



40 Years of Saying Yes – and Maybe Some Nos..



Monrovia



South Bend

Charlie's Scientific Accomplishments Are Truly Significant!



His 1982 paper in ES&T, "Binding DDT to Dissolved Humic Materials", which was based on his thesis work, **has been cited more than 3,200 times.**

This paper also received a **2010 AAEESP Landmark paper award**; an honor that has been bestowed on less than 2 dozen papers.

Charlie was also one of the **first people to make and use a GLASS capillary column.**

Charlie Carter Was Someone to Admire for Other Things Also

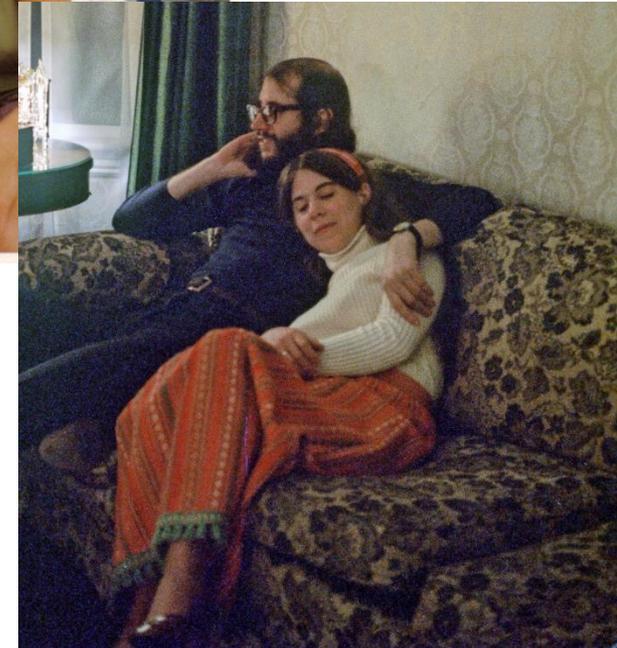


Lesser known facts about Charlie:

His undergrad was in Religion, which likely explains in large part his ability to synthesize concepts so effectively.

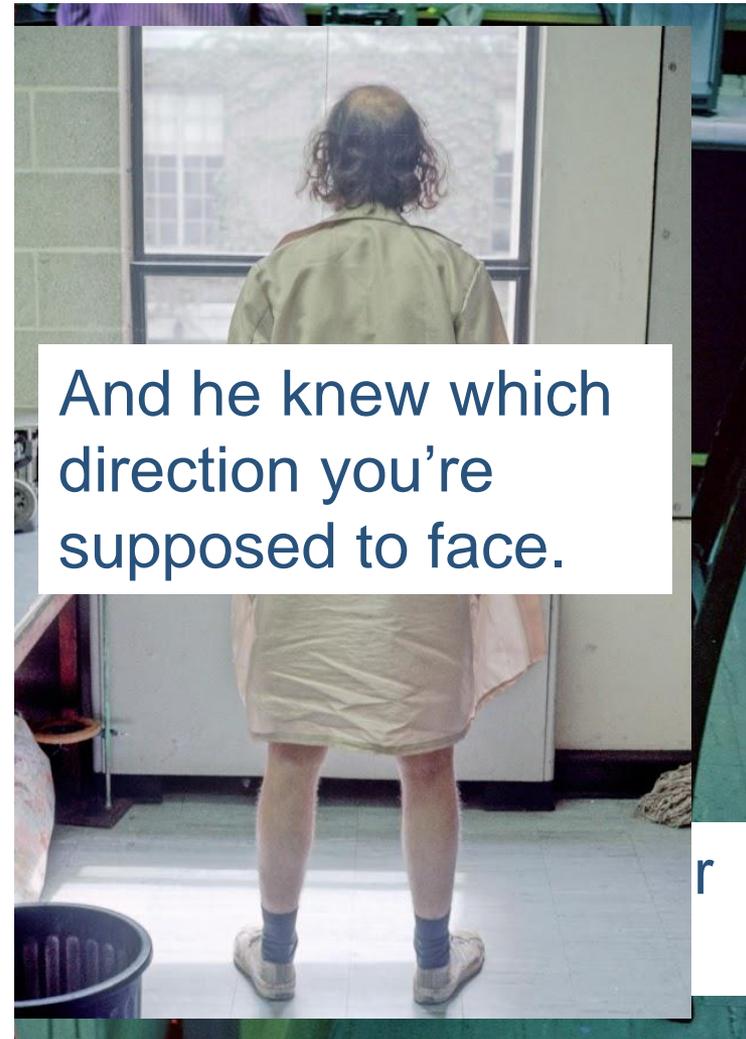
With that liberal arts background from Earlham, he could be irreverent (a trait I share, as you will learn in the next 20 minutes).... According to Mel Suffet, his advisor at Drexel, Charlie was known to shoot paperclips with rubber bands at Mel....**but got a PhD anyway.**

