



# Partners in PA

Partnership for Safe Water Update

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# 120

Partners in PA

66 Phase I & II Plants  
53 Awarded Phase III  
1 Phase IV  
12 PFSW Distribution Systems



## The SPOTLIGHT is on: The Partnership Summit



### Wow! What a Summit...



Bob Donnelly

PA-AWWA promised us a get-together to help facilities work through the Partnership for Safe Water Program steps—we got that and more.

The two-day summit was held in Grantville, PA at the beautiful casino overlooking the race track. The program was designed to be highly technical but flexible enough to provide time for group interaction and separate work groups. Presentations discussed issues directly related to the Partnership steps and programs available to assist operators as they move forward.

We also heard about missteps and successes from systems that have been through the Partnership program. In particular, John Bartol, who has been through the Phase III portion twice—with two different water systems—gave everyone a unique look at the development tools used as his staff worked through their self analysis. He felt the program was essential in bringing the staff together on

such key items as process control and filter maintenance.

John said, “the tools provided by the Partnership program were and are the reason behind the success of our recent expansion and our continued improvement.” John also noted that the staff was initially apprehensive about the program, but after preliminary meetings they embraced the effort and benefited from the results.

We also heard from our Phase IV Facility, Carlisle Borough, as Mike McFadden discussed their experiences with the unique challenges required of a facility as they approach Phase IV status. Mike explained changes they made at the plant in both equipment and operations necessary to reach their optimization goals laid out in the program. Mike felt that the goals are clear and the operators recognize what needs to be done to maintain this level of operation. Mike and his staff would welcome your call.

The summit moved quickly both days, run efficiently by the PA-AWWA staff. Plans are underway for a similar event in 2013



PA American at Summit

and everyone considering the Partnership Program for either Treatment or the new Distribution Optimization Program should plan to attend.

If you have any questions regarding the Partnership program or the recent summit, call the PA-AWWA office or your area Partnership Representative.

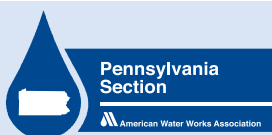
### The guys of Western Berks modeling the PA Section apparel.



(l-r) George Torak, Matt Walborn, Len Bilger and Chip Bilger

The PA-AWWA store is selling fleece vests in black or pine green for \$20. Hats are available in red, brown, khaki and olive green for \$12. They make great gifts!

To purchase items, contact Patty Chila or Nancy Dinger at 717-774-8870 or e-mail [nancydinger@verizon.net](mailto:nancydinger@verizon.net)



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## Welcome Gordon Miller



Gordon Miller, "Gordie" as his friends know him, has come aboard the Partnership for Safe Water Program to help out with the Central portion of the State. Gordie will be currently working part time with Bob Donnelly and Ralph Bliss to assist water systems through the various phases of the Partnership Program. No stranger to the water industry, Gordie is employed at the Chester Water Authority for what will be 30 years in August. He was an operator for 4 years and has been in his present position as the Operations Supervisor for 22 years. Gordie is a certified operator in the State of Pennsylvania and a member of AWWA and WWOAP. Graduating from Millersville State College with a Bachelor of Science in Education degree in 1979, Gordie felt comfortable in the water business and made it his career. He is a recipient of the AWWA's Operators Meritorious Service Award. Gordie notes, among his accomplishments, "our plant is currently a Phase III plant and working hard to achieve Phase IV in 2012."

We welcome Gordon and his years of experience to the Partnership Program and encourage water systems, large and small, to contact Gordie at 610-656-1238 to discuss his experiences with the Program.

## Borough of Carlisle



(l-r) Bob Donnelly, PFSW rep; Kevin Anderson, DEP rep; Mike McFadden, Carlisle Borough Water plant Supervisor; Don Hershey, Executive Director for PA AWWA

The operators of the Borough of Carlisle were honored recently for their work in bringing the Carlisle water treatment plant up to the Phase IV level in the Partnership for Safe Water Optimization Program.

Phase IV status in the Partnership Program is truly a unique standing, placing the plant and the operators as one of only eight facilities nationwide that have obtained this level of optimized treatment. After receiving the award, Plant Supervisor Mike McFadden said "although challenging, the work necessary to realize the Phase IV status brought our entire staff together as a team and provided real and measurable goals and results. The exercise was well worth the time invested and I would recommend that other Phase III level plants investigate this next level in the Program."

The Phase IV level of the Program is an attainable goal for many of the water facilities currently operating at the Phase III point. In fact, many of the plants visited by Partnership representatives throughout the year are already operating at or above the Phase IV level due to the work and techniques learned during the Phase II and Phase III portions of the Program. PFSW Rep. Bob Donnelly noted that "while we have three solid systems currently working toward the Phase IV level at this time, there are many more that are both capable and performing at the levels necessary for consideration."

# Mark your Calendars...May 2-4, 2012

## 64<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference at the Lancaster Marriott in Lancaster, PA

Check out our website at [www.paawwa.org](http://www.paawwa.org)  
for the registration form.

# PA American Water Treatment Plants receive award



**SUSQUEHANNA WATER TREATMENT PLANT** (l-r) Todd Ostir, DEP; Dan Millard, plant supervisor; Don Kessler, operations manager; Ed Krug, plant operator; Tom Smith, plant operator; John Yamona, water quality manager; Len Shebby, DEP. Not in photo: Rex Keyes backup operator for PA American.

This summer PA American — Susquehanna WTP, White Tail Deer WTP, Norristown WTP and Punxsatawney WTP were awarded a certificate from DEP for maintaining Directors Award status for 10 years.

