"... Let me address the role of the WPCF in the lineup. We do embrace a wide spectrum of disciplines and interest, but all under the umbrella of a common devotion to improving the quality of our nation's waters. Admittedly, this spectrum may range from those who wistfully yearn for freedom from all regulations to those who are certain they have an instant formula for immediate utopia by legislative fiat. The biggest asset we have is our credibility, earned over some 50 years, in our status as a not-for-profit educational institution, which will not accept funding from either the Federal government, or any special interests in the private sector. We have sustained this credibility by pursuing a middle course of advocacy of rational actions based on proven fact and national interest. We do not cravenly capitulate to the latest, faddist Federal whim, and we do not truckle to those special interest groups, however well-heeled, who just stonewall for complete laissez-faire."

*Federation President Martin Lang  
1979 Government Affairs Seminar  
Washington, D.C.*
Dedication

This book is about people and a region we know as the Rocky Mountain West. This book is meant to record the beginnings and the coming of age of an organization dedicated to the control of water pollution in this region and, in so doing, become a commemorative history of the people who founded the organization and brought it along. People who come from towns with names like Taos, Medicine Bow, Cheyenne and a lot of places whose names begin with Fort.

Like all histories, it becomes imperfect in the times before living memory when deeds and events cannot be confirmed by record. A veil is drawn across those early years. Yet, through the veil, we are transubstantially aware of those shadow-figures going about their work without the benefits of today's operator. They had no seminars or schools and, more often than not, no backhoes for the heavy work. But, we sense they are there, vaguely seen, crouching in dimly-lit pipe galleries on cold nights, repairing a pump on a holiday, digging into their own pockets for monies to attend a regional meeting. We know so little about them. What we do know is that they were the men who started the organization whose history this is.

So, while they remain in the living memory of a very few, the contribution of these early operators must be acknowledged by all. And, because we believe it is not meet that they should go unremembered and unsung, it is to them that this book is most gratefully dedicated.

Jack Sampson
1987
"... Our industry is rapidly changing in the face of increasing financial austerity brought on by major government funding cutbacks and increasing citizen concern about ever increasing taxes and inflation. These concerns are often apparently in direct conflict with concerns of protecting our natural resources, especially water. This potential and often real conflict will require innovative and aggressive solutions if a successful balance is to be achieved. The Rocky Mountain WPCA is an ideal organization to meet this challenge because of the diversity of disciplines represented. By blending the talents of these disciplines in a manner that allows for meaningful solutions to be developed, the Rocky Mountain WPCA can take the lead in addressing environmental concerns in an ever changing arena.

A challenge then is to create within the Association the mechanisms to blend the disciplines and to allow the environment for innovative and aggressive solutions to emerge. To do this, we must build a strong, viable, ongoing organisation that meets the needs of its members while allowing the maximum number of avenues for contribution."

Association President Bob Hegg
"Rumbles," January 1982
The Early Years
1936-1956

For several years we folks interested in sewerage and sewage treatment, have wished for a local sewage works association. We have felt the need of an annual get-together to talk over the various phases of this increasingly important engineering field, and we have wanted the opportunity of obtaining the national “Sewage Works Journal” at the most reasonable possible rate.

With the formation of the Rocky Mountain Sewage Works Association, during the recent annual meeting of the Rocky Mt. Section, American Water Works Association, our desires have been realized. The membership fee is but $3.00 per year, either for an individual, a municipality, or a firm, payable in advance, and this includes a subscription to the Sewage Works Journal which costs $4.00 per year in itself to everyone who is not a member of this or some other local sewage works association.

We will hold annual meetings, in conjunction with the annual meeting of the Rocky Mountain Section, American Water Works Association, and these meetings will be devoted to the presentation and discussion of papers covering all phases of sewerage and sewage treatment. They will give us folks out here in the wild and woolly West an opportunity to keep abreast of the times in this field. You can see at a glance what this will mean to all of us.

You will surely want to be a member of this Association, and you will undoubtedly want your membership to start January 1, 1937.

With this message, Dana Ewart Kepner, a manufacturer’s representative from Denver, reached out to colleagues and acquaintances, and to people whom he had never met, urging them to join the fledgling organization that he had helped to form in September 1936, during the annual meeting of the Rocky Mountain Section of the American Water Works Association. Kepner was acting as the Association’s first secretary-treasurer, a position his colleagues retained him in through 1943 before elevating him to higher office. The reading of the early records of the Association leaves little doubt that we would not be celebrating our fiftieth anniversary in 1986 without the considerable efforts of Dana Ewart Kepner.

To those who responded to his plea, Dana wrote a welcome message in January 1937 that gives us further insight on the character of our Association in “The Early Years.”

Gentlemen:

May we take this occasion to formally welcome you into membership in the Rocky Mountain Sewage Works Association. At a meeting of the Executive Committee held in Denver January 6th, 1937, your application for membership was approved.

It is customary for the Federation to publish six issues of the Journal each year, and it is assumed that this number will be published during 1937. Just when the first issue will come out, we do not know, but it will probably be after the first of February.

At the time this Association was formed, it was our idea to have our first meeting in the fall of 1937, coincident with the annual meeting of the Rocky Mountain Section, American Water Works Association. However, some of the members have indicated a desire to have an informal meeting prior to that, some time in the near future. Those of you who are interested in such a prior meeting this year, should drop a line to the Secretary-Treasurer and if half a dozen or more of you indicate a desire for this, arrangements will be made. Such an informal meeting should, we believe, be held in Denver. We will appreciate your suggestions as to the most convenient time to hold such a meeting in case enough of you wish to justify it.

It is the desire of the Secretary-Treasurer to have his office act as a sort of “clearing house” for information desired by the members on sewage treatment. Thus, if you have any desires as to particular information on any phase of sewerage or sewage treatment, and can not find it in the issues of the Journal you have received thus far, do not hesitate to drop a line to the Secretary-Treasurer and he will endeavor to obtain the desired information from a competent source and send it to you, or, advise you where you can find it. We ought to make this Association as helpful as possible to every member, but until you indicate how we can help you, we can not cooperate with you to the fullest extent.

In the early years, our organization had as its name the Rocky Mountain Sewage Works Association (RMSWA) and, as explained in its first constitution:

The object of this Association shall be the advancement of fundamental and practical knowledge concerning the nature, collection, treatment and disposal of sewage and industrial wastes, and the design, construction, operation and management of works for the treatment and disposal of sewage and industrial wastes, and the promotion of such treatment and disposal works to aid in the reduction of stream pollution in the
Rocky Mountain Region, through the interchange between the members of this Association and others, of information, experience and opinion relating thereto.

About the time the RMSWA was celebrating its first anniversary, the U.S. Congress was deliberating on a bill that reflected the entire nation’s growing awareness of water pollution and its early approach to solving this problem. The legislation proposed the establishment of a Division of Water Pollution Control within the U.S. Public Health Service; Federal cooperation and stimulation of the pollution control activities of state health departments; and 3.3-1/3 percent grants in aid and loans to municipalities and loans to industries for the construction of remedial sewage and industrial waste treatment works. RMSWA endorsed the proposed legislation and recommended its passage to the Senators and Congressmen from Colorado, Wyoming, and New Mexico. Locally, the Colorado legislature had before it a bill that provided for the licensing of water works and sewage plant operators.

