

FACETS of Freshwater



Green Heron By Don Specht
August 2014

Weather Facts and Photo from *MN Weatherguide Environment Calendar*
August Monthly Normals: Temp. Max: 80.5 F Min: 61.8 F Precip: 4.3 in.

 FRESHWATER SOCIETY

In This Issue

Freshwater Society Welcomes New Staff	2
Moos Lectures	3
Upcoming Events.....	3
Opportunity for West Central Minnesota Lakes and Rivers	4
Gedney Tuttle Memorials	4
Is One of Your Favorite Lakes being Celebrated?	4
Join the Society – Get the Weatherguide	4

Doubleheaders



Ernie Banks

Ernie Banks is a Baseball Hall of Famer who famously said: “It’s a beautiful day for a ball game; **let’s play two!**”

It is in this spirit we announce that this year’s line-up of Moos Speakers will deliver double-headers in an effort to open their incredible intellects and perspectives to an even wider audience.

The lead-off hitter is Dr. Jay Famiglietti (UC-Irvine) on September 18. He is a leading researcher in worldwide aquifer depletion using satellite data. The 7 p.m. presentation is once again at the Student Center on the University of Minnesota’s St. Paul campus.

Dr. Famiglietti is giving a shorter “doubleheader” version of his lecture at the Gray Freshwater Center in Orono earlier in the day. This matinee will start at 10:30 a.m. and be limited to approximately 60 attendees. More on our lead-off speaker is included in a separate story in this edition.

Batting second in our lineup is Dr. Peter Wilcock (Utah State University). He is speaking on January 20 in St. Paul and January 21 in Mankato. His area of expertise, sediment transport in river systems, is particularly important in Minnesota. He is well into a project to study the Minnesota River system dynamics and has been asked to explain how the systems are changing, and, what to do about it.

Our third speaker is Dr. Robert Sterner (University of Minnesota-Duluth) who recently relocated to Duluth to lead the Large Lakes Observatory. His background is in limnology and nutrient dynamics. He will give an overview

Doubleheaders... (continues on page 3)



The Freshwater Society is a non-profit organization dedicated to educating and inspiring people to value, conserve and protect water resources.

Board of Directors

Stuart E. Grubb, Chair
Rick Bateson, Vice Chair
Lisa Whalen, Secretary
Corrine Ricard, Treasurer
Julie Blackburn
Todd Bolin, Honorary Director
Blyth Berg Brookman
Richard S. Caldecott, PhD, Emeritus Director
Robert Elde, PhD, Emeritus Director
JoEllen L. Hurr, Emeritus Director
Barbara Luikens, MD, Emeritus Director
Jim Manolis, PhD
Lili Tod McMillan
Darby Nelson, PhD
Tom Skramstad
Paige Winebarger

Staff

Steve Woods, Executive Director
Joan Nephew, Operations Director
Scott Branch, Operations Assistant
Deirdre Coleman, Program Coordinator
Julie Fliflet, Director of Finance and Administration
Alex Gehrig, Program Manager
Darrell Gerber, Research and Policy Director
Peggy Knapp, Director of Programs
Chris Prok, Operations Manager
Jeanne Prok, Program Manager
Patrick Sweeney, Comm./Research Director
Laura West, Administrative Assistant

Facets of Freshwater is published by the Freshwater Society.

For permission to reprint, contact us at: 2500 Shadywood Road, Excelsior, MN 55331, 952-471-9773 or at freshwater@freshwater.org.

Visit the Freshwater Society web site at www.freshwater.org.

Freshwater Society Welcomes New Staff

The Freshwater Society offices are now home to two new smiling faces... Julie Fliflet and Darrell Gerber recently joined our staff. They both have extensive interviews on our [website](#), here is just a bit to help us get acquainted with them.



Julie Fliflet

Julie Fliflet, Freshwater Society's new Director of Finance and Administration, has over 20 years of experience working with nonprofit organizations and has specialized in the nonprofit sector for her entire career. She is a CPA, and

started her career in public accounting working as an auditor in the nonprofit division for a large CPA firm, then subsequently held positions directing the finance and administration activities for several nonprofits in the Twin Cities metro area before coming to the Freshwater Society.

Q: How do you say your last name?

It sounds exactly like "leaflet", with an F (I'm told it is Norwegian). When I got married I gave up my maiden name, Julie Peterson, and am now dealing with Fliflet. Not sure yet if that was the best decision I've ever made.

Q: What do you do at the Freshwater Society?

