President's Message

Chris Evers, Florida Chapter President, 2012/2013

It’s been a busy summer for the Florida Chapter and as we make our way through the fall it’s a great time to reflect on the present and look to the future. Great things are happening whether it’s our new Membership Drive or the Public Works Director Roundtables. Our Chapter is on a roll as evidenced by the significant up tick in membership, Chapter and Branch activities, National Awards and National Committee Appointments. With 2012 nearly in the books, the Executive Committee has been focusing on 2013 and working hard to reach the lofty goals set this year.

The best way for me to discuss the Chapter’s progress is by speaking about our Strategic Plan. Conceived in 2011, the Florida Chapter Strategic Plan consists of membership, Education, Leadership and Branding. Each aspect of our Strategic Plan has and will continue to be our primary focus as individual committees work to support the Plan. In our last two Executive Committee meetings we have spent our Fridays discussing how best to execute this plan in break-out sessions and listening to Chapter Leaders discuss initiatives designed to maximize our efforts. The second half of my term will now focus on execution. Here is what you should know about each aspect of our Strategic Plan:

**Membership** – It’s no accident that this leg of the plan is listed first. We are swinging for the fence as it relates to membership and utilizing what I call the Ricky Bobby principle (“If you ain’t first your last!”). We are aiming to retake our rightful place as the largest Chapter in the nation by 2013. In order to set manageable goals, the Florida Chapter will move from our starting point of 5th place at the beginning of 2012 to 2nd place by the end of this year. That leaves us well positioned to take on Texas in 2013 for bragging rights! My hats off to Amy Blaida and her Membership Committee for being victorious during the National Membership Drive and for launching our first ever Chapter Membership Drive. We’ve already awarded an iPad for the individual award (Sam May Public Works Director, City of Margate) and the District Award to the Suncoast Branch ($200). The next quarter’s drive has begun and we hope to beat the 41 new member mark we achieved during the first quarter’s drive. The Chapter has supplied a list of notable Cities and Counties who are currently not APWA members and we encourage you to reach out to bring them into the organization!

**Education** – it’s the cornerstone of our Association and we (Continued on page 3)
Meet Your 2012-2013 APWA Florida Chapter Officers

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All You Need to know About APWA Membership

As of November 6, 2012, the Florida Chapter of APWA has 1353 members, which is an increase of 2.4% since the end of March 2012.

APWA is offering a Never Been a Member special for only $82 for the first year of membership.

APWA has enhanced its member benefits. How you ask?
APWA is offering its new live public works webcasts (CLLs), a collection of archived APWA public works webcasts (CLLs), select e-books and podcasts at no charge to its members.
All Members now have access to the library.

Please contact Membership Chair, Amy Blaida, amy.blaida@rsandh.com or (813) 468-4576 for membership questions.
continue to focus on it. Many of our Branches have been holding technical sessions throughout the year some of which have been joint sessions with other Associations such as ASCE and ASHE. In April of 2013 our biggest educational event of the year gets kicked off during the Annual Meeting and Trade Show. Great technical sessions are on tap for Jacksonville and we look forward to seeing everyone there. It’s a great place to get CEU credits and to learn about the myriad of new technologies and innovations in the Public Works profession. The Education Committee continues to work hard to publicize the Public Works Institute and the Donald C. Stone program as well. Both programs are fantastic and are further highlighted in this newsletter.

**Leadership** – is always an important component in any Strategic Plan. We have made it a cornerstone and I have spent significant time making sure that we engage the leaders in this profession. Most public agencies’ Public Works Departments are headed up by the Public Works Director. At the 2012 Annual Meeting and Trade Show, the Florida Chapter introduced the Public Works Director Roundtable. This new program is open to all Directors of any City or County in Florida no matter the size. You don’t even have to be a member of APWA to participate. Every Public Works Director in the State of Florida is being contacted and invited to attend Roundtables in all areas of the State. This means there will be a Roundtable near YOU sometime over the next year. We have already had four Roundtables with several more in the works. We’ve gotten great feedback from Directors and we look forward to continuing this popular initiative.

**Branding** – has been on our radar screen for many years. We have often recognized this as a weakness among Public Works. For whatever reason we have never been very good at tooting our own horn! As we compare our efforts in this arena to our other First Responder Brethren (Police and Fire), we definitely fall short. While our profession does not have the glory or glamour of the others, we definitely touch more lives, more often. How often does the average citizen utilize the services of the other First Responders? What would your day look like without Public Works? The answer can be found on YouTube (as most can)! One of our own APWA Members, the Public Works Director from Palm Bay, Elia Twigg, created a great video showing what Public Works does and what life would be like without us. To that end the Florida Chapter is putting together a marketing plan which will focus primarily on two areas. How can we advocate more effectively for Public Works and how can we more effectively market APWA as the premier association for Public Works Professionals. We also have invested in Gold Public Works Director pins which will be distributed to every Director in Florida. We’ve already handed out nearly 50 in just over a month!

