

Tampa, Florida  
May 16, 2008

## Alternative Water Supplies: Up Close and Personal

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**Technical Program:** For the May meeting, AWRA is offering meeting registrants the unique opportunity to participate in a guided tour of the largest seawater desalination plant in North America and a 15 billion gallon regional reservoir. Don't miss out on this chance to mingle with others in the water resources field and see the Tampa Bay Water Seawater Desalination Plant and the C. W. Bill Young Regional Reservoir firsthand. Please note tour space may be limited and will be allocated to registrants on a first come, first served, basis – do not delay!

As an alternative to touring the Tampa Bay Water facilities, meeting registrants may choose to take a behind-the-scenes tour of The Florida Aquarium.



At Capacity, November 2005



**Meeting Location:** The meeting will be held at the Embassy Suites Tampa Downtown Convention Center Hotel, conveniently located near many Bay Area attractions. The streetcar runs right in front of the hotel; jump on and head to The Florida Aquarium and explore historic Ybor City; or walk across the street and enjoy the variety of things to do in the Channelside District.

On Saturday, May 17, meeting participants can give back to the community. Roll up your sleeves and help plant Florida-friendly landscaping and construct hiking trails at Nature's Classroom. Read on for details!

## *President's Message ...*

Congratulations to Florida Section UF Student Chapter President Eban Bean, UF Student Chapter Section Board Member Gordon Brown, and the entire Chapter for a wonderful and memorable meeting at White Springs. Special thanks too to Board Member Carol Hinton and her TREEO staff for all the excellent support. In addition to a great technical program, we enjoyed having a contingent of students from the University of South Florida, sharing details on their mangrove research in Manzanilla, Mexico – a project for which the Florida Section provided financial support. It was great to hear that USF is working to re-establish a Florida Section AWRA Student Chapter!

It seems that I am not the only one who thought this was a great meeting. Several folks in attendance suggested to me that this should become an annual event! And if anecdotal evidence were not enough, we have the data to prove it: 50% of the 65 attendees completed a meeting survey. I am pleased to report that 100% of respondents indicated that the content of our technical program was EXCELLENT!

The Section began conducting meeting surveys in 2007, and they have provided us with valuable feedback. Since our inaugural survey at the March 2007 meeting in Apalachicola, our technical programs have consistently received high marks (anywhere from 94-100% of respondents rate our program content as Excellent.) We've learned, not surprisingly, that most of the attendees at our meetings are Section members, but we had a significant deviation from that trend at White Springs ... which suggests that with a little outreach effort beyond the publicity in *The Watershed*, we can attract local interests ... and, hopefully, engage their membership in AWRA.

Our members and attendees are not shy about giving us suggestions for how to improve our meetings – from program topics, to facilities, to logistics. We take this advice seriously and strive to be responsive to your ideas and concerns.

And speaking of member opinions, we are in the process of developing an e-mail "Survey Monkey" survey that will be distributed to membership-at-large in the upcoming months. (You may recall that we conducted a similar membership-wide survey some years ago.) Our local meeting surveys are great, but we want to hear from those of you who can't always join us. So, look for this in your in-box and do take a moment to share your thoughts.

I expect our upcoming May meeting will continue this "tradition" of high marks. Section member/Meeting Chair Rob Birrenkott is organizing another superb program, and a tour of some of the most progressive alternative water supply facilities in the state, if not the country: North America's largest desal plant and the state's largest (I believe) above-ground reservoir. The tour is compliments of Tampa Bay Water, and you can read all about it in this edition of *The Watershed*, but I will emphasize, space is limited, so register early. Also scheduled for the May meeting ... (something that I truly hope will become a tradition for us) ... a Florida Section AWRA community service project. On Saturday morning, May 17th we will be volunteering at Nature's Classroom, doing some landscaping in an environment that teaches children about Florida's water resources. Mark your calendars!

*Yours in AWRA, Cathy Vogel*



## **AWRA NATIONAL NEWS**

### *Upcoming conferences hosted by AWRA*

◆ Riparian Ecosystems and Buffers: Working at the Water's Edge, June 30-July 2, 2008, Virginia Beach, VA. Early registration deadline is June 9, 2008. The study of riparian ecosystem functions and the proliferation of initiatives and programs using riparian areas as buffers and living shorelines have demonstrated the need to remain on the cutting edge of science and practice when working at the water's edge.

