

OCTOBER 2013 NEWSLETTER

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GOVERNMENT GOINGS-ON

All summer long the hottest show in town has been CAGRD. The Central Arizona Groundwater Replenishment District (CAGRD) is the entity responsible for replacing mined groundwater used by its members. Any developer that wanted to get into compliance with the Assured Water Supply rules had to sign his subdivision up as Member Lands; municipal providers that leaned too heavily on groundwater had to join as Member Service Areas in order to get their Designations. The members are supposed to pay all the costs to acquire and replenish groundwater pumped and used within the subdivision or service area—otherwise no subdivision. Of course this only applies within Pima, Pinal, and Maricopa Counties, the major AMAs. The rest of the state is on its own.

During the real-estate boom years leading up to the Great Recession, CAGRD was signing up hundreds of Member Lands each year. For each subdivision, ADWR established a replenishment obligation for CAGRD. There were a few new Members Service Areas too, but most of the obligation was due to new subdivisions, usually on the fringes, that were relying on groundwater. But CAGRD wasn't acquiring much water, relying mostly on excess CAP water. A vast chasm grew between what CAGRD was supposed to replenish and the long-term water on hand to actually cover the obligation.

Every decade CAGRD must get ADWR to approve its Plan of Operation, which details where CAGRD plans to find

water supplies sufficient to cover the replenishment obligation. Much of the meat in the recent set of stakeholder meetings concerning the new Plan, due to ADWR in January 2015, has concerned how the gap should be closed. Excess CAP water is drying up as customers begin to use their full allotments and climate change increases the potential for shortages on the Colorado River. So to acquire long-term supplies, money will be required. The idea of raising activation and membership fees has not proven popular with developers. Conversely several entities such as cities want to see significant increases that will curtail the risk that CAGRD will not acquire sufficient water supplies. CAGRD staff have had to steer a middle course while simultaneously looking around for water. The elephant in the room is how to control enrollment once real estate takes off again; CAGRD does not have the legal authority to say "no" to prospective developers.

Recently CAGRD cut four deals for water. A three-year pilot project to fallow irrigated land and release water for CAGRD was just signed with Yuma Mesa IDD; if this works, other fallowing agreements might follow. CAGRD also bought Long-Term Storage Credits from three entities: 5,000 acre-feet annually from City of Tucson not to exceed 100,000 acre-feet, 22,296 acre-feet from Litchfield Park Service Company (over five years), and 605 acre-feet from Gold Canyon Sewer Company in Apache Junction. Those LTSCs are already in the ground. It's a good start. But such deals don't come cheap, and even more money will be needed in the future. It's the developers against everyone else—looks like stormy weather ahead for CAGRD.

Alan Dulaney

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DR. HERMAN BOUWER MEMORIAL

"What you leave behind is not what is engraved in stone monuments, but what is woven into the lives of others."

-Pericles

Family, friends, and colleagues gathered at the Pera Club in Tempe, Saturday, September 21, to remember and celebrate the wonderful life and lasting legacy of Dr. Herman Bouwer. In additional to family and other friends, several AHS members gave eulogies, attesting to the impact Dr. Bouwer had on them and us all as a friend and mentor. Herman may be gone from this earth but he lives on in the hearts and minds of many.

2013 AHS SYMPOSIUM WRAP UP



Marla Odom, Symposium Chair

We'd like to thank everyone who attended and supported the 2013 AHS Symposium, "Shifting Boundaries: Recalibrating they Hydrologic Approach" at the Doubletree Reid Park Hotel in Tucson. This was our first conference at the more intimate venue of the Doubletree and a great time was had by all!

We had a very successful day of workshops which included highly attended courses in GoldSim and the newly-released MODFLOW-USG programs. Intermountain Environmental Inc. (IEI) held a free workshop on the use of Campbell Scientific software that was also very well attended. Thanks to IEI for providing the valuable knowledge for free to our membership!

The 2013 symposium also included two days of plenary and technical sessions. Our plenary speakers addressed our symposium theme of recalibrating our approach to hydrology, from the planning and regulatory perspectives and our technical sessions covered a broad range of topics. Thank you to all of our speakers for helping to make our content robust and interesting.

