

NYRWA 35TH ANNUAL TECHNICAL CONFERENCE

Pat Scalera | CEO, NYRWA



The Turning Stone Resort and Conference Center was, once again, the host venue for the 35th NYRWA Annual Technical Conference this April. We extend a tremendous thank you to everyone that participated in this event. Our Conference was a success due to every attendee, sponsor, vendor, speaker, special guests, board members and our staff. We are so grateful for your support of the New York Rural Water Association. Thank you for taking time out of your busy schedules to join us for this annual event.

As always, the Conference kicked off with our Opening Ceremonies and our special guest speakers including; Jacki Ponti, Assistant Administrator for the USDA, Rural Utilities Service; Director Dr. Roger Sokol from the Bureau of Water Supply Protection of the New York State Department of Health; Chief for the SPDES Compliance Information Section Bob Wither from the Division of Water – NYS Department of Environmental Conservation; Arlene Anderson from Region 2 EPA Clean Water Division; and President of the National Rural Water Association, Doug Anderton.

Something new this year that benefited many was the approval of PE credits for 9 sessions during this conference. We thank Hunt Engineers for their assistance in achieving these credits and Valerie Ogden's hard work in pursuing this. We plan to continue to provide these credit hours with all future conferences and hope that many of you will take advantage of this opportunity.

Taken from our evaluations — Highlights of the conference include: talking and sharing with the other operators from across the state, time spent with the vendors, roadway traffic safety class, broad coverage of topics, succession planning, training provided, and hearing from the regulators.

Other comments included: very good food this year, the entire conference is of great value, your class topics always hit home so keep up the good work, don't have the two regulation classes at the same time because some of us are dual certified and need to hear from both and "Bring Back Carnival Nite!!" We received some excellent suggestions for future topics and appreciate all those that completed their evaluation sheets to provide this feedback.

Next year we will bring back Carnival Nite and will change our awards banquet to a luncheon that all attendees and vendors can attend. If you didn't attend this year, please consider making plans to attend next year for the 36th NYRWA Annual Technical Conference at the Turning Stone Resort May 18 – 21, 2015.

Special thanks to our 2014 sponsors – Koester Associates for the lanyards; GP Jager and Associates for the canvas tote bags; Rapid Pump & Meter for the notebooks; Hunt Engineers for the t-shirts; Mueller Co. for the coffee breaks; DN Tanks for the 4 Boston Red Sox Tickets; GA Fleet for the Toshiba Laptop, case, printer and memory stick; Koester Associates and Master Meter for the Golf Tournament; National Rural Water Association for the 50" TV and Cabella Gift Card; and the following for sponsoring the golf holes: Duke's Root Control Inc., Lamont Engineers, Koester Associates Inc., Aftex Inc., Ti-Sales, G.A. Fleet Assoc., Clow Valve Company and Ferguson Water Works.

Congratulations to our 2014 Award winners (*see photo gallery on page 30-31*)

Phil Badman from the Village of Sodus attended and participated in our Annual Business Meeting and was the winner of the "Meredith H. Thompson Award". Phil will be joining us at the National Rural Water Association H2O Expo in Seattle, Washington this October. We look forward to Phil joining us again. 💧💧