

JOINT MEETING NEWS

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Another Friend Moves On

Once again, we are wishing a dear friend and colleague best wishes as he leaves Joint Meeting to begin retirement. Operations Manager **Steven Feller** has concluded his 25 years at Joint Meeting. Above on the left, Executive Director **Samuel McGhee** presents a plaque to Steven Feller at his retirement celebration.

Steve, like many, began his career at Joint Meeting as an Operator. A few years later, he was promoted to Dewatering Supervisor and then moved to the main plant as a Supervisor. In 2010, Steve was promoted to the position of Operations Manager II. After a successful period in this position, he was promoted to the position of Operations Manager.

We thank Steve for all of his contributions to the staff and operation of Joint Meeting and wish him an enjoyable retirement.

Upcoming Events

May 12-16, 2014. 99th Annual New Jersey Water Environment Association Annual Conference, Bally's, Atlantic City, NJ.

July 13-16, 2014. National Association of Clean Water Agencies (NACWA) Annual Summer Conference, Portland, OR. Topic is Executive Utility Leadership, Today and Tomorrow.

September 27-October 1, 2014. Water Environment Federation (WEFTEC) 87th Annual Conference, New Orleans, LA.



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

2014 Joint Meeting Board of Directors

Officers

Joseph M. Florio
Chairperson, Union
Howard Levison
Vice Chair/Secretary, South Orange
Patricia Spango
Treasurer, West Orange

Members

Lonnie P. Hughes, *East Orange*
Salonia Saxton, *Hillside*
Lebby C. Jones, *Irvington*
Kathleen M. Leventhal, *Maplewood*
Sandra Haimoff, *Millburn*
Ronald C. Rice, *Newark*
Ryan Kelly, *Roselle Park*
Mike McTernan, *Summit*

Executive Director

Samuel T. McGhee

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Employee News

Joint Meeting remembers Luzminio (Manny) Roman —

The staff and management were saddened to learn that our friend and colleague Manny passed away suddenly in January 2014 after suffering an accident at home. Manny began at Joint Meeting in 1981 as an Operator Trainee. He then transferred to the Dewatering facility in 1993. Manny took pride in his work and assignments.

Manny was dedicated to his colleagues at work, but most importantly, he was dedicated to his family, especially his wife Dema and his children Dennis, Joseph, Justin and Devina. We will all miss Manny and extend our heartfelt sympathies to his family and friends.

Promotions —

Roger Marques was promoted to Operations Manager. Roger has been with Joint Meeting since March of 1993. He started out as an Operator and after gaining years of valuable experience, he was promoted to Supervisor in 2001. Roger served as a Supervisor for over 10 years before being promoted to Operations Manager II in June 2012.

Glen Riscen was promoted from Shift Supervisor to Operations Manager II. Glen joined Joint Meeting in 1996 when he was hired as a Wastewater Operator. He worked for seven years as an Operator before transferring to the position of Maintenance Mechanic. Glen gained an additional seven years of experience as a Mechanic before being promoted in 2010 to Shift Supervisor. He has also served honorably in the United States Army National Guard.

Matthew Bodzioch was promoted from Operator to Shift Supervisor. Matt has been part of Joint Meeting since September 2011. He has also been working as a Utility Operator since completion of his training. Matt has also obtained his S-1 license. Prior to Joint Meeting, Matt earned his B.A. degree from Kean University.



Steven Feller, on the right, hands over the keys to **Roger Marques**, Joint Meeting's new Operations Manager.

Shawn Kaciupski was also promoted from Operator to Shift Supervisor. Shawn has been with Joint Meeting since September of 2008. He worked as a Utility Operator for four years gaining valuable and varied operational experience. Shawn is also in possession of his S-2 License.

New Hire —

We are pleased to introduce Jason Kohlhepp as the newest member of the Joint Meeting family. Jason will be coming on board as a Projects Engineer and will be working in the Projects Department with John McNamara, Mike Richards and Nathan Rogers. Prior to coming to Joint Meeting, Jason worked for CME Associates for the past 11 years and has gained valuable experience working at Joint Meeting for CME.

Expectations —

Laboratory Technician **Djavana Menter-Harris** has announced she is expecting her first child in July.

Get Well Soon —

Our thoughts go out to **Jack Howard** (Wastewater Operator), **Ray Jones** (Boiler Operator), **Emar Greenemeier** (Boiler Operator), **Pete Vlasakakis** (Site Services Worker) and **Allen Patterson** (Wastewater Operator). We wish them a speedy recovery and look forward to seeing them back to work.

Celebrating Milestone Years of Service

Congratulations to the following dedicated employees for their years of hard work and for reaching service milestones.

