



The B.F.E.*

* Base Flood Elevation

OKLAHOMA FLOODPLAIN MANAGERS ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

Volume 8

Fall 2006

Number 4

OFMA's 16th Annual Conference Wrap-Up

If you attended this year's Annual Conference, then you understand why *Building a New Era of Floodplain Management* rings true. From the opening 'First Timers' meeting to the discussion of Map Modernization's impacts on effective flood maps, the OFMA Annual Conference drove home how the role of the Floodplain Manager is entering a new phase where technology, networking and education are keys to a successful program.

The OFMA Annual Conference was held on the University of Oklahoma campus in the Oklahoma Center for Continuing Education complex. Having the Sooner Hotel within walking distance of the facilities mixed with the beautiful weather of mid September, participants at the conference enjoyed a very hospitable setting to experience all that was offered.

Although the conference began with an unfortunate rain out cancellation of the OFMA Golf Tournament, weather was not a factor for the remainder of the conference. Monday morning began with a new idea from our Membership Committee, a 'First Timers' meeting. Participants met with OFMA Officers, Region Representatives and Committee Chairs to gain a sense of fellowship with their new Association. The Opening Plenary Track started at 9:30 a.m. OFMA Chair Rex Hennen welcomed everyone to the 16th Annual Conference and was followed by a discussion from Mike Mathis and Lou Klaver on current program and legal issues at the State level.

Lunch was served in the Commons Restaurant and along with discussions from Mickey Douglas on floodplain management within Tribal governments and Nancy Wade on the Membership Drive Contest.

Monday afternoon had three tracks running concurrent sessions to choose from. A campus walking tour got participants outside as Janet Meshek and Richard Grotte highlighted the storm sewer project constructed in 2002 to drain areas of the OU campus to Duck Pond. Participants could attend an afternoon of Floodplain 101 with Ken Morris and OWRB Trainers to catch up on NFIP basics. Shorter tracks were available with topics on the Flood Mitigation Assistance Program and the Pre-Disaster Mitigation Program, allowing beneficial functions of the floodplains through low impact development and the Community Rating System. As always, speakers on each topic had first hand experience to share with participants.

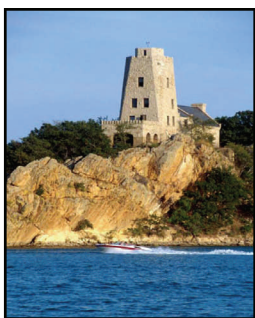
(Continued on page 9)



IN THIS ISSUE

| |
|--------------------------------------|
| OFMA ANNUAL CONFERENCE RECAP . 1 |
| MEMBERSHIP DRIVE CONTEST 1 |
| LETTER FROM THE CHAIR.....2 |
| GILBERT WHITE TRIBUTE2 |
| CHANNEL MAINTENANCE PROJECT3 |
| MHIP UPDATE FROM FEMA3 |
| REGION 3 REPRESENTATIVE.....4 |
| REGION 3 NFIP PARTICIPANTS MAP5 |
| 20 YEAR FLOOD ANNIVERSARY5 |
| OFMA'S ANNUAL AWARDS6 |
| FLOOD EVENT IN BROKEN ARROW.....7 |
| COUNTY ACQUISITION PROJECT7 |
| WEBSITES/EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES8 |
| OFMA GENERAL STORE.....8 |
| OFMA'S VISION AND MISSION9 |
| OFMA MEMBERSHIP INVITATION9 |
| STATE NFIP COORDINATOR NOTES ... 10 |
| OFMA'S CORPORATE PARTNERS 11 |
| 2005-2006 BOARD OF DIRECTORS..... 12 |

I
N
S
I
D
E



Tucker Tower at Lake Murray State Park—Ardmore, OK.

OFMA's Membership Drive Contest

How would you like the chance to win two nights lodging for two at an Oklahoma State Lodge or Resort along with \$150 in spending money? Well, if you participate in the Membership Drive Contest sponsored by the OFMA Membership Committee, you just might! That's right. Prizes will be awarded to the top three members who generate the most recruitment for the Association. The Grand Prize is the Lodge or Resort vacation for two at any park listed at

www.touroklahoma.com/resorts.asp

Plus, all contestants with at least 1 new member will be entered into a drawing for a color television! Contestants will gain 4 points for a Corporate Member, 3 points for an Agency Member, 2 points for a Full Member and 1 point for speaking to a group of 3 or more about joining OFMA. All new member applications and dues must be submitted by July 31, 2007 to qualify and the contestant's name must be noted on the application to receive credit. Look for the official contest brochure and keep up-to-date with the current contest standings at www.okflood.org. Contest winners will be announced at next year's Annual Conference in September 2007.

Comments from the Chair

Greetings -

As the holidays approach, our thoughts will wander from workplace concerns to issues involving family feasts and household decorating. There are two issues I hope you will keep in mind however.

First, within the next few years, Oklahoma communities will be getting new digital flood insurance rate maps, also called DFIRMs. The process requires significant public involvement, but FEMA has provided us with a top-notch toolkit to make the job easier. You'll find it on www.okflood.org. I encourage you to take a look at this toolkit. There are "tools" for everyone involved in updating maps including local officials, builders, surveyors, real estate professionals, insurance agents, and lenders. Don't forget that the Preliminary Maps are not effective until the public meeting processes under the Oklahoma Open Meeting Act are completed, and the new maps are adopted by ordinance modification in accordance with the Oklahoma Floodplain Act.



Second, on September 22, OFMA sent a letter to Tulsa Stakeholders, Inc., and other parties interested in "The Channels". This is the project that proposes that a large island development be built in the middle of the Arkansas River in Tulsa. Those of you who attended our annual conference might recall hearing several speakers making references to the project.

The letter from OFMA is available on the OFMA website – www.okflood.org. I urge you to read it and become familiar with this issue as it will certainly affect floodplain management in Oklahoma one way or another. We hope the outcome will be a positive one, in keeping with no adverse impact principles.

When you read the letter you will notice that it is signed by our Vice Chair Bill Smith. Since I am a City of Tulsa employee, I must, as your Chair, abstain from policy-making actions related to the City of Tulsa. This is why I did not sign the letter. As far as OFMA's voice on The Channels project, in the future, you will continue to hear Bill Smith or his designee. Please rest assured, however, that I share your commitment to sound floodplain management.

