

April 2021



BARSCREEN BEE

The Official Newsletter of the Northern Sacramento Valley Section
of the California Water Environment Association



<http://nsvs.cwea.org/>



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Ted Couch
Jacobs Engineering
(530) 229-3388
Ted.Couch@jacobs.com

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(530) 224-6069
jvandiver@cityofredding.org

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(916) 576-4718
BLBarton@carollo.com

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(530) 224-6030
rbailey@cityofredding.org

1-Year Director

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(530) 822-7687
lhhegstrom@yubacity.net

Newsletter Editor Tracy Wyhlidko

Email:
Newsletter.Editor.CWEA.
NSVS@outlook.com

(530) 224-4319
or email:
twyhlidko@cityofredding.org

<http://nsvs.cwea.org/>

The Barscreen Bee is a
publication of the Northern
Sacramento Valley Section
of the California Water
Environment Association.

CWEA NSVS Annual Award Presentation for 2020 occurred during the online training, March 24, 2021

And the Award Winners Are...

Collection Systems Medium:
City of Redding

Plant of the Year Small:
American Valley Community Services District , Quincy

Plant of the Year Medium :
City of Yuba City

Administrative Professional of the Year:
Cristyn Page, Carollo Engineers, Inc.

Outstanding Young Professional of the Year:
Pratyusha Reddy Reddy, Jacobs Engineering

Electrical Instrumentation Person of the Year:
Gene Donham, City of Redding

Mechanical Technician Person of the Year:
Jacob Prado, City of Yuba City

Laboratory Person of the Year:
Carol Reilly, City of Chico

Research Achievement:
City of Red Bluff, COVID in Wastewater

Supervisor of the Year:
Shane Carlsen, City of Woodland

Operator of the Year:
Kirk Douglas, Bell-Carter Olive Company, Inc.

Lifetime Achievement Award:
Scott Koch, Sewerage Commission - Oroville Region

Lifetime Achievement Award:
Dave Johnston, City of Redding

NSVS Calendar of Events

- Board Meeting Tuesday April 13, 2021 10:30 am
- Online Training Wednesday May 26, 2021 9-11 am
- Board Meeting Tuesday June 8, 2021 10:30 am
- Online Training Wednesday July 28, 2021 9-11 am
- Board Meeting Tuesday Aug 10, 2021 10:30 am
- Training Wednesday Sept 22, 2021 9-11 am, location To Be Determined (T.B.D.)
- Board Meeting Tuesday Oct 12, 2021 10:30 am, location T.B.D.
- Board Meeting or Training Nov 17, 2021, location T.B.D.
- Board Meeting Tuesday Dec 14, 2021, location T.B.D.

Since March 13, 2020, Board Meetings have been held online. Prior to Coronavirus, most board meetings were held at 10 am at the Berry Patch Restaurant at 900 Newville Rd, Orland, CA 95963

Members are always welcome to attend the board meetings.

Contact

twyhlidko@cityofredding.org or
530-224-4319,

or any of the NSVS Executive
board members

For location or login information to
board meetings.



THOMAS W. WARNOCK, P.E.
PRINCIPAL ENGINEER

1730 SOUTH STREET (530) 244-0202
REDDING, CA 96001 Cell (530) 355-9612
e-mail: twarnock@paceengineering.us

G3 Engineering, Inc.
Water and Wastewater Equipment

G.J. (Jim) Billings III, PE
President

PO Box 2148
Granite Bay, CA 95746
jim@g3engineering.com

Phone 916-797-1880
Fax 916-797-1881
Cell 916-838-3913

www.g3engineering.com

Odor Issues and Remedies at City of Yuba City Lift Stations presented by:

Tim Bybee, Sewer Collections Supervisor, City of Yuba City and Nate McCready, Plant Maintenance Supervisor, City of Yuba City Nathan McCready shared how Yuba City solved odor problems at two of their largest lift stations. At one lift station, Yuba City Utilizes the Vapex Nano system, which atomizes and injects Ozone to effectively eliminate the odors within the wet well. At another lift station they utilize the Titus Twister to provide an aeration system to a stagnant wet well, reducing FOG deposits and eliminating odors. Both systems have been extremely successful in reducing odors as well as citizen complaints, and require very low maintenance, and O&M costs.



Sustainable and Future-Proof: BioDrying and Pyrolysis Systems for Biosolids Management and PFAS Removal, presented by: Valentino Villa, Co-Founder and Chief Operating Officer, Bioforcetech

Valentino Villa from Bioforcetech gave a presentation regarding the biosolids pyrolysis process and what it can do to solve the challenges of biosolids disposal in the future. This process involves taking municipal biosolids or most other organic wastes (such as yard waste and food waste) and essentially baking out the organic material, leaving behind a “biochar”, that is utilized as a soil amendment and effectively sequesters the carbon back into the soil.

