**2019 Awards Luncheon**

 ***(Janine Burke-Wells Speaking)***

*Welcome and thank you for joining us for the 2019 New England Water Environment Association Annual Conference Awards Luncheon.*

*This year, we are pleased to have over fifty-four exceptional individuals and organizations honored through the Association’s Award Program. I’m Janine Burke-Wells, President of NEWEA, and it is my privilege to preside over this luncheon as we present awards to the very deserving leaders in our industry.*

*In addition to the NEWEA awards, we are pleased to have our esteemed partner organizations present awards with us today. The EPA Regional Operations and Maintenance Awards will be presented* ***Jay Pimpare,*** *Pretreatment Program Coordinator for the New England Regional Office of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and* ***Mark Spinale. NEWEA*** *would like to thank* *them for their steadfast support of the Regional Operations and Maintenance Awards Program.*

***Jackie Jarrell, President Elect of the Water Environment* Federation** *will present recognitions of Awards given at WEFTEC as well as those receiving WEF Member Association awards for the first time today.*

*Before we start, I would like to introduce some key association dignitaries–(Please stand to be recognized when I call your name). President-Elect Raymond Vermette, Vice President Jennifer Lachmayr, Executive Director Mary Barry, Past President James Barsanti, and all other NEWEA Executive Committee Members that are present with us today. Thank you for your generosity of your time and talents. Please join me in a round of grateful applause!*

*We will now begin the program and, in consideration of time, lunch will be served during the Presentation of Awards. I would like to invite up someone who really needs no introduction, a great friend and NEWEA Past President, Matt Formica who will serve as the master of ceremonies for the presentation of awards.*

*Matt will narrate the Awards Program while representatives from each organization present the awards.*

*Please welcome Matt Formica.*

***Matt Formica - Speaking***

Thank you, Janine. We have a lot of awards to present so let’s get to it!

In order to complete the ceremony in a reaonsable time, the Awards Committee will utilize a similar condensed format from past years. Official photographs of award recipients were taken earlier this morning; therefore, we will not be pausing for photographs during the presentations. In addition, we will be publishing detailed descriptions of the awards on the NEWEA website Awards Committee webpage, for your convenience and future reference. In the interest of time, we will not be repeating those award details during the ceremony.

The first group of awards are the **EPA Regional Awards,** which will be presented by Jay Pimpare and Mark Spinale from EPA.

***PRESENTATION OF EPA AWARDS BY JAY/MARK***

***Matt Formica - Speaking***

Sincere thanks to Mark and Jay and congratulations to all of the EPA award recipients.

NEWEA would like to recognize the **2018 NEWEA Scholarship Winners**. This year we have 3 scholarship recipients in the undergraduate and graduate categories. Joining President Burke-Wells in the front to congratulate these scholarship recipients is **Uda Karra,** Chair of the Scholarship Committee. NEWEA is happy to award these scholarships and asks that each student present come forward and be recognized.

* Undergraduate, Environmental Major –  **William Adsit**, attending the University of Connecticut (attending)
* Graduate, Environmental Major –  **Astha Thakali (ASH –THA THA KALI)**, attending the University of Maine (attending)
* Non-Environmental Major – **Ashley Loto,** attending the University of Connecticut (not attending)

Congratulations **William, Astha and Ashley!Stockholm Junior Water Prize**

The 2018 Stockholm Junior Water Prize held its annual national competition in Charlotte, North Carolina this past July. I am proud to report that all six New England states were represented this past year. NEWEA would like to thank the Affiliated State Associations from all of the New England States for their contributions to assist students to participate in the national competition and for their financial support of this important program.

With that NEWEA , and its Public Education Committee would like to recognize these Stockholm Junior Water Prize New England state winners for their outstanding science projects in water quality and environmental protection.

