Infra-Red lights to keep the filter from freezing. 36—5000 Watt lights are in use. I hereby appoint Alfred Baumann to give us some more information at the fall meeting”

“The Identity Crisis is simply trying to tell the girls from the boys.”
Ten Commandments of the Sewage Plant Operator
(June, 1981)

1. Thou shalt be pipe-fitter, electrician, welder, office boy, carpenter, or what-have-you, for the sake of thy treatment plant.

2. Thou shalt not take in vain the name of the superintendent, the city manager, nor any of thy commissioners.

3. Six days shalt thou labor with thy plant, and on the seventh thou shalt labor also, for the Sunday was made for poor fools like thee.

4. Thou shalt keep thy plant running on Election Day, Fourth of July, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas and New Year’s Day. For the welfare of thy fair city, thou shalt have no holiday whatsoever.

5. Thou shalt operate thy plant without residues, either those that pollute with stenches the air above, or those that may be poured into rivers, or those that accumulate as ungodly wastes upon the face of the earth. Thou shalt do this without asking others how it is done.

6. Thou shalt endeavor by hydraulics, politics, electronics, soft-soap, bull-dozing, profanity and chemistry to keep thy efficiencies high — yes, 100 percent is acceptable.

7. Thou shalt not covet new equipment, or assistants, or helpers, for all these things are an abomination in the sight of the taxpayer.

8. Thou shalt never, no never, assign any one of thy day laborers to any menial task which he might consider beneath his dignity, or in any manner discriminatory.

9. Thou shalt maintain continuously, and at all times, a BOD reduction of 99.44 percent, for the Water Pollution Control Authority knows best.

10. Thou shalt not covet great rewards. Thou shalt accept, grateful and without question, the pittance meted out to thee. May thy trouble be many, thy financial and spiritual rewards small, and may thy days be long with thy antique, overloaded treatment plant.
Memories from Past Presidents
Memories from Past Presidents

1967 to 1968

Clyde Lehman was the President of the Conference of Wisconsin Sewerage Works Operators, when in 1967, the organization began efforts to change the organization's name to the Wisconsin Wastewater Works Operator's Conference.

(Editorial Note: Due to conditions of health, Mr. Lehman was unable to directly contribute a report for this commemoration.)

In September of 1967, the Clarifier reported that President Lehman was set to lead the Organization to its first Annual Fall Meeting. By a vote of 85 to 6, the membership approved amendments to the Constitution and By-Laws allowing for the election of Officers at the Fall Meeting.

President Lehman gave the opening address at this meeting. Although 25 years have passed, it is interesting to note the topics approved for the first Annual Fall Meeting. They included: Operator Training, Industrial Waste Treatment, Nutrient Problems & Removal and Alternatives to Storm Water Separation.

President Lehman prioritized issues 25 years ago that the Organization continues to focus on today.

1968 to 1969

Karl Zuehike

The first years of the reorganization of WWWOC were filled with many changes, Constitution, Bylaws, starting Districts, etc. The Board of Directors and Officers presented changes at every meeting. It was the beginning of continual growth as well as an era of technical explosion, and this will continue. Why, because every operator who has become a part of WWWOC accepts the responsibility of their position and organization.

It has been my privilege and pleasure to serve.

(Karl Zuehike)

1969 to 1971

Dave Martin

The Conference officers today are addressing issues similar to those we dealt with twenty years ago and, I hope, will be dealt with twenty years from now. The major issue then, as now, was “How can WWWOC’s direction be reshaped or redirected to improve today’s services to and support of its members.”

I was president from 1969 through 1971 and presided over meetings at Beloit and Chippewa Falls. Terms of office were for two years then, a holdover from the conference’s earlier history. My tenure on the board of directors included two terms as a board member, and three in the chairs of vice president, president and past president; a total of 10 years from about 1963 thru 1973. Many improvements were implemented or were underway during this time. My “reflections”
Memories from Past Presidents (continued)

cover the ten year period as each president influences conference direction over the total time that person is on the board.

