

Maine Water Environment NEWS

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August 2018 • Summer

A Publication of the Maine Water Environment Association

Remembering...



June Ann (LeGoff) Mooney

1950 - 2018

PITTSTON - June Ann (LeGoff) Mooney, 68, of Pittston, Maine died at home on July 29, 2018, after a brief illness.

June was born on June 20, 1950 in Winslow, Maine, the youngest of Cid and Jeanette's two girls. She attended Messalonskee schools and graduated in 1968. She was voted one of the best dressed in her high school class, as she had a love of fashion and great skill with a sewing machine. June attended University of Maine in Augusta and received an associate degree in liberal arts in 1971.

While at UMA she took a biology class that sparked her love of the sciences, and she enrolled at University of Maine to complete a bachelor's degree in animal and veterinary sciences in 1973. After college, June spent some time working in the Maine Public Health Lab before getting married and moving to Florida in her 20s and worked as a dog groomer and waitress while enjoying the sun and beaches. She left Florida and returned to Maine, the spot she felt was the best place to raise her kids. June stayed at home with her two little kids until they entered school, and she started working for the Augusta Water District as a Water Quality Chemist. June worked for the Augusta Water District for 28 years, retiring from the organization in July, 2017. June loved her work and took great pride in being a highly skilled and competent water chemist. She was also proud to serve on professional committees for the Maine Water Utilities Association, and the Maine Water Environment Association. Some of her favorite memories from her work for the Augusta Water district include the various orphaned wildlife that she rescued while she was stationed in the Carlton Pond Treatment Plant. Her favorite "rescue" from that time was her turtle named Jacob.

June had many interests. She was an avid animal and wildlife lover, and always had at least one cat companion, sometimes several. June also loved good food (most especially Indian food, Chinese food, and barbecue ribs), good music ("Kenny Church" at the Wharf long ago, classic rock, and classical), gardening, crocheting and sewing. She loved U.S. and European history and consumed many documentaries and books on the subjects. Her love of history made her favorite vacation trips those she took to England, Ireland, and Sturbridge Village. June was proud of her French-Canadian heritage, as well as her contributions to, and the successes of, her two children.

June is preceded in death by her parents, Charles "Cid" Legoff and Jeanette LeGoff (Duguay), formerly of Oakland.

Cont'd on page 5

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www.mewea.org

Upcoming Executive Committee Meeting Dates:

Oct. 19 – Executive Board Meeting – TBD

Nov. 16 – Executive Board Meeting/Budget Workshop at Maine Municipal Association

Dec. 14 – Executive Board Meeting/Final Budget/Holiday Luncheon at Maine Municipal Association

ON MY SOAPBOX:

By Mo Dube Septic Inspections

Note: *The opinions, positions, and views expressed in any “On My Soapbox” feature are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the opinions, positions or views of the Maine Water Environment Association.*

Fall is here! Along with the weather change I have excepted a business relationship with Dube Environmental Inc. a waste hauler out of Sidney Maine. As I was introduced to the employees, and training process for each employee, I realized that all these people care about what goes into wastewater management and the local community. From properly maintaining commercial and residential septic systems to investing in a greener future. During the local Old Hallowell day parade Dube Environmental placed first for the environmental award which was exciting for all. Due to this positive attitude any business would thrive, and while expanding your fleet is great for any business, the question arises where do you put all of the waste product. Dube Environmental would like all there waste to be turned into green energy, and has been working with Village Green Ventures to facilitate this dream. All other waste is disposed in accordance with DEP regulations at local municipalities. It is never an easy thing to start something new, so here is the deal on turning poo into energy.

Village Green Ventures' renewable energy plant now operational at Brunswick Landing. VGV Anticipates new anaerobic digester system to be generating up to 1 megawatt of electricity, roughly two fifths the current power load, in several months.

About the project:

- Power is generated from methane gas created by organic waste materials.
- Plant is located on 4.25-acre parcel on south end of Brunswick Executive Airport parking apron.
- Capacity to generate up to 1 megawatt of electricity; almost half of current electrical requirement at Brunswick Landing.
- Power plant will greatly reduce or eliminate electricity delivered over CMP's distribution grid to the campus.
- Power purchase agreement (PPA) with VGV will allow MRRA to continue to offer a below-market electricity rate (currently 11.5 cents per kilowatt hour).
- The Digester will help eliminate organic waste by re-using and recycling it

I hope that this idea can succeed and help in our future for energy efficiency and a low negative impact on our environment. 🌍



THIS COULD BE YOUR AD SPACE!