10 YEARS

Miriam Ledee, Administration

Samuel McGhee, Executive Director

5 YEARS

Harby Guerrero, Wastewater Operator

Jairo Nunez, Wastewater Operator

Perfect Attendance

Six employees have achieved a perfect attendance record for the 3rd Quarter of 2013. Those individuals achieving a record of no lateness, no sick time and no absences are:

Matthew Bodzioch, Wastewater Operator

Francis Bonaccorso, Asst. Superintendent

Rudolph Johnson, Security Officer

Edward Kobovitch, Lab Technician

Marcelo Kofman, Collections Supervisor

Zygmunt Szczesny, Electrician

Twelve employees have achieved a perfect attendance record for the 4th Quarter of 2013. Those individuals achieving a record of no lateness, no sick time and no absences are:

Matthew Bodzioch, Wastewater Operator

Francis Bonaccorso, Asst. Superintendent

James Freedley, Wastewater Operator

Morgan Frierson, Wastewater Operator

George Garcia, Wastewater Operator

Adris Hariprasad, Electrician

Edward Kobovitch, Lab Technician

Marcelo Kofman, Collections Supervisor

Jane Martynova, Lab Technician

Ralph Scott, Maintenance Mechanic

Tom Shanks, Maintenance Mechanic

Pete Vlasakakis, Site Services Worker

Congratulations to all of the above listed employees for their excellent attendance records.

Samuel T. McGhee Marks Ten Years of Leadership



Samuel McGhee celebrates 10 years at the helm of Joint Meeting. Mr. McGhee began his relationship with Joint Meeting while serving three terms on the Board of Directors, representing Hillside, NJ.

During his 10 Years as Executive Director, Mr. McGhee has seen many accomplishments:

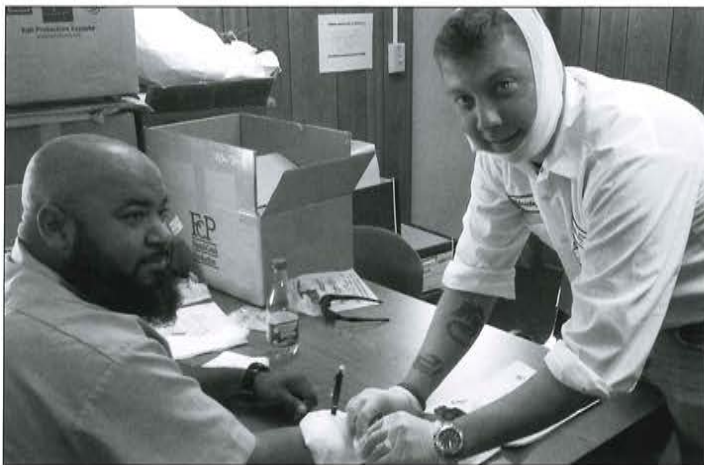
- Completion of a new Laboratory/Office Building
- Completion of the new state-of-the-art Co-Generation Facility
- Renovation of the Arthur Kill bulkhead
- Initiation of the Wastewater Operator Trainee Program
- Completion of the Treatment Plant Site Improvement Project
- Several industry awards, including Association of Environmental Authorities Wave Awards and National Association of Clean Water Agencies Performance Awards.

Mr. McGhee has also provided guidance when the facility endured Hurricane Irene in 2011 and Hurricane Sandy in 2012.

We thank Mr. McGhee for his leadership, his kindness, his generosity and his support. We look forward to many more years under his stewardship.

First Aid

Earlier this year, Joint Meeting employees attended CPR and First Aid Training. This training is invaluable in case of an emergency and could potentially be life-saving. Some of the participants are pictured during the training session.



Left to right are **Daniel Comerie III** and **Chris Pabst**.



Left to right are **John Petito** and **Craig Halloran**.



Left to right are **Djavana Menter** and **Patricia DaSilva**.

Professional Improvement

One of the best ways for employees to grow within any organization is to increase their knowledge about the industry in which they work, the organization they work for and the position they hold. Joint Meeting has consistently demonstrated its commitment to the professional development of our employees. We encourage our employees to seek out additional training and educational opportunities that would add to their knowledge and contribute to their development.

One example is Wastewater Operator Licensing through the NJ Department of Environmental Protection. The licensing process allows you to move ahead based upon experience, knowledge and successful testing. This process is not limited to Wastewater Operators. Educational opportunities (relevant college courses), regardless of your position, are always encouraged.

Professional industry organizations such as the New Jersey Water Environment Association (www.njwea.org) serve as an excellent source for training and seminars.

We encourage staff to speak to their supervisors if they have an interest in outside training opportunities.

Pensions and Benefits

If you have not done so, all employees should register in MBOS (Member Benefits Online System) in order to apply for loans, obtain pre-retirement estimates and apply for retirement. Paper retirement applications are no longer accepted by the state.

To register for MBOS, go to:

www.state.nj.us/treasury/pensions/mbosregister.shtml

Registration requires several steps. New users should read and carefully follow the MBOS Registration Instructions. You may call the MBOS Help Desk at 609-777-0534.