A major issue of the 60’s and early 70’s was “How can the conference be more responsive to the operator’s needs?” Many operators found themselves without adequate knowledge about control of secondary treatment facilities which DNR (then, Board of Health or Committee on Water Pollution) was ordering communities to build. Further, the operator didn’t have anyone to talk to because there weren’t many secondary plants operating at the time, and operators were generally acquainted only with their neighbors. Prior to the early 60’s, the conference meetings were held every two years, between the biannual spring short courses taught by Board of Health engineers for the purpose of passing the voluntary operators certification exam. The operator’s need for more information lead to annual Conference meetings (the first of which was 24 years ago). Operators would now be fully responsible for program planning including content and quality. DNR and its staff strongly supported the operator’s assumption of this responsibility.

While attendance at the annual meetings, which were expanded from two days to three days in length, showed steady growth, many operators of smaller plants were not able to get away long enough to attend, thereby impeding the flow of information to them. This impediment was eliminated when Al Winters, Doug Huntoon and Leo Templeton organized quarterly regional meetings. These quarterly meetings: 1) Served as a means to transfer information, 2) Provided an opportunity for City officials to see how capable the operator was through the operator’s hosting of a successful “no nonsense” meeting, and 3) Provided the training, experience and exposure necessary to develop a large group of excellent people from which future conference officers would be elected. Obviously this program has been very successful!

The annual meeting provides the operator with a similar, more challenging experience.

While thinking about my term as president the clearest memory is of the large number of enthusiastic, dedicated Conference members and spouses, who volunteered to complete the tasks at hand. I also feel indebted to those Conference members before me for having the foresight to form the conference and to those who followed for nurturing the Conference and helping it to become the excellent organization it is today. I am very proud to be a member of WWWOC.

1971 to 1972

Gary Coates

Trying to remember back to the time when I was President of the WWWOC and recalling several issues can be a little difficult. The reason, of course, is these were the formative years of the operators conference and being the first secretary/treasurer and then, a few years later, becoming president, issues tend to run together. Bearing this in mind, I would like to share with you just a couple thoughts that I had about the great organization we now have today.
Memories from Past Presidents (continued)

I can still recall the very first meeting of the Wisconsin Wastewater Works Operators Conference. This meeting was held at the Biggars Hotel near Appleton. The interesting part of this meeting was that nobody had any idea of what the attendance would be. The board made the arrangements with the hotel, and told them we would probably have approximately 100 to 125 people in attendance. When all was said and done, we had an attendance of 250 people. I have never seen more chairs brought into meeting rooms, more expandable walls opened up, more banquet tables expanded, and just a great deal of very fast preparations. Surprising as it may seem, the meeting worked out to everybody’s satisfaction and, after twenty-five years, it is very apparent that the WWWOC started out and continued to be a very successful organization.

During those first few years there were also many, many other issues that had to be resolved. Such things as taking the word “sewage” out of the name, preparing a constitution and bylaws, preparing mailing lists, newsletters, and educational programs. All in all, it was a lot of fun, and all the people involved throughout the years have dedicated a great deal of their time to an organization that, in my opinion, remains one of the best state operator groups in the country.

I, personally, am glad I was part of the growth of this group and I would like to congratulate the WWWOC on their twenty-five years of successful operation.

These are just a few of my thoughts relating to the early days of our group. It sure has been a lot of fun.

1972 to 1973

Grant Haugstad

During my term as President, we had just completed the expansion and addition of secondary treatment in LaCrosse plus being host to the Conference in the fall. I know a lot of my thoughts were to get the plant in satisfactory operation & train additional personnel which is a job in itself.

After retiring in 1980 & again in ’82 (the 2nd time), I have traveled considerably, but sewage treatment has not left me completely.

WWWOC & the Clarifier has done a tremendous job in promoting & encouraging it’s operators to become certified. Even though it’s a state law, WWWOC has played a very important part.

I can recall when preparation & certification was first proposed. Many of us paid our own expenses to attend Short Courses at the University in Madison to become qualified for a final exam.

WWWOC & the Clarifier publication have resolved. I am very proud to have been one of you. Keep up the good work.

Grant McKerigstad
Memories from Past Presidents (continued)

In Memoriam
Tom O'Keefe
1973 - 1974

1974 to 1975
Bob Deering

What an honor to be asked to write for a special edition of the Clarifier. According to my count, I was the 10th President of the revised organization which began holding the 3-day convention and changed the name of the group from “sewage” to “wastewater.”

Glad I wasn’t asked to write about the previous group — I do have a few memories of that group also.