THE BIOFORCETECH PROCESS

- Modular system installed at the WWTP
- Reduces volume by 90%
- Uses no fossil fuels, and possibly create extra energy
- No additives used, only biosolids
- Fully automated, low O&M
- UpCycles biosolids into Biochar
- Destroys CECs

TWO STEP PROCESS



THE SOLUTION - ADVANTAGES

Advantages of installing the Bioforcetech system:

- Reduced and fixed cost for years:** automation, energy savings and low maintenance ensure that the cost of organic waste disposal is kept low for years.
- 90% volume reduction:** the waste is converted into valuable by-products and also reduced by 90%. This solution potentially removes millions of truck from roads.
- Energy positive:** by utilizing bacteria and advanced pyrolysis, our system reduces energy consumption by 90 to 100%.
- UpCycle waste:** we are converting organic waste into Biochar. This means that the waste becomes a product with economic value!
- Carbon sequestration:** by producing Biochar, the carbon that was previously in the atmosphere is now returned to the soil. Our system is then carbon negative and slows climate change.

Valentino Villa
Co-Founder and COO
v.villa@bioforcetech.com
+1 650 906-0193

Pumps Ragging?

Problem Solved

Case Study: Half Moon Bay CA

Problem:

- Pumps clogging usually twice per week and took 1 hour to clean each pump.
- Risk to employees lifting pumps & exposed to waste, sharps etc.
- Excess energy consumption & high energy bills.

Solution:

- DeRagger+ and Keypad installed in control Panel.
- *Real Time Pump Protection* used to detect rags and run pump reversal via VFD.

Result:

- Energy Savings: 19% or \$500 per month in PG&E bills
- Near complete reduction in ragging.
- Big savings on manpower now effectively utilized rather than for cleaning pumps. Savings at \$735 per month.
- Reduced pump Run Time with clean pump

Total cost savings as projected by sewer authority: \$14,820 per year.

"We found that the energy usage has decreased to approximately 20% which shows a \$500 savings on our PG&E bill. This is besides the fact that we have been able to save manpower and utilize them for other activities instead of the constant cleaning."

- Kishen Prathivadi, P.E, PMP, Sewer Authority Mid-Coastside

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Energy and cost saving calculations are as reported by Sewer Authority Mid-Coastside, using PG&E bills, known times for pump cleaning and appropriate hourly rates.

**NORTHERN
SACRAMENTO
VALLEY SECTION
CWEA
ANNUAL
AWARDS**

**ONLINE AWARDS
SLIDE SHOW
MARCH 2021**



CWEA

*I am writing this letter to express my gratitude regarding the CWEA "Collection System of the Year" award for the Northern Sacramento Valley Section (NSVS). During such an unprecedented time this award will have great meaning and represent the resilience of not only the City of Redding collection system operators but all wastewater operators as a whole. I would like to thank the committee for acknowledging our teams' service, pride, and dedication. We understand that having a high performing system not only affects the health and safety of those in our community but also the health and safety of people statewide. For that reason alone, we will continue our commitment to excellence and will always continue the quest for perfection in our system. Thanks again for the selection.

*Sincerely, Kevin Garner, City of Redding Wastewater Collections Supervisor

***2020
Collection System
of the Year**



*The American Valley Community Services District provides wastewater treatment for the Quincy and East Quincy area in Plumas County. The facility provides sewer treatment services for a total population of approximately 4,500. The permitted design average dry weather flow capacity of the Facility is 4.9 million gallons per day (MGD) and 1.6 MGD maximum wet weather flow. At present, the Facility's annual 2020 flow was 180 MGD. During the summer months, the wastewater is used for reclamation on pasture lands. While operating with limited staff we have continued to provide excellent service and have begun construction on a new wastewater treatment facility.

*Jim Doohan, General Manager, AVCSD.

***2020
Plant of the Year
Medium**



*On behalf of the Yuba City Team, we would like to thank CWEA and everyone involved in nominating us for plant of the year.

*In fulfilling our responsibilities, we have committed ourselves to environmental leadership, and consistently work to protect public health and promote environmental stewardship.

*Sincerely, Mike Finnigan

* 2020 Plant of the Year Medium



* 2020 Administrative Professional of the Year



* 2020 Outstanding Young Professional of the Year

*I am humbled that some of my colleagues felt I deserved this nomination. I joined Carollo in 2016, and since then, I have had the opportunity to work with and learn from so many brilliant people. When someone asks what I do as an office administrator, my answer could change depending on the day. But that's what I love about working for Carollo. I get to be part of a team that prides itself on innovative solutions, collaborative culture, and superior service. From supporting the engineers across the company, to helping Brianna Barton with some of her CWEA duties, I'm truly grateful to be a part of a company with so much vision and talent. I can accept this award because of the people who have supported me from day one. In addition to Brianna, I'd like to say thank you to Chris Cleveland, Beverly Hann, Ryan Hook, and every person in the Sacramento Office, who have contributed to helping form the Administrator I am today.