The Real Reason I Think I Got This Award:



Charlie and I (and apparently our wives) used to look alike... sort of. Must reflect our liberal arts undergraduate degrees.

We Both Spent Time in the Lab



And he knew which direction you're supposed to face.

Once Again Charlie Demonstrated Better Fashion Sense Than Me





I've known Charlie Carter in many contexts, as competitor, collaborator, and colleague going back more than 30 years, and am truly honored to be the recipient of this award.

Things I Could Talk About Today



- **PPCP methods**
 - **Already did that a few times at NEMC**
- **UCMR(s)**
 - **Already did that a few times at NEMC**
- **PFAS methods**
 - **Already did that, and we have a whole session on that topic.**
- **Preservation and holding time studies**
 - **Already did that...**

Or How About Science in the Age of Trump?



That would unfortunately be way too short...

So What AM I Talking About?



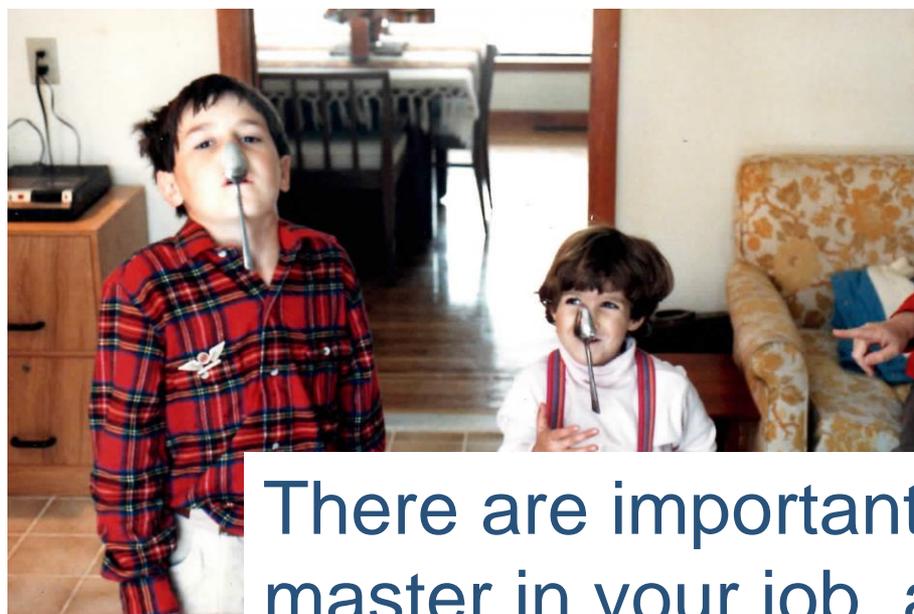
We're going to hear a lot of excellent scientific papers this week, so I decided to not make this presentation about science per se, but rather give you a **bit of history** about myself and the **importance of taking opportunities in work and elsewhere and volunteering whenever possible.**

And start the week off with some light humor, especially since it's only 530 AM my time.