My first memory of being President was that in 1973, at the LaCrosse Convention, Tom O’Keefe was to be installed as President but he had open heart surgery the day the Convention opened so I took over as Vice-president (president elect actually). On the second morning of the Convention, the President, Grant Haugstad, didn’t show up. He had been taken to the hospital during the night. He rallied and we got through the Convention. Early in ’74 Tom also rallied and was able to take over as President. That fall, at the Wausau Convention, I was again put in as President for what we will call my term.

I have to note that membership at that time exceeded 460 (aiming for 500) and attendance at Wausau was 232 men and 67 women (bless them). So, I wonder who is really interested in what the 10th President did — probably half of the 300 people are now inactive; so that makes 150 people or, less than 10% of today’s organization. But maybe it is worth looking back — we were building a great organization!

In remembering, I have to admit I cheated. The only things I could remember I didn’t dare write about. So, I got copies of the 1975 Clarifiers from historian Leo Templeton.

After reviewing the Clarifier, the man who should be remembered for 1975 should be Ole Dad, Al Winter. Six great issues — a man and a typewriter and a Saturday when his wife had to get out of the house.

Last year, at the Green Bay Convention, I was shocked to see that the historical display listed me as succeeding Al as Editor. If it never gets corrected any other place, it is here that I say Lynda Bentley was asked to take over as Editor but she says she agreed only when I said I would help her. Actually, I didn’t do much except act so dumb that others came to the rescue. Kurt Daily, Bob Thompson, and Carol Townsend pitched in. Kurt got the advertisers, wrote the rules and set the charges. You see, we now needed to pay a publisher. Bob contacted the publisher and organized how to cut and paste so we got it right for the publisher. And Kay Flooding became our typist — better looking than Al too! Carol was our favorite artist and photographer. Editor Lynda wrote and blessed everything with no misspelled words or grammatical errors. Hell, 5 or 6 of us could replace Al anytime — but not with the warm feeling and fond memories you get when you read these old Clarifiers.
Memories from Past Presidents (continued)

But Al really had a staff. Members from all over would write or call Al with their problems and give him the local news. Now I realize why — he was the only guy whose address and phone number was regularly published. That is one thing the new Clarifier corrected — now all officers and committee people are exposed and have to answer to all members.

Back to my term. But, I must typify those days by a couple quotes from the Clarifier. “The identity crisis is simply telling the girls from the boys” and “A little honey is good for a man's health, provided his wife doesn’t find out about it.”

For me personally, it was the early days of my “ill-fated” single life. I am happily aware that those days are over as my two new teenagers keep me awake as they blast me with music and telephones that never stop ringing. As many of you know, I was lucky to get a wife who loves the organization and its people and considers the conventions her vacation.

For all of us, it was a time of planning, applying for grants, designing, building and starting new plants. Green Bay’s “municipal-industrial first” was dedicated and started in ’75. In contrast to industrial endeavors, Shawano Lake, a residential and recreation area, was seweried, ringed the lake and attached to a new plant in the City of Shawano.

DNR was pushing operator certification. WWWOC was providing books for study, Moraine Park hired Doug Raymond to head up a new 2-year course to train operators. DNR’s “dandy Bud Tandy” began to publish the “Certified Operator.”

Salesmen became “manufacturers reps” but more than that, they became friends and most important of all, they became teachers and explained to us all of the new processes and equipment which became available.

Regional groups were starting to pay off and educational meetings flourished. Thanks to all the regional officers who have moved up to State offices and committee men.

I can say I am proud to have been a small part of the history of this great group. May they continue to amaze us with their accomplishments.

Robert W. Deering

In Memoriam
John Wagner
1975 - 1977

1976 to 1977
John Allen

To remember back to the 10th Annual Meeting, which began my year as President, is quite a challenge. However, as I think back to that year, the first thing I think of is the DNR’s proposed revisions to operator certification (NR 114). The proposed rules contained many features which our members did not feel were in the best interest of operators or of the industry. These revisions proposed such things as sub-grades, eliminated a separate industrial certification,
Memories from Past Presidents (continued)

required continuing education, proposed but not implemented minimum education and experience and on-site oral exams which have since been discontinued. I believe this was possibly the first DNR code revision which WWWOC, Inc. was able to have an active role in at the development stage. An active role which started during John Wagner’s term as president and continued through my term and into Stan Budrys term.