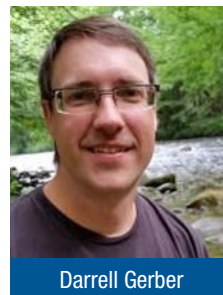
My position includes managing the administrative and financial areas of the organization including finance, IT, human resources, and facilities. Included in these areas is accounting, audit, budgeting, legal, tax, insurance, risk management, internal controls, contracts, and compliance.

Q: What interested you in the position with the Freshwater Society?

I am very excited to join the Freshwater Society, and hope that my experience and expertise can make a positive impact. I am very impressed with the work the organization does, and felt that the position and culture of the organization was a perfect fit for me.

Q: What challenges are most nonprofits encountering these days?

I think accountability is a big one, and also revenue. Nonprofit organizations were greatly affected by the recession and as a result must work harder than ever to ensure diversity within their sources of revenue so they do not rely too heavily on revenue from any one particular source. Competition for charitable funds is definitely more challenging today so organizations must be able to show they are accountable and good financial stewards of their funds. [Learn more about Julie.](#)



Darrell Gerber

Darrell Gerber is Freshwater Society's new Research and Policy Director. He studied Aerospace and Mechanical Engineering at Colorado State University, North Carolina State University and Georgia Institute of Technology and attended

the Humphrey Institute at the University of Minnesota to study Science, Technology and Environmental Policy in 2005 and 2006. He was at Clean Water Action from 2007 to 2014 as the Water Program Coordinator working on a variety of issues including the Great Lakes, agricultural water pollution, drinking water, invasive species, and budget issues.

Q: Our members and supporters are interested in you and your relationship to water. What's your story?

When I was a teenager my parents stocked rainbow trout in a small stock pond near the house. I read up on what to do to manage a stocked pond and it was the first time I was drawn to the importance of water and all the factors necessary to sustain life. I started fly-fishing at the same time and the 2-3 pound Rainbows made really good eating and a lot of fun on the line.

Q: What brings you from the arid West to the Land of 10,000 Lakes?

That's a longer story but after growing up in Northwest Colorado, a high, cold desert, I lived in the Southeastern US for several years going to school. My wife got a job in Minnesota after grad school so we moved up here. We've fallen in love with Minnesota and don't plan to leave.

Q: How does one go from Aerospace Engineering to working on water?

Another long story but it came down to a decision to make a career move from making better widgets to working on higher level issues that cut across our society. At the time I was doing a lot of volunteer work in environmental justice and politics and decided I wanted to make a career of environmental work. I went to the Humphrey School to get the policy chops and went on to work at Clean Water Action for seven years.

Q: What do you see as the biggest challenge to our water resources?

Silos, turf and denial. [Learn more about Darrell.](#)

Moos Lectures

"Groundwater in most of the world's major aquifers – in India, the Middle East, China and even in the High Plains and Central Valley aquifers of the United States – is being rapidly depleted, likely never to be replaced," says Dr. Jay Famiglietti. Technological challenges to measuring the water contained in these underground reserves are in part to blame: it is difficult to manage what cannot be easily measured.

New satellite technologies now have the potential to revolutionize groundwater management. Dr. Famiglietti, a hydrologist at the University of California, Irvine and senior water scientist at the NASA/ Caltech Jet Propulsion Laboratory, will present "Dwindling Groundwater Reserves as Viewed from Space."



Dr. Jay Famiglietti

Dr. Famiglietti will discuss results from over a decade of measurements from a novel NASA satellite mission known as the Gravity Recovery and Climate Experiment (GRACE). Results point to the harsh reality that groundwater in most of the world's major aquifers is being rapidly depleted. The global pattern of groundwater depletion also raises important concerns about the potential for heightened conflict, and climate, water, food and economic security. He will conclude the presentation by discussing the urgent need for new management and adaptation strategies, as well as our own efforts with global water diplomacy.

The lecture is free and open to the public. It will be delivered at 7 p.m., Thursday, September 18 in the Student Center of the University of Minnesota's St. Paul campus.

[Learn more](#) about Dr. Jay Famiglietti or [register to attend](#) the lecture.

The Freshwater Society will also host a short briefing and discussion with Dr. Famiglietti at 10:30 a.m., September 18 at the Gray Freshwater Center. Contact the Freshwater Society for more information.

Dr. Famiglietti will be the 15th lecturer in a speaker series sponsored by the Freshwater Society and the University of Minnesota College of Biological Sciences. Barr Engineering and the Capitol Region Watershed District's Citizen Advisory Committee are providing special support for Famiglietti's lectures.



