

HYDROVISIONS



GROUNDWATER RESOURCES ASSOCIATION
OF CALIFORNIA



Volume 1, No. 1

Spring 1992

Douglas Wheeler to be Keynote Speaker

GRA March 11 Meeting

GRA is honored to announce that Douglas Wheeler, Secretary of the Resources Agency, will be the keynote speaker at our premier organizational dinner meeting in the Sacramento area on March 11. Mr. Wheeler, who was appointed by Governor Pete Wilson to serve on the Governor's Advisory Task Force on Water Policy, will speak on the new California Water Policy and its effect on groundwater-related issues.

Governor Wilson named Mr. Wheeler, a longtime leader in the field of conservation and former Executive Director of the Sierra Club, California's seventh Secretary for Resources on December 26, 1990; he was sworn into office on January 7, 1991. As administrative head of the Resources Agency, Mr. Wheeler is responsible for the State's activities relating to the management, preservation and enhancement of its natural resources including land, wildlife, water and minerals.

The Resources Agency, created in 1961, oversees and coordinates the activities and functions of 15 State departments, boards, commissions, and conservancies that include the Departments of Fish and Game, Forestry and Fire Protection, Parks and Recreation, Water Resources, and the California Coastal Commission.

The dinner meeting will be held at the Red Lion Hotel on Point West Way in Sacramento on Wednesday, March 11, 1992. Non-members are welcome. Reservations are requested by March 9; please call Sue DeMers or Tina Lassiter at (916) 372-1434 for information.

the development of alternative technologies and standardization of methods — all as related to the assessment, development, protection and management of California's groundwater resources.

Recognizing that groundwater protection includes the identification, assessment, and remediation of contaminated properties, GRA also will focus on the technical and legal aspects of environmental site assessments and remediation of contaminated soil and groundwater.

GRA Logo

After providing a handfull of roughly sketched logo ideas, and with a design objective of portraying groundwater as a vital component of the hydrologic cycle, graphic designer Janie McGinn, proprietor of DrawingBoard Studios in Sacramento, produced our final logo. Janie did an outstanding job of producing the GRA logo that is now incorporated on our letterhead and envelopes. Janie's design efforts didn't stop there; the logo is also carried through in the nameplate of GRA's newsletter HYDROVISIONS.

Directors/Officers

There are currently four members on GRA's Board of Directors: Vicki Kretsinger of Luhdorff and Scalmanini, Consulting Engineers; Anthony Saracino of Wallace • Kuhl & Associates, Inc.; Tony Ward of Geraghty and Miller, Inc.; and Paul Dorey of Vista Irrigation District. At

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Organizing the Future of GRA

The Groundwater Resources Association of California (GRA) is barely two months "new" but has already gained statewide and national recognition as a technical association for professionals directly or peripherally involved with activities related to groundwater resources. We already have over 100 members and overwhelming enthusiasm for the new Association has been expressed by others who are not yet official members.

GRA has obtained official corporation status with the Secretary of State, adopted and ratified association Bylaws, and filed for nonprofit public benefit status.

GRA Name

Some of you may have noticed that we have changed the name of the Association since the initial membership announcement to avoid confusion between the California Groundwater Association (CGA) and GRA. The name Groundwater Resources Association of California was selected over several other names to convey the objectives of the Association, which include professional development of GRA's members, providing technical assistance to those developing statewide policy and standards, dissemination of scientific education programs, facilitating

**Premier
Issue!!**



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the first Board of Directors' meeting, the Board elected Vicki Kretsinger as President and Anthony Saracino as Vice-President. Mr. Saracino has also accepted the position of Secretary/Treasurer, pro-tem, until a candidate can be elected to that office. For administrative ease during GRA's early development, the Board is seeking interested candidates primarily from the Sacramento area.

Branches

GRA will represent all counties of the State with active branches initially located in the Sacramento, San Francisco Bay, South San Joaquin Valley and Southern areas of the State. Branches that will be activated, as members in these areas become interested, include the North Coast, North-Central, North San Joaquin Valley, Central Coast and South Lahontan areas. See the map on this page for general branch territories.

