

AWWA Webinar Program: Drought Preparedness Response

Wednesday, April 22, 2020

Presenter Biography Information

Veronica Blette – WaterSense Program Manager USEPA WaterSense

Veronica Blette has been with the EPA since 1997 and previously served as special assistant to the director of the national drinking water program and led EPA's drinking water infrastructure financing program. She is currently vice-chair of the AWWA Water Conservation Division.

Veva Deheza – National Integrated Drought Information System (NIDIS), NOAA

Veva Deheza is responsible for the implementation of the National Integrated Drought Information System (NIDIS) and is a NOAA/NIDIS co-lead on the National Drought Resilience Partnership (NDRP). For 20 years, her career has focused on bridging the gap between government, the science community, and the public to distribute essential information on water resource conditions and management.

Carrie Pollard – Water Efficiency Manager Marin Water

Carrie Pollard manages the Water Efficiency Program at Marin Municipal Water District. She has over 18 years of experience in the field of water efficiency and water conservation and started with Marin Water in August 2019. Carrie serves on the Board for the California Water Efficiency Partnership, the Qualified Water Efficient Landscaper Program and the California Irrigation Institute.

William Granger – Water Conservation Coordinator City of Sacramento

William Granger serves as the Water Conservation Administrator for the City of Sacramento. He has more than 24 years' experience working for public agencies designing, implementing and analyzing effective water conservation programs, with a primary focus in water wise landscape transformation. He has been an active member of AWWA water conservation committees and is a newly appointed trustee of the Water Conservation Division.

AWWA Webinar: COVID-19 Implications to Operations, Compliance & Training

April 24, 2020

Presenter Biography Information

Chad Weikel- Education and Workforce Manager American Water Works Association

Weikel is currently the Education and Workforce Manager at the American Water Works Association. He is tasked with enhancing the educational outcomes of AWWA Conferences, Webinars, and eLearning programs. He has also served as staff liaison for the Small Systems Division and Workforce Strategies Committee. He is an experienced instructional designer, specializing in adult learning with blended delivery. Before AWWA, Mr. Weikel designed and delivered programs of instruction for national audiences such as the National Guard Family Program, Big Brothers Big Sisters of America, and the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency. Mr. Weikel holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Health and Exercise Science from Colorado State University, and a Master of Arts degree in Education, Curriculum and Instruction from the University of Phoenix.

AWWA Webinar Program: How to Create Your Digital Plant

April 30, 2020

Presenter Biography Information

Ranbir Saini – Sr Director for Automation Software GE Digital

Ranbir Saini is the senior director of product management for Automation Software at GE Digital, which includes the industry-leading iFIX and CIMPLICITY HMI/SCADA software used by thousands of organizations around the world. Ranbir has nearly 20 years of experience delivering industrial automation, operations management, and media content-creation software to OEM, municipal, and enterprise customers. He has a passion for designing compelling and innovative solutions in the physical and digital space that make a meaningful difference to customers, human experiences, and society. Outside of work, this passion has led him to venture into architectural design such as residential houses and doors as well as having an ongoing pursuit to create the perfect cup of chai.

Steve Pavlosky – Principal Product Manager GE

Steve Pavlosky is the Principal Product Manager for GE Digital's Proficy Historian and Data at the Edge program. With more than 30 years serving in automation and industrial data management, Steve is an Industrial Internet pioneer and firm believer in the value and power of data. His career spans the introduction of GE's CIMPLICITY HMI/SCADA software to leading the company's edge-to-cloud connectivity device portfolio. Having worked with hundreds of customers, Steve is passionate about enabling organizations to get the most performance and reliability from their assets – which starts with secure and efficient collection and storage, contextualizing asset data, and distributing data to the users and applications that derive value from the data.

AWWA Webinar: Facing the New Normal for Credit and Collections During COVID-19

May 1, 2020

Presenter Biography Information

Stephanie Passarelli- Benchmarking Engineer- American Water Works Association

Stephanie Passarelli is a Benchmarking Engineer with the American Water Works Association. She is the staff liaison to the Management and Leadership Division and associated management committees. In addition, Stephanie manages the AWWA Utility Benchmarking Survey, and is staff engineer to several Utility Management Standards. She is a Registered Civil Engineer in the State of Colorado with 20 years of experience in the industry including AWWA, environmental consulting, wastewater treatment facility, and the Water Research Foundation.