Janet Meshek and Chris Duncan are representing OFMA on the Arkansas River Corridor Committee relating to the Tulsa County Master Plan for the Arkansas River coordinated by INCOG and the Corps of Engineers. This committee also examined "The Channels" proposal to see what elements, if any, of "The Channels" can be incorporated into the Arkansas River Corridor Master Plan. I want to thank Bill, Janet, and Chris for their efforts. We are honored that OFMA has a seat at the table during this important issue.

- Laureen Gibson Gilroy, CFM

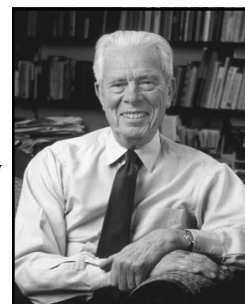
"Floods are 'acts of God,' but flood losses are largely acts of man." – Gilbert White, 1945

The nation's floodplain management community is mourning the loss of its founding father. Throughout his career, Mr. Gilbert F. White championed the sound, comprehensive management of floodplains and the adoption of a broad range of adjustments to floods. He advocated, where feasible, adaptation to or accommodation of flood hazards rather than the "structural" solutions that dominated policy in the early 20th century. His work demonstrated that flood control structures not only occasionally fail the standards of reliability, but can actually increase the damage done when unsuspecting people risk lives and money to develop the land supposedly protected. White advocated the use of nonstructural solutions, such as zoning restrictions and flood proofing, to complement or replace more traditional structural approaches.

While White's academic career was distinguished, it was his commitment to public policy that dramatically expanded the significance of his contributions. He was instrumental in the investigations and reports that preceded the passage of the 1968 National Flood Insurance Act, and maintained a vigilant watch on the unfolding of the massive, multi-layered framework of flood loss reduction, insurance, and mitigation actions that sprang from that Act.

With one eye on lessons from the past, he never lost sight of long-term objectives: sustaining life in all its forms and avoiding violent confrontation, both with one another and with nature itself. His global studies of the interaction between humankind and water resources implicitly suggest that the choices humans make in one corner of the world may contain lessons for others elsewhere.

Gilbert was that rare combination — a distinguished scientist and an outstanding humanitarian committed to translating scientific evidence into policy and programs to better people's lives. Gilbert passed away on October 5, 2006 at his home in Boulder, Colorado. His was a life to celebrate. In memory of Gilbert, OFMA has sent a donation to the ASFPM Foundation for a special memorial fund for continuing work on flood policy.



Gilbert Fowler White
Nov. 26, 1911 - Oct. 5, 2006

Teaming Up to Improve Drainage through Channel Maintenance

With everything that goes on during day-to-day operations at a municipality, it's easy to see how drainage concerns can be overlooked—particularly during the relatively dry months of the summer. Without a decent gully washer, storm water channels can become overrun with natural and manmade debris, affecting the conveyance of stormwater safely downstream. Over time, it must be recognized that the capacity of a drainage channel is only as good as the location along the channel with the smallest capacity. Combined with natural erosion and sedimentation, un-maintained stormwater channels can become a part of the hazard they are designed to mitigate. Facing problems typical of a drainage channel, one Oklahoma community chose to team up and restore an important channel after years of facing the ill effects from deficient maintenance.

The City of Altus Street Department and the Altus Air Force Base's Civil Engineering - Maintenance Division recently joined forces to tackle a major local tributary drainage problem. For many years the AAFB has been experiencing major flooding, particularly at the Main Gate entrance. This has been due to the slow but steady sedimentation buildup from upstream farm land run off.

To aid in the maintenance, Engineering Department Head and Region 4 Representative Phillip Beauchamp of the City of Altus reported the City provided a backhoe and 4 trucks for the project while the AAFB supplied a motor grader and track excavator. Work began at the box culverts located at the Main Gate entrance and progressed both up and down stream approximately 600 to 800 feet each direction. Additional drainage work was performed at other road crossing culverts located along this tributary, which runs for over a mile through the Altus Air Force Base.

This storm water project also included the straightening and widening of three residential storm drain ditches to include the placement of rip-rap and slab sodding to control erosion.

This project was a front page feature in a local Air Force publication and shows just what *good* can be done when agencies team together and work towards a common goal. By creating a win-win scenario, both sides are very pleased with the work done and are equally benefiting from the improved conditions.

Multi-Year Flood Hazard Identification Plan (MHIP) Version 2.0

The Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) manages the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), the cornerstone of the Nation's strategy for preparing communities for flood disasters. The Flood Hazard Mapping Program is a key component of the NFIP. FEMA and its mapping partners provide flood hazard data and maps that are used to establish premium rates for flood insurance policies and guide floodplain management activities.

The catastrophic flooding events which have occurred in the United States since the inception of Flood Map Modernization reinforce the importance of assessing the validity of flood hazard designations on effective flood maps. In response to FEMA's stakeholders, including Congress, the U.S. Government Accountability Office, and the Department of Homeland Security's Inspector General, FEMA deliberatively assessed the course of Flood Map Modernization as it reached its midpoint. As a result FEMA has made some adjustments and has articulated them in an executive summary entitled "Flood Map Modernization Mid-Course Adjustment Executive Summary". This document can be downloaded from FEMA's Web site at http://www.fema.gov/plan/prevent/fhm/mm_mca.shtm.

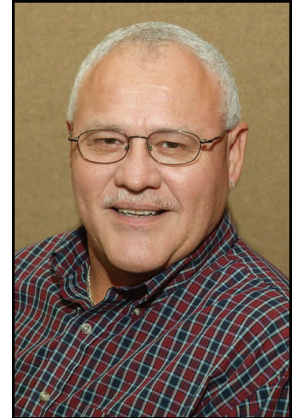
MHIP Version 2.0 begins to reflect the Mid-Course Adjustment by allowing more flexibility and encouraging a greater focusing of resources in areas where flood risk is the highest. This effectively means that areas of high-flood risk will receive more attention and areas where flood risk is the lowest are deferred. Appendix A of this MHIP is partially shaped by this change in direction; however, as with any plan, individual flood map update details may change. The MHIP Version 2.0 60-day comment period provides flood mapping stakeholders the opportunity to provide feedback on the revised Flood Map Modernization plan. Flood hazard mapping partners that participate in the business planning process, including States, commonwealths, territories, and some Cooperating Technical Partners, working through the FEMA Regions, will have the opportunity and flexibility to request additional changes to the flood map update sequencing through the FY07 State Business Plans.