A Special Certification Ad Hoc committee of Bob Bues, Leon Gary and A Miner was appointed to work with the Government Affairs Committee. Bill Stubbe, Government Affairs Committee Chairman and Bob Bues as spokesman for the Ad Hoc committee, with input from many of our members, worked hard to make our views known to DNR. This involved a number of meetings with Ralph O’Connor, DNR Operator Instructor, the DNR Certification Board and the Natural Resources Board. Their efforts included preparing position papers with input from many members and the conducting of a survey of all members to get opinions. I also recall that I had correspondence with the DNR Secretary, Anthony Earl to request that he set up and attend a meeting with WWWOC representatives, the DNR Certification Committee and the Natural Resources Board.

My year as President was also my first year with the City of Marshfield and the plant was in the midst of a major expansion. It was so rewarding to see so many of our members give of their time to help our organization and the industry. It made me feel like I wasn’t as busy as I thought and that no matter how busy our members are they willingly give an extra effort to help the organization and other members. WWWOC, Inc. is truly a great organization and I am honored to have had the privilege to serve as President.

1977 to 1978

When I started in this field many million gallons ago (1953 to be exact), my predecessor the late Tom Hay told me that the group of people that I was going to work with in the future is going to be the best group of people in my upcoming career in the wastewater field.

By meeting the other plant operators in short courses, seminars, regional meeting and in our organization, I was never disappointed. I met many fellows from Albers to Zuehlke that I considered my best friends during these years that were never difficult, sometimes challenging but always full of fun.

I just hope that I can find my name on their lists as a friend also.
Memories from Past Presidents (continued)

1978 to 1979

As President of WWWOC in the year 1979 is one experience that never will be forgotten. Working with a knowledgeable Board was a privilege and pleasure of mine. Everyone was there to help each other, with one thing in mind — that is to make the 1979 conference a lasting experience for the membership.

In 1979 we were in contact with the Minnesota Conference board to establish means of comparing each others agendas and that brought about being invited to their August conference in Minnesota. I in turn invited their board to our conference in Madison in 1979.

A major issue of the year was working with the DNR to improve the plant licensing program.

I want to thank all the people who in anyway helped to make the year 1979 one of the very best.

Pete Albers

1979 to 1980

My memories as an officer and President of WWWOC are varied and mingled with laughter and smiling faces. Young faces and mature faces; but few that didn’t light-up when a colleague was met with a hardy handshake and a “Hi! How are things with you?”

A problem was discussed here and there but nothing that couldn’t be solved with a “Hot Toddy” in our hand and a “Old Dad” Winter’s joke.

It was a rewarding to be an officer on an excellent Board of Directors. We had the privilege to present, as an organization, many deserving awards. Awards to some operators who had many years with out recognition. They were in on the beginning of Certification and operator’s validation as a member in municipalities management.

We promoted recognition of Districts becoming members of the WWWOC organization. With personal pride, we watched the WWWOC organization grow in number and quality.

One of the fun things at the Conventions and District meetings was the introduction of the promotional items for sale. There were words of wisdom found on hats and shirts and then “Some just happens!”

One rewarding memory I have, was shared with Bill Stubbe a past President and friend. We represented the WWWOC at the Minnesota Operators early conventions. We helped to create better working relations with neighboring states and operators. It was a workable idea; for they invited us to sit in on their Board’s plans for their organization’s future. The officers reciprocated with a return visit to our next two conventions.
Memories from Past Presidents (continued)

Each year we acquire more knowledge of our jobs, ourselves and our worth. We do a job that is needed and needed to be done well.

Thanks for the memories and future smiles.

During my term as President for the years 1980 & 1981, several important issues were acted upon. The first issue was that on November 14, 1980, I received a letter from Ward Holz informing me of his resignation as Secretary-Treasurer of WWOC. At the Board meeting of December 5, 1980, the Board accepted Ward’s resignation with regret and appointed Paul Nehm as the new Secretary-Treasurer.

Ward had done an outstanding job, and it was very rewarding that years later, when Paul stepped down, Ward was once again appointed Secretary. Paul also did an outstanding job and we were very fortunate that he agreed to fill the position.

The other two issues were establishing the ETN program and the Board’s recommendation to the general membership at the fall conference to accept the concept of regional affiliation with WWOC.

