





In This Issue:

----- 2012 LABS Annual Awards Banquet -----
----- Dinner Meeting Thurs., Feb 23, Proud Bird Restaurant, LACSD's Clearwater Program: More than Tunnel Vision, See Page 5. -----

California Water Environment Association  **CWEA 39th Annual P3S Training Conference and Exhibition**

Sharing the Clean Water Message

February 27–29, 2012
Waterfront Beach Resort, a Hilton Hotel
Huntington Beach, California



Pretreatment • Pollution Prevention • Storm Water Committee

Call for Board Nominations!

LABS is accepting nominations for our Board of Directors as well as volunteers willing to work on one of our committees.

If you know a great C W E A volunteer willing to serve please speak with them and send an email to alecm@jwce.com. If this is your first year running for the LABS Board the role of Director is a great way to get trained and make a difference for our members.

Nominations due by March 16, 2012. Questions? Please call Alec at 714-428-4614.

California Water Environment Associations' (CWEA) Los Angeles Basin Section (LABS) 1920's Themed Award Celebration aboard the Queen Mary A Success!

Article by: Wendy Wert, Photo Credit: Kent McIntosh

On January 21, 2012, the Los Angeles Basin Section (LABS) of California Water Environment Association (CWEA) hosted the 2011 annual LABS awards from the Queen Elizabeth room aboard the Queen Mary. The event was a celebration of the contributions to the field of Environmental Engineering from the Past, Present, and Future.



The celebration began with an energized 1920's themed social gathering of CWEA leaders, members, and award winners. **LABS Outreach Coordinator Erika DeHollan** provided a photo montage highlighting sponsors whose dedicated support during this economic recovery cycle has allowed LABS to provide training that enhances the education and effectiveness of California's wastewater professionals.

In keeping with the historical theme, **CWEA LABS Directors Basil Hewitt and Wendy Wert** welcomed attendees with an interactive narrative on historical contributions from the era before sanitation through the 1920's. Not only water professionals believe the advent of basic wastewater collection and treatment in the twentieth century resulted in direct benefits to public health in the United States and other developed countries.

The featured speaker, **CWEA Past President Pei-Chin Low** highlighted specific collaborative activities CWEA and LABS have organized this past year, such as outreach to non-government organizations (NGO's) by engaging Mark Gold and David Beckman, outreach to sister chapters by engaging Tri-Counties in the first joint event, outreach to academics by engaging students in Science Training Day at USC and outreach to regulators by engaging EPA Region 9 in the upcoming February 1, 2012 workshop at the Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County (Sanitation Districts).



CWEA LABS Awards Chair Hala Titus initiated presentation of the awards to the local section winners. The **2011 Safety Award 1-25 Employees** went to the **City of Los Angeles Department of Public Works Bureau of Sanitation** for their **Glendale Water Reclamation Plant**. Roger Ramsay accepted the award for the Glendale Water Reclamation Plant.

The **2011 Safety Award 26-75 Employees** went to the **City of Los Angeles** Department of Public Works Bureau of Sanitation **Donald C. Tillman Water Reclamation Plant**. Roger Ramsay accepted the award for the Donald C. Tillman Water Reclamation Plant



The **2011 Environmental Engineer of the Year Award** went to **Michael Sarullo** of the **City of Los Angeles Department of Public Works, Bureau of Engineering**, for his innovative contributions to the optimization of the Hyperion Treatment Plant’s two-stage, thermophilic digestion for production of class A biosolids.

The **2011 Collection System Person of the Year Award** went to **Adel Hagekhalil** **City of Los Angeles Department of Public Works Bureau of Sanitation**. Adel Hagekhalil is a registered civil engineer with the State of California and a national Board Certified Environmental Engineer.

The **2011 Collection System of the Year Award Greater than 500 Miles** went to the **City of Los Angeles**. For their exceptional service record which relies on public input and participation and integrates water supply, water reuse, water conservation and stormwater management with wastewater facilities planning through a regional watershed approach.

CWEA LABS Director Alec Mackie presented the **2011 Collection System of the Year Award 250 to 500 Miles** to the **City of Glendale**. Since implementing a unique “spot check” CCTV program in 2008 the City has reduced sewer spills by over 70%. Their dedication to safety has also resulted in their safest year ever since records have been kept.

The **2011 Public Outreach Program of the Year Award** went to the Long Beach Water Department for their 100 by 100 water conservation initiative. To celebrate LBWD’s 100th anniversary the agency used a bold and creative advertising and social media campaign to encourage residents to conserve water. **Matthew Veeh**, Director of Public Affairs and **Melissa Keyes**, Special Projects Coordinator, accepted the award.



CWEA LABS Director Amanda Schmidt presented the **2011 Engineering Achievement Award** to the **City of Malibu** for their **Legacy Park Project**. **Bob Brager** accepted the award for the City of Malibu. Award Recipient Brager, thanked the members of the team which brought this innovative project to the City. Among the most innovative stormwater management projects in California, the City of Malibu’s Legacy Park is one of the first to combine a vegetated detention pond with a stormwater treatment facility and create a multi-benefit park.

The **2011 Outstanding Young Professional Award** to **Miluska Propersi**, of RMC Water and the Environment for her energized contributions to both the professional society and the field of environmental engineering. She served as LABS webmaster for 3

years and is also active in the Young Professionals committee at the local and state levels. She is passionate about getting students and young professionals interested in CWEA, and to attend meetings.

