

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

2002 Joint Meeting Board of Directors

Officers

Lebby C. Jones,
Chairperson, Irvington
Anthony Terrezza,
Vice Chair/Secretary, Union
John G. Kulish,
Treasurer, Hillside

Members

Sal J. Bate, Millburn
Gayle Chaneyfield Jenkins, Newark
P. Kelly Hatfield, Summit
Mary E. Patterson, East Orange
Allan Rosen, South Orange
Gerald W. Ryan, Maplewood
Melanie Selk, Roselle Park
John H. Skarbnik, West Orange

Executive Director
Bryan J. Christiansen

JOINT MEETING NEWS

Spring 2002

Volume 7, Issue 1

Lebby C. Jones Chosen Board Chairperson for 2002



Pictured above is Hon. Lebby C. Jones of Irvington who was voted by the Board of Directors as its new Chairperson for the year 2002.

Hon. Lebby C. Jones of Irvington was selected by the board to serve as the Chairperson of the Board of Directors of the Joint Meeting of Essex and Union Counties for the year 2002 at Joint Meeting's regular monthly meeting held on January 17, 2002.

Chairperson Jones has served on the Joint Meeting Board since 1998. In addition to her Joint Meeting position, Ms. Jones has

been a member of the Irvington City Council since 1994. She is currently a guidance counselor in the City of Newark public school system and was a member of the Irvington Board of Education, serving as president from 1993 to 1994.

Chairperson Jones has been a Democratic district leader for the South Ward of Irvington since 1986. She was an executive board member of the Irvington branch of the NAACP. After earning a bachelor's of arts degree from Claflin College, she received a master's degree in social work from Kean University.

At the January board meeting, new officers were also chosen by the full board. Hon. Anthony Terrezza of Union was elected as the Vice Chairman/Secretary and Hon. John G. Kulish of Hillside was voted the Treasurer.

In addition, three municipalities replaced members serving on the Joint Meeting

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Upcoming Event

April 29, 2002 - May 3, 2002:

NJWEA Annual Conference, Tropicana Casino & Resort, Atlantic City. Workshops will be conducted for wastewater operators, collection system, laboratory, maintenance, safety and industrial operators. Please contact Joseph Bonaccorso, Plant Superintendent, if you are interested in attending this conference.

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City of Elizabeth

—Home of Joint Meeting of Essex & Union Counties

The City of Elizabeth is the home of the Joint Meeting of Essex and Union Counties wastewater treatment facility. Elizabeth has a long and rich history. Sold by the Indians of Staten Island in 1664 to John Bailey, Daniel Denton and Luke Watson, was 500,000

acres of land between the Raritan River and the Passaic River including the area which today is the City of Elizabeth. Elizabeth was named in honor of Elizabeth, the wife of Sir George Carteret, whose relative Philip Carteret, was the Governor of New Jersey in 1665. Houses were constructed by the settlers and also a church was built where the First Presbyterian Church now stands on Broad Street next to the Courthouse. Governor Carteret

made Elizabethtown the capital of the province of New Jersey and the first legislature met here on May 30, 1668.

Elizabeth was granted a charter by the New Jersey Legislature in March of 1855. The population of the city at the time of its incorporation was 8,978. The first city council and mayor were elected that same year. The first mayor of Elizabeth was Elias Darby. Elizabeth was the scene of several Revolutionary clashes and in 1780 many buildings in the city were

burned. In the 19th century, Elizabeth's proximity to New York City and the coming of the railroad stimulated great industrial expansion, especially in shipbuilding, machine production and oil refining.

Today, Elizabeth boasts of a population of

120,568. It is a shipping and transportation hub with some of the world's largest containerized dock facilities located at Port Elizabeth. Some of the industries are sewing machines, foundry products, textiles, office supplies, chemicals and machinery. Elizabeth is home to the Jersey Gardens Outlet Mall, IKEA, as well as many retail businesses both in the downtown area and on Elizabeth Avenue. Two new hotels by Marriott are being built at Exit 13A off the New Jersey

Turnpike and there are plans to link Elizabeth with New York City via a ferry service.

The current city government consists of: Mayor J. Christian Bollwage; Council, At-Large: Frank Cuesta, Edward Jackus and Patricia Perkins-Auguste; 1st Ward, Manny Grova, Jr.; 2nd Ward, Carla Mazza, 3rd Ward, Robert M. Jaspan, 4th Ward, Carlos Alma, 5th Ward, A. Tony Monteiro and 6th Ward, Angelo A. Paternoster. The Clerk to the City Council is Anthony R. Pillo.



The Union County Court House, Romanesque in style and built in 1902, is located at Broad Street & Rahway Avenue. It is one example of many historic structures in Elizabeth.

