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June 2008 SEWER LEAKS – A Los Angeles Basin Section of the CWEA Publication



Gulf coast flooded area post Katrina (lt) speaker Jim Clark at the May LABS Event (ctr lt) Young Professionals Tour of the Santa Monica Urban Runoff Recycling Facility (ctr) Pei-Chin Low and Patrick Griffith hold the updated Past Presidents Plaque (ctrl rt) Maura Bonnarens inducts 2008-2009 officers (rt) New Orleans Wastewater Treatment Plant under 17 feet of water post Katrina (below)



LABS Training Featured Wastewater Utilities Affected by Hurricane Katrina

On May 22, the Los Angeles Basin Section (LABS) of California Water Environment Association (CWEA) hosted a training meeting at TAIX Restaurant in downtown LA. The featured speaker at the event, James Clark Vice President B&V Corp., presented an overview of the *Reconstruction Issues and Lessons Learned by Wastewater Utilities Affected by Hurricane Katrina*.



Attendees at the LABS presentation (lt) Speaker Jim Clark Vice President B&V (ctr) Hurricane Katrina devastation (rt)

WEF, in collaboration with Black & Veatch and several municipal water agencies, released a report on April 25, 2006 that assessed damage and reconstruction costs to wastewater systems affected by Hurricane Katrina in the Gulf Coast. The resulting report, *Assessment of Reconstruction Costs and Debt Management for Wastewater Utilities Affected by Hurricane Katrina*, was presented to Congress, U.S. EPA and USDA. Mr. Clark explained that under the challenging conditions encountered coalition building was critical to a successful assessment. Contributors to the assessment included: EPA, DEQ, City of Los Angeles DPW, Columbus (GA) Water Works, LACSD, EBMUD, Montgomery (AL) Water Works and Sanitary Sewer Board and OCSD.

The assessment found infrastructure damages due to Katrina in Jan 06 US dollars were as follows: \$50 million for Alabama, \$925 million for Louisiana, \$231 million for Mississippi for a total of \$1.2 billion for the Gulf coast affected. Surprisingly, many of the concrete hydraulic structures used in the wastewater treatment industry were not significantly damaged by the storm surge and associated flooding. The majority of the damages were in electrical and mechanical equipment and in collection systems.

Unfortunately, the FEMA legislation is complex and inflexible. For example, FEMA cannot provide any relief for the damaged collection system because it cannot be placed exactly as constructed or attain its original pre-Katrina condition. In addition, FEMA dollars can only be applied to exact replacement of pre-existing systems. This is a hurdle, since it may be logical during reconstruction to combine fragmented treatment systems into one larger system. This would help to concentrate relief and construction efforts, however, FEMA funds can not be used for this purpose, rather individual facilities, with treatment technologies identical to those existing before the disaster must be constructed.

The report recommends that the wastewater sector: offer training and assistance to POTW's in emergency preparedness, promote mutual aid compacts such as WARN, develop best practices for emergency preparedness and response, develop best practices for system design to withstand natural disasters, provide redundancy, safeguard rolling assets, store backup data off-site, and highlight the value of wastewater infrastructure.

2008-2009 LABS Officers Installed

On April 24, 2008 the 2008-2009 LABS Officers were installed following the LACSD Clearwater presentation in Monterey Park.



CWEA Pres. Maura Bonnarens, Past Pres. Pei-Chin Low, Pres. Patrick Griffith, Director Pat McDaniel, Vice Pres. Hala Titus, and LABS Treas. Ian Mackenzie Directors not shown Alec Mackie and Wendy Wert

YPs Tour of the Santa Monica Urban Runoff Recycling Facility A Success!



Attendees at the SMURRF (lt) SMURRF tour (ctr lt) LABS YP Chair Amanda Schmidt (ctr rt) Attendees dine (lt)

The first event hosted by LABS Young Professionals Committee was a huge success. More than 30 participants toured the Santa Monica Urban Runoff Recycling Facility (SMURRF) and enjoyed camaraderie and dinner afterward. The SMURFF facility treats an average of 500,000 gpd of stormwater to Title 22 standards before being re-used for irrigation.