So I'm Going to Talk About Some Personal History

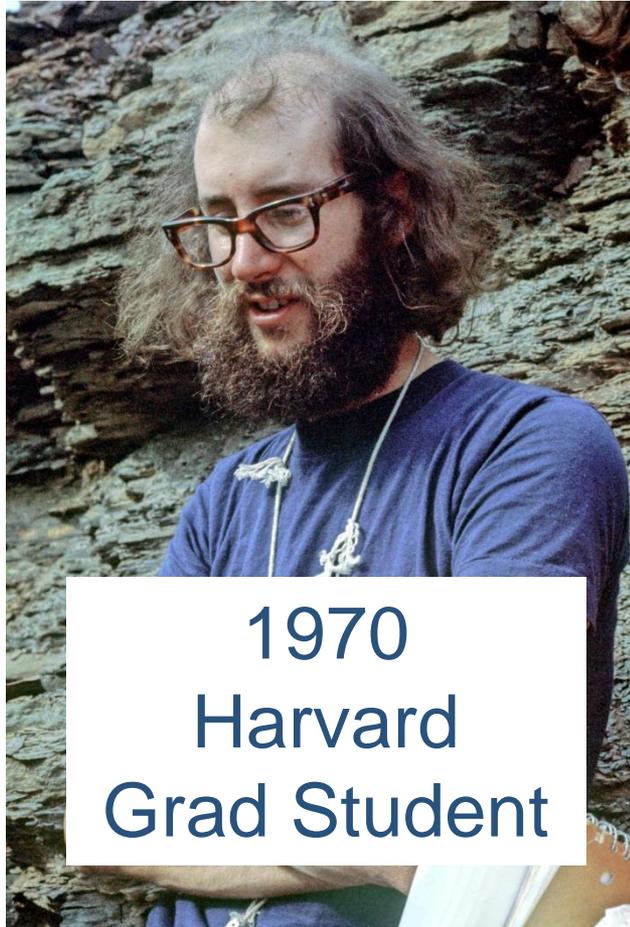


- And hope I impart a few words of wisdom in the process.



There are important skills to master in your job, and pass on to future generations.

Having a Good Fashion Sense Is Important



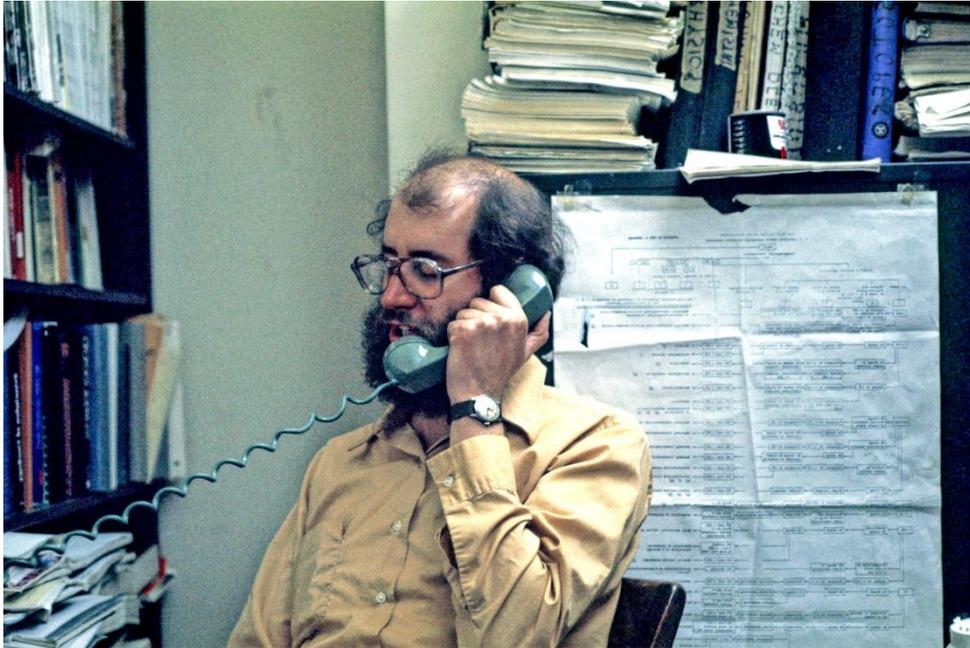
1970
Harvard
Grad Student



1971
Harvard
Grad Student

Only took a year to
neaten me up.