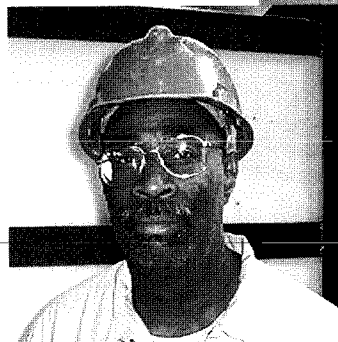
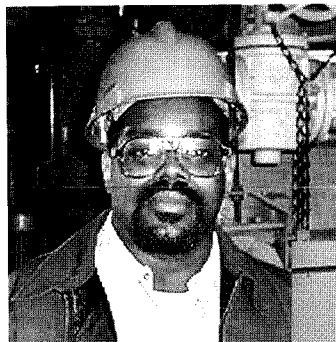
Interesting Firsts in Elizabeth's History

- First capital in New Jersey was located in Elizabeth in 1665
- First home of Princeton University
- Home of New Jersey's first Governor, Phillip Carteret
- Home of the first Colonial Assembly
- First British ship sunk during the American Revolution at the foot of Elizabeth Avenue
- Home of Abraham Clark, a signer of the Declaration of Independence
- Boiler for first steam ship built at a foundry at present site of Jefferson House of Elizabeth High School in 1819
- First sewing machine built by Singer Company
- First submarine built at Moore's Shipyard at Port Elizabeth in 1906
- First ice cream soda made by Phillip Mohr at Fulton and First Streets in 1782

EMPLOYEE NEWS

Our employee **Glen Riscen**, a wastewater treatment operator, was activated to serve with his National Guard unit, the Headquarters 50th Support Battalion, based in Teaneck, New Jersey on homeland security matters. One of Sgt. Glen Riscen's assignments was to serve at a checkpoint on the N.J. side of the George Washington Bridge. Joint Meeting wishes to thank Glen for his service to our state and our country Best of luck to **Adewale Akinokun**, a former Laboratory Technician, who was promoted to the position of Environmental Officer in the Industrial Pretreatment Department. Wale came to the Joint Meeting in 1993. He has since earned his master of science degree in Environmental Science from the New Jersey Institute of Technology and Rutgers University Welcome to three new operators hired early in 2002 **Barry Michaels**, who hails from Elizabeth, worked primarily in the chemical industry as a chemical operator for 6 years; he will be serving as a utility operator in the Operations Department **Quentin Martin** has wastewater and chemical operator experience, and also holds a blue seal boiler operator license; he was raised in Linden and currently resides with his wife in Laurence Harbor **Wayne Kidd** was the most recent wastewater treatment operator hired and he's training in the Dewatering Facility; Wayne resides in Irvington with his wife; he worked as a chemical operator for 12 years prior to coming to Joint Meeting Everyone welcomed back **Ziggy Szczesny** in the Electrical Department after an extended illness, **Walter Rivero** in the Site Services Department who had been hospitalized in March and **Cathy Solano**, a secretary in the agency's front office, who had been hospitalized Best wishes to Ziggy, Walter and Cathy for a healthy year ahead **Julio Cabrera** successfully bid from the Operations Department to the Laboratory in January; Julio worked as a wastewater treatment operator and he holds a B.S. degree in Chemistry and a black seal boiler license; best wishes to Julio in his new position Our thanks go to **Carine Simeon** who did a

good job as the temporary receptionist and secretary. She filled in for Cathy Solano during her absence Congratulations to **Ralph LaMendola**, the Chief Engineer, who received a service award for volunteering many long hours with the New Jersey Water Environment Association—North Section. He was presented with the award at the NJWEA's annual dinner dance held at the Wayne Manor in March Also receiving recognition was **John McNamara**, Team Supervisor, who was given the Selected Society of the Outhouse Award for his volunteer efforts to the NJWEA.



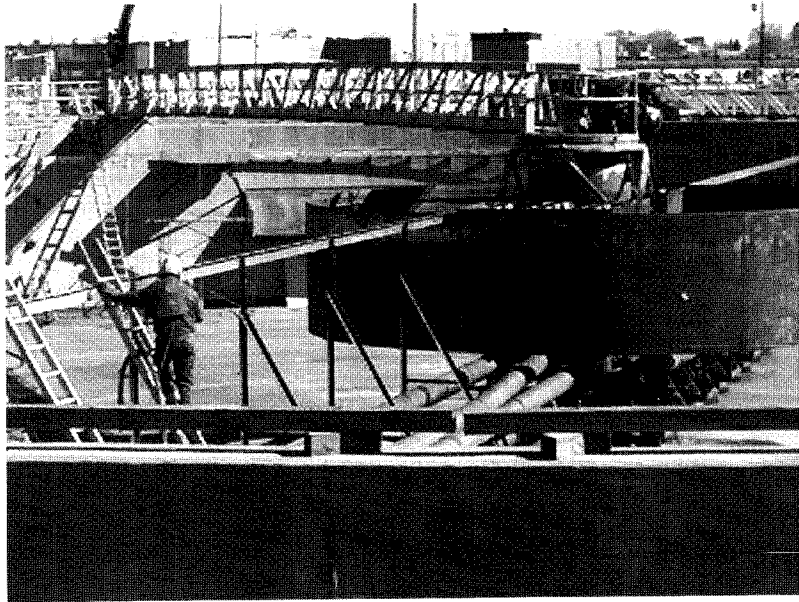
From top to bottom are Joint Meeting's three newest wastewater treatment operators, Barry Michaels, Quentin Martin and Wayne Kidd. They were hired to serve in utility operator positions.