AWWA Research Webinar: What's New with Cyanobacteria and Cyanotoxins: A Review of Leading Research

May 6, 2020

Presenter Biography Information

Tarrah Henrie – Senior Scientist Corona Environmental

Tarrah Henrie is a Senior Scientist, with Corona Environmental Consulting. She has over 16 years of experience solving inorganic and organic drinking water contaminant and regulatory compliance challenges for utilities. For the past several years Tarrah has been leading national and local cyanotoxin related projects.

Elizabeth Crafton-Nelson, PhD – Assistant Engineer Hazen & Sawyer

Elizabeth Crafton is a Source Water Quality Engineer with Hazen and Sawyer. Elizabeth assists utilities across the country by working to increase their source water quality and treatability. Her source water management approach encompasses both short- and long-term practices for a wide variety of issues and risk assessment. Elizabeth received her PhD from the University of Akron where she studied cyanobacteria and cyanobacteria-dominated harmful algal blooms. Her PhD research was funded by the Harmful Algal Bloom Research Initiative through the Ohio Sea Grant. During her PhD research, Elizabeth worked alongside a phycologist and botanist with over 40 years of experience who was also a contributing author for the commonly referenced Freshwater Algae of North America textbook. The dual advisement from both the civil engineering and biology departments provided Elizabeth with an interdisciplinary training and education, which makes her a unique asset for assisting with source water management.

Craig Adams, PhD, PE, F. ASCE – Oliver Parks Professor Saint Louis University
Dr. Adams is the Oliver Parks Professor of Environmental Engineering at Saint Louis University. His group conducts research with the aim to provide guidance on oxidation and sorption processes for drinking water contaminants including cyanotoxins, pharmaceuticals, taste-and-odor compounds, disinfection byproducts, and others. He also teaches and works in developing nations on water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) projects.

Chris Owen- Director of Water and Reuse Innovations, Hazen and Sawyer
The Director of Water and Reuse Innovations for Hazen and Sawyer. She has 29 years of experience in water quality, research, treatment and regulatory compliance. Her utility roles have included regulatory compliance, research, laboratory management, source water assessment and protection, and distribution system issues. Research work included investigations of UF/MF/RO membranes, online monitoring, total coliform occurrence, enhanced coagulation, biofiltration, distribution system, corrosion, biostability, ion exchange, chloramine chemistry and stability, contaminants of emerging concern, and algal toxins. She is active in regulatory issues at the state and federal levels, promoting utility concerns and science-based decisions. She served on the USEPA SAB for Drinking Water and the USEPA NACEPT. She is an active member of the American Water Works Association (AWWA), serving as a Trustee and the current Chair of the Water Science and Research Division. She is a Trustee for WaterReuse FL and the President of the Board of Directors for the American Membrane Technology Association. She has been active in the Water Research Foundation (WRF) and the WaterReuse Foundation for more than 20 years.

AWWA Webinar Program: An Experiment in Environmental Leadership: Denver Water Variance Experience

May 12, 2020

Presenter Biography Information

Nicole Poncelet-Johnson – Director Water Quality & Treatment Denver Water
Nicole Poncelet-Johnson is a professional engineer with over 25 years of experience in water and wastewater utility operation, construction, and management and has served as the Director of Water Quality and Treatment at Denver Water since 2017. Starting in 2018, Nicole lead Denver Water's efforts to research and identify an alternative solution to orthophosphate as optimal corrosion control treatment, which has since evolved into Denver Water's Lead

Reduction Program and variance. She's a graduate of Purdue University's Civil Engineering program and holds Colorado Class A operator licenses in water and wastewater treatment.

Tyson Ingels – Lead Drinking Water Engineer Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment

Tyson Ingels is the Lead Drinking Water Engineer for CDPHE. His responsibilities include technical justification for new policy and regulation, acceptance of alternative technologies (e.g. membranes, UV disinfection) within the State, as well as acting as technical expert both on DW design review issues and inspection issues. Mr. Ingels also is primary contact responsible for Drinking Water emergencies and acute situations within Colorado.