In early 1938, the Denver Public Library began receiving its first copies of the Sewage Works Journal, when consultant F.M. “Andy” Veatch made arrangements to have his personal copy of Journal mailed to the library—an arrangement that was to continue for a number of years.

In 1940, an editorial in the Sewage Works Journal reminds the wastewater industry that, while much of the literature had focused on improved sludge digestion, grease removal and other similar topics, none of these very necessary adjuncts to wastewater treatment improved the quality of effluent discharged from treatment facilities. Many of the nation’s largest cities had no treatment facilities at all, and others had only a small share of their populations served by treatment facilities. Although the provision of only primary treatment was not necessarily an admission of inadequate treatment, cities like Chicago, Illinois, and Columbus, Ohio should receive credit for providing for and paying the higher cost of activated sludge treatment. The assimilative capacity of receiving streams, the editorial contended, should determine whether primary treatment only was adequate, whether primary treatment supplemented by seasonal chemical addition would suffice, or whether biological treatment such as activated sludge treatment was needed.

In 1941, the Association joined with the Colorado Department of Health and the University of Colorado in sponsoring the Rocky Mountain Sewage Works Short School, with the goal of making this an annual event.

In 1942 and 1943, World War II made its imprint on the RMSWA and the wastewater industry, in general. The Association’s Director joins the Navy to do construction work in the islands of the Pacific, and its President takes a job in Omaha to estimate and bid new utility projects for a contractor working at various Army posts in the Missouri Basin. In a news release, the Federation announces its plans for the “Wartime Conference on Sanitation” to be held in Cleveland, October 22-24, 1942.

This meeting is a “must” for the sewage works profession at a time when equipment shortages, materials priorities and wartime operation problems are imposing new operating conditions on thousands of sewage and waste treatment works in the United States. The Third Annual meeting of the Federation is specifically aimed at the solution of these emergency problems.

In 1944, the RMSWA became eligible to designate one of its members to receive the Federation’s “Kenneth Allen Award,” which was the predecessor to the Arthur Sydney Bedell Award, for “outstanding service in the sewage and sewage treatment works field as related particularly to the problems and activities of any Member Association...to be granted to any local group once in three years, according to schedule, in rotation with other Member Associations.”

The Association selected Dana Ewert Kepner as the first of its members to receive this award and, three years later, named Carroll H. Coberly as its second recipient. By 1950, the award had been renamed the Arthur Sydney Bedell Award, and Leonard O. Williams, Jr. was the Association’s first recipient. Coberly was a Denver consultant who replaced Kepner as the Secretary-Treasurer and who, like Kepner, served in this key post for a number of years—and was instrumental in maintaining the momentum of the Association during the Early Years. Williams was the State Sanitary Engineer in Wyoming, and had the longest tenure of any of the Association’s Directors during the Early Years. In 1953, the Bedell Award went to Charles G. Caldwell of the New Mexico State Department of Health.

In 1948, the Federation Board of Directors tentatively selected Denver as the site of the 1950 National Conference. However, the Conference was ultimately awarded to Washington, D.C. because of concern over the small number of members in the Denver area and the burden that would be placed on them for staffing local arrangement functions, and over the adequacy of hotel and exhibit accommodations.

In 1950, Federation Executive Director W.H. Wisely announced that the Sewage Works Journal would become a monthly publication.
Due to increasing activity in the wastewater field, particularly research; the acceptance of the Federation and its Journal as the outlet for information on industrial waste problems; and the increase in Member Associations and, therefore, annual meetings which produce more potential Journal articles.

Accordingly, the cost of the Journal was increased from $4.00 to $6.00 annually, and dues were increased from $3.00 to $5.00.

In 1951, the Federation’s name was changed to “Federation of Sewage and Industrial Wastes Association” to reflect the importance of industrial waste treatment in the nation’s pollution control efforts. Shortly thereafter, the Rocky Mountain Association’s name was adjusted to conform with that of the Federation.
October 2, 1940.

Mr. Dana L. Kepner,
Secretary, Rocky Mtn. Sewage Works Assn.

My Dear Kepner:

As I will not be able to attend the Chicago meeting I hereby appoint you as my proxy to represent our Association at the meeting in Chicago.

Yours very sincerely,

H. G. Watson.

DENVA-DUNG

You can talk of fertilizers
And of farm economizers
And of hormones, many songs must yet be sung
But when it comes to growing
In the one that I'm a-shoutin'
Of the matchless attributes of DENVA-DUNG.

* * *

Blame nay, well-meaning Tol-l-Gro
If the grass is come too slow
And the cuss words put a wrinkle on your tongue.
Just wet down the yard with water
(Good old Moffett Tunnel water)
And around the seeds put wholesome DENVA-DUNG.

* * *

If you fail to win the fight
With far-famed Milorganite
Stop and listen! Here is wisdom, from the bung
Just prepare the bed for seeding
(Rules of horticulture, heeding)
And top it with life-breeding DENVA-DUNG.

* * *

Many another fertilizer
Leaves it's sadder user wiser
When winter comes and summer's song is sung
But, by the hormones that will aid you
And good Denver folks that made you
Ver a better bet than they are, DENVA-DUNG.

F. M. Veatch
Poet Laureate
Black & Veatch
1929
## Officers During the Early Years

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Period</th>
<th>President</th>
<th>Vice-President</th>
<th>Secretary-Treasurer</th>
<th>Director (Rep. to Fed.)</th>
<th>Trustees</th>
<th>Trustee</th>
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<tr>
<td>1936-1937</td>
<td>R.W. Gelder (Greeley)</td>
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<td>1937-1938</td>
<td>C.A. Davis (Denver)</td>
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<td>H.C. McClintock (Boulder)</td>
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<td>L.O. Williams (Cheyenne)</td>
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<td>1940-1941</td>
<td>P.S. Fox (Santa Fe)</td>
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ELEVENTH
Annual Meeting
Rocky Mountain Section
OF THE
American Water Works
Association

Seventh Rocky Mountain Water
Works College
UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO
ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO

FIRST ANNUAL MEETING
Rocky Mountain Sewage
Works Association

September 20-21-22-23
1937

La Fonda Hotel
Santa Fe, New Mexico

The University of Colorado
at Boulder Announces . . .

A SCHOOL FOR
WATER and SEWAGE
PLANT OPERATORS

Monday, March 30, through
Friday, April 3, 1953

At Denver General Hospital,
Sixth and Cherokee Streets

CO-SPONSORS . . .

AMERICAN WATER WORKS ASSOCIATION, ROCKY
MOUNTAIN SECTION
ROCKY MOUNTAIN SEWAGE WORKS ASSOCIATION
UNITED STATES PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE
COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH
NEW MEXICO STATE HEALTH DEPARTMENT
WYOMING STATE HEALTH DEPARTMENT
THE COLORADO MUNICIPAL LEAGUE

Wartime Conference

Eighteenth Annual Meeting

Rocky Mountain Section
OF THE
AMERICAN WATER WORKS
ASSOCIATION

EIGHTH ANNUAL MEETING

Rocky Mountain Sewage
Works Association

SEPTEMBER 20, 21, 22
1944

Cosmopolitan Hotel
Denver, Colorado
1938 Rocky Mountain Sewage Works Association
Annual Conference at Casper, Wyoming.

