USF Marching Their Way to Nationals
By Sarina Ergas, Professor and Graduate Program Coordinator Dept. Civil & Environmental Engineering University of South Florida

Please join us in congratulating the Environmental/Water Resources Capstone Design teams who participated in the Florida Water Environment Association (FWEA) design competition on April 22nd. Seven teams competed from engineering schools all over Florida. BOTH of the USF teams won in their respective categories and will be representing Florida at the national competition at WEFTEC in New Orleans in October.

Robert Gaylord (PM), Matthew Munz, Justin Terry, Yasmin Eskandari and Esteban Zajia Viera won in the wastewater category. They presented a design to recover biogas from sludge to offset the operational costs of thermal dryers at Hillsborough County’s biosolids management facility (BMF). The client for this project was Tom Rawls of the Hillsborough County Public Utilities Department. Juan Oquendo helped to mentor their team.
USF Marching Their Way to Nationals (continued)

Gabriele Dionne (PM), Danielle Bertini, Emily Patrick, Micah Blate and Lyudmila Haralampieva won in the environmental design category. They presented a design to alleviate flooding and improve water quality at Regan Park in East Tampa. The clients for this project were Ben Koplin of the City of Tampa’s Stormwater Division and Joe Green of the Department of Parks and Recreation. Tom Lynn and Chris Haney helped to mentor their team.

Many of the visiting students, faculty, judges and other guests also commented on the lovely facilities on the first floor of the newly renovated Hall of Flags and classrooms in USF’s College of Engineering.

During the 2012 FWRC conference we will be celebrating the 25th Anniversary of the Operation Challenge Competition. The Operations Challenge award ceremony will take place on Monday 5:00 pm at the Exhibit Hall followed by a happy hour for our members.
FWEA Leadership Development Workshop

By Rebecca McLarty, E.I., CDM Smith

The annual FWEA Leadership Development Workshop was held March 8-9, 2012 in Orlando. Representatives of chapters from all over the state met to discuss current successes and challenges of the organization. Rebecca McLarty, Tim Ware, Ricardo Borromeo and Nita Naik represented the West Coast Chapter Steering Committee. Participants benefitted from presentations by various FWEA Board Members, including current President Nabil Muhaïsen (City of Orlando) and President Elect Paul Pinault (CDM Smith) on topics such as how to attract and motivate volunteers, what are the roles of executive leaders, budgeting and fund raising, how to increase membership, and how to engage and support students. Attendees participated in several networking and team building activities during the workshop.

The round table discussions allowed us to share ideas about how do develop our roles and responsibilities as volunteers and to identify which tools we need to achieve our goals. The main initiatives for the upcoming year were outlined in the Strategic Plan: promote water environment quality in Florida, promote a sound public policy, provide abundant opportunities for professional development, and promote a growing, well-managed association. Overall, the 2012 FWEA Leadership Development Workshop was a very successful event, filled with beneficial information that the representatives could take back and share with their respective chapters.

West Coast Financial Wrap-up

By Mike Knowles, P.E. Greeley and Hansen

The West Coast Chapter's fiscal year comes to an end this April and I'm happy to report that thanks to the great event turnouts and many donated hours from our committee members, we were able to give more than $1,000 to the State FWEA. The State expects to put $8500 into Student & YP Activities this year, over what they raise in sponsorships.
**Membership Drive Raffle Update**

*By Karen Lowe, P.E., CDM Smith*

To support FWEA’s goal to increase membership, our chapter is holding a raffle with some great prizes for existing and new members! To be eligible to enter the raffle all you have to do is be a member and attend an event sponsored by our West Coast Chapter. Events include our quarterly luncheons, annual roundtable event, and social events. At each event, drop your business card or contact information into the raffle box. The more events you attend, the greater your chances of winning an awesome prize! Winners will be drawn during our final 2012 luncheon in November and you do not need to be present to win. Entries will be matched to the FWEA membership database to confirm membership prior to the drawing. Prizes include Visa Gift Cards in the amounts of $200, $150, $75, and $50. During our first quarterly luncheon, we only had a total of 25 entries so you can see that your chances of winning are very good! If you are not already a member of FWEA, please consider supporting this worthy organization by going to the FWEA website, www.fwea.org, and click on the membership tab to join or renew their membership. You can also change your WEF membership data on this site and detailed instructions are offered. FWEA launched our new website last week and all West Coast Chapter members should visit the new website for the latest event information and to consider joining one of our committees.