But I Do Apparently Revert To Form



1976
CalTech Post Doc



2007
MWH Labs
Vice President

So Lets Actually Get to the Talk Title



- **Saying yes is the key to making a difference.**
- **If you're here at NEMC/TNI it likely means you have said yes more than once.**
- **Yes also means being open to learning, and realizing you're not always right.**
- **And it can be both at work and in other areas.**
- **Sometimes those overlap.**
- **But don't say yes if you won't actually "participate". Be a giver, not a taker.**



- **Undergrad at Antioch (Earth Science)**
The advantage of co-op jobs and saying yes to exploring new fields.

- **Univ. of Texas Marine Science Institute, Virginia Institute of Marine Science, Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute**
- **Opened up the world of oceanography**





➤ Grad School at Harvard (Geology)



- **Create a joint program with Woods Hole when one did not exist.**
- **Having an advisor (Ray Siever) who was open to anything as a thesis topic**

1976



➤ Post Doc at Caltech (Environmental Geology)

- Spent more time with the environmental engineers than in the Geology Department.
- Made the connections that ultimately landed me at JMM several years later.



1980 - No, Then Yes



**“If life closes a door on you...
Open it. It's a door. That's how they work”.**

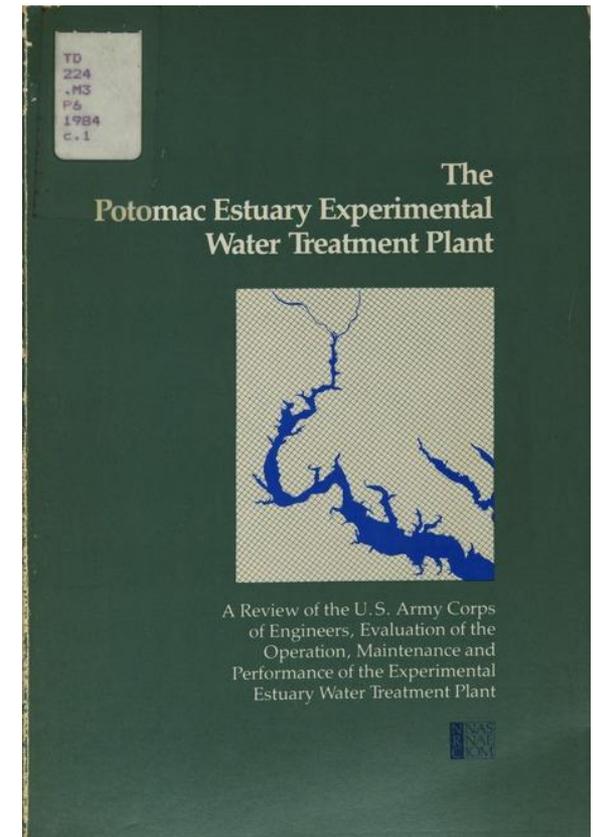


**I was hired by JMM to run a group in the lab
despite being “overqualified”.**

JMM: Early Days With the Lab



- **1983: Key Project (EEWTP) ends**
 - **Now what should we do with this lab we built up?**
 - **Yes, we have tools and knowledge to serve the drinking water market as a commercial lab.**
 - **So lets say “yes” to that opportunity.**



JMM/MWH – the 80s and 90s



- **1987: CEO: Lets take on hazardous waste in addition to drinking water. Big market.**
 - **Yes, sir.**
 - **Should have said NO!**