Local branches are now planning organizational meetings and are establishing structure at the local level. We are encouraging member participation. If you can help, please call one of the following Organizing Committee members:

Sacramento:

John Phillips of Environmental Geotechnical Consultants
(916) 925-4789

San Francisco Bay:

Scott Warner of Geomatrix Consultants
(415) 434-9400

South San Joaquin Valley:

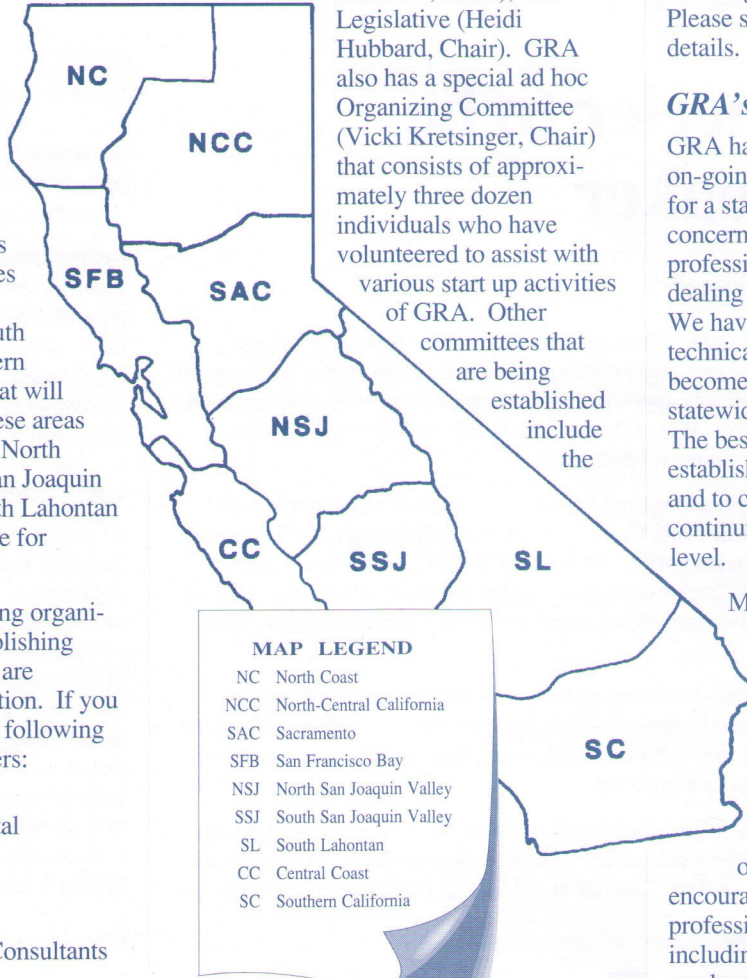
Bryan Hurst of Pacific Associates
(805) 324-7768

Southern California:

Tony Ward of Geraghty and Miller, Inc.
(818) 965-4048.

Committees

GRA is in the process of establishing eleven standing committees. Committees established to date include Membership (Margie Namba, Chair), Newsletter (David Von Aspern, Chair), Liaison (Gene Luhdorff, Chair), and Legislative (Heidi Hubbard, Chair). GRA also has a special ad hoc Organizing Committee (Vicki Kretsinger, Chair) that consists of approximately three dozen individuals who have volunteered to assist with various start up activities of GRA. Other committees that are being established include the



MAP LEGEND

- NC North Coast
- NCC North-Central California
- SAC Sacramento
- SFB San Francisco Bay
- NSJ North San Joaquin Valley
- SSJ South San Joaquin Valley
- SL South Lahontan
- CC Central Coast
- SC Southern California

Education/Seminars, Bylaws, Finance, Scholarship, Environmental Site Assessment, Groundwater Quality and Management, and Annual Meeting Committees.

Activities

In addition to planning branch organizational meetings, GRA has scheduled two one-day seminars on "Testing and Modeling Low Yield Aquifers" that will be held in early June in the Los Angeles and San Francisco areas. Please see page 3 of this issue for seminar details.