◆ **Annual Water Resources Conference, November 17-20, 2008, New Orleans, LA.** Abstract deadline is May 12, 2008. Dixieland Jazz, Cajun and Creole food, parades and beads, the French Quarter all served up with a touch of voodoo, combine to make New Orleans a most exciting venue for a Conference. While some of the surrounding areas are still working hard on the Katrina recovery effort, downtown New Orleans and the famous French Quarter are alive and well, setting record attendance numbers at many events.

Presentations on any topic related to water resources are solicited and welcomed. In addition, individuals and groups have the opportunity to propose and organize panel discussions or special sessions that consist of linked presentations on a particular topic. For this Conference, the

organizers especially encourage sessions that focus on water resources issues in the New Orleans area, especially those issues that may have national or international significance. For example, they might include the Hurricane Katrina recovery effort, the Gulf of Mexico Alliance Governor's Action Plan for Healthy and Resilient Coasts, or the National Levee Certification Program. Other specialty session topics might include large regional wetland restoration / protection projects from around the world, such as the Everglades and the Pantanal, or other hot topics from recent AWRA Specialty Conferences or from the National Water Resources Policy Dialogues. Anyone interested in organizing a special session should contact Patrick Victor ([victorpr@cdm.com](mailto:victorpr@cdm.com)), the Technical Program Chair, for more information. Please submit an abstract and join us in the Big Easy!

For more information, to renew your membership, or become a member of the National AWRA, go to [www.awra.org](http://www.awra.org), or contact David Watt at 386-329-4355 or [dwatt@sjrwmd.com](mailto:d watt@sjrwmd.com).

## **AWRA FLORIDA NEWS**

- Florida Section Directory Updates
- Board of Directors Summary
- Technical Program Summary
- Student Chapter News
- Announcements

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## **Membership News**

Our Section continues to break membership records with 514 active members! Please take a few minutes to introduce yourself to the new members at the next meeting. This is how we continue to grow!

*(Continued from back page)*

Paul Ina, Stone Joca & Associates, Jacksonville  
Dawn Jenkins, UF TREEO Center, Gainesville  
Victoria Lehr, Parsons Water & Infrastructure, W Palm Beach  
Mark Middlebrook, The Middlebrook Co., Ponte Vedra Beach  
Barbara Misener, St. Johns River WMD, Palatka  
Adam Munson, Southwest Florida WMD, Brooksville  
Keith Myers, Diversified Drilling, Winter Garden

Robert Permenter, Sunbelt Construction Services, Seffner  
John Regan, City of St. Augustine, St. Augustine  
John Richmond, St. Johns River WMD, Palatka  
Tamara Schurian, AVID Group, Jacksonville  
Dale Smith, St. Johns River WMD, Palatka  
Cindy Yang, St. Johns River WMD, Palatka  
John Yeend, JS Yeend PE, Boynton Beach

Please feel free to contact me for membership questions or ideas on how we can improve service to our members. Hope to see you at the May 16<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Annette Carter, Membership Services Coordinator  
[ancarter@sfwmd.gov](mailto:ancarter@sfwmd.gov) / 561-682-6433

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## Board of Directors Summary

- by David Watt

The Florida Section AWRA Board of Directors (BOD) met in White Springs on Friday, March 14, at 11:00 AM. The detailed agenda and minutes will be included on our website after they are approved by the BOD. Highlights of the meeting include:

- Several exciting venues and meeting formats are planned for the remainder of the year. The next meeting is May 16<sup>th</sup> in the Tampa area with a theme of alternative water supply. Space is limited on the field trip to the Tampa Bay Water facilities, so register early! The following meeting is July 24-26 in Key Largo. This is a new location for our annual meeting, with presentations surrounding the theme of climate change.
- After our best year for education awards, members are encouraged to continue to get the word out to students and teachers about our education awards. Information about the awards is posted on the web site.
- Improvements continue on our website. We encourage members to check it out and give us your feedback.
- Membership records continue to be broken with over 514 active members reported at the BOD meeting. This is a great indicator of the value and quality provided by AWRA. One of the benefits of membership is the annual directory. It is a great networking tool. The 2008 directory will be published and mailed out soon. If you have not already done so, please pay your 2008 annual dues! It's only \$20!

Remember, Board meetings are open to all members of the Florida Section and their guests. Please feel free to arrive early at one of our bi-monthly meetings to sit in on our lively discussions. The Board always welcomes member input.

