



# the Watershed

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## AWRA Florida Section Meeting March 15 -16 Steinhatchee, Florida

Join us in Steinhatchee where we'll be informed by resident experts on a broad range of issues. The agenda includes seagrass habitat assessment efforts, Big Bend land acquisition and management, Nature Coast greenway project, minimum flows and levels for the lower Suwannee River, water quality in the Big Bend, Taylor County beaches Quality Communities program and hard clam aquaculture in the Big Bend. Our key note speaker during dinner will be Dr. Earl Starnes from the University of Florida who will speak on coastal resource management in the Big Bend. We are excited about this location and the critical issues to be discussed in the program.



## Fishing Tournament



We are organizing an inshore fishing tournament for Saturday (16 March 2002). Captain Steve Rassel, "Last Cast Rassel" (352) 498-0180 has offered to put folks together with guides in Steinhatchee. Most guide boats will fish three to four folks for around \$300 per day (about \$70-\$100 per fisherman). So folks need to talk to their friends, put together a party of three or four then call Capt. Rassel and he will help book a guide and boat.





American Water Resources Association, Florida Section  
***Fiddler's Restaurant***  
*Steinhatchee, Florida*  
*March 15, 2002*

**AGENDA**

**Friday, 15 March 2002**

- 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM            **Board of Directors Meeting**
- 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM            **Board of Directors Luncheon**  
(on your own – order from menu)
- 1:00 PM – 1:30 PM            **Overview of the Big Bend Ecosystem and Seagrass Habitat Assessment Efforts.** *Rob Mattson, biologist, Suwannee River WMD*
- 1:30 PM – 1:50 PM            **Rivers of the Big Bend Land Acquisition and Management Projects.**  
*Charlie Houser, Director of Land Acquisition and Management, Suwannee River WMD*
- 1:50 PM – 2:10 PM            **Overview of Nature Coast Greenway Project.**  
*Mark Gluckman, Development Advisory Services*
- 2:10 PM – 2:30 PM            **Development of Minimum Flows and Levels for the Lower Suwannee River and Estuary.** *John Good, Suwannee River WMD*
- 2:30 PM – 2:50 PM            **Water Quality Monitoring in the Big Bend Region; the Project COAST Experience.** *Dr. Tom Frazer, University of Florida*
- 2:50 PM – 3:20 PM            **BREAK**
- 3:20 PM – 3:40 PM            **Taylor County Beaches Quality Communities Program.** *Brian Kauffman, Suwannee River WMD*
- 3:40 PM – 4:00 PM            **Hard Clam Aquaculture in the Big Bend.** *Leslie Sturmer, IFAS, University of Florida*
- 4:00 PM – 5:00 PM            **DISCUSSION** – presenters and audience
- 5:00 PM – 6:00 PM            **SOCIAL** – (Cash Bar)
- 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM            **DINNER – KEYNOTE SPEAKER**  
*Dr. Earl Starnes, Professor Emeritus, University of Florida: "Coastal Resource Management in the Big Bend in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century"*

**Saturday, March 16, 2002 FISHING TOURNAMENT - \$10 entry fee and prizes for the largest red fish and largest trout. SPONSORS WANTED. Contact Mike Mesiano at [mmesiano@esinc.cc](mailto:mmesiano@esinc.cc) or 904-645-9900.**



American Water Resources Association, Florida Section

Fiddler's Restaurant

(Ph: 352.498.7427)

Steinhatchee, Florida

March 15, 2002

REGISTRATION FORM

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Organization \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Guest Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Registration (includes seafood buffet dinner):	\$45 per person x _____ = \$ _____
Student Registration	\$25 per person x _____ = \$ _____
	<b>TOTAL</b> \$ _____



Make checks payable to: **AWRA Florida Section**, and mail to:

Carolyn Purdy  
SRWMD  
9225 CR 49  
Live Oak, FL 32060  
(Ph: 386.362.1001)

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE: MARCH 1, 2002**

Interested in Saturday Fishing Tournament

Steinhatchee offers a variety of lodging accommodations ranging from fish camp motels to condos, and you may make your reservation at the location of your choice. **It is advisable to confirm your room reservation as soon as possible.** For lodging and other local information, visit [www.steinhatchee.com](http://www.steinhatchee.com), or may we suggest one of the following:

**Steinhatchee Landing Resort**

1,2,3 BR Victorian homes  
Rates start @ \$145/night  
Ph: 352.498.3513  
[www.steinhatcheelanding.com](http://www.steinhatcheelanding.com)

**Paradise Suites**

2-room suites  
Rates start @ \$65/night  
Ph: 352.498.5005  
[www.paradisSuites.net](http://www.paradisSuites.net)

**Sunset Place**

1,2 BR Condos  
Rates start @ \$75/night  
Ph: 352.498.0860  
<http://steinhatchee.com/sunset>

**Steinhatchee River Inn**

2-room suites  
Rates start @ 60/night  
Ph: 352.498.4049  
[www.funandsun.com/sri](http://www.funandsun.com/sri)

Estimated driving time to Steinhatchee from:  
Jacksonville – 4 hours  
Gainesville – 2 hours  
Tallahassee – 3 hours



(Map courtesy of Steinhatchee Landing Resort.)



