

**Aaron Collier, P.G.**

Mr. Collier is a professional hydrogeologist with 14 years of experience in all facets of groundwater management, planning, sourcing, and subsurface investigations. As one of the vice presidents of Collier Consulting, Mr. Collier's primary responsibilities are overseeing the daily operations of the organization and being the primary point of contact for many of the firm's geoscience and engineering projects. Projects have included local and regional hydrogeological investigations, groundwater modeling, borehole and surface geophysical investigations, water resource engineering, and environmental litigation throughout Texas, the United States, and internationally. Mr. Collier is also the managerial lead for Collier Consulting's groundwater management software product HYDROS, a custom built cloud-based Software as a Service that was specifically developed for groundwater management districts.



Mike Wallace, Principal of MWA, is a recognized expert in the quantitative relationships between global atmospheric moisture, aquifers, surface waters, and their relations to water quality and sustainability of water supplies. His research focus

as a Ph.D. student at the University of New Mexico concerns extending those relationships to solar phenomena towards more practical and longer lead - time hydrologic forecasting. This research has informed his business which currently claims one of the most transparent and accurate hydroclimate forecasting records in the industry.

Mr. Wallace's unique approaches of connecting ocean drivers to surface and groundwater hydrology management have begun to receive attention from water resource managers. Recently some of his work was cited by the US Fish and Wildlife Service in relation to endangered species issues on the Upper Rio Grande.

Mike's experience includes an MS in Hydrology from the University of Arizona (1989). From that foundation, based in Albuquerque, NM, he developed an extensive record of expert consulting on water resource and /or hydroclimatology issues to numerous clients, including the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), the U.S. Air Force (USAF), the U.S. Dept. of Energy, Sandia National Laboratories, Hyundai Engineering and Construction Co. (in Singapore), along with numerous environmental organizations,



mining companies, and agricultural concerns. Mr. Wallace's consulting web page includes some related competitive science awards and can be reached at www.abeqas.com

Ray Keller is a graduate of Sul Ross State University in Alpine Texas. He has worked for the Bureau of Land Management for forty one years in the Pecos District where he has a supervisory range conservationist and is now the Southeast New Mexico coordinator for Restore New Mexico. In 2002, he began work on restoring the Pecos River and its tributaries. This work continues today.



Amy Ewing, P.G. is a hydrogeologist specializing in water resources investigations and planning, managed aquifer recharge, watershed management, permitting, and public involvement. She is the project manager for the Albuquerque Bernalillo County Water Utility Authority's managed aquifer recharge projects, which aim to establish a long-term drought reserve using surface water for recharge, as well as the City of Hobbs' recharge demonstration project. Amy has extensive experience in all aspects of water planning, including working with municipalities and water systems on water supply and demand analysis, water audits, conservation, drought management, reuse, and source water protection planning; regional water planning; and State water planning. Amy is a licensed Professional Geoscientist, and holds bachelors and master's degrees in earth science and water resources.



John W. Shomaker, Ph.D., is President and a Principal Hydrogeologist of John Shomaker & Associates, Inc., in Albuquerque. He has more than 50 years of professional experience in geological and hydrogeological studies in New Mexico and surrounding states. John holds B.S. and M.S. degrees in geology from the University of New Mexico (1963, 1965), an M.A. in the liberal arts from St. John's College in Santa Fe (1984), and M.Sc. and Ph.D. degrees in hydrogeology from the University of Birmingham, England (1985, 1995). He worked as a hydrologist for the U.S. Geological Survey (1965-1969), and as a geologist for the (then) New Mexico Bureau of Mines and Mineral Resources (1969-1973), before starting the consulting firm in 1973. Shomaker & Associates specializes in ground-water data collection and sampling, ground-water flow modeling, drilling technology and field supervision of well-drilling projects, water-supply planning, water-rights issues and expert testimony (including in interstate litigation before a U.S. Supreme Court Special Master), and environmental studies.

May 24, 2017

5:30 - 6:30 Welcome Dinner & Reception

May 25, 2017

7:30 - 8:30 Breakfast

8:30 - 9:15 Keynote Speaker - *Tom Blaine, State Engineer of New Mexico*

9:15 - 9:45 The Atlantic Multidecadal Oscillation Climate Index - *Mike Wallace*

9:45 - 10:15 Elephant Butte Irrigation District, *Texas vs. New Mexico and Colorado*, and Future Planning - *Gary Esslinger*