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## Technical Program Summary – March 2008

- Rafael Frias and Doug Durbin

**Steve Walsh, US Geological Survey FISC – Biological Assessment in Florida Karst: Inventory and Monitoring.** Mr. Walsh's presentation began with an overview of the karst regions and habitats in Florida. Areas of biological importance within the karst regions include springs, spring runs and high infiltration areas. Biological productivity in groundwater is a function of water geochemistry and serves as a good indicator of environmental changes in groundwater ecosystems. Florida karst is affected by hydrologic influences, such as infiltration of nutrients, surface water quality and human and physical factors, including groundwater pumping. Karst areas are also being affected by the introduction of invasive flora and fauna species. Biological changes in groundwater ecosystems may be measured through the use of bio-indicators like algae and benthic macro-invertebrates. Qualitative and quantitative measures, including the Stream Condition Index (SCI) and Human Disturbance Gradient (HDG), have also been investigated. The relationship between these measures is that as HDG increases, SCI decreases. However, it has been noted that the SCI may not be the best tool to measure biological changes in groundwater systems. There is good science available to measure biological changes in groundwater. Increased public awareness and public education are required to manage and mitigate human and physical effects on groundwater ecosystems.

**Alex Wood, Advanced Geospatial, Inc. – Summary of FAVA (Florida Aquifer Vulnerability Assessment) Projects in Florida.** Mr. Wood provided a summary of aquifer vulnerability assessment projects throughout Florida. The goals of the assessments were to evaluate the vulnerability of the Florida aquifer systems and to develop a technical approach, with the best available data, that would allow for a vulnerability classification from highest to lowest. Aquifer vulnerability assessments involved the development of GIS models that used water quality data, such as nitrogen concentrations and hydrogeologic data, including wells, soil hydraulic conductivity, aquifer confinement and karst features. The wells served as training points or points of known vulnerability in the model and allowed for the development of probability analyses to determine the extent of contamination. The Surficial, Floridan and Intermediate aquifer systems were each evaluated. Model results included maps showing the areas and degrees of aquifer vulnerability. The results may be used by regulators and public officials for: (a) Spring protection plans, (b) Land use planning, (c) Protection of recharge areas, (d) Wastewater planning, and (e) Well-head protection plans, and (f) Stormwater management.

**Brian Katz, Ph.D., US Geological Survey – Assessing Contaminant Sources in the Karstic Ichetucknee Springs Basin.** This presentation covered the Lake City Sprayfield Study and the Nitrogen Budget Study in the Ichetucknee Spring basin. The Lake City Sprayfield Study investigated organic and pharmaceutical wastewater compounds. Results showed a total of 37 compounds, out of the 64 compounds tested, present in the groundwater

basin. The study identified septic tank systems as the most likely source of wastewater contamination. The Nitrogen Budget Study in the Ichetucknee Spring basin evaluated nitrate concentrations in the groundwater basin and springs and identified the following sources of nutrient contamination: (a) Atmospheric deposition (precipitation), (b) Fertilizers (cropland and lawns), (c) Septic tank systems, (d) Animal waste (farm land), (e) Waste disposal (land applications of treated effluent and biosolids). Study results indicate 50 percent of loadings contributed from fertilizers on cropland and lawns. A direct connection exists between sprayfield locations and land surface elevations, including sinkholes and depressions. Further sampling of groundwater is critical to establish a relationship between nutrient concentrations, water levels and seasonal changes.

**Connie Bersok, Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Florida Springs Task Force – Developing Strategies to Protect Florida’s Springs.** There are over 700 cataloged springs in Florida. The best general source of information on the cataloged springs is “Bulletin 66” produced by the Florida Geological Survey, and available on the Florida Springs website (<http://www.dep.state.fl.us/geology/geologictopics/springs/bulletin66.htm>). Springs provide a variety of values, including biological communities, cultural resources, water supply, and a role as a “window” to the underlying groundwater resources. Since 2000, the FDEP has been evaluating 58 spring locations through a rigorous quarterly sampling program. A report is in preparation providing the results of the first six years of that sampling. Recent decades have seen dramatic increases in inorganic nitrogen levels in a number of springs in the state. Linked to those increases are the proliferation of attached algae and loss of submerged aquatic vegetation. The pattern of nitrogen increase is generally consistent with human population growth in the state, although agricultural practices are also thought to play a significant role. Tools for protecting and restoring springs arise from science, education, regulation and management. The State of Florida and various counties are putting effort toward evaluating the status of, and the risks to, springs across the State. A manual was published by the Florida Department of Community Affairs in 2002 (currently being revised and updated) outlining protective measures for springs for the general public. Tactics ranging from Best Management Practices, to Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs), to Basin Management Action Plans (BMAPs), to Minimum Flows and Levels establishment are available to assist in springs protection. In addition, one piece of legislation is pending in Tallahassee that would create a “Springs Task Force” study group, and another would declare two springs (Rainbow and Silver Springs) as “Impaired,” thus triggering the need for TMDL and BMAP development.