We'd also like to give our sponsors one more cheer and thank everyone for supporting AHS. Sponsorship helps maintain the Society and our outreach efforts for 2014.

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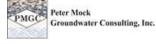














And also Havenor Operating Company;

In2Wells;

And Paul Lindberg

organization, and every year the symposium is put together by groups of people who work hard for free because they love AHS and everything it represents. Our annual meetings are successful thanks to the hard work of our volunteers. The 2013 AHS Symposium volunteers were:

Dale Armstrong **Brittney Bates** Juanita Francis Begay Michael Block Norm Carlson Molly Collins Jeffrey Cordova Laura Davis Dawn Garcia Damian Gosch Howard Grahn **Greg Hess** Gary Hix Dee Korich Kelly Mott Lacroix Mike Milczarek

Matt Narter Alexander Prescott

Christie O'Day Marla Odom
Nancy Riccio James Riley
Clare Stielstra Michael Tso
John Villinski Wally Wilson

Gary Woodard

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Our symposium was capped off with a birdwatching field trip to the Sweetwater Wetlands, which is both a water treatment facility and an urban wildlife habitat.



Birdwatchers (pictured left to right): Kendall Kroesen, Bruce Pryor, Molly Collins and daughter, Doyle Wilson, Marla Odom and Ryan Gamble The trip was led by Kendall Kroesen, the Habitats Program Manager for the Tucson Audubon Society, and Bruce M. Prior, Lead Hydrologist with Tucson Water. Kendall and Bruce explained how the Sweetwater facility works, and pointed out wildlife ranging from a large variety of birds, to dragonflies, to squirrels. The trip was beautiful, relaxing, and full of wondrous sites. Thanks to Kendall and Bruce for such a fun morning!



View from the reeds in the Sweetwater Wetlands



Ducks are one of the easier birds to photograph!







Thousands of dragonflies are spotted while walking through the wetlands.

In addition to those shown here, we saw cobalt blue, teal, purple, and yellow dragonflies.





Unexpected, magical moments were everywhere we looked.



Ducks are plentiful at the wetlands. Additional birds spotted, but not photographed, were: Northern Shoveler, Ruddy Duck, Pie-billed Grebe, Black-necked Stilt, American Kestrel, Abert's Towhee, and Cooper's Hawk.

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PHOENIX CHAPTER NEWS

Phoenix Chapter Dinner Meeting Annoucement

The next Phoenix Chapter dinner meeting will be held **on Tuesday, October 8, 2013**, at SunUp Brewing Co., in midtown Phoenix (on the north side of Camelback Road, just east of Central Avenue). Please join us for a beverage, to share business cards, and talk water!

The Phoenix Chapter wants your input; click the link to take a short survey about dinner meeting venues and times! http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/J2L8Y6R

Location: SunUp Brewery

322 E. Camelback Road Phoenix, AZ 85012

Event: Understanding Environmental Flows: The Arizona

Environmental Water Demands Database

presented by Kelly Mott Lacroix, Water Resources Research Center, College of Agriculture, University of

Arizona

Chapter Board

Meeting:

5:00 PM - 5:30 PM

Happy Hour &

Dinner:

5:30 PM - 7:00 PM

Program:

7:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Cost:

\$15 member, \$20 non-member, \$5 student

Please RSVP to Michele Robertson at MIRobertson3@GMail.com. Hope to see you there!

This talk is a reprisal of a similar presentation given at the symposium...

Understanding Environmental Flows: The Arizona Environmental Water Demands Database

Brittany Choate Xiu, Kelly Mott Lacroix and Sharon Megdal

Water Resources Research Center, College of Agriculture, University of Arizona

Across the western United States, there is an increasing interest in providing water to meet the needs of riparian and aquatic ecosystems. At the same time the gap between water supplies and demands continues to grow, making the timely provision of the best scientific information possible on environmental flow needs to decision makers a critical issue. The Environmental Water Demands Database brings together 111 studies of the environmental flow and level needs for over 135 aquatic and riparian species. Synthesis reveals many data gaps: only 25% of species studied have been examined more than once, studies are twice as likely to look at vegetation than any other taxa, and 40% of perennial stream miles statewide have been studied. The geographic scope and detail of species water needs limits the manager's ability to ensure flows will protect the whole ecosystem and highlights priority research areas. Areas of agreement from this analysis provide baseline information for moving forward with managing for water for the environment.