1. **Verna Yin – Greenwich, CT - attending**
2. **Mei Tian (MAY TEE-AN) – Bangor, ME**
3. **Elise Mizerak - Holden MA - attending**
4. **Meghana Avvaru (MEG –ANNA AVA RUE)– Nashua, NH**
5. **Margaret O’Brien – Bristol, RI**
6. **Sunthoshini Premsankar (SUN-THO-SHIN-EE PREM- SAN-KAR– Hinesburg, VT - attending**

The water science projects these students completed demonstrated their intelligence, creativity and passion. All projects were substantial and impressive! As water quality professionals, we are humbled by the commitment of these young people to solving our water problems and hopeful about the future of our business with these young minds on the job.

Congratulations to all the state winners and thank you for representing New England so well!

**STUDENT DESIGN COMPETITION**

The NEWEA Student Design Competition promotes “real world” design experience for students interested in water engineering and sciences. This is intended for both undergraduate and graduate students, typically completing a capstone project. This competition tasks teams of student members within NEWEA to design and present a program meeting the requirements of a problem statementin one of two catagories:

Wastewater Design (e.g. hydraulic capacity design, upgrades to existing systems, biosolids handling, etc.)

Environmental Design (e.g. sustainability, water reuse, wetlands construction, etc.)

These students are expected to work together as a team to recommend a solution with little assistance from an advisor/professor. The competition consisted of a written report and final presentation.

Northeastern University took –first place in NEWEA’s Student Design Competition. They went on to compete at WEFTEC in October placing 3rd at at this this prestegous national event. This is the second thrd place finish in 2 years!

Congratulations to Sabrina Castenada (CAS-TEN-ADA), Anna Mallonee (MA-LONE-Y, and Joanna Sullivan. Annalisa (ANA-LISA OW-IS HAYDEN) Onnis-Hayden is here to accept the award on behalf of the team.

**OPERATOR AWARDS**

The NEWEA Operator Award is given annually to a person involved in the operations of water resource recovery facilites in each of the six New England states. The purpose of the award is to recognize an individual whose personal service has contributed to excellence in plant operations either directly at a treatment plant or indirectly through assistance to plant operations personnel.

The award will also be presented at each State Association’s Annual Meeting by an officer of the NEWEA.

NEWEA is pleased to present this year’s Operator Award to:

1. **John Bodie**

**Fairfield, CT**

1. **Stacy Thompson**

 **Saco, ME**

1. **Robert Delgado**

 **Barnstable, MA**

1. **Leo Gaudette**

**Nashua, NH**

1. **Charles Laabe (LA-BEAH)**

**Warwick, RI**

1. **Wayne Graham**

**Essex Junction, VT**

**Congradulations to all awardees!**

**ALFRED E. PELOQUIN AWARD**

Established in 1991 as the NEWEA Operations Award, this Award was renamed the Alfred E. Peloquin Award in 1992. The award is given annually to an individual who has shown a high level of interest and performance in wastewater operations in each of the six New England states, and who has made a significant contribution to the wastewater field in such areas as improvements to the environment, cost effective plant operations, public relations, innovative process control, industrial pretreatment, training, Association contributions, and related activities. The award honors NEWEA’s former Executive Director, Al Peloquin, for his initiatives in training programs for wastewater treatment and his many years of dedicated services to the NEWEA.

The award will also be presented at each State Association’s Annual Meeting by an officer of NEWEA.

NEWEA is pleased to present this year’s Alfred E. Peloquin Award to:

**1. Michael Bisi 4. John Adie**

**Glastonbury, Connecticut Concord, New Hampshire**

**2. Andre Brousseau 5. Michael Spring**

**Springvale, Maine Providence, Rhode Island**

**3. Dave Duest 6. Wayne Elliott**

**Winthrop, Massachusetts Essex Junction, Vermont**

Congratulations and thanks to all!**OPERATOR SAFETY AWARD**

The Operator Safety Award was established in 1995 by the NEWEA Safety Committee in order to recognize a wastewater operator for outstanding safety initiatives.

