

JOINT MEETING NEWS

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**VOLUME 15, ISSUE 2
FALL 2010**



Martinson and Albuquerque Reach 30-Year Milestone

Executive Director **Samuel McGhee** (center) congratulates Administrative Secretary **Ana Albuquerque** (left) and Pre-Treatment Coordinator **Cathy Martinson** (right) for achieving their 30-year anniversary with Joint Meeting. Throughout the years, both Ana and Cathy have served as valuable assets to the organization, and their efforts helped bring Joint Meeting to the level of excellence we currently experience.

See page five for more milestones.

Upcoming Events

November 15-19, 2010. 95th Annual New Jersey League of Municipalities Conference at the Atlantic City Convention Center, Atlantic City, New Jersey. Workshops for municipal officials.

May 9 to 13, 2011. NJWEA 96th Annual Conference and Exhibition, Bally's Hotel and Casino, Atlantic City, NJ.



A newsletter of the Joint Meeting of Essex and Union Counties, a wastewater treatment plant serving eleven member municipalities:

East Orange
Hillside
Irvington
Maplewood
Millburn
Newark
Roselle Park
South Orange
Summit
Union
West Orange

Also serving:

Elizabeth
Livingston
New Providence
Orange

2010 Joint Meeting Board of Directors

Officers

Kathleen M. Leventhal,
Chairperson, Maplewood
Edward A. Brewer, Jr.
Vice Chair/Secretary, Hillside
Ronald C. Rice,
Treasurer, Newark

Members

Alicia Holman, *East Orange*
Edward A. Brewer, Jr., *Hillside*
Lebby C. Jones, *Irvington*
Thomas McDermott, *Millburn*
Modesto Miranda, *Roselle Park*
Howard Levison, *South Orange*
Richard Madden, *Summit*
Joseph Florio, *Union*
Patricia Spango, *West Orange*

Executive Director
Samuel T. McGhee

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Employee News

Joint Meeting recently filled openings in the Site Services department with the hiring of **Tom Shanks**, **Kazimierz (Kaz) Kowalski**, **Antonio Diaz** and **Bill Moore**.

Tom Shanks rejoins Joint Meeting after spending 25 years in the transportation industry as a mechanic as well as a driver. **Kaz Kowalski** joins Joint Meeting after a distinguished 29-year career with White Systems of Kenilworth, NJ. He held various positions there and gained a wealth of experience prior to White relocating out of state.

Antonio Diaz joins us after working 13 years in supervisory level positions with B & B Best Buy Food (11 years) and Maximum Quality Foods (two years). Antonio resides in Roselle, NJ and graduated from Elizabeth High School. **Bill Moore** joins Joint Meeting after working as a teacher in Georgia and a Correction Officer in Essex County, NJ. Bill also has his BA degree from Rutgers University. Bill has transferred from Site Services to the Operator Trainee Program.

We are pleased to welcome back **Charles Motley** to Joint Meeting's Site Services Department.

Four individuals have been hired for the September 2010 Joint Meeting's Operator Trainee Program. The new trainees are **Rodney Holman**, **Eric Reaves**, **Anthony Dimino** and **Ocquan Morris**. Rodney hails from East Orange, NJ, graduated from Montclair High School and attended Gibbs College. Eric is from Irvington, NJ. He graduated from Union High School and attended Union County College. Anthony is from Toms River, NJ. He graduated from Valley Forge Military Academy and received his associates degree from Ocean County Community College. Ocquan graduated from Linden High School and resides in Newark, NJ.

Joint Meeting extends a warm welcome to all of our new employees and trainees and wishes them the best of luck.

Adris Hariprasad has transferred into the Boiler Operations Department. Adris has been with Joint Meeting for four years. Good luck to Adris in his new position.

Clyde Lauderdale will be missed as he begins his retirement. Clyde worked as a Boiler Operator for Joint Meeting and was affectionately considered our elder statesman. He was always a gentleman and served as a positive role model for many employees. We wish him and his wife Seanie all the best.

Promotions

Joint Meeting is pleased to announce the following appointments:

Steve Feller has been promoted to Operations Manager II. Steve began with Joint Meeting in October 1988 as an Operator and has been a Shift Supervisor since 1993. He holds both S-4 and C-2 NJDEP Operator Licenses.

Paul Cuttino has also been promoted to Operations Manager II. Paul started his career with Joint Meeting as an Operator in November 1990. He was promoted to Shift Supervisor in June 2003.

