

# The Long Island Chapter's Digester

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Fall—2019

Volume 59 No. 2

## Navigating the Nissequogue River

By Tom Immerso

Under hazy, mild skies, some 16 adventurous paddlers navigated the Nissequogue River on Friday, August 16th, commemorating the 'umpteenth' LI Chapter ESC Canoe & Kayak Trip. Although a smaller crowd than usual attended, the outing was a success none-the-less, as tidal conditions worked in our favor along with the absence of portages due to the high water from summer rains. In fact, the only real 'effort' came in 'doing the limbo' as we passed under some overhead roadways!

As usual, we benefitted from the accompaniment of Dan Lewis & Ron Gelardi of the NYSDEC's Wetlands & Fisheries Division, as they provided ecological narrative to those willing to paddle at a leisurely pace & stay in close proximity to them. In addition, they were able to identify many indigenous plant & animal species (both feathered & finned!). Their keen knowledge of the history of the River's development over the decades proved of interest as well.



*(Continued on page 6)*

## Annual Technology Assessment Seminar

By Nick Bono

This fall saw another successful Annual Technology Assessment Committee Seminar. Forty-six people attended the half-day seminar on Thursday, October 10 at the Radisson Hotel in Hauppauge, including a mix of operators, engineers, and other interested professionals. A total of 3.5 hours of Operator Credits and 3.5 hours of Professional Engineer continuing education credits were earned by attendees.



Seven (7) speakers shared their knowledge, which focused on various technologies and current trends being in the wastewater treatment, operations and engineering industry. Breakfast, and lunch provided several opportunities for interested attendees to network with the presenters and colleagues.

*(Continued on page 6)*

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## Poo and Brew

The YP Committee hosted the first ever LIWEA Poo & Brew on July 18, 2019 with a tour of the Oyster Bay Wastewater Treatment Plant directed by Steve Hearl, PE.. The tour highlighted the key aspects of the treatment plant including design and improvement projects as well as operations and maintenance. The tour was followed by appetizers and brews sponsored by the YP Committee at a local bar. The YP Committee looks forward to turning this successful event into an annual occurrence.



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## Articles for the Digester

Articles for the Digester can be e-mailed in MS Word format to the Editor, Bill Nylic at: [Nylicwj@cdmsmith.com](mailto:Nylicwj@cdmsmith.com)

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## The Chair's Message | Fall 2019



As I reflect on this year, I am amazed by the consistent dedication that our members have to the chapter. Events always have a great turn out; your participation and enthusiasm makes each one a great success. In 2019, events such as the Spring meeting, Clam bake, O&M Meet and Greet and the Golf outing continue to show tremendous participation. Thank you for all your hard work! We appreciate this dedication and effort.

I'm excited to say that the chapter is expanding our Scholarship Program to include Operators. Donna Bee has championed this program. Four \$500 scholarships will be awarded to support operator training. Check out our web site for the details.

Our representation of private industry, contractors, and manufacturers is fairly good; however, this can always be improved. I encourage young professionals and operators to get involved and join a committee. The Chapter offers opportunities with internships, operator training programs and technology exchange. All of these have long term benefits and potential to strengthen your career.

Our Brown Tide operator challenge team placed 5th overall at WEFTEC and second place in the pump event. Great job! The Suez LI team Resource Revolutionaries continues to train and compete. Maybe two Long Island teams at WEFTEC in 2020?

Our Chapter will be hosting the NYWEA Spring 2020 meeting and our program committee has been busy researching possible social event venues to show off our beautiful Island. If you would like to get involved please contact a board member. We love to hear new ideas! Looking forward to seeing everyone at our upcoming events!