Chad Seidel, Ph.D., P.E – President Corona Environmental Consulting, LLC

Chad Seidel, Ph.D., P.E. is President of Corona Environmental Consulting, LLC and an active member of the AWWA Inorganic Contaminants Research Committee. He focuses on improving public health protection by solving water-related engineering, science, and policy challenges

Chris Corwin – Water Process Engineer Corona Environmental Consulting, LLC

Dr. Chris Corwin has over 15 years of experience as a professional engineer and project manager providing the drinking water community with services in process planning, treatment optimization, bench testing, and pilot testing. His research has been published in ES&T, Water Research, and Journal of American Water Works Association.

AWWA Webinar Program: Manganese: Exploring Treatment Technologies Thursday, May 14, 2020

Presenter Biography Information

Phil Brandhuber – Chair of the AWWA Inorganics Committee

Phil specializes in drinking water quality and treatment. His work has involved inorganic contaminants, disinfection byproducts, potable reuse and brine management. Phil received his PhD from the University of Colorado Boulder, and has been the principal or co-principal investigator for ten research projects sponsored by the Water Research Foundation and other agencies. He is the current chair of the AWWA Inorganics Committee and past chair of the AWWA Emerging Water Quality Issues Committee. Phil has 20 years' experience as a consultant, working for McGuire Environmental and HDR. When not working on water quality issues, he can be found hiking and biking in the Colorado mountains.

Milt Larsen – Project Manager and Process Engineer Kennedy/Jenks Consultants

Milt Larsen has a BS and MS in civil engineering from Kansas State University and is a licensed professional engineer in Washington, Oregon, and Hawaii. He is a project manager and process engineer for Kennedy/Jenks Consultants. Milt has conducted manganese treatment evaluations and designed manganese treatment facilities for over 30 years. Milt is a member of the AWWA Inorganic Contaminants Research Committee, Corrosion Control Committee, and chairs AWWA's Scale and Corrosion Control Chemicals Standards Committee. Milt participated in preparing AWWA Manual of Practice M58 Internal Corrosion Control and M64 Aeration and Air Stripping. Locally Milt is a member of the PNWSAWWA Water Treatment Committee.

John Tobiason – Professor and Department Head of Civil and Environmental Engineering University of Massachusetts at Amherst

John E. Tobiason is Professor and Department Head of Civil and Environmental Engineering at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst. BS in Civil Engineering University of New Hampshire (1976), MS in Environmental Engineering University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (1979), PhD in Environmental Engineering Johns Hopkins University (1987). Past President of AEESP and past Chair of the AWWA Water Science Research Division Board of Trustees. He is a registered Professional Engineer (NH), and a Board Certified Environmental Engineer by the AAES.

AWWA Webinar: COVID-19's Financial Impact on Water Utilities

May 15, 2020

Presenter Biography Information

David B. LaFrance- CEO American Water Works Association

David B. LaFrance is Chief Executive Officer of the American Water Works Association, the world's largest and oldest association of water professionals. LaFrance guides AWWA's extensive scientific, educational, and public policy work to build a better world through better water. Prior to joining AWWA in 2010, he was the Chief Financial Officer for Denver Water where, during his 17-year tenure, he also served as the utility's Manager of Rate Administration.

AWWA Webinar Program: Regulatory Concerns and Updates for Inorganic Contaminants

May 19, 2020

Presenter Biography Information

Steve Via – Director Federal Relations American Water Works Association

Steve Via is Director of Federal Relations for the American Water Works Association (AWWA) working in AWWA's Washington, D.C., office. Mr. Via's primary responsibilities are two-fold. First, working with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and other federal agencies on the development of policy and regulations that affect the water sector, and secondly, communicating the basis and substance of federal policy and regulations to the water sector. Mr. Via has more than 30 years' experience in environmental regulatory compliance assistance.

