AFTER A PHENOMENALLY SUCCESSFUL YEAR, THE ORANGE COUNTY WATER ASSOCIATION IS LOOKING TO BUILD UPON ITS RECENT SUCCESSES. IT WON'T BE AN EASY TASK.


2019 IS OFF TO A GREAT START

ALREADY, HOWEVER, 2019 IS SHAPING UP AS A GOOD YEAR. FIRST UP FOR INDUSTRY INSIGHTS IS A TIMELY PRESENTATION ON LITIGATION AVOIDANCE IN DESIGN-BUILD PROJECTS. HOW TO AVOID CONSTRUCTION CLAIMS IN DESIGN-BID-BUILD CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS will be lead by Hal Block, a partner with the law firm of Atkinson, Andelson, Loya, Ruud & Romo. This informative talk, illustrated with real-life examples, will offer time tested procedures to guard against claims entirely. Whether you’re involved in planning or construction, management or finance, or simply want to know how to sleep better at night, you’ll find this presentation useful in many different ways. Make plans now to attend January 16.

INDUSTRY INSIGHT PRESENTATIONS – AND YOU!

PLANS ARE PENDING ON A CONTINUING SERIES OF INFORMATIVE INDUSTRY INSIGHTS THROUGHOUT 2019. TOPICS AS DIVERSE AS UPDATES FROM METROPOLITAN, THE LATEST FROM OCWD AND OCSD, AND CURRENT ISSUES FACED BY LOCAL DISTRICTS AND ENGINEERING FIRMS ARE ALL IN THE WORKS.

2019 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

THE INCOMING 2018 OCWA BOARD OF DIRECTORS IS:

Gregorio Estrada, President; Ryan Gallagher, Vice President; Bobby Young, Treasurer; Sandy Scott-Roberts, Secretary; Michael Sinacori, Director; John Robinson, Director; Dave Jones, Director; and Roni Young, Ex Officio

WE’LL KEEP EVERYONE ABRIST AS SPEAKERS AND TOPICS ARE FINALIZED. AND SHOULD ANY OF OUR READERS HAVE AN IDEA FOR A PRESENTATION, KNOW OF SOMEONE WHO COULD SHARE ON AN ISSUE OF GENERAL INTEREST, OR WANT TO PRESENT ON A MATTER FACED BY YOUR AGENCY OR FIRM, PLEASE CONTACT RYAN GALLAGHER, OCWA VICE PRESIDENT. THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS IS ALWAYS OPEN TO INPUT.

2018 WAS A YEAR OF CONTINUED SUCCESS

LAST YEAR’S STRING OF SUCCESS WILL BE HARD TO BEAT BUT WITH OUR MEMBER’S HELP THE 2019 BOARD IS UP TO THE TASK. IN 2018 WE

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JANUARY, 2019

January Industry Insight Topic:

How to Avoid Construction Claims in Design-Bid-Build Capital Improvement Projects

Speaker: Hal G. Block

Partner, Atkinson, Andelson, Loya, Ruud & Romo, Attorneys at Law

This informative talk, illustrated with real-life examples, will offer time tested procedures to guard against claims entirely. Whether you’re involved in planning or construction, management or finance, or simply want to know how to sleep better at night, you’ll find this presentation useful in many different ways.

Wednesday, January 16, 2019

Dave & Buster’s Restaurant
Irving Spectrum Entertainment Center
11:30 am: Registration
12:00 – 1:30: Lunch & Presentation

To make reservations, please go to www.OCWater.org

Reservations must be made by EOB, Tuesday, January 15, to qualify for the Reservation Rate. Cancellations received AFTER this date CANNOT be refunded.

For more information, contact Leticia Villarreal at (714) 378-3201

Please identify yourself by name and membership number.
RSVP IS A FINANCIAL COMMITMENT. NO-SHOWS WILL BE BILLED

FOR COMPLETE INFORMATION, SEE PAGE 3 OR VISIT OCWATER.ORG
AWWA Commends Congress for including Drinking Water Protection Measures in Farm Bill

The American Water Works Association, the largest association of water professionals in the world, today applauded the U.S. Congress for passing a Farm Bill that recognizes the importance of protecting drinking water sources from nutrient runoff.

