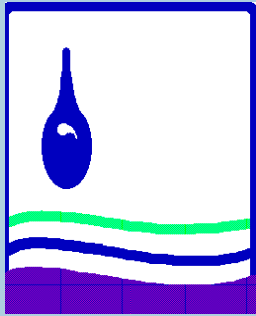


Pipeline

A Newsletter of South Walton Utility Co., Inc.

June 2012



South Walton Utility Co., Inc.
PO Box 6888
369 Miramar Beach Dr.
Miramar Beach, FL 32550

MISSION STATEMENT

"FROM WATER TO WASTEWATER OUR MISSION IS TO PROVIDE OUR MEMBERS QUALITY AND RELIABLE SERVICE IN A RESPONSIVE AND EQUITABLE MANNER."

Inside this issue

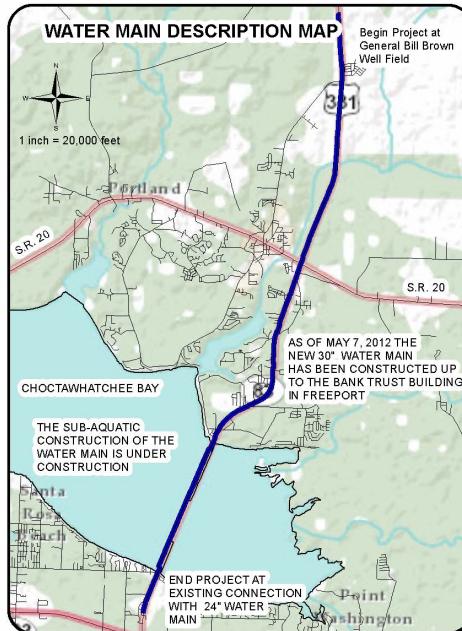
Insert: Water Quality Report

Best Tasting Water

Letter from the President

Phase IV Water Supply Project Continues

South Walton Utility and Destin Water Users have joined together as WRP to ensure our communities have a secure source of potable water for the future.



"We appreciate the communities' support as we work to construct a waterline that will take us to build out", said Pete DeBogory, General Manager of South Walton Utility.

With a \$2.5M grant from the Northwest Florida Water Management District and a low interest loan from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection the project is fast becoming a reality. From wells at the General Bill Brown Wellfield, north of Freeport, water will be transmitted through a thirty-inch pipe down Highway 331, cross under the Choctawhatchee Bay, and connect to our existing pipeline in the Gulf Power right of way off of Highway 331. The scheduled completion date is October 2013.

Best Tasting Water in Region IX

Members of Region IX Florida Section of American Water Works met in March to determine who had the best tasting water in the region. *South Walton Utility walked away with the honor.* On the right, Joe Ream accepts the award from Jason Parrillo, Chairman of the Region IX Florida Section of American Water Works.



Inside Information

Congratulations to Shirley Hicks on her recent retirement! After sixteen years at SWUCI Shirley decided to join the ranks of the retired in the area.

Amy Sallee was promoted to Accountant. Even though Amy has only been on the job a couple of months she is doing an outstanding job. Congratulations to Shirley and Amy!

Board Members are:

Mike Flynt – President
 Bill Berberich – Vice-President
 Mike Richardson – Secretary
 Dave Brown – Treasurer
 Jack Lubker
 Mike Abt
 Bill McQuillan

As a member owned company we are grateful to our members and are happy for the opportunity to serve you. We receive so many pleasant phone calls, emails, and letters each month and we want to say 'thank you'. We appreciate the trust you place in us.

Water Conservation

As part of our water conservation program we have a retro fit program in place. We will provide showerheads, faucet aerators, and leak detection tablets to you at no charge. Ask at our office front desk for more information.

The simple repair of a drippy faucet or replacing your commode flappers helps you and helps conserve water.



A Letter from the President

This letter shares both sad and hopeful news. On February 17, 2012 Mr. Jack McGill, President of the South Walton Utility Company Board of Directors passed away in his sleep. Our utility was fortunate to have Jack's tenacious leadership and concern for our customers at the helm for many years. Jack was an avid golfer and was always eager to play for our utility in charity tournaments. His favorite charity was the Sacred Heart Hospital of the Emerald Coast. Through the years Jack raised many thousands of dollars to insure his community had a first rate hospital. Jack was our President, a community leader and a philanthropist, and he is missed.

