Pre-Expo Workshops Provide the Key to Better Education

This year NAWT provided three educational workshops the weekend before the start of the Pumper and Environmental Expo. These workshops provide an opportunity to spend a significant amount of time looking at one specific aspect of the industry; allowing in-depth discussion and interaction with individuals and firms that all face the same challenges. The workshops were conducted by practitioners that are not only familiar with the problems and challenges that service providers face every day, but they also actively work in these same areas. If you have not taken advantage of these sessions in the past you may want to mark the dates on your calendar for 2015 so you do not miss them!

A workshop was conducted on Design Principles this year. All attendees praised the in-depth approach to design in the context that all those involved with an onsite system need to understand. The workshop was not regulation driven, the objective was to provide principles that installers and service providers can use in the context of their state or local regulations. The principles remain the same regardless of how the regulations change or do not change. It provides a philosophy of how to approach design. Designing for the long term is important because it should provide for long term system management that is built in and ensures that corners are not cut. The relationship between designer, installer, and client is the key to a “good” system that will last indefinitely which should be a goal for everyone. Dave Gustafson and Jim Anderson provided the classroom instruction. For the hands on field activities, Jeff Rachlin assisted communicating his experience in the field.

The inspection workshop was presented at the operation level. The first day covered the basics of onsite wastewater treatment and system types using a troubleshooting perspective. The second day includes a step-by-step procedure to conduct a system inspection. It requires attendees to locate and identify all parts of the system, assess their condition, and determine if they are operating properly. A good share of the day is spent actually looking at systems in the field. Instructors for this course were Jim Anderson and Bob Wright with assistance from Tom and Todd Frank along with Mark Hacker. Between them they have more than 60 years of experience with onsite treatment systems! In addition, Ray Erb and Frank Parker from Pennsylvania were there to offer insight and guidance into Point of Sale real estate inspections. All of these individuals own and operate their own businesses.

The facility where the second day of these workshops was conducted is Camp Camby which is a short half hour bus trip from downtown Indianapolis. The classrooms are well equipped and spacious. The camp due to its numerous facilities and buildings offers the opportunity to inspect a variety of systems from conventional gravity feed to trenches to advanced technologies to drip irrigation. Julie Haan, a registered sanitarian from Hendricks County Department of Health participated bringing her knowledge and expertise to the systems inspected. Denise Wright, a chief training officer for the Indiana State Department of Health was on site to provide information about Indiana regulations.
Pre-Expo Workshops Provide the Key to Better Education
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These workshops where there are people that were directly involved in all aspects of the system provide an educational event that is unique. The users are present, the state regulator is present, the local regulator is present and the installer and service provider are also available. We are only able to provide this because of our association with the Expo.

Finally, the vacuum truck driver technician training was offered by Bruce Fox. This hands on workshop goes through the purpose and operation of a vacuum truck. It is a must workshop for anybody new to the industry or even “old timers” to brush up on the technology. Sharing solutions to common problems faced in a variety of pumping situations makes this worthwhile for everyone no matter how experienced.

So if you want to go beyond sitting in the classroom for your continuing education credits join us for one of these unique events next year.

2014 Hapchuck Scholarship Recipient

Carolyn Phillips is NAWT’s 2014 Hapchuck Scholarship recipient. She is from Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania and recently moved to New York City. She is currently attending Pace University and is double-majoring in History, Modern Languages, and Cultures. She is a writer for Pace’s Honors Newsletter and is currently working to create a German Club at her school that will start in the fall. In the future, she hopes to work for the International Olympic Committee.

NAWT Excellence in Service Award

It is that time of the year to remind everyone to prepare their nominations for the NAWT Excellence in Service Award. The award is presented annually at the state association breakfast during the Water and Wastewater Equipment, Treatment and Transport Show (WETT) prior to the Ralph Maachio Lifetime Achievement Award. The breakfast will be held on Wednesday February 25, 2015.

The NAWT Board established the Excellence in Service Award in 2010. This award replaced the “Man of the Year” award presented in the past. Establishment of this award reflects the changing industry and provides the opportunity to recognize any individual or company that the NAWT Board feels has exhibited exceptional service to the wastewater profession. The nomination criteria and instructions are provided below. Nominations should be submitted by October 1, 2014.

Basis for Award
To recognize a NAWT member or NAWT sponsored individual or company that has shown exceptional accomplishments in their service to the community and to the wastewater profession.

Nomination Criteria
The Excellence in Service Award is based on one or more of the following criteria:

• Made a significant contribution to the wastewater profession and/or to NAWT

To learn more about NAWT, call NAWT at (800) 236-6298, or visit www.nawt.org or email NAWT at info@nawt.org.
To apply for the NAWT Scholarship 2015

The assignment is to build a short story around the following two photographs. A homeowner is meeting with the septic professional to discuss why his system is not working properly as indicated by the floating manhole riser. The story should include why the system may have gotten that way and what will need to be done.

Information provided in the short story should be referenced to websites or articles where the information can be found. You can change or enhance the photos and be creative about how the story is told. It can be a written story (no more than 1500 words) a video; cartoon etc. Be creative!

NAWT Excellence in Service Award 2015 (Continued from Page 2)

- Provided a commendable service during a significant community or national event that occurred within the last several years
- Accepted additional responsibilities that resulted in a benefit to the community or wastewater industry
- Actions performed were above and beyond the call of duty
- Provided inspiration to others
- Exhibited exceptional leadership

Nomination Instructions

Who can nominate?
- NAWT members in good standing that have personal knowledge of the accomplishments of the nominee.
- Liaisons from NAWT affiliated organizations who have personal knowledge of the accomplishments of the nominee.
- Nonmembers may make recommendation through any NAWT member or liaison

Who can be nominated?
- Anyone that meets the nomination criteria
- Past non-winning nominees

When to submit nominations:
- All nomination forms must be received by or postmarked October 1, 2014. Any applications received after the deadline will be placed on file for the next calendar year.
- All post deadline nominators will be contacted of this fact and given further instructions.

Documentation required:
- An Excellence in Service Award application form, which can be obtained by:
  - Call the NAWT office 800-236-6298
  - Email info@nawt.org
  - Downloading from the NAWT website at www.nawt.org
- A nomination letter explaining why the nominee should be considered for the Excellence in Service Award based on the Award criteria and signed by the nominating individual. (Continued on page 4)
NAWT Excellence in Service Award 2015

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- Supporting documentation such as news article(s) highlighting the nominee’s achievements and signed endorsement letter(s) to vouch for the nominee’s achievements may be included, but are **not required**.
- Submit the application packet to the NAWT office marked ATTN: Excellence in Service Award Committee via:
  - Email to info@nawt.org
  - US mail addressed to NAWT, 3150 W. Higgins Rd; Suite 105, Hoffman Estates, IL 60169

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The NAWT Newsletter, *NAWT News*, is a quarterly publication that is distributed to all NAWT members via mail and eBlast with a circulation of 2500 (it is also archived and available to access online. If you are interested in promoting your business, the following information will help you get started.

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For more information please call NAWT at (800) 236-6298 or email us at info@nawt.org.