“This is truly a historic moment for source water protection,” said AWWA CEO David LaFrance. “The policy included in this Farm Bill will direct $4 billion dollars over the next ten years to conservation practices that protect sources of drinking water. AWWA offers its sincere appreciation to the Chairmen and Ranking Members of the House and Senate Agriculture Committees for their commitment to protecting our communities' sources of drinking water.

“We also must single out Subcommittee Chairman Frank Lucas, R-OK, Subcommittee Ranking Member Marcia Fudge, D-OH, and Sen. Sherrod Brown, D-OH, for all they did to advocate for the inclusion of these important policies in the final product,” LaFrance added.

Farm Bill conservation programs, along with partnerships between the U.S. Department of Agriculture, water utilities and farmers, can be key to protecting drinking water sources.

“AWWA believes the ‘downstream benefits’ and public health benefits of these conservation programs make the conservation title of the Farm Bill extremely important to all Americans who depend on clean drinking water,” said Tracy Mehan, AWWA executive director of government affairs. “We look forward to partnering with USDA to maximize the effectiveness of these programs.”

Every one of AWWA’s legislative priorities were included in the final package including:

• An emphasis on source water protection through all Farm Bill conservation programs;
• 10% of Natural Resources Conservation Service conservation funding directed toward source water protection, an incredible total of $4 billion over the next ten years;
• Authorizes water utilities to work with State technical committees in identifying priority areas in each state; and
• Additional incentives for farmers who employ practices that benefit source waters.

“AWWA began to engage in the Farm Bill process over two years ago to bring more attention to the issue of protecting sources of drinking water through conservation practices,” Mehan said. “We believe it’s important for USDA to emphasize protection of drinking water sources as part of its overall water quality and water quantity mission.”

Building on a Successful Year, OCWA Looks Confidently to the Future

Continued from Page 1

hosted some blockbuster presentations. Early in the year, Karen Igar of Mesa Water and Dave Spencer of HDR gave a well-received presentation on Assessing the Useful Life of AC Pipe. The cost-saving potential of their groundbreaking work, and the promise of extended life for existing infrastructure, proved a powerful draw. As did Deven Upadhyay, Metropolitan Water, and his analysis of why the devastating drought in South Africa differs substantially from the managed water use in play for Southern California.

In successive months, OCWD and OCSD gave us insight into their latest developments. OCWD had a trio of speakers update us on the challenges and complexities of their recent construction projects, while OCSD gave an overview of its transition to resource recovery, a promising technological challenge with a potential for tremendous payback.

The year finished with three successive presentations on issues of interest to all. West Basin’s Christiana Daisy shared on her district’s innovative means to overcome recycled water challenges, while Irvine’s Steve Malloy provided insight into the obstacles IRWD faced in developing its Michelson biosolids and energy recovery facility. And the year closed out with a look to the future, when Anaheim’s Philip Bogdanoff gave a fascinating glimpse “behind the scenes” at the City’s ambitious plan to renovate three of its aging water supply facilities.

Membership and Volunteering

If the past is prologue, you’ll definitely want to be a part of this year’s OCWA events. And the best way to ensure you are a part of all the action is through membership. With membership, you’re kept up to date on all the latest developments, though timely emails and the Association’s informative monthly newsletter. You also receive considerable savings on registrations for Association events. So if you’re not a member now, consider becoming one in 2019.

It’s a commitment to your industry; it’s an investment in yourself.

And whether you’re a member or not, we’d like to encourage you to consider volunteering to help with OCWA’s many events throughout the year. You’ll have an opportunity to socialize with others in the industry while you help contribute to a useful event. Contact any Board Member to discuss how you can help.

Thank You to Our Sponsors

Finally, no recap of the past year or preview into the next could be complete without expressing our considerable appreciation to those agencies and companies which provide support for all our activities. Their generous donations help ensure our events remain a tremendous success, year after year. For that, we extend our sincere thanks and appreciation.

Let’s all work together to make 2019 a year to remember.
Attorney Hal Block, who practices exclusively in construction law, will join us at our January presentation to provide his informed insight on how to avoid construction claims in Design-Bid-Build capital improvement projects.

