



GBC News

The Newsletter for the Great Basin Chapter of A&WMA

Spring, 2001

The Chair's Corner

By Regg Olsen

The past year was a busy one for the chapter. While it seems like a long time ago now, last summer the long awaited A&WMA Annual Conference and Exhibition came to Salt Lake City. The Local Host Committee, comprised of several of the members of the Great Basin Chapter, worked hard to make the conference a success. In addition, many of you volunteered to assist in many ways, often behind the scenes and unseen. The hard work paid off and the conference was a huge success. There were many kudos's for the Local Host Committee and as a result of the success, the Great Basin Chapter received a "share" of the success in the form of a \$5000 check for our local use. Congratulations and thanks to all of you who helped make the Annual Conference a huge success.

However, I would be remiss if I didn't also mention that the A&WMA has been having difficult times financially. The Association's governing board is currently involved in an intense effort to manage the affairs of the Association in a prudent manner to reverse a disturbing trend in the past few years. As of the end of Dec 2000, the home office showed a surplus of \$322,882, \$20,783 greater than budgeted. Projections show continued financial improvement. As part of the effort to be more fiscally sound, the home office renegotiated their office space lease in Pittsburgh. This required them to put up collateral to cover some risk the owner of the building was willing to take with the long term renegotiation. As part of that effort, the chapters and sections of the association were asked to provide funds in a holding account to help cover the collateral required. The Great Basin Chapter Board decided to offer \$3000 to this effort and that amount was sent to the home office. Eventually, we will receive this money back, with interest earned while in the bank.

Along with the financial difficulties being faced by the association, we are also facing a decline in membership. I encourage each of you to reconsider your membership and the benefits of belonging to the association. I know of no other professional organization that focuses as intently on the issues facing us in the environmental profession. The association provides technical and managerial information about the many environmental issues we're faced with as well as the opportunity for networking with others facing the same issues. It also provides programs and activities designed and conducted by environmental professionals for environmental professionals. There are obviously other benefits as well and I encourage you to get active in trying to recruit your peers and associates.

Finally, as we end the fiscal year for the Chapter, we are conducting board elections for next year. If you would be interested in serving in some capacity on the board, or know of someone who would like to help, please let us know. New faces are always welcomed to encourage new ideas and input. Regardless, please take the time to return your ballot and let your voice be heard in this manner. I could make several jokes about Florida here, but instead encourage you to submit your vote - every vote counts (usually). If you have any questions or comments about how the chapter is running please contact me. I can be reached at (801) 536-4165, or by e-mail at chair@awma-gbc.org.

Board Approves Graduate University Education Scholarships

The Great Basin Chapter of the Air and Waste Management Association approved on January 16, 2001 to present a one time educational scholarship to the three major universities in the state, namely, the University of Utah, Utah State University, and Brigham Young University in the amount of \$1,000.00. The scholarships will be awarded to graduate level students studying in the environmental field, working towards a particular project relevant towards the environment. As a condition receiving the scholarship, the student would agree to present a seminar to the Great Basin Chapter. This money will be coming out of the Chapter's general fund instead of the Education Fund Money as had been discussed in previous newsletters. The use of all Education Fund Money has been suspended for the time being, as the financial situation with the national A&WMA is stabilized.

IT'S ELECTION TIME AGAIN!

The nomination list for the 2001-2002 officers and directors has been submitted and approved in accordance with the bylaws of the Great Basin Chapter. We ask that you vote on these nominations and return this form by June 8, 2001.

OFFICERS

Vice-Chair: Russell Christensen, Geneva Steel
 Write-in: _____

Treasurer: George Wilkerson, Meteorological Solutions, Inc.
 Write-in: _____

Secretary: Curtis Dungey, Asarco Inc.
 Write-in: _____

DIRECTORS

Programs: Jose Garcia, Utah Division of Air Quality
 Write-in: _____

Education: Lynn Hill, Hill Air Force Base
 Write-in: _____

Please send your selections by mail to:
AWMA Great Basin Chapter
PO Box 520851
Salt Lake City UT 84152-0851

Or, even better, email your selections to elections@awma-gbc.org

We appreciate your participation!