



OCWA
Orange County Water Association
ESTABLISHED 1957

Water Matters

News for the Orange County Water Community

Third Quarter 2023

OCWD Honored for Innovative Water Resiliency

The Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA) has presented the second annual Excellence in Innovation Award to Orange County Water District (OCWD) for recycling 100 percent of its local reclaimable wastewater flows into high-quality drinking water.

OCWD expanded its Groundwater Replenishment System (GWRS) to be able to recycle 100 percent of Orange County Sanitation District's reclaimable wastewater flows, which produces up to 130 million gallons of drinking water a day (mgd), serving nearly one million people in north and central Orange County.

"Projects like these are so important in addressing climate change impacts, including more severe and prolonged droughts," said ACWA President Pamela Tobin. "The successful and innovative approach to creating a more resilient water supply utilizing technology advancements is groundbreaking and serves as a model that can be replicated throughout California."

In order to achieve 130 mgd, OCWD's Research and Development Department constantly tested new membranes to optimize efficiency, use less energy and produce more water. In addition, the project took additional secondary effluent and major infrastructure upgrades including the Advanced Water Treatment Facility expansion, a new pump station, two flow equalization tanks, a pipeline rehabilitation and modifying headworks to be able to segregate reclaimable and non-reclaimable flows.



G | W | R | S GROUNDWATER REPLENISHMENT SYSTEM



ACWA's Excellence in Innovation Award recognizes outstanding innovations by public water agencies. The award,

sponsored by CDM Smith, was presented during ACWA's 2023 Spring Conference & Expo in Monterey, where more than 1,400 leaders from local water agencies in California gathered for

programs and panel discussions on a variety of key water issues.

The other finalists for this year's award were:

- ◆ Placer County Water Agency for its Water Systems Consolidation Program
- ◆ Rancho California Water District for its Energy Demand Response Program
- ◆ Reclamation District No. 108 for its Salmon Restoration Program

For more information about ACWA's awards programs, please visit www.acwa.com/about/awards.

PPIC Releases Fact Sheets on California Water Use

The Public Policy Institute of California (PPIC) in April updated its most popular fact sheet, "Water Use in California" while adding three new fact sheets that specifically examine water use in communities, the agricultural sector and the environment.

The fact sheets can be downloaded in English and Spanish on the PPIC website.

EMERGING PROFESSIONALS SUMMER SOLSTICE EVENT

Tour of Cla-Val Manufacturing Facility Followed by a Social Hour at Hangar 24

Cla-Val, a world-leader in the design and manufacture of automatic control valves, opened its doors for an exclusive tour of its facility by the OCWA Emerging Professionals group. Lead by Monte Roberts, Cla-Val's District Sales Manager, and George Aguilar, Training/Area Manager, the tours proved very popular with all the attendees.

The Emerging Professionals who attended represented a wide cross section of professions within the OCWA orbit. Split about evenly between public and corporate attendees, there was an equal split of engineers and otherwater-related positions. Our next Emerging Professionals event is in the works. Look for the announcement soon!



Special thanks to our evening's Sponsor, without whom our event would not have been anywhere near as successful.





44th Annual OCWA Golf Tournament

Have We Returned to Normal?

By MICHAEL J. SINACORI

were one of the few association-type tournaments that has taken place for this length of time and that is all made possible by the generous support of our Sponsors over the years. This year's numbers were full, back to pre-pandemic levels, with 124 golfers signed up to play and a small waiting list for those hoping to get in.

We have already secured our day for next year: Monday, June 5, 2024. Mark your calendars as we have already submitted our deposit! I would also encourage early sign ups as we expect the same strong turnout next year. And, as I mentioned, the golfer and sponsor rates will be going up slightly. The golfer rate, which has been the same since 2007, will now be \$175 per player. The sponsorship rate, which hasn't been increased since 2004 (almost 20 years ago!), will be \$300. Inflation has finally caught up to us.

Now, on to the fun stuff: The awards ceremony began at about 2:30, held in The Big Red Barn, where players coming off the course were greeted with spring roll appetizers. A magnificent fiesta taco plate lunch was served to all, and boy was that good (even ice cold when I ate it after the event). The two Las Vegas holes this year, along with the putting contest, gave everyone a chance to win some of the \$6,000 worth of prizes. We gave away rounds of golf, numerous individual clubs, and a complete set of irons. Not to mention all the other great opportunity prizes! Each par 3 had a closest to the pin contest and there were two long drive contests.