In closing, I wish to express my sincere appreciation for having served this great organization as an Officer and President and to all members for making my term in office a very rewarding and enjoyable one.

Leo W. Templeton

During my term as President, which was the service year 1981-1982, we, as those before us, laid in place the tools for progress for the future. Our social development was very much intact but our professional awareness was just starting to be realized. Many concepts now in place were the results of the Board addressing the growing needs of the organization.

Regional affiliation through the coordinating efforts of Joe Gehin resulted in the first Board-Regional Officer’s Joint meeting held on October 20, 1982. Obviously this was an effort that was to develop beyond our expectations.

Likewise, the conference site selection process for annual meetings was the result of the efforts of Bob and Barb Thompson, this concept of site selections is still utilized today and has proven itself over the years.

We jumped into the fire with the equipment demonstration idea as a part of our annual conference. Again foresight was provided that saw interest in this portion of our annual gathering become a key corner stone of our operation.
Memories from Past Presidents (continued)

You may recall as I do that Dale Stiller was asked to become involved in the new safety requirements that were starting to become an issue. I believe we all recognize the tremendous effort on Dale's part. We presently are enjoying the fruits of his labor. Through education we all have developed a greater awareness of our work environment. A great deal is owed Dale.

As a result of the lab certification criteria proposed by the DNR, our organization was quick to react. With our reaction came what was to be known as DNR Advisory Committees. Many of the current NR Codes were developed through participation by WWWOC members. These Advisory Boards were the direct result of our organization becoming more visible as a professional group with opinions and input that would have an effect on future legislation for years to come.

Seeing the need, the WWWOC became active in operator training first as a sponsor of the old ETN programming seminars. That quickly lead to the development of the three tier training concept. Those tiers being: 1. basic training; 2. advance training; and 3. workshops. These same principals are still practical today regarding operator training and have provided a fine foundation for its members.

Perhaps the most enjoyable task for me personally was serving as the WWWOC Library Committee Chairman. Many thousands of dollars and books were provided through this WWWOC operation. Never once did a personal check for material ordered ever bounce.

We can proudly look back and reflect on our efforts in operator upgrading. Part of this upgrading was the result of the Board's decision to work with the then new Wisconsin Section of Central States. As a liaison with no official requested power during these early days, to our present professional relationship, a great deal of growth again has followed allowing even more professional awareness. The low point of my year was the loss of June and Al Winters' son on August 18. Likewise the high point was the expected birth of our third child.

By far the most remarkable occurrences were the trips to the Board meetings. Driving with Frank Munsey and Nancy Mann proved to be quite an experience. We would laugh and exchange ideas. Those trips have resulted in what WWWOC is really all about, lasting memories and true friendships.

But perhaps the most humorous happening was watching Al Winter drag those coffee mugs around with him that nobody wanted. From coffee mugs to sweatshirts we truly have grown and learned our marketing lesson well.

Without a doubt the largest contributor was Paul Nehm. As you know, Paul took over (the first time) for Ward. A major reason for our success was Paul's ability to organize. Without Paul my year would have been a disaster and WWWOC would have developed at a much slower pace than what it did. Paul was what was needed and good for us during that period. Thanks Paul.

I apologize if I have overlooked any individuals that did contribute during my term on the Board and especially as its President.

You should know how immensely proud I am of this organization. Lead on WWWOC.

Roger W. Sherman
Memories from Past Presidents (continued)

1982 to 1983

All my years run together with the year as President. While the President was an important figure, an active Board made sure the varied interests were heard. Over the period, I remember a gradual maturing as WWWOC kept reaching for its 1000th member, resolved DNR certification battles, and worked to develop recognition of the operator as a professional. Several controversies for the WWWOC during my period were lack of regional representation on the Board, DNR certification rules, and Central States' role in training and operator representation.

Some situations I remember:

- A good working relationship was developed with regional vocational technical schools to develop and run extensive operator training classes.
- A period where all EPA and DNR grant money was spent outside Milwaukee.
- The growth of active regional groups.
- Development of an organization that did much more than set up an annual convention.
- Efforts to support the development of strong regional groups that could provide more frequent nearby training opportunities.
- A viewpoint that Central States was a hostile, competing organization for reasons I could not fathom.
- Getting the first membership directory developed.