Drawing on his extensive legal experience, Mr. Block will illustrate his presentation with real-life examples of project/claim litigations. In addition, he will touch on procedures that can be utilized to avoid claims entirely through the use of different methodologies of project delivery, such as design-build.

Finally, to ensure each attendee leaves with as comprehensive an understanding as possible about the construction claims topic, the staff at AALR&R will prepare a handout that will delve into these topics in greater depth than our time allot.

Plan to attend the first Industry Insight of 2019 on January 16. It promises to be extremely informative, and may help you avoid costly future disputes.

**About Our Speaker**

Mr. Block practices exclusively all aspects of construction law, including litigation and transactional contract issues, with particular emphasis on the representation of developers, institutional clients, contractors, suppliers, and design professionals. He has handled in excess of 2,400 construction disputes and has drafted/negotiated over 1,000 contracts and general conditions.

He holds a professional degree in architecture from the Illinois Institute of Technology and worked as an architect in Chicago for five years before obtaining his law degree in 1982.

**Honors & Recognitions**

Mr. Block has a Preeminent AV rating with Martindale-Hubbell. In February, 1997, he was awarded the CASH (Coalition for Adequate School Housing) Service Award for his pro bono work in drafting a new set of General Conditions to be utilized in all future school construction in the State of California.

Additionally, he has received multiple Spirit awards from the Orange County JCC for his work as the chairman of multiple celebrity charity poker tournaments that raised money for scholarships.

**Events & Speaking Engagements**

Mr. Block is a frequent guest speaker and teacher for professional and trade organizations, nationally and internationally, and has been a guest lecturer for the graduate construction management programs at UCLA and IIT College of Architecture in the areas of construction and insurance law.

**Publications**

Mr. Block served as Insurance Law Editor, 1985-88 and Co-Editor in Chief, 1988-89, Law Practice Notes, *Barrister Magazine*, and has written legal columns for the Orange County AIA and for the Orange County chapter of the CSI. He has authored numerous articles and treatises, including the following:


**Community & Professional Associations**

- Orange County Bar Association, Member
- American Bar Associations (Member: Forum Committee on the Construction Industry; Torts and Insurance Practice Section and Public Contract Law Section)
- American Institute of Architects, Associate
- Construction Specifications Institute, Professional Member
- Coalition for Adequate School Housing (CASH), Member

**Wednesday, January 16, 2019**

Dave & Buster’s Restaurant  •  Irvine Spectrum Entertainment Center

11:30 am: Registration  •  12:00 – 1:30: Lunch & Presentation

| OCWA Members with Reservations | $30 | Non-Members with Reservations | $45 |
| OCWA Members without Reservations | $45 | Non-Members without Reservations | $45 |

Reservations must be made by EOB, Tuesday, January 15, to qualify for the Reservation Rate. Cancellations received AFTER this date CANNOT be refunded.

To make reservations, please go to the OCWA website: [www.ocwater.org](http://www.ocwater.org)

For more information, contact Leticia Villarreal at (714) 378-3201

Please identify yourself by name and membership number.

RSVP IS A FINANCIAL COMMITMENT. NO-SHOWS WILL BE BILLED
The 61st Annual OCWA Holiday Party was a memorable evening of elegance and excitement. From tasteful table settings to high stakes gaming tables, everything was geared for unforgettable joy. And our venue – the Marconi Automotive Museum – decked out in holiday splendor, proved a wonderful backdrop for the festivities.

Throughout the evening, guests were delighted to wander through an amazing display of classic automotive excellence – everything from exotic racing cars to rare luxury sedans, muscle machines to limited production prototypes. For those who appreciate cars or craftsmanship, or who just admire the beauty of fine engineering, it was a rewarding experience.

We were fortunate this year to have Chelsea Gentry, a local college photography student, join us to take special holiday photos of our guests. These photos can be viewed and downloaded from the Holiday Party Photos section of our website. In addition, candid photos from the evening are also available to view and download in the Holiday Festivities Photos section.

After a sumptuous meal prepared by White House Catering, guests hit the gaming tables to test their luck and skills. A special treat for the evening, however, were Slot Car races on a classic track, complete with computerized scoring. Many guests were heard to declare it took them back to their youth, as the excited look on so many faces would attest.