Brittany Choate Xiu is a Program Coordinator for the WRRC's <u>Connecting Environmental Water Needs to Arizona Water Planning</u>(EnWaP) project as well as <u>Conserve to Enhance</u> (C2E). EnWaP aims to establish voluntary, stakeholder-driven options for addressing environmental water demands throughout Arizona. C2E is a voluntary municipal water conservation program designed to link municipal water conservation with local riparian enhancement.

Brittany has been with the WRRC since 2010 when she began as a graduate research assistant with the Environment Program Team. She recently received her Master's degree in Soil & Water Science from the University of Arizona and has a Bachelor's degree in Environmental Science, also from the U of A.

Future Event Calendar (see also calendar on www.azhydrosoc.org)

- Ø November 12, 2013, at Nello's in Tempe; Enrique Vivoni, ASU, "Ecohydrology: Basic Concepts and Some Applications in Desert Systems"
- Ø December 10, 2013, at SunUp Brewing Company; Greg Ghidotti and Heather Gluski, Resolution Copper
- Ø January 13, 2014, Annual Planning Meeting

We're starting to plan for presentations at meetings starting in **February 2014**. Please contact <u>Tom Walker</u>, Phoenix Chapter Vice President, if you would like to give us a presentation or if you know anyone else who could use an audience.

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TUCSON CHAPTER NEWS

Location:

For the Tucson chapter meeting on October 8, Chris Eastoe will present stable isotope data that provide insights into the sources of aquifer recharge in southern Arizona.

Montgomery and Associates 1550 East Prince Road Tucson, AZ Social half hour: 6:00 PM

Program: 6:30 PM

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UPCOMING WRRC SPONSORED EVENTS

Brown Bag Seminar - Water Resource Impacts Embedded in the Western U.S. Electrical Energy Trade (Current Patterns and Adaptation to Future Drought)

Date: Thursday, October 10, 2013

Time: 12:00 pm - 1:30 pm

Location: WRRC Sol Resnick Conference Room (350 N. Campbell Ave.)

Speaker: Benjamin Ruddell, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Arizona State University

Presentation: Water Resource Impacts Embedded in the Western U.S. Electrical Energy Trade; Current Patterns and Adaptation to Future Drought (and broader Embedded Resource Impact Accounting applications to U.S. urban and watershed systems)

Water resources are a key element in the global coupled natural-human (CNH) system, because they are tightly coupled with the world's social, environmental and economic subsystems, and because water resources are under increasing pressure worldwide. A fundamental adaptive tool used especially by cities to overcome local water resource scarcity is the outsourcing of water resource impacts through substitutionary economic trade. This is generally understood as the indirect component of a water footprint, and as 'virtual water' trade.

Dr. Ruddell's presentation will explore generalized CNH methods, Embedded Resource Impact Accounting (ERA), to reveal the trade in water resource impacts embedded in electrical energy within the Western U.S. power grid, and the relationship of these impacts to the human economy's structure. He will discuss how he utilized a general equilibrium economic trade model combined with drought and demand growth constraints to estimate the future status of this trade. Trade in embedded water resource impacts currently increases total water used for electricity production in the Western United States and shifts water use to more water-limited States. Extreme drought and large increases in electrical energy demand increase the need for embedded water resource impact trade, while motivating a shift to more water-efficient generation technologies and more water-abundant generating locations. Cities are the largest users of electrical energy, and in the 21st Century will outsource a larger fraction of their water resource impacts through trade. This trade exposes cities to risks associated with disruption of long-distance transmission and distant hydrological droughts.

Dr. Benjamin Ruddell's professional experience is in the field of Science and Engineering research and education in a collaborative University setting. He has worked with a variety of federal, local, and private partners to accomplish cutting-edge projects. He is a scientist of complex systems (systems characterized by highly interconnected relationships). His professional goals are the advancement of the science of complex coupled natural-human (CNH) systems, especially in hydrology, climate, ecosystems, and in urban environments, and the development of excellence in STEM Education in a University setting. His B.S.E. degree in Engineering was completed in 2002 at Calvin College and his Ph.D. degree in Civil Engineering was completed in 2008 at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. He is an active member of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) and the American Geophysical Union (AGU).

