



AUGUST 2014 NEWSLETTER

The Group

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The Group met at the City of Redmond's Perrigo Park on August 20th for the annual picnic. Those in attendance were Dale Baxmann, Gary D Brown, Ron Brown, Kathy Caldwell, Tim Cantwell, Bob Eastwood, Mary Gonzales, Travis Grant, Ron King, Mike Lee, Dennis McLaughlin, Dominic McLaughlin, Linda McMurphy, Chic Nessly, Tony Peredo, Linda Pfeiffer, Chris Sutton, Lewis Young, Dave Kuca and our newest member Josh Vanquaethem.



New member Josh, has just passed his BAT testing and would like to eventually run his own testing company. Congratulations and welcome to the Group.

Chair Tim Cantwell opened the meeting with a quick overview of the day and a round of introductions.

Dennis McLaughlin, acting treasurer, reported that the bank balance is 15,888.88. Tim took the opportunity to suggest that it may be time to discuss a means of using a bit of the monies in the treasury to assist in a charitable contribution of some kind. In the past, the Group has donated money to scholarships and things of that nature. So the if anyone has any suggestions or input, we can certainly take some time to consider some type of assistance to our community.

We are still accepting donations of \$100.00 from folks who would like their advertisement on the webpage. We have decided that the advertising must relate to cross connection control in some fashion. It may prove difficult to draw that line in some cases, but if any questions or problems arise, we will deal with them on a case by case basis.

Terri and the rest of the State and Wa Cert Services folks were sadly unable to attend the meeting, however they sent me a bit of information that they wanted to share with us.

Terri sent:

DOH Update for August 2014 Group Meeting

Coming Soon - New Newsletter for Waterworks Operators

The DOH Office of Drinking Water (ODW) will soon publish *H₂Ops*, a new newsletter designed for waterworks operators. We expect to publish the first issue of *H₂Ops* in September. Each issue will focus on a topic relevant to water system operations.

We plan to mail *H₂Ops* to operators and water systems four times a year. We will provide print copies of *H₂Ops*, because many operators prefer to receive hard copies of drinking water publications.

The *Water Tap* newsletter will return in January 2015 in an abbreviated format. We plan to publish *Water Tap* twice a year.

Office of Drinking Water Reorganization

Clark Halvorson, the new Director of ODW, has revealed his plans to reorganize our office. The reorganization will affect the CCC Program.

The good news is that under the reorganization, Clark's proposing to add more resources to the CCC Program. His plan creates a new CCC-related position in Operator Certification. We'll be looking for an experienced DOH-certified CCS to fill this position. The CCS will work closely with Terri. The CCS's potential duties may include responding to day-to-day CCC technical assistance requests, conducting CCC-related fieldwork, providing CCC training to operators, and conducting audits of ASR systems. The CCS will also provide technical assistance to Deni Gray on CCS and BAT complaint investigations.

In addition, a new employee, Dave Sternberg, will provide CCC Compliance and possibly other technical support to the CCC Program by taking on some of Simon

Tung's previous duties. Dave recently filled the Water Quality Compliance Programs Coordinator position in the Water Quality Section.

Under the reorganization, Terri's position is moving from the Water Quality Section to a newly created Engineering and Technical Services Section. Terri will still be the CCC Program Manager and the lead on CCC for the state. She will continue to be actively involved in CCC, but will be expanding her duties to include other distribution-related issues and possibly working on the state Needs Assessment.

Terri's main responsibilities right now include working with the:

- IT Section to get the ASR web-based application converted to a new more stable software platform for the 2014 ASR.
- CCC Workgroup. The Workgroup is continuing to evaluate the CCC Program and will be making recommendations to ODW Management on CCC data collection, compliance, and future program direction.

CCC-Related Complaints

Deni Gray has received several formal complaints from purveyors against BATs. Because the Operator Certification Program is actively investigating these, Deni can't reveal any details at this time. However, Deni may be able to provide an update at the Group's Fall Seminar. Deni is also currently investigating a complaint filed by a BAT against a CCS. If you want to file a complaint with the Operator Certification Program, you can download a complaint form from the ODW website.

And a quick word for Peggy Barton at Green River College:

the professional growth reporting period for most BATs is over halfway to the deadline of December 31, 2015. BATs can take the professional growth exam ANY TIME during their reporting period, so there is no need to wait until the end of the period. We are

encouraging them to apply for their professional growth exam now and get it out of the way before the big rush starts.

Thanks to everyone who attended the picnic and a special thanks to Dominic for the great food selection, mmmmmmmmm, chicken and ribs, and for doing his usual excellent job on the grill. Really good!!



Another big thanks to Dennis for the popcorn machine. It was also a big hit.



Say "hi" to Lewis Young. Still retired and still looking good!!

The next meeting will take place at the Sammamish Plateau Water & Sewer District located at 1510 228th Ave SE, Sammamish, WA 98075 on September 17th at 10 AM. If you have any questions, contact Chic Nessly at the Plateau.

We will be reviewing the website and discussing the final preparatory items for the October seminar. You all should have seen the flyer if you are a CCS or a BAT, but I'll attach it anyway. Sign up soon, the roster is filling up quickly.

Kathy Caldwell

Group Sec.