Some individual people and events on the Board I remember:

- The eagerness and “can-do” attitude of Ron Perkovich in developing an active Northwest Operator’s group.
- Bob Thompson’s travels and searches for the perfect bed at the perfect hotel for the next 10 years of conferences.
- Roger Sherman’s efforts to affect governance and laws even if it meant seeing the governor and sitting on legislative committees.
- Pete Alber’s strong leadership showing and demanding small plant operator excellence and respect.
- Al Winter’s readiness with a joke or funny anecdote.
- A lot of long rides to many meetings made shorter by the company of Roger Sherman and Nancy Mann.
- Stan Budry’s humorous and respectful award presentations.

I had to cut hundreds of fond memories for this brief synopsis. I know full well that while the volunteers give up a lot of time, the friendships and enjoyment were returned many times over by the WWWOC members.

[Signature]
Memories from Past Presidents (continued)

1983 to 1984

I was elected to be President of WWWOC at LaCrosse, WI in October, 1983. I served as President until October 1984. During the time I was in office, we were working on the following items. Trying to reach a membership of 1,000. We had approximately 900 some members. Also, we were working with our Regional Groups. Mainly trying to get the groups’ officers into more and better regional meetings. And we were winning. Also the Board of Directors voted to set up funds for the President and Board Members to attend regional meetings. Central States Water Pollution Association was trying to set up another operator’s group in their Association. There were quite a few pro’s and con’s on this subject.

As usual when you are busy, the year slipped by. And it was October 1984. We all gathered in Appleton, WI. At the Paper Valley Hotel. And on Thursday, October 18, 1984, I handed over the gavel of the President to Mrs. Nancy Mann. I was the first Past President who gave a Kiss to the incoming President. And I felt that it had been a good year and the future of our organization was in good hands for another year. So 8 years later its bigger and better than ever. And with the talent that our members have, I am sure it will get better.

Al Winter

On top of jobs that are more than full time, the dedication and hard work shown by the Board of Directors was impressive. The membership, some in blue jeans, some in three piece suits, getting together at the conference for the exchange of ideas with one goal in mind — better wastewater treatment!

This organization is the most vital of any organization I have belonged to, all because of its membership.

Nancy Mann

1984 to 1985

1985 to 1986

1986 to 1987

I attended my first convention in 1979 at the Madison Sheraton Inn. I had no idea what to expect. The only person I knew was John Leonhard (at that time of Zimpro). We grew up together in Bayfield County.

Ron Perkovich

I was so impressed with the quality of the program, the vendor display and how professional and neat all the people were dressed. I remember thinking “How can I learn all of this?” My head was hurting trying to absorb all of the knowledge that was there.

That day, I made up my mind to be part of WWWOC and someday be the President. It was an “awesome” feeling to know that you are surrounded by the people that are “winners,” and you want to be with them.

Al Winter
Memories from Past Presidents (continued)

On the day I was to become President (Racine Convention), I had lunch with Nancy Mann — then President. Nancy said to me “Ron, one year from now, you will realize how little you know about being President of WWWOC. She was so right. I didn’t realize how much effort it takes and how much knowledge you will gain once you become President.

At the end of my term (Eau Claire convention), I realized the things I learned, and wished I could be President one more year, so I could share my knowledge more fully.

My greatest memory and satisfaction is that I got to represent the “Great Northwest.” My goal was always to put the Northwest operators ahead of myself and make the “Great Northwest” a vital and active part of WWWOC. I still believe today, it was more important to make the “Great Northwest” a leader in WWWOC than to make Ron Perkovich a leader. I believe the “Great Northwest” is still a leader.

Hello friends, God bless, Love to all!

However, my message to you as we celebrate our 25th Anniversary is not one of reflection but one of vision. Yes, we will cherish this moment but we must look to the future and plan our destiny to have the opportunity to celebrate our next 25 years! I hereby charge you with the mission to challenge the future, and be receptive to new ideas and changes. Complacency must be avoided as we press for new horizons.

WWWOC and its members represent the best in the ‘clean water business’ I am proud of this fact as we celebrate this special event. I look forward to celebrating the next 25 years as we provide leadership in the ‘clean water business’ God bless our efforts as we strive for a better tomorrow.

I am especially privileged to once again attend the WWWOC annual conference. The 1991 meeting is in recognition of 25 years of service to its members. WWWOC is a shining light in the water pollution control field.