Brown Bag Seminar - Contributions to the ISARM and TWAP Assessment with Examples of ISARM Americas from the Mexico-U.S. Border

Date: Friday, October 25, 2013 **Time:** 12:00 pm - 1:30 pm

Location: WRRC Sol Resnick Conference Room (350 N. Campbell Ave.)

Speaker: Randy Hanson, Hyrdrologist, USGS San Diego, California Water Science Center

Presentation: Contributions to the ISARM (Internationally Shared Aquifer Resources Management) and TWAP (Transboundary Waters Assessment Programme) Assessment with Examples of ISARM Americas from the Mexico-United States Border

Randy Hanson is a research hydrologist with the United States Geological Survey's (USGS) California Water Science Center.

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FLAGSTAFF CHAPTER NEWS

We hope you were able to join us for "Monitoring Evaporite Karst Activity and Land Subsidence in the Holbrook Basin, Arizona, using Interferometric Synthetic Aperture Radar (InSAR)" given by Brian Conway (AWDR) and Joe Cook (AZGS) on Tuesday (01-Oct-2013) at 1600 MST in the Room 103 of the Geology Building at NAU as part of the NAU SESES Seminar Series and sponsored by AHS and NAU.



This very interesting presentation was well attended and well received. For those of you interested in paper presented at the 2013 Sinkhole Conference is available from the University of South Florida commons by scanning this QR Code or going to the following URL via your Internet browser: http://scholarcommons.usf.edu/sinkhole_2013/Proceedings/Evaporite/9/. We also had a great reception after the presentation at the Lumberyard Brewery in Flagstaff. A good time was had by all, including the students that participated.

2014 AHS/AIPG Symposium planning is in full swing and will be held September 13-16, 2014, at the Prescott Resort and Convention Center (PRCC) in Prescott, AZ. For those of you interested in seeing what our venue looks like, please <u>click here</u> if you would like to see the PRCC venue and its amenities. Please contact Mike Tomlinson (tomlinson86@g.com) for additional information regarding symposium planning participation.

The Flagstaff Chapter will be holding its monthly meeting from 6 to 8 PM MST on Thursday 17-Oct-2013 at Peabody Energy. Please look for the draft agenda to be sent to your e-mail address in the next few days. Not surprisingly, much of the agenda will be concerning the 2014 Symposium.

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HYDRO-NEWS

AIPG ARIZONA SECTION FALL FIELD TRIP

Oak Creek - Mormon Lake Graben, Northern Arizona Saturday, October 5, 2013

Field trip leader: Paul Lindberg Date: Saturday, October 5, 2013

Time: 9 am - 4 pm

RSVP: If you plan on attending, please RSVP to Dave Palmer (david p palmer@kindermorgan.com)

Cost: The fee for the field trip will be \$10.00 collectible at the assembly point of the field trip

Click here for flyer with details!

2013 MASTER WATERSHED STEWARD COURSE IN PHOENIX

There is still time to enroll for the Phoenix Master Watershed Steward Class,

DEADLINE EXTENDED TO OCTOBER 7th

Dive into your community and learn more about water in Arizona, become a Master Watershed Steward! The University of Arizona Cooperative Extension, Maricopa County is seeking motivated applicants to participate in the next Phoenix Master Watershed Steward course. This intensive 40-hour course, which includes classroom and field training lead by university faculty and local experts, will be held October 17th —December 12th in Phoenix. Learn about exciting topics that affect our local water supply such as geology, water management, and water quality. Find out how drought in the Colorado River Basin affects our water supplies here in Phoenix, potential changes in water rates, and other hot topics! Graduates receive a certificate of completion from the University of Arizona and the opportunity to volunteer on local water projects. Don't miss out on this opportunity to become involved with water in your community! Application deadline October 7th. Click here to fill out an application and email to kelsey.morton@email.arizona.edu. For more information about the Master Watershed Steward program click here!