The Middle Years
1956-1976

This era was one of tremendous growth, change, and maturity for the Rocky Mountain Water Pollution Control Association (Association or WPCA). The change in character reflected a growing environmental awareness and the enactment of more complex and stringent water quality legislation. The organization grew by 350 percent, increasing from 130 to 588 members; and one of them, Leonard Rossi of Arvada, was honored as the Federation’s 20,000th member. The vision of our founders was fulfilled as we became an equal partner with the Rocky Mountain Section of AWWA in advancing our knowledge and stature as water quality professionals. Despite the physical changes, the focus of the organization remained to support the utilities in providing one of our nation’s best values: wastewater conveyance, treatment, and environmental protection at a reasonable cost.

Legislative Perspective

The legislative framework changed so dramatically during the Middle Years that knowledge of it is essential to understanding the driving forces behind the maturity of the organization. As outlined in the following table, at the start of this era only the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899, the Public Health Service Act of 1912, and the 1924 Oil Pollution Act were in force. In 1948, Congress passed the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to provide a comprehensive Federal/State/Local approach to water pollution control. However, it did not establish any Federal water quality goals and did not provide for enforcement. Furthermore, although the act did establish the precedent of Federal financial assistance, this was more concept than commitment as the amount of money actually appropriated was only a trickle compared to that spent in the 1970s.

The writers of the 1948 act must have known that the law would be inadequate as they warned, “... failure to accomplish adequate progress through cooperative efforts of Federal and State Agencies will undoubtedly call for much stronger and more direct Federal enforcement measures at some subsequent session of Congress”. This stronger effort really did not occur until 1972, although seven different pieces of environmental legislation were passed in the intervening 24 years. The first strong Federal financial commitment was established in the “Old Law” of 1956 when a 10-year, 50 million dollar per year grant program was initiated. This program was most beneficial to small projects since grants were limited to 30 percent of the total project cost with a maximum of $250,000. This dollar limit was raised to $600,000 in 1961, and total annual authorizations were increased to 100 million dollars per year.

The first major shift in focus came in 1965 when Congress directed the States to develop water quality standards and use classifications for interstate navigable waters. To administer the national program, the Federal Water Pollution Control Administration was created. Prior to then, the Interior Department managed Federal pollution control efforts.

A year later in 1966, Congress injected a massive dose of money into the program by authorizing 900 million dollars per year and increasing the Federal share to 55 percent. Actual appropriations, however, were less than half of those authorized and the slow pace of pollution abatement contrasted with technological breakthroughs in such areas as the space program. For example, within the span of one month in 1969, the United States both put a man on the moon and saw the Cuyahoga River catch on fire. This frustration led to passage of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 and the growing power of the environmental movement was brought into national focus on Earth Day, April 20, 1970. In response, President Nixon created the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in December 1970.

William Ruckelshaus, first administrator of the EPA, immediately joined forces with the U.S. Corps of Engineers to begin issuing discharge permits based on the 1899 Rivers and Harbors Act. When the permitting approach was struck down by an Ohio judge, Congress sought stronger legislation that would institute national water quality goals, minimum technology-based standards, and a permit program.

The result was PL92-500, which was enacted in October of 1972. This law established the national goals of swimmable, fishable waters by 1983 and zero discharge of pollutants by 1988. To achieve this, Congress authorized over six billion dollars per year and increased the Federal grant share to 75 percent. The complex, 89-page law established the concept...
of minimum levels of treatment with Best Practical Technology mandated for industries and secondary treatment for municipalities. Although some provisions of the law, such as permit issuance, were begun immediately, it took the famous “Consent Decree” lawsuit and three more years before EPA began to issue national effluent and pretreatment standards for industries. The law also set into motion an intricate system for preparing 201 Facility, 208 Areawide, and 303c River Basin Planning.

“Complex” and “protracted” became key words as the time it took to complete projects doubled and tripled under the EPA grants program. Costs also skyrocketed because Federal planning and construction requirements led to project delays during periods of high inflation. Thus, although Congress had established a new and important direction for improving water quality, progress was slow and not without problems. This is understandable given the tremendous legislative shift that occurred in 1972, PL 92-500 dramatically reshaped the Federal/State/Local water quality partnership and changed forever the framework within which the WPCF and its associations were to operate. It took a strong and gifted group of wastewater professionals to guide the Rocky Mountain WPCA through this period while more than tripling its size and improving the stature and knowledge of its members.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Statute</th>
<th>Features</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1899</td>
<td>Rivers and Harbors Act</td>
<td>Establish U.S. Corps of Engineers. Permit system for solids dumped into navigable waters. Purpose was to prevent navigation obstructions.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1912</td>
<td>Public Health Service Act</td>
<td>Investigate the relationship between water pollution and disease.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1924</td>
<td>Oil Pollution Act</td>
<td>Control of oil discharges in coastal waters.</td>
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<td>1948</td>
<td>P.L. 80-845</td>
<td>Established first loan and grant program for plant construction.</td>
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<td>1956</td>
<td>P.L. 84-660, Now Known as &quot;Old Law&quot;</td>
<td>Total authorizations were increased but grants limited to 30% percent or $250,000, Research and technical assistance to states were increased.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1961</td>
<td>P.L. 87-88</td>
<td>Total authorizations increased to $100 million per year and grant ceiling raised to $600,000, Federal suits permitted against polluters of interstate waters without consent of states.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1965</td>
<td>P.L. 89-234</td>
<td>States directed to classify streams according to use and develop water quality standards. FWPCA was created and grant appropriations increased to $150 million per year.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1966</td>
<td>P.L. 89-753</td>
<td>Massive increase in grants to $900 million per year. Federal share increased to 55 percent.</td>
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<td>1969</td>
<td>NEPA</td>
<td>Requires assessment of environmental impacts on major federal projects. Start of EIS procedure on large projects.</td>
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<td>1970</td>
<td>EPA</td>
<td>Nixon creates EPA by reorganizing 15 government units into one agency.</td>
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<td>1970</td>
<td>P.L. 91-224</td>
<td>EPA and Corps begin writing permits. Repealed 1924 Oil Pollution Act and added strong oil control provisions to the Water Pollution Control Act.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1972</td>
<td>P.L. 92-500</td>
<td>Established swimmable/fishable and zero discharge goals by 1983 and 1985. Required minimum, technology-based BPT for industries and secondary treatment for municipalities. Federal share increased to 75 percent and $6 billion per year. 201 Facility, 208 Areawide, and 303e River Basin Planning was initiated. Nixon impounded half of authorized amount in 1972 . . . funds released in 1976. Toxics Consent Decree forced EPA to issue national effluent and pretreatment standards. Land application technology was heavily promoted.</td>
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"This workman on the project probably retired before OSHA made him turn in his cap for a hardhat."

This 1960 photo shows placement of the anaerobic digester slab at Casper's first wastewater treatment plant, a 5 mgd primary treatment facility.
In 1966, the Metropolitan Denver Sewage Disposal District No. 1 placed into service this 117 mgd secondary treatment plant. It was then, and it remains today, the largest single treatment plant in Colorado, Wyoming, and New Mexico. The plant is located in Commerce City, Colorado and discharge is to the South Platte River.