*To be recognized by such a great organization as CWEA is truly an honor. Thank you with the utmost gratitude,

*Cristyn Page

*I'm very happy and excited to learn that I have received the "Outstanding Young Professional of the Year" award for the Northern Sacramento Valley Section of CWEA. I extend my sincere gratitude to the board for the nomination and acknowledgement. I'm thankful for having the opportunity to work on some great projects in the California region. I'm also thankful to my colleagues at Jacobs for their support and collaboration on different projects and senior engineers/technologists for inspiring me. This reward provides me further motivation to continue my involvement and services towards the Water industry.

*Thank you once again.

*Pratyusha Reddy Reddy

*Jacobs



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OUR PASSION REMAINS THE SAME.


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OUR PASSION

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* 2020
Electrical
Instrumentation
Person of the Year

* I would like to thank the members of the NSVS CWEA for the nomination. It has been a real pleasure to work with the crews. They are a dedicated and professional group of people. I always considered my job was to make their job as easy as possible by giving them the information they need to operate their system. The past 26 years has been a pleasure to work with the guys. Thanks again.

* Gene Donham

* I am both honored and humbled to receive this award. I am honestly grateful for the recognition I have received from both the City of Yuba City and the California Water Environmental Association, because I am sure every other nominee was more than capable of winning this award. Winning this award would not have been possible without the inspiration and support I have received from my supervisors and fellow colleagues. I sincerely thank those who nominated and helped me reach the point where I can proudly hold up this award as a mark of my achievements. I am dedicated to only improve my skills so that we may share in more accomplishments like this in our future. Thank you!

* Jacob Prado

* 2020
Mechanical
Technician of the
Year



* 2020
Laboratory Person
of the Year



* It is not often than a person is recognized for the work they do. Many jobs have levels of complexity, and areas of expertise, that are not apparent to people who don't work in that field. Laboratory work is one such field.

* I've noticed during social occasions when asked what I do, I'll say laboratory supervisor. It is immediately assumed that I'm in nursing. When I tell them wastewater, then come the pooh jokes. I listen and smile, then educate. I tell them I work at a plant that changes raw sewage into water much cleaner than the river we discharge too. That I supervise the testing of that water to make sure it meets regulations. I tell them I'm proud of what I do. It is important work and worth doing.

* It is a wonderful feeling to be acknowledged for the work you do and I wish to thank Brianna Barton for nominating me. I also wish to thank my colleagues; the operators, the electrician, the lab staff and others for working with me, to achieve cleaner water.

* Thank you, Carol Reilly

* 2020
Research
Achievement of the
Year

* A big thank you to Stanford for giving us the opportunity to participate in the wastewater COVID study and another thanks CWEA for the Research Achievement award.

* Sincerely, Brandon Connolly,
Jerry Stephens, and Ashley Keil,
Red Bluff Wastewater Treatment
Plant

COVID-19 RESEARCH STUDY IN WASTEWATER



* I would like to thank everyone for the support and encouragement through the years. I can not do it with out all your hard work and dedication. CWEA has been one of the best things I have been involve with over the years and I have gotten to work with some amazing folks. I am forever thankful to have the opportunity to work for The City of Woodland which has offered continued support of staff involvement with CWEA events and programs.

* Shane Carlsen

* 2020
Supervisor of the
Year



* It's a honor to be selected Operator of the Year by my peers. I enjoy the work that I do. I work for a great company and work along side other great operators. I couldn't achieve my goals without the help of my co-workers. Thank you very much for this award.

* Kirk Douglas

* 2020
Operator of the
Year



*** 2020
Lifetime
Achievement
Award**



* I appreciate the opportunity to receive this award. My career in wastewater had many rewarding parts. One of the things I really enjoyed was showing off the treatment process by providing tours, whether it was one individual, or a school group. To show people how a process has been designed, constructed, and operated, to receive pollutants from a community, and return it back to the environment in a safe beneficial form was rewarding.

* Another rewarding part was all the people I had the pleasure of working with, and enjoying the enthusiasm everyone working in this field brought, from support staff, and most of all the operators I have had the pleasure of working with. These operators made my job easy with their cooperation and creativity to their jobs. I was fortunate to have worked with operators and support staff with tremendous institutional knowledge, and tremendous commitment and dedication to their job, and the community they serve. So, I would like to Thank all my former coworkers for allowing me to even being considered for this award.