Recipients of the 2001 Annual Perfect Attendance Awards, from left to right, Craig Halloran, Wale Akinokun, Ralph Concepcion, Richard Cirlincione, Steve Feller and Mike Richardson. Not pictured are Stan Wojcik and Marcelo Kofman.

PROJECT UPDATE

Hilt Corporation of Elizabeth, New Jersey completed their work on the Primary Service Building. They installed all new windows and refinished the exterior of the building. Hilt Corporation also completed their project in the screen house by installing new windows. In addition, they painted the floors and walls. Currently underway is the installation of new heating coils in the screen house. The Primary Service Building and the screen house were constructed in the 1930s and this work represents the first upgrade of these facilities.



above photograph for a view of the installation of one of the walkways at the final clarifiers. The walkways provide access for employees for all of their daily maintenance and operational activities on the final clarifiers.

C.M.E., the Joint Meeting's general engineering consultant, is in the design stages for the installation of the gravity belt thickeners which will replace the thickener centrifuges. Gravity belt thickeners will be more cost effective and easier to maintain because it will require less operating attention. They will further concentrate sludge to be fed into the anaerobic digesters. This

will enable the digesters to perform more efficiently and it will generate more reusable methane gas.

Twelve Employees Attain Service Milestones

During the course of the year 2002, twelve (12) Joint Meeting employees will be reaching a milestone in terms of service to the agency. They are:

25 years

Wayne D'Angelo	Electrical Supervisor
Adolph Kofman	Boiler Supervisor
John McNamara	Team Supervisor
Dennis Skiper	Sewer Maintenance Worker

10 years

Phil Gasowski	Maintenance Clerk
Ed Patterson	Electrician
Frank Weiss	Wastewater Operator
Reggie Wick	Personnel Assistant

20 years

Mike Richardson	Team Supervisor
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5 years

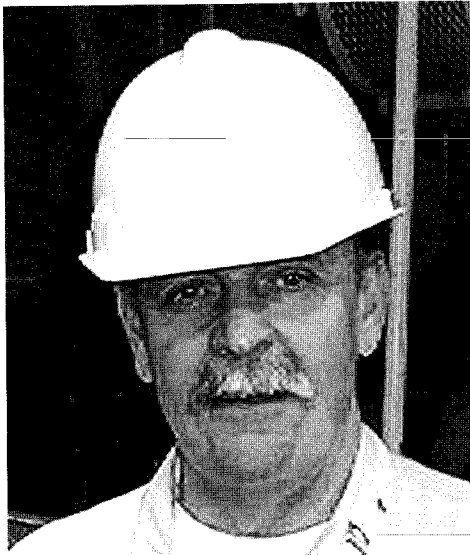
Clyde Lauderdale	Boiler Operator
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15 years

Craig Halloran	Team Supervisor
Ray Jones	Boiler Operator

Congratulations to each of these employees, especially those reaching the 25 year mark. Dennis, Adolph, Wayne and John have witnessed and have been a part of the expansion that has taken place at Joint Meeting during that period. Their experience has been invaluable to the agency. They have demonstrated a commitment to their jobs and to their co-workers. The best of luck to all of the employees on this list for their years of service and dedication to Joint Meeting.

Hamma and Baesa Retire—35 Years of Service



Pete Hamma

Pete Hamma, Operations Manager for the Dewatering Facility and Nelson Baesa, a Wastewater Treatment Operator retired from Joint Meeting. Nelson retired on March 31, 2002 and Pete Hamma retired on April 30, 2002 combining for 35 years of service to Joint Meeting.

Pete began his employment with the Joint Meeting in December 1990 as Supervisor of the Dewatering Facility at the start-up period for the facility. Pete brought 23 years of prior supervisory experience to Joint Meeting. Pete had worked for Ethyl Corporation in Sayreville for 6 years and for Penick Corporation in Newark, NJ as a laborer and chemical operator and later as a supervisor for a total of 24 years.