The curvilinear, concrete pipes shown in this 1966 photo are the three barrel sections that comprise the siphon constructed under the South Platte River. Until they were abandoned in 1984, raw wastewater flowed through the pipes to the Central Plant shown above.
Milestones

The Middle Years had many milestones within both the organization and the profession. Perhaps the most important achievement was the shift from discharge of raw sewage to our streams to the near universal use of secondary treatment.

During the late 1950s and early 1960s, the Denver area newspapers gave frequent account of pollution in the South Platte River. Barr Lake, in particular, suffered from bacterial contamination and odor problems. The pollution was due to the increasing amounts of raw and primary treated wastewaters being discharged to the South Platte River and its tributaries. This was from being an isolated circumstance. A 1960 study by the U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare showed that the vast majority of Colorado communities had either no or only primary treatment. This was also true for New Mexico and Wyoming.

In response to these environmental problems and Denver’s burgeoning growth, two cities and 11 sanitation districts came together in 1961 to form a unique partnership to provide secondary treatment for over 700,000 people in the Metro Denver area. Planning, design, and funding activities were commenced and the 117 mgd activated sludge plant went on-line in 1966. In the succeeding 20 years, the plant was expanded to 185 mgd and now serves 1,300,000 people in 21 municipalities and districts.

Three hundred miles to the north, Casper, Wyoming began its program of cleaning up the North Platte River in 1960. Until then, no treatment was provided and raw sewage was discharged directly to the river. As the city grew, so did the health and odor problems associated with discharging untreated sewage. As a result, the Casper Board of Public Utilities built a 5 mgd primary treatment plant that included chlorine disinfection and anaerobic digestion. Like hundreds of communities in our three states, Casper undertook this project without benefit of Federal or State grants. This was to change dramatically in the 1970s and 80s when large grants were used to transform the Casper plant into major regional facility serving Mills and Evansville, plus three other sanitation districts.

The mid 1960s marked the beginning of the Federal/State/Local partnership that was to build the secondary treatment plants like the one in Casper. In Colorado, this partnership started with the establishment of the Water Quality Control Commission in March 1966. This began a new era in how the State managed the quality of surface waters. The new commission established water quality standards, which when coupled with rapid growth, resulted in more treatment plants being built to fill the need. As the plants became larger and more complex, the need for qualified operators became critical. The older and simpler plants had frequently been run by mechanics and public works employees. In many locations, the new plants were too complex for the existing staff to operate.

The increased need for operator training became apparent and a strong push was made by the Rocky Mountain Association for operator training and mandatory certification. In 1971, the Association established the Personnel Advancement Committee to advance operator education and demonstrate the need for mandatory certification. These efforts were rewarded in July 1973 when mandatory certification of operators became law in Colorado. Since then, the Personnel Advancement Committee has expanded its services in all three states and complements the training available in university sponsored short courses and degree programs.

With the passage of PL92-500 in 1972, secondary treatment was established as the minimum requirement and states began to evaluate where more stringent standards were needed. Colorado gained national notoriety by enacting point source phosphorus allocations to prevent eutrophication of Dillon and Green Mountain Reservoirs. These limitations could have restricted growth in Summit County if very low phosphorus residuals were not achieved. As a result, the treatment plants in Summit County were designed to be as advanced as any in the nation, including those that surround the Great Lakes and Lake Tahoe.

Colorado, Wyoming, and New Mexico have many high-quality mountain streams. Due to tremendous resort-based growth, these streams began to receive large quantities of wastewater effluent in the 1970s. Where lake eutrophication was not an issue, ammonia and chlorine toxicity were. Preservation of high quality waters became a critical issue for all three states. New forms of ammonia removal and disinfection were tried and much was learned as technology tried to catch up with growth in sensitive mountain environments.

Other Association milestones during the Middle Years included the creation of Rumbles in 1962, which was designed to keep members in touch between annual meetings. Later, in 1971, the Government Affairs Committee was founded to monitor and provide technical input regarding the growing number of environmental laws and regulations. The Association also hosted the 47th Annual National Water Pollution Control Federation Conference in Denver during October 6-11, 1974. Perhaps more than any other event, this signalled the coming of age of the Rocky Mountain WPCA.

In recognition of this maturity, the Joint Policy Council was created in 1976 with Dwight Sayles as its first chairman. This group is responsible for coordinating joint activities between the AWWA and WPCA and for promoting cooperation and harmony among the two organizations.
Many of the early leaders of the WPCA in New Mexico are pictured in this 1958 photograph that was taken in Las Cruces, New Mexico. Left to right: H.V. Gaines, Jr., Utility Superintendent, Las Cruces; J.W. Clark, professor, New Mexico A. & M.; Charlie Griggs, Assistant Superintendent, Carlsbad; H.S. Groves, Meter Department, Carlsbad; R.P. Lowe, Associate Engineer, New Mexico Public Health Department; Farrell McLean, Superintendent of Water and Sewers, Carlsbad. In the foreground are Ernest Martinez, Manager, Water and Sewers, Taos, and M.H. "Cowboy" Alexander, Water Superintendent, Hobbs, New Mexico.
# Officers During the Middle Years

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Mr. Ernest Martinez
City Water Superintendent
Taos, New Mexico

Dear Ernie:

I want to tell you I think you did a wonderful job as Chairman of the Rocky Mountain Section, A.W.W.A. through the past year. And, the wonderful work you and Rose did to make the convention in Taos a complete success, deserves a special commendation. I don't know when I have attended a convention where it was so evident that the many nice things were the result of the work of just one couple.

All of this leads up, Ernie, to what I have wanted to tell you for sometime, that I have thoroughly enjoyed our friendship over these past many years, and I deeply appreciate the many things you have done from time to time which have made my life happier.

Every good wish to you and Rose.

Sincerely,

Dana Kepner

NEW MEXICO * COLORADO * WYOMING

ROCKY MOUNTAIN SEWAGE AND INDUSTRIAL WASTES ASSOCIATION

MEMBERSHIP CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that ERNEST MARTÍNEZ

is a member of the Rocky Mountain Sewage and Industrial Wastes Association and is entitled to all the rights and privileges connected thereto.

YEAR 1961

President Arthur B. Chapman

Secretary John W. Hernandez
Founding Fathers of the New Mexico Water and Wastewater Operators School, circa 1946.
"Marquee announcing 1974 National WPCF Conference in Denver"
"Hubly is always at the forefront of progress."

"Nelson The Printer may predate even Howard Lacy."

"Is this the way Dr. Dan Linstedt always dresses for dinner?"
The Arthur Sidney Bedell Award

To acknowledge extraordinary personal service to the Member Associations, the Arthur Sidney Bedell Award was established in 1948. Each Member Association is privileged to name one of its members to receive this award, which may be based on organizational leadership, administrative service, membership activity, stimulation of technical functions, or similar participation. The frequency of nomination varies from annually to once in three years, depending on membership. 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 Pollution Control Association. Certificates are presented to the awardees at the Member Association meeting following Board approval of the individuals.