10:15 - 10:30 BREAK

10:30 - 11:00 Local Enhanced Management Areas - *Jason Norquest*

11:00 - 12:00 PVACD: Past, Present & Future - *Aron Balok*

12:00 - 1:00 LUNCH

1:15 - 2:15 NWRA Federal Issues Panel - *A.J. Olsen, Ian Lyle and John Crotty*

2:15 - 3:00 Constraints on the Use of Brackish Groundwater for Public Water Supplies - *Bruce Thomson*

3:00 - 3:15 BREAK

3:15 - 4:00 New Mexico's Aquifer Mapping - *Stacy Timmons*

4:00 - 4:30 Guest Speaker - *Matt Rush*

4:30 - 5:30 State Caucuses & Board Meeting
INDEPENDENT DINNER

May 26, 2017

7:30 - 8:30 Breakfast

8:30 - 8:45 Morning Opening & Updates

8:45 - 9:30 Integrating Hydrogeology, Well Design & Drilling - *Aaron Collier*

9:30- 9:45 BREAK

9:45 - 10:30 Why does my perfect ground model give me uncertain results? - *John Shomaker*

10:30-11:00 Watershed Management - *Ray Keller*

11:00 - 12:00 Aquifer Recharge-Amy Ewing, Daniel B. Stephens & Associates, Inc.

12:00 - 1:00 LUNCH

1:00 - 4:00 Tour of Rio Grande Direct Injection Facility

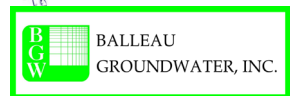
4:00 - 6:00 Happy Hour Tour of Local Breweries
INDEPENDENT DINNER



GMDA Summer Session

May 24 - 26, 2017

Albuquerque, New Mexico





Tom Blaine is well-versed in the critical water issues facing New Mexico, bringing more than 28 years of engineering experience in the private and public sectors to the Office of the State Engineer. Blaine recently held the position of director of the Environmental Health Division in the New Mexico Environment Department.

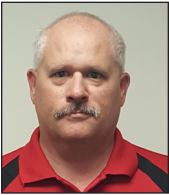
His background includes extensive experience in civil and transportation engineering, with service to the City of Albuquerque as a senior civil engineer as well as to the State of New Mexico with both the Department of Transportation and the Office of the State Engineer, and in the private sector.

Between his years of public service, Blaine also owned and operated his own engineering firm, focusing on surface and groundwater hydrology and water distribution systems. He holds a Bachelor of Science in Engineering from New Mexico State University in Las Cruces.



Gary L. Esslinger has been the Treasurer-Manager of the Elephant Butte Irrigation District (EBID) since 1987. Gary is a third generation member of a pioneer farming family living in the Mesilla Valley. His grandfather, J. L. Esslinger, Sr., settled in La Mesa in 1913 prior to the completion of the Elephant Butte Dam. Gary's father, J. L. Esslinger, Jr., also farmed for over fifty years. Gary kept his roots in farming as well as other agricultural based industry and lives on the family farm with his wife, Tina. Gary and Tina have three daughters and have recently adopted a son. They have also been foster parents for 12 years; as well as guardians of three other children.

Gary earned a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration from Northern Arizona University in 1973. He returned to the Mesilla Valley and began working for EBID in 1978, where he has continued his career for more than 35 years. Gary was also appointed to the Office of the Dona Ana County Flood Commission, as Flood Commissioner, a position he held from 2002 until 2006. Gary is a member of the Advisory Board of the Family Farm Alliance and is a Board member of the National Water Resource Association representing the state of New Mexico.



Jason Norquest is the Assistant Manager of Southwest Kansas Groundwater Management District #3

(GMD3). He started with GMD3 in 1998 as a Field Tech and worked his way up. Originally from Polk, NE (Upper Big Blue Natural Resource District), he grew up the youngest of 4 boys on a small family farm working the flood irrigated fields and livestock. He received his Bachelor degree from Kansas State in Agri-Business. Prior to coming to GMD3, he was a Research Assistant in forages at the University of Arkansas while his wife finished her PhD.

Jason currently lives on a small acreage North of Garden City, raising kids, horses, calves and sheep at times. His wife Lora, is a plant breeder for Pioneer Hybrids. They have three kids, Charla who lives in Nashville, Jacob is a junior at KState and Audrey is going into the 8th grade in Garden City.



Aron Balok is the superintendent and lobbyist for the Pecos Valley Artesian Conservancy District. He has been with the district for about eight years. Aron has a passion for New Mexico's heritage and a deep appreciation for the complexity of the water issues that face the state. He has been professionally involved in water related issues for the past twelve years.

Aron was raised on a beef cattle ranch in North Western New Mexico. He attended New Mexico State University, and in 1997 graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in Agriculture, Extension and Education. He and his Wife Hayly and their three daughters live in Roswell.



