# *(Norah next to stage ready to go up)* ***Announcer:*** *Ladies and gentlemen welcome to the 2019(two thousand nineteen) California Water Environment Association awards ceremony. Please give a big welcome to CWEA’s Director of Certification Norah Duffy****.***

# 

# **Norah Duffy** comes to the stage: Asks all certified people please stand up. (5 minutes)

# ***Norah Duffy 11:35 am***

# ***Announcer:*** *Please welcome to the stage CWEA Membership Committee Chair Ian Mackenzie*

# ***Ian Mackenzie 11:40 am***

# ***Ian Mackenzie:*** *Welcomes WEF President Tom Kunetz (brief bio)*

# *Ian welcomes Tom Kunetz and gives a brief bio. (Ian stays nearby for next announcement)*

# **Tom Kunetz, WEF President (10-15 minutes) *Tom Kunetz 11:45 am***

# ***Announcer: Please welcome back to the stage, Ian Mackenzie*** Ian Mackenzie *thanks Tom and gives audience instructions on how the photography will be taking place off stage in back of room and invites Board members to form a path along the wall to assist folks back to the photography staging area.* ***Ian Mackenzie 12:00 pm*** (Tom Kunetz and Connie Leonard move to photo area. Plaques are handed out by Ian and Megan. Winners move OFF stage for photo opportunity.)

# **Presentation of CWEA Award Winners** ***Announcer 12:02 pm***

# ***Announcer:*** *We would like to give a special thank you to CWEA’s Committees; Local Sections; Nominators & Nominees; the CWEA Board; and staff for working through over 170 applications to choose today’s winners. Let’s give those volunteers a big round of applause. (applause)*

**Plant of the Year (Medium, Small)**

***Announcer****: The Plant of the Year award recognizes accomplishments in compliance, innovative practices, cost effectiveness, and superior plant performance.*

**Plant of the Year (Medium)**

***Announcer:*** *The winner is the* ***Jacobs, South County Regional Wastewater Authority****. (applause)*  
*The team is made up of 18 outstanding individuals who have symbiotically developed into an outstanding team. Each team member adds a special skill set and the initiative to use