Bedell Awards

Leonard Oliver Williams, Jr. ('50)
Charles G. Caldwell ('53)
R.P. Lowe ('59)
Jack Maguire ('62)
Ernest Hamilton ('67)
William Turney ('70)
K. Daniel Linsteadt ('73)
Allen L. Jones ('74)
James E. Abbott ('75)
James B. Warner ('76)

Jack P. Sampson ('77)
William H. Hormberg ('78)
David Hubly ('79)
Howard W. Lacey ('80)
William J. Page ('81)
Daryl Gruenwald ('82)
William J. Martin ('83)
George D. Sellards ('84)
Bob A. Hegg ('85)
Bob Swedberg ('86)

The George W. Burke, Jr. Facility Safety Award

The George W. Burke, Jr. Facility Safety Award was established by the Board of Control on October 3, 1982, to encourage municipal and industrial wastewater facilities to participate in promoting an active and effective safety program and to stimulate the collecting and reporting of injury data. Each Member Association is eligible to nominate a local municipal or industrial wastewater facility to receive the award. The documented and illustrated safety program and safety record of the facility should be the basis for nomination. Additional criteria for the award may be established by each Member Association. The frequency of the award for each Member Association varies from annually to once every third year. The award is named for George W. Burke, Jr. in recognition of his many years of service to the water pollution control field and to the federation as staff manager of technical services and committee liaison. He was instrumental in developing the WPCF annual safety survey and assisting in the production of several safety training aids and promotional packets. Award presentations will be made at the annual Member Association meetings following Board of Control approval of the nominees.

Burke Awards

Public Service Company of New Mexico, Wastewater Operations Department — San Juan Generating Station ('86)
For the years 1946 through 1954, the William D. Hatfield Award recognized outstanding annual reports on wastewater treatment plant operation. After the first year, awards were made on the basis of plants serving (I) less than 10,000 population, (II) populations of 10,000 to 100,000, and (III) populations of more than 100,000.

This award was revised so that since 1956 it has been given for outstanding treatment plant operation. At that time, the frequency of this nomination was changed to correspond with the Beldin Award which is given each year, alternate years, or each third year, depending on the number of members within the Member Association. Each Member Association is privileged to name one of its members to receive this award. Certificates are presented to the awardee at the Member Association meeting following Board approval of the individuals.

Hatfield Awards

Farrell McLean ('62)  
Larry Faulkner ('65)  
Ray Duggan ('68)  
Robert D. Hall ('71)  
Bobby A. Kocerha ('73)  
Leonard H. Stroud ('74)  
Ralph Sterry ('75)  
Raymond E. Lucero ('76)  
James C. Jamsay ('77)  
Estelle “Hap” Mayberry ('78)  
Max M. Grimes ('79)  
Perry B. Libby ('80)  
Bud Wilson ('81)  
Pat Gamroth ('82)  
Edmund G. Arecheleta ('83)  
Carl Hill ('84)  
Thomas Huston ('85)  
Norman Gaume ('86)

The WPCF Collection System Award was established in October, 1973, and was first presented in 1974. The criteria that have been selected as the basis for the award are: (a) the nominee must have contributed, by original concept and outstanding practical application, to the advancement of the state of the art of wastewater collection, and (b) the nominee’s service must have been distinguished in any of the following areas: management, overall planning, operation and maintenance, facility design, education, training, or research. Publication of reports of each achievement in the Journal of Water Pollution Control Federation, though not required, is especially desirable. To be eligible for this award, one must be a WPCF Honorary, Life, General, Member Association Active, Corporate Representative, Student, or Professional Wastewater Operations Division member.

Collection System Award

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Collection System Awards

Horace L. Smith ('75)
The Philip F. Morgan Medal was established by the Board of Control on October 10, 1963. The award is made for the in-plant study and solution of an operating problem; publication of a paper is not required. The criteria include originality, significance, comprehensiveness, effort, and, most importantly, the verification of an idea. Two award classifications are used for work in (a) plants serving more than 5,000 population, and (b) plants serving less than 5,000 population. To be eligible for this award, one must be a WPCF Honorary, Life, General, Member Association Active, Corporate Representative, Student, or Professional Wastewater Operations Division member. This award honors Philip F. Morgan, who served with distinction as professor of sanitary engineering at the State University of Iowa from 1948 to 1961. An outstanding practical researcher, he maintained a strong interest in plant operation. Certificates of Merit may be awarded in addition to the primary award of a plaque.

Morgan Medals

James D. Phillips ('74)
Dave Sellards receiving Bedell Award.

Presidential Quartet. From left: Howard Lacy, Clark Tuck, Bob Swedberg, and Bob Hegg.

Chris Christenson receiving Life Member Award.
Recent Times
Phase 1
1976-1981

The period from 1976-1981 is noted for its demand for organization and structure, as well as activism on the governmental front and at the Federation level. As the association grew and became more active, a friendly rivalry began to emerge with the sister organization, AWWA. This seemed to lead to both increased camaraderie within the Association leadership and conflict among the overlapping membership when dealing with complex issues such as water quality standards and changing regulations. The Joint Policy Council was established during this period to address areas of mutual concern and it became the mechanism for resolving issues that affected both organizations.

During this era, the Government Affairs Committee became more active in providing oral and written testimony to both state and Federal agencies. The Association broke with tradition and went so far as to register Dave Hubly, then chairman of the committee, as a lobbyist with the State of Colorado. Although there was some trepidation that this could impact the Association's tax exempt status as an educational organization, the move is indicative of the strong emphasis placed on becoming a stronger voice in the regulatory affairs that affected all members. Some of the committee's positions, however, were not in agreement with the views of all Association members. This was the case when in 1980, the committee recommended that EPA's grant program be changed to a low-interest revolving loan program, free from Federal administrative requirements. While this proved to be a visionary recommendation, it was not shared by all members.

The Association presidents during 1976-1981 indicated that the focus of this period could be summarized as follows:
- Membership Growth
- Government Affairs
- Organization and Structure
- Financial Management
- Fun

In addition, the leadership strove to maintain the balance between municipal, consultant, manufacturing and educational interests. This was the original vision of the founder, Dana Kepner.

Some of the specific milestones of this era included establishment of the Joint Technical Activities Committee in 1978, with the first luncheon seminar being held during October 1978. In 1981, this committee expanded their technical programs to include brown bag seminars at several universities. The increased opportunity for participation spawned a new monthly newsletter, *Rumbles Supplement*, which was designed to provide more frequent communication regarding events and other Association activities.

The importance of having fun to sustain the well being of the Association leadership was also recognized by this group of leaders. They mastered the art of being productive, professional, and silly all at the same time. The comraderie so established created lifetime friendships and became the hallmark of the Rocky Mountain WPCA.

1976-1977
Highlights

- The Association became incorporated for the first time and a $500,000 insurance policy was purchased.
- Articles of Incorporation were drawn up to augment the constitution and by-laws.
- EPA Region VIII presented the first OSM award to the Aspen Sanitation District.
- The Government Affairs Committee held seminars in Denver and Grand Junction on the EPA Grant Procurement Process.
- The Steering Committee established long term goals for the organization.

1977-1978
Highlights

- The Joint Policy and Procedures Manual was adopted.
- The Association jointly sponsored a seminar with the Wastewater Treatment Equipment Representatives (WATERS).
- The Government Affairs Committee commented on the Land Treatment Policy of the Water Quality Control Commission and the criteria used in the review of wastewater treatment facilities.

- Howard Lacy set 3 main goals for his term as President:
  - increase member participation in association activities
  - increase membership by 30%
  - increase WPCA impact on government regulations and programs

- Lacy instituted the President-elect position and recommended using this person as the committee chairman coordinator.