Where: 4341 East Broadway Road, Phoenix, AZ 85040

When: Thursdays from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. October 17th –December 12th with two Saturday field trips (November 2nd & December 7th). Holidays excluded.

Cost: The cost is \$125.00 and includes The Arizona Watershed Stewardship Guide, additional course materials, transportation to and from field sites, and light snacks. Partial scholarships are available.

For more information

Contact Kelsey Morton or Summer Waters:

Phone: (602) 827-8207 or (602) 827-8249

E-mail: kelseymorton@email.arizona.edu or swaters@email.arizona.edu

Download an application:

https://extension.arizona.edu/sites/extension.arizona.edu/files/resources/MWS%20Program%20Application%20Final%202013.pdf

Keep updated on Facebook:

Facebook.com/MasterWatershedSteward

Find out more about what people are saying:

http://wateruseitwisely.com/dive-into-your-community-and-watersheds-become-a-master-watershed-steward/

http://ag.arizona.edu/spotlight/maricopa-county-watershed-program-wins-top-valley-forward-environmental-excellence-award

MAKE A SPLASH WITH THE PROJECT WET WATER FESTIVAL IN CHANDLER

November 1, 2013 at Tumbleweed Park in Chandler

If you like kids, water and great fun This festival is for YOU!

Where? Tumbleweed Park, 745 E. Germann Rd. (McDowell Pavilion)When? Friday, November 1, 2013, 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.Who? People who love children, education and water

We are looking for:

Activity Instructors Activity Assistants
Bus Greeters Classroom Escorts

Volunteers Training Opportunity:

TBD in October in Chandler

All activities are **outdoors – under shaded pavilions –** except for water race! Breakfast snacks, drinks and lunch are provided to all volunteers.

This is a great way to earn Master Gardener hours while participating in a fabulous learning experience for 4th grade students. Students will rotate through four learning stations (3 shaded activity areas + 1 outdoor area) where they will actively engage in hands-on water education activities. Stations are designed to increase understanding of the water cycle, watersheds, water supply and groundwater, and water use and conservation.

If you are tentative about being a presenter, consider being an assistant presenter. We have volunteer training to get you started and a seasoned Project WET facilitator will guide you through one of the hands-on activities at the Festival. You'll be a pro by the time you finish! (Volunteers enjoy the festival, with as many as **80% being returnees!**)

Give us a call or contact us by email.

We appreciate your interest and hope you can join us.

Contact: Robin Becker Phone: 480-782-3800 Fax: 480-782-3805

Mail: PO Box 4008, MS 905

Chandler, AZ 85244

Email: robin.becker@chandleraz.gov

ARIZONA COMMUNITY FOUNDATION PRESENTS: LET'S TALK WATER: FOCUS ON THE FUTURE

SAVE THE DATE: NOV. 19, 2013

SPECIAL LUNCHEON

Let's Talk Water: Focus on the Future

A frank discussion with former U.S. Sen. Jon Kyl about Arizona's most precious resource.

Join former **U.S. Sen. Jon Kyl** at a special lunchtime forum on Nov. 19 to discuss Arizona's water future. Other panelists include water experts **Grady Gammage Jr.** and **Richard Morrison**.

When: Tuesday, November 19

Noon to 1:30 p.m. (registration/buffet at 11:30 a.m.)

Where: Phoenix Airport Marriott, 1101 N 44th St., Phoenix

Online registration: \$50 general public /

Elected officials please register online as our guest

The "Let's Talk Water" luncheon, hosted by Morrison Institute for Public Policy and supported by Arizona Community Foundation, will be held immediately after the State of Our State Conference in the Phoenix Airport Marriott.

Click <u>here</u> for details and special discount to attend both events.

GRAND CANYON GEOLOGY RAFT TRIP, JULY 6-13, 2014

Long-time AHS member, Alison Jones is planning a Grand Canyon Geology Raft trip scheduled for July 6-13, 2014. This will be her 6th trip and you are invited! The outfitter will be Hatch River Expeditions.

Arizona Geological Society and Maine Geological Society are also announcing the trip, so we will have an interesting contingent of geologists and hydrogeologists.

Please contact Alison at <u>ajones@clearcreekassociates.com</u> if you are interested. Click here for the flyer that describes the trip!