Pa American and their employees continue to demonstrate their commitment to providing high quality water to their customers, not only at these facilities, but at all their other locations throughout PA.

A big THANK YOU to all the PA American operators and maintenance staff for their hard work and dedication to the Partnership for Safe Water Program.



**WHITE TAIL DEER WATER TREATMENT PLANT** (l-r) Front row: Ed Russell, production supervisor; Jennifer Dippery, plant operator; Amy Tull, DEP; Dave Richie, plant operator. Second row: Randy Straub, water quality manager; Jack McKernan, DEP; Scott Sharp, water quality supervisor. Back row: Gary Witmerer, production superintendent; Bob Schnitzler, production manager; Barry Catherman, maintenance relief operator.



**PUNXSATAWNEY WATER TREATMENT PLANT** Front row (l-r): Kathy Pape, PA American President; Sherri Medivitz. Second Row: Jefferson County Commissioner Jim McIntyre; Jefferson County Commissioner Paul Corbin; Mary Munch, Matt Postlewaite, DEP; Tom Zimmerman; Doug Hollenbaugh; John Martino; and David Drozd. Third Row: Bill Sprankle, Brian Henretta.



**NORRISTOWN WATER TREATMENT PLANT** PA American: Stan Szczepanek, Steve Tizia, Sandy Weiss, Tony Tiziana, Kathy Pape, Tim Lagaie, Jim Fabrizio, Ed DiAndrea, Micke Licwinko; Nancy Roncettie, DEP; John Fabian, DEP; Nancy Dinger, PA-AWWA; and Bob Donnelley, PA-AWWA.

*Congratulations  
to All!*

## Evitts Creek



*(l-r) Rodney Marvin, Plant Sup't; Mike Crosten, Plant Technician; Craig Michaels, Plant Technician; Mike Smith, Plant Technician; Brian Martz, Plant Technician; Tom Tressler, Plant Technician; Troy Carnell, Plant Technician; Jason Phillips, Plant Technician; Jeff Repp, City Administrator (holding plaque); Mike Smith, PA DEP; Ralph Hymes, PA DEP; Larry Kenney, Plant Technician; Josh Vanmeter, Electrician; Greg Snyder, Electrician; Terry Boutwell, Utility Maintenance Sup't; Ralph Bliss, Partnership for Safewater*

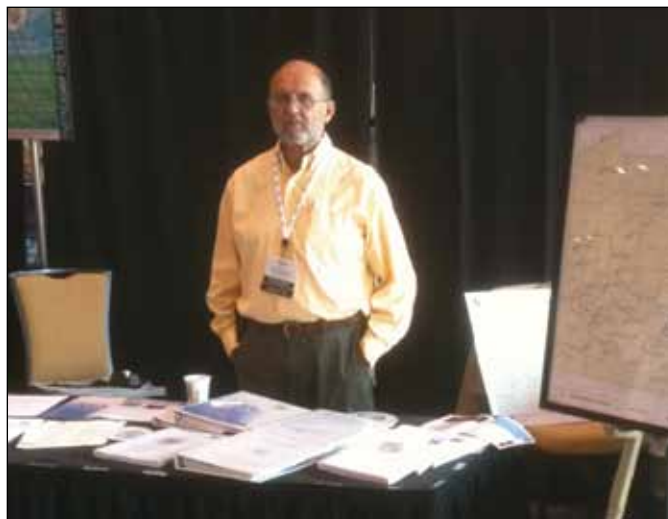
The Partnership for Safe Water is comprised of many varied and interesting water plants. One such plant is the City of Cumberland/Evitts Creek Water Company's water treatment plant which is very distinctive in terms of both location and processes. The plant is located in Bedford County Pennsylvania and provides water to the Evitts Creek community in Pennsylvania and to the City of Cumberland, Maryland.

The City of Cumberland/Evitts Creek Water Company's plant is also one of the few plants that utilize Dissolved Air Flotation (DAF) instead of the conventional sedimentation process. The DAF process brings coagulated particles to the surface of the particle removal basin with thousands of micro-bubbles. The agglomerated particles are then skimmed off the surface leaving behind a clarified DAF basin effluent that feeds the plants 11 multimedia filters.

The City of Cumberland/ Evitts Creek Water Company - who joined the Partnership last summer - utilize their innovative, somewhat unique DAF process to help continuously fulfill their impressive operational standards that mirror the high quality, continuous improvement principles of the Partnership for Safe Water.

## Partnership Reps Attend joint AWWA-WWOAP conferences

Partnership representatives attended, set up a static display and presented at three recent joint AWWA-WWOAP conferences in the north-east and south-east parts of the state. These are key get-togethers for water operators and personnel as they provide recent technical updates and current events important in the water treatment industry. Subjects ranged from new regulation changes to equipment necessary to comply and the all important hands on instruction of new monitoring and data collection tools. For example, an excellent example of data collection and analysis necessary for the "new ground water rule" was provided



*Ralph Bliss PFSW rep at the PMAA conference*

by staff of Aqua PA, providing the operators opinion on how the equipment works in the "real world." With the rapidly changing requirements handed down from the Regulatory community today's operators cannot afford to miss these meetings. The location of the meetings is typically planned to be literally in the operator's backyard and the ceu's afforded the operator for attendance makes the event cost effective and thus a "no brainer." Check your local PA-AWWA website to insure that your facility doesn't miss these or other important gatherings.

*Happy Holidays  
to all the partners!*

from PA Section AWWA

