

Maine Water News

A Publication of the Maine Water Utilities Association

January 2013, Number 167

Legalize What!?

Jon Ziegler, 2012 President

I really wanted to title this last article: “*Why the legalization of marijuana will lead Maine Water Utilities to economic prosperity*”. It would have been fun, if for no other reason than the shock value. Who knows, it may have even created some buzz on Channel 6. I have this mental image of Jeff and Elizabeth fielding calls from the press, asking to explain my inane and convoluted logic, while I provide a ridiculous sound bite to some nameless talking head, which goes viral in cyberspace, all in the name of meeting my lifetime goal of “fifteen minutes of fame”.

Regretfully, as much as I really want to, I am not going there!!!!

I then thought about taking another shot across the *Food and Water Watch* bow, but decided that in the best interest of the profession, even though these multinational activists present a clear and present challenge to land ownership and water rights in Maine, with the potential to hamper the operations of every water utility in the state, while making Maine just that more less attractive for business, I decided that was not a good idea. I really did not want to give them any more bulletin board material.

Then I considered discussion on the SRF; spend one dollar and get five back? Even though a tremendous amount of effort had been expended by MWUA volunteer professionals and staff, this remains at a standstill. I am sure with the dogged persistence of the organization and its members this will be moved into the “win” column very soon.

The next random brain firing revolved around a conversation I recently had with another mid-coast superintendent, where he lamented how wrong he had been with regard to the “big” vs. “small” paradigm that some small, petty individuals perpetuate describing the MWUA being only for the large and powerful water districts and how much benefit he, and his small, well run water district had received from being an active member. That was pretty cool to hear... Yeah, the only

myth I get into is “Sasquatch” and nobody wants me to drone on about that!

Instead, I have decided to get back to basics. First and foremost, I would like to thank the membership and the board for allowing me the opportunity to serve. Being this past year’s president has sometimes been strenuous and time consuming, but an equally rewarding experience.

As importantly, the staff of the MWUA, albeit small in number, is second to none. I got *up close and personal* with them this year and am now, more than ever, convinced I get way more than my money’s worth.

Lastly, I have a new appreciation for the many volunteers who fill out the committees, organize training, formulate policy, study issues, coordinate events as well as do so much to promote the profession. They are all truly inspiring, leaving me proud to be a member of the MWUA.

All in all I am truly honored to have had the opportunity to serve as president for 2012.

Thank God, I dodged the bullet, it would have looked really bad for me if the Mayan’s had been right!



A view of Moose Pond on the way to the Bi-monthly Meeting on December 13th in Fryeburg.

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Material of interest to the water supply profession
will be considered for publication. Copy deadline is
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The December Meeting

It was a crisp but sunny ride to Fryeburg for the December bimonthly meeting, hosted by the Fryeburg Water Company. Hugh Hastings' account of his tenure at the company was epic, as one would expect from someone whose life is so rooted in the operation and management of the system.

The committee reports made it clear as to how the association accomplishes so much in the course of a year. It's professional development, with benefits which accrue individually and corporately.

The technical program provided a quick summary of the recent deregulation discussions, and was followed by presentations which covered various considerations, viewpoints and related aspects of the current economic regulatory process. There was some speculation as to what might result from an investigation of deregulation, as well as what a new model might look like, should changes be in our future.

The caterer truly lived up to his advanced billing and the luncheon was incredible. It was almost too much to eat. All said, it was a very successful meeting. Thanks to all who made it happen.

2013 Bi-monthly Meeting Locations

The bi-monthly meeting locations have been established for 2013.

The Annual February Meeting and Trade Show will be on February 5th and 6th, and will once again be in Portland and all under one roof at the Holiday Inn By the Bay. The registration form is included in this newsletter, so don't forget to sign up!

April will find us in Bangor, and the technical program will focus on UV and ozone, as Bangor Water District is currently installing such applications. For the June meeting we will be heading up north to Caribou. The August Golf Tournament will once again be held at Val Halla Golf Course in Cumberland, and the Annual Clambake is scheduled to be at Thomas Point Beach in Brunswick. Searsport will welcome us in October, and December will be in Kennebunk.