Stephen Hadjiyane, PE, BCEE

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### Clear Skies for the Annual Clambake

By Tom Immerso

Under threatening skies only a few hours prior, the Long Island Chapter of NYWEA held their Annual Clambake at Cedar Creek Park right on the summer solstice – June 21st – under perfect weather conditions. The rain stopped & the sun came out just in time for our 3 pm start time, retaining just enough of a breeze to keep the bugs away. A limited grassy area due to a few quagmires allowed space for only 2 of our ‘competitive’ sports: bocce ball & horseshoes! Cornhole was separately offered on a non-competitive basis. To feed the masses, which amounted to some 116 attendees, plenty of food & drink was provided by the Davenport Restaurant in Mineola, which, as usual, did another fabulous job. Among the menu items were: clams on the ½ shell, clam chowder (delish!), bbq'd spareribs, chicken, burgers, hot dogs, chorizo, kielbasa & sweet/hot sausage with peppers & onions, along with salad & corn on the cob. Various cakes/coffee for dessert completed the feast. And, as a first, the beer quality took a big step up in providing Blue Point rather than the more mundane Buds (although the light version was also available). It can be safely said that no one left either hungry or thirsty – that's for sure!

Regarding the ‘competitive’ sports, the winners were:

Bocce ball	1st Place	JOE MASSARO & TOM IMMERSO (The Italian Connection!)
	2nd Place	CHRIS KORZENKO & JOE LaROSA
Horseshoes	1st Place	STEVE HAYDUK & BILL NYLIC
	2nd Place	CHRIS BUTKOS & SAMEER HAIDER

Along with upping the ante for beer, the raffle prizes were also given a significant uplift! Prizes varied from AirPods, Kindles & Yeti coolers to a 65” Smart TV! No messing around with a few ‘bottles’ anymore! Additionally, a 50/50

*(Continued on page 7)*

## Full Boat for Fluke Fishing Trip

By Tom Immerso

A full boat of some 63 fishermen & women convened on Captree for the annual LI-WEA Fishing Trip on a beautiful first day of August to a) eat & drink; b) fish for fluke ; c) enjoy a perfect late afternoon & evening on the water; & d) eat & drink. Aside from only managing a handful of barely keeper fish, the rest of the trip was scripted perfectly! Our “4-hour cruise” saw us fishing primarily at Fire Island Inlet, where we managed numerous short fluke & countless sea robins, along with a large 3 lb. star gazer, which is an electrified species that frequents our waters during the summer months. The pool fish was a nice 21”, 2.5 lb. fluke caught by Chris Martin of Waste, Inc. that also netted him a cool \$300! Not a bad day on the water at all!



The YP Group of Greg Levasseur, Jim Fuchs & James Vierling did a fine job of organizing a fun outing, inclusive of some fine heroes, snacks & drinks (non-

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## 35th Annual Royal Golf Classic

By George Desmarais

The golf gods were with us during the day of Monday, October 7, 2019 for the playing of the 35th Annual Royal Golf Classic held at the beautiful Hamlet Golf and Country Club in Commack. Weather forecasts were borderline but the partial sunshine, mostly gentle breezes and great playing condition of the course made for a



very enjoyable day for the 97 golfers who signed up for the event. This was the first year that the outing was not being run by Joe “The King” Hurley, but we carried on in his honor.

After a patio barbeque lunch of hamburgers, hot dogs, chicken and salads the stuffed golfers continued on by hacking up the golf course and anxiously waiting for the beer cart attendant to arrive between holes. After golf, a cocktail hour followed by an awards dinner was held where golfers traded war stories on missed birdies and almost hole-in-ones. Awards were given out to Tom Pasculli for Closest to the Pin at 8’-1”, Brian Hassan for Long Drive at 295 yards and Steve Hearl for Most Honest. The following teams took home prizes for low scores.