NEWEA is pleased to present this year’s Operator Safety Award to:

**David Aucoin (AWE-COIN)- Providence, RI**

Congratulations, Dave!

**JAMES J. COURCHAINE (CORE-SHANE) COLLECTIONS SYSTEM AWARD**

The Collections System Award was established in 1995 and re-named the James J. Courchaine Collections Systems Award in 1996. The award honors NEWEA member and past NEWEA President James J. Courchaine for his many contributions to the Collection Systems field. The award is extended to a NEWEA member to recognize his/her outstanding efforts in the operations, maintenance, management, or design of a wastewater collections system. NEWEA is pleased to present this year’s James J. Courchaine Collection Systems Award to:

**Angelo Salamone (SALA –MOAN) – Chelsea, MA**

Congratulations, Angelo!

**PAUL KEOUGH AWARD**

This award was established in 1994 in memory of Paul Keough, in recognition of his leadership and efforts to communicate to the public the need to protect the water environment. Mr. Keough was a reporter for the Quincy (MA) Patriot Ledger prior to joining the Regional Office of the EPA where he started as a Public Affairs Officer and worked his way up to Regional Administrator.

NEWEA is pleased to present the Paul Keough Award to:

**Andrew Bramante – Greenwich, CT**

Congratulations Andrew and thanks for your great efforts to inform the public about the subject matter we are also all passionate about.

**YOUNG PROFESSIONAL AWARD**

This Award, established in 2009, recognizes the achievements of a Young Professional engineer, operator, or academic student for contributions to the water environment and NEWEA.

We are pleased to present this year’s Young Professional Award to a member of the operations community. It goes to:

**Allison Fisher – Portland, ME**

Congratulations Allison – keep up your good work as you are the future of our business!

**PUBLIC EDUCATOR AWARD**

This award was established in 1989 to acknowledge those in New England who warrant recognition for their contributions and service to the public education goals of the Association. This award is extended to an individual or individuals who have helped NEWEA achieve its objective of promoting clean water, increasing public awareness, and the need for action in protecting the water environment.

NEWEA is pleased to present this year’s Public Educator Award to:

**Christian Lund – Groton, CT**

Congratulations Chris and thanks for your steadfast efforts to promote environmental awareness.

**ASSET MANAGEMENT EXCELLENCE AWARD**

Established in 2007, this award is presented to a New England agency, organization or an individual within an agency who demonstrates initiative and leadership in the area of asset management.

NEWEA is pleased to present this year’s Asset Management Excellence Award to:

**Plymouth Village Water & Sewer District, Plymouth, NH**

Congratulations to the team from the Plymouth Village Water & Sewer District!

Award is being received by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**BIOSOLIDS MANAGEMENT AWARD**

this award established in 2014, recognizes and honors individuals, groups, engineering firms, specific projects, municipalities, or a specific facility -- whether municipal or industrial -- for their outstanding contributions and accomplishments in the field of biosolids technology and management within New England, and demonstrating a sustained commitment to biosolids utilization.

NEWEA is pleased to present this year’s Biosolids Management Award to:

**James Taylor and the Merrimack Biosolids Composting Team – Merrimack, NH**

Congratulations to Jim and the Merrimack Biosolids Composting team and thanks for your leadership in promoting the beneficial re-use of biosolids!

**ENERGY MANAGEMENT ACHIEVEMENT AWARD**

This Award is given in recognition of achievements by an organization or facility with a written policy, goal, and demonstrated progress toward a downward trend in energy use per unit of wastewater treated. NEWEA is pleased to presnet this year’s Energy Management Achievement Award to:

**Town of Fairfield – Fairfield, CT**

The Town is represented by Bill Norton.

Congratulations to the Town of Fairfield!

**WASTEWATER UTILITY AWARD**

Established in 2006, this award is presented to to a New England wastewater utility or utility’s division in recognition of outstanding performance and management based on a multiple point nomination criteria.

NEWEA is pleased to present the Wastewater Utility Award to:

**York Sewer District, York Beach, ME**

Here today to accept this award is Phil Tucker.