This version of the MHIP also frames the path forward with regard to potential changes in details of the previously established Floodplain Boundary Standard and a new procedure for determining where new studies would need to be conducted, where updates to existing flood hazards should be performed, and where existing flood hazard information can be considered valid. The potential small adjustments to the Floodplain Boundary Standard will better align it with automated flood hazard mapping technologies while maintaining its intent—to ensure the products delivered through Flood Map Modernization are timely and tied to a topographic source. The framework described for new, updated, or validated engineering analysis, although not yet fully defined, indicates FEMA's direction with respect to this metric.

MHIP Version 2.0 is available on FEMA's Flood Hazard Mapping Web site at www.fema.gov/plan/prevent/fhm/mh_main.shtm.

OFMA Region 3: About the Region and the Representative

OFMA is proud of each of the Regional Representatives for the hard work each volunteer commits to. Without their dedication, OFMA would not be the successful association it is today. Each Representative works very hard to promote sound floodplain management within their region by keeping Floodplain Administrators updated with current events and program issues. They provide an important point of contact for floodplain managers in each region and are here to help each of you with any support they can. OFMA would like to thank Region 3 Representative Mickey Douglas for providing some insight into his background and the goals he has set for the region.



Mickey Douglas has been working with the Seminole Nation since December of 1995. He began his career in the Tribal Employment Rights Office as a Compliance Officer. Later on, Mickey was assigned to a one-year Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) Inherited Minerals Ownership grant where he researched legal documents pertaining to Indian mineral ownership at the Seminole County Clerks Office. His diligent work practices with legal documents and compliance issues earned him an appointment in 1997 to the Director position of the Seminole Nation Environmental Protection Office (SNEPO), which he still retains.

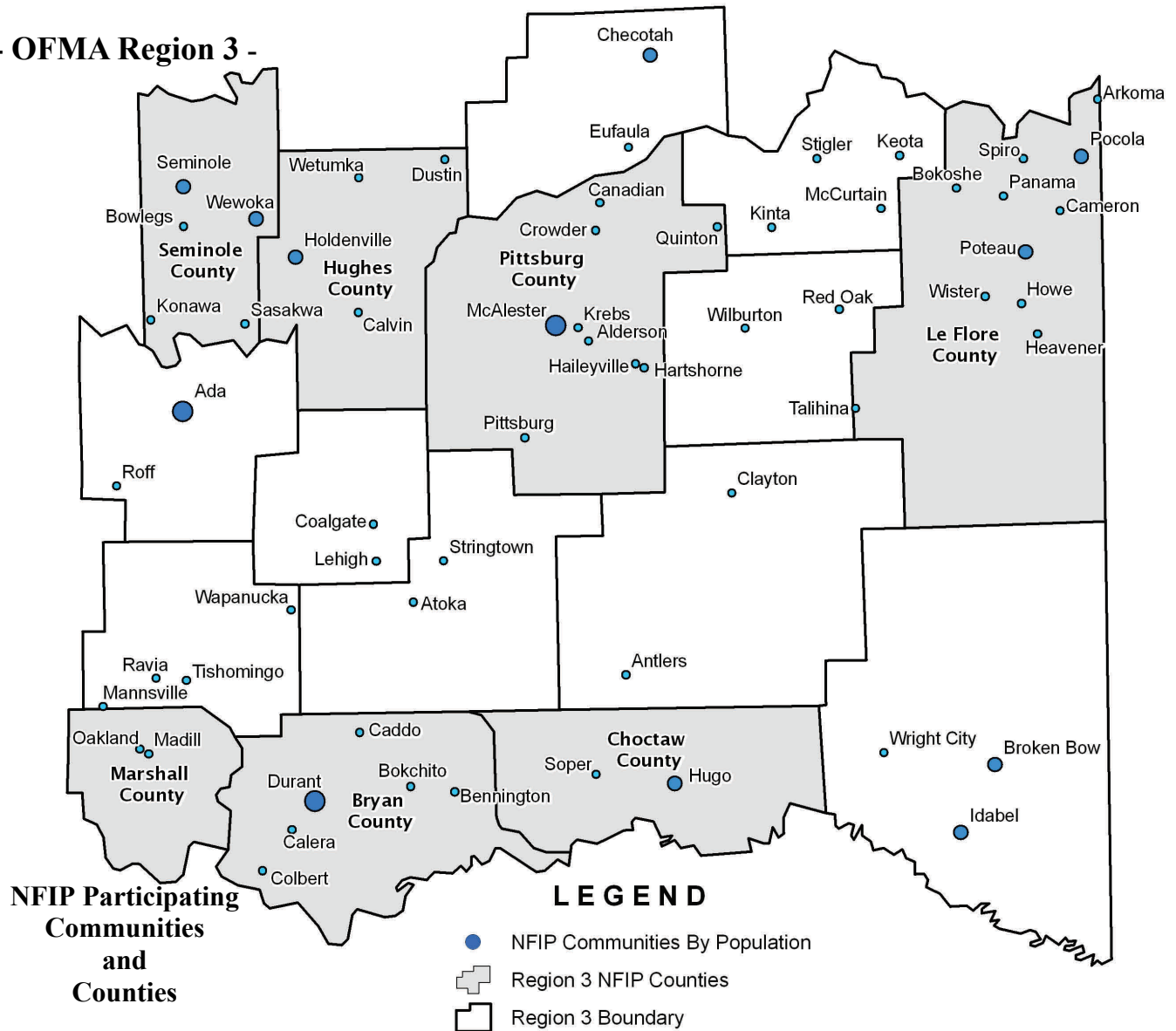
Mickey has helped the Seminole Nation understand the importance of managing their floodplains. He has helped bring awareness to Tribal leaders on the proper use of floodplains and the importance of floodplain management as guiding concepts to be regarded as the Tribe grows economically and culturally to protect the tribe's natural resources, property and human life.

Mickey joined OFMA in 2004 and quickly took on the role of Region 3 Representative in 2005. He has maintained his Region Representative status since that time. As Region 3 Representative, Mickey would like to see Region 3 communities become more active in OFMA and the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). He believes it is very important to establish an efficient communication system to bring together all FPA's and CFM's on a regular basis. He would like to see Region 3 community floodplain managers maintain their certification by attending training sessions and foster floodplain mitigation activities. He would also like to see floodplain managers who work for a city, focus their attention on their community standing within the Community Rating System.