GRA's Charter Year

GRA has been developed in response to on-going discussions that indicated a need for a statewide organization to address the concerns and interests of groundwater professionals and other professionals dealing with groundwater-related matters. We have recognized a strong desire by the technical professionals in California to become better informed regarding statewide and local groundwater issues. The best way to achieve this will be to establish solid structure at the branch level and to coordinate all programs and provide continuity among the branches at the State level.

Member participation will be a key to GRA's success. Voluntary member involvement and support of GRA's activities and committees will strengthen GRA and will result in accomplishments that we can be proud of as a State groundwater organization. A primary goal of GRA throughout its development will be to encourage balanced participation by professionals from a variety of areas, including private firms, contractor firms, academic, and government.

The Directors welcome your involvement as we look forward to a productive and highly successful charter year.

HYDROVISIONS is the official publication of the Groundwater Resources Association of California (GRA). GRA's mailing address is P.O. Box 355, Davis, California 95617-0355. Any questions or comments concerning the contents of this publication should be directed to the newsletter editor.

- DIRECTORS**
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 - Anthony Saracino
Wallace Kuhl & Associates, Inc.
(916) 372-1434
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- EXECUTIVE OFFICERS**
- President, Vicki Kretsinger
 - Vice President, Anthony Saracino
 - Secretary/Treasurer, pro-tem, Anthony Saracino

- NEWSLETTER EDITOR**
- David Von Aspern (916) 372-1434



The First GRA Seminar Scheduled

Testing and Modeling Low Yield Aquifers

GRA will conduct a one-day seminar on testing and modeling low yield aquifers. The course will be held in the greater Los Angeles area on June 2 and in the greater San Francisco Bay area on June 4. The major topics to be included in the seminar are pre-aquifer test design consideration, methods for analyzing existing site data, pumping test analysis considerations (including review of conventional analyses, casing storage effects, unconfined aquifers and special low yield considerations), capture zone analysis (including determination of capture zones, well spacing, 3-D effects and reinjection), and groundwater modeling techniques, including discussions of analytical and

numerical models to analyze groundwater problems.

The course instructors will be Dave Schafer, a Principal Scientist of Geraghty & Miller, Inc. and William Hutchison, a Principal Hydrologist with Luhdorff & Scalmanini, Consulting Engineers. The course fees (if enrolled by April 30, 1992) are \$135 for GRA members and \$175 for non-members. Course fees after April 30th are \$160 for GRA members and \$200 for non-members. To enroll, or for further information, please call Sue DeMers or Tina Lassiter at (916) 372-1434.

REGULATORY NEWS

Task Force to Study Dry Cleaners

In response to the discharge of perchloroethylene (PCE) to the sewers by three dry cleaning facilities in Turlock, California, and the subsequent leakage of PCE from the sewers to groundwater, the California RWQCB Central Valley Region adopted a resolution requesting the State Board to sponsor legislation to establish a statewide task force and create a clean-up fund. By December 31, 1993, the Task Force is to submit a report that discusses existing practices in the dry cleaning industry, their potential impacts on the environment, and any recommendations for improvements. The report is also to include a discussion of potential funding mechanisms for investigatory and remedial measures and/or installation of emission control technology.

Some possible funding mechanisms being considered are a statewide tax fund, a surcharge on the sale of PCE and other volatile organic compounds (VOCs) or on all products or services utilizing PCE and other VOCs, and/or an annual fee imposed on municipalities as a condition of their Waste Discharge Requirements.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

GRA Establishes Liaison Committee

Among the initial actions of the GRA Organizing Committee was the establishment of a Liaison Committee to actively work with the California Groundwater Association (CGA). As many of the founding members of GRA are aware, this new Association has been developed by former or continuing members of the Technical Branch of CGA. Our membership in CGA established for many, a warm and friendly relationship with numerous drilling and pump contractors, and industry suppliers, throughout the State. The purpose of the Liaison Committee will be to continue and strengthen the relationship with the contractors and suppliers within CGA, on behalf of the newly formed GRA.