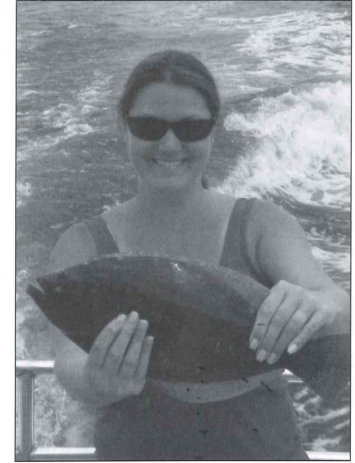
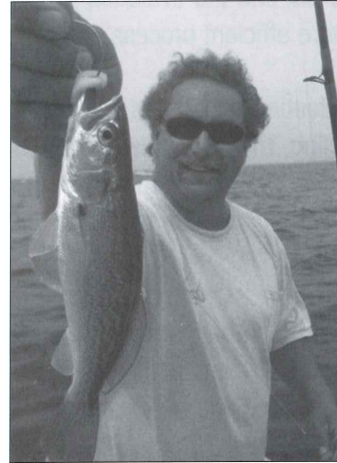
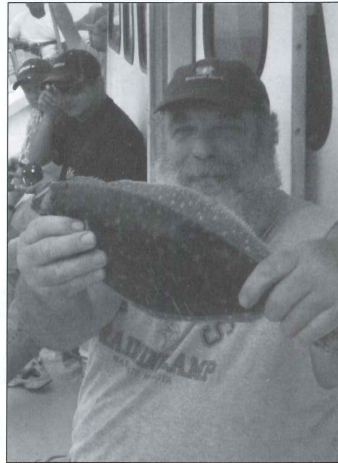
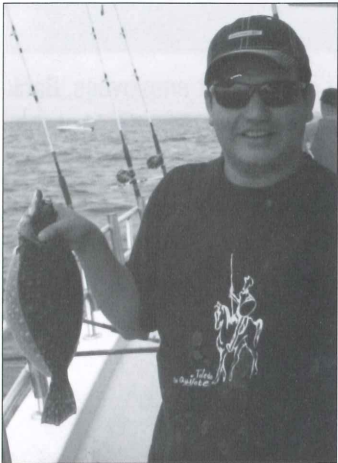
Peter (Skip) Kaciupski has been promoted to the position of Training Coordinator. Skip has been with Joint Meeting for 25 years and has been Operations Team Supervisor since 1988. He will be responsible for the training of new employees as well as coordinating ongoing education for current employees. Skip holds an S-2 NJDEP Operator License.

Rick Stafford has been promoted to the position of Safety Officer. Rick has been with Joint Meeting for eight years, the last six as an Operations Team Supervisor. He will be responsible for all safety related functions as well as providing education and training in the areas of Safety. Rick holds multiple Advanced NJDEP Operator Licenses.

Glen Riscen has been promoted to the position of Operations Shift Supervisor. Glen began his career with Joint Meeting working as an Operator for six years and then moved into his most recent position as Maintenance Mechanic. He holds multiple NJDEP Operator Licenses.

Joseph Osborn has been promoted to the position of Operations Shift Supervisor. Joe started with Joint Meeting in 2007, bringing with him over 15 years experience in Wastewater Treatment, working both as an Operator as well as in Supervisory positions. Joe holds multiple NJDEP Operator Licenses.

Please join me in congratulating our colleagues in their new positions.



Top: Friends, family and colleagues of Joint Meeting enjoy each other and a great day of fishing.

Bottom left to right: **Julio Cabrera**, a member of our Laboratory staff, proudly displays one of the successful catches of the day. **Gary Tate**, from Sludge Handling, enjoying a relaxing day of fishing, shows off his catch. **Vinny Makfinsky**, from our Laboratory Team, demonstrates that fishing is about quality not quantity. Michele Fairchild, daughter of **Nelson Fairchild** in Mechanical Services, shows off the pool-winning catch of the day.

Beautiful Day for Fifth Annual Employee Fishing Trip

For the fifth consecutive year, on August 21, 2010, employees, family and friends sailed from the Cliffside Marina in the Sewaren section of Woodbridge for an eight-hour fluke fishing trip organized by Laboratory Supervisor Vincent Makfinsky. They sailed from port on the Jackpot II fishing boat at 7:00 a.m.

The employees who were on board for the trip were Glen Riscen, Diane Burkowski, Pete Kaciupski, Shawn Kaciupski, Julio Cabrera, Gary Tate, Nelson Fairchild, Chris Pabst and Vinny Makfinsky, as well as several family members and friends of employees.