Mickey is a die-hard National Hot Rod Association (NHRA) fan! When it comes to drag racing, cars with 8,000 horse power accelerating to 330 mph in 4.5 seconds really get him enthused! Mickey is also a professional musician who plays bass guitar in a band known as "IronHorse". They have been together for over 10 years, opening up shows for national talent such as newcomer Jason Aldean, as well as veteran performers such as David Allen Cole, Exile, Confederate Railroad, Great Divide and Moe Bandy, just to name a few. One of his more memorable moments in his musical career was playing backup band for Tanya Tucker. Mickey also owns a Harley-Davidson motorcycle and enjoys riding and being "In The Wind" every chance he gets.

If you're a Floodplain Administrator in Region 3, Mickey would like to hear from you! Thank you Mickey for all your hard work!

- OFMA Region 3 -



Is it Forgotten? The Arkansas River Flood of 1986 - 20 Years Past

Twenty years ago this October, northeastern Oklahoma experienced an unprecedented, record-breaking flood event. In 1986, the Arkansas River basin received about one-half of the average annual rainfall within a six-day period. Truly a perfect storm, three meteorological events situated themselves over the country to allow moisture remnants of Hurricane Paine to unload over the basin. Even with the Corps of Engineers' system of flood control structures in place throughout the entire basin, flooding became unavoidable, albeit less than the unrestricted flood it could have been without the flood control structures. In all, 11 lakes in the system completely filled or exceeded their flood control storage capacity. Even lakes within the basin that had 100% of their flood control storage available immediately prior to the rainfall filled to the tops of their flood control pools during the storm. Hulah Lake, upstream of Bartlesville, exceeded its surcharge, or safety zone above the top of the flood control pool.

The Keystone Lake Dam, upstream of Tulsa on the Arkansas River, was forced to release 310,000 cubic feet per second into the Arkansas River, flooding the downstream communities of Sand Springs, Tulsa, Jenks and Bixby. The region below the dam saw damages reaching \$67 million. Sand Springs and Bixby alone had damages in 1986 dollars at \$32.5 and \$13.4 million respectively. Bartlesville saw damages from the Caney River at \$37.2 million. In Tulsa, a private westbank levee failed, causing \$1.3 million in damages to 64 buildings. Overall, thirty-three counties in Oklahoma, two cities outside those counties, and ten counties in Kansas were included in Presidential Flood Disaster Declarations.

After everything was over, two lives had been lost to floodwaters and the nearly 8.25 million acre-feet of flood control storage distributed over 11 lake projects along the main stem of the Arkansas River were almost completely compromised by one meteorological event. The basin suffered \$283 million in flood damages including \$63.6 million in Tulsa County and \$39.7 in Washington County. And for the first time since its construction, communities along the Arkansas River saw firsthand the finite protection of the Keystone Dam.

16th Annual OFMA Awards

An Awards Banquet is held each year at the OFMA Annual Conference. Awards are presented to those who have made exemplary contributions to floodplain management in Oklahoma and recognize excellence in flood loss reduction during this past year.

This year's Ben Fizzell Media Award winner is Carol Cole of the Norman Transcript for her series on floodplain management practices and ordinances in the City of Norman. Her four-part investigative piece was published March 16 – 19 in the Norman Transcript and dealt with many topics including development, both planned and existing, and its impacts on stormwater runoff.

This year's Charles Don Ellison Memorial Award for long term leadership and support in advancing OFMA's goals was presented to Jim Coffey of the City of Bixby. Jim has been instrumental as an OFMA leader for many years. He served as Chair of the Association in 2004-05 and instigated the OFMA Strategic Planning Retreat as well as assisting with the creation and design of Freddie Floodway.



Jim Coffey & wife



T.J. Davis

This year's Platinum Level Ronald D. Flanagan Project Award was awarded to T.J. Davis of Sand Springs. T.J., a past OFMA chair, has overseen the buyout project for portions of the Meadow Valley subdivision. This subdivision, platted in the 1980's, has seen numerous flood events including the major '86 flood of the Arkansas River. A Silver Level award was presented to Darryl Hughes of the City of Guthrie for his work in a stream bank restoration project that significantly improved the carrying capacity of the channel during heavy runoff. Both projects were prized due to their public benefits in reducing flood related hazards.

Recipients of the W. Kenneth Morris Honorary Lifetime Member Award have offered tremendous support and assistance to OFMA for many years. Their commitment and enthusiasm to floodplain management has become so recognizable that it becomes evident that each recipient must become distinguished as a lifetime member. This year's award recipients are Joseph R. Remondini of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; Gavin Brady of the Oklahoma Water Resources Board and Pat Hoggard of the City of Tulsa.

Congratulations to each of you.



Lou Klaver

The Silver Scoop Award is presented to key individuals that contribute significantly to the Association. They generously volunteer their time, experience and skills for the betterment of the Association by "scooping" often into the needs of the Association. Without the commitment of members like these, the activities commonly used to educate and promote floodplain management around the State would not be as numerous as they are today. This year's Silver Scoop Award recipients were Dean Couch of the OWRB, Ross Richardson of FEMA Region VI, Lou Klaver of the OWRB, Jeff Bigby of the City of Broken Arrow, Bill Smith of HISINC, LLC and Tinna-Song Wallis, the OFMA Webmaster. Thanks to each of you for everything you have done this year to make OFMA and its goals a success.



Gavin Brady

The Special Recognition Awards are presented by the Board of Directors annually. These awards are given to individuals in the floodplain management business that have demonstrated excellence in an endeavor that is worthy of recognition. This year's Special Recognition Award recipients are Sherri Stansel from Norman, Oklahoma, Jack Graham of FEMA Region VI and Larry Larson of ASFPM.



Kim Holland

This year's Public Official of the Year Award was given to the Oklahoma Insurance Commissioner Kim Holland. Ms. Holland has been instrumental in educating the public on flood insurance and the dangers of flooding to property and life. Ms. Holland assisted with planning for the 1st Annual Oklahoma Climate & Loss Mitigation Conference in 2006. She advocated flood awareness with a news release during Flood Awareness Month describing flood insurance, the NFIP and why flood insurance should be considered for property protection. She also understands the dangers of flooding, which is why she works closely with the OWRB to educate and train property/casualty agents, adjusters and consumers on the NFIP, its rules and procedures. Thanks to Ms. Kim Holland for her continued support of floodplain management activities within the insurance industry.