Lastly, I’d like to recognize a few Florida Chapter achievements from the APWA International Congress in Anaheim. We were able to cheer on Bob Gordon (Public Works Director, City of Temple Terrace) as he received his Top Ten award, Don Jacobovitz for the Community Involvement Award and Arden Fontaine, Jr. for Professional Manager of the Year – Administrative Management Category. For projects, FDOT’s Bridge of Lions Rehabilitation was selected for the Historical Preservation over $75 million category. And last but not least, the Florida Chapter received the Presidential Award for Chapter Excellence. This year represents our 9th PACE Award in a row! Great work Florida!

As I wrap up, I leave you with a few questions. What talents can you bring to the table that will move Florida forward? What will be your APWA legacy? If you are interested in serving at the Chapter or District level, seek out one of the many Chapter Leaders that grace the pages of this newsletter. We are always looking for capable and passionate individuals to serve on the many committees and sub-committees you see listed. I wish you all a fantastic Holiday Season and look forward to a great 2013. All the best!

**Chris Evers, APWA FL Chapter President**
The City of Indian Rocks Beach goes Pavement Presentation with Micro-surfacing
By: John Howle

Today’s budget constraints call for Pavement Preservation practices more than ever to preserve the investment in this country’s roadway system. Putting “the right treatment” on “the right road” at “the right time” is becoming the norm in order to stretch the limited available tax dollars and make our roads last longer before more expensive traditional methods are required. In the past the normal method of extending the roadway surface was milling and resurfacing. In some instances, if no maintenance is performed and extensive cracking develops in the roadway surface, rain water will infiltrate the pavement eventually destroying the roadway base and no alternative is left but to reconstruct the road.

Indian Rocks Beach City Manager Chuck Coward and Public Services Director Dean Scharmen are using Micro-surfacing as their Pavement Preservation treatment with the help of CivilSurv Design Group, an Engineering Firm out of Lakeland, FL, and Asphalt Paving Systems, a pavement preservation contractor out of Zephyrhills, FL. Wendell Mock is the Construction Manager overseeing the project for CivilSurv.

CivilSurv rated each of the streets within the City and developed a ranking and recommended treatment for reconditioning each of the streets. The evaluation showed that cracking had occurred on some of the streets but water damage had not occurred. It was recommended that 14 streets with a total length of 2.68 miles be restored by installing a Crack Seal in each of the cracks then applying a double Micro-surface. The Crack Seal helps to prevent further cracking and also seals the pavement to help eliminate future infiltration of rain water. After the Crack Seal was done, a double Micro-surfacing of the streets took place resulting in a finished surface that will last an average of 10 to 12 years.

The cost for the crack seal and double Micro-surfacing was $3.75 per square yard compared to the average cost of $8.00 per square yard for traditional milling and resurfacing. With these cost savings, the City of Indian Rocks Beach was able to expand the list of roads that could be surfaced keeping the project within budget.
On October 31st in Fort Myers, the Southwest Florida Branch held their first Public Works Director Roundtable. The event drew good participation from the surrounding agencies. There was a broad cross-section of agencies from large counties such as Lee, Charlotte and Collier County to small agencies such as the Town of Fort Myers Beach and Sanibel. The Roundtable started with a welcome message from Amy Davies, the Southwest Branch Chair, and moved to a brief history on the APWA PWD Roundtable initiative. Robert Garland from Greeley and Hansen provided the lunch. Chris Evers, the Florida Chapter President, served as the facilitator for the Roundtable.

The group of nine directors held spirited discussions regarding the state of Public Works across the Southwest Florida area. Popular topics included the lack of funding, low morale among employees, communication with citizens and elected officials, alternative funding sources, social media and advocacy. Chris presented each director with the new Public Works Director gold pin. The group was energetic and committed to having future roundtables in the Branch. APWA looks forward to having many more of these across the state. If your Branch is interested in holding a Roundtable please contact either Chas Jordan or Chris Evers. The Chapter’s goal is to have one in every Branch in the state by April 2013.
APWA Florida Chapter Young Professionals

APWA Florida Chapter Young Professionals (YP) have been busy!! Three Young Professional networking events have been hosted amongst three different branches in Florida. The Young Professional Subcommittee set a goal to host YP events with at least 50% of the FL Chapter Branches between July 2012 and April 2013. In August, North East Branch Young Professionals co-hosted a Summer Baseball Social event with FWEA (Florida Water Environment Association) and AWWA (American Water Works Association). The evening involved a tailgate followed by watching a local minor league baseball team, the Jacksonville Suns, defeat the rival Birmingham Barons.