**Matthew Cohen, Ph.D., Asst. Professor of Forest Water Resources University of Florida– Causes and Consequences of Nitrogen Contamination in Florida’s Springs.** A significant number of Florida springs have experienced dramatic increases in nitrogen concentrations, leading to adverse conditions in the springs and their receiving waters. The National Science Foundation has funded the creation of a hydrologic observatory on the Suwannee River to look at nitrogen dynamics. The work involves innovative measurement techniques and is focused on Ichetucknee Springs. One hypothesis is that the additional nitrogen has eliminated its status as a limiting nutrient, thus allowing for algal proliferation. However, evidence suggests there is (and likely always has been), far more nitrogen available than is assimilated by observed algal growth, implying that nitrogen may not have been the limiting nutrient in the past. For example, nitrogen levels have been increasing for several decades, but algal proliferation has been a much more recent phenomenon. The pattern of dissolved oxygen in many springs has also changed substantially in recent years, with more springs having notably lower DO levels than was observed several decades ago. Other potential factors related to the algal proliferation patterns may involve shifts in native communities and the introduction of non-native species in spring systems.

**Brajesh Dubey, Ph.D., Post-Doctoral Fellow in Engineering and Environmental Science University of Florida – Iron Contamination and Remediation Issues at Florida Landfills.** This research is investigating patterns of iron migration into groundwater beneath unlined landfills in several regions of Florida. Iron levels in monitoring wells have increased in recent years and in some cases exceed groundwater quality standards and human health criteria. Iron is a very common element in most Florida soil types and occurs in a variety of different minerals, thus, some of the iron observed in association with landfills may originate from the native soils. Iron from soil can be liberated through changes in soil chemistry (e.g., pH or redox potential shift) or through biological activity of soil microbes. These researchers developed a test protocol to determine the propensity for a given soil type to release iron based on conditions generally associated with the geochemical influences of a landfill; such a tool could be used in predicting the likelihood of undesirable iron concentrations in groundwater below a proposed landfill. Further work is focusing on remediation techniques to mitigate the elevated iron conditions at landfills.

**Sam Upchurch, Ph.D., SDII Global Corporation – Setting Minimum Flows and Levels on the Suwannee River** Florida Statutes require the establishment of Minimum Flows and Levels (MFLs) for lakes and streams in the state. MFLs are being developed across the state according to a priority schedule based on existing or potential reduction to flows or levels. The primary statutory criterion for determining these MFLs is the avoidance of “Significant Harm” to the water body or its ecology as a result of human withdrawals of water body. The nebulous nature of the term “Significant Harm” complicates the determination of MFLs, as do the complex hydrologic relationships and climatic

factors associated with flows and levels in water bodies. One approach to setting such levels is the consideration of a series of ten “resource values” laid out in the Florida Administrative Code, with the determination of which factor(s) is the most limiting for the water body. Of these factors, several are generally subjective and others are difficult or impossible to scientifically quantify, leaving only a few factors such as wildlife usage, fish passage and maintenance of adequate potable water supply as the key criteria. The original schedule for the Suwannee River system targeted development of MFLs by 2008. The Suwannee River Water Management District opted to use a “mega-basin” approach, which focused on setting flows for large sections of the river system, including the springs as primary contributors to the overall river flow. The lower Suwannee River and Alapaha River MFLs have been completed and adopted by the District Governing Board. The middle Suwannee River is all but complete, and the upper Suwannee work has yet to be done, but is scheduled to be completed in 2009. The Withlacoochee River will be completed in 2008, as will the Santa Fe River. Seventeen springs in the basin have their MFLs completed, 12 others are under way, and 11 remain to be done. Data sources and tools for this overall effort include a large volume of USGS and SRWMD district flow data, selected water quality data, several modeling efforts and a physical habitat simulation model to define biological needs provided by flows. This MFL program is still only about halfway to completion, and a series of challenges still remain to complete the remainder of the basin.