PHOENIX WATER INSPECTORS TRACK ILLEGAL DUMPING

By Betty Reid The Republic | azcentral.com Fri Sep 6, 2013 9:16 AM

People throw all sorts of things down the city's storm-water drains they're not supposed to — oil, water from their washing machines and pool water, to name a few.

Companies do, too. City inspectors have found water used to wash trash bins, oil from vehicles parked at wrecking businesses and fluids from auto parts.

The city forbids dumping anything but storm water into storm-water pipes with few exceptions, such as irrigation water.

Because storm drains carry rainwater directly into rivers, washes and retention areas, any kind of pollution poses a hazard to public health and the environment, according to city code.

The city's Environmental Services Division runs a storm-water program that tries to ensure businesses, residents and construction sites comply with city regulations. From March 2012 to June 2013, the city reported two storm-water settlements with companies totaling \$5,750, according to its annual report last year.

Read more at http://www.azcentral.com/community/phoenix/articles/20130819water-inspectors-track-illegal-dumping.html?nclick_check=1

NEW RATE MECHANISM ENSURES ARIZONA WATER SUPPLY

By Susan Bitter Smith

My Turn Sun Sep 1, 2013 6:52 PM

This summer, the Arizona Corporation Commission enacted a historic reform that will help ensure that all Arizonans have a secure and affordable water future.

A new rate-making mechanism called System Improvement Benefits will address Arizona's severe water-infrastructure needs without causing rate shock for customers.

More than 400 private water companies provide service in Arizona. Many of these companies have existed since the early days of statehood. The American Water Works Association estimates there is more than \$30million of needed major infrastructure replacement in the West, much of which is in Arizona. That does not include the minor distribution plant that is so vital to the viability of small companies in rural parts of our state.

That same study indicates that in Tucson alone, anticipated infrastructure replacement and repair costs per household in 2015 is almost \$100,000.

Reliable and affordable water delivery is vital to our state and the Corporation Commission spends the majority of its time dealing with water-company issues. That might surprise many people given the current focus in the media on the energy issues before the Commission.

Read more at http://www.azcentral.com/opinions/articles/20130901arizona-water-supply-editorial.html

EPA BACKS SRP PLAN TO SHUTTER GENERATOR AT NAVAJO PLANT

By Ryan Randazzo The Republic | azcentral.com Thu Sep 26, 2013 5:08 PM

The Environmental Protection Agency is supporting a plan from Salt River Project and other owners of the Navajo Generating Station that could shut down one of the three generators at the plant near Page, likely signaling the plant will remain open.

Earlier this year, the EPA proposed a plan for the plant to comply with pollution regulations that likely would have required more than \$1 billion in upgrades to the power plant.

SRP, on behalf of the power plant's owners, responded with an alternate proposal that could achieve similar reductions in pollution without adding the new controls for several years.

The SRP plan could shut down one of the three generators to reflect the fact that utilities in California and Nevada are seeking to end their participation in the plant, part of a broader move away from coal generation in those states.

The EPA signaled this week it supports the plan from SRP, though the process is a long way from over,

with a series of five public meetings on the matter scheduled for November.

However, reaching a tentative agreement with the EPA is a positive sign that the power plant will remain open at all, which was in doubt when the owners were faced with expensive

upgrades that would have been installed within a few years.

"We are pleased," SRP spokesman Scott Harelson said of the positive signal from the EPA.

Read more at http://www.azcentral.com/business/consumer/articles/20130926epa-backs-srp-plan-shutter-generator-navajo-plant.html

Advertise your company's open positions here and on the AHS web page! Contact Christie O'Day at azhydrosoc.dir@gmail.com. Click on the position below for additional details.

Hydrogeologist/Groundwater Modeler - Southwest Ground-water Consultants, Inc.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

For more information about the Arizona Hydrological Society, please visit our regularly updated web site at:

http://www.azhydrosoc.org/

Membership may be renewed by credit or debit card through the AHS website or by mailing a check to the Arizona Hydrological Society, P.O. Box 1882, Higley, AZ 85236. Dues remain at \$45.00 a calendar year for regular membership and \$15.00 for students. And remember that your 2014 membership will be included in the 2013 Symposium registration fee!