In September, Central Florida Branch co-hosted a Game Night/Networking Event with ASCE’s (American Society of Civil Engineers) Younger Member Forum in Orlando. West Coast Branch hosted a networking event last month in Tampa. All events were well attended by a diverse group including consultants, government employees, students, members and prospective members. The Young Professional networking events prove to increase interest in APWA and continue to build strong partnerships amongst public works professionals. A special thanks to our branches, subcommittee, and members for their continued support, hard work, and enthusiasm for the Young Professional Initiative. For more information regarding the YP Initiative and how to host an event with your branch, please contact Amanda Millirons, YP Chair at millia@pbfl.org.
**What's Happening in the Districts**

The Florida Chapter of APWA is comprised of 11 Districts. Each District is unique and has its own set of events and meetings held for their members. Read below to find out what's happening in your area.

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**APWA Florida Chapter Districts**

<table>
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<th>District</th>
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| District I: Bay, Calhoun, Columbia, Gulf, Holmes, Jackson, Okaloosa, Walton, Washington | Jackson County
| District II: (Big Bend Branch) Franklin, Gadsden, Hamilton, Jefferson, Leon, Liberty, Madison, Taylor, Wakulla | Lynn Westbrook
| District III: Alachua, Bradford, Columbia, Dixie, Gilchrist, Lafayette, Levy, Baker, Union, Marion | Alisha K. Wetherell
| District IV: (Northeast Branch) Baker, Clay, Flagler, Duval, Nassau, Putnam, St. Johns | Amy Blaida
| District V: (Central Branch) Brevard, Lake, Volusia, Seminole, Orange, Osceola | Thomas Frisbie
| District VI: (West Coast Branch) Citrus, Hernando, Polk, Hillsborough, Pasco, Pinellas, Sarasota | Al Green
| District VII: Indian River, Glades, St. Lucie |
| District VIII: (South Coast Branch) Desoto, Hardee, Highlands, Manatee, Sarasota |
| District IX: (Southwestern Branch) Charlotte, Collier, Glades, Hendry, Lee |
| District X: (Gold Coast Branch) Martin, Palm Beach |
| District XI: (South Florida Branch) Dade, Broward, Monroe |

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**Emerald Coast Branch**

The Emerald Coast Branch held a quarterly meeting on September 6, 2012 in Destin, Florida at the Golden Corral. The meeting was called to order by Chairman, Ken Schnell. The Treasurers Report was given by Chairman Schnell due to the absence of Norlita Quebedeaux. District Representative Al Green gave a report on the Executive Committee that was held on August 3-4 2012 in Delray Beach. Emphasis was placed on selecting a logo for each branch. Branch members were encouraged to submit suggestions before the next meeting in order to vote and approve a logo. Members were also advised of the new membership incentives that were put in place to create a competitive spirit in the Chapter for obtaining new members. Members were encouraged to submit nominations for awards and ideas on planning an event that would encourage younger professionals to join the APWA. After the Representatives Report, Chairman Schnell introduced guest speaker Bob Siffert with Asphalt Paving Systems. The next meeting of the Emerald Coast Branch will be December 6, 2012 at 11:30 am at Ryan’s located at 3000 S. Ferdon Blvd, Crestview, FL 32536.

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**Central Florida Branch**

The Central FL Branch has had a very busy 2012! Our 2nd Annual Young Professionals Event was held with ASCE Younger Members Forum on 9/20/12. We held a Volunteer Landscape Day at the Give Kids the World Village (GKTW) in Kissimmee, FL, on 11/10/12. GKTW is a 70-acre, non-profit resort that creates magical memories for children with life-threatening illnesses and their families. Our recent Business Meeting & Christmas social was held on 12/06/12 at The Grille at Riverview in New Smyrna Beach. Plans are in the works for our Annual Scholarship Fundraiser & Awards Program which will be held in March 2013.

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**Santa Fe Branch**

As the District Representative was in Argentina, Branch Chair, Michael Fay, attended the Fall Chapter Executive Committee Meeting. On November 6th, the Santa Fe Branch Executive Committee met to discuss Membership and future activities. As we have lost the Branch Secretary/Treasurer, Thomas Frisbie will temporarily take over the duties. We are planning a January meeting and will make attempts to attract interest from the many counties and communities in the District who have no Members.
What's Happening in the Districts

Florida West Coast Branch

On August 15, 2012, the Central Branch and the West Coast Branch held a joint meeting in Reunion, Florida which included a director round table and a panel presentation. On September 8, the West Coast Branch had a family cookout and attended a Rays and Texas Ranger game. There was a good crowd but the Rays lost the game. The West Coast Branch held its second Rodeo of the year on October 2 in Pinellas Park at the England Brothers Park. There were 61 contestants and 200 attendees. Eight vendors sponsored the event. The branch continued to move its board meetings to different locations within the branch’s district, with the September 12 meeting at the City of Belleair. The November meeting was held at the Bartow Air Park. Ending the 2012 calendar events will be the Edward Burkett Scholarship Program and Golf Tournament at the Heritage Harbor Country Club in Lutz, Florida.