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### **Time to Renew Your Membership for 2008**

AWRA Florida Section membership dues for 2008 are due January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2008. We’ve had a great response to the invoice that was sent to members regarding the 2008 membership renewal. Thank you to Gary Howalt and Environmental Services for volunteering to send out the invoices.

Dues for both Regular and Student membership remain at \$20 and \$4, respectively. If you would like to beat the rush and renew early, please use the 2008 membership application form in this newsletter, or the one on our web page at [www.awraflorida.org](http://www.awraflorida.org). Another reason to send in your 2008 dues is that the new Membership Directory is being prepared and you don’t want to miss out having your name and correct contact information in the directory. It’s considered to be one of the best benefits of Membership in AWRA!

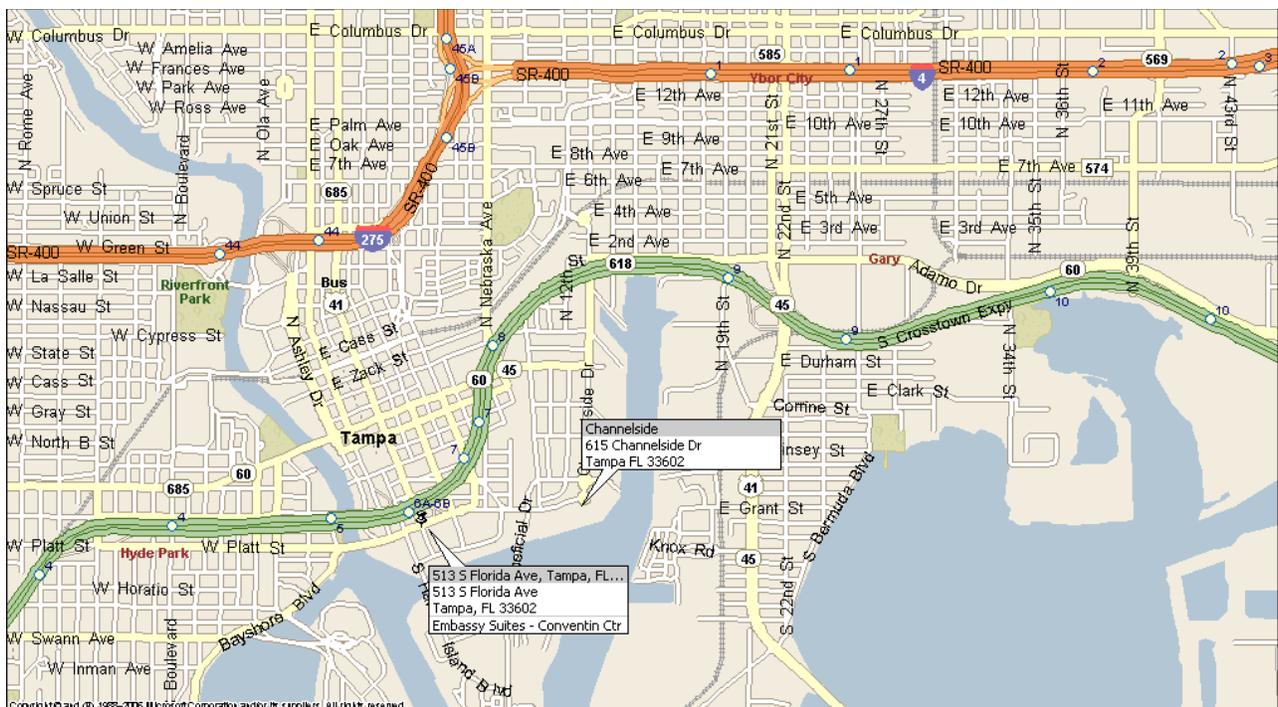
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### **Florida Section Meeting Notice – July 24-26, 2008**

Mark your calendars for the July 24-26, 2008 Florida Section Annual Meeting in Key Largo. Watch for an email that will contain hotel reservation and registration information!