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## Nice Turnout for Annual Spring Meeting

By Tom Immerso

NYWEA's Long Island Chapter held its Annual Spring Dinner Meeting on Wed., May 15th at the Watermill Restaurant in Smithtown. A crowd of some 74 professional and student attendees turned out to hear Suffolk County Executive Steve Bellone (actually, his Deputy County Exec for Admin. and 'environmental guru,' as he put it – Peter Scully) discuss the state of Suffolk County sewers and current projects. Since November, 2016, no less than 16 Suffolk County Sewer Studies addressing expansion have been proposed, aimed at appropriating some \$388M for sewer construction, but only four (4) plans have been approved for design via public referendum vote to date. This is discouraging in that a more proactive approach to sewerage would not only greatly reduce nitrogen in our waterways, but aid in rebuilding the wetlands that currently protect us from destructive storms such as Sandy, serving to improve coastal resiliency overall. The current plan is to slowly get more proposed plans off the shelf & into design, including two (2) key projects concerning Kings Park and Smithtown. Both Bellone and Scully remain committed to the cause.

The remainder of the evening centered on the presentation of 40-year NYWEA Membership pins to Frank Russo (formerly of H2M) and Gopal (D&B). Frank, now an adjunct engineering professor at Stony Brook, had one of his students attend; a few other students representing LI colleges were in attendance as well. Also getting recognition was Matt Roberts, who was presented with the NYWEA Collection Systems Operator Award. Wrapped around a fine cocktail hour and dinner was a large assortment of raffle prizes donated by our many generous sponsors, who we thank for their contributions. Among them were:

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## Whale Watch Trip Revisited

By Tom Immerso

Well, in this case, the second time was the charm! Unlike the similar trip that was offered a few years back but had no cooperation from the whales (only a few dolphins!), this time, under breezy, but sunny conditions, 6 intrepid adventurers from the LI & Met Chapters convened at Riis Park Landing in Breezy Point to board the American Princess on Friday, Oct. 4th. Although sea conditions were choppy in the bay, a fortuitous north wind kept the high seas relatively low ~ 2 miles off the Rockaways, making for excellent viewing of the 2 humpback whales & more than 150 playful bottlenose dolphins that breached & cavorted in the waters around the boat. The Captain did a masterful job of keeping us facing into the wind to minimize conditions for 'mal de mer,' (no one got sick!) & the complicit sea creatures did the rest! The trip ran from 12 noon to 4 pm, with the close shore access requiring only a half hours' time in both getting to the viewing grounds & making the return trip to port.



Anyone thinking that whale watching in this area is a pipedream needs to reconsider... In fact, early Fall offers excellent viewing from this area north to the Cape, as whales start to migrate to southern latitudes in pursuit of warmer waters. Although it will likely be a few years until we offer this trip again, anyone may go on one of these boat trips from May through October by contacting the American Princess. The fare is \$52 for a 4-hour excursion. They may be directly contacted at (718) 474-0593. Try it – you'll definitely like it!

## Northport Power Plant Tour

By William Howe

The Northport Power Plant training and tour was a great way to step outside the box from our everyday waste water world. It started with an overview of the system and its capabilities coupled with the vast permitting requirements. One of the more interesting topics was the amount of effort and energy that is put into protecting the environment. Everything from independent systems that limit the temperature of cooling water discharge to specialized fish protection barriers that prevent minimize impacts to spawning fish. Even better were the stories about the horseshoe crabs. At one point plant staff was relocating them with pick-up trucks and loaders and received accolades from the DEC for their efforts. Inside the generation facility was a beautiful display of massive turbines, miles of piping and enough conduit to build a city. The treatment facility was very similar to many of the plants we operate for individual townships, complete with gravity filters, clarifiers and a polymer system. This was a great opportunity to see a different and slightly cleaner type of water treatment.



*(Continued from page 1)*

Following a 2-hour paddle downstream, the group earned a lunch stop at Landing Ave. Park, where a local deli met us, providing sandwiches, salads, snacks, drinks & a watermelon to share (just when it was getting hot at noontime!). Seeing as a few kids were on the trip, needless to say, everything disappeared – especially the snacks!