Florida Suncoast Branch

The Suncoast Branch held monthly breakfast meetings during the past quarter. At each meeting an interesting program of timely topics to the public works community was featured. Meetings are held on the fourth Wednesday of the month at the Dutch Heritage Restaurant, starting at 7:30 AM. In June, the Suncoast Branch and the Southwest Florida Branch held a joint lunch meeting in Punta Gorda at the Laishley Crab House in Laishley Marina on June 28th. The guest speaker was Billy Hattaway the FDOT District 1 Secretary who spoke on the FDOT work program for District 1 and the pros and cons of the new selection procedure Adjusted Score Type. Also speaking was Chris Evers, the new APWA FL Chapter President, who spoke about the APWA FL Chapter and his goals for the 2012/13 term. For 2012, we have awarded a total of 8 scholarships (5 to degree seeking students; 3 to non-degree seeking students) in the total amount of $4,859.86. In addition, in January we donated $1,000 to the Florida Chapter's Scholarship Fund. The Suncoast Branch hosted their 15th Annual C. Pratt scholarship golf tournament on Friday, November 9th at the Eagle Ridge Golf Club. We had 35 golfers in attendance. Monies are still being tallied but it appears to have been a successful tournament. The weather was great and a fully Involved BBQ provided quite a spread of food to end the day and a great time was had by all. Our branch continues to hold informative monthly breakfast meetings and provide support for our chosen charities. We are currently collecting donations for the animal shelters in our 5 county area. With the decline in the economy, the homeless pet population has risen. Donations of pet food, blankets and cleaning supplies are welcome. We are also continuing with our Adopt A Road duties along Daniels Parkway in Fort Myers and are still collecting travel size toiletries for the local Homeless Coalition.

Florida Gold Coast Branch

The Gold Coast Branch had our most recent meeting on Wednesday, September 19th at the West Palm Beach Golf Course and our last board meeting on Monday, November 5th. Our November meeting was held on the 14th in Lake Worth. On October 20, the Gold Coast Branch had another very successful tournament. We will again be offering APWA scholarships this upcoming year with the proceeds from the tournament. This past year our branch gave out $8,000 in scholarships to students pursuing careers in Public Administration and members furthering their education.

Greetings from the Treasure Coast Branch, thank goodness we did not have to see Hurricane Sandy although it did create a great deal of erosion and storm surfe within the tidal areas. On the good side, we held our 2nd annual inshore fishing tournament in Stuart, Florida, on November 10. Proceeds to benefit the treasure Coast Food Bank, which could not have at a better time with Thanksgiving right around the corner. We hope everyone in our APWA family has a safe and enjoyable holiday. We will let y'all know how the fishing went next time around.

First to respond, last to leave.

The South Florida Branch has a new Branch logo, approved by National and the Chapter, which will now appear on all letterhead and printed notices to our membership. Our Branch annual golf tournament was held November 9th at the Jacaranda Country Club in the beautiful City of Plantation. The Country Club recently went through a $2.5 million dollar renovation. All profits will be used for our scholarship program. Our Branch is continuing their pre-planning for the Florida Chapter Annual Meeting and Equipment Show for 2014. Plans are in place for housing and convention center floor space. Vendors have been contacted offering them an opportunity to present their companies to our membership. Their response has been extremely positive as we look forward to a great show. Our Education Committee, chaired by Esmond Scott, is doing an outstanding job providing technical training and educational programs to our membership. The last program was Florida Stormwater, Erosion and Sedimentation Control Training and Certification. It was a day and a half course presented in the City of Miami Gardens. At the end of the program exams were taken and certifications were issued by the State of Florida.
APWA Florida Chapter is getting a new look!

Have you been seeing a change in the look and feel of the APWA Florida Chapter? You have? Then good! The Chapter leadership over the past two years has been actively working to present a new brand image for the Florida Chapter to begin a campaign for publicizing APWA and Public Works in Florida. This brand is based on the latest national brand for APWA with a very Florida feel. Over the next few months, on the website and in publications such as this newsletter, you will see this Brand take hold more and more. It is our hope, as the leadership, that it becomes recognizable and gets our members excited about our Chapter and its mission.