The weather was good with a little rough waters, making the trip interesting. Although the haul was light, everyone had a great time this year and they look forward to another sea adventure in 2011.

Columbia University Masters Students Tour Joint Meeting

Columbia University students recently toured the Joint Meeting sewerage facility in Elizabeth. These students are part of Dr. Kate McFadden's class and are enrolled in a Master's of Public Administration in Environmental Science and Policy.

Joint Meeting Superintendent Joseph Bonaccorso began the tour with a one-hour presentation on Joint Meeting's history and its water treatment methodology. Students were briefed on such items as how the plant responds to heavy rain events, the various stages of the water sanitation process, and the evolution of the wastewater technology toward a more efficient process.

The students were told how Joint Meeting operations contribute to water conservation through recycling. They were also informed about the latest technologies such as the cogeneration facility and how it will generate electricity by burning methane produced during the anaerobic digestion of the waste.

These students will become our future environmental professionals and policymakers. Tours of our facility enhance their studies with hands-on learning which will be invaluable to their understanding and future success.

Educational institutions that are interested in touring the Joint Meeting of Essex and Union Counties facility in Elizabeth, New Jersey should contact Joseph Bonaccorso at 908-353-1313.



Joseph Bonaccorso, Superintendent of Joint Meeting, welcomed students from Columbia University on a tour of the facility. Mr. Bonaccorso provided the students with an in-depth explanation of the processes and operation of the plant.



Joint Meeting is pleased to present our newest employees. Back row, left to right: **Rodney Holman**, **Ocquan Morris**, **Antonio Diaz**, **Anthony Dimino**. Front row, left to right: **Tom Shanks**, **Eric Reaves**, **Bill Moore**, **Kazimierz (Kaz) Kowalski**

\$885,000 Rebate Goes to Joint Meeting for Cogeneration Project

New Jersey's Clean Energy Program (NJCEP) provides significant financial incentives and assistance for clean, renewable energy projects in New Jersey. The renewable energy incentive program (REIP) provides incentives that reduce the upfront cost of installing renewable energy systems, including solar, wind, and sustainable biomass. Incentives vary depending upon technology, system size, and building type.

The Joint Meeting's 3.2 megawatt (MW) Cogeneration Project utilizes biogas (digester gas) and became eligible under the program's strict requirements and we therefore applied for a rebate on August 14, 2008. The facility became fully operational by September 16, 2009 and the project was approved for the rebate program on October 22, 2009. The final inspection took place on December 7, 2009 and a "Passed Inspection Report" was received on January 15, 2010. A check in the amount of \$885,000 was issued to the Joint Meeting on July 22, 2010.

The facility produces about 1.4 million KW of electricity per month thereby saving customers more than \$1 million annually.

See page six for photo.

Celebrating Milestone Years of Service

Administrative Secretary **Ana Albuquerque** and Industrial Pretreatment Coordinator/Laboratory Director **Cathy Martinson** celebrated their 30th anniversaries with Joint Meeting.

Ana has served as the "gate keeper" for several Executive Directors during the past 30 years. Her ability to successfully adapt to changing environments while providing consistency to the office of the Executive Director has proven to be invaluable to the employees and Joint Meeting.

Cathy joined Joint Meeting in May of 1980 as a Lab Supervisor and was soon promoted to Industrial Pretreatment Coordinator/Laboratory Director. Cathy has overseen the growth of both departments while introducing data management capabilities, increasing efficiency and productivity, and seeing the addition of a new laboratory/office building. Throughout her career with Joint Meeting, Cathy has been acknowledged on numerous occasions by the NJDEP for the excellent performance of the Industrial Pretreatment program and the laboratory.

Congratulations to both women for their years of hard work and dedication to the Joint Meeting. Other employees reaching service milestones are:

25 YEARS

Stan Wojcik, Wastewater Operator
Joseph Mazza, Wastewater Operator

15 YEARS

Pete Vlasakakis, Site Services Worker
Steve Dowhan, Sr., Project Manager

10 YEARS

Reneece Porter, Operations Team Supervisor
Steve Mercandetti, Environmental Officer

5 YEARS

Melanie Follmer, Laboratory Technician
Steve Pascucci, Chemical Engineer
Eugene Rivera, Site Services Worker
Ray Jimenez, Manager, Information Technology
Ed Pochevka, Wastewater Operator
Rudy Johnson, Security Officer
Devlon Phillips, Mechanic

Perfect Attendance

Nine employees achieved a perfect attendance record for the 2nd Quarter of 2010. Those individuals achieving a record of no lateness, no sick time and no absences are:

