Jerry Lewis honored for Lifetime Achievements

Congressman Jerry Lewis (R-Redlands) and his wife and chief of staff, Arlene, were feted at a reception Nov. 4 in honor of his 2006 “Lifetime Achievement in Water Resources” award, an event that also marked the establishment of the Jerry and Arlene Lewis Endowed Scholarship in Water Resources Studies.

Congressman Jerry Lewis (R-Redlands) and his wife Arlene Lewis with CSUSB President Albert Karnig

Resources Studies.

The achievement award, given annually, recognizes local leaders who have made significant contributions to the area’s water resources. A San Bernardino native, Lewis has had a great influence on the region’s water quality, accessibility, conservation and safety.

The gala attended by a crowd of 250 was held in the Santos Manuel Student Union Events Center and featured a tribute film about Lewis, called “The Power of Water,” in which community leaders discussed working with Lewis to build local consensus for solutions to the region’s water issues.

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Archives Corner

Local television stars!

Professor Emeritus Kent Schofield, Director Susan Lien Longville and Historian Archivist Suzie Earp were highlighted during a KVCR-TV program, Evening Edition, which aired Nov. 24. The interview focused on the history of the Santa Ana River, a topic of great interest to both Longville and Earp. The Archives supplied KVCR-TV producer Mike Flattery with historic photos, a short video clip about flooding, and other research used for the show. This was the first segment of a planned series about the Santa Ana River, and the WRI staff was pleased and honored to be featured for the first part.

New Collection Added

Recently, Albert A. Webb Associates donated historic documents that they had been storing for decades at their office in Riverside. The collection is mostly engineering reports from areas in Riverside County, dated roughly from 1930 to 1980.

The Webb Collection complements the Archive’s Rowe Collection in many ways. Albert Webb and Penn Rowe were partners many years ago and worked together on nearly every large water project in Southern California. Eventually Webb and Rowe parted ways to concentrate on Riverside and San Bernardino, respectively, but continued to work on many of the same type of projects such as hydrology, well records, and development of water resources.

Thank you Albert A. Webb Associates!
Speakers at the dinner included CSUSB President Dr. Albert K. Karnig, Stater Bros.’ CEO and long-time Lewis friend Jack Brown, Dr. William Aguilã­ar, Vice President of University Advancement, and Susan Lien Longville, director of the Water Resources Institute. San Bernardino Mayor Patrick Morris was master of ceremonies.

The Jerry and Arlene Lewis Endowed Scholarship in Water Resource Studies will create an educational legacy for the Congressman while encouraging students from all disciplines to integrate water in their studies. All CSUSB students will be eligible for the scholarship by consenting to undertake a course project on water with an instructor in their field of study.

The Water Resources Institute has already raised $100,000 for the Lewis scholarship, and will be holding fund-raising activities over the coming 18 months to reach the $250,000 goal. If you would like to make a contribution to the scholarship fund, please call Susan Lien Longville at (909) 537-7681.

WRI quarterly Breakfast at 7:30am in the Student Union Events Center A for a presentation on the Inland Empire Sustainable Watershed Program

February 28th

WRI Guest Lecture at 6:30 Pm on the 4th Floor of the Pfau Library (Room 401) for a presentation on the Hydrology of the San Bernardino Area

WRI Associate Director hired

The WRI welcomes Georgeann “Gigi” Hanna, who was named Associate Director in November, filling the vacancy left when Susan Lien Longville became Director. Most recently Ms. Hanna worked as a senior public affairs representative for the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, concentrating much of her time on water conservation and water legislation issues. Previously she worked as a reporter throughout Southern California, covering social and medical issues as well as the water industry. She is currently completing her Master’s Degree in Communications from California State University, Fullerton.

Wishing our friends a Happy and Healthy 2007!

-- the WRI Staff--

Susan, Suzie, Lisa and Gigi

The wintry scene to the left can be found among the thousands of photographs in the Rowe Collection, an important part of the WRI archives.