Now, some of you (being the Public Works professionals that you are) probably do not understand what a Brand is, or what the benefit is to branding an organization or a group of people such as us. Basically, we are creating a personality and a feeling for the APWA Florida Chapter in the way we present ourselves to the public. This means a new logo, a new branded tagline, new look for our periodicals, and much much more. The outcome should be a feeling of professionalism, unity, and pride for the organization you belong to.

Each of our Branches has been developing a new logo for themselves utilizing our Brand elements (the Florida Chapter Sunburst and Font). Look for these in your Branch newsletters, publications, and websites! The Florida Chapter will also be developing new publications, marketing materials, and other neat things for Public Works professionals to use across the state, so stay tuned.

It is time the state of Florida sees Public Works, recognizes it, and appreciates it. We are laying the groundwork for that to happen now. We hope you help us by wearing your new Florida Chapter lapel pin, a piece of clothing from our online store, or through directing people to the Florida Chapter website: www.apwaflorida.org.

It's time the state of Florida sees Public Works, it's time they see YOU.
The purpose of the PACE Award is to recognize APWA chapters for contributions made to positively impact their membership, profession, and community. This award recognizes chapters which demonstrate this accomplishment in a given year. There are four categories in which the chapter is evaluated: (1) Membership, (2) Service to Chapter Members, (3) Advancement of Public Works, and (4) Service to the Community. Each category has specific goals that were used to evaluate the chapter’s programs and services to the membership and community. The PACE Award recipients are selected by a panel comprised of APWA’s current President, President-Elect, and the three most recent Past Presidents. The individuals above were recognized at the 2012 Awards Recognition Ceremony during the APWA International Public Works Congress & Exposition in Anaheim, CA, and will be featured in APWA publications.

Congratulations Florida Chapter and a special thanks to all of YOU who contributed to our success!

Congratulations to our APWA Florida Region Award Winners!

Bob Gordon, Top Ten Public Works Leader
Don Jacobovitz, Community Service
City of Gainesville for their Re-Accreditation
City of Largo for their Re-Accreditation
RS&H for the Bridge of Lions

APWA 2012 CONGRESS AND EXPO PHOTOS
SAVE THE DATE!

APWA 2013 Congress will be held in Chicago, IL, August 25-28, 2013
The Best Show in Public Works—August 25–28, 2013 McCormick Place, Chicago, IL

For more than 100 years, the APWA International Public Works Congress & Exposition has drawn thousands of public works professionals from all over the world. If you’re like many, you have limited resources for professional development, so you’ve chosen APWA’s Congress as your preferred venue for:

- Outstanding education sessions that address current public works issues—as well as ongoing challenges.
- The chance to see an extensive gathering of exhibitors and The Expo Experience.
- Opportunities to network with your peers, hone your leadership abilities and learn new job skills.

APWA’s Congress features more than 125 technical and professional development sessions presented by your colleagues and industry vendors. There’s no better way to learn than from those who are "in the know." You can earn CEUs and PDHs that will add value to the information you learn onsite. The Expo Experience—keeping in line with the impressive size of our host site—will be the BEST ever!

APWA FL CHAPTER Association Alliance Committee

The need for a single committee to represent APWA as we communicate with other associations in Florida had been identified some time ago but did not come to fruition until April of 2011 under Past-President Kim Kirby. I am excited to head up this committee and have the opportunity to meet so many outstanding individuals throughout the state. APWA has many common goals and objectives as other associations in Florida. The Association Alliance Committee provides a single conduit that the APWA Executive Board can use as a formal communication mechanism with other associations. However, this Committee does not “over-shadow” the many contacts and memberships that our members already have in place with other associations.

We have a much “louder” voice when we all come together as a profession to protect our interest and above all, the safety and welfare of the public. One of the first associations the Association Alliance Committee got involved with is the Florida Local Government Coalition (FLGC). The Florida Local Government Coalition is an organization for local government associations that works to benefit its members through collaboration, resource sharing, professional development and issues education. I serve on the FLGC steering committee and recently participated in the development of the Strategic Action Plan.

A goal for this committee is to establish regional subcommittees in Panhandle, NE Florida, Central Florida, SW/Tampa, and Palm Beach/Broward/Dade Counties with an APWA member heading up each region. This has successfully been done in the Central Florida area with Amy Blaida collaborating with other societies, mainly ASCE and FES, and having joint meetings on topics of common interest. I would like to reach out to our members in Panhandle, NE Florida, SW/Tampa, and Palm Beach/Broward/Dade Counties and ask for volunteers to act as regional contacts.

As a way to expand our knowledge and communicate with other associations, President Chris Evers has started asking representatives of other associations to present their information on Friday of the quarterly APWA Executive Board Meetings. Mr. Irvin Lee of the Society of Military Engineers (SAME) attended the last meeting on October 26th.