Included in this newsletter is the 2013 conference calendar which includes the bi-monthly meeting dates. Make note of these dates, so you can attend meetings close to your location and more if possible! We look forward to seeing you there.

Meet us in Portland for the February Meeting & Trade Show

MWUA's 87th Annual February Meeting and Trade Show will be held on Tuesday, February 5th and Wednesday, February 6th, 2013 exclusively at the Holiday Inn By the Bay, in Portland, Maine.

Lunch on Tuesday will be served on the trade show floor to provide additional time for attendees to mingle with the exhibitors. The Trade Show Meet and Greet with chowder and beverages will be held on Tuesday, from 3:30PM to 5:00PM. The Business Luncheon will be held on Wednesday from 12:00PM to 1:30PM. There will be a variety of sessions available on both these days, cosponsored by NEWWA and MWWCA.

The conference brochure and online registration is available at www.mwua.org, and the registration form is included on page 7 of this newsletter. Please register by January 25th to take advantage of the early registration discounts!

Alternatives to registering online include faxing the registration form or mailing a form via snail mail.

EPA Allows Electronic Distribution of Consumer Confidence Reports

On January 3rd, EPA released its final "interpretive memorandum" to clarify the delivery requirements included in the Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) Rule.

Electronic delivery must provide the CCR in a manner that is "direct". EPA interprets this rule requirement to mean that CWSs can use email or electronic communications via direct link URL. In using the URL, there must be some type of written explanation, however, about the nature of the link and the "direct link" must go specifically to the entire CCR. Water systems can also attach a PDF version of the CCR to an email notification.

Social media such as Twitter or Facebook and automated phone calls (such as reverse 911 types) do not meet the "directly deliver" definition.

EPA's memorandum, which definitively describes electronic delivery options, is available at: <http://water.epa.gov/lawsregs/rulesregs/sdwa/ccr/regulations.cfm>.

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Committee Seeking Groundwater Folks

The association's Water Resources Committee, whose focus is source water protection and public health issues associated with drinking water, has put the call out for a few additional members who represent ground water systems.

The committee typically reviews and provides input on a variety of surface water and groundwater issues, including legislation before the Maine Legislature, federal and state drinking water legislation and rules, advances in drinking water treatment technology, source water protection and other topics which relate to the quality of the public's drinking water.

In 2013 the committee will be presenting its 6th Annual Drinking Water Protection Seminar.

The committee meets 10 times per year, with the meeting places rotating between various locations between Bangor and Portland. Meeting minutes as well as meeting dates and locations are available on the committee's page of the MWUA website.

Those interested in serving on the committee should contact the MWUA office.

AE

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Chapter 675 Provisionally Adopted

On November 28th The Maine PUC has provisionally adopted Chapter 675: Infrastructure Surcharge and Capital Reserve Accounts. This Rule establishes guidelines and procedures for the implementation of infrastructure replacement surcharges and the funding of capital reserve accounts by water utilities and corresponding reporting requirements.

The provisional rule requires a water utility to file a System Infrastructure Assessment with the Commission not less than 90 days before implementing a temporary infrastructure replacement surcharge or



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filing a general rate case in which proposed rates include amounts for the establishment of a capital reserve account.

The rule addresses a concern the association expressed during the public hearing in that it was originally proposed that the reserve account could only be used to pay for the costs of construction associated with the projects identified in the utility's System Infrastructure Assessment and would not allow for the CRA to be used for unanticipated contingencies.

The rule now states that when a water utility must undertake a project that was not foreseen when filing its System Infrastructure Assessment and the water utility wishes to reflect that project in either the calculation of the Surcharge or the use of funds from the Capital Reserve Account, it may file a revision to reflect the new project.

The maximum funds which can be recovered via a surcharge, the amount of a water utility's revenue requirement attributed to funding a capital reserve account and the maximum amount of the utility's revenue requirement allocated to fund a capital reserve account, are all a function of the water utility size.

The provisional rule is subject to final approval by the 126th Maine Legislature.