**Contact: Mo Dube or Bryanna Denis,
MEWEA Communications Co-Chairs**

Mo Dube: service@patjacksonseptic.com

Bryanna Denis: bryanna.denis@wright-pierce.com

PROBLEM SOLVING

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Ops Challenge

It's about that time of year again. The time of year that I get the third reminder of "hey, are you ever going to write that Operations Challenge newsletter article you said you would write?" Normally I would then frantically scramble to write up a poorly composed article updating everyone on the results of the spring NEWEA conference event. For example, for this year I would have informed every one of our strong third place victory. I would have played up the hard work and effort, the teams proud accomplishments and all the time that was spent in preparation. I would also normally elude to the possibility that the other teams were cheaters, or that they were in cahoots with the judges. I would also normally downplay or omit all together the fact that we only competed against two other teams.

This year is different. I'm not going to do any of that stuff. This time I want to focus on the overall benefit that Ops Challenge has brought to myself, past and present participants and potentially even on you, dear reader. Because while our overall finish was last place, I still felt greatly accomplished in the overall goal of Ops Challenge which is making new friends and sharing knowledge and experiences. This year's team was comprised of Riley Cobb from Saco WWRF (2nd year), Nate Melanson from LAWPCA (1st year), Shelby Carver from Kennebunk Sewer District (1st year) and Alex Buechner from the City of Biddeford (me, 11th year). For a long time, the team was made up of the same small group of people. We got to know each other well, had some great times, shared a few beers, won a few trophies. But ultimately Ops Challenge isn't about winning trophies. It's about making personal and professional relationships in a way that can't be rivaled by classrooms or conventions. It's about sharing stories and knowledge, all the things that we learn from our own work experiences. And it's about creating a doorway into the association to pave the way for a future generation of committee members who can be peer pressured into writing newsletter articles and such.

With all these great benefits, it seems wrong to keep Ops Challenge to ourselves. That is why we have decided to try and restructure the way that we put together teams. For starters, we would like to put together a list of all the people who may be interested in participating. Ops challenge requires more than just the 4-5 volunteers for the team. We also rely on a whole slew of people to help out with judging, coordinating, equipment

loaning, and coaching. We certainly can find a place for you if you want to be involved. The changes would involve putting a time limit on the number of years a person can participate as a team member, provided that there is enough interest to replace the team members after the number of years has been met. One of the obstacles we have to face is distance. Our state is spread out and sometimes it isn't practical for someone from Northern Maine to travel an hour or two south once a week to practice the events. To provide an equal opportunity for everyone regardless of location, we would also like to propose the idea of two teams based on interest location that would alternate every year or every other year.

We have lots of idea for spreading this great opportunity to as many people as we can, but it all starts with your interest. If you or someone you know would like to improve your professional skill set in a fun a laid-back way, contact myself at alex.buechner@biddefordmaine.org or 205-0469 to get on the list or to learn more about Operations Challenge. ●



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Treatment Plant Operators Committee

The Maine Water Environment Association is proud to announce that it has added a Treatment Plant Operators committee to its roster. The goals of this committee will be to create a place where operators can turn to for technical assistance, networking, and training. There are a lot of intelligent and experienced people in this field and we would like to try and make those people an accessible resource.

The first goal of this committee will be to implement a peer-to-peer training program that would incentivize wastewater professionals to get out and spend a day visiting another facility by offering training hours toward a wastewater license to both the visiting operator and the host.

Some of the other ideas we hope to include as we move forward are creating a list of people with knowledge in specific areas who can be contacted for assistance, promoting involvement with Operations Challenge, creating awards for operators, soliciting training needs and working with personal advancement to provide technical sessions, facilitate the operator exchange program, as well as anything else we can come up with to improve the association benefits to its operator members.

If you would like to be on the committee or have any suggestions for how these ideas could be improved upon, contact Alex Buechner at alex.buechner@biddefordmaine.org or call at 282-1350.

