Recap of National Public Works Week Award Luncheon

The National Public Works Week Award Luncheon was held on May 22nd, 2002, at Bartle Hall Convention Center. Five hundred seventy-five (575) were in attendance for lunch, student essay, APWA Chapter and National awards presentations and a keynote presentation. On display were the APWA Award Submittals and Proclamations from 17 public agencies and an appearance was made by PW Paws.

This year’s keynote topic was the Liberty Memorial. It included a Power Point presentation by Mark McHenry, Kansas City Parks and Recreation Department and a facility tour coordinated by Tim Tiegren, Kansas City Parks and Recreation Department and conducted by McHenry and representatives of J.E. Dunn Construction. The Power Point presentation was put together by Jay Wilson, Kansas City Parks and Recreation Department. A special mention to Jennifer Shaw, Kansas City Parks and Recreation Department, on her instrumental roles in coordinating and facilitating the Liberty Memorial Event.

Proclamations were received from the following cities; Independence, MO; Kansas City, MO; Leawood, KS; Leavenworth, KS; Lee's Summit, MO; Liberty, MO; Mission, KS; Olathe, KS; Overland Park, KS; Prairie Village, KS; Raytown, MO; St. Joseph, MO; Westwood, KS; the counties of Jackson, MO and Johnson, KS; and the States of Missouri and Kansas.

I would like to thank the National Public Works Week Committee and every one mentioned above who participated in planning and implementing this year’s event. A terrific job was done by all. Thanks!

Liberty Memorial Tour
And the winners are...

In March, the KC Metro Chapter submitted 27 nominations for the 2002 APWA National Awards Program. At the National Public Works Week Luncheon in May, Chapter Awards were presented to the individuals, companies, cities, counties and state agencies responsible for these outstanding accomplishments.

APWA National has confirmed that six of the KC Metro Chapter nominations have been selected as National Award Winners! These honorees will receive their National Awards at the Awards and Recognition Ceremony during the 2002 National Congress in September.

**2002 National Award Winners**

**Project of the Year**
(Disaster or Emergency Construction/Repair)
18th Street Bridge Repair
Kansas Department of Transportation
HNTB Corporation
APAC-Kansas, Wilkerson-Maxwell branch

Private Sector Service Award (Corporate)
TranSystems Corporation

Top Ten Public Works Leaders of the Year
Chuck Owsley - Lee’s Summit
Dennis Banka - Lenexa

Diversity Exemplary Practices Award (Government)
Councilman Alvin Brooks - Kansas City, Missouri

Diversity Exemplary Practices Award (non-profit institution)
Kansas City Harmony

**2002 KC Metro Chapter Winners**

Top Ten Public Works Leaders of the Year
Mike Ross - Overland Park, Kansas
Rick Biery - Olathe, Kansas

Charles Walter Nichols Award
John Stufflebean - Kansas City, Missouri

Donald C. Stone Award (Individual)
Keith Sanders, President, KCMCR, Inc.

Harry S. Swearingen Award
Joel Cerwick - Burns & McDonnell

Technical Innovation Award
LED Program - Kansas City, Missouri

Management Innovation Award
Johnson County Concrete Board
George Butler Associates, Inc.

Abel Wolman Award
“High and Rising: The 1951 Kansas City Flood”
Brian Burnes

**Public Works Project of the Year Award**

**Structures**

- Calamity Line Park - City of Olathe, Kansas/
  HNTB Corporation
- Riverside City Hall - City of Riverside, Missouri/
  Universal Construction Company, Inc./
  Hoofer Wysocki Architects
- Olathe Swimming Pools - City of Olathe, Kansas/
  SullivanPalmer Architects/Heartland Construction

**Transportation**

- Marshall Drive Bridge - City of Lenexa, Kansas/
  Pyramid Contractors, Inc./George Butler Associates, Inc./
  Kansas Department of Transportation
- Lakewood Way Rubblization and Overlay - City of Lee’s Summit, Missouri/
  Superior Bowen Asphalt Company, L.L.C.
- Todd George Road - City of Lee’s Summit, Missouri/
  Damon Pursell Corporation/
  George Butler Associate, Inc.