Roger Arnold – Associate Hazen and Sawyer

Roger Arnold is an Associate with Hazen and Sawyer and serves as a subject matter expert in corrosion control and Lead and Copper Rule compliance. Mr. Arnold has 10 years of experience in planning and design of water supply, treatment, and conveyance projects and specializes in distribution system water quality. Mr. Arnold holds a B.S. in Civil Engineering and a M.S. in Environmental Engineering from Virginia Tech and is a licensed professional engineer in Virginia.

Andy Eaton, PhD, BCES – Technical Director Emeritus Eurofins Eaton Analytical

Andy Eaton, PhD, BCES is the soon to be retired technical director emeritus for Eurofins Eaton Analytical (EEA), the country's largest potable water focused laboratory. He has a BA from Antioch College, a PhD from Harvard University, and did postdoctoral work at CalTech. He is the recipient of the Fuller Award from AWWA and the Charlie Carter award from NEMC and previously served as a member of the Joint Editorial Board of Standard Methods. In his 40 years with EEA (and its predecessor organizations– JMM and MWH labs) he has focused on emerging contaminants and trying to tease interesting conclusions out of sometimes boring large datasets.

AWWA Webinar Program: Sensus, a Xylem brand: Create a Smart Utility Network Leveraging Existing Infrastructure

May 21, 2020

Presenter Biography Information

Tom Galuska – Senior Product Manager for Water AMR/AMI for Sensus

Tom Galuska is Senior Product Manager for Water AMR/AMI for Sensus (parent company Xylem). He is responsible for new product initiatives and legacy product support for water communication products. Tom holds a business administration degree and an MBA from Robert Morris University.

AWWA Webinar Program: Corrosion Control (Contaminants of Concern: Managing Lead and Manganese)

May 22, 2020

Presenter Biography Information

France Lemieux – Head of the Materials and Treatment Section Health Canada's Water and Air Quality Bureau

France Lemieux is the Head of the Materials and Treatment Section in Health Canada's Water and Air Quality Bureau and holds a Bachelor's degree in Biochemistry and a Masters' degree in Civil Engineering -Water Resources. France's 32+ year career at Health Canada is multi-disciplinary and varied in nature. She has worked in drinking water for 22 years, primarily as a drinking water treatment specialist. Although she has covered a wide variety of areas including PFAS, Legionella and DBPs, her main focus is corrosion control and inorganics such as lead and copper. She has integrated information on distribution system and small systems challenges into her work at Health Canada. She is a member of various U.S. and Canadian committees on health-based standards for drinking water, treatment units and plumbing standards; Chair of the NSF Additives Joint Committee, a member of the NSF Council for Public Health Consultant and Chair of the Water Quality Association's Public Health Review Board as well as sitting on the Board of Directors of RESEAU Centre for Mobilizing Innovation (RESEAU). Her passion is working with industry, users and regulators to collaboratively achieve positive public health impacts from safe drinking water.

Bofu Li – Dalhousie University

Bofu Li is a PhD candidate and Killam scholar at Dalhousie University, Canada. He received his master's degree at the same university. His research focuses on the corrosion control of distribution systems and biological treatments.

Melinda Friedman – President Confluence Engineering Group, LLC

Melinda Friedman is President of Confluence Engineering Group, LLC, in Seattle, Washington. Melinda has decades of experience providing services related to source water and distribution system water quality evaluation, source water changeovers and new source introductions, regulatory compliance, comprehensive planning, and optimized distribution system and treatment practices. As a recognized leader in distribution system water quality assessments, she has participated in numerous research and training efforts, and has helped to prepare many prominent industry Guidance Manuals published by the American Water Works Association and the Water Research Foundation.

AWWA Webinar Program: Strategies for Understanding and Managing Risk from Lead

May 26, 2020

Presenter Biography Information

Sandra Kutzing – Principal Engineer CDM Smith

Sandra Kutzing is a Principal Engineer at CDM Smith with 18 years of experience in drinking water. Ms. Kutzing has a BS from the University of Illinois in Civil Engineering and an MS from the University of Washington in Civil Engineering. For the past few years, Ms. Kutzing has been working with utilities specifically on optimizing corrosion control and establishing and managing lead service line replacement programs.