Congratulations to the York Sewer District.

**COMMITTEE SERVICE AWARD**

~~Established in (2016??),~~ the NEWEA Committee Service Award recognizes and honors individuals or groups for their outstanding contributions to active NEWEA Committees. Contributions include supporting ongoing activities, events, programs, publications or the overall mission of NEWEA.

This award is intended to recognize an individual or group who has played a significant long-standing support role in one or more NEWEA Committees but whose contributions do not fit the criteria for other existing awards and have therefore often gone unrecognized.

NEWEA is pleased to present this year’s Committee Service Award to:

**Joy Lord - Lisbon Falls, ME**

Congratulations and our many thanks to Joy for her commitment to NEWEA.

**E. SHERMAN CHASE AWARD**

The E. Sherman Chase Award was established in 1960to recognize members engaged in the operations of municipal and/or industrial water resource recovery facilites and that demonstrate notable accomplishments and achievements in, but not limited to: equipment or process, public relations, management, operations and maintenance, economics, and contribution of information useful to the profession. The award honors E. Sherman Chase, an outstanding professional engineer and pioneer treatment plant operator.

NEWEA is pleased to present this year’s E. Sherman Chase Award to:

**John Vetere – Boston, MA**

Congratulations, John, well deserved!

**CLAIR N. SAWYER AWARD**

The Clair N. Sawyer Award was established in 1976 to honor those who have given truly outstanding services to the Association. The award honors Dr. Clair N. Sawyer who served New England, the Nation, and the World, as a professor, consultant, and technical author, and who pioneered many innovative concepts in wastewater treatment technology.

NEWEA is pleased to present this year’s Clair N. Sawyer award to:

**William Patenaude – Providence, RI**

Bill, congratulations and thanks for your service to NEWEA!

**ELIZABETH A. CUTONE EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP AWARD**

Established in 2013, this award honors NEWEA’s long-time Executive Director Elizabeth Cutone who retired in 2014. The award recognizes exceptional executive leadership of environmentally-focused organizations. It acknowledges an individual who has made significant advances in regulatory, utility, non-profit organizations, or shown leadership of major projects or programs.

NEWEA is pleased to present this year’s Elizabeth A. Cutone Executive Leadership Award to:

**Alan Taubert – Salem, MA**

Congratulations, Alan!

**FOUNDERS AWARD**

In 1928, twelve renowned engineers from the New England area met to establish a professional organization dedicated to the “exchange of knowledge” for the treatment of sewage and industrial wastewater. They envisioned the need to maintain a forum for free discussion and exchange of state-of-the-art information. In honor of these founding engineers and their vision of the present organization, which we now know as NEWEA the Founders Award was established.

This award is given from time-to-time, as considered appropriate, in recognition of long term contributions to NEWEA, dedicated service to the industry in any facet of the water environment, notable achievements or notable accomplishments in the environmental field or in recognition of a renowned individual or individuals.

NEWEA is pleased to present the Founders Award this year to:

**Douglas Miller**

Congratulations, Douglas!

**WATER ENVIRONMENT FEDERATION**

Now we will move on to the Water Environment Federation Awards. These awards will be presented by Jackie Jarrell, P.E., the Federation’s President Elect. Jackie has been with Charlotte Water for more than 29 years. She is responsible for the overall management of the operation and maintenance of five water resource recovery facilities with a total capacity of 123 million gallons per day (MGD). Please welcome Jackie to the podium.

***Jackie Jarrell\_\_remarks (5 minutes)***

***Matt Formica - Speaking***

Thank you Jackie! We appreciate your attendance this morning and the support provided by WEF.

The following awards and recognitions were either presented at (WEFTEC 2018) in New Orleans or else here today for the first time:

**Operations Challenge Winners**

Each year, NEWEA hosts an Operations Challenge event at our Spring Meeting in June. The spring 2018 competition was held in Newport, Rhode Island and included teams from three New England states.