Prizes were awarded to the top three low gross players and the top three in two separate flights for net players. Always fun as an engineer to show the statistics of the participants: There were only six players who scored in the 70s this year even though conditions were perfect for low scores. Calm winds and overcast skies graced us for most of the round. The average score was right around 94, which is very typical for our event. The highest posted score was 144 out of the 160-maximum allowed. It was a wonderful day yet again and we are already looking forward to next year's tournament!

No matter what your index is, we always strive to do better than the last time and there is always the shot, or two, or ten that we want back. I want to replay four holes and get rid of those bogies and double bogies.

I truly believe the OCWA Golf event is one of the most enjoyable in the industry. I know it is for me, though my score is always higher than I expect it will be.

Next year is booked for **Monday, June 5, 2024**. Mark your calendars and sign up early!

The 44th Annual Golf Tournament was held on Monday, June 6th, at Strawberry Farms Golf Club (SFGC) in Irvine. This was my 30th event as Golf Committee Chairman and the sixth time we've held the event at SFGC. I still miss Newport Beach Country Club just a bit but SFGC continues to be a wonderful venue for our annual event.

As I said at the event, on behalf of the OCWA Board and the Golf Committee we wish to thank all the participants who trusted us to run this event. We

EVENT PHOTOS ARE AVAILABLE FOR VIEWING ON THE OCWA WEBSITE

If you'd like high resolution images for printing, you may email a request to timhogan@socal.rr.com



A big part of the day's success was due to the help provided by the many volunteers. We're indebted to **Claudia Toro** and **Margaret Novak** from *Michael Baker International*, **Megan Hernandez** from *Leighton*, and **Chelsea Roy** from *PACE Advanced Water Engineering* for their tireless assistance to ensure the event's success. Special thanks to **Allison Tomko**, and the entire staff at **Strawberry Farms Golf Club**, for their generous hospitality and the extraordinary effort they provided to help make our Tournament such a resounding success.



A special thanks to the Golf Committee Members. These unsung golf heroes truly make the event what it is. Please give any one of the committee members a call if you have suggestions on how to make this event even better next year.

The OCWA Board and Golf Committee would like to thank all of the 34 sponsors that made the event possible.

Without their contribution, the fiesta awards ceremony and prizes would not be possible. Their addresses and phone numbers are in the OCWA Directory. And with that, thanks for playing and see you next year.

Golf Committee

Mike Sinacori
Chairman – (949) 644-3342

Malcolm Cortez
Tee Signs and Putting Contest – (949) 453-5551

Jeff Hull
Prizes and Las Vegas Hole Logistics – (714) 904-3819

Chuck Borkman
Prizes and Putting Contest – (949) 933-8905

Dennis Cafferty
Scoring & General Oversight – (949) 837-7050, Ext 223

Derek Kurtti
OCWA Board Liaison & Prizes – (805) 550-9656

Event Winners (Scores)

1st Low Gross (70)
Andy Komor
Pace Engineering

2nd Low Gross (74)
Steve Ewart
OC Winwater

3rd Low Gross (75)
Kevin Cullen
West Basin Municipal Water District

1st Low Net Flight "A" (77/70)
Jim Anderson
Ramona Municipal Water District

2nd Low Net Flight "A" (77/70)
Cuco Zermeno
Rincon del Diablo Water District

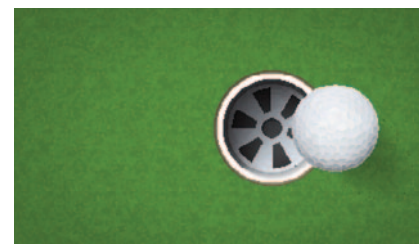
3rd Low Net Flight "A" (89/71)
Derek Kurtti
Black & Veatch