FALL 2018 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

September 20-21, 2018
MEWEA Fall Convention
Sunday River Resort, Newry ME

September 29-October 3, 2018
WEFTEC New Orleans, LA
<http://weftec-2018.org/>

October 9, 2018
Northern Maine Children's Water Festival
University of Maine, Orono ME
<https://umaine.edu/mitchellcenter/childrens-water-festival/>

October 18, 2018
Technology and Innovation Summit
Augusta ME

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Remembering... (cont'd)

June is survived by her children, Andrea Mooney (and Melody Fitch) of Hallowell, Maine, and Dylan Mooney of Orono, Maine; a sister Nancy LeGoff, of Smithfield, Maine; and her "furry children," housecats Samantha and Jacob; and many friends and cousins. ●



Jerome "Frenchie" Guevremont

RANGELEY - Jerome "Frenchie" Guevremont, 77, passed away on the evening of July 12, 2018, with his loving family by his side.

Frenchie was born on Nov. 10, 1940 in Brockton, Mass. He grew up and was educated in Norton, Mass., graduating from high school there in 1959. Following high school, he enlisted in the U.S. Navy and was assigned to the Naval Air Base in

Memphis, Tennessee, attending the school of Aerial Structural Mechanics. Once he graduated, he traveled the globe extensively and was assigned to Brunswick Naval Air Station and ended his enlistment in Rangeley at the Navy Survival S.E.R.E. School at Redington. He settled in Rangeley and became the first supervisor of Rangeley's new wastewater treatment facility and was the superintendent there until he retired in 2014. During his employment with the town, he was an invaluable asset serving in various positions and served several stints as the town manager.

Frenchie enjoyed working with the youth of Rangeley and coached little league baseball and boys high school basketball. He had many hobbies including; reading, weather reporting to local news and WRGY, bird watching, and caring for his Maine Coon Cats, rock collecting, hunting with his grandson, and he cherished playing store and school with his grand and great granddaughters. Frenchie's grandchildren will forever cherish the country drives and cruises, and the countless lifelong lessons including one he frequently told, "never put off until tomorrow what can be put off until the day after tomorrow." He was a man of unwavering faith, kindness and generosity, whose sense of humor and top tier pranks will be remembered always by his family, dear friends and his special buddy Jim Stone. ●

SOLUTIONS AND SUSTAINABLE ALTERNATIVES

ADMINISTRATIVE STRATEGY

- Investment in wastewater treatment systems is shifting from new construction projects to maintenance of original capacity and function of facilities (asset management). Life cycle costing should be embedded in capital budgeting, and combined sewer overflow, sanitary sewer overflow, and stormwater management programs need to be conducted continuously.²³
- In order to meet ambient water standards, total maximum daily loads (TMDLs) considering both point and non-point source pollutant loadings can be developed to achieve fishable and swimmable water quality. Watershed-based management of clean water is expected to facilitate establishment of these TMDLs.²⁴

REDUCE LOADING

- Examples of projects to reduce or divert wastewater flow include disconnecting household rainwater drainage from sanitary sewers, installing green roofs, and replacing impervious surfaces with porous pavement, swales, or French drains.
- Toilets, showers, and faucets represent 62% of all indoor water use. Install high-efficiency toilets, composting toilets, low-flow shower heads, faucet aerators, and rain barrels.²⁵ One study found water-efficient appliances contributed to a 10% decline in household water use since 1990.²⁶
- Graywater—wash water from kitchen sinks, tubs, clothes washers, and laundry tubs—can be used by homeowners for gardening, lawn maintenance, landscaping, and other uses.²⁷ ●

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Website: www.mewea.org

Editorial Staff: Bryanna Denis, Co-chair, Lead Project Engineer, Wright - Pierce, 11 Bowdoin Mill Island Ste. 104, Topsham, ME 04086. Phone: (207) 725-8721
E-mail: bryanna.denis@wright-pierce.com

Mo Dube, Co-Chair, Mo Dube, President, Mo Dube Septic Inspections and Repair. P.O. Box 184, China ME 04358.
Phone: (207) 313-0250
Email: Septagewoman@gmail.com

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