Building on a year of exceptionally well-received presentations, the Orange County Water Association will close 2019 with two more informative Industry Insight events. And the 2020 schedule is shaping up even stronger, with a January event that will address PFAS, one of the most critical issues to confront the water industry in many years.

2019 Finishes Strong, 2020 Promises More

October’s talk will explore the many challenges and pitfalls encountered in the effort to get the Final Environmental Impact Report approved for the proposed Doheny Ocean Desalination Project. South Coast Water District’s Chief Engineer, Marc Serna, will provide an overview of the EIR process and discuss the critical next steps for the Project. Seats are filling fast, so make your reservations now. You won’t want to miss this.

In November Anaheim Public Utilities’ new Water Engineering Manager, Craig Parker, will update us on developments with Anaheim’s Master Plan and show how this ambitious project is renovating the City’s water system. Further details will be available in the next few weeks, but plan to attend as earlier updates on this topic have been very well received.

And don’t miss the January 2020 Industry Insight, for it promises to be one of the more important topics in many years. Jason Dadakis, Executive Director, Water Quality & Technical Resources for OCWD, will join us to discuss the emerging issues with “forever chemicals,” the nearly 5,000 substances in the PFAS class (perfluoralkyl and polyfluoroalkyl). These toxic chemicals, linked to a host of health issues, are currently being studied at both the State and Federal level and a determination is expected before the end of the year as to how they will be classified. As head of the first public agency laboratory in California to be certified to analyze PFAS in drinking water, Mr Dadakis’ insight will be a critical voice in the coming discussions.

A Memorable Year So Far

OCWA has hosted some blockbuster presentations this year, as evidenced by how attendance is up considerably over previous years.

The year began with an insightful legal look at Avoiding Construction Claims in Design-Bid-Build by attorney Hal Block. His expertise provided many key points to spare developers from legal jeopardy, while simultaneously ensuring project success. A panel discussion followed in February on the thought and planning that went into Buena Park’s Rosecrans Booster Pump Revitalization, an ambitious project which may ultimately have an impact on numerous other projects throughout the County.

In March, OCWD’s Sandy Scott-Roberts provided up-to-date information on the development of the GWRS’ Final Expansion Project. This massive upgrade will increase the system’s capacity to over 130 million gallons per day.

April saw Rosanne Weston, Yorba Linda Water District’s Engineering Manager, join us to discuss the new Fairmont Booster Pump Station. This remarkable overhaul, which provided the City the capacity to serve its...

Continued on Page 2

Save the Date!
Annual Holiday Party
December 6, 2019
Details on Page 7!
This year, our annual training event got off to a stellar start with a brand new name. The Operator Expo had everything the Orange County water community has come to expect from OCWA, though this year with added emphasis on the Operators who make all our systems flow smoothly. Everyone had a great time as they earned Certified CE training units, viewed and interacted with dozens of vendors, and enjoyed watching or participating in some very spirited competitions. Pictures of the day’s events are available for viewing here.

Special thanks are due to the many Sponsors and Exhibitors who participated in this year’s event. All their names are listed here. Without the generous support of our Sponsors, and the dedicated attention of the Exhibitors, our event would have been nowhere near the success we all enjoyed. We are especially indebted to Irvine Ranch Water District, for generously hosting our event at Rattlesnake Reservoir.

There was lot to learn and even more fun to be had at this year’s annual event. We had some 200 operators, representing 21 water agencies (both water districts and city water utilities) attend the event, and the training sessions were well attended. Each participant earned 1 contact hour for each training session attended.

In the first hour, Blair Schuler of American Flow Control, led the group through a comprehensive look at Resilient Wedge Gate Valve Operation and Uses. Beginning with an overview of the applications and operation, Schuler introduced the standards under which these valves are designed and built, the construction and functionality of each component, as well as the ‘why’ for each standard and the rationale behind the guidelines. As operators encounter a multitude of valves in the field, this topic is critically important since a strong working knowledge of their operation and use helps them understand the water system in greater detail. In addition, it helps today’s worker better understand the maintenance needs of an older infrastructure.

This presentation was followed by a discussion led by Kevin Keeling, Project Manager at ValveTek Utility Services, Inc., led attendees in a presentation on NO-DES Water Main Flushing, an alternative method for flushing potable water main pipelines, including an operational zero discharge water flushing process.

NO-DES, which stands for Neutral Output Discharge Elimination System, is the only water main flushing technology available to the industry that discharges no water to waste during operation, achieves bio-film scouring velocities of 5 ft/sec in mains 12” and under, and filters out debris and sediment down to below 1 Absolute micron, all while it analyzes water flow rate and turbidity during flushing. It’s a drought resilient, environmentally-friendly flushing practice.