After lunch, we continued south for another ½ hour, finally ending at Phillips Millpond – a secluded little watering hole where intrepid swimmers were able to take a dip! (Chilly, but refreshing is what I was told – not being one of the ‘dunkers!’) From there, it was back north to our starting point at Nissequogue State Park, with the outgoing tide assisting us once again.

A great time was had by all, as is usually the case. Next year’s trip will take us to the Carman’s River in Yaphank. If you haven’t tried one of these trips & you enjoy being out on the water, you really should give it a go. I’ve yet to have anyone tell me they didn’t have a blast!

*(Continued from page 1)*

Thanks go to the L.I. Chapter Technology Assessment Committee and Chair and Board member, Nick Bono, for his work organizing the seminar, as well as the speakers. Many thanks go to this year’s sponsors for making the event possible:

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### Event Specific

E-One

Site Specific

(Continued from page 3)

cash raffle amounting to \$2500 was also held & won by George Hayduk. Finally, a few shovels from the Select Society of Sanitary Sludge Shovelers ('5S') were also handed out to YP's that were upgraded from bronze to silver – namely, Bill Nylic & Greg Levasseur. Congrats to all raffle winners & upgraded shovel recipients!

Special thanks to Kevin Nastos, Dick Crescenzo & all the volunteers that helped to organize the event, put up tents, set up the games & provide take down & clean-up afterwards. (After all, that's what makes the party work!) Much appreciated, all... A final note of gratitude goes out to those donating raffle prizes along with our always dependable sponsors. They are listed below:

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alcoholic, of course!). As usual, George D. made the rounds as a 'photographer' to warrant the 'little green cans' he carried around! A fine time was had by all, as the weather could not have been more perfect. Flat, calm seas that allowed us to fish along the beach just outside the inlet. Dramamine was certainly NOT on the menu for this trip! If you missed it this year, make sure you're part of the fun next year!



As usual, we'd like to thank our annual sponsors:

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(Continued from page 4)

First Place Low Gross Todd Peluso Frank Zangara	GA Fleet Mark Cavanagh Scott Walsh
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Raffle prizes of clubs, golf bags, Yeti coolers, electronics, clothes and some cash prizes were happily scooped up by the lucky winners. We would like to thank the following corporate sponsors for the event who generously continue to support the event and Chapter:

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I would also like to thank Bill Donovan from Suez for his assistance in organizing the event and making the day's events go smoothly. Hope to see everyone again next year at the 36th Annual Royal Golf Outing.

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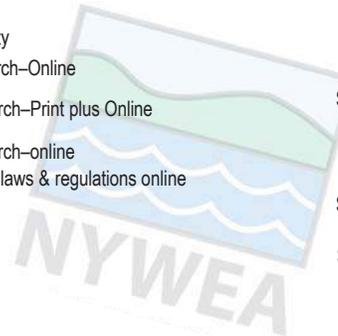
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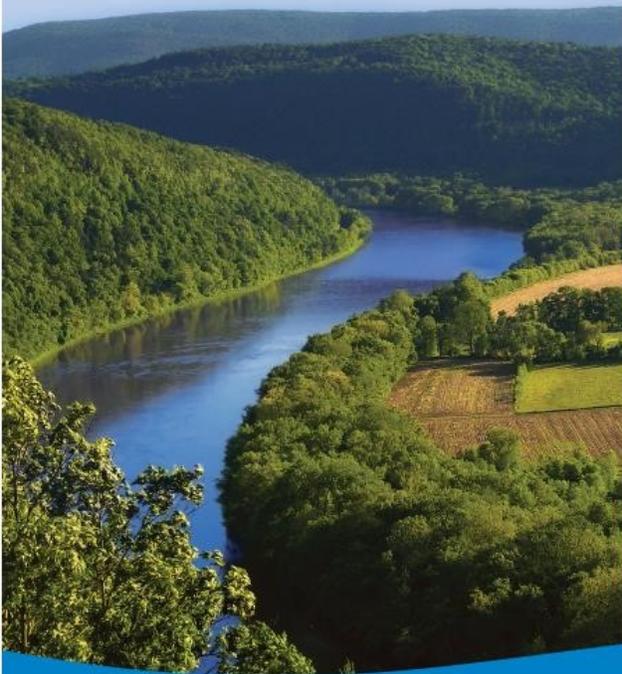
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### Pump Solutions:

- Pumping Station Solutions
- Solids Handling Sewage
- Dry/Wet Pit Submersible
- End Suction
- Vertical Turbine
- Split Case
- Low Pressure Sewer Grinder
- Centrifugal Grinder
- Peristaltic Sludge
- Booster/Seal Water Systems
- Self-Priming
- Packaged Pump Stations

### Instrumentation:

- Level
- Flow
- Pressure
- Temperature
- Analysis
- Bubbler Systems
- Samplers
- Venturi Flow Meters
- Particle Counters
- Streaming Current Analyzers
- Flumes, Weirs
- Emissions Monitoring

### Monitoring & Control:

- Custom Control Panels
- Simple Cellular SCADA
- Custom SCADA and PLC Controls
- Process Monitoring
- Pump Controllers
- Instrumentation Calibration
- Troubleshooting / Support

### Chemical Solutions:

- Chemical System Solutions
- Chemical Metering Pumps
- Peristaltic Metering Pumps
- Storage Tanks
- Skids

### Process Solutions:

- Hydropneumatic Tanks
- Pulsation Dampeners
- Vent & Line Silencers
- Polymer Feed Systems
- Automatic / Manual Strainers
- Odor Control
- Vacuum Sewer / Conveyance
- Fiberglass Shelters
- Fiberglass Enclosures
- Packaged Manholes
- Hydraulic Actuators



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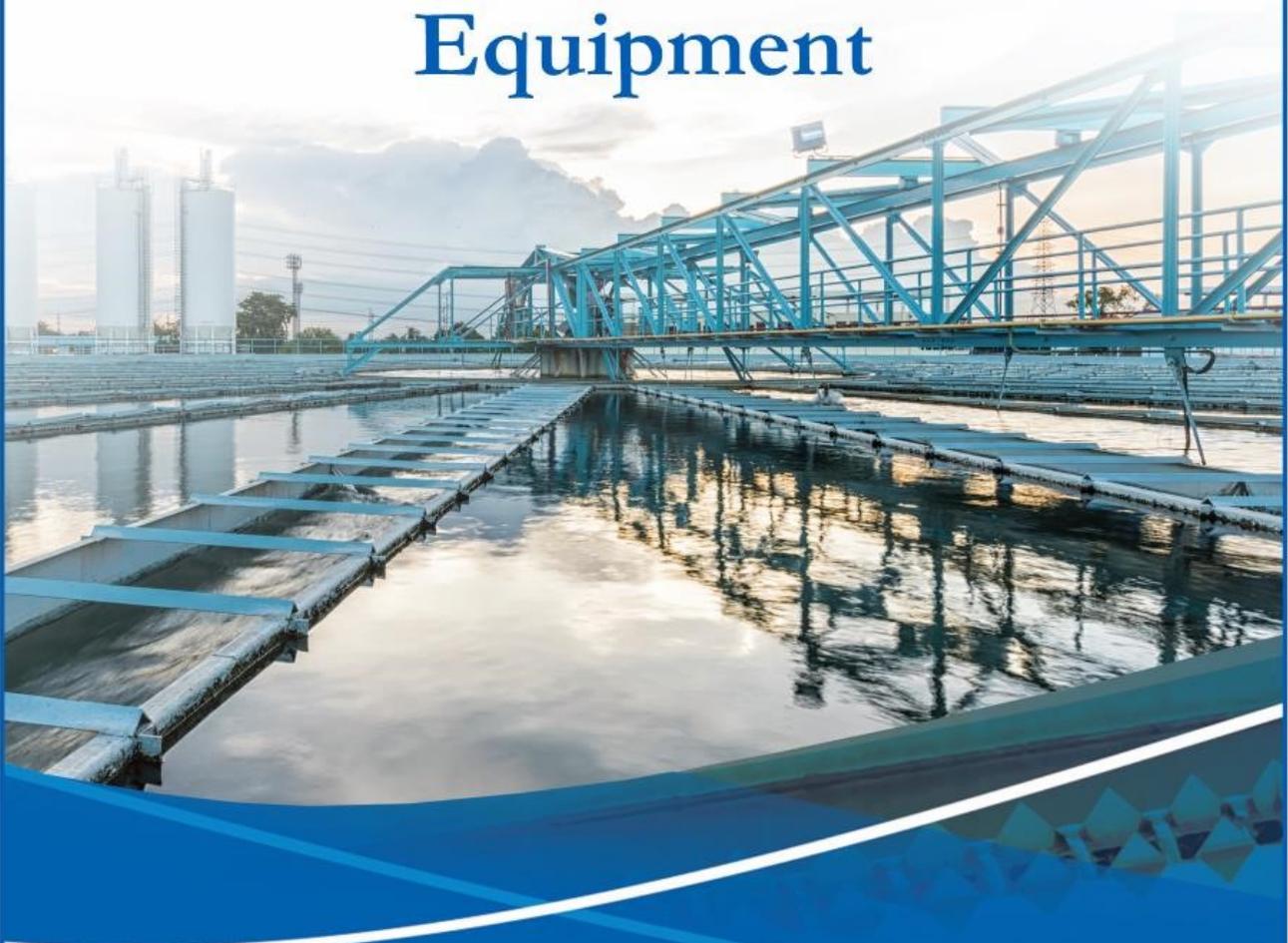
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NEW YORK WATER ENVIRONMENT ASSOCIATION, INC.