Arnold "A.J." Olsen is a founding member of the law firm of Hennighausen & Olsen with an office in Roswell, NM. He received his Bachelors of Science degree from the University of Wyoming in 1980, an MBA from the University of Wyoming in 1981 and his JD from the University of Tulsa in 1983.

He is admitted to the United States Supreme Court, 10th Circuit Court of Appeals, United States District Court for the district of New Mexico, and the state bar of New Mexico. He has been an active litigator for over 34 years, and holds a certificate of specialization in the area of water law and he devotes the majority of his practice in this area. He and his firm have served as general counsel for the Pecos Valley Artesian Conservancy District for over 29 years.



Ian Lyle is the Executive Vice President of the National Water Resources Association (NWRA). The NWRA is a Washington, DC based federation made up of agricultural and municipal water providers, state associations, and individuals dedicated to the conservation, enhancement and efficient management of our nation's most important

natural resource, water. NWRA advocates on behalf of water users including GMDA. Members of NWRA provide water to millions of individuals, families, and agricultural producers in a manner that supports communities, the economy and the environment.

Ian is a Colorado native and spent over a decade working in Congress. Before joining NWRA he worked for former U.S. Senator Wayne Allard, Congressman Mike Coffman, and Congressman Scott Tipton. Ian also spent three years working as legislative staff on the House Natural Resources Committee, where he focused on western water and power issues.

Ian is a graduate of Fort Lewis College in Durango, CO. He and his wife Natalie live in Washington, DC...but he still considers the West home.



John Crotty, Counsel, Water Strategies LLC John is legal counsel for Water Strategies LLC, a government relations and publishing firm that focuses on water. He is the senior writer for *Irrigation Leader* and *Municipal Water Leader* magazines and serves as an advisor to the National Water Resources Association.

John is a licensed attorney in the District of Columbia with more than 6 years of experience in business and natural resources law and policy. He earned his J.D. from the University of Georgia School of Law. He is the proud father of 3 under the age of 5 (with one on the way). In another life, he taught high school in Namibia as a United States Peace Corps volunteer.



Bruce Thomson, PhD, PE Bruce Thomson is a Research Professor and Regents Professor Emeritus in the Department of Civil Engineering at the University of New Mexico (UNM). Dr. Thomson was Director of UNM's Water Resources Program from 2006 to 2013.

His areas of research include chemistry of inorganic contaminants, ground water contamination, and water resources management. He has served on numerous national, state and local advisory committees and is an elected member and chair of the Board of Directors of the Albuquerque Metropolitan Arroyo Flood Control Authority (AMAFCA). Dr. Thomson is a licensed professional engineer in New Mexico and one of the last practicing engineers who still knows how to use a slide rule.



Stacy Timmons is the Aquifer Mapping Program manager at the New Mexico Bureau of Geology and Mineral Resources at New Mexico Tech, in Socorro. Working with the Aquifer Mapping Program, she has been

involved with several large-scale, long-term hydrogeologic studies focused on geologic influences on recharge, groundwater movement and occurrence. This program aims to combine geologic, hydrologic, geochemical and geophysical information to develop regional conceptual models to describe groundwater flow within aquifers in New Mexico. This work serves the state of New Mexico by providing publicly available reports and data that can be applied to decision-making and water resource planning.



Matt Rush "You can do more, be more and have more than you ever thought possible, you just have to be willing to get over yourself to get there." Matt Rush

From the time Matt was in the 8th grade he knew his life's ambition was to help others become more than they ever thought possible. Since then, his speeches, seminars and coaching have inspired thousands of people.

Having grown up in rural New Mexico he brings a common sense, "farm boy" logic to his speaking & training. The Zig Ziglar Corporation recently recognized his talent and skill as a speaker and trainer inviting him to become one of their first ever Platinum Level speakers and is now one of two Co-Founders of the Generation Ziglar Corporation, a company whose mission is to inspire the current generation to impact future generations.

He has served as the former CEO of the New Mexico Farm Bureau and past president of the Ethos Leadership Group. He has also previously served on the American Farm Bureau's Foundation for Agriculture Board of Directors and the Berean Children's Home Board of Directors.

He has won state and national awards for his public speaking, Co-Authoring several books on leadership and is authoring the upcoming book, *The Power of an Inch*. He has been quoted in Bloomberg Business Weekly, NPR, PBS and ABC News.

Matt brings an energy, humor and enthusiasm to his speaking and training that will leave you and your audience motivated and inspired. His ability to connect with people of all ages will make you feel like you have known him forever from the first time you meet. His message of encouragement will put a smile on your face and on your heart.

Rush is passionate about his values, helping others and is dedicated to the development of a strong, successful future for our current and upcoming generation.