CWEA Government Affairs Specialty Conference June 17th and 18th

This month CWEA's Government Affairs Committee hosts two one-day specialty seminars entitled Global Climate Change Issues. Climate change and the resulting regulations are affecting the way wastewater treatment plants are operated and designed. During this conference attendees will learn about how sea level rise has impacted wastewater treatment plants, how to apply renewable technologies at wastewater treatment plants, the carbon footprint of biosolids, credit trading, current regulations and regulatory trends. The conferences will be held on June 17th in Whittier and June 18th in Roseville. Go to www.cwea.org for registration details or call (510) 382-7800 x 115 for more information.

"Why don't you get an electronic edition of Sewer Leaks?"



To receive your newsletter electronically send an email request Dan Gary at dgary@lacsdsd.org

Office of Emergency Services Building Safety Seminar in Long Beach



Jim Barnes, OES (lt) Doug Litchfield (ctr), MWD, David Karina (rt), ACIA

On Saturday May 10, in Long Beach, the State Office of Emergency Services (OES) provided training for the safety assessment of buildings and infrastructure after a disaster. The Safety Assessment Program (SAP) provides professional resources to local governments, assisting them with the safety evaluation of buildings and infrastructure in the aftermath of a disastrous event - earthquake, flood, hurricane, etc. The goal of the SAP is to help local government perform accurate facility safety assessments as quickly as possible. In southern California, the SAP volunteers are the professionals that will red tag unsafe buildings after earthquakes. SAP has been successful in meeting their goal during recent major earthquake such as Loma Prieta (1989), Big Bear-Landers (1992), Northridge (1994), Napa (2000), and San Simeon (2003). It was also used under interstate mutual aid, the Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC) to assist the states of Louisiana and Mississippi in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina.

Design-Build for Water/Wastewater Projects Seminar in San Luis Obispo

On Saturday, May 17, the Center for Construction Education at Cal Poly State University hosted a Design-Build seminar for the Water/Wastewater Industry.



The theory behind Design-Build (D-B) is intensive up-front planning with a team that consists of engineers, contractors, operators, regulators, and vendors. The process involves the generation of specific and measurable qualification criteria by the owner. The owner then issues a request for qualifications. Three to five firms are short listed and invited to respond to a detailed request for proposals that includes performance requirements. The D-B consultant is selected based on both quantitative (price) and qualitative (technical design, schedule, quality management program) criteria. After the D-B consultant is selected a detailed contract is developed between the owner and the D-B firm. Rather than entering into an agreement after the final construction documents have been drafted, the owner signs a contract during the schematic design phase (30%). After the contract is signed, the owner loses some control of the project. The project drivers are schedule and budget. Quality can be addressed through in-place performance criteria, but not through the direct review process as is the standard in the design-bid-build process. D-B could be an effective tool for application to projects not aligned with an agencies primary area of expertise or under rigorous time constraints. As summarized by Michael Dzubnar, the program construction manager on the \$250 million D-B contract for the Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton "There is nothing cheaper than being done."



THE LOS ANGELES BASIN SECTION OF THE C W E A
 HOSTS A DINNER AND TRAINING MEETING

“The Goal” and Wastewater Treatment:
“Guiding Principles for Optimization Using the Theory of Constraints - a
20 Year Track Record”

Thursday, June 26, 2008

The New Monterey Hill Restaurant

-- Guest Speaker --

Eric J. Wahlberg, National Wastewater Practice Leader, Brown and Caldwell

Eli Goldratt originally published “The Goal,” a business novel introducing the theory of constraints in manufacturing processes, in 1984. More than three million copies have been sold. In his talk, “The Goal and Wastewater Treatment,” Eric discusses the implications of the three guiding principles of optimizing a manufacturing facility identified in “The Goal” to wastewater treatment plant operations. Several interesting results, from the perspective of both, wastewater treatment plant operations and design, come out of this and are further explored.

Dinner is at 6:30; presentation at 7:15; join us at 6:00 for the mixer if you can.