### AWRA NATIONAL NEWS

The National AWRA Board of Directors meeting was held from January 24 through 26, 2002 in Nashville, Tennessee. The meeting was attended by all board members, and besides the normal topics of budget, future conferences, and general association operations, several additional issues of interest were discussed. The following selected issues are for your review. If you want the details of other business, call Bob Moresi.

- May 13-15, 2002 is the Coastal Water Resources Conference in New Orleans. It has a great technical program relating the coastal water resources to inland watershed features. Expect the preliminary program out in March, and plan to attend.
- All publications prepared by the National AWRA are placed online for AWRA members for a period of 6 months. After that they will be made open to non-members.
- Articles from the AWRA publications starting with 1991 are available through the AWRA web page.
- We are looking for members interested in participating in the national association to contact Bob Moresi. We can always use your help.
- The Association has numerous technical committees that are available for providing assistance, or welcome your participation. If you have a tough question without answers, we suggest you email the appropriate committee. They may be able to help.
- The Florida Section is the highest contributor to the Richard A Herbert Scholarship program. However, we have not contributed lately, and this effort should be reconsidered to maintain our elite status.

- Bob Moresi

### AWRA FLORIDA SECTION MEETING SUMMARIES, JANUARY 25, 2002

The January Board of Directors meeting was held at "The Ponce" resort in St. Augustine. Provided below are highlights of some of the items discussed at the meeting:

- Bill Stimmel, our new President for the year 2002, presided over the meeting.
- Our new officers were welcomed as follows: Vice President is Rand Edelstein and Treasurer is Allan Biddlecomb. Mike Mesiano will be serving as Secretary another year. ***WE LOOK FORWARD TO YOUR DEDICATED SERVICE!***
- Rand Edelstein gave his last Treasurer's report before handing over the books to Allan Biddlecomb. Rand put forth an excellent effort to get the accounts set up into easy-to-use spreadsheets so that transitions from one treasurer to the next went smoothly. Additionally, he spent a great deal of time working with the accountant to get all of our tax information in order. ***THANK YOU RAND FOR ALL YOUR TIME AND DEDICATION!!!!***
- One of our new board members for this year, Virginia Mirabal, has withdrawn from her new post. She is expecting triplets and decided it would be too difficult to keep up with her duties. ***GOOD LUCK VIRGINIA!!!***
- The board voted to fill Virginia's position with Neil Aikenhead. ***Welcome to the board Neil.***
- Dave Watt advised us that our membership is still gaining. Keep up the good work. ***WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!!!!***
- Mike Cullum reported on the 2001 National conference meeting and said that the Florida Section received Honorable Mention for the State Section Award for 2001. Over the years, the Florida section has received 9 Outstanding Section awards!!!! Alaska won the Outstanding award for 2001.
- ***BE ON THE LOOKOUT.*** Roy Price (president of the USF student chapter) is working on giving our website a facelift. A work of art in progress.
- Remaining dates and chairs meeting for 2002 are as follows: ***March 15, 2002 – Steinhatchee*** – Dave Fisk; ***May 17, 2002*** – Satellite Beach (Brevard County) - Bill Graf; ***July 25-27, 2002 - Key West***, - John Wehle; ***September 20, 2002 – Boca Raton*** - Steve Nix; ***November 15, 2002 – Southwest area*** - Ron Edenfield. ***If you would like to help with any of these meetings (any and all help is greatly appreciated), please contact the meeting chair as soon as possible.***

- Gail Murray

**AT THE JANUARY 25TH MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS, THE FOLLOWING COMMITTEE CHAIRS WERE ASSIGNED BY BILL STIMMEL, PRESIDENT 2002.**