The NEWEA teams included, the “Franken Foggers” (from Connecticut), “Force Maine” (from Maine) and “Ocean State Alliance” (representing Rhode Island). All three teams competed at a very high level and demonstrated exceptional skill in each event as they prepared for WEFTEC 2018. NEWEA would like to thank all of the teams, judges, coordinators, committee members for an outstanding Operations Challenge Event this past year in Newport.

**2018 WEF OPERATIONS CHALLENGE COMPETITION**

NEWEA’s three Ops Challenge teams travelled to New Orleans last fall and competed against the best from around the world. All three teams performed extremely well, and we are proud of how they represented NEWEA.

As has long been the case, our stars excelled against 40 other teams from around the world and brought home hardware in two events. In particular, the NEWEA teams dominated in the Process Control Event, by placing 1st, 2nd and 5th in Division 2.

Please join me in recognizing the “Franken Foggers” from the New Haven, Connecticut who finished 2nd in the WEFTEC 2018 Process Control Event. The “Franken Foggers” team members are: Jason Nenninger (NET-IN-GER), Dan Sullivan, Dan Wolff and Chris Findley

Also join me in rcognizing the team from Rhode Island, “Ocean State Alliance”, who finished 1st in both the WEFTEC Process Control and Laboratory Events. The “Ocean State Alliance” team members are: Eddie Davies, Ryan Pat-node, Pete Rojas and Kim Sand-bach.

Last but not least, we want to recognize the Maine team, “Force Maine” who just missed taking home hardware in the WEFTEC Process Control Event, finishing a mere 30 points behind the 3rd place team who totaled 1,900 points.

Please help me congratulate all of our NEWEA Operations Challenge Teams and to thank all of their coaches and supporters.
**WEF FELLOW AWARD**

The WEF Fellows Award recognizes the professional achievement, stature and contributions of WEF members to the preservation and enhancement of the global water environment. The WEF Fellows program is a prestigious award for outstanding contributions. WEF Fellow applicants are voted on by a selection committee.

This year we congratulate **James Courchaine** (CORE-CHAIN) on the achievement of being selected as a WEF Fellow.

**Congratulations Jim! Well deserved!**

**WEF SERVICE AWARD**

In recognition of outstanding service to the Water Environment Federation, WEF is pleased to present the WEF Service Award to:

**Susan Sullivan** of Lowell, MA

Thank you Susan for your service and dedication to NEWEA.

**~~QUARTER CENTURY OPERATORS’ CLUB~~**

~~The Quarter Century Operators’ Club is a group of members of Member Associations of the Federation who have been significant, full time participants in the water environment industry for a period of 25 years. This Award honors the operators of wastewater treatments plants for their service and dedication in a challenging and dangerous field.~~

~~This year three (3) New England members are joining the Club.~~

~~Please come forward and be recognized:~~

1. **~~Raymond Drew –~~** ~~Middletown, CT~~
2. **~~Brendan O’Regan~~**~~– Haverhill, MA~~
3. **~~Timothy Levasseur~~** ~~– Waterville, ME~~

~~Congratulations Raymond, Brendan, and Timothy!~~

**WEF LIFE MEMBERSHIP**

Honorary WEF Life Membership is extended to persons who have proven their preeminence in the fields of activity encompassed by Federation objectives.

This we have one honorary life membership we wish to recognize. John Struzziery please come forward and be recognized.

**John Struzziery (STRU-ZEE-AIRY),** Hull, MA

Congratulations John!

**WEF-MA AWARDS**

The following Water Environment Federation Member Association Awards, in recognition of the accomplishments of NEWEA Members, are publicly presented for the first time here today.