Important telephone numbers:

Teamster Local 575 Welfare Fund, 201-592-6800

Pensions and Benefits, 609-292-7524

Joint Meeting Receives Wave Award

The Association of Environmental Authorities honored Joint Meeting of Union and Essex Counties with a Forward Thinking Wave Award. This award is given in recognition for excellence in the public water/wastewater/solid waste/recycling sector in New Jersey. Joint Meeting received the award for its Operator Trainee Program, which has resulted in a well-trained, diverse and knowledgeable pool of operators available to fill positions as operators retire.

The award was presented to Superintendent **Steve Dowhan** at the Association's Spring Conference on March 12, 2014. Steve accepted this award on behalf of Joint Meeting. Congratulations to all of the Joint Meeting employees who strive for excellence every day and make recognition by an award such as this possible.



From left to right are Joint Meeting employees, Assistant Superintendent **Francis Bonaccorso** and Superintendent **Steve Dowhan**, with Peggy Gallos, Executive Director of AEA, and Jerry Cevetello, President of AEA.

Francis Bonaccorso Participates in Science Fair

Assistant Superintendent **Francis Bonaccorso** recently served as a volunteer judge for The Jersey Journal's 56th Hudson County Science Fair. More than 200 high school and elementary school students submitted science projects. Francis served as one of the judges, representing the New Jersey Water Environment Association (NJWEA) where he is chairman of the Seminar and Technology Transfer Committee. The NJWEA is a sponsor of the Science Fair and provided a scholarship of \$500 as one of the prizes.



Francis Bonaccorso (center) presents a check from NJWEA to winner Precious Martinez, 17, of Union City High School. Precious received the award for a project in the category of water pollution and/or water resource. On the left is Frank Prestana, President, North Section of NJWEA. — *Photo credit: The Jersey Journal*

Employee Information

Employees are reminded to update their medical profile whenever there are changes concerning their emergency contact information, physician information, prescriptions taken, etc. Staff may contact Human Resources to make changes.

Employees are requested to provide updated contact telephone numbers. Personal email addresses may be provided as well if the employee chooses.

Joint Meeting Welcomes New Board Members

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The Joint Meeting Board of Directors announced that five new members have joined the Board.

Mr. **Ryan Kelly** has been appointed by the Borough of Roselle Park, where he presently serves as the Third Ward Councilman. He replaces Andrew Casais.

Ms. **Salonia Saxton** has joined the Board, representing the Township of Hillside. Ms Saxton presently serves as Second Ward Council for Hillside. She replaces Hillside Mayor Angela Garretson.

Mr. **Mike McTernan** was appointed by the City of Summit to serve on the Board. Presently, he is Summit's First Ward representative, and in that position serves on the Finance/Personnel and Public Works Committees. Mr. McTernan replaces Dave Bomgaars.

Joint Meeting welcomes Mr. **Lonnie Hughes** from the City of East Orange to the Board of Directors. Mr. Hughes serves as the Fifth Ward representative for East Orange where his responsibilities include Committee assignments in Public Works, Law and Legislation, and Public Safety. Mr. Hughes replaces Theodore Green.

Ms. **Sandra Haimoff** has been appointed to the Board representing the Township of Millburn. Ms. Haimoff serves as a Committeewoman in Millburn. She replaces Thomas McDermott.

The staff and management of Joint Meeting, along with the current Board members, welcome the new Board members and thank the previous members for their service.



Joint Meeting of Essex and Union Counties

Wastewater Treatment Plant
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Elizabeth, NJ 07202
(908) 353-1313
FAX (908) 353-7925

Joint Meeting Administrative Staff

Executive Director
Samuel T. McGhee

*Deputy Executive
Director/Chief Engineer*
Position Vacant

Superintendent
Stephen Dowhan

Director of Admin. and Finance
Anthony Terrezza

Director of Human Resources
Robert Barry

Industrial Pretreatment Manager
Michael Phillips

Project Manager
John McNamara

Purchasing Officer
Robert Sforza

Asst. Board Secr./Financial Asst.
Position Vacant

*Asst. Superintendent
Operations/Maint.*
Francis Bonaccorso

*Asst. Superintendent
Collection System*
Jim Paluch

Operations Manager
Roger Marques

Maintenance Manager
Roman Wisniewski

Safety Officer
Richard Stafford

Board Committees 2014

The Board of Directors committee assignments for the 1st half of 2014 are:

Operations Committee

Chair: Sandra Haimoff
Mike McTernan
Howard Levison
Kathleen M. Leventhal

Public Relations Committee

Chair: Salonia Saxton
Ryan Kelly
Lonnie P. Hughes
Patricia Spango

Finance and Budget Committee

Chair: Howard Levison
Mike McTernan
Lebby C. Jones
Ronald Rice

Personnel and Procurement Committee

Chair: Kathleen M. Leventhal
Ronald Rice
Salonia Saxton
Lebby C. Jones