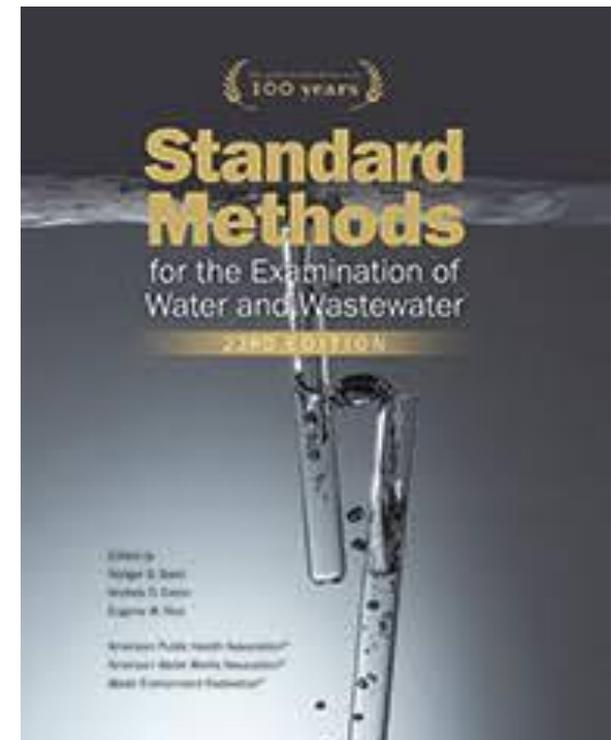
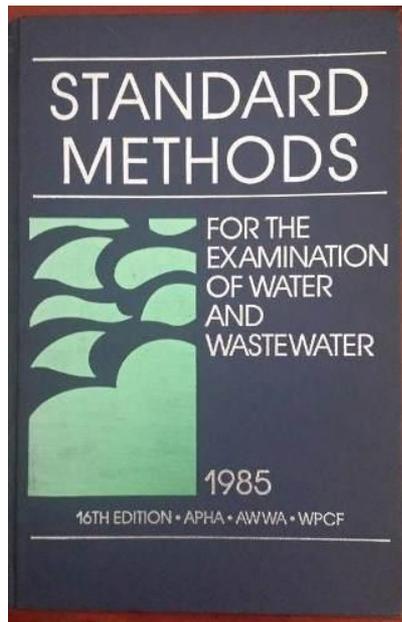
- **1992: We needed to stop being all things for all people. If you can't do it well, don't do it!**
 - **Return to a potable water focus.**
 - **We offered things others didn't.**
 - **Led us to the Information Collection Rule (96)**

Saying Yes to External Professional Activities Started a Long Time Ago



➤ 1985: Standard Methods (SM) served on Bromide Joint Task Group

- **Began a 30 year relationship with SM**
- **16th Edition to 23rd Edition**

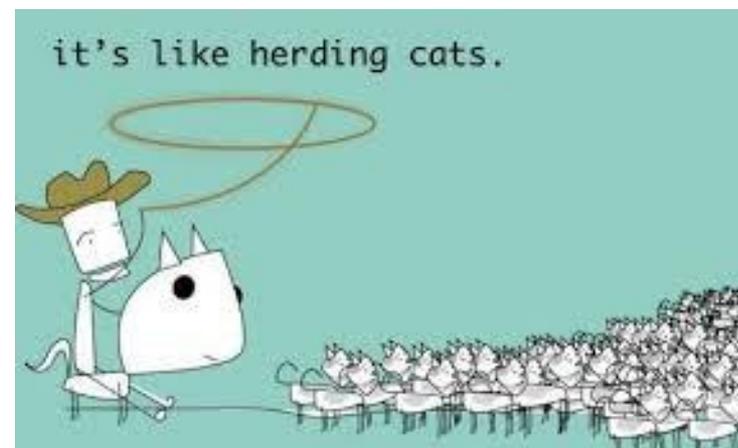


Some Extracurricular Activities Are More Challenging Than Others



➤ ~2000: Became part of California Environmental Lab Technical Advisory Committee (ELTAC)

- **It's been a heck of a slog, but a lot of fun.**
- **Became chair in 2016 under a new ELTAC**
- **And now we almost have new regulations.**



