



Dear WEDA Eastern Chapter Member,

We would like to take a moment to introduce the newly elected Eastern Chapter Board, tell you what we are planning for the future and how you can help.

Last fall at the October 2018 Eastern Chapter meeting in Savannah, GA, the entire Eastern Chapter Board opted to step down from their leadership roles. The Eastern Chapter members nominated, voted and confirmed five (5) new Eastern chapter officers and we are excited to move forward and hit the ground running.

### **Eastern Chapter Bylaws - [view](#)**

Our first order of business was to develop a new set of [bylaws](#). After some internal discussions among the Eastern Chapter Board representatives, we decided to model our bylaws after the other WEDA regional chapters to better align the Eastern Chapter with WEDA's overall goals and objectives. The Eastern Chapter new board will eventually consist of 6 members: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Program Manager, and Past President. At the current time, there are only 5 members until the Past President position is filled. Each year a new member will be added to the board starting as Program Manager and working their way up the ladder, and the Past President will rotate off the board. We believe keeping the board 'fresh' will invigorate the Eastern Chapter, increase attendance at our annual regional meetings and provide opportunities for those that want to get more involved with WEDA. Since we are starting with an entirely new board, we will hold off on adding a new member to the board until our fall 2020 meeting to ensure the chapter has a smooth transition.

### **New Eastern Chapter Board Members**

President	<a href="#">Andrew A. Timmis</a>	J.F. Brennan Company, Inc.
Vice President	<a href="#">Dave Johanson</a>	Great Lakes Dredge and Dock
Treasurer	<a href="#">Walter Dinicola</a>	Anchor QEA, LLC
Secretary	<a href="#">Alexandra Schafer</a>	US Army Corps of Engineers
Program Manager	<a href="#">Steve Miller</a>	Ellicott Dredges, LLC
Past President	N/A	N/A

### **How you can help us**

As you can see, the makeup of the board represents many different aspects of the dredging industry. As the Eastern Chapter moves forward, we will work hard to continue with this diversity. However, this also is where you, members, come in and help provide us with the great volunteers the chapter needs to advance and improve. WEDA highly values each and every member which is derived from a wide variety of private and government entities. We especially understand the vital role the USACE provides in every aspect of our mission and in making the meeting a success for everyone.

WEDA regional chapters are only as good as their membership. We firmly believe that the Eastern Chapter has great members and corporate sponsors, and the potential to expand by recruiting new members and companies will hopefully not be that big a lift. We cannot and will not move forward on our own; we want to make sure we have the input from our membership. Remember we are working (volunteering) for you. We encourage you to reach out to any of the members of the Eastern chapter board and provide us any of your ideas for presentations, meeting venues and options for tours. The contact information for the Eastern Chapter board can be found on the following page.

<https://www.westerndredging.org/index.php/regionalchapters/eastern-chapter>

Let's remember WEDA is a non-profit technical professional organization devoted to the exchange of knowledge in fields related to dredging, navigation, marine engineering, and construction. <https://www.westerndredging.org/index.php/about-us>

We challenge the Eastern members to recruit at least one new member to join WEDA and, more importantly, attend the Eastern Chapter annual meeting this fall. It is very important to understand that the chapters do not receive any funding, dues, or compensation from WEDA National and only receive their funds through registration and sponsorships of the regional chapter meeting.

In the meantime we are working on a fantastic program for our October annual meeting in Wilmington, DE. We will be reaching out to the USACE and other regulatory agencies to present on a variety of subjects, but we truly need your ideas and input on what to present and, more importantly, what you would like to see. We will also solicit presentations from volunteer members on topics in areas of their expertise. Finally, we are going to change some things up on how we get sponsors involved and the benefits they will receive for supporting the organization and the annual meeting. More information regarding the 2019 Eastern Chapter Meeting will be distributed via email soon and posted on the [Eastern Chapter web page](#) of the WEDA website.

Thank you for taking the time to read our update and we thank you in advance for sharing your ideas and receiving your support.

Sincerely,

The WEDA Eastern Chapter Board

**Andrew Timmis**

President, WEDA Eastern Chapter

Director of Business Development - Environmental Group

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