Vicki Kretsinger, Chair of GRA's Organizing Committee, has appointed Gene Luhdorff to lead the Liaison group. Mr. Luhdorff is a Past President of CGA and was instrumental in establishing the Technical Branch of that organization. Mr. Luhdorff, who is also an active member of the GRA Organizing Committee, made these comments regarding the new Liaison Committee:

"Many groundwater scientists and drilling contractors have difficulty recognizing the importance of each other's role in California's groundwater industry. Too many from both camps believe that they are uniquely the guardians and responsible authority of this precious resource. CGA, for example, has reported that they have served as the 'custodians of [California's] groundwater expertise and technology since 1948,' and one technical member of CGA discussed the role of the drilling contractor as 'basically furnishing the plumbing that is used to extract water.'"

"There is no doubt in my mind that each camp could present their particular views, in a sincere and meaningful dialogue, to interested groups throughout the State. But each is wrong to assume that they alone possess the answers to managing California's groundwater resources. It is the desire of GRA to share with the contractor-managed CGA our expertise in groundwater science and share from them their expertise in groundwater exploration and well construction."

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“We share the responsibilities of the mutual management of a resource at a critical time in California’s history. I trust that through our joint efforts we can achieve a better understanding of the complexity of managing this resource.”

Newsletter Committee

The Newsletter Committee worked diligently to produce this premier issue of HYDROVISIONS; invaluable assistance was provided to the Committee by Janie McGinn, proprietor of DrawingBoard Studios in Sacramento, during development of GRA’s logo and the newsletter nameplate and layout. The Committee chairperson is David Von Aspern with Wallace • Kuhl & Associates, Inc. Newsletter Committee members are Anne O’Connor with Hart Crowser and Sue Erikson with the Sacramento County Hazardous Materials Division. Anyone who wishes to have their articles and/or ideas considered for placement into our Newsletter should FAX them to Mr. Von Aspern at (916) 372-9065.

Newsletter-related comments or additional information should be directed through any of the Committee members.

Membership Committee

The Membership Committee consists of David Bardsley (Beylik Drilling), Keoni Almeida (Delta Environmental Consultants), Anne O’Connor (Hart Crowser), and Marjie Namba (Western Environmental Science and Technology). To become a Charter Member of the Groundwater Resources Association, membership applications must be submitted by March 15, 1992. The Committee’s efforts have been directed toward reaching an immediate goal of 200 Charter Members. If you are interested in becoming a GRA member, and/or want to volunteer to serve on a committee, please contact Ms. Namba, Membership Chair, at (916) 753-9500.

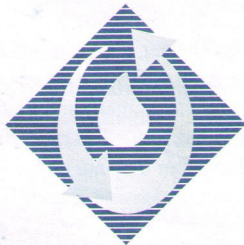
Legislative Committee

The Legislative Committee is currently in the process of investigating the services and associated costs of a legislative bill service.

The bill service will provide an index of legislative bills currently under consideration in both the Senate and Assembly. For a fee, the Committee can determine the categories of interest to GRA members and receive legislative bills specific to those categories. The general topics initially under consideration are: Groundwater, Water Resources Development/Policy/Fees, Drinking Water Standards, Water Quality and Hazardous Materials. If you are interested in participating on the Committee, have additional ideas for categories of interest, or have any questions, please contact Heidi Hubbard, Chair, at (916) 723-7645.

**DEADLINE FOR
CHARTER MEMBERSHIP
IS MARCH 15**

P.O. Box 355
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GROUNDWATER RESOURCES ASSOCIATION

Sponsor Acknowledgment

GRA operations at this time are solely based on membership dues and contributions by sponsors. Financial support is being sought to establish the new Association in an effective and timely manner to address the many issues related to California’s groundwater resources which are facing us today.

GRA wishes to thank the following people and firms who have contributed financial support to the Groundwater Resources Association to date:

**SUPPORTERS
(\$10 - \$25)**

- Kent Aue
- John Blackburn
- Ben Cahill
- Jim Gross
- Norman Janke
- Garry Maurath
- Mike Purcell
- Peter Shen
- David Von Aspern

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- Raney Geotechnical

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- Geraghty and Miller, Inc.
- Vista Irrigation District
- DrawingBoard Studios

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