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### **Map of Channelside Drive, Tampa & Ybor City**



**AWRA University of Florida Student Chapter News**  
- by Gordon Brown

*2008 White Springs Meeting Eco-Tour*

**Day 1:** After breaking camp and enjoying a nice breakfast provided by Florida Section President Cathy Vogel, we headed out to the Music Camp to begin our eco-tour. Mike from the Canoe Outpost loaded our gear and 5 canoes into the Shuttle and dropped us off 13 miles upstream near I-75. Day 1 was cloudy but warm, and the river was up 12 feet above normal so all you had to do was steer and enjoy. We saw Kingfishers, lots of turtles, and some ducks. After lunch on a sandy bank, we continued until we reached a sandy shore with a former campfire. Dinner was Kielbasa, soup, pasta, peas and corn. Smores and drinks rounded out the evening.

**Day 2:** The sun broke early but cool temps allowed the group to sleep in a little on the final weekend of our Spring Break. We canoed the final 5 miles stopping to rope swing near the final overpass bridge. The Suwannee is brisk and invigorating this time of the year. We reached the Canoe Outpost about 3 pm and even tried to rescue a fellow canoeing couple that capsized near the boat ramp when they missed the turn into the outpost. Nothing but egos was injured. However, their canoe was trapped under the trees near the bank. Fun was had by all, including a few S.FL consultants who joined the Student Chapter's Eco-Tour.





**Florida Section Bi-Monthly Meeting**  
**Friday, May 16, 2008**  
**Embassy Suites Tampa Downtown Convention Center Hotel**  
**513 S. Florida Avenue, Tampa, Florida, 33602**

***Alternative Water Supplies: Up Close & Personal***

**9:00 a.m.** Update on Preparations for the National Annual Conference in New Orleans – Embassy Suites  
*David Watt, General Conference Chairperson (All are welcome to attend)*

**10:00 a.m.** Board of Directors' Meeting  
*Everyone welcome; lunch available (payable to AWRA)\**

**11:30 a.m.** Registration / Check-In- Hotel Lobby

**Technical Program – Agenda**

**12:15 p.m.** **Gather in Hotel Lobby; Board bus and depart to Tampa Bay Water Facilities or Board streetcar and depart to The Florida Aquarium**

**1:00 p.m.** **Guided Tour of Tampa Bay Water Seawater Desalination Plant:**  
*Tampa Bay Water Staff*

**2:30** **Behind the Scenes Aquarium Tour:**  
*(Meet at Guest Services) The Florida Aquarium Staff*

**3:00 p.m.** **Guided Tour of Regional Reservoir**  
*Tampa Bay Water Staff*

**5:00 p.m.** **Both groups travel back to the Embassy Suites Hotel**

**5:45 p.m.** **Social and Networking Hour**  
*Embassy Suites Hotel- Poolside Balcony*

**7:00 p.m.** **Dinner**  
*Embassy Suites Hotel*

**Saturday, May 17, 2008**

**8:00 a.m.** Breakfast Buffet at the Embassy Suites – Complimentary for hotel guests

**9:00 a.m.** Meet in Hotel Lobby: Travel to Nature's Classroom

**10:00 - 2:00** Community Service Project

\* Please advise Meeting Facilitator if you plan to attend the Board Meeting so that arrangements may be made for lunch.

*Please see the next page and visit our meeting sponsors ...*

# THANK YOU TO OUR MEETING SPONSORS!

Come back and visit our sponsors' page for updates ...



Carey, O'Malley,  
Whitaker &  
Manson, P.A.





***Attention: For Security Reasons, if you are registering for the Tampa Bay Water Tour, the Registration Deadline is May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2008***

**AWRA Florida Section Meeting – May 16, 2008**

***Downtown Tampa Embassy Suites Group Rate – Deadline April 23, 2008  
Registration Deadline – May 14, 2008***

<b>Name:</b>	First:	M.I.:	Last:	Suffix: (PE, Ph.D., etc.):
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<b>Firm/Organization:</b>			
<b>Street Address:</b>			
<b>City, State, ZIP:</b>			
<b>Phone:</b>		<b>Fax:</b>	
<b>E-Mail:</b>			