He grew up in Lyndhurst, NJ, lived in Sayreville for many years and currently resides in Edison. He has planned well for his retirement. He first bought land and then had a home built in the Mystic Mountains of Pennsylvania, where he and his wife Carol will spend their retirement years. Carol, who worked at Iron Mountain Company, an East Brunswick records archive company, also will be retiring on April 30th. They have raised 3 children, Maureen, Scott and Amy. Maureen and Scott are married and Amy will be getting married on May 4, 2002. Pete and Carol have three grandchildren, Sarah, 13, Ryan 11 and Benjamin, 6 and plan to devote plenty of quality time with them.

Pete plans to work on carving wood statutes and other objects while Carol will enjoy her quilting. They plan to travel and enjoy country living. They have been married for 43 years. Pete has enjoyed his time at Joint Meeting and will miss the friendships he has devel-



Nelson Baesa

oped over the last twelve years.

Nelson Baesa began his career at Joint Meeting in April 1978. He is currently the longest serving wastewater operator in our agency from among the 32 wastewater operators at Joint Meeting. His last assignment was on Team 3 in the Sludge Handling Facility. Prior to working at Joint Meeting, Nelson worked as an operator at various companies in the Linden and Clark area. The Newark, New Jersey resident was born in Uruguay before coming to the shores of the United States. He is married to Urania and they have one daughter, Maria.

Nelson had a hip replacement operation in late 2001 and is still recovering from the surgery. He plans to enjoy his free time with much travel and relaxation.

He was an operator during all of his tenure at Joint Meeting. He had a positive attitude and was very friendly toward everyone. He always had a smile on his face and working with him was always pleasant.

Both Pete and Nelson will be missed by everyone at the Joint Meeting. Each had his own unique personality and each established a good work record which was appreciated by their co-workers and management.

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board. Hon. Mary Patterson replaced Hon. Carol Y. Clark representing the City of East Orange. Hon. Melanie Selk will now represent the Borough of Roselle Park replacing Mayor Joseph Delorio, and Hon. P. Kelly Hatfield will represent the City of Summit in place of the outgoing Hon. William E. Rosen.

The board also selected the new standing committee assignments for the year 2002 at their February meeting. See page 6 for a list of committee assignments.

Board Committees 2002

The Board of Directors standing committee assignments for the 1st half of 2002 are:

Operations Committee

Chair: Allan Rosen
Sal J. Bate
P. Kelly Hatfield
John H. Skarbnik

Public Relations Committee

Chair: Sal J. Bate
Mary E. Patterson
Melanie Selk
John H. Skarbnik

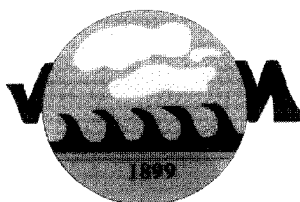
Finance & Budget Committee

Chair: John G. Kulish
P. Kelly Hatfield
Gerard W. Ryan
Anthony Terrezza

Personnel & Procurement Committee

Chair: Gayle Chaneyfield
Jenkins
John G. Kulish
Melanie Selk
Anthony Terrezza

JOINT MEETING



ESSEX & UNION COUNTIES

**Joint Meeting of Essex and
Union Counties
Wastewater Plant &
Administrative Offices
500 South First Street
Elizabeth, N.J. 07202
(908) 353-1313**

GOLD AWARD

The Association of Metropolitan Sewerage Agencies (AMSA) announced that the Joint Meeting of Essex and Union Counties will receive the Gold Award for the year 2001.

After eight consecutive Silver Awards, Joint Meeting achieved the gold status by having a perfect record for last year. This means that we had total compliance to the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System requirements with no violations of our permit.

Many thanks to all of our Joint Meeting operational and maintenance employees who deserve the credit for this achievement. They have continued to display an excellent work record with a team approach to their jobs and to the needs of Joint Meeting.



Joint Meeting of Essex and Union Counties conducts tours of its wastewater treatment facility upon request. High schools and colleges can contact Mr. Joseph Bonaccorso, Plant Superintendent at 908-353-1313 to arrange for a tour. Pictured above in the Joint Meeting's Pump & Office Building control room is a science class from West Orange High School with their teacher, Mr. James Huppert. The tour is being conducted by Operations Manager Alex Durand.

Joint Meeting Administrative Staff

Executive Director
Chief Engineer
Plant Superintendent
Director of Administration and Finance
Director of Human Resources
Pretreatment Coordinator
Project Coordinator
Purchasing Officer
Assistant Board Secretary/Financial Assistant
Assistant Superintendent - Operations/Maintenance
Operations Manager
Safety Officer

Bryan J. Christiansen
Ralph LaMendola, P.E.
Joseph Bonaccorso
Gary Restivo
Richard Cirlincione
Cathy Martinson
Steve Dowhan
Robert Sforza
Patricia Rufolo
Jack Kennedy
Alex Durand
Terry Cole-Kelly