CWEA LABS President Wendy Wert presented the **2011 Outgoing Training Certification Preparation Committee Award** to **John Mays**, of the **City of Los Angeles** for his extraordinary contributions to the profession. John has served on this committee for more than a decade and continues to contribute to CWEA's mission of providing training opportunities to the membership. In 2011 John continues to contribute to the field through his commitment to effective use of local resources.



The **2011 Distinguished Service Award** went to **Matt Copeland of the Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County** for his diligent service to LABS. Throughout 2011, Matt served as the Newsletter Editor for LABS and as the Local Arrangements Co-Chair for the CWEA 2011 Annual Conference Planning Committee.

The **2011 Past Presidents Award** went to **Hala Titus of Black and Veatch** for her exceptional leadership. Hala was the 2009 CWEA LABS President. During her term we encountered unanticipated challenges due to the loss of CWEA LABS President Pat McDaniel. Hala not only filled the void but her leadership skills actually enhanced participation in collaborative training opportunities for the membership.



The **2011 Public Education Person of the Year Award** went to **Basil Hewitt of the Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County** for his tireless dedication to inclusive outreach initiatives. Basil Hewitt has occupied a key role on the Districts Clearwater Program since its initiation in 2006. Basil's leadership style has resulted in a culture of outreach and engagement.

In a festive twist in this years' program, CWEA LABS Director Janel Warren of Godwin Pumps and CWEA LABS Committee Chair Nicole You of the City of Los Angeles presented gift cards to the 1920s costume contest winners. The award for **Best Female 1920's Attire** to **Teresa Sarullo** for her wonderful accessories and the award for **Best Male 1920's Attire** went to **Brian Dietrick** for his interesting props. There were a record number of door prizes at this year's event.

Many local section winners continue to state level competition at the CWEA 2011 annual conference in Ontario. **Congratulations** to all LABS award winners and **good luck** at the annual conference!



For a more detailed review of the nights events continue reading at www.labsofcwea.com/2012--awards.



LACSD's Clearwater Program: More Than Tunnel Vision



The presentation by **David Haug, LACSD Senior Engineer**, will provide an overview on the progression of the Districts' Clearwater Program and focus on the technical aspects of the four tunnel alternatives being evaluated in the EIR/EIS. **\$40 members, \$45 non-members, \$20 students**



Thursday Feb. 23rd
6PM Mixer • 7PM Dinner

Dinner:

- 1. Salmon
 - 2. Chicken
 - 3. Vegetarian pasta
- Coffee and cheesecake for dessert

RSVP:

RSVP by 2/16 with meal choice to: alecm@jwce.com
Or call 714-428-4614

Location:

Proud Bird
11022 Aviation Boulevard
Los Angeles, CA 90045
(310) 670-3093



Sewer Leaks Editor

Patrizia Hall
1800 East Wardlow Road
Long Beach, CA 90807

LABS Board of Directors

President: [Wendy Wert](#) (562) 908-4288 x-2128
Vice President: [Alec Mackie](#) (714) 428-4614
Director-at-Large: [Basil Hewitt](#) (562) 908-4288 x-2311
Director-Secretary: [Amanda Schmidt](#) (310) 566-6460
Director-Corporate: [John Biggs](#) (213) 271-2236
Director-Treasurer: [Ian Mackenzie](#) (310) 648-6134
Past President: [Hala Titus](#) (213) 312-3330

Address Changes

Please contact Marge Okabe at (310) 375-0448 or email labsofcwea@hotmail.com

LABS Committee Chairs

Programs: Alec Mackie (714) 428-4614
Newsletter: Matthew Copeland (562) 908-4288 x-2180
Membership: Marge Okabe (310) 375-0448
WW Treatment & Reuse: Mischelle Mische (562) 908-4288 x-2488
Awards: Hala Titus (213) 312-3330
TCP: John Mays
TCP: Kent McIntosh (562) 908-4288 x-6616
Supergroup: Dan Gary (310) 830-2400 x-5316
P3S Representative: John Boyd (562) 760-6125
Collection Systems: Michael Flores (310) 566-6460
Public Education: Michael Simpson (323) 342-6047
Operator Certification: Francisco Ramirez (310) 648-5857
Webmaster: Miluska Propersi (310) 566-6460
Young Professionals: Nicole You (323) 342-6265
Outreach Coordinator: Erika DeHollan (562) 908-4288 x-2836

CWEA Liaisons

CWEA Board Liason: Debra Bogdanoff (562) 908-4288 x-2734

SPECIAL EVENTS CALENDAR

Feb 23rd LACSD's Clearwater Program; Proud Bird Restaurant, Los Angeles
April 26th Reinventing the Toilet; El Portal, Pasadena
March 16th 2012 LABS Board Nominations Deadline due to Alec Mackie
March 22nd LABS/ Townhall LA Sustainable Water Seminar; LA Chamber of Commerce

HAVE AN IDEA FOR LABS TRAINING?

Send your presentation, seminar or training ideas to alecm@jwce.com for consideration

<http://www.labsofcwea.com/>
<http://www.cwea.org/>
<http://www.wef.org/>