Since this is my first article for our newsletter let me start by saying what a privilege it is to be the chair of the local branch this year and thank you for your support of APWA. Based on the attendance at our last luncheon where we handed out our annual project awards and Mr. Alan Mosley-FDOT District 2 Secretary spoke, there is a significant number of us throughout the Northeast Florida area that are interested in public works issues. That is very exciting as I think we have a great year planned that will provide all of us with real opportunities for obtaining continuing education credits, networking, and hearing up-to-date information about our professions.

Let me also say thank you to our Executive Committee. These folks put in the time to make everything we do possible and we would not have a branch if it was not for them. If you have any questions or want to get more involved with APWA here are the people to contact: Greg Perrine-Chair; David Kemp-Vice Chair; Joey Duncan-Secretary; Sherry Hall-Treasurer; Patrick Victor-Immediate Past Chair; Lynn Westbrook-Branch District Representative; Doug Layton-Florida Chapter Delegate; Deborah Ballard-Newsletter; Bernard O’Connor-Scholarship Committee; Don Jacobovitz-Awards Committee; Ed Hall-Past Chair; George Knecht-Past Chair; John Pappas-Past Chair; Linnie Russell-Young Professionals; Seth Nehrke-Young Professionals; Tom McVey-Sponsorship Committee; William Joyce-membership; Cheryl Robitzsch; Duane Kent.

As I mentioned, one of our initiatives is to provide opportunities for continuing education. To accomplish that goal we will sponsor a comprehensive stormwater management course. Our schedule is to have the classes prior to the end of February so professional engineers and licensed operators can get the PDHs and CEUs needed for license renewal. The courses will be held locally (most likely at JEA) and encompass the full array of topics associated with capturing, transporting, and treating stormwater runoff. The course will be at a minimal cost so everyone should be able to take advantage of the opportunity.

Our second initiative is to start up a Young Professionals group within APWA. To make our organization sustainable over the coming years we need to ensure new graduates and younger professionals have the opportunities and benefits associated with being an APWA member. We will have more to come on this issue in the coming months. Seth Nehrke (NehrkeSM@cdm.com) is overseeing this effort for us so please contact him if you want to participate or have any suggestions on getting this effort underway.

I look forward to the coming year and welcome any suggestions or feedback you care to offer. The best way to reach me is by email at perrgl@jea.com. Thanks again for your support.

Greg Perrine, P.E.
Mark Your Calendars for the Upcoming APWA Luncheon
Thursday, August 26, 2010

Speaker: Marty Senterfitt-Chief of Emergency Preparedness
Topic: Emergency Preparedness
Where: River City Brewing Company
Time: 11:30 a.m. - Registration
      12:00 p.m. - Lunch
      12:30 p.m.—Speaker
Cost: $18
R.S.V.P: Email Jamie Brooks at jamieb@coj.net

A big thank you to all of the participants in this year’s APWA Golf Tournament! From your contributions, we were able to give $5,000 in scholarships to students in the Public Works field!

Go ahead and mark your calendars for the October 28, 2010 APWA luncheon. You will not want to miss it!

More exciting information to come!

APWA FLORIDA 2010 CHAPTER AWARDS

The City of Jacksonville and CDM won the Environmental Category (Less than $5 million) for McGirts Creek Park Regional Stormwater Facilities.

The City of Jacksonville and CDM won the Environmental Category (Less than $25 million) for Hogpen Creek Basinwide Improvements.

Putnam County and Jones Edmunds & Associates won the Environmental Category ($25 million to $75 million) for East Putnam County Regional Water System Reverse Osmosis.

Nassau County and Ayres Associates won the Transportation Category (Less than $5 million) for Goffinsville-Nassau River Park.

The City of Jacksonville and Ayres Associates won the Transportation Category (Less than $25 million) for Collins Road Improvements (Rampart Road to Blanding Boulevard)-Phase 2.

Current chair, Greg Perrine presented Patrick Victor with an award for his service as 2010 chair for the Northeast Florida APWA Branch.
APWA President-Elect Crombie Awarded Honorary Membership in American Academy of Environmental Engineers (AAEE)

WASHINGTON D.C. - The American Public Works Association’s George R. Crombie, MPA, was awarded Honorary Membership by the American Academy of Environmental Engineers (AAEE - www.aace.org) at the AAEE Excellence in Environmental Engineering Awards Luncheon in Washington D.C. The award luncheon honors distinguished people, engineering practices and research among consulting firms, public agencies and universities. Currently, Crombie is the president elect of APWA.

Crombie’s professional and educational background includes noteworthy positions in environmental, public works, and infrastructure fields. He is a Senior Faculty Member for Public Works Administration in the School of Graduate Studies at Norwich University, and he holds a Master of Public Administration from Northeastern University in Boston, MA. Crombie recently served as the Secretary of Environmental Affairs for the State of Vermont, and he served as Undersecretary of Environmental Affairs for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. His public works directorships have included the cities and towns of Durham, NH; Burlington, VT; Nashua, NH; and Plymouth, MA.

Throughout his career, Crombie has guided numerous award winning public works environmental projects using a systems thinking approach that balances environmental, economic, and quality of life challenges. He is a member of the US EPA Climate Ready Water Utilities Working Group, and was selected by the Aspen Institute to participate in a dialogue on “Sustainable Water Systems: Step One Redefining the Nation’s Infrastructure Challenge.” In 2008, Public Works magazine named Crombie one of the 2008 trendsetters in the United States in spearheading development of the Climate Change Collaborative in Vermont. He has also received a number of awards including the APWA National Charles Walter Nichols Award for outstanding meritorious achievement in the environmental field in 2001, and was named by APWA as one of the Top Ten Public Works Leaders in the U.S and Canada in 2002. Crombie has also received the Gold Leaf Award by the International Society of Arboriculture, as well as an APWA Jennings Randolph International Fellowship to study solid waste practices in Slovakia and the Czech Republic.