The President's gavel passed to me soon after Jack McGill's death. Remembering his legacy, it is now a pleasure to share some of the hopeful news about South Walton Utility Co. Inc. (SWUCI), the company he guided so well. The pipeline project is moving ahead. Pete DeBogory, our General Manager, is sharing details about the project with you elsewhere in this newsletter, but a couple of things deserve emphasis. The pipeline project is the most cost effective way to fill the water production needs of SWUCI and Destin Water Users (DWU) through expected build-out several decades down the road. The partnership we have with DWU is strong and it is helping both of our private utilities give members some of the best and most affordable service in the region. Employees of both utilities work shoulder to shoulder in the field managing construction and others work in our respective offices managing permitting, contracts and financing to make this an on-time and on-budget project.

Continued on page 3

Did you know.....

The EPA, under pressure from a few environmental groups, decided that it is in the best interests of the nation to mandate the adoption of numeric nutrient criteria for the State of Florida. These environmental groups have the opinion that degradation in Florida water is out of control and getting worse. The best scientists in Florida have not been able to develop any scientifically defensible correlation between the levels of nitrogen and phosphorus (nutrients) in the water and imbalances of fish and plant communities in Florida water.

The State of Florida is home to the most advanced wastewater plants of any state.

We are the leaders in the reuse of reclaimed water. The Florida Department of Environmental Protection is unrelenting in their enforcement of environmental regulation. We protect the environment.

If the Numeric Nutrient Criteria rule is implemented as it is currently stated it will mean a 50 – 100% increase in sewer bills.

Numerous agencies are intervening in court asking the EPA to reconsider or let DEP handle the numeric nutrient criteria rule.

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Every year South Walton Utility conducts water quality tests ranging from Aluminum to Xylenes to ensure that our water quality meets all Federal and State requirements.

We conduct over 300 chlorine residual tests per month to verify disinfection has been maintained in the water distribution system.

In 2011 we conducted over 80 tests on analytes from groups such as Synthetic Organic Contaminants and Volatile Organic Contaminants that test for naturally occurring as well as man-made material. The majority of these analytes are so low laboratory measurements cannot detect them.

Enclosed is our annual Water Quality Report. If you have any questions regarding these test results or would like more information, contact Joe Ream, Potable Water Manager, at 850-837-2988.

Jack McGill

It was with sadness the community said good bye to Jack McGill at his memorial service on March 10, 2012. Jack was very involved in his church and community for twenty-three years while making Miramar Beach his home. In addition to being active in Sandestin Home Owner's Association, Mr. McGill worked to improve the quality of our community healthcare. He served on our Board of Director's for sixteen years and as President for the last six years. He will be missed.



Jack McGill
President
2006-2012

A Letter from the President

Continued from Page 2

We can be proud of the management of our General Manager Pete DeBogory and DWU General Manager Richard Griswold for the job they are doing on the pipeline. Project Manager Alicia Keeter is keeping construction in the field moving forward and she reports that the project may be completed early, reducing some of our costs. We have a great team. Finally, a new member is joining our

Board of Directors. Jack Lubker is a Sandestin resident who brings years of experience in industrial engineering and management to our Board. Welcome, Jack!

Sincerely,

Theresa M. Sigot





South Walton Utility
Co., Inc.

369 Miramar Beach Dr.
Miramar Beach, FL 32550

Visit our website:
www.swuci.org

E-Billing and Electronic Funds Transfer

AUTHORIZATION FOR ELECTRONIC TRANSFER OF FUNDS

South Walton Utility Co. Inc.
369 Miramar Beach Drive, Miramar Beach, FL 32550
Phone: (850) 837-2988; Fax (850) 837-7648

Customer Name _____
SWUCI _____
Customer _____
Numbers _____

Please deduct payments from my:

_____ Checking Account

_____ Saving Account

Direct debits will occur on the 1st work day of the month. Please allow two (2) weeks processing time before your direct debit is operational.

South Walton Utility Company, Inc. is hereby authorized to process an electronic debit from the account described above once a month in the amount of my monthly water/sewer bill.

Signature _____

Date _____

Please be sure to include a voided check for bank account verification, and mail together with this completed form to:

**South Walton Utility Co., Inc.
369 Miramar Beach Drive, Miramar Beach, FL 32550**

E-billing allows us to email your bill to you instead of sending a hard copy! You will receive your bill sooner and you will be able to access it even if you are out of town. Send an email to MCL@SWUCI.ORG if you would like to take advantage of this option.

In addition to e-billing we can automatically draft your bill from your bank account. This is done the first work day of the month. Fill out the attached form and return it to us and we will set up your auto-draft. These two options make bill paying much easier.