Sophie Manley – Sanitary Engineer III City of Chicago Department of Water Management

Sophie Frances Manley: Sophie graduated from the University of Notre Dame with a degree in Environmental Engineering. Since 2016, she has been working with the City of Chicago Department of Water Management as an engineer in the Division of Water Quality. She is passionate about working for a water utility .

Kiran Udayakumar – Water Quality Engineer Arcadis

Kiran Udayakumar: Kiran graduated with a Master's Degree in Environmental Engineering from Michigan Technological University. He works for Arcadis as a Water Quality Engineer in the Water Business Line. He is experienced in water quality, treatment & corrosion control and incorporating digital solutions in his work.

Carol Rego – Water Supply and Treatment Specialist CDM Smith

Carol Rego is among the water industry's leading experts in water quality and corrosion control treatment. With almost four decades of experience as a water supply and treatment specialist at CDM Smith, Carol's expertise spans treatability studies, process selection and drinking water research, water supply planning, water treatment plant evaluation, operations, and design, as well as Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) and Lead and Copper Rule (LCR) compliance.

John Tobiason – Professor and Department Head of Civil and Environmental Engineering
University of Massachusetts at Amherst

John E. Tobiason is Professor and Department Head of Civil and Environmental Engineering at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst. BS in Civil Engineering University of New Hampshire (1976), MS in Environmental Engineering University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (1979), PhD in Environmental Engineering Johns Hopkins University (1987). Past President of AEESP and past Chair of the AWWA Water Science Research Division Board of Trustees. He is a registered Professional Engineer (NH), and a Board Certified Environmental Engineer by the AAEE.

AWWA Webinar Program: The Development and Application of Level of Service

June 3, 2020

Presenter Biography Information

Barry Buchanan – NZ/US Buchanan and Associates 7

40 years supporting the Wet Utilities; 3 Waters; Water Industry, designed, Built, and Operated Systems Serving 5 to 2.3M People, worked for Consultants, Private and Public Water Purveyors, worked in Australasia, Asia, Europe, North/Central/South America, specialize in Infrastructure Planning and Life Cycle Management, founder/Member of: US National Asset Management Steering (US-NAMS) Group, Asset Management Users Group (AMUG), AWWA Asset Management Committee (AMC)

Haydn Reynolds – AUS Haydn Reynolds & Associates

40 years plus of Water Utilities Experience, AM Focus Since the 1980s., Asset Management

Planning , Comparative Performance Assessments, Consulted Internationally for Past 20 Years, working in Australia, North America, England & Scandinavia

Carrie Cox – US Oakland County WRC

Specializing in study and design work associated with utility planning, hydraulic modeling and system control, she holds numerous leadership positions in state and national organizations. Carrie is vice chair of the American Water Works Association's (AWWA) Engineering and Construction Division, and co-chair of the Michigan Water Environment Association's Industrial Recruitment Committee. She also is vice chair of the Michigan AWWA Membership Council. Carrie joined Oakland County in 2013, currently, she is a Chief Engineer overseeing capital asset management and planning, mapping services including geographic information systems (GIS) and sewer system metering for all sewer systems owned and/or operated by Oakland County

Kevin Campanella – US Burgess & Niple

Kevin provides Asset Management and Utility Planning support to help utilities across the US lower their costs, improve service to customers, and manage risks. In 2002, he practiced in New Zealand with internationally recognized authorities in the asset management field. He was the Assistant Director and Comprehensive Asset Management Program Director at Columbus Public Utilities for 7 years before joining Burgess & Niple in 2015 as their Utility Planning Leader.