We were blessed this year to have a wide array of Sponsors. With their support, a great many prizes were awarded to the raffle winners, with prizes varying from an Oculus Go to a Ring security system, along with plenty of holiday cheer. For a complete listing of this year’s sponsors, please visit the Holiday Party Sponsors section of our website.

Gifts for our guests weren’t the only presents distributed. Through the generosity of the attendees, dozens of toys were collected for the Marconi Foundation to distribute to disadvantaged children throughout the county. The Orange County Water Association is very grateful to all our guests for their generous support in this worthy endeavor.

We were happy to see so many new faces at this year’s event. After enjoying an evening of merriment with us, we hope many of you will join OCWA, to take advantage of the many networking and educational opportunities our Association offers.

With wishes for all for a happy and prosperous New Year, we hope to see you again at next year’s Holiday Party!

Visit the OCWA webpage to view or download dozens of photos from the 2018 Holiday Party.
Orange County Water Association
61st Annual Holiday Party

Our Sincere Thanks to
OUR GENEROUS SPONSORS
ARE YOU INVOLVED IN THE WATER INDUSTRY IN ORANGE COUNTY?
If yes, then consider becoming a member of the Orange County Water Association (OCWA).

OCWA mission is to foster advancement in the Water Works Industry, set high standards for potable water, exchange ideas and work for standard policies and procedures of mutual help during water emergencies, disseminate information for the education of the general public in the use of water and its value to civilization and aid in water research.

ORANGE COUNTY WATER ASSOCIATION BY THE NUMBERS

| OVER 230 MEMBERS | 120+ Companies Represented | SAVE $100+/yr with membership event discounts | 50+ YEARS OF SERVICE TO ORANGE COUNTY |

AS A MEMBER OF OCWA YOU WILL RECEIVE THE FOLLOWING BENEFITS

Build Your Network
- **Monthly Meetings:** Reduced fees for our monthly meetings which provide an opportunity to hear from local leaders on new and innovative projects, and meet other local water industry professionals.
- **Annual Holiday Party:** The annual holiday party brings together over 200+ members and guests.
- **Annual Golf Tournament:** This member only event draws 100+ water professionals. The event features prizes and a non-scrum format.
- **Expand Your Contacts:** Members gain access to OCWA’s vast member directory.

Advance Your Career
- **Board Positions:** Earn a position on the Board to gain leadership.
- **Gain Visibility:** Gain opportunities to present your agency/company’s projects or programs to our local network.
- **Committee Positions:** As a member, consider joining one of various committees.

Education and Training Opportunities
- **Monthly Newsletter:** Jobs, projects, local water news, regulatory and legislative updates each month.
- **Safetyfest:** Earn CEUs from State approved training sessions.
- **Annual BBQ:** This Operator Training Event, offers CEUs, over 20 vendor exhibitions, and a Pipe Tapping Contest.

To join OCWA visit our website at: [ocwater.org/join-us](http://ocwater.org/join-us)
Orange County is loaded with influencers, from people who are determined to end homelessness to billionaire philanthropists and perhaps the best two-way baseball player since Babe Ruth. The Orange County Register again has selected the 100 Most Influential People in Orange County, and some of the choices will be exactly who you’d expect. Others, however, are guaranteed to surprise and maybe even delight.

The list this year included professional athletes such as Angel’s pitcher Shohei Ohtani, NFL quarterback Sam Darnold, and Olympian Chloe Kim. Other notables included Wahoo’s Founder Ed Lee, artist Robert Wyland, former CIA director and Secretary of State Mike Pompeo, Angel’s owner Artie Moreno and the first female commander of a ground combat team in the largest and most decorated division in the Marine Corps, Lt. Col. Michelle Macander among many others.

Orange County Water District General Manager Michael Markus and Executive Director of Engineering Kennedy have helped lead a pioneering project that has turned an unprecedented amount of wastewater into drinking water. After being highly purified to potable levels, it is used to replenish the central county groundwater basin. Guinness declared the 1 million gallons produced by the plant on February 16 to be a world record for a 24-hour period.

The newspaper commended Mr. Shintaku for shepherding a desalination plant north of Doheny State Beach. The project has avoided most of the environmental opposition other projects have faced. Desalted water could be flowing from taps by the end of 2021.

Read the entire article here: 100 Most Influential People in Orange County.