----- On West Ramona Blvd in Monterey Park (on top of hill next to golf course - see map below) -----

Dinner Menu:

Meals include one of the following entrees:



Roasted Prime Rib of Beef
 With Au Jus and Bordelaise Sauce

Baked Fresh Atlantic Salmon
 Lemon Beurre Blanc Sauce

Chicken Jerusalem
 Sautéed Mushrooms, and Artichoke Hearts in
 a Mild Chardonnay Cream Sauce

Pasta Primavera (For Vegetarians)

Reservations:

RSVP By MONDAY, June 22nd

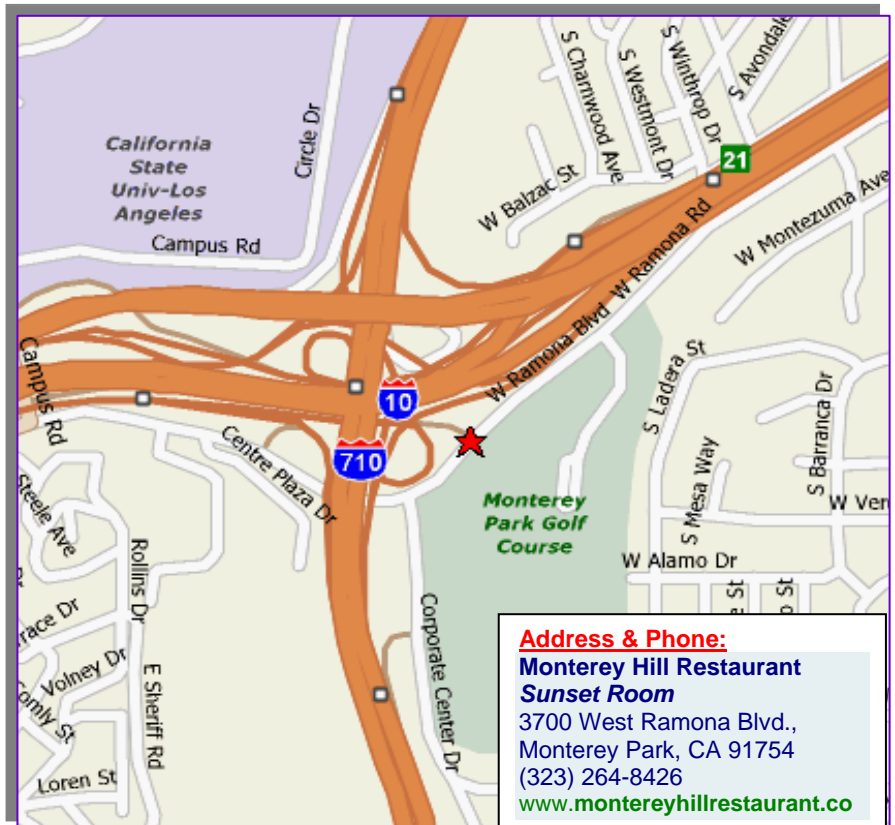
RSVP (with one menu choice from above) to
 Hala Titus by e-mail (preferred method)
 at [mail to: titush@bv.com](mailto:titush@bv.com) -or-
 by phone at 213-312-3300

Event Cost: (pay at the door)

Member	\$30
Non-Member	\$35
Student / Retiree	\$15



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SPECIAL EVENTS CALENDAR

Jun 6 th	SoCal Coastal Water Research Project Seminar, Huntington Beach www.sccwrp.org
Jun 10 th	SoCal Edison Workshop <i>California Solar Initiative</i> , Irwindale www.sce.com/energycenters
Jun 17 th & Jun 18 th	CWEA Government Affairs Specialty Conference <i>Global Climate Issues</i> , Whittier and Roseville www.cwea.org
Jun 10 th & Jun 17 th & Jun 24 th	CWEA Specialty <i>What to do When a Reporter Calls</i> , Burlingame, Santa Barbara, and Ontario www.cwea.org
Jun 26 th	LABS Training Event www.labsofcwea.com

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