The Floodplain Manager of the Year Award goes to an individual who has shown significant excellence in the field of floodplain management. The individual has demonstrated dedication through the administration of their community's floodplain management program in pursuing the goals of flood loss reduction and in the prevention of loss of life. This year's award receipt of Floodplain Manager of the Year is Chloe Lewis of Comanche County Emergency Management. Comanche County underwent a Community Assisted Visit (CAV) where many, many violations were identified. Without resolution, these violations could put the County in violation and out of compliance, which can lead to suspension and eventual removal from the NFIP. Chloe took charge of each issue identified in the CAV and one by one, resolved them. She dedicated many hours and her commitment paid off. Thanks to her, residents of Comanche County are still able to purchase flood insurance to protect their property.



Chloe Lewis

Congratulations to each of this year's OFMA Awards recipients! Your dedication and service to this Association is greatly appreciated and valued as a critical asset to our goal of protecting life and property to flood hazards. Thank you!

Possible Acquisition of Floodplain Properties in Oklahoma County

Acquiring floodplain and repetitive loss properties is a priority with our State and nationally with FEMA. Currently, a project is pending in Oklahoma County that could potentially acquire, through voluntary acquisition, over 100 residential structures prone to flooding using Hazard Mitigation Grant funds. County Planner and Floodplain Administrator Ruth Walters has been overseeing the Crutchko Park Acquisition Project, which is just entering Phase I. The area of concern is located in Unincorporated Oklahoma County near the confluence of Soldier and Crutchko Creeks with the North Canadian River. The area was developed in the 1950's and contains a number of elderly residents and original owners. Today, these properties are in the 100-year floodplain and in some cases, the floodway. When storms begin to approach the 10-year frequency, homes and roadways become inundated causing life safety issues for elderly citizens and emergency responders. With the assistance of a consultant, eighteen structures have been identified for voluntary acquisition that meet an acceptable benefit/cost ratio, with 2/3's of those property owners responding positively to the offer.

Emergency Management of Oklahoma County Director David Barnes applied with Oklahoma Emergency Management for grant money following the Presidential Disaster from wildfires in February 2006. If approved, a total of \$700,000 may be allocated to the project from FEMA with a required 25% match from the County. Much of the grant match will be from in-kind services performed by the County including demolition activities and administrative costs. With the help of District 1 Commissioner Jim Roth, the acquired properties will create open space for the foreseeable future. Applying a deed restriction to the purchased property will ensure in perpetuity that development never occurs in that location, even if the lot is annexed into a local municipality. Phase 2 of the project will look to acquire another series of properties, with the possibility of relocating some structures to help grant funds go further.

Broken Arrow Flood Event

On May 4th, 2006 the City of Broken Arrow and Wagoner County received over 6" of rainfall in a 3 hour period. This rainfall event was larger than the 500-year event in certain areas. Over 150 homeowners within the City of Broken Arrow and Wagoner County reported varying degrees of flood damage. Jeff Bigby, CFM, Broken Arrow Floodplain Administrator reports that since the flood, the City has initiated a Citizens Flooding Action Committee that convenes monthly. The goal of the committee consisting of citizens from affected areas and various city officials is to keep open the lines of communication and to update citizens on stormwater system upgrades planned to improve stormwater conveyance for flooded areas. Maintenance of floodplain and creek areas, whether privately or publicly owned, is also a major issue to be dealt with. Debris removal and keeping creeks and channels clear for stormwater conveyance is critical. Bigby also states that dozens of homes outside of the FEMA floodplain were damaged by the flood event, pointing out the need to get the word out about the benefits of flood insurance policies for homeowners. Any homeowner within a participating NFIP Community can purchase flood insurance whether within a FEMA Special Flood Hazard Area or not.



Flood waters reclaiming their boundaries carry debris to this Broken Arrow road crossing.



Question: My community has recently received new "Preliminary" Maps from the countywide DFIRM restudy. I want to use these maps to enforce and regulate our community floodplains, since they are more accurate. Are "Preliminary" DFIRM maps enforceable once they are received? Can they be considered 'best available data' for regulation purposes?

Answer: Although 'Preliminary DFIRM' maps should contain the best available data and are therefore very enticing for regulatory purposes, they are not legally binding until they have been through a public hearing process and formally adopted by the community. Until then, the current Flood Insurance Study and effective FIRM maps should be used for regulatory purposes. The new DFIRMS, once through the 90-day appeal period (Preliminary DFIRM), will receive a Letter of Final Determination (LFD), which states the new DFIRM and FIS report will be effective *approximately 6 months later* pending the adoption, update or revision to the community Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance. Further information can be found at http://www.fema.gov/fima/fis_data.shtm.

Web Sites

OFMA www.okflood.org
ASFPM www.floods.org
OWRB www.owrb.state.ok.us
FEMA www.fema.gov
OEM www.ok.gov/oem
Corps of Engineers (USACE)
www.swt.usace.army.mil
U.S. Geological Survey (USGS)
ok.water.usgs.gov
Advanced Study Institute
web.uccs.edu/geogenvs/natoasi
CLOMR/LOMR Forms:
www.fema.gov/fhm/frm_form.shtm
EPA NPDES Phase II site:
www.epa.gov/npdes/
SMRC Stormwater Mgr Resource Center:
www.stormwatercenter.net
FEMA Official NFIP Site:
www.floodsmart.gov
Link to: 44 CFR Ch. I (10-1-02 Edition)
http://www.access.gpo.gov/nara/fr/waisidx_02/44cfrv1_02.html
Webmaster: Tinna Song-Wallis
stsong@cox.net

Calendar of Educational Opportunities

- **Floodplain 101**; Nov. 28 and Dec 12, 2006. OU Center for Continuing Education; 1704 Asp Ave. Norman, OK. Contact Rhonda Bowers (405) 530-8800; website www.owrb.state.ok.us
- **Floodplain 202**; Nov. 14, 2006 Jenks; March 6, 2007 McAlester; March 20, 2007 Lawton; March 27, 2007 OKC; March 29, 2007 Woodward. Contact Rhonda Bowers (405) 530-8800; online registration: www.owrb.state.ok.us/util/commentsFP.php
- **Governor's Water Conference**; Nov. 13-14, 2006. Cox Business Services Convention Center; Oklahoma City, OK. Online Registration and Info: www.owrb.state.ok.us/news/news2/conferences.php
- **2006 Water Summit**; Nov. 30, 2006. Oklahoma Regional Training Institute; 6500 N. Kelly Ave. Oklahoma City, OK. Website: www.ohl.org
- **Managing Floodplain Development Through the NFIP**; Jan. 2007. Contact Rhonda Bowers (405) 530-8800; website www.owrb.state.ok.us
- **City Management Association of Oklahoma—Winter Conference**; Jan. 10-12, 2007; Stillwater, OK.
- **Legislative Reception**, Feb. 2007; Oklahoma City, OK.
- **Oklahoma Society of Land Surveyors Annual Convention**; March 8-10, 2007
- **ASFPM Annual Conference**; June 3-7, 2007; Norfolk, VA. www.floods.org
- **OFMA 17th Annual Conference**; September 16-19, 2007, Double Tree Hotel Downtown, Tulsa, OK. Contact: *OFMA, P.O. Box 8101, Tulsa, OK 74101-8101*; website: www.okflood.org.
- **FEMA's Annual National Flood Conference**; TBA; Denver, Colorado.