Jim Myers, Chair, jim.myers@tlpeng.com, 407-901-5062 (office), 407-770-7064 (Cell),
Central Florida Branch/West Coast Branch Joint Meeting
Alternative Funding in the Current Environment

The Central Florida Branch and the West Coast Branch held a joint meeting at Reunion on August 15, 2012. Over 100 attendees gathered together to listen to a panel of experts discuss alternative forms of funding for public works projects and programs in the current environment. Panelists included the following: Sue Hann, City Manager, City of Palm Bay (Moderator); Scott Cottrell, Public Works Director, Sumter County; Dave Derrick, Public Works Director, City of Kissimmee; Bob Gordon, Public Works Director, City of Temple Terrace; George Recktenwald, Public Works Director, Volusia County; and Val Gelnovatch, Partner at the Ferguson Group, LLC.

A Public Works Director Roundtable was held prior to the panel presentation. Twenty-four Public Works Directors attended this informative roundtable to discuss issues that public works directors face in the state of Florida.

The below article is a recap of the panel presentation.

Finding the Funds
By Tim Gillman

Funding projects may be the single largest problem public works practitioners face when attempting to improve their communities. To address this ever-present problem, the Central Florida and West Coast Branches of the Florida Chapter of the American Public Works Association (APWA) brought together leaders across the region for a panel discussion titled, “Alternative Funding Solutions for Public Works Projects and Programs in the Current Environment,” held at the Reunion Resort in Kissimmee on August 15.

The panel included Public Works Directors from both branches who have all incorporated innovative strategies to identify and utilize funding solutions for their projects, and it concluded with a federal lobbyist who aids companies and local governments through the complex process of attaining federal grants.

Sue Hann, P.E., APWA Board of Directors member and the current City Manager for the City of Palm Bay, Fla., moderated the panel and began by addressing the current APWA Florida Chapter Public Works Director of the Year, George Recktenwald.

As the Public Works Director of Volusia County, Recktenwald is responsible for management, administration and performance of the more than 400-person Public Works Department. Recktenwald explained how the use of a “special assessment tax” opens doors for potential funds when improving a specific area.

Citing one example, the West Highlands Subdivision in Orange City, Fla., was riddled with danger and safety hazards. Unpaved dirt roads were impassable and structure locations were putting property at risk. However, the county lacked the $50 million necessary to bring the roads up to current standards. With the utilization of a special assessment tax, those living in the subdivision contributed funding to the project while other Orange City residents who would be unaffected by the improvements would not have to pay. This method enabled the county to make drastic changes quickly to an area in dire need of attention.

Similarly, Scott Cottrell, P.E., the Public Works Director for Sumter County, spelled out a variety of ways in which he was able to secure funding for much needed road improvements. Cottrell explained that some heavily traveled roads in Sumter County had not been repaved in the past 30 years. While an annual resurfacing program was in place, the annual funding given to the program was simply not enough. Cottrell, who has 10 years of experience at senior levels with City and County Management Public Work organizations, devised a variety of methods to ascertain more funding.

“First and foremost, to get more funds we needed to convince the bank that we needed it,” Cottrell said, “and more importantly to make sure they understood the consequences if we didn’t receive the funding.”
Continued: Finding the Funds

Cottrell also pointed out that the most practical of solutions can be the most effective. “Don’t do the things you don’t need to do,” Cottrell simply stated, “ask the question... ‘Why are we doing this?’ You need to prioritize.”

Sue Hann then moved to Director of Public Works and Engineering for the City of Kissimmee, Dave Derrick. Derrick has been with Kissimmee for 17 years and currently manages a staff of more than 100 employees. During his time at Kissimmee, Derrick incorporated innovative solutions that save money.

According to Derrick, the utilization of mini solar-powered trash compactors for the downtown area will save the city thousands of dollars and also reduce the reoccurrence of trash pick-up, which preserves valuable resources. The City of Kissimmee was also able to save $100,000 a year by opening its own welding shop that effectively “cuts the middle man.” Rather than buying expensive machinery parts from an outside company, Derrick and his team are able to conduct repairs on their machinery, as well as make new parts for the machines at a fraction of the cost.

The final Director of Public Works on the panel was Robert Gordon, P.E., a 2012 National APWA Top Ten Public Works Leader Award winner. He has worked for the City of Temple Terrace for the past year and a half, where he manages more than 60 employees. Prior to working for Temple Terrace, Gordon was the Public Works Director for Hillsborough County where he was responsible for the oversight of a $900 million multi-year transportation and stormwater capital program.