1. **Membership Committee** - Dave Watt, Chair, [dwatt@sjrwmd.com](mailto:d watt@sjrwmd.com), focus is on attracting, retaining and tracking organizational membership.
2. **Nominating Committee** - Rand Edelstein, Chair, [redelstein@ensr.com](mailto:redelstein@ensr.com), to nominate qualified candidates for the Board of Directors and officers of the Section in accordance with the provision of Article VI of the By-Laws.
3. **Program Committee** - Bob Higgins and Sandy Young, Co-Chairs, [bhiggins@ix.netcom.com](mailto:bhiggins@ix.netcom.com), [sandy@biologicalresearch.com](mailto:sandy@biologicalresearch.com) to work with the meeting chairs to increase participation by State Agencies and Water Management Districts in the bi-monthly meetings.
4. **Tellers Committee** - Rick Stebnisky, Chair, [rstebnisky@ectinc.com](mailto:rstebnisky@ectinc.com), to count and report the results of all Section balloting.
5. **Public Education Committee** - Rosanne Clementi, Chair, [sesrosanne@aol.com](mailto:sesrosanne@aol.com), to facilitate the carrying out of section objectives as outlined in the By-Laws.
6. **Web Site Committee** - John Fumero, Chair, [jfumero@sfwmd.gov](mailto:jfumero@sfwmd.gov), to upgrade and maintain website features, and develop a long term strategy for making the website a strong membership feature.
7. **Newsletter** - Mike Mesiano, Chair, [mmesiano@esinc.cc](mailto:mmesiano@esinc.cc) to develop and distribute the Section bi-monthly newsletter.
8. **Student Chapters** - Mike Cullum, Chair, [michael\\_cullum@district.sjrwmd.state.fl.us](mailto:michael_cullum@district.sjrwmd.state.fl.us), to encourage participation and support the needs of the Section's student chapters.
9. **Young Professionals** - Don McEwen, Chair, [don\\_mcewen@district.sjrwmd.state.fl.us](mailto:don_mcewen@district.sjrwmd.state.fl.us), to support the development and participation of new members in the organization.
10. **Appreciation Awards** - Bill Stimmel, Chair, [wstimmel@sfwmd.gov](mailto:wstimmel@sfwmd.gov), to recognize individuals or corporate section members annually who have made an outstanding contribution to the section.

**Any members interested in joining or contributing in some way to these committees are invited to contact the appropriate committee chair. This is your time to get involved!**

## Will you be in the 2002 Membership Directory?

All members whose dues are current as of February 28 will be listed in the 2002 Membership Directory. Recently we sent communications to all of our active members to review their directory listing. If you did not receive anything it means your membership is not current, you are a brand new member, or we made a mistake! You can use the application form in this newsletter to renew your membership and provide updated information for the directory. While you're at it, get a friend to join too! Feel free to contact me about your membership status or any other services AWRA can provide. Thanks for your continued support of AWRA!

David Watt, Membership Services  
386-329-4355  
[dwatt@sjrwmd.com](mailto:d watt@sjrwmd.com)





# 2002 Membership Application

## MEMBERSHIP DUES

New  \$10 Regular   
 Renewal  \$4 Student

## DIRECTORY INFORMATION

Please give us the information requested below, as you would like it to appear in the membership directory

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
First Middle Initial Last Suffix (Ph.D., PE, PG, etc)

Company/Affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: Work  Home

\_\_\_\_\_  
Box, Street or Route Suite or Apartment

\_\_\_\_\_  
City State Zip Code

Daytime Telephone: Work  Home  \_\_\_\_\_  
Area Code

Facsimile: Work  Home  \_\_\_\_\_  
Area Code

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

## MEMBERSHIP INTERESTS

Would you like to receive our newsletter via e-mail? Yes  No   
 Are you an AWRA National Member? Yes  No   
 If not, would you like information? Yes  No   
 Are you interested in sponsorship opportunities? Yes  No   
 Would you like to be part of a bi-monthly meeting team? Yes  No

For membership information, please contact David Watt at 386-329-4355 or dwatt@sjrwmd.com

## PAYMENT INFORMATION

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ Annual dues (please indicate if you are paying for additional years)  
 \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Florida Section Water Resources Education Fund (tax deductible contribution)  
 \$ \_\_\_\_\_ **TOTAL (Make checks payable to *AWRA Florida Section*)**

Return this application  
 and your check to:

*David Watt, Membership Services Coordinator  
 417 Kirby Street  
 Palatka, Florida 32177*

Florida Section membership dues for 2002 are due January 1 and are good through December 31. Contributions or gifts to the Florida Section are deductible as charitable contributions for federal income tax purposes. Dues payments may be deductible by members as an ordinary and necessary business expense.