Curtis Brown, Team 1
Carlos Cabral, Sludge Handling, Team 4
Julio Cabrera, Laboratory
Morgan Frierson, Primary, Team 5
Harby Guerrero, Secondary, Team 1
Adris Hariprasad, Dewatering, Team 5
Raymond Jones, Boiler, Team 1
Rudy Johnson, Security
Stan Wojcik, Sludge Handling, Team 5

Eighteen employees achieved a perfect attendance record for the 3rd Quarter of 2010. Those individuals achieving a record of no lateness, no sick time and no absences are:

Carlos Cabral, Sludge Handling, Team 4
Julio Cabrera, Laboratory
Morgan Frierson, Primary, Team 5
George Garcia, Dewatering, Team 1
James Gibson, Site Services
Harby Guerrero, Secondary, Team 1
Adris Hariprasad, Dewatering, Team 5
Oscar Javier, Electrical
Carlos Jimenez, Secondary, Team 3
Keith Kilgore, Boiler Operations
Robert Leskin, Boiler Operations
Ralph Madera, Primary, Team 1
James Murdoch, Mechanical Services
Jairo Nunez, Primary, Team 2
Manny Roman, Dewatering, Team 3
Frank Romeo, Site Services
Ziggy Szczesny, Electrical
Stan Wojcik, Sludge Handling, Team 5

Contacts for Unionized Employees

Teamster's Local 641

714 Rahway Avenue
Union, New Jersey 07083
908-686-8898

Teamster's Welfare Fund

Dental, vision and prescription plans

2185 Lemoine Avenue
Fort Lee, New Jersey 07024
1-800-365-0082

New Appointments to Joint Meeting Board

Ms. **Patricia Spango** has been appointed by the town of West Orange to fill the position of outgoing board member Sal Anderton. Ms. Spango will serve on the Operations Committee, Public Relations Committee, and Ad Hoc Special Projects Committee.

Joseph Florio has been appointed by the Township of Union to fill the position of outgoing board member Anthony Terrezza. Mr. Florio will serve as Chairman of the Operations Committee. He will also serve on the Public Relations Committee and Ad Hoc Litigation Committee. Mr. Florio had previously served as a member of the Board.

We welcome Ms. Spango and Mr. Florio to the Board and thank Mr. Anderton and Mr. Terrezza for their service.



Executive **Director Samuel T. McGhee** (far right) presents the Joint Meeting Board of Directors with a check from the NJ Office of Clean Energy at the October 21st meeting. From left to right, rear row are members **Richard J. Madden** (Summit), **Modesto Miranda** (Roselle Park), Mayor **Thomas C. McDermott** (Millburn), **Lebbey C. Jones** (Irvington), and **Alicia Holman** (East Orange); front row are **Edward A. Brewer, Jr.** (Hillside), Board Chairperson **Kathleen M. Leventhal** (Maplewood), **Patricia Spango** (West Orange), and **Joseph Florio** (Union).

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Joint Meeting of Essex and Union Counties

Wastewater Treatment Plant
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Elizabeth, N.J. 07202
(908) 353-1313
FAX (908) 353-7925

Joint Meeting Administrative Staff

Executive Director
Samuel T. McGhee

*Deputy Executive
Director/Chief Engineer*
Ralph LaMendola, P.E.

Superintendent
Joseph Bonaccorso

Director of Admin. and Finance
Position Vacant

Director of Human Resources
Robert Barry

Industrial Pretreatment Coordinator
Cathy Martinson

Sr. Project Manager
Stephen Dowhan

Purchasing Officer
Robert Sforza

Asst. Board Sec./Financial Asst.
Patricia Rufolo

*Asst. Superintendent
Operations/Maint.*
Alex Durand

*Asst. Superintendent
Collection System*
Jim Paluch

Operations Manager
Ramon Vara

Safety Officer
Rick Stafford

Board Committees 2010

The Board of Directors committee assignments for the 2nd half of 2010 are:

Operations Committee

Chair: Joseph Florio
Ronald C. Rice
Howard Levison
Patricia Spango

Public Relations Committee

Chair: Howard Levison
Modesto Miranda
Patricia Spango
Joseph Florio

Finance & Budget Committee

Chair: Edward A. Brewer, Jr.
Thomas C. McDermott
Lebbey C. Jones
Alicia Holman

Personnel & Procurement Committee

Chair: Ronald C. Rice
Edward A. Brewer, Jr.
Richard Madden
Lebbey C. Jones