- The monthly newsletter, *Rumbles Supplement*, was created to provide more frequent information on Association activities and events.

- The Association, as well as the Federation moved from being reactive to regulations and programs to a more proactive role.

- The Association updates its Constitution and By-laws.

1978-1979

**Highlights**

- The Personnel Advancement Committee wrote a seminar manual and held their first laboratory and management seminars.
- The RMWPCA donated $500 to help fund the operator certification manuals.

- The Government Affairs Committee registers Dave Hubly as a lobbyist.

- The Association works to influence appointments to the Colorado Water Quality Control Commission.

- The Joint Technical Activities Committee produces a manual of operations.

1979-1980

**Highlights**

- The President and Government Affairs Chairman testified before the Colorado Water Quality Control Commission on water quality standards.
- Comments were submitted to the Governor of Colorado regarding the lack of data on the economic costs of meeting storm standards
- GAC begins Leaders Luncheons.
- The RMWPCA won the Federation membership award in its size category.
- A Post Construction and Plant Startup Committee was established as an advisory resource for operators.

- The Association is granted 501 (c) tax exempt status from the Internal Revenue Service.
- The Government Affairs Committee registers Dave Hubly as a lobbyist.
- The Association works to influence appointments to the Colorado Water Quality Control Commission.

1980-1981

**Highlights**

- Committee chairmen begin to prepare Committee Structure and Activities Manual.
• An award system is established for recruiting new members.
• A study of the Secretary Treasurer's position results in recommendations for restructuring the duties of that position.
• A Technical Resources Committee was established to provide speakers for other groups.
• Government Affairs Committee activities include:
  —commenting on the General Accounting Office Report Re: Wastewater Treatment Plant Failures.
  —participation in the State/EPA Agreement Process.
  —commenting on the nomination for the Colorado Water Quality Control Commission.
• The Joint Technical Activities Committee under the direction of Mark Maxwell, produces a Sludge management paper which is subsequently published in Water Engineering and Management. Sanctioning of such papers by the Association becomes a difficult issue due to the diverse views of the membership, and a future papers program is not established.
• The Association adds a Director elect position to give new Directors additional experience.
• A Joint Student Activities Committee is established.
Recent Times
Phase 2
1981-1986

The 80's began with a big boost in membership and program expansion—one challenge of the most recent five years has been to sustain the momentum of the prior period. This was a challenge that was met by the Hegg—Swedberg—Hubly—Gruenwald—Schuyler era—and met. For example, while Federation membership dropped by 30%, the Rocky Mountain Association sustained a steady membership of 850 to 900 throughout this period, reaching 1000 by Fall 1985.

The Government Affairs Committee continued to expand its mission, commenting at the National and State level, taking on public education and meeting with legislators. A Conference Management Manual was drafted, and perfected by the Conference Resources Committee (let it be known that the committee was also jokingly referred to as the Conference Takeover Committee by both AWWA and WPCA). This committee was combined with the Conference Management Committee in 1984-85. Management and budgeting were emphasized, and the budget process included 5 year cash flow forecasts which demonstrated the need for the 1982 dues increase. New policies were adopted regarding expenditures and savings were invested in higher yield funds.

A Regional Conference hosted by Association in early 1982 resulted in closer ties among the other Federation associations in the Rocky Mountain West.

The Special Assignments Committee coordinated completion of the Committee Guidelines Manual—an invaluable resource for new chairmen. This committee also began the 50-year history project in 1984.

In 1986, a Public Education Committee was formed to expand the public relations and educational program functions, and separating this function from publications committee.

A social subcommittee was created by the Membership Committee—offering volleyball tournaments, ski trips and basketball games, a tour of Los Alamos and much more.

The Professional Wastewater Operations Division was formed by the Federation in 1984-85, and the Rocky Mountain Association had sufficient members to elect a zone representative by mid-1985.

The Joint Technical Activities Committee expanded the number of seminars and tours and total membership participation in the events continued to grow. This committee also established a program to select university student papers for presentation at the annual AWWA/WPCA conference.

Similarly, the Personnel Advancement Committee/Action Now Seminars, jointly sponsored by WATERS, Inc., increased in frequency and size and specialty areas such as laboratory practices were added. On a lighter note, this era saw President Bob Hegg introduce his Executive Committee and Committee Chairman quiz in 1981. Results of the quiz, which is presented in the next section, are being withheld at the request of those leaders who flunked it!
### Officers During the Recent Times

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>President</th>
<th>President Elect</th>
<th>Vice-President</th>
<th>Secretary-Treasurer</th>
<th>Directors</th>
<th>Trustees</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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<th>Year</th>
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<th>Trustees</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
Program

60TH ANNUAL MEETING
ROCKY MOUNTAIN
SECTION OF THE
AMERICAN WATER
WORKS ASSOCIATION

and

50TH ANNUAL MEETING
ROCKY MOUNTAIN
WATER POLLUTION
CONTROL ASSOCIATION

BRECKENRIDGE, COLORADO

SEPTEMBER 7-10, 1986
In 1936, Dana Kepner and 27 other wastewater professionals founded the organization now known as the Rocky Mountain Water Pollution Control Association. This group was first called the Rocky Mountain Sewage Works Association since it was a component of a larger organization known as the Sewage Works Federation. In 1951, the Federation changed its name to the "Federation of Sewage and Industrial Wastes Association" and in 1962 the parent organization adopted its present name of the "Water Pollution Control Federation."

Despite the name changes, the local organization never lost touch with its constituents and now has over 1,000 members. As illustrated on the bar charts, much of this growth occurred during the Middle Years when membership increased at a compound rate of about eight percent per year. This era also saw the combined cost of Federation and Association dues increase from $5 to $25 as the organization expanded the services provided to its members.

Perhaps the most striking part of the membership graph is the 210 person increase that occurred in 1974. This represents almost one-fifth of the Association's current membership! How could such an increase occur in just one year? The answer appears to be that Howard Lacy was the membership chairman that year and he had some very effective techniques for recruiting new members. When asked, Howard would not divulge how he accomplished this feat saying only that he used some "gentle persuasion."

Jack Sampson had this to say about Howard's membership recruitment work:

"The abrupt and spectacular rise in the membership over the 1973-1974 period was no accident. It is attributable to the work of one man, Howard Lacy. By forceful selling of the WPCA to the engineering firms in the three state area and encouraging them to underwrite the membership of many of the younger engineers, Howard literally doubled the membership in a single year. It is the only time that the Section has ever won the International Membership Award and the results of the increased membership were of great and immediate benefit—an additional director and eligibility for the Bedell and Hatfield Awards on an annual basis."

Howard went on to serve the Association as both President and Director. But at no time was it better served than when he was membership committee chairman.

It was an important effort, however, because the Rocky Mountain WPCA hosted the 1974 WPCF Conference in Denver. The national conference spurred a great deal of interest and it was a project behind which all of the members rallied. Hosting the national conference was a major undertaking and it showed that the Rocky Mountain WPCA had really come of age. Howard's work and the national conference provided the foundation upon which Association leaders were able to double membership in the succeeding 12 years.

Another driving force behind the growth of the Rocky Mountain WPCA is that the wastewater industry expanded exponentially in response to legislative and public pressures. More people became involved in pollution control activities and many looked to the WPCF to fulfill their educational and professional needs. This tremendous increase in membership also brought an even more dramatic change in the makeup of the organization. Complex and stringent water quality laws demanded that more engineers and technicians get involved in the business of cleaning up the nation's waters.