OFMA General Store

Oklahoma Floodplain Managers Association gifts are now available. The attractive OFMA articles are of the highest quality. You will be proud to wear and display them.

To Order: OFMA
P.O. Box 8101
Tulsa, OK 74101

Or call Carolyn Schultz (918) 669-4919



| | |
|-------------------------------------|-------|
| OFMA Golf Shirt (S, M, L, X-L) | 35.00 |
| Briefcase | 25.00 |
| Baseball Cap (One size fits all) | 15.00 |
| Insulated Mug | 10.00 |
| Umbrella | 20.00 |
| Portfolio | 25.00 |
| Lapel Pin | 3.00 |
| CFM Lapel Pin | 5.00 |

Shipping and handling \$4.95 per order.

(Continued from page 1 - Annual Conference Summary)

Monday closed with the Vendor's Social at the Sam Noble Museum of Natural History, where conference attendees were able to relax and visit along side collections of cultural and natural artifacts while Shortt Dogg performed jazz ensembles. Some of the membership base chose to extend the evening with games and socializing in the hospitality suite.

Tuesday morning opened up at 7 a.m. with a free Early Bird session of Hydrology 101, conducted by Bill Smith of HISINC, LLC. The Tuesday morning Plenary Session focused on FEMA's Map Modernization. Larry Larson, executive director of ASFP, and Ross Richardson of FEMA Region VI spoke on NFIP updates at the national level and fielded questions from the audience. Steve Altman of Michael Baker Jr. and Jim Orwat of FEMA Region VI discussed the effects of Map Mod on LOMRs and PMRs. After a short break, the Plenary Session continued with a discussion on the use of GIS in DFIRM Map Production and the Mapping Information Platform by Sterling Overturf of Meshek & Associates. He was joined by Mr. Altman and Mr. Orwat at the end of the session for a panel discussion where audience members could resolve unanswered questions on any aspect of Map Modernization and the ongoing countywide studies.

Lunch was held in the Commons Restaurant with Keynote Speaker Kim Holland, the acting Oklahoma Insurance Commissioner, speaking on disaster losses and the effects on the insurance industry. The results from the 2006-07 elections of Officers and Regional Representatives were announced to conclude the lunch.

The afternoon sessions were packed with insightful presentations to choose from. Floodplain 101 continued for the second day in Track 1. For the next 2 hours, participants were able to choose between presentations on Stormwater Plan Reviews, Channel Management Systems, Public Outreach, Post-Katrina NFIP, GIS Input Parameters for HEC models, physical modeling of concrete stepped spillways, overtopping of earthen dams and modeling of earthen embankment failure from

(Continued on page 10)

Oklahoma Floodplain Managers Association

Vision

The Oklahoma Floodplain Managers Association advocates the protection of the natural functions of the floodplain through education, training, and service to Oklahomans.

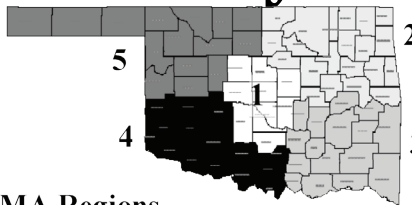
Mission

We encourage and support, with our partners, flood-safe development and flood mitigation. We promote sound floodplain management practices and the natural and cultural benefits of the floodplain. We support the floodplain management profession through education and certification.

Saving lives from floods and reducing property loss from floods are paramount to us.

An Invitation to Join OFMA

The Oklahoma Floodplain Managers Association is a non-profit organization primarily dedicated to providing information and education to the public about reduction of loss of life and property due to flooding.



OFMA Regions

The best investment that \$30.00 can buy in the future of your state is a membership in the Oklahoma Floodplain Managers Association.

OFMA Membership Application

Name: _____

Company/Organization: _____

Title: _____

Address: _____

Work Phone: _____

City/Town: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Fax: _____

E-Mail: _____

Detach and Mail to:

OFMA

P.O. Box 8101

Tulsa, OK 74101-8101

New Member: ☐

Renewal: ☐

Region (see map): 1 2 3 4 5

Committees:

___ Mitigation

___ Mapping and Engineering

___ Education/Legislative

___ Certification

___ Conference

Dues Schedule:

First-Year dues for joining OFMA are listed below. The fiscal year for membership starts October 1st and ends September 30th.

| | |
|--|----------|
| Full Membership | \$ 30.00 |
| Student Membership | 15.00 |
| Associate Membership | 20.00 |
| Agency Membership | 50.00 |
| (Plus \$10.00 per employee designated by the Agency) | |
| Corporate Sponsor | 100.00 |



Notes from the State NFIP Coordinator

Lou Klaver, Oklahoma Water Resources Board, NFIP State Coordinator

Many of you have learned that Mike Mathis, Oklahoma Water Resources Board's Planning and Management Chief and NFIP State Coordinator, has retired from the State of Oklahoma and taken a position in the private sector. Mike has been a valuable asset to both OFMA and the OWRB. We will miss his leadership and knowledge in floodplain management. Mike was continually looking at ways to better implement the NFIP in Oklahoma and with FEMA Region VI. We hope to continue down the path he established. As many of you may know, I have been Assistant Chief for the Planning and Management Division of the Oklahoma Water Resources Board for the past ten years and am now serving as the Acting Division Chief. Before working with Mike Mathis as his Assistant Chief, I practiced law and was an attorney for the OWRB. I have worked with the floodplain management program in the past and look forward to working closely with OFMA in the future.

