

FWEA WEST COAST CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

MAY 2016

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MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Alice Varkey, GHD

On behalf of the 2016-2017 FWEA West Coast Chapter Steering Committee, I would like to welcome our members to another exciting year beginning May 1st, 2016! With support from our members and sponsors, and leadership from our steering committee, we strive to continue to promote development and growth of our chapter. As you know, our members and sponsors support and promote **FWEA's mission of a clean and sustainable water environment through public education, professional development, and sound public policy.** Each chapter initiative for the coming year has been carefully planned with FWEA's mission in mind.

For these initiatives to be successful, there is one key component – you! Support from our individual members and sponsors are critical in continuing to develop and continue growing our chapter.

One of our key goals is to promote professional development through a platform for networking and information exchange through technical presentations, which serve to share our members' knowledge and expertise. As such, we kick off the year with the **2016-2017 Spring Quarterly Luncheon**, which will take place on Thursday, May 12th at the Columbia Restaurant. Our topic for this luncheon is "Making Every Drop Count: Local and National Water Reuse Topics". Starting with this luncheon, we look forward to continuing the momentum with several events and initiatives throughout the year. **Please continue reading for information on upcoming events and stay tuned for more information in our Quarterly Newsletters!**

I look forward to your continued participation in the FWEA West Coast Chapter!

The FWEA West Coast Chapter would like to recognize each of our 2016-2017 Annual Chapter Sponsors for their very generous support:



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FWEA WEST COAST CHAPTER

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Tim Ware, Arcadis
Craig Wells, McKim and Creed



UPCOMING EVENTS



- May 12, 2016 • FWEA Spring Quarterly Luncheon
- August 25, 2016 • FWEA Summer Quarterly Luncheon
- September 2016 • Evening Networking Social
- November 17, 2016 • FWEA Fall Quarterly Luncheon
- February 2017 • Annual Sporting Clays Tournament
- February 23, 2017 • FWEA Winter Quarterly Luncheon
- March 2017 • Annual Round Table Luncheon

For more information, visit us at <http://www.fwea.org> and like us on <https://www.facebook.com/CleanWaterFL/>



INAUGURAL SPORTING CLAYS TOURNAMENT

Jacob Porter, Hazen and Sawyer

The first annual Sporting Clays Tournament for the West Coast Chapter was held on February 5, 2016 at Fishhawk Sporting Clays in Lithia. It was a great success. The weather was sunny with a little breeze and about 64°F. There were more than 60 attendees, and 17 sponsors. A barbeque lunch was provided including pulled pork, chicken, and sides, and then the competition began. Everyone was given a box of 25 shells, a raffle ticket, and earplugs. Each participant attempted 50 shots at 9 separate stations. Skill levels varied from first time shooters who rented a shotgun to highly experienced shooters with their own shotguns. Twenty-four prizes were given away including Yeti ramblers, Bass Pro Shops gift cards, a cooler, and other sportsman related gifts. The lowest scoring shooter even received free lessons from Fishhawk Sporting Clays.

We are planning to hold the second annual event in February 2017, so please be looking for the flyer and do not hesitate to register!



FLORIDA WATER FESTIVAL AND ROUND TABLE LUNCHEON



**Florida Water
Environment Association**

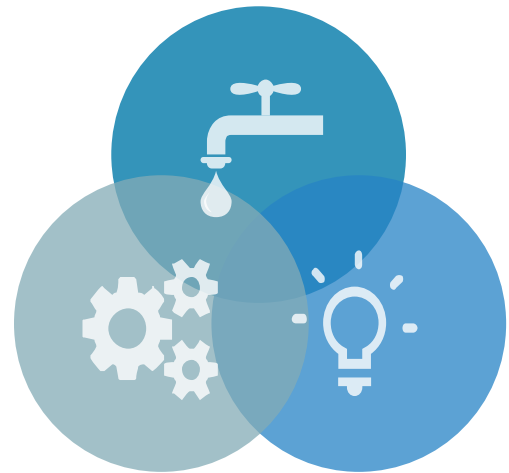
FLORIDA WATER FESTIVAL

Nicole Smith, McKim and Creed
Tim English, Reiss Engineering

Water professionals from around the Tampa Bay Area are making an impact on our community in many ways. Not only are they solving our daily water resource problems, but they are also sharing their knowledge and passion with the community!