1st Low Net Flight "B" (91/75)
Kolby Campbell
Ford Meter Box

2nd Low Net Flight "B" (125/75)
Tom Monk
Walnut Valley Water District

3rd Low Net Flight "B" (95/75)
Alex Cali
Tripac

Putting Contest (5 putts)
Mike Jack
Butier Engineering



Closest to the Pin No. 3 (5'-7")
Gilbert Verduzco
City of Anaheim

Closest to the Pin No. 7 (1'-3")
Ben Halbach
Psomas

Closest to the Pin No. 11 (2'-0")
Dennis Cafferty
El Toro Water District

Closest to the Pin No. 15 (15'-3")
Curtis Gauthier
HDR

Closest to the Pin No. 17 (2'-1")
Jeffrey Martinez
City of Anaheim

ORANGE COUNTY WATER ASSOCIATION

44th Annual Golf Tournament

MONDAY, JUNE 5, 2023

STRAWBERRY FARMS GOLF CLUB

OCWA SPONSORS

AES Water
Darik Walton

American Flow Control
Perry Phillip

Atkinson, Andelson, Loya Ruud & Romo
Jeff Hoskinson

Black and Veatch
Derek Kurtti

Black and Veatch
Jeff Neemann

CAB Engineers
Cory Bersch

Civiltec Engineering
Shem Hawes

Cla-Val Company
Monte Roberts

Clow Valve Company
Richard Ledesma

DUDEK
Mike Metts

Ford Meter Box
Blake Kidd

Fraijo Brothers
Tim Fraijo

General Pump
Michael Bodart

GCI Construction
Mike Pindt

Golden Sun Marketing
Josh Bolger

Guida Surveying
Ralph Guida

Hazen and Sawyer
Dave Jones

HDR
Steve Friedman

IBEW – Local No. 47
John Baca

JB
Water & Wastewater
Tarn Victor

JCM Industries / TRIPAC
Bill Foster, Sr.

Leighton
Jeff Hull

McCarthy Building Companies
Curtis Horner

MISCO Water
Tom Roberson

MKN
Ryan Gallagher

Mueller Company
Cris Salas

Mueller Systems
Kevin Cornejo

Michael Baker International
John Nagle

Neptune Technology Group
Andy Bohn

NV5
Jeff Cooper

PACE Advanced Water Engineering
Andy Komor

Paulus Engineering
Jason Paulus

Psomas
Joseph Boyle

Richard Slade & Associates
Richard Slade

SIP Industries
Matt Segerstrom

Stantec
Jim Cathcart

TE Roberts
Tim Roberts

Tetra Tech
Laurence Esguerra

TRIPAC
Bill Foster, Sr.

TRIPAC
Bill Foster, Sr.

United Water Works
Shaw Turnage

Universal Engineering
Dean Stanphill

My golf is improving. Yesterday, I hit the ball in one.
~ Jane Swan

2023 SafetyFest was a Great Success!

Return of Annual Operator Training Marked Our Return to Normality

After a three year hiatus imposed on us by the pandemic, we were finally able to resume our popular SafetyFest operator training event this year. And judging by the turnout, and the many comments we received, the event was sorely missed. It proved to be a great day for networking and learning.

And our new venue, the beautiful main conference room at **Moulton Niguel Water District's** newly opened corporate headquarters, was a hit with all the attendees.

Up to 6 Safety Contact Hours were available to those who attended the six state-approved trainings held throughout the day. Presentations included: **Respiratory Protection; Top 25 OSHA Violations; Dig Alert and 811; Locating 101; Trenching and Excavation, and Accident Prevention.**

At the end of the day everyone walked away with new tools and resources they can use to protect themselves and the communities they serve; as well as a greater appreciation for their roles as "shepherds" of public health and safety.

Thank you to everyone who attended and participated in the 11th Annual Orange County Water Association SafetyFest. See you next year!





2023 OPERATOR EXPO

Certified CE Training • Product Exhibitions • Team Competitions

Thursday, September 21, 2023 • 7:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Rattlesnake Reservoir • 4769 Portola Parkway, Irvine

Training Sessions & Vendors Announced Soon



CEU
★
Earn 2 Contact Hours of Education Credits for Sessions

Many Thanks to IRWD
for its generous donation of the site for our event. Without IRWD's support, our event would not be possible.



In addition to the valuable Training Sessions, there will be ample opportunity for Agencies to showcase their skills at Pipe Tapping and Horseshoes!

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:

- ★ Vendor Exhibits All Day
- ★ Vendor Set-Up 7:00 am
- ★ Operator Training 'Check In' 7:30 am to 8 am
- ★ Operator Training (2 Sessions) 8 am to 10 am
- ★ Pipe Tapping Competition 10 am to Noon
- ★ Horseshoe Competition 10 am to Noon
- ★ CATERED BBQ LUNCH Noon to 1 pm
- ★ Opportunity Drawing 1 pm



PIPE TAPPING COMPETITION

This is the 15th year of the pipe tapping contest. It will follow the same rules as the AWWA competition. Each team will be given two chances at the pipe tap. All material – except the tapping machine – is provided by OCWA. Trophies are awarded to the first and second place teams. Agencies may have multiple teams. Contact Boyd Schultz at (949) 306-0714 if your agency wishes to compete. To participate, teams must be registered to attend the Operator Expo. To register, contact Bobby Young at byoung@lbcwd.org.