The change in membership composition can be vividly seen by turning to page ______ which shows about 80 of the members who attended the 1958 conference in Denver. Of the members shown, only four people, or about five percent, were engineers! If the same picture were taken in 1986, over 27 percent would be engineers. Although most engineers would be consultants, many also would be with utilities and regulatory agencies. Thus, it appears that engineers comprised the bulk of the membership increase during the Middle Years and now play a larger role in the organization.

As different as the makeup is from the "old days," it is expected that membership composition will change again as the EPA construction grants program is phased out and increased emphasis is placed on operation, enforcement, ground water, and hazardous wastes. The Association has always used such changes as opportunities to serve a greater and more diverse group of members. Continuation of this approach will create an even stronger and larger organization in the next 50 years.
Cost of Membership

Year


Annual Cost of Membership, $/Year

$60 $55 $50 $40 $30 $25 $22 $12 $10 $3 $0

0 $10 $20 $30 $40 $50 $60

$12 $10 $5 $3 $0
Jackson, Wyoming has been the site of the Annual Conference 7 times.
Every year since 1936, an annual conference has been jointly held with the Rocky Mountain Section of the American Water Works Association. Someone attending all 50 conferences would have visited 14 different cities in three different states. Some places, such as Jackson, Denver, and Santa Fe have been very popular and the conference has returned many times to these cities.

For the first ten years of the organization, the conference met principally in Denver and there was no plan for rotation of the site among the three states. One reason was that until 1946, membership in New Mexico was very low and few attended the annual meeting. In 1945, the action of one man, Charles G. Caldwell, changed all of this and made New Mexico a powerful force in the Association.

Mr. Caldwell was Director of Environmental Services for the New Mexico Department of Public Health and he was the only representative from New Mexico at the 1945 conference in Denver. He knew that holding the conference in New Mexico would be a tremendous boost to the New Mexico Water and Sewage Works Association. It appeared, however, all but set that the 1946 conference would be in Cheyenne since that was the home town of the incoming president, W.V. Leonard.

With some encouragement from others at the Denver meeting, Mr. Caldwell requested that Santa Fe be considered and a formal vote was taken. Although many hands went up for both Cheyenne and Santa Fe, the clincher came when Mr. Leonard stood up and cast his vote for Santa Fe. It was clear that the vote was not really for or against one city or the other. Instead, it was a vote to strengthen New Mexico's own organization and have that State assume a prominent role in the Rocky Mountain WPCA and AWWA.

When the meeting was held in Santa Fe in 1946, thirty members from New Mexico were there and conference attendance set a new record. Clearly, this was the start of something good and the members determined that the conference should visit both New Mexico and Wyoming on a regular basis. It was decided that one conference each would be held in New Mexico and Wyoming for every two in Colorado and this rotation has been adhered to since 1946.
"Some are born to lead; Some are born to follow."

"And he's still following."
"This was not a big money maker for the Building Fund."

"Mirror, mirror on the wall...?"

"Meet Mr. Dynamo... Bill Martin"
"I am the President! I am the President!"

"And you thought dinner was a bit off key."

"You ask why most of our leaders are bald... its the Initiation Ceremony!"
Rocky Mountain Water Pollution Control Association Life Members

Qualifications

Shall be a person who has been an Active Member, Professional Wastewater Operations Division Member, or representative of a Corporate, Consultant, Contractor, or Associate Member, in one or more Member Associations for a combined total of at least thirty-five years and who has reached the age of 65 years at the time of application for transfer to Life Member. Applications for Life Membership shall be in the form of a signed affidavit requesting transfer to Life Member and designating years of membership and date of birth. Applications shall be submitted to the Executive Director of the Federation or to the Member Association Secretary. The Member Association Secretary shall forward the application to the Executive Director of the Federation.

The Executive Director of the Federation shall review Life Membership applications and forward them to the Life Membership Committee with recommendations for action.

Life Membership applications will be reviewed and approved by the Life Membership Committee, if no basis for rejection is determined, within 60 days of receipt at the Federation Office. Approved applicants shall be notified of transfer to Life Member within 30 days of Committee action.

Prospective Life Members who have completed thirty-five years of membership by the end of 1989 but who have not reached the age of 65 by that date may apply for and be granted Federation Life Membership.

Name | Year Joined
--- | ---
Robert P. Lowe | 1943
Joseph B. Hanlon | 1946
V.A. Vaseen | 1947
Robert R. Yarabeck | 1948
C.W. Christenson | 1949
William F. Turney | 1949
Walter Weers | 1950
Carl Hodgkinson | 1951
Howard Lewis | 1951

Privileges

Shall have all the rights and privileges of a Member Association Active or Professional Wastewater Operations Division Member.

Shall pay no Federation dues and shall receive, without cost, those publications of the Federation that the Board designates for the member class to which the member belonged at the time of transferring to Life Member. Federation Life Members shall not, however, by virtue of such membership, be relieved of paying dues to Membership Associations to which they may belong unless such dues are waived by such Member Associations.

The granting of Federation Life Membership to a representative of a Consultant Member, Corporate Member, Contractor Member, or Associate Member shall not relieve the Consultant, Corporate, Contractor, or Associate Member from paying dues.
Coveted by those who know, questioned by those who do not, and treasured by their owners, the small gold shovels, worn on lapels at Association and Federation meetings, signifies membership in a very select society. A member in this society is called a “sludge shoveler” and is bound by all the rules and regulations as set forth by both the National and Chapter organization. Sludge shovelers are sworn to secrecy on some of the most basic regulations and as such certain information cannot be fully described in this writing. So secret are the societies “cartillions” that members will deny they exist, claim they’ve never even heard of them or just shake their heads in disbelief that one, even another sludge shoveler, dares to ask. But they hold each “cartillion” as a truth and no sludge shoveler would violate the trust signified by “wearing the shovel”.

There are several theories on how the society first began. One theory was perpetuated by the great granddaughter of a digester operator in Mars, Ohio. She claims to have heard two men discussing the organization with her grandfather when she was just a little girl. Others claim it was started in Massachusetts by a group of scholars commissioned to clean up certain harbors and waterways, and another was generated years ago by an operator whose wife found a strange piece of jewelry in the back of his camper following his return from a Federation meeting in Las Vegas. The beginning is important but not to the point where it detracts from the future and I cannot verify the date or place of “The Real Beginning.” (Cartillion No. 7).

Members are selected by sludge shovelers on the basis of merit. The first sludge shoveler selected for the Rocky Mountain Chapter was Jim Phillips from Colorado Springs in 1963. He was followed in 1964 by Howard Lewis and so on through the years. A list of members accompanies this writing but do not be alarmed if two of its members are not included.

Those who are selected for membership are not notified in advance. They are inducted into the society during the business luncheon at the Association’s annual meeting and first learn about their selection as they are called to come forward to participate in the initiation, induction and integration ceremonies. The ceremonies are conducted by a sludge shoveler known as the “influent integrator”.

