

National Water Research Institute

October 2007 E-Newsletter

NWRI Co-Founder Receives 2007 Coastal Protection Award

Mrs. Joan Irvine Smith, co-founder of NWRI, was presented with the 2007 Coastal Protection Award from the Orange County Coastkeeper at the Seventh Annual "Toast the Coast" gala on September 29, 2007, in Newport Beach, California.

A philanthropist and longtime environmental advocate, Mrs. Smith is the great granddaughter of James Irvine, an immigrant who formed the Irvine Ranch from 120,000 acres of land in what is now Orange County, California. She spent much of her childhood on the ranch with her grandfather, James Irvine II, who would take her along to inspect his wells, dams, and lakes. It was he who taught her the importance of water, pointing out that the land was a desert and needed water to produce the crops he grew.

Mrs. Smith co-founded NWRI in 1991 along with her mother, Athalie Richardson Irvine Clarke, and continues to support NWRI through the Joan Irvine Smith & Athalie R. Clarke Foundation. For these efforts and more, she was selected as the Coastal Protection Award honoree for her lifelong dedication to water supply and water quality issues in Orange County. In addition, she also received a Congressional Certificate of Recognition from Congresswoman Loretta Sanchez (D-California) commemorating the occasion.

Coastkeeper is devoted to protecting and preserving the marine habitats and watersheds of Orange County, California. The "Toast the Coast" gala helps support Coastkeeper through fundraising auctions, as well as honors local environmental visionaries.

SCSC's Fall Newsletter Is Available Online

The Southern California Salinity Coalition (SCSC) has released its Fall 2007 newsletter, which highlights the first recipient of the SCSC fellowship – a student from the University of California, Los Angeles, who is developing fouling- and scaling-resistant reverse osmosis/nanofiltration membranes – and SCSC's plans to hold a Salinity Seminar Series to raise awareness among stakeholders on salinity issues in Southern California. The newsletter is available online at www.socalsalinity.org/Newsletter.

SCSC was founded in 2002 by a group of Southern California water and wastewater agencies to better manage salinity in our water supplies. SCSC's member agencies include the Eastern Municipal Water District, Inland Empire Utilities Agency, Irvine Ranch Water District, Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, Orange County Sanitation District, Orange County Water District, San Diego County Water Authority, Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County, Santa Ana Project Watershed Authority, and West Basin Municipal Water District. NWRI administers the SCSC on behalf of its members.

To be added to SCSC's mailing list for printed newsletters, please email your contact information to Christina Fuller at NWRI at cfuller@nwri-usa.org.

Upcoming Events

Sixth International Symposium on Managed Aquifer Recharge, Oct. 28-Nov.

2

The Sixth International Symposium on Managed Aquifer Recharge (ISMAR6) will be held October 28 to November 2, 2007, in Phoenix, AZ. Devoted entirely to aquifer recharge, the symposium is organized by the Arizona Hydrological Society (AHS) in cooperation with NWRI, the International Association of Hydrogeologists, American Society of Civil Engineers, and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization.

The symposium will feature over 100 technical presentations and fields trips to Phoenix-area recharge sites. Optional pre-conference workshops are also available, with topics including surface and well recharge methods, field methods for recharge sites, geochemical techniques in MAR studies, and the design of recharge and recovery wells. For more information, please visit www.ismar2007.org.

SCMA Annual Conference & Membership Meeting, Oct. 31-Nov. 2

Make plans to attend SCMA's Annual Conference & Membership Meeting, focusing on "Operational Issues in Membrane Plants," on October 31-November 2, 2007, at the Radisson Hill Country in San Antonio, Texas. The event includes training tracks specifically for operators and engineers/managers.

All registrants will tour the Bexar Metropolitan Ultrafiltration Treatment Plant, and operators will participate in hands-on training at the plant. Sessions will focus on optimizing membrane plants, data-based management, improving efficiencies, and much more. For more information, please visit www.scmembrane.org.

AMTA Technology Transfer Workshop, Dec. 12-13

The American membrane Technology Association (AMTA) is holding a Technology Transfer Workshop on December 12-13, 2007, in Honolulu, Hawaii, that will focus on "Membrane Applications Respond to Islanders' Needs." Topics will include membrane principles, treatment and equipment, case studies and research, and membrane advancements.

Continuing education credits will be available. For more information, please visit www.amtaorg.com.

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