

THE CEO'S MESSAGE

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errors, responsibility for the work of other employees, contacts inside and outside the utility, and responsibility for confidential information, safety, funds, and property. The evaluation process was different than in the past: (1) the evaluation team included a member from outside the utility and (2) department directors were consulted and provided information about the positions.

Another issue getting a lot of attention around the Water Works is Systems & Software, Inc., and MUPS. Several of our employees have visited with employees of the Montgomery Alabama Water Works and have seen where we hope to be soon. Montgomery has been in the MUPS system longer than we have and have gone through the same trials that we are experiencing now. ♠

See the back page for this month's special numbers and the names of last month's winners.



Conway
Faulkner
Garland
Grant
Hot Spring
Jefferson-West
Montgomery
Perry
Pulaski
Saline

Central District News

October Monthly Meeting

5 p.m. Thursday

Barbecue- \$9 per person

7 October 1999

North Little Rock Water Department

1500 West Maryland Avenue

834-8900

Competent Person Training

\$60 per participant

(lunch and breaks included)

Clearwater Operations/
Maintenance Complex

5300 South Shackelford Road

Instructor **David V. Dow** with

Trench Safety and Supply, Inc.

8 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Thursday

14 October 1999

(Call 501-688-1429

for more information.)

Competent Person Renewal Training

\$60 per participant

(lunch and breaks included)

Clearwater Operations/
Maintenance Complex

5300 South Shackelford Road

Instructor **David V. Dow** with

Trench Safety and Supply, Inc. ♠

8 a.m.-12 noon, Friday

15 October 1999

1 p.m.-5 p.m., Friday

15 October 1999

(Call 501-688-1429

for more information.)

Engineering employees present GIS routines at conference

Julian Brown and **Jos Bell**, Engineering Assistants, demonstrated for users (GIS) statewide the power and difference that a geographic information system can make in utility operations.

They presented "Capturing the Power of ArcView, Avenue, and Spatial Analysis in Order to Automate, Gather, and Record Data" at the 1999 GIS Users Forum Conference and Exhibition. The conference was 8 - 10 September 1999 in Eureka Springs.

With the theme, "Building a Common Base for GIS in Arkansas," the conference brought together a range of GIS users. Also attending from Little Rock Municipal Water Works was **Monte Myers**, GIS Operator.

Research shows that 90 percent of information used in government, business, and industry is geographically referenced to the Earth's surface. Land details, such as addresses, building locations and sizes, utility facilities, etc., are important components of planning, designing, expanding, and maintaining drinking water and other public facilities.

During the recent three-day meeting, **Steve Gertsch**, GIS Coordinator for Little Rock Wastewater Utility, and Bell had an exclusive session with **Jack Dangermond**, founder of Environmental Systems Research Institute (ESRI). As president of ESRI, the leading geographic information systems company in the world, Dangermond briefed them on how ESRI plans to package new computer software for existing users.

"As existing users, we will benefit from special licensing and maintenance fees," Bell said. "Our meeting with him will be very useful to our 2000 GIS budgeting process."

Brown and Bell's presentation focused on the steps and procedures used to update our computerized hydraulic models. The hydraulic models, design and development tools, predict how our water system will react to various service demands (high demand, fire service demand, etc.).

"We use the hydraulic model for master planning and subdivision development," Brown said. "The models help us to determine—using various pipe sizes, elevations, and demand figures—the expansion capabilities of our system."

We used ArcView, AutoCAD, WaterCAD, and Microsoft Access computer software to build our models: "Our hydraulic models are among the most accurate in the United States, maybe worldwide. I would stand it side by side to any drinking water utility's hydraulic models," Brown said.

Other contributors to the development of the models were **Britton Kerr**, Data Base Coordinator; **Doug Oxley**, Programmer/Analyst; **Lisa Luyet**, Engineering Records Clerk; and **Dale W. Russom**, Director of Engineering.

"We have to update our hydraulic models with each year's maximum day demand," Brown explained. "Thanks to Jos and Britton, we now have routines that will save *hundreds* of man-hours each time we go through the process." ♠