Citizen Advisory Committee



College of
Biological Sciences
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
Driven to Discover™

UPCOMING EVENTS

SEPTEMBER 7: 2014 Creek Cleanup, *RESCHEDULED* Minnehaha Creek Watershed District, Minnehaha Creek

SEPTEMBER 11: Clean Water Summit 2014, *Green Infrastructure for Clean Water: Cost and Benefits to Our Communities*, U of MN Water Resources, MN Landscape Arboretum, Chaska

SEPTEMBER 18: Freshwater Society's Moos Family Lecture: Dwindling Groundwater Reserves as Viewed from Space, Jay Famiglietti, U of Mn St. Paul Student Center

SEPTEMBER 28-30: 2014 BWSR Academy, MN Board of Water and Soil Resources, Breezy Point Convention Center, Pequot Lakes

OCTOBER 14-15: Water Resources Conference, U of MN Water Resources, St. Paul River Centre

OCTOBER 20-22: Upper Midwest Invasive Species Conference, Duluth Entertainment and Convention Center

Doubleheaders *(con't from pg 1)*

of the Great Lakes system, the challenges it faces, and what needs to be done. This is timely given the water quality problems on the Great Lakes this year. We are still finalizing an exact date for these lectures in St. Paul and Duluth, most likely in early April.

Input Opportunities

Did you know the Clean Water Council is in the middle of assembling its recommendations for Clean Water Fund spending for the next biennium? Council members are sincere in wanting stakeholder input and have even released their draft thoughts and remaining questions on how to allocate close to \$200 million. Did you know the Board of Water and Soil Resources just approved a Nonpoint Priority Funding Plan for spending dollars that may be allocated based on those recommendations? Did you know the MN Department of Agriculture is finalizing its Nitrogen Fertilizer Management Plan and is about to start a formal rule-making process?

Most people find it hard to track all these things as they pop up, stall, and resume over the course of a year. We are in the process of making it easier to track the big things that can influence water policy.

Some of you have complimented us on the new look of our [homepage](#). We're tinkering with it using the capable *pro bono* assistance of Woychick Design. We're moving the most active portions of our web content to the front to ease navigation and make the information you want pop up a little quicker. Still in the works is the lower left corner (working name: The Hub) where we intend to feature easily accessible information "water people" look for- such as upcoming input opportunities. We're taking our time to get it right and improve smartphone navigation along the way. We decided not to go for an all-at-once redesign, because we're realists, and we know how well *those* go...

Keep those comments coming.

STEVE WOODS



Steve Woods
Executive Director

Opportunity for West Central Minnesota Lakes and Rivers

The Healthy Lakes and Rivers Partnership is looking for a few good lake or river associations in the Ottortail area – 8 to be exact. Working with the Initiative Foundation, the Freshwater Society received a grant through the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (often known as the Lottery Funds) to hold a round of this unique program in West Central Minnesota. Groups that are selected will participate in a comprehensive training on lake management planning that includes everything from reading lake data to non-profit planning. Participants are also eligible to receive up to \$5,000 each in grant awards from the West Central Initiative for implementing a priority action for their local lake or river. Contact the Freshwater Society and visit our [webpage](#) for more information.



Gedney Tuttle Memorials



Gedney Tuttle

Gedney Tuttle passed away this past March, at the age of 87. He was a tireless advocate for water resources and Lake Minnetonka, specifically. Gedney served on the Board of the Lake Minnetonka Association for ten years, until his death. His wife, Emily Ann, was on the Board of the Freshwater Society for four years. Thank you to all who generously donated to the Freshwater Society in memory of Gedney. The memorials will be used to continue protecting the water resources that Gedney loved.



Is One of Your Favorite Lakes being Celebrated?

The Freshwater Society is partnering with Michelob Golden Light to Celebrate Your Lake! 30 lakes from around Minnesota have been competing on **Facebook** for the last month, and the winner will receive a \$50,000 conservation grant. You can vote for your favorite lake up to once a day and voting will go through the end of September. Don't have a Facebook account? You can check out the list of competing lakes on our [webpage](#).



2015 Minnesota Weatherguide Environment Calendar

Join the Society – Get the Weatherguide!

Become a member or renew your Freshwater Society membership and you'll receive the *2015 Minnesota Weatherguide Environment Calendar*. It's a win-win!

Help us protect freshwater resources and you'll enjoy amazing regional photos – like a snowy owl skimming the snow – Nature Notes, weather history, meteorological information, gardening tips and much more.

Become a member!