

Clarifier History

WWOA History Time Line				Clarifier Time Line	
1924 – First Activated Sludge Plant, Milwaukee					
1927 - Committee on Water Pollution was created					
1932 – Short Course offered at UW Madison ¹	19	30			
1937 – The Conference of Sewerage Works Operators (COWSWO) is organized	19	40			
1941 – 1945 WWII					
The early COWSWO organization held two conference meetings each year – spring and fall. In odd numbered years the spring conference was held in conjunction with the short course.	19	50			
1958 – Voluntary Operator Certification began	19	60		1955 – First issue of the Clarifier F.I. Vilen editor	2
1965 – Last Short Course				1956 – Clarifier tries guest editors	
1967 – First meeting of what would become the Wis. Wastewater Works Operators Conference ²				1960 – Roger Scovil temporarily fills in for Vilen	
1969 – Mandatory Operator Certification began	19	70		1961 – Frank I. Vilen resigns as editor – first ad	
1971 – Lifetime and student memberships began				1963 – John Walendall becomes editor, And first president’s message	
1973 – WWWOC Incorporated for tax reasons				1968 – First WWWOC Clarifier issue, July	
1976 – First PC, the Apple I introduced					
1991 – WWWOC celebrates 25 Conferences	19	80		1973 – Al Winter becomes editor “Vol.” begin July ³	4
1994 – The Organization changes name to Wisconsin Wastewater Operators Association				1975 – First photos published in the Clarifier	6
1996 – WWOA web site went on-line				1976 – Clarifiers “folded” not stapled sheets	8
	19	90		1980 – Lynda Bently & Robert Deering Co-editors, And start of two column format	10
				1984 – Plant cover photos begin – first picture ads	12
				1985 – Lynda Bently & C. J. Townsend Co-editors	16
				1987 – L. Bently, C. J. Townsend, & Dan Busch	
				1992 – Dan Busch Becomes editor	
	20	00			20
					40
	20	05		2005 – The Clarifier celebrates 50 years	55

← Approximate pages published

The Short Course was the main means for operators to get together. It was a full week of courses and COWSWO meetings. Later, when certification began in 1958, Friday was exam day.

1. The year of 1932 is believed to be the first year of the Short Course. The Short Course was held in January the first few years and then was held in April or May of odd numbered years at the UW Madison Hydraulics Lab. In the beginning, the Short Course was held every year, and then skipped a few years for WWII.

2. Unhappy about the sudden cancellation of the 1967 Short Course, COWSWO decided to make a break from the past and re-name the organization. Though the name change did not occur until 1968, the meeting in 1967 is considered to be the beginning of the WWWOC and the year of the first conference. The first annual meeting was held at Biggars Motel in Appleton (fall of 1967). In 1969, the WWWOC would re-write the Constitution and By-laws.

3. After incorporation, each issue is a numbered volume, beginning with the July 1973 issue.