On April 10th, over 30 professionals and a dozen organizations came from around the Tampa Bay Area to promote awareness of the water issues we face today. They filled the Tampa Water Works Park with educational exhibits and answered the park visitors' questions about the urban water cycle, the environment's sensitivity to pollution, and much more.

Over 300 people were estimated to have passed through the Festival! Not only was the event educational, but it was also fun! Students from multiple elementary and middle schools brought home-made water filters that they had designed to clean "dirty" water samples. The teams that produced the clearest water took home prizes and all participants left with a greater appreciation for our water treatment systems. To top off the excitement, everyone enjoyed good food, fun games, and great live music. Many thanks to all of the sponsors and volunteers who made this year's West Coast Chapter Florida Water Festival a great success!



ROUND TABLE LUNCHEON

Austin Moore, TSC Jacobs

The FWEA West Coast Chapter held its annual Round Table Luncheon on March 31, 2016 at Brio Tuscan Grille in Tampa. The discussion topic for this year's luncheon was Energy and Nutrient Recovery Practices in Wastewater Treatment and featured Tim Ware (ARCADIS) as Moderator, Jody Barksdale (Gresham Smith and Partners), Ted McKim (Reedy Creek Energy Services), Dr. Qiong Zhang (University of South Florida) and Chris Morss (OSTARA) as our expert panel members.

More than 50 local professionals turned out to enjoy an excellent lunch and pick the brains of our panelists regarding topics ranging from implementation feasibility, operational challenges, design considerations and their thoughts on what the future holds for our industry. The West Coast Chapter would like to thank our panelists, participants, annual chapter sponsors and event sponsors ARCADIS and TSC Jacobs for contributing to a great event.

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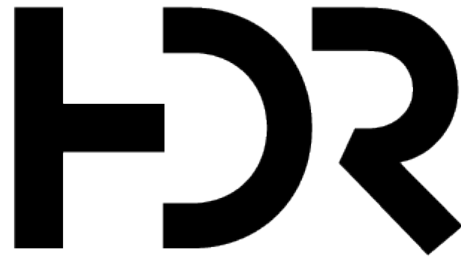
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WADETRIM

HOW TO SPOT EMPLOYERS THAT RESPECT AND REWARD THEIR EMPLOYEES

By: Rachel Cantor Fogarty, RC Associates

I get asked a lot, what are the best firms out there to work for? I wish this answer was as simple as emailing back an exclusive small list of select engineering consulting firms. Yet, this is quite a complex question with a different answer for each engineer. Every individual looks for different things in a firm that would make it the best place to work so there is no cookie cutter answer defining the best companies. It all comes down to what company is the best for YOU. Every company has a unique culture and way of doing business that compliments individuals in different ways. Take for example, a motivated YP that really likes to have his/her hands in many different aspects of engineering. Working at a huge mega-engineering consulting firm where the first 10 years of one's engineering career focuses on the technical aspect of one large scale project would prove unfulfilling to this engineer. This individual might be a better fit for a smaller more entrepreneurial firm where he/she gets their hands in many aspects of the project.

So as to the question of how to spot employers that respect and reward their employees, I think that this answer begins with what YOU, the employee, are looking to get out of a company and what defines "respect" and "rewards" for you. This may seem like a daunting task, but is easy if you follow a few simple steps. Take a minute and jot down what respect and rewards from a company means to you.

Congratulations! You have just taken the first step in the process of finding your dream company. It seems quite simple but defining what you are looking for in a company and your expectations is always the first step. Let's take a deeper look at one of the more common rewards a company might offer: professional development. Say you hope one day soon to have the opportunity to pursue a Masters Degree in Engineering at the local university. For you, the perfect company would need some schedule flexibility and tuition reimbursement.

The next step I define as: Research Mode.

You know what you are looking for, but how do you find it? For research, I recommend at least two main avenues, utilizing your network of industry contacts AND using the internet to uncover what you can. Let's look at each separately for a minute.

Networking with Industry Contacts: When trying to spot certain traits about employers, I always recommend asking questions about firms to your network of contacts. Take the top three things that you are looking for and talk about them with 10 people that you know at 10 different companies. Make sure and take good notes on what you learn. You may even want to start a spreadsheet of the information you gather!

Internet: Another important research avenue is online. Taking your list of companies and doing a simple google search can uncover important insights on each. You will want to cross check this info across multiple sources and record whatever information you find, whether it is employee reviews, benefit information, social networking sites (Twitter, Facebook, LinkedIN are great inside sources to employees). As civil engineers you are lucky in that much project information is available online. You may be able to read an RFP or public record on the firm that you are researching. You can learn a lot by being an online detective!