I am thankful for the association I have had with many dedicated professionals over the years. My involvement on the Board of Directors and as President in 1988 was a highlight of my career. Board members are a dedicated lot who spend untold hours on behalf of the organization. They deserve your continued support.

The key to the growth of the dynamic organization known as WWOC is its blend of membership. The annual meeting is a forum for the dissemination of knowledge and
Memories from Past Presidents (continued)

understanding between operations, personnel, regulators, academicians, consulting engineers and manufacturers representatives.

Changes in regulations will continue to be the major driving force in the wastewater treatment field. Local POTW personnel have become regulators of industrial dischargers. Many of us will take on additional duties in the monitoring and control of stormwater discharges in the future.

If you enjoy accomplishment while having a good time, get involved in your regional and State WWWOC organizations. As a first year board member in 1984 I was assigned to be chairman of the promotions committee. I remember having a good time coming up with the designs for “Randy Rotifer” and the WWWOC logo used on our promotional shirts. “My daughter gets much of the credit.” The greatest memories are those of people involvement.

To all, thanks for the memories!

Jack Budde

1988 to 1989

Pete Wachs

Anyone who has been President of this Organization can relate to leading a group such as ours. Over the past nineteen years, I’ve seen this organization grow from 150 - 200 members to over the thousand mark. This indicates to me the important role our organization plays in the abatement of water pollution. One of our past presidents made a quote, “take pride,” and I believe we have, as our growing numbers indicate.

Of the many memorable experiences, the one that comes to mind the most is having associated with the professionalism of the people who chose to be part of this organization. I also feel the hiring of a training consultant for the organization was one of the most important decisions we have made and I’m proud to have been part of that.

In all, being president is not as easy as it looks, but something a lot more should try.

Pete Wachs

1989 to 1990

Bill DeBauche

As every Officer of the WWWOC Board will tell you, serving the Organization is indeed a privilege. Aside from the many long Board meetings and extensive committee work, a lot of treasured memories are formed.

Everyone with whom I served during my six years on the Board gave very unselfishly of themselves to better our profession and help the operators.

As an Officer, I recall the pleasure of supporting Joe Gehin’s work to complete the Regional Affiliation. I also appreciated the opportunity to effect changes in the format and design of the Clarifier.

As President, I had the opportunity to meet many of you and represent your interests in leading the activities of the Board. I felt gratified to have completed the activities that brought Dave Flowers on-board as the first Training Consultant. During my term as
Memories from Past Presidents (continued)

President, the Board also initiated formal pursuit of Federal training grant funds.

I also recall many humorous moments. Such an example is the time that the Majik Man (Green Bay’s Quarterback) bought Ward Holz a “Secretary’s Day” drink. That happened following a brief “tribute” and “floral presentation” to Ward at a Board dinner. This of course took place during national secretaries week.

The WWWOC has grown beyond everyone’s expectations. It is without question the strongest State organization of its kind. That is so because of the involvement and interest of you, it’s members. In it’s leadership, only the faces of the people change. The enthusiasm, dedication and objectives remain consistent.

On the occasion of your 25th Anniversary, congratulations to you, the WWWOC!

Bill DeBraude

1990 to 1991

Don Lythjoohan

In memory of my past year as President of WWWOC, the first thing that comes to mind is how great the members are. As I have traveled around the state, for both WWWOC and Don Lythjoohan when on vacation, it was great to be in any town and have an operator or a member of WWWOC come up and say “Hi!” People talk about the bond that they have by being members of other organizations, well I feel there is no greater bond than being a member of WWWOC. If you think about it, the men and women that work in the wastewater field are “the unsung heroes of the environment.”

The other thing that comes to mind is the honor that was given me by you in electing me President. The work was hard but the rewards were the greatest. I would like to thank everyone for all their work and help in making my year as President one that will be with me forever. You are the greatest group of people I have ever worked and served with.
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VISIONS OF TOMORROW

The equation for WWWOC's success is found in the Purpose of its Constitution.

The achievements of the past 25 years are testimony to the inspiration, creativity and ambition of the membership.

To meet the challenges of tomorrow, we must continue in our personal quests for knowledge.

Enthusiastically, WWWWOC's leadership will continue to promote the very Fundamentals of WWWWOC's Purpose.

Continuing in a tradition of excellence, WWWWOC members will promote and exemplify qualities of professional pride.