Meader Recognized for Years of Service

On November 26th the Portland Water District Board of Trustees recognized Frank Meader for more than forty seven years of service. Frank began as a laborer and has served in multiple roles including Utility Asset Coordinator, Transmission Distribution Supervisor, Foreman, and others.

The Board of Trustees recognized Meader as an employee dedicated to setting a high standard for the installation, repair and maintenance of the District's water distribution system and noted that he has played a central role in the installation of 549 miles of PWD's 986 miles of water distribution pipe.

Frank has served the district for a longer tenure than any previous employee in its 105 year history.

**ETTI Nominated for
2013 Contractor of the Year Award**

Enterprise Trenchless Technologies, Inc. (ETTI), a directional drilling and utility construction contractor out of Lisbon Falls, ME, has been nominated by *Equipment World Magazine* and *Caterpillar Equipment* for 2013 Contractor of the Year. A group of

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12 contractors from across the country are chosen each year as finalists. Of those finalists, only one company will be awarded Contractor of the Year.

This award recognizes those companies who exemplify the highest standards of construction professionals: business acumen, equipment management expertise, attention to safety, and community involvement.

Each of the finalists receives a trip to Las Vegas in March 2013 to participate in an industry roundtable and awards banquet, where the 2013 Contractor of the Year will be named. Each contractor will also be featured in the pages of *Equipment World Magazine*.

ETTI was founded by Jim Kelly in 1995. He had a vision of bringing a unique market (trenchless technology/directional drilling) to Maine, starting one of the first Directional Drilling companies in New England. His son, Scott Kelly, took over the company in 1996 at 23 years old.

Today, the company is growing at a steady pace, employing 30 of the industry's most experienced and talented individuals. The company has also expanded to more than just Directional Drilling services, now providing Natural Gas Contracting, Utility Construction, Pipe Fusing, Utility Locating, and Vacuum Excavation. Not only does ETTI take pride in their work (which is

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proved by the four Build Maine Awards that they have received from Associated General Contractors of Maine over the past 10 years), but they also rank safety as their #1 priority, which is attested by over 300,000 hours worked without a Loss Time Injury, an impressive figure when compared to the number of employees they have.

ETTI is proof that there are companies in Maine that have stayed on track through the difficult economy over the last decade, and despite being ranked as the worst state for business, there are companies like ETTI that strive to outperform that ranking to hopefully do their part in reshaping Maine's future.

John E. Lombard

John E. Lombard, passed away at his home on Dec. 27, 2012, at the age of 85. He was the son of the late Everett Lombard and Bertha (Crocker) Lombard.

He attended Saco schools and while a junior at Thornton Academy, he left to join the Navy at age 17. He served in the U.S. Navy in 1945 and 1946 where he served in the Japanese Theatre of Operations and was discharged with rank of Fireman First Class. He was the recipient of three medals for his service. After coming back from the Navy, he finished his senior year at Thornton Academy. After graduation, he went to work for Perani & Sons and then went to work for Sam Gould Excavation where he learned to operate machinery. In 1953 he married Theresa Constantine.

John loved the outdoors, hunting, fishing and skiing. He also enjoyed working on his woodlot harvesting wood, and gardening. He worked for the Biddeford and Saco Water Company for 45 years, starting as a meter reader and working his way up to superintendent. He was also a member and past president of the Maine Water Utilities Association.

Surviving are his daughter and her fiancée, grandchildren, two great-grandchildren, his sister-in-law, a cousin, and several nieces and nephews.