As Mike has mentioned on several occasions, Oklahoma continues to deal with the most severe drought our State has experienced since the 1930's. I was in Tulsa last week and as I drove north on Riverside Drive towards downtown I was amazed how little water was in the Arkansas River (Zinc Lake) and what a contrast it was to the water level in the flood of 1986. I've seen several articles on the proposed "Channels" project in Tulsa. The project proposes to place commercial and residential development within the banks of the Arkansas River (floodplain and floodway). We all want our cities and towns to grow and prosper, and for them to provide for enjoyable living for our families and loved ones. However, we would never pursue such growth and prosperity if to do so meant growth and development in harm's way. Municipalities along the Arkansas River share the same responsibility with the citizens they represent. We all must take great care and special precautions if development is to occur within the channels of the Arkansas River. Bill Smith, P.E., CFM and Vice Chairman of OFMA recently wrote a letter to the Tulsa Stakeholders, Inc., relating to "The Channels" project. He expressed OFMA's concern and quoted a portion of our Mission Statement, "Saving lives and reducing property loss are our ultimate goals". OFMA will work closely with Tulsa Stakeholders, Inc., to assure these goals are met.

OFMA's 2006 Annual Conference was a huge success. I want to thank all of those who helped make it happen. Outgoing Chairman Rex Hennon passed the gavel to our new Chair, Laureen Gilroy, CFM. I know I speak for all of you when "Thanking" Rex for a job well done. We look forward to Laureen's year as Chair with Bill Smith serving as Vice-Chair. I see great things in our future.

As you purchase your 2007 OFMA Calendars, mark down these important dates: January 9-13, Floodplain Management 101 class at the University of Oklahoma; March 1, OFMA Spring Technical Conference at Moore-Norman Technology Center in Moore; and OFMA's 2007 Annual Conference in Tulsa at the Downtown Doubletree, September 16-19.

I look forward to working with all of you this upcoming year.

Lou Klaver, Acting Chief
Planning and Management Division
Oklahoma Water Resources Board

(Continued from page 9 - Annual Conference Summary)

overtopping.

Tuesday evening was the 16th Annual OFMA Awards Banquet hosted by Vice-Chair Laureen Gilroy with entertainment provided by the Cimarron Circuit Opera Company. Awards were handed out to people involved in noteworthy Floodplain Management activities. Each award recognizes particular efforts that have exceeded expectations and promotion of floodplain management. The evening included an elegant dinner service for all and a few surprises along the way. This year's "Turn Around, Don't Drown" Poster Calendar Contest winner was present. Liana Kabins of Cache, Oklahoma was this year's winner. Her family and 4th grade teacher from Cache Intermediate School, made the trip to Norman to receive her special award including a cash prize.

Wednesday morning opened up the final day of the conference. Participants could choose from a second Early Bird technical session on Hydraulics 101 hosted by Barend Meiling. The Closing Plenary Session started at 10 a.m., offering those who didn't participate in Hydraulics 101 a chance to network and socialize before the official start of the day. The session included a presentation from Jeff Bigby on a recent flood event in Broken Arrow. Bill Penka, our State Hazard Mitigation Officer, gave an update on Hazard Mitigation at the Oklahoma Department of Emergency Management.

The 16th Annual Conference came to a close with the passing of the gavel. Vice-Chair Laureen Gibson-Gilroy accepted her new position as Chair, and now former Chair Rex Hennen was presented with an honorary gavel to commemorate his time as OFMA Chair. Bill Smith was elected Vice-Chair and will serve under Chair Gilroy for the year. The conference ended yet again with a huge giveaway of door prizes, provided by OFMA and its sponsors. Click the *Archives* link then *Past Conferences* at www.okflood.org to view a slideshow of pictures from this Fall's 2006 Annual Conference.



OFMA'S CORPORATE PARTNERS



AMEC

Dennis Lawlor
3601 SW 28th St., Ste. 209
Topeka, KS 66614
785 272-6830

Benham

Barend Meiling, PE, CFM
One West Third St., Suite 100
Tulsa, OK 74103
918 492-1600

Carter & Burgess, Inc.

Brian Bannister CFM
10001 Broadway Extension,
Suite 100
Oklahoma City, OK 73116
405 810-8254

Cinnabar Service Company

Terry Young
5121 South Wheeling Avenue
Tulsa, OK 74105
918 742-0082

Crafton Tull and Assoc., Inc.

Phil Hagen
235 North MacArthur Blvd
Oklahoma City, OK 73127
405 787-6270

Cyntergy AEC

Robert Day, P.E.
320 South Boston, 12th Floor
Tulsa, OK 74103
918 877-6000

Dewberry Design

Andrew Cueto, P.E.
1350 South Boulder, Suite 600
Tulsa, OK 74119
918 295-5263

Eagle Consultants, Inc.

Satish Dasharathy
2803 South Bryant Avenue
Edmond, OK 73013
405 844-3900

FTN Associates, Ltd.

Conrad Battreal, PE, CFM
3 Innwood Circle, Suite 220
Little Rock, AR 72211
501 225-7779

Grand River Dam Authority

Robert W. Sullivan, Jr.
P.O. Box 409
Vinita, OK 74301-0409
918 256-5545, x4467

Greenhorne & Design

Vince DiCamillo CFM
6110 Frost Place
Laurel, MD 20707
301 982-2898

Guy Engineering

Julie Guy P.E., CFM
10759 East Admiral Place
Tulsa, OK 74116
918 437-0282

Hydropower International

Services; Inter-National
Consultancy, LLC
Bill Smith P.E., CFM
28508 W. 41st St.
Mannford, OK 74044
918 865-6977

JGVE, Inc.

Donald D. Vick, PE
124 NW 10th St., Suite 101
Oklahoma City, OK 73103
405 236-8313

Meshek and Associates, Inc.

Janet K. Meshek, P.E., CFM
P.O. Box 636
20 West 2nd Street, Suite 100
Sand Springs, OK 74063
918 241-2803

Michael Baker, Jr., Inc.