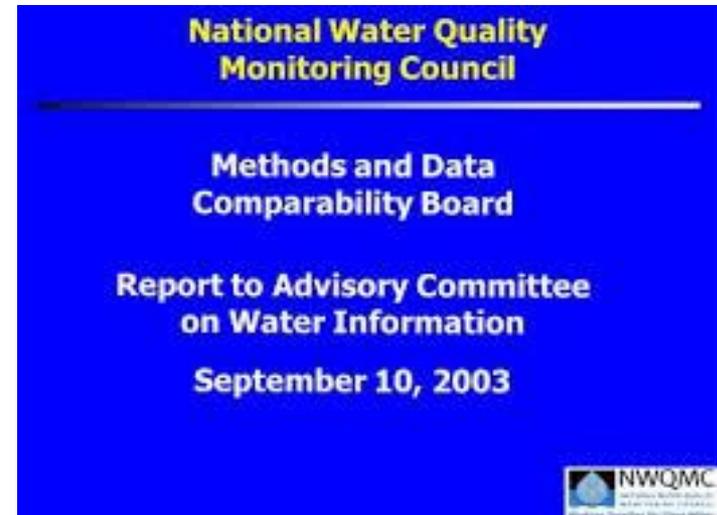
PS. It's faster than EPA is moving on perchlorate.

Some Of These Break New Ground



➤ Early 2000s: Methods and Data Comparability Board (MDCB)

- **Connections with EPA and USGS**
- **Got to watch and participate in the development of the National Environmental Monitoring Index (NEMI).**



Eurofins Eaton Analytical, Inc. (EEA) What Was I Was Saying Yes To???



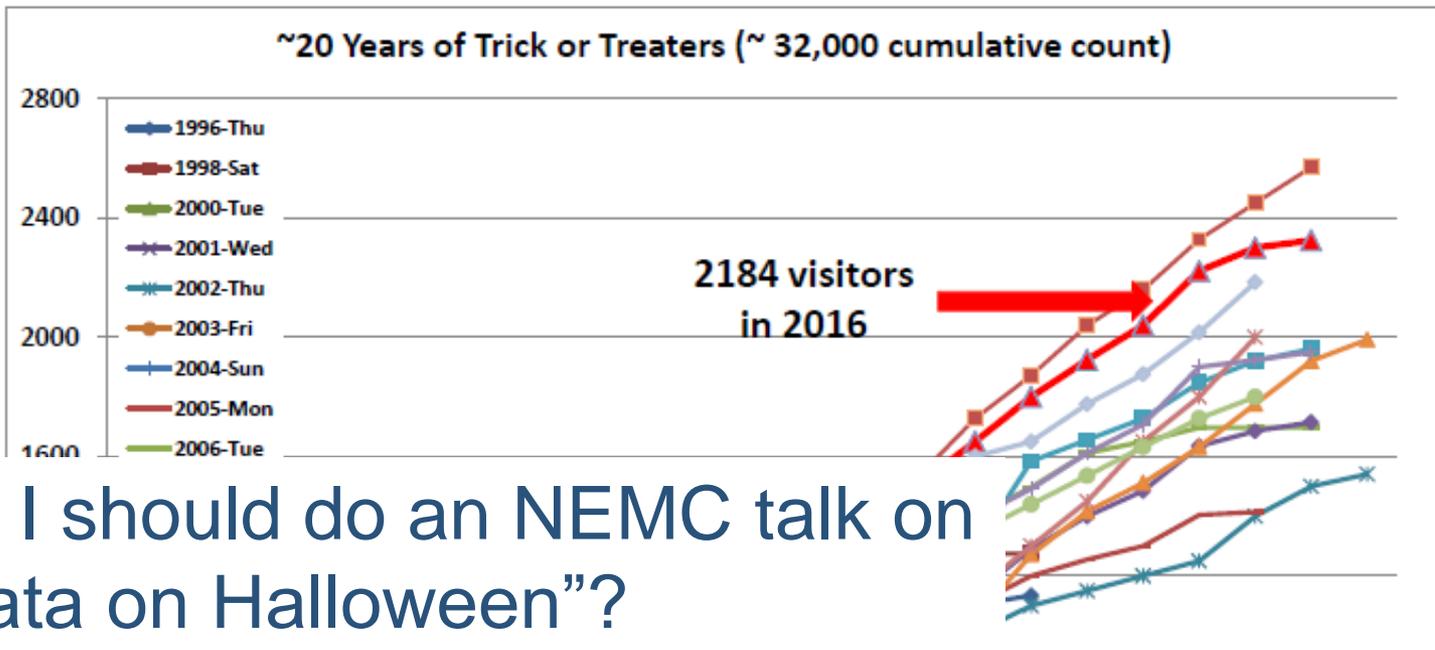
2012 Consent to Use of Name: You hereby consent to the use of the name “Eaton” as part of the corporate name of Buyer, **in the discretion of Eurofins Group.**