**GEORGE W. BURKE, Jr. AWARD**

The George W. Burke, Jr. Award was established in 1982 in honor of George W. Burke, Jr. for his many years of service both to the water pollution control field and to the Federation as Manager of Technical Services. Mr. Burke was instrumental in developing the Federation’s annual safety survey and assisting in the production of several safety training aids and promotional packets. The purpose of the award is to encourage an active and effective safety program in municipal or industrial wastewater facilities, and to stimulate the collection and reporting of injury data. The documented and illustrated safety program and safety record of the facility for the preceding year are the primary criteria for the award.

WEF is pleased to present the George W. Burke, Jr. Award to:

**UConn Reclaimed Water Facility (Woodard & Curran)**

Sean Heatherington is accepting the award

Congratulations!

The **LABORATORY ANALYST EXCELLENCE AWARD** was established by the WEF Board of Control in 1993 to recognize individuals for outstanding performance, professionalism, and contribution to the water quality analysis profession.

WEF is pleased to present the Laboratory Analyst Excellence Award to:

**Stephanie Roche-fort – Somersworth, NH**

Congratulations Stephanie!

The **WILLIAM D. HATFIELD AWARD** is given to operators of water resource recovery facilites who through their outstanding performance and professionalism deserve commendation. The Member Associations control the process of selection based on the Federation’s general system of criteria. The award was established in honor of Dr. William D. Hatfield’s years of service as a treatment plant operator.

WEF is pleased to present this year’s William D. Hatfield Award to:

**Francis Russo – Meriden, CT**

Congratulations, to my friend Frank! We’ll deserved sir!

The **ARTHUR SIDNEY BEDELL AWARD** was established to acknowledge extraordinary personal service to a Member Association. The award is named for the second president of the Federation, who exemplified its purpose by his long devotion and service to the New York Sewage and Industrial Wastes Association, now the New York Water Environment Association.

WEF is pleased to present the Arthur Sidney Bedell Award to a person who has made substantial contributions to both NEWEA and the water resource recovery profession. This years award goes to:

**Howard Carter**

**Saco, ME**

Thanks for your tireless devotion to the wastewater profession! Congratulations Howard!

**Awards Committee**

NEWEA would like to thank the Awards Committee and all those who assisted for their hard work in the presentation of this year’s Awards Program**.**

1. **Mike Wilson –** Chair
2. **Jay Sheehan** – Vice Chair
3. **Paul Dombrowski**
4. **Mac Richardson**
5. **Justin deMello**
6. **Sean Greig**
7. **Scott Good-in-son**
8. **Chris Robinson**
9. **Virgil Lloyd**
10. **Bradley Moore**
11. **Justin Skelly**
12. **Mary Lee Santoro**
13. **John Digiacomo**
14. **Doug Miller**

And thanks to the many **NEWEA Committees** for their assistance in bringing forth the nominees. Please give all of these dedicated professionals a big round of applause for their service.

I’ll also take this opportunity to thank our hard working NEWEA staff, Executive Director **Mary Barry**, Programs Director, **Janice Moran**, Communciations Coordinator **Jordan Gosselin** and Office Administrator **Linda Austin** – without their efforts, events like this one would not be possible.

I’m asked to remind all award recipients that the protective boxes/packaging for the awards will be available at the front table after the conclusion of the Program.

***Matt Formica - Speaking***

**PAST PRESIDENT’S PLAQUE**

The Past President’s Plaque and pin are presented to the immediate Past President in appreciation of demonstrated leadership, contributions, and dedicated services to the Association.

NEWEA is pleased to present the Past President’s Plaque and pin to:

**Jim Barsanti**

**Framingham, MA**

Thank you so much for your service, Jim!

*Now I will introduce Janine Burke-Wells for her concluding remarks.*

***Janine Burke-Wells - Speaking Closing remarks***

*Thank you again for your participation and congratulations to all of our outstanding members for their hard work and contributions.*

*Personal remarks.*

*At this time I would like to invite Ray Vermette to join me at the podium for the passing of the gavel.*

(Reminder to show the audience that the gavel is visually being passed)

***Passes gavel***

***Raymond Vermette - Speaking***

Personal remarks.

**Adjourn the luncheon**