Gordon detailed how making movements toward independence can save money in the long run. For instance, the City of Temple Terrace is completely dependent on the City of Tampa for wastewater treatment needs. Tampa is able to charge a substantial fee for this service, and since Temple Terrace had no other options to handle its wastewater, Tampa was able to bring in a large amount of annual revenue, which it had also begun to depend on.

Temple Terrace becoming more independent with regard to its wastewater management became a top priority for Gordon and his team. As they began the long process of evaluating other wastewater treatment options, Tampa realized that it may lose a very important client, thus it opened negotiations with the city. Gordon and his team were able to secure a nearly 15% reduction in their rate, saving them $600,000 annually.

Last to speak on the panel was Val Gelnovatch, a federal lobbyist. Gelnovatch represents municipal and for-profit clients on matters related to transportation, aviation, port development, economic development and water infrastructure. Working side-by-side with clients, she has secured more than $100 million in federal funds through both the appropriations and grant processes.

Gelnovatch explained that her role as a lobbyist is quite different from the stereotypical idea of lobbying.

“I am lobbying not in the sense of leveraging political ties, but rather taking clients through the process of securing grants and cultivating real relationships.”

According to Gelnovatch, in order to secure funding through grants, relationships are essential. Not relationships in the shallowest of senses that usually involve one phone call for introduction, but rather multiple meetings in order to give an essential edge when competing for a grant with 100 other organizations. She is also instrumental in identifying grants that should be pursued, and equally important, grants that would not be worth pursuing.

The APWA panel presentation left its audience with a plethora of innovative funding opportunities and new ideas. The presentation concluded with a round of applause and a brief Q&A period. However, it did not take long for the building to clear out as an eager group of attendees rushed to the renowned Reunion Resort golf course to continue the discussions and networking over a good game of golf.

Special thanks to the organizers of this event, which drew close to 100 attendees: Amy Blaida, RS&H, Chair of the APWA Central Florida Branch; and Randy Shane with Asphalt Paving Systems, Chair of the APWA West Coast Branch.
Brevard County Gets Durable Drainage Using Precast Concrete Culverts

V.A. Paving is installing three precast reinforced concrete box culverts (RCBs) as part of a Brevard County Natural Resources Management Office (NRMO) contract valued at $2.26M. Rinker Materials Concrete Pipe Division is manufacturing the precast RCBs. This project replaces failing infrastructure and is an investment in the West Cocoa community.

Two deteriorated metal culverts crossing Burnett Rd. at Pluckebaum Rd. were replaced with a 50-feet long, triple barrel run of 6-feet rise by 10-feet span (6-ft. X 10-ft.) precast RCBs. Pegasus Engineering and Michael Galura Engineering Consultants provided engineering services for the triple barrel culvert. The remaining two concrete culverts include a 450-feet long, dual run of 4-ft. X 11-ft. precast RCB along A Lane to the south of Mobile Ave. and a 920-feet long, dual run of 4-ft. X 8-ft. precast RCB along A Lane to the north of Mobile Ave. Jones Edmonds & Associates provided engineering services for the dual-barrel culverts.

The three concrete culvert installations are part of the Brevard County NRMO’s West Cocoa Drainage Improvements project that will improve drainage and mitigate flooding in the 6,400-acre West Cocoa watershed. The overall West Cocoa Drainage Improvements involves replacing over 1,300 feet of metal pipe with new concrete culverts, regrading approximately 2,400 feet of the existing ditch south of State Road 520, cleaning and regrading an existing ditch between I-95 and Pluckebaum Road. Carolina Alvarez is the project manager for Brevard County.

The need for the West Cocoa Drainage Improvements is based on the Post Tropical Storm Fay Drainage Evaluation, which was prepared by the Brevard County Natural Resources Management Office in 2008. County staff was creative and hard-working with their approach to funding. The overall project benefits from multiple funding sources, including Brevard County stormwater utility fees, $3.7M in U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), and $807,000 Federal Emergency Management Administration (FEMA) grants.

References:
1. Author: Doug Holdener, P.E., Florida Region Engineer, Rinker Materials Concrete Pipe Division.
SAVE THE DATE!!!
2013 APWA FL Chapter Annual Meeting & Trade Show

APWA Florida Chapter will be holding the Annual Meeting & Trade Show in Jacksonville on April 22-26, 2013. The conference agenda will be released soon.

APWA FL Chapter Branch Officer Training

Mark your calendar for Friday April 26, 2013 - 9:00 to 11:00 in Jacksonville! APWA will be providing FL Chapter Branch Officer Training during the APWA 2013 Chapter Annual Meeting & Trade Show.