**Yuengling Plant Tour**

*by Joe Zaccardelli, P.E., Jacobs Air Water Systems*

On Saturday, March 3rd, The Golf Coast Chapter and USF chapter teamed up to take a stroll through the Yuengling Brewery. Yuengling is the oldest brewery in the US (established in 1829). Though the original brewery is in Pottsville, PA, the Tampa Brewery was purchased by the Yuengling company in 1999.

The tour was very informative. Along the tour we were informed that water used to make the beer is actually from four artesian wells located on the 50+ acre property. Also, CO2 generated through the fermentation process is captured, stored, and later used in bottling/canning/kegging process. The best part of the tour was the end, where you could sit down, kick your feet up, and enjoy several of Yuengling’s finest.
The Potentials of Integrated Resource Recovery to Mitigate Carbon Footprint of Wastewater Treatment Systems
Dr. Zhang, Ph.D., University of South Florida

Municipal wastewater treatment has emerged as a large resource consumer in the US. As a result, the goal of the municipal wastewater systems has expanded from protecting receiving water and human health to improving the system sustainability. Integrated resource recovery has attracted much attention to improve the sustainability of wastewater treatment systems. In this talk, the potentials of integrated resource recovery to offset embodied energy and mitigate carbon footprint of wastewater treatment systems were investigated. Three resource recovery methods currently employed in the Howard F. Curren Advanced Wastewater Treatment System (HCWTP) in Tampa, FL were specifically investigated: onsite energy generation through combined heat and power systems, nutrient recycling through biosolids land application, and water reuse for residential irrigation.

Dr. Zhang is an Assistant Professor in Civil and Environmental Engineering at the University of South Florida (USF). She received a Ph.D. in Environmental Engineering from Michigan Tech. Prior to joining the faculty at USF in 2009, she served as the operations manager of the Sustainable Future Institute at Michigan Tech. Her research and teaching interests include water-energy nexus, life cycle assessment, environmental fate and transport modeling, and sustainability. She is a member of the AEESP, AWWA, ISIE, WEF and ASEE. She published over 20 articles and recently received new faculty research award from ASEE-SE.

Full Members: $20 for those pre-registered, $25 at the door * Student Members: $15 for those pre-registered.

Pre-Registration Deadline: Friday, May 11th (Also Register through FWEA.org)
Please make checks payable to FWEA

Name: ___________________________________________________________
Company/Affiliation: ____________________________________________
Address: ________________________________________________________
City: ____________________________ State: ______________________ Zip: ______
Phone: __________________________ Choice of Meal: ____________________

Send Check and Registration to:
Ricardo Borromeo
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E-mail: Ricardo.borromeo@atkinsglobal.com

Register Online http://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/event?oeidk=a07e5u8sd0x753eaca1&llr=abelwzdab
Safety First
by Tim Ware, P.E., M.E.V.E., AWT Plant Manager
City of Tampa Wastewater Department

On Monday April 9, 2012, FWEA hosted a Water/ Wastewater Safety Supervisor Seminar at the Pinellas Technical Education Center in St. Petersburg. Forty-five individuals from both the Water and Wastewater fields attended the event to learn more about Safety best practices and earn CEU’s. The attendees were from many different municipalities in the area as well as some folks that were just trying to learn more about what we do.

The seminar was taught by Douglas Prentiss Sr. and Douglas Prentiss Jr. This 8 hour class covered many aspects of safety in the work place especially in areas that were specific to our industry. Discussions were held on confined space entry, special precautions around hazardous chemicals and the importance of hot work permits when working over the top of methanol storage tanks. The instructors included many real world examples in their training and did and excellent job at directing the various OSHA standards at our industry.

At just $49.00 for FWEA members and $55.00 for non-members this class was an outstanding bargain and great success. The class included lunch on site which was catered by the school and the teachers kept everything fun and entertaining. I would highly recommend that when classes like this are offered by FWEA that everyone that can, should attend.

For additional safety training that you can get on site please contact Doug at www.dougprentiss.com. He is extremely knowledgeable and certified to offer CEU’s for the training he provides.