The induction ceremonies are interesting. The “influent integrator” babbles a few words while the hopefuls sit back in their seats. Each member of the audience, except the selection committee, waits to see who will be named. Finally it comes—the names are called and the ceremony continues. In recent years, two people have been inducted together. This is done to ease the pain of standing before your peers, twirling a small plastic shovel in the air while repeating the name of the organization three times in rapid succession:

“Select Society of Sanitary Sludge Shovelers”
“Select Society of Sanitary Sludge Shovelers”
“Select Society of Sanitary Sludge Shovelers”

The influent integrator says a few words and its over. Each recipient is given a certificate requiring signatures of other sludge shovelers and each receives the coveted shovel. They return to their seats and the Chairman introduces the next speaker. No one knows the next speaker, who he is or what he has ever said. No one has ever remembered him and probably never will.

Someone: “Maybe next year.”
His Friend: “I thought you would get it.”
Someone: “It’s really kind of silly isn’t it.”
Friend Again: “But you deserved it.”
Some One Again: “So did you.”
Friend: “Maybe next year.”
And So On: “I hope so.”

By Anonymous
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Members</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1963</td>
<td>Jim Phillips</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1964</td>
<td>Howard Lewis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1965</td>
<td>Alton Ragsdale</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1966</td>
<td>C.F. Robertson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1967</td>
<td>G.W. Christenson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1968</td>
<td>Bob Lowe</td>
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<tr>
<td>1969</td>
<td>Al Jones</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1970</td>
<td>John Puntenney</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1971</td>
<td>Toni Rossi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1972</td>
<td>Dan Linstedt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1973</td>
<td>S.R. Jenkins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1974</td>
<td>Howard Lacy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1975</td>
<td>Carl Houck</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1976</td>
<td>Bill Korbicz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1977</td>
<td>Jesse Lunsford</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1978</td>
<td>William F. Turney</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1979</td>
<td>Hal Kepner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1980</td>
<td>Darryl Gruenwald</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1981</td>
<td>Bill Page</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1982</td>
<td>Bob Swedberg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1983</td>
<td>Ed Archuleta</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1984</td>
<td>Clark Tuck</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1985</td>
<td>Ron Schuyler</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1986</td>
<td>Pam Pepper</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Quiz for Executive Committee and Association Committee Chairmen

The following quiz is mandatory for all WPCA Executive Committee and Association Committee chairmen. A passing grade is optional, but may help you avoid embarrassment in front of your fellow WPCA members.

Questions

1. As a committee chairman I can vote on actions taken by the Executive Committee.  
   T  F

2. As a committee chairman I can add members to or remove members from my committee.  
   T  F

3. As a committee chairman I can initiate new activities without Executive Committee approval.  
   T  F

4. As a committee chairman of a parallel committee to a Joint AWWA/WPCA committee I am responsible to report to the Joint Policy Council.  
   T  F

5. As a committee chairman I can appoint subcommittee chairmen for my committee.  
   T  F

6. As a committee chairman I should keep the coordinators for my committee activities in the dark.  
   T  F

7. As a committee chairman I should strive to do most of my committee work on my own in order to prove my value to the Association.  
   T  F

8. As an officer or committee chairman I should avoid Executive Committee meetings where I can assess my duties relative to other Association Activities since I wouldn't be a honcho if I didn't already know these things.  
   T  F

9. As a member of the Executive Committee I should use the meetings to put egg on the President’s face.  
   T  F

10. As a committee chairman I should only deal with the President.  
    T  F

11. The purpose of the Coordinating Committee is to mask a golf date for the Officers and Directors on the committee.  
    T  F

12. The goal of the WPCA Conference Management Committee is to gain a superior position on AWWA and take over the Annual Conference.  
    T  F

13. The trustees' role at Executive Committee meetings is to review Association activities from their perspective and to voice their opinion and vote accordingly.  
    T  F

14. Membership is the responsibility of the Membership Committee; therefore, I don't have to carry WPCA membership applications with me at all times.  
    T  F

15. Multi-state involvement is a tough issue and should be handled by future officers and committee members.  
    T  F
As everyone *knows*, many examination questions can be written so that differences of opinion could conceivably exist on the correct answer. Given this understanding, the following are presented as desired answers:

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<td>1. F</td>
<td>6. F</td>
<td>11. F</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. T</td>
<td>7. F</td>
<td>12. F</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. F</td>
<td>9. F (watch this one!)</td>
<td>14. F</td>
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<tr>
<td>5. T</td>
<td>10. F</td>
<td>15. F</td>
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**All Correct Answers:** You truly are an asset to the Organization and should provide enlightened leadership.

**5-10 Correct Answers:** This was a WPCA quiz and you may have interpreted it from the AWWA point of view. Take the quiz again and *screen out* any extraneous thoughts, *settle down*, *assimilate* your notes, *digest* them and *ultimately dispose* of the clean water perspective.

**Less than 5 Correct Answers:** Please check your pants to make sure that your zipper is up and ask a policeman for directions to your house.

**Key**
Organizational Structure

Original Structure — 1936

Executive Committee

As Secretary-Treasurer, Dana Kepner handled most functions

Current Structure — 1986

Executive Committee

Joint Policy Council
- Joint AWWA/WPCA concerns
(See Next Page)

Administrative Programs
- Organization & Development
- Government Affairs
- Special Assignments

Educational Programs
- Personnel Advancement
- Technical Activities

Promotional Programs
- PR/Publications
- Awards
- Membership
- Conference Management
The Joint Policy Council was formed several years ago to provide a forum for discussion of matters of mutual interest to the Rocky Mountain Section of AWWA and the Rocky Mountain WPCA. In this role, the council assists the leadership of RMWPCA and RMAWWA by setting policies and providing coordination relative to the joint activities of the two Associations. The focus of these activities has been the Joint Annual Meeting and the Joint Committees which serve both organizations.

The council meets at least twice each year at the Annual Meeting and at the Governing Board Meeting. Additional meetings are scheduled at the request of the RMAWWA Chairman and RMWPCA President to discuss specific matters which are of immediate interest. Through these meetings each organization is appraised of the concerns of the other and problem areas are resolved prior to becoming major issues.
During the Association's fifty years of existence, outstanding leaders and active members have implemented far-reaching programs that have had considerable impact on the entire Water Pollution Control Federation. However, the future will bring new challenges that will require even greater effort from the leaders and members of the Association. One of our greatest challenges is our large geographic boundaries which include areas of sparse population. These boundaries stretch the degree of services we can provide and will require an innovative approach to continue to meet these needs. The Association has potential for an even broader membership base, especially to include more operators, plant supervisors, and laboratory personnel. Impact at the local, state and Federal level, as well as the Federation level, is an area where activity must not only be continued, but enhanced. Many other challenges face the Association as it begins its next fifty years.

These challenges, although great, will be taken in stride by the synergistic blend of young and old, operator and engineer, manager and employee, local and regulatory personnel, that have made and will continue to make the Rocky Mountain WPCA the "melting pot" of the water pollution industry. Pride, hard work, good friends, teamwork, capable leadership, and plain good fun describe the privilege of being a Rocky Mountain WPCA member. The goal for those of you that brought us here and those that are joining the team is to make the future history of the Association happen in the same positive manner of our fifty year legacy.
Acknowledgements

The following individuals made a major contribution to the content, preparation, and printing of this 50-year history of the Rocky Mountain Water Pollution Control Association. Many other people participated in the work, however, and the efforts of everyone who made this a reality is gratefully appreciated.

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