Richard Kirby – NZ Tasman District Council

Richard Kirby is a chartered P.E. and Fellow of Engineers New Zealand. His career includes: executive management within local government, a private practice consultant, and 20 years plus in asset management. He has chaired the NAMS Group in New Zealand from 1999 to 2005 and has lead the development of several AM guidelines: IIMM, developing LoS and Performance Measures Guidelines

AWWA Webinar Program: Sponsored Webinar from Hach: New Insights and Technologies for Treatment Process Optimization

June 4, 2020

Presenter Biography Information

David G. Miller, P.E – Deputy Director, Water Supply Manchester Water Works

Dave Miller is the Deputy Director, Water Supply for the Manchester Water Works. His responsibilities include providing planning, coordination, and engineering design/support for various waterworks projects as well as personnel and facility management, and he is the primary operator of Manchester's 50 million gallon-per-day conventional water treatment plant. Manchester's drinking water treatment facility is one of only sixteen treatment facilities in the nation recognized by the Partnership for Safe Water for "Excellence in Water Treatment".

Derek Walker – Applications Development Manager – Hach

Derek Walker is an Applications Development Manager for Hach Company and is based in Nashville, Tennessee. Derek holds a Bachelor's Degree in Biological Science from Colorado State University and a Master's Degree from University of Colorado. He has worked in several industry laboratories and has been with Hach Company for 20 years with experience in product development, applications management, and field training. Derek has held a Wastewater Operators license in the state of Colorado and contributes regularly to professional water and wastewater industry chapters and publications.

Carlos Williams – Applications Development Manager – Hach

Carlos Williams has worked in analytical chemistry for the last 17 years in process and laboratory settings. In his time at Hach he has had the privilege of traveling across North America as well as internationally to teach and lecture on topics such as instrumentation, data analysis, and chemistry to help organizations get the most out of their analytical tools. He is currently a Colorado Certified Water Professional. Carlos is based just south of Loveland, Colorado.

Jana Safarik, MBA – Principal Scientist at Orange County Water District

Jana Safarik is a Principal Scientist in the Research and Development (R&D) Department at the Orange County Water District (OCWD). As a member of the R&D Department, she conducts applied research that supports OCWD's operational goals through experimental design and development of new methods and processes. She has managed and participated in studies that include investigating reverse osmosis membrane fouling mechanisms; mechanisms of microfiltration fouling; water quality; and pilot scale evaluations of pretreatment technologies including microfiltration and reverse osmosis. Currently she is leading a study on novel online surrogates, which includes ATP, to monitor reverse osmosis performance in reuse applications.

AWWA Webinar Program: Workforce and COVID-19: Utility Solutions

June 5, 2020

Presenter Biography Information

Joone Lopez – General Manager, Moulton Niguel Water

Jim Horne – Sustainable Utilities Program Manager, U.S. EPA, Office of Wastewater Management
Jim Horne manages a program designed to promote the adoption of sustainable water utility management practices, including those associated with Workforce Development. Under Jim's leadership is working with a range of partners, including AWWA, WEF and others and plans to publish a compendium of water utility workforce case studies this summer as well as host a Water Workforce Webinar series. Jim has been with the Office of Water at EPA since 1988 and has an MPA from the University of Washington

Chad Weikel – Education & Workforce Manager, AWWA

Mr. Weikel is currently the Education and Workforce Manager at the American Water Works Association. He is tasked with enhancing the educational outcomes of AWWA Conferences, Webinars, and eLearning programs. Before AWWA, Mr. Weikel designed and delivered programs of instruction for national audiences such as the National Guard Family Program, Big Brothers Big Sisters of America, and the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency.

Ronald Hargrove – Deputy Utility Director, Charlotte Water

Ron is the current Deputy Utilities Director for Charlotte Water in Charlotte, NC where he has been since 2016. He has over 31 years of public utilities experience serving in various positions including utilities director. He is also the current AWWA Director for the NC section.

Stacy Thompson – Deputy Director, City of Saco Water Resource Recovery Facility

Stacy Thompson has been with the City of Saco WRRD just over 11 years. She is currently the Deputy Director, which entails overseeing the treatment facility, crew and maintenance operations.

Mike Sadowski – Operations Superintendent, City of Saskatoon Wastewater Treatment Plant

Mr. Sadowski has been an employee of the City of Saskatoon Wastewater Treatment Plant, Saskatoon,

Saskatchewan for 13 years in various positions. The previous 5 years as the Operations Manager, and the last 3 months as the Plant Manager. He has spent the entirety of his career in the water and wastewater industry and has extensive experience in the operation of activated sludge plants.