Do you sometimes wonder what is your role as an APWA Branch Officer? As part of the Florida Annual Meeting and Trade Show, we are holding a short session to help answer some of your questions. We'll cover such topics as:

- How is APWA organized?
- What is the difference between National APWA, Florida Chapter and my Branch?
- Am I a member of all three?
- Who do I contact if I have a question?
- What is an Executive Committee?
- What can the APWA websites do for my Branch?
- How can I increase my Branch membership and meeting attendance?
- What are other Branches doing?
- How can I join another Branch?
- How does APWA help me attain CEU/PDH credits.

We hope to bring you simple information so you feel more comfortable in your role and find out where you can go for help.

If you have any questions, talk with your District Director or contact me.

Doug Layton, Florida Chapter Delegate, 904-646-9068
It is that time of year once again to recognize our outstanding public works employees and projects!

APWA’s Florida Chapter Awards Program was established to recognize outstanding individuals and groups representing the best achievements in the public works profession in Florida.

We want your nominations NOW!

The Florida Chapter’s Award Program offers an excellent opportunity to recognize individuals and firms for a job well done.

Each year the Florida Chapter recognizes the awardees at our Annual Meeting and Trade Show. Applicants of parallel National Award categories may also be eligible for submittal with Chapter endorsement for National Awards.

Self-nominations for Florida Awards are permitted.

Please keep in mind the absolute deadline for Florida Chapter award submittals is February 1st, 2013.

There will be no exceptions! Applications must be delivered and in my hands (or more correctly, to my computer) by close of business on this day.

NOTE: THERE WILL BE NO PAPER SUBMITTALS!

We will be accepting digital/electronic medium ONLY. CDs, thumb drives, FTP sites are acceptable methods for file transfer. Materials will not be returned and may be used in APWA newsletters, website, or other marketing and promotional APWA uses. Your submittal provides implied and expressed permission for said use by APWA. Any awards that are suitable for National submittals may be forwarded unless otherwise noted.

For additional information about the 2013 Awards Program, contact Don Jacobovitz at 386-329-0346, fax 386-329-0340 or e-mail: don.jacobovitz@putnam-fl.com.

To access the submittal application and a complete listing of all awards, click here.
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(Recruitment & Retention; Records; & Young Professionals)
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17
Free On-Demand Public Works Education

PASS IT ON! The [APWA Members' Library](#) has more than 500+ hours of on-demand public works education currently available at no additional cost to members!

Never been an APWA member? [Join today](#) for only $82.

**Visit the APWA Members' Library Today!**

**Suncoast Branch wins Quarterly Membership Competition and $200!!**

Dale Haas, APWA FL Chapter President-Elect and member of the Suncoast Branch, accepts the lucrative Membership Plaque from Membership Chair Amy Blaida during the Oct 2012 FL Chapter Executive Committee Meeting. The Suncoast Branch also received a $200 check for signing up five new members from 8/23/12 - 10/22/12 while increasing their total membership by almost 3%. Way to go Suncoast Branch!! Your Branch can also win the Branch Membership Plaque plus $200 by signing up the highest percentage of members AND increasing total membership!

**Brian Usher is Presented Life Membership from the APWA Florida Chapter**

(Left to Right - Randy Shane, Chairman of the APWA West Coast Branch, Brandi Allegood, Vice-Chairman of the APWA West Coast Branch, Theresa Usher, Brian Usher, City of Largo, Chas Jordan, Past Chairman of the APWA West Coast Branch)
QUARTERLY INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP COMPETITION

- Individuals who sign up a NEW member are entered into a quarterly drawing to receive an exclusive prize (the more members you sign up, the greater your chance is to WIN). See prize below.

- RULES
  
  - **YOU must send** membership info to prospective member & copy (or BCC) Amy Blaida: amy.blaida@rsandh.com.
  
  - **YOU must follow up** with Amy when this member has joined APWA.

- Timeline
  
  - You will receive one name in the drawing for each member that joins because of YOU beginning October 26, 2012. Name will be selected at Jan 2013 EC meeting!
  
  - Last day to sign up new member: December 31, 2012. Members who sign up on or after Jan 1, 2013 will count towards the next quarterly drawing.

JANUARY 2013 PRIZE:
Become a Member and Be the Voice for Public Works!

Did you know that APWA National offers a Hardship (free) Membership for 6 months (and up to a year) for those members who have been laid off from their job in the field of public works? Contact APWA National Membership for more information at (800) 848-APWA or membership@apwa.net.

Did you know that APWA offers a special rate for those who have never been a member of $82 for the 1st year? http://www.apwa.net/membership/never-been-a-member

Are you aware that APWA offers group memberships for both public agencies and private corporations? Are you a student? You can join APWA at a discounted rate. http://www.apwa.net/membership/Types-of-Membership

Please direct any membership inquiries regarding the FL Chapter to Amy Blaida, Membership Chair, amy.blaida@rsandh.com or 813-468-4576.

All About Membership

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