Section Use Only:

Date Received: \_\_\_\_\_ Check #: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount: \_\_\_\_\_

## Technical Program Summary for January 25, 2002 St. Augustine AWRA Meeting

Neil Aikenhead chaired a superbly organized and educational technical meeting. Most of the presentations focused on the topic of land development and environmental regulation. The presentations are summarized as follows:

- Ernie Frye and David Apple (Florida Department of Environmental Protection) presented efforts being undertaken to prevent erosion problems during construction, in particular for large developments of regional impact (DRI). Nocatee, a 15,000-acre development, was chosen as the test case. The Department approach is twofold: 1) a single entity would be responsible for the erosion and sediment control throughout the development of the DRI. If necessary, the Department would have one point of contact for reporting and enforcement action; 2) all of the team under that single entity will be required to hire staff that has been adequately trained in installing and monitoring the best management practices needed.
- Dick Prosser (Prosser Hallock, Inc.) followed that presentation with a discussion on the process that was followed during the planning of Palencia. The crux of his presentation was that for every project, being creative is what has allowed his projects to be successful. He also stressed that by being pro-active a lot of pitfalls can be avoided.
- Walt O'Shea (Hines, Inc.) followed with a very detailed description of what makes Palencia an environmentally friendly development. He discussed why the golf course was the first-ever Audubon Society approved golf course. The discussion then followed the developer throughout the three stages of environmental development.
- Dr. Harvey Harper (Environmental Research & Design, Inc.) next discussed how the wet detention facilities were designed to exceed the state's wet detention facility requirements. He discussed how the before and after loads for particular pollutants were calculated, and demonstrated that with 200 days of residence time, even with the development, the load for Nitrogen and phosphorus to the water resources would be minimal.
- Derek Busby (SJRWMD, Palatka) closed out the presentation with a discussion of the TMDL process for the lower St. Johns River. The timeline for implementation and the process being used in the development of the TMDL were presented.

A lively discussion followed the presentations and lasted well over ½-hour. A topic of particular interest was the methodology followed by the St. Johns River Water Management District to determine TMDLs. The past levels of reference to determine the maximum pollutant load are a hot topic that concerns developers. Many questions also addressed the long-term maintenance issue of some BMPs, such as detention and retention ponds, which is difficult to establish at the moment since the structures are relatively recent. An interesting part of the discussion was the presence of the Water Management District and Department of Environmental Protection that enabled the public to appreciate the different aspects of addressing similar issues by the two agencies.

**Kirby Green, Executive Director of St. Johns River Water Management District was the guest dinner speaker and provided his thoughts about water resource management in the St. Johns District.**

- Patrick Victor

### AWRA - Florida Section Meeting May 17, 2002

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Where - Ramada Inn  
1035 State Road A1A  
Satellite Beach, FL  
32937  
(321) 777-7200  
Room rates  
\$64 for city side room  
\$74 for pool side  
\$84 for ocean front

Technical Session:

John Fumero has agreed to present a legislative update. This is the first meeting following the 2002 Legislative session. This presentation is confirmed. Invited are speakers from the Union of Concerned Scientists and the Natural Resources Defense Council on how global warming may affect Florida. Also, we are pursuing input about the latest work on the Indian River Lagoon.



ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES, INC.  
Editor: Michael D. Mesiano  
8711 Perimeter Park Boulevard, Suite 11  
Jacksonville, Florida 32216  
Phone (904) 645-9900  
Fax (904) 645-9954  
mmesiano@esinc.cc



VISIT THE FLORIDA SECTION WEBSITE FOUND ON THE  
AWRA NATIONAL PAGE:  
[www.awra.org/state](http://www.awra.org/state)

**CONTACT UPCOMING MEETING CHAIRMEN REGARDING SPONSORSHIP  
OR ASSISTANCE**

**Suwannee River Area**

March 15, 2002  
Dave Fisk  
386-362-1001

**Satellite Beach**

May 17, 2002  
Bill Graf  
407-858-6100 ext.3837

**Key West**

July 25-27, 2002  
John Wehle  
386-329-4214

**Boca Raton**

September 20, 2002  
Steve Nix  
561-297-0466

**WELCOME NEW MEMBERS**

Beth Bartos, Southwest Florida WMD  
Scott A. Davidson, PG, Ellis & Associates, Inc.  
David M. Dickson, Environmental Services, Inc.  
Joseph B. Frost, Gee & Jenson Engineers-Architects-Planners, Inc.  
Kirby B. Green, III, St. Johns River WMD  
Elaina R. Holburn, EI, JE Sverdrup Civil, Inc.

George W. McGregor, PE, Stanley Consultants, Inc.  
Rick J. Milelli PE, Perez Engineering & Development  
David L. Miracle, PE, St. Johns River WMD  
Tom A. Nickel, Environmental Services, Inc.  
Mary E. Rawl, Vanasse Daylor  
Will L. Stewart, PE, Stanley Consultants, Inc.  
David A. Still, PE, Suwannee River WMD