Item	Cost	# Attending	Extended Amount
Board of Directors Meeting (Members Welcome)	Dutch		
Florida Section Member Registration	\$65		
Non-member Registration [ ] Apply this fee to making me a Member or to renew my membership	\$85		
Dinner Guest/Dinner & Aquarium Guest: <i>Name:</i>	\$30/\$60		
Florida Section Student Registration	Free		
Students (Non-member) [ ] Apply this fee to making me a Member or to renew my membership	\$4		
Donation to Sanford N. Young Scholarship Fund		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$</b>
<i>Interested in attending service project on the 17th? Y/N</i>			
<i>Please circle your tour preference: TB WATER or AQUARIUM</i>			
<b>Dietary Restrictions or Questions</b> Contact Meeting Chair Rob Birrenkott [Rbirrenkott@cowmpa.com] (813) 250-0577			

**PDH Credit for Engineers** AWRA is an approved provider by the Florida Board of Professional Engineers (FBPE Provider No.EX0003897) and offers Professional Development Hour (PDH) credit to Florida Licensed Professional Engineers. You will only receive credit if you attend the entire technical session. Please check the box below and include your PE number if you would like to obtain PDH credit.

**I plan to be present for the entire session and would like PDH credit. My PE number is:** \_\_\_\_\_

<p><b><i>Make checks payable to</i></b></p> <p><b><u>AWRA Florida Section</u></b></p> <p>Please mail to: Carol Lynch Regulation Performance Management Department Southwest Florida Water Management District 2379 Broad Street, Brooksville FL 34604-6899 Carol.Lynch@swfwmd.state.fl.us</p>	<p><b><i>Sponsorship Opportunities</i></b></p> <p style="text-align:center"><b>Don't miss this great opportunity to highlight your organization and network with water resource professionals and students.</b></p> <p style="text-align:center"><b>Get your logo on the sponsorship boards!</b></p>	<p><b><i>Accommodations</i></b></p> <p>A block of rooms has been reserved at the meeting location for \$159 a night.</p> <p>Embassy Suites Tampa Downtown Convention Center 513 S. Florida Avenue, Tampa, Florida, 33602 Tel: 813-769-8300 <b>Mention AWRA.</b></p>
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**JOINING AND RENEWING MEMBERS** *Please complete this entire form for our membership records and directory.*

Preference for Receiving our Newsletter:	. E-mail	. US Mail	
Are you an AWRA National Member:	. Yes	. No	
Would you like information on AWRA National?	. Yes	. No	
Are you interested in corporate sponsorship opportunities?	. Yes	. No	
Would you like to be part of a bi-monthly meeting team or committee?	. Yes	. No	

# Tips, Things to Do, and Other Information

## Tampa Bay Water Tour Tips:

- Register early.
- ON THE DAY OF THE TOUR - Since you will be entering an industrial area, be sure to wear long pants, a shirt with sleeves (no tank tops), and sturdy, comfortable, closed-toe shoes or boots (no sandals).
- All guests are required to bring photo identification.
- Tour Site prohibits the use of recording equipment, firearms, binoculars, and alcoholic beverages. These items are NOT permitted on site.

**Accommodations:** A block of rooms has been set aside at the meeting location, Embassy Suites Tampa - Downtown Convention Center; 513 S. Florida Avenue, Tampa, FL 33602: Tel: 1-813-769-8300 or (800) Embassy (362-2779) – Group Code 'FLS'. Reservations may also be made online using the Group Code. Room rate is \$159 per night. NOTE: In order to take advantage of the group rate at the Embassy, rooms must be reserved by April 23, 2008. The hotel charges \$20 for overnight parking and \$10 for day parking.

This hotel is within walking distance or a short streetcar ride away from many attractions in the Tampa area. Click here for [Directions](#) to the Hotel. Other hotels nearby are listed below; there are many others to choose from: Click here: [Tampa Hotels](#)

Sheraton Tampa Riverwalk Hotel  
200 North Ashley Drive  
Phone (813) 223-2222  
Avg. Room \$149

Howard Johnson Plaza  
Tampa-Downtown  
111 W Fortune St  
(813) 223- 1351  
Avg. Room \$109

## Streetcar Tip:

- If you choose to ride the [Streetcar](#), it costs \$2 per trip. Conductors only accept cash and do not carry change! If you need change, nearby hotels (Embassy/Marriott) sell streetcar tickets and provide change.