## 2019/2020 Long Island Chapter NYWEA Meeting and Event Schedule

### December

- 12th LI Board of Directors Meeting—Post Office, Babylon
- 17th Annual Election Meeting/Dinner, 6 pm—Fox Hollow Country Club, Woodbury

### January

- 16th LI Board of Directors Reorganizational Meeting—Davenport, Mineola

### February

- 3-5th NYWEA Annual Meeting—Marriott Time Square, NYC
- TBD LI Board of Directors Meeting—Cameron Engineering, Woodbury

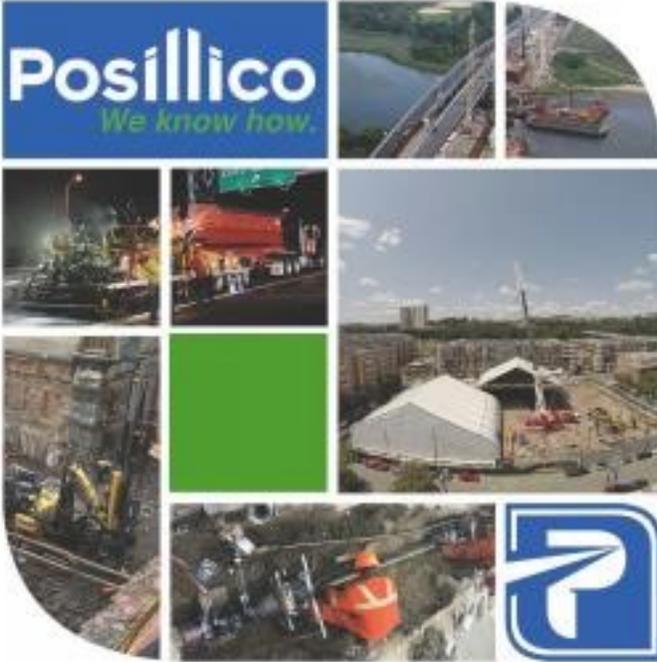


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