Bart Standley
16225 Park Ten Place, #420
Houston, TX 77084-5142
281 579-4579

Myers Engineering

Bill Myers, President
116 Northwest 132nd
Oklahoma City, OK 73112
405 755-5325

Oklahoma Municipal League

201 N.E. 23rd Street
Oklahoma City, OK 73105-
3199
405 528-7515

Oklahoma Society of Land Surveyors

Burk Cornelius
13905 Twin Ridge Road
Edmond, OK 73034
405 721-7222

R.D. Flanagan & Associates

Ronald D. Flanagan, CFM
2745 East Skelly Dr., Suite 100
Tulsa, OK 74105
918 749-2696

Sheridan Engineering

John F. Sheridan, PhD, P.E., CFM
P.O. Box 219
Haskell, OK 74436
918 482-3417

Smith Roberts Baldischwiler, LLC

Mathew Smith, P.E., CFM
25 S. Oklahoma Ave., Suite 400
Oklahoma City, OK 73104
405 840-7094

Swift Water Resources Engineering, LLC

Mark S. Swift, P.E., CFM
9 East 4th Street, Ste. 301
Tulsa, OK 74103
918 582-1380

University of Oklahoma

Baxter Vieux, Phd., P.E.
202 West Boyd, Room 334
Norman, OK 73019
405 325-3600

URS

Michelle Barnett, P.E., CFM
1437 South Boulder, Suite 660
Tulsa, OK 74119
918 582-2552

Utley & Associates

Marc Utley, P.E.
3500 South Boulevard,
Suite D-1
Edmond, OK 73013
405 341-9555

Vieux & Associates, Inc.

Jean Vieux, President
350 David L Boren Blvd
Suite 2500
Norman, OK 73072
405 325-1818

Watershed Concepts

Richard Frithiof, P.E.
811 Barton Springs Road,
Suite 811
Austin, TX 78704
512 435-5367

WK Morris Consulting, LLC

Ken Morris, CFM
510 Elmcrest Drive
Norman, OK 73071
405 530-8861



The B.F.E.

NONPROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
TULSA, OK
PERMIT NO. 398

Oklahoma Floodplain Managers Association

PO Box 8101

Tulsa, OK 74101-8101

Change Service Requested

Fall 2006

Funding Acknowledgement

Funds to produce *The B.F.E.* come in part from the National Flood Insurance Program, State Support Services Element of the Community Assistance Program, which is administered by the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

Oklahoma Floodplain Managers Association 2006-2007

Ex Officio:

Mrs. Lou Klaver
Oklahoma Water Resources Board
3800 North Classen Blvd
Oklahoma City, OK 73118
Phone: (405) 530-8800
Fax: (405) 530-8900
E-mail: clklaver@owrb.state.ok.us

Chair:

Ms. Laureen Gibson Gilroy, CFM
City of Tulsa
200 Civic Center, Room 515
Tulsa, OK 74103
Phone: (918) 596-2859
Fax: (918) 596-1869
E-mail: lgilroy@cityoftulsa.org

Vice Chair:

Mr. Bill Smith, PE, CFM
Hydropower International Services,
Inter-National Consultancy, LLC
28508 W. 41st St. S.
Mannford, OK 74044
Phone/Fax: (918) 865-6977
Cell: (918) 625-2449
E-mail: hisinc@hotmail.com

Secretary:

Ms. Ellen Stevens, Ph.D, PE
Painter & Associates
1235 Sovereign Row, Ste. C-6
Oklahoma City, OK 73108
Phone: (405) 488-0714
Fax: (405) 488-0713
E-mail: ellenphdpe@aol.com

Treasurer:

Ms. Carolyn Schultz, CFM
Corps of Engineers
1645 S. 101st E. Avenue
Tulsa, OK 74128
Phone: (918) 669-4919
Fax: (918) 669-7546
E-mail: carolyn.schultz@usace.army.mil

Region 1 Representative:

Ms. Leslie Lewis, PE, CFM
ODOT
200 NE 21st Street
Oklahoma City, OK 73105
Phone: (405) 521-6500
Fax: (405) 522-0134
E-mail: llewis@odot.org

Region 2 Representative:

Mr. Jeff Bigby, PE, CFM
City of Broken Arrow
220 S. 1st Street
Broken Arrow, OK 74012
Phone: (918) 259-2400 ext. 5241
Fax: (918) 259-8453
E-mail: jbigby@brokenarrowok.gov

Region 3 Representative:

Mr. Mickey Douglas, CFM
Seminole Nation Environmental Protection
P.O. Box 1603
Seminole, OK 74818
Phone: (405) 382-5112
Fax: (405) 382-3211
E-mail: douglas_mickey@sbcglobal.net

Region 4 Representative:

Mr. Phillip Beauchamp, CFM
City of Altus
220 East Commerce
Altus, OK 73521
Phone: (580) 481-2228
Fax: (580) 481-2203
E-mail: engineering@cityofaltus.org

Region 5 Representative:

Ms. Cindy Tubbs, CFM
City of Enid
PO Box 1448
Enid, OK 73072
Phone: (580) 234-0400
Fax: (580) 234-8946
E-mail: ctubbs@enid.org

Past Chair:

Mr. Rex Hennen, CFM
City of Shawnee
PO Box 1448
Shawnee, OK 74802-1448
Phone: (405) 878-1506
Fax: (405) 878-1587
E-mail: rhennen@shawneeok.org

Honorary Board Member:

Mr. Joe Remondini, PE, CFM
Corps of Engineers
1645 S. 101st E. Avenue
Tulsa, OK 74128
Phone: (918) 669-7198
Fax: (918) 669-7546
E-mail: joseph.remondini@usace.army.mil

Honorary Board Member:

Mr. Ronald D. Flanagan, CFM
R.D. Flanagan & Associates
2745 East Skelly Drive, Suite 100
Tulsa, OK 74105
Phone: (918) 749-2696
Fax: (918) 749-2697
E-mail: rdflanagan@rdflanagan.com

Honorary Board Member:

Mr. Hank Elling
Oklahoma Water Resources Board
PO Box 886
Lawton, OK 73502
Phone: (580) 248-7762
Fax: (580) 248-0737
E-mail: hcelling@owrb.state.ok.us

Honorary Board Member:

Mr. Ken Morris
WK Morris Consulting, LLC
510 Elmcrest Drive
Norman, OK 73071
Phone: (405) 530-8861
Fax: (405) 530-8900
E-mail: wkmorris@owrb.state.ok.us

BFE Editor:

Mr. Sterling Overturf, CFM
Meshek & Associates, Inc.
P.O. Box 636
Sand Springs, OK 74063
Phone: (918) 241-2803
Fax: (918) 241-9245
E-mail: soverturf@meshekengr.com

The B.F.E. is published by the Oklahoma Floodplain Managers Association. Information and opinions contained herein do not necessarily reflect the views of the Board of Directors. Items for publication and other editorial matters should be directed to Editor, "The B.F.E.", P.O. Box 8101, Tulsa, OK 74101-8101.