The next step: Communication.

The research you did should be a helpful tool along the way in guiding you to ask the right questions. For example, you may have learned online, that a company has a hard time promoting employees, one of the rewards you feel is essential for a potential employer. You cannot believe everything you read online so you may want to ask potential future employers about this during an interview.

When interviewing with firms, turn the rewards and respects list that you just made into questions (professionally and respectfully phrased of course) for your potential employer. During the interview process, it is important to make sure that the firm meets your expectations and is the right fit. It's always better in the long run to turn down an offer that doesn't mesh with your expectations than to end up in a job that isn't right for you.

If you are already employed, you can still discuss your desired perks with your boss in your next review or one-on-one meeting. Tactfully discussing long-term expectations can help set you up for a career path more closely aligned with your goals and provide a stimulating and motivating work environment.

The Final but Most Critical Step: Repeat this process, continuously.

Finding respect and reward in your career is an ongoing and evolving process that will change throughout different periods of your life. By understanding what you are looking for, researching companies, and communicating this information to current and future employers you are well on your way to finding employers that respect and reward their employees in ways that are meaningful to you. No matter what you uncover in the process, you will be one step closer to that Prince Charming of a Firm.

Rachel Cantor Fogarty is President of RC Associates, an engineering recruiting firm, which provides retained recruiting services to growing engineering companies nationwide. For more information visit www.rcassociatesllc.com or contact Rachel at Rachel@rcassociatesllc.com or 813-286-2075.

FWEA WEST COAST CHAPTER

LUNCHEON MEETING

LUNCHEON INFORMATION

Columbia Restaurant

2117 East 7th Avenue
Tampa, Florida 33605
Thursday, May 12, 2016

Start Time - 11:30 AM
End Time - 1:00 PM

MENU

1905 Salad and Cuban Bread

Option 1 – Arroz con Pollo

Chicken baked with yellow rice, green peppers, Spanish onions, tomatoes, white wine and virgin olive oil. Topped with green peas and pimientos.

Option 2 – Ropa Vieja

Shredded beef sautéed with onions, green peppers, and tomatoes. Served with platanos and white rice.

Option 3 - Snapper “Russian Style”

Snapper breaded and grilled. Garnished with a Russian sauce of lemon butter, parsley and hard boiled eggs. Served with yellow rice.

Option 4 – Vegetarian “Cubana”

Yuca, black beans, white rice, platanos, tostones and sautéed fresh vegetables.

Flan

MAKING EVERY DROP COUNT: LOCAL AND NATIONAL WATER REUSE TOPICS

Bart Weiss, Director RCW and Discharge Elimination Division,
Hillsborough County

Ben Stanford, Director of Applied Research, Hazen and Sawyer

ABOUT THE SPEAKERS:



Mr. Weiss is a registered Professional Geologist with the State of Florida and has over 26 years of experience in the water resource and supply industry. Mr. Weiss has extensive experience in Public Utility management, where he has overseen functions from Client/Customer Services, Environmental Support and Engineering, to Operations Command/Control associated with over 455,000 customer accounts and 10,000 mission critical assets. Additionally, he is heading up Hillsborough County's initiative to beneficially use 100% of the reclaimed water generated which will result in the elimination of surface water discharges. Mr. Weiss's educational background

includes a B. A. in History from Erskine College, a B. S. in Geology from Texas A & M, and a Masters of Business Administration from Saint Leo University.



Dr. Stanford is the Director of Applied Research at Hazen and Sawyer in Raleigh, NC and also leads the company's water reuse practice group. Ben earned his Ph.D. from UNC Chapel Hill and has conducted a range of studies across science, engineering, and public health protection for water, water reuse, and wastewater. Ben has over 30 peer-reviewed publications, and was awarded the 2012 Publications Award by the American Water Works Association.

FWEA Members Early Registration: \$25; Non-members Early Registration: \$35; Student Early Registration: \$15

Registration Form

Pre-Registration Deadline: Wednesday, May 11, 2016

Please make checks payable to FWEA

Name: _____

Company/Affiliation: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Choice of Meal: _____

Send Check and Registration to:

Isaiah Shapiro

West Coast Chapter Treasurer

Greeley and Hansen

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E-mail: ishapiro@greeley-hansen.com

Register Online: <http://mms.fwea.org/Calendar/moreinfo.php?eventid=39266>