Keeling explained in detail how the technology functions primarily through its use of filters. Utilizing a variable speed water pump to scour pipes, and multiple filter chambers to whisk water through to remove sand, sediment, or any other debris that may be inside the system. This system can clean distribution water mains, clear and pass mains failing BACT tests, GAC backwashing, reservoir and tank clean outs, and provide water quality emergency response solutions.

We were very fortunate to have Huntington Beach Utilities Division agree to bring their NO-DES truck to the Expo, so attendees could both see it and ask questions of those who actually work the system. Throughout the day, many people were heard to express their appreciation for the opportunity to see the technology up close, and how pleased they were to hear the positive comments from the Huntington Beach operators.

The Pipe Tapping Contest took on a new dimension this year,
In June 2019, the South Coast Water District Board of Directors approved the Final Environmental Impact Report for the proposed Doheny Ocean Desalination Project, to be located in Dana Point. The Doheny Ocean Desalination Project would provide high quality, locally controlled and drought-proof water supply while protecting the environment. Currently, South Coast Water District imports 85 to 100 percent of its drinking water, leading to vulnerability during droughts, supply shortages, and – potentially – following natural disasters.

Unlike traditional ocean desalination facilities, the Doheny facility is ideally situated to take advantage of advanced slant well technology for intake of ocean water. This will protect marine life by drawing water from beneath the ocean floor.

This month’s Industry Insight presentation will provide an overview of the path that lead to approval of the Project FEIR and discuss critical next steps being taken to move the Project forward towards full-scale implementation, with an anticipated DBO delivery approach.

Plan now to attend. As one of the largest, and potentially one of the more critical projects ongoing in the County today, this presentation will explore some of the most important issues facing us all.

About Our Speaker
Marc Serna has over 29 years of experience in the water resources industry including water resource management, engineering design, construction, and design-build delivery. He has been responsible for managing both engineering and operations, along with development and implementation of major Capital Improvement Programs, and large-scale indirect potable reuse, recycled water, potable water, wastewater, and ocean desalination projects.

Mr. Serna has Bachelors and Masters Degrees in Civil Engineering, is a Registered Professional Engineer, and a California Grade 4 Water Treatment Plant Operator.

Wednesday, October 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, October 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

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
continued page 1...

sponsors opportunities for monthly ocwa presentation

would your company like to sponsor one of our monthly industry insight presentations? sponsorships are available for $250, and sponsors must be a current ocwa member. a table is made available at the meeting for the sponsor to display their company or agency information, and the sponsor receives two free lunches. sponsors will be provided announcement space in the newsletter and will be verbally recognized before and after the luncheon.

if you are interested in participating, please contact ryan gallagher, (805) 298-3380, or you may email him at rgallagher@gfnet.com.

ocwa presentations have a growing appeal

industrial insight presentations – and you!

plans are pending on a continuing series of informative industry insights throughout 2020. 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. we’ll keep everyone abreast 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.

membership and volunteering

if the past is prologue, you’ll definitely want to be a part of the coming 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, through 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, consider becoming one. 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 this year, and 2020, years to remember.

a benefit for many

in answer to those who’ve wondered what happens with the excess food from the lunch buffet, the association, in coordination with dave & busters, packages the leftovers and delivers them to various food banks. in this way, nothing goes to waste, and the benefits of our monthly gathering ripple across the greater community in unexpected ways.

attendance continues to grow

the marked increase in the quality of our presentations has not gone unnoticed by the orange county water community. attendance has been steadily rising the past five years. from an average of 45 attendees each month in 2015, the number has grown steadily to 67 a month in 2018, and 73 a month so far this year. also, in 2019 we’ve had two events draw over 90 attendees, while mr thompson’s presentation in august fell one short of 100.

ocwa’s industry insight events are a proven crowd pleaser, a monthly reminder of the value our association provides to the local water community.

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with the introduction of historical records to challenge the teams to compete both against each other and to earn a place with the rankings of the past. Once again, this year’s competition was a spirited, exciting event.

The winning team, City of Santa Ana #1: “West Coast Tappers,” captured first place with a remarkable time of 1:24. Coming in second was City of Huntington Beach #1: “Surf City Tappers,” who clocked in at 1:39. Third Place went to the team from Los Angeles Department of Water & Power, “L.A. Tappers,” with a time of 1:40, while the City of Anaheim: “Tapping Monkeys,” finished fourth with a time of 1:55. Rounding out the bracket were two teams from Irvine Ranch Water District.

Santa Ana’s time moved them into second place on the all time rankings, while Huntington Beach’s score put them in sixth place for all time.