Make Plans to Attend! Register Today!

Tickets: \$60⁰⁰ each Includes Catered Lunch

Sponsorship Opportunities Still Available:
Sponsor: \$225.00 ★ Exhibitor: \$325.00

Sponsors receive recognition at the event, have their name on a banner, and are recognized in the OCWA newsletter and on the website.

Door Prizes needed; please bring to event.

Reservations can be made on the OCWA website:
www.ocwater.org

For group registrations, or to enter a team in either Competition, contact:
Bobby Young at byoung@lbcwd.org



HORSESHOE COMPETITION

Our popular HORSESHOE COMPETITION returns for 2023. We have space for multiple teams – especially women!

There's still space available for Horseshoe competitors – **especially womens teams!** There is a limit of two teams per Agency with two contestants per team. It is a single-elimination competition. Complete contest rules are available on www.OCWater.org. To participate, teams must be registered to attend the Operator Expo. To register, write Bobby Young at byoung@lbcwd.org.

Irvine Ranch Water District makes its facilities available for use by residents and non-profit organizations merely as a public service, but does not, by allowing this use, endorse or support the purpose of the event or its sponsor.

2023 OCWA Corporate Sponsors

By their generous support, the following corporations and agencies have helped ensure the OCWA Board of Directors will be able to pursue its many goals for 2023.

On behalf of the membership, and the entire Orange County water community, we thank you.

Atkinson, Andelson, Loya, Ruud & Romo

Ardurra ♦ Black & Veatch

Civiltec ♦ Cla-Val ♦ CIPO ♦ Clow Valve

DN Tanks ♦ Dopudja Wells ♦ Genterra

Hazen & Sawyer ♦ Irvine Ranch Water District

John Robinson Consulting ♦ LEE + RO

Linkture ♦ Mesa Water ♦ Misco Water

MKN Associates ♦ Moulton Niguel Water District

Michael Baker International ♦ Mueller WP

MWH Constructors ♦ Ninyo and Moore

Peterson Structural Engineers ♦ Psomas

SA Associates ♦ Specific Engineering

SPI Engineering ♦ Stantec ♦ TE Roberts

Tetra Tech ♦ Wood Rodgers

POSITIONS AVAILABLE

OCWA Members and their organization can post unlimited job listings to the Association website for FREE. Listings are promoted with weekly e-blasts sent to our 1,600+ contacts, representing over 45 agencies and more than 120 companies county-wide.

This is saturation coverage throughout the County. What else would you expect from the only Orange County Association dedicated to the local water community?

If you would like to post a job opening here, and are a current member, please send a PDF, or a link to a web page detailing the position to the OCWA webmaster.

CURRENT OPPORTUNITIES:

OC San - Principal Environmental Specialist (08-04)

Anaheim - Laboratory Technician I (07-31)

Santa Ana - Water Conservation Representative (Part Time)

IRWD - Senior Recycled Water Specialist (07-30)

IRWD - Legislative Aide / Senior Legislative Aide (07-26)

IRWD - QA / QC Specialist (07-30)

SCWD - Administrative Assistant (Full Time)

SCWD - Administrative Services Assistant (Part Time)

SCWD - Analyst Assistant (Part Time)

and many more listings on the website . . .

For further information on these and other currently open positions, please visit the "Opportunities" section of the OCWA website:

www.ocwater.org/Job-Opportunities

Members and their agency or company can post Opportunities to the OCWA website, free of charge, as often as they'd like. If you wish to post a job opening, and are a current member, please send a PDF or a link to your web listing to the timhogan@socal.rr.com. We'll post the listing to the website and send out a weekly jobs e-blast to over 1,600 people in the OC water community.

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OCWA's Board of Directors meets on the third Wednesday

of each month, unless notified otherwise.

The next meeting is scheduled for:

**August 16, 2023
10:30 am to 11:30 am**

Dave & Buster's Restaurant
Irvine Spectrum
Entertainment Center

♦ ♦ ♦

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