* Thank you, David Johnston

* A special thanks to the CWEA and the NSVS for selecting me to receive this award. A salute to all of this year's nominees each of whom have made incredible contributions to the water and wastewater community. I am humbled that my colleagues felt I deserved this nomination. I never figured on working with wastewater but an opening became available at the local treatment plant and I was offered the position, and I was looking for a career.

* I found the work to be interesting, challenging, and fulfilling and it really felt good to know I was helping to keep the community and the environment safe. But, if not for networking with all the operators, lab techs, and engineers over the years I would have never gained the knowledge needed to be where we are tonight. Thanks to all of you here tonight and all that have touched my life.

* Thank you, Scott Koch

Everyone knows what happens at the end of the award ceremony...Door Prizes! Submit the online form before April 12, 2021 to be eligible for the door prize give away:

For the Door Prize contest, fill out this form: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdNr153MCWJ5Rw7GFLVejqJDqz0DLIJ4kxNu6-k3sweT8o_A/viewform Winners will be notified by April 16th. One entry per person. Need not be present to win.

JOB POSTINGS on CaWaterJobs.com, as well as City and County websites:
City of Chico

Job Title ^	Job Type	Salary ⇅	Closing ⇅	Posted ⇅	Category	Department	Location	Job Number
Electrical Technician	Full Time	\$53,248.00 - \$73,403.20 Annually		03/14/21	Building Maintenance / Facility Management / Public Works / Professional / Miscellaneous / Wastewater / Maintenance	Public Works - Operations & Maintenance	Chico, CA	20-00184
Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator II or III (Signing Bonus!)	Full Time	\$45,968.00 - \$80,745.60 Annually		01/14/21	Public Works / Wastewater	Public Works - Operations & Maintenance	Chico, CA	20-00166

City of Redding

Job Title ⇅	Job Type	Salary ⇅	Closing ⇅
Wastewater Plant Operator - Grade III/IV/V New	Full-Time	See Position Description	05/02/21
Public Works Inspector New	Full-Time	\$55,452.80 - \$70,782.40 Annually	04/18/21
Technical Intern (Public Works)	Part-Time	\$14.07 - \$14.78 Hourly	04/11/21
Public Works Maintenance Worker	Full-time, Temporary, and Seasonal	See Position Description	Continuous



Posted March 29, 2021 on CaWaterJobs.com
 Lake Oroville Area Public Utility District
FOREMAN/FIELD OPERATIONS TECHNICIAN
 Lake Oroville Area Public Utility District
 Compensation: \$24.19 to \$31.19 Hourly



Alex Ambrosi

(P) 415-460-6393 (F) 415-460-6395
 alex@aquadyneassociates.com
 www.aquadyneassociates.com

710 C Street, Suite 200
 San Rafael, CA 94901



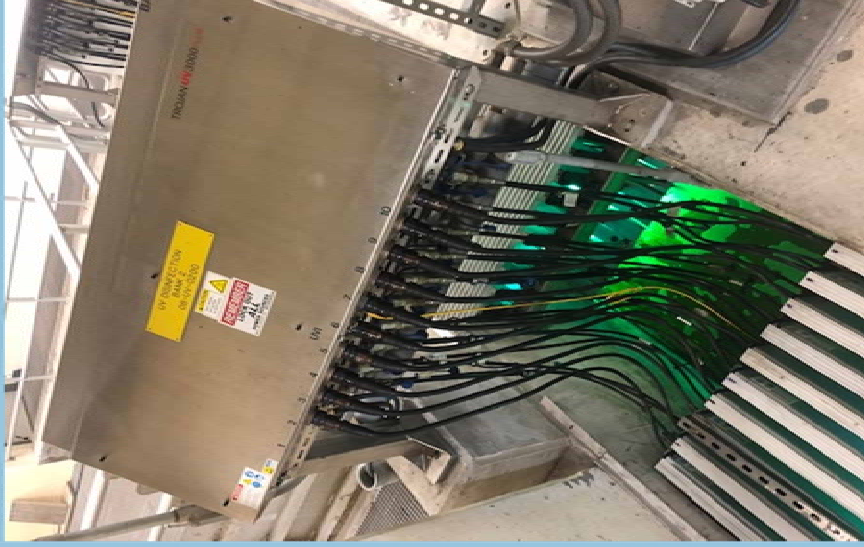
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Advertisements in the bi-monthly Northern Sacramento Valley Section (NSVS) "Barscreen Bee" newsletter may be purchased for:

\$75 per year for a business-card size advertisement,

\$150 per year for a half page advertisement (8.5 x 5.5 inches), or

\$300 per year for a full page advertisement (8.5 by 11 inches).

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