Special thanks to Boyd Schultz with Laguna Beach County Water District and Barry Crawford of the Palmdale Water District, a judge with the California-Nevada Competition, who organized and ran the Pipe Tapping Contest. They were ably assisted by Robert Aranda, from LBCWD. The scorekeeper for the event was Boris Paspalof with Palmdale Water District. Set up for the event was done the day before by crews from both IRWD and LBCWD, while cleanup during the event was ably handled by Gonzalo Garcia of LBCWD and a crew from Yorba Linda Water District. Afterwards, teams from the City of Santa Ana, Laguna Beach County Water District, Yorba Linda Water District, and Palmdale Water District assisted with dismantling and the final cleanup of the event.

In the morning’s other event, the Horseshoe Competition, there was a marked increase in participation, made all the more interesting by the addition of a women’s contest. Ably organized and run by Fred Ojeda, Jeremy Smith, and Anthony Varian from Yorba Linda Water District, the spirited event was a real crowd pleaser, with many close matches. On the men’s side, first place was taken by Nick Isbell and Jeremy Smith from Yorba Linda Water District, while the team of Jeremy Scott and Dean Escobedo from Serrano Water District came in a close second. For the women, Meredith Church and Brynn McCulloch from Leighton Group took first place, and Jaqueline Segura and Keri Hollon from Yorba Linda Water District finished in second.

The morning’s educational sessions and competitions were capped off with a delicious lunch catered by Blake’s Place of Anaheim, followed by an opportunity drawing with a great range of prizes donated by the sponsors and vendors, everything from a tool bags to wrenches, bluetooth speakers to gift cards.

All agreed it was a great day of education and competition, and everyone left looking forward to next year’s event. Should you have suggestions for next year’s event, contact the OCWA Board. We look forward to hearing from you.
Water Professionals Appreciation Week, October 5-13

California’s third annual Water Professionals Appreciation Week will kick off this week, highlighting the important role of water industry professionals and local public water agencies in ensuring safe and reliable water, wastewater, and recycled water in California.

As part of the designated week, local urban and agricultural water agencies are encouraged to organize programs and events that educate California water customers, local elected leaders, state and federal legislators, and other key audiences on the value of water and wastewater services and the important role that water professionals play in providing these services. It is also an opportunity to showcase careers in the water industry.

ACWA is encouraging members to participate in Water Professionals Appreciation Week through activities that highlight the important role the agency plays in ensuring safe and reliable water, wastewater, and recycled water in your community.

ACWA has developed a toolkit with a number of documents, graphics and social media posts for members to utilize.

Background Information

Appreciation Week was established by Senate Concurrent Resolution (SCR) 80, approved by the Legislature in 2017.

Under SCR 80, Water Professionals Appreciation Week begins on the first Saturday of October and ends on the Sunday of the following weekend each year. This timeframe was specifically chosen to allow for two available weekends to host related activities and events. This year’s Water Professionals Appreciation Week runs from October 5 to 13.

Interested in Participating in OCWA?

Many Volunteer Opportunities are Available

Looking for a way to give back to your professional community, meet new people within the industry, and contribute — in a meaningful way — to the mission and goals of the Orange County Water Association? Your help is wanted in a variety of posts. We need social support for the summer Golf Tournament and winter Holiday Party, and professional assistance with SafetyFest and our Operator Training events.

It’s an exciting, fun way to expand your contacts, gain visibility within the profession, and find rewarding benefit in helping others. Talk to one of the officers or members of our Board, or the chair of the committee you’d like to assist. Contact information is on Page 10, or visit our website, www.OCWater.org.

OCWA’s Operator Training, Product Exhibition & Team Competition Event

Thank You to Our 2019 Sponsors & Exhibitors

This year’s OCWA Operator Expo had ten Sponsors and twenty-two Exhibitors. OCWA would like to thank our Sponsors for their generous support, and the Vendors for coming out to share their expertise. Without their support and assistance, our event would not have been the great success it was:

Leighton  ✦  Pacific Coast Bolt Corp.  ✦  Trenton
City of Anaheim  ✦  Ford Meter Box  ✦  Irvine Ranch Water District
L.A. Department of Water & Power  ✦  Mueller Systems
Romac Industries, Inc.  ✦  United Water Works

As successful as our event was this year, it was our Exhibitors who made the day so very valuable for all attendees. We would like to extend our appreciation to the following, and hope they will all choose to join us again in 2019:

A.Y. McDonald Manufacturing  ✦  American Flow Control  ✦  Aqua Metric Sales Co.
BEST Meter  ✦  CLA-VAL (Griswold Ind.)  ✦  Core & Main  ✦  Corrpro  ✦  Dangelo Co.
Delco Sales  ✦  DN Tanks  ✦  Ferguson Waterworks  ✦  Golden Meter Service, Inc.
GSM  ✦  Mainline Sales, Inc  ✦  Municipal Maintenance  ✦  Pacific Coast Bolt Corp.
Pacific Pipeline Supply  ✦  Pres Tech Equipment  ✦  Romac Industries, Inc.
Trenton  ✦  Tripac  ✦  United Water Works, Inc.
Bring an Unwrapped Toy Donation for the Marconi Foundation for Kids and Receive a Free Raffle Ticket!