EEA Has Provided Lots of Opportunities to Say Yes

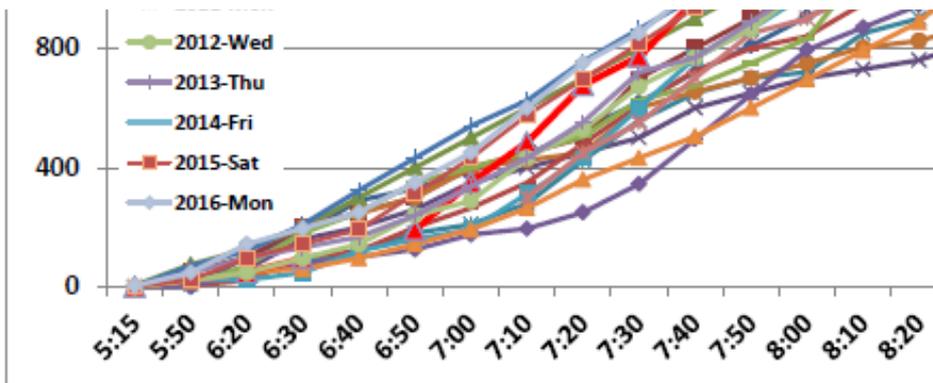
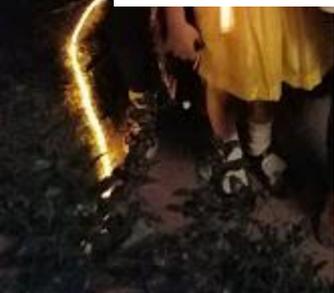


- Recognizing 40 years of industry involvement as an important factor in our name recognition and “market wisdom”.
- Opportunities to support our team. I may have the name, but we succeed or fail based on our team success.
 - **Don't be a knowledge silo.**
 - **And don't be hesitant to speak truth to power.**

Then There Is Outside Activity, With a Little Help From Our Clients



Maybe I should do an NEMC talk on “Big Data on Halloween”?



And Don't Forget to Do Conventional Volunteering



Slinging Concrete in Tijuana

Use Your Talent , and Not Just Your Brawn – it Can Be Fun



Business Plan for Animal Tracks
Jericho Road Project –
“Connecting nonprofit
organizations with volunteers
with professional skills”.

Other Ways to Say Yes and Benefit



➤ Find a mentor



➤ Be a mentor



Model What You Want People to Emulate. Here Are My Mantras.



- Responsiveness is important.
- Go beyond.
- The devil's in the details.



Axioms About the Need to Say Yes



It's harder and harder to get people to volunteer to put in the time to help “create” something.

That's what's unique about TNI and NEMC....

They are both the product of a lot of volunteer time.

If you don't say yes, who will?

Almost Forgot The Most Important Time I Said Yes



November 1971



But it was not under duress, in spite of what this photo may imply... *Emily Maynard*, thanks for lending us the baby...

If You Say Yes, You Find Great Benefits



Any Questions?



Andy Eaton, PhD, BCES
andyeaton@eurofinsus.com
626.386.1125

Eurofins Eaton Analytical, Inc.
www.eurofinsus.com/eaton