**Prairie Star Parkway** - City of Lenexa, Kansas/
  McAnany Construction/Wilson & Company

**Bruce R Watkins Drive** - Missouri Department of Transportation/Clarkson Construction Company/
  HNTB Corporation

**Ward Road** - City of Lee’s Summit, Missouri/
  TranSystems Corporation/Emery Sapp & Sons
  Historic Restoration/Preservation

**Cliff Drive** - City of Kansas City, Missouri -
  Parks & Recreation/National Streetscape, Inc./
  URS Corporation

**Environment**

- Rock Creek - City of Kansas City, Missouri/
  Pyramid Excavation/George Butler Associates, Inc.
- Blue River Wastewater Plant Renewable Energy Program - City of Kansas City, Missouri/
  Water Services/A. D. Jacobson Company, Inc./
  Shafer, Kline & Warren, Inc.
The City of Raytown
Mayor & Board of Aldermen
Proclamation given to the Public Works Department, EMS, Police & Fire Departments on May 21, 2002

The City of Lee’s Summit
Celebrated NPWW May 18, 2002 at the Lee’s Summit Municipal Airport

Missouri Governor Bob Holden signs a National Public Works Week Proclamation in front of Missouri and Kansas City Metro Chapter APWA representatives.

(left to right): Cynthia Mitchell, Dale Houdeshell, Bill Croker, Governor Holden, Marc Thornsberry, Chuck Owsley, Chuck Madden, and Ed Wolf
**Student Essay Contest**  
*By Ed Wheeler*

As a part of National Public Works Week (NPWW), the winners of the APWA Metro-Kansas City Chapter 2002 Student Essay Awards Contest were recognized. Each of these metro area high school juniors or seniors submitted a 1,000 - 2,000 word essay related to this year’s NPWW theme, “Committed to Our Community.”

Along with her cash prize, each winner received a framed Certificate of Achievement and a copy of the book, “People Making Public Works History - A Century of Progress,” as well as lunch for herself, a guest of her choice (each came with a proud parent), and her school sponsor.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1st Place/$750:</th>
<th>2nd Place/$500:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kelli Pedersen, Hope Christian School</td>
<td>Ashley Nave, Fort Osage High School</td>
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<tr>
<td>Public Works Is Committed To Our Community</td>
<td>What Public Works Means to Me and My Community</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sponsor: Mr. Paul Ludy</td>
<td>Sponsor: Mr. Harold Robina</td>
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<th>3rd Place/$250:</th>
<th>4th Place/$100:</th>
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<tr>
<td>Seng Souvannalith, Oak Park High School</td>
<td>Kristen Vix, Olathe East High School</td>
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<tr>
<td>A Better World by Design</td>
<td>How Olathe Public Works is Committed to Our Community</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sponsor: Ms. Bonnie VanCleave</td>
<td>Sponsor: Ms. Vanessa Meyer</td>
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<th>5th Place/$50: (2 Winners)</th>
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<tr>
<td>Lauren Hays, Sumner Academy</td>
<td>Erin Hill, Hope Christian School</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fleet Management Center</td>
<td>Give Credit Where Credit is Due</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sponsor: Mr. Terry Archer</td>
<td>Sponsor: Mr. Paul Ludy</td>
</tr>
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We were pleased that all award winners, with the exception of one (who wanted to be there but could not attend due to a conflict with a required graduation practice), were in attendance to receive their awards and recognition at the luncheon. The feedback received from the students, their parents, and their sponsors was very positive. Ashley told me, “The luncheon was wonderful!” And Kelli’s father said, “Kelli will be writing another essay next year!” This reinforces achievement of a very important goal of this contest: to promote awareness and appreciation of the efforts of Public Works employees.