## Things to Do:

- Tour the Florida Aquarium – it is about a ½ mile from the meeting location, riding the streetcar to get there is recommended.
- Explore Ybor City – it is 2 miles from the meeting location, plenty of nightlife, shopping, and restaurants, ride the streetcar to get there.
- Visit Channelside – This area by the cruise terminal is a short walk from the meeting location. It offers a variety of things to do including an Imax theatre, shopping, restaurants, and nightlife.
- Visit a Bay area beach – A visit to [Fort De Soto](#), named “America’s Best Beach 2008” is highly recommended. The park is about a one hour drive from the meeting location.
- Visit Busch Gardens or Adventure Island theme park – Both attractions are about 9 miles from the meeting location.
- See a show at the Tampa Bay Performing Arts Center – “The Lion King” will be playing. The Center is only a mile from the meeting location, however a cab or shuttle is recommended.
- Charter a fishing guide – visit [www.capmel.com](http://www.capmel.com); this website will provide links to local guides, but also provides forums where you can chat with local anglers for recommendations.
- Volunteer at Nature’s classroom – On the 17<sup>th</sup>, we have arranged a service project to assist the good work being done at this facility.





# 2008 Membership Application

## MEMBERSHIP DUES

New  \$20 Regular   
 Renewal  \$ 4 Student

## DIRECTORY INFORMATION

Please give us the information requested below, as you would like it to appear in the membership directory.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
First Middle Initial Last Suffix (Ph.D., PE, PG, etc)

Company/Affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Box, Street or Route Suite or Apartment

Daytime Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Area Code \_\_\_\_\_  
 City State Zip Code  
 Alternate Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Area Code \_\_\_\_\_

Facsimile: \_\_\_\_\_ Area Code \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

## MEMBERSHIP INTERESTS

Would you like to receive our newsletter via e-mail? Yes  No   
 Are you an AWRA National Member? Yes  No   
 If not, would you like information? Yes  No   
 Are you interested in sponsorship opportunities? Yes  No   
 Would you like to be part of a bi-monthly meeting team? Yes  No

**SPONSOR/RECRUITER:** \_\_\_\_\_

## PAYMENT INFORMATION

\$\_\_\_\_\_ Annual dues (please indicate if you are paying for additional years)  
 \$\_\_\_\_\_ Florida Section Water Resources Education Fund (tax deductible contribution)  
 \$\_\_\_\_\_ Sandy Young Scholarship Fund (tax deductible contribution)  
 \$\_\_\_\_\_ **TOTAL (Please make checks payable to AWRA Florida Section, THANK YOU!)**

**Return application & your check to:** **Annette Carter, Membership Services Coordinator**  
**c/o South Florida WMD**  
**3301 Gunn Club Road**  
**West Palm Beach, Florida 33406**

Florida Section membership dues are due January 1 and are good through December 31. Contributions or gifts to the Florida Section are deductible as charitable contributions for federal income tax purposes. Dues payments may be deductible by members as an ordinary and necessary business expense. For membership information, please contact Annette Carter at (561) 682-6433 or [ancarter@sfwmd.gov](mailto:ancarter@sfwmd.gov).

### Section Use Only:

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**VISIT THE FLORIDA SECTION WEBSITE AT:**  
[www.awraflorida.org](http://www.awraflorida.org)

**☞ Contact Upcoming Meeting Chairmen Regarding Sponsorship or Assistance ☞**

**White Springs**  
 March 14, 2008  
 Gordon Brown  
 352-246-1865

**St. Pete Beach Area**  
 May 16, 2008  
 Rob Birrenkott  
 813-250-0577

**Key Largo**  
 July 24-26, 2008  
 Cathy Vogel  
 239-565-1429

**Lake Okeechobee**  
 September 19, 2008  
 Charlie Shinn  
 352-538-0853

**Ft. Myers**  
 November 7, 2008  
 Ron Edenfield  
 239-277-0003

**Welcome New Members!**

Getachew Belaineh, St. Johns River WMD, Palatka  
 Arthur Bides, University of Florida student, Gainesville  
 Richard Callahan, Biological Research Associates, Riverview  
 Juanitta Clem, England Thims & Miller, Jacksonville  
 William Cote, St. Johns River WMD, Palatka  
 Charlie Diehl, Diversified Drilling, Tampa  
 Dale Eisman, St. Johns River WMD, Jacksonville  
 Kathy Fitzpatrick, Martin County, Stuart  
 Everett Frye, St. Johns River WMD, Orange Park  
 Royce Gandy, St. Johns River WMD, Palatka  
 Yelena Granovskaya, University of Florida student, Gainesville  
 Douglas Hurst, England Thims & Miller, Jacksonville (Continued p. 2)

