



# Laboratory Committee at WEFTEC

*By Becky Rose, Laboratory Committee Chair | Photo by Ted Denning*

The lab committee was very busy this year at the WEFTEC 2015 conference. We participated in two different events. The first was a workshop entitled “Laboratory Skills for Treatment Plant Operators”. This workshop gave attendees hands-on training in the analyses of BOD, TSS, phosphorus, pH, ammonia, fecal coliform and chlorine residual. This was a full-day workshop with attendees coming not only from all over the United States but other countries also. It was a learning experience for us as well, as we were able to hear how other labs perform tests.

The other event we participated in was the lab portion of the Operators Challenge. Several members showed up on Saturday to help set up the event and on Monday, we had seven members work as judges. The lab event this year was new for the participants as well as the judges. The participants had to do ammonia, pH and alkalinity. There were more than 40 teams competing this year. It was exciting to judge as well as to participate.

I would like to thank the committee members for all their hard work planning and participating in both of these events. A special thank you to Mary Johnson for handling all the paperwork and correspondence with WEF that made the workshop possible.



*IWEA volunteers at the Lab Challenge. Pictured left to right Vic Olchowka, Tom Liston, Mary Johnson, Anas Rabah, Donna Coolidge, Deb Ness and Rebecca Rose.*