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**87th Annual February Meeting & Trade Show
February 5 – 6, 2013
Registration Form**

ATTENDEE INFORMATION

Name: _____ Title: _____
 Company: _____
 Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
 Phone: _____ Email: _____

Option 1: Mail completed registration form with payment to: Maine Water Utilities Association
Option 2: Fax registration to: (207) 623-9522 150 Capitol Street, Suite 5
Option 3: Register online at: www.mwua.org Augusta, ME 04330

EVENT REGISTRATION – Please check all that apply

Registration & Name Badges are required for attendance at all sessions and events. Pre-Registration closes January 31, 2013

***Young professionals are individuals that have been in the water or wastewater profession for 3 years or less.*

	Register by 01/25/13	Registrations Received after 01/25/13
<input type="checkbox"/> TWO DAY FULL CONFERENCE REGISTRATION	\$190/Person	\$200/Person
<input type="checkbox"/> TWO DAY FULL CONFERENCE REGISTRATION – YOUNG PROFESSIONALS**	\$100/Person	\$100/Person

Two Day Full Conference Registration Includes:

- Tuesday & Wednesday Training Sessions (including material handouts & certificates)
- Tuesday's Lunch on Trade Show Floor & Trade Show Meet & Greet
- Wednesday's Training Sessions, Luncheon, & Trade Show Attendance (as well as coffee & pastries)

<input type="checkbox"/> ONE DAY TUESDAY ONLY CONFERENCE REGISTRATION	\$95/Person	\$110/Person
<input type="checkbox"/> ONE DAY TUESDAY ONLY CONFERENCE REGISTRATION – YOUNG PROFESSIONALS**	\$50/Person	\$50/Person

Sessions 1 – 13 Includes the Lunch on Trade Show Floor

- Session 1: Performance Management..... 8:00 AM – 11:15 AM
- Session 2: Pumps & VFDs..... 8:00 AM – 11:15 AM
- Session 3: Incorporating Social Media into Your Utility's Communications Program..... 8:00 AM – 11:15 AM
- Session 4: Dealing With Severe Weather & Unexpected Water Quality Changes..... 8:00 AM – 11:15 AM
- Session 5: DEP Method Update Rules..... 8:00 AM – 9:00 AM
- Session 6: Blue Print Reading..... 9:15 AM – 10:15 AM
- Session 7: 7Q10 & Monthly Stream/River Flows..... 10:30 AM – 11:30 AM
- Session 8: Trench Safety & Confined Space..... 1:00 PM – 2:00 PM
- Session 9: Collaborating on Construction Projects..... 2:15 PM – 3:15 PM
- Session 10: GIS & SCADA Applications..... 1:00 PM – 3:15 PM
- Session 11: A Day in the Life of an Operator..... 1:00 PM – 3:15 PM
- Session 12: Critical Paths to Water Quality Solutions..... 1:00 PM – 3:15 PM
- Session 13: Communication Chemistry: Productive Conversations for Boards & Operators..... 1:00 PM – 3:15 PM

<input type="checkbox"/> ONE DAY WEDNESDAY ONLY CONFERENCE REGISTRATION	\$95/Person	\$110/Person
<input type="checkbox"/> ONE DAY WEDNESDAY ONLY CONFERENCE REGISTRATION – YOUNG PROFESSIONALS**	\$50/Person	\$50/Person

Sessions 14 – 21 Includes the Luncheon

- Session 14: Fire Protection & Residential Sprinklers..... 8:00 AM – 11:30 AM
- Session 15: A Day at the Office: Federal Compliance, Internal Controls & Data Security..... 8:00 AM – 11:30 AM
- Session 16: How to Solve a Math Problem: A Step by Step Approach to Solving Problems..... 8:00 AM – 11:30 AM
- Session 17: Asset Management: Planning Today for Sustainable Operations Tomorrow..... 8:00 AM – 11:30 AM
- Session 18: An Effective Trustee..... 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM
- Session 19: Change is Here to Stay. How Are You Going to Deal With it?..... 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM
- Session 20: Product Demonstrations..... 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM
- Session 21: Biofilm in Your Drinking Water Distribution System: Concerns & Controls 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM

<input type="checkbox"/> WEDNESDAY LUNCHEON ONLY	\$35/Person	\$45/Person
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<input type="checkbox"/> WEDNESDAY TRADE SHOW ONLY	N/C	N/C
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 Maine Water Utilities Association is a non-profit membership organization which was organized in 1925. The mission of the Maine Water Utilities Association is to represent the water works professional membership in advocating safe drinking water through education, legislation, policy and networking.

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