62nd Annual Orange County Water Association
Christmas & Holiday Party

Friday, December 6, 2019

6:00 Cocktails  ❆  7:30 Dinner  ❆  Casino Night ‘til 11:00

Marconi Automotive Museum
1302 Industrial Drive  ❆  Tustin

Table of 10 for $800/Individual Tickets $90
Make Your Reservations Now!
Seating is limited and tables will fill quick!

Register for Individual Tickets at: www.ocwater.org
Table Reservations: BYoung@etwd.com
Make checks payable to OCWA and mail them to:
P.O. Box 51404  ❆  Irvine, California 92619-1404

Sponsorships Available

Checkered Flag - $2,500 or more
1 Table for 10, Prominent Logo Displays, 3 Sponsor Provided Slides Rolling During Event, and Slot Car Sponsorship!

Team Owner - $1,500 or more
1 Table for 10, Prominent Logo Displays, 1 Sponsor Provided Slide Rolling During Event!

Pit Crew - $500 or more
Part of Group Logo Display

Contact Bobby Young at BYoung@etwd.com for sponsorship info.
Sponsorships received by November 20, 2019 will be displayed on our website and on event announcements.

Save the Date!
Sponsorship Opportunities!

62nd Annual Christmas & Holiday Party

Friday, December 6, 2019

6:00 Cocktails  ❆  7:30 Dinner
Casino Night & Slot Cars ‘til 11:00

We’re returning to the extraordinary venue we had such fun at the last few years!

Marconi Automotive Museum
1302 Industrial Drive  ❆  Tustin

Vintage cars, luxurious decor, fabulous food, and of course, everyone’s favorite: Slot Cars!

Additional Tables of 10 are available for $800
Individual Tickets are available for $90
Seating is Limited and will go fast!

Those who bring an unwrapped toy donation will receive a Free Raffle Ticket!
Donated toys will be distributed by the Marconi Foundation for Kids

For Sponsorship Opportunities, contact Bobby Young at byoung@etwd.com

Sponsorships received by October 18, 2019 will be displayed on both our website and on event announcements

For Additional Information, visit www.ocwater.org

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO OCWA AT P.O. BOX 51404, IRVINE, CALIFORNIA 92619-1404
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-scramble 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
Water Year 2020 Begins with Robust Reservoir Storage

California began a new water year the first of this month with significantly more water in storage than the previous year thanks to above-average snow and precipitation.

Lake Oroville, the State Water Project’s (SWP) largest reservoir, is currently at 102% of average for the date compared to just 62% of average at this time last year. Shasta Lake, the Central Valley Project’s (CVP) largest reservoir, is at 126% of average compared to 88% of average last year. San Luis Reservoir, the largest off-stream reservoir in the United States where water is stored for the SWP and CVP, is at 132% of average compared to 117% of average last year. In Southern California, SWP’s Castaic Lake is at 112% of average compared to 108% last year.

“The significant rainfall and snowpack made for a great water year in 2019, so we start the new year in a good place,” said Department of Water Resources (DWR) Director Karla Nemeth. “However, we all know too well that California’s weather and precipitation is highly variable. What we could have today could be gone tomorrow. Conserve. Recycle. Recharge. People and the environment depend on it.”

Water Year 2019 highlights include:

- There were more than 30 atmospheric rivers with many making landfall in northern California.
- The state’s snowpack on April 1 was 175% of average.
- Statewide reservoir storage is 128% of average through the end of September which is approximately 29.7 million acre-feet.
- The water year runs from October 1 to September 30. Rainfall and snow amounts help determine annual allocations for the State Water Project. State Water Project contractors received 75% of requested supplies this year, up from an initial allocation of 10% due to above-average precipitation.
- For more information, visit DWR’s California Data Exchange Center website which shows current water conditions at the state’s largest reservoirs and weather stations in addition to measures of current rain and snow precipitation.

Volunteers Needed to Help with 2020 Children’s Water Festival

Approximately 7,000 third, fourth and fifth grade Orange County students will be registered to attend the Children’s Water Education Festival on March 25 and 26, 2020. The Festival is a popular and unique outdoor classroom experience to learn about local water issues and the environment through hands-on educational activities on the grounds of the University of California, Irvine. With your help, we might be able to accommodate even more!

To sponsor, contact Crystal Nettles at (714) 378-3202 or cnettles@ocwd.com. For additional information visit www.childrenswaterfestival.com.

It is more important than ever to teach children that they can be responsible by making “blue” and “green” choices to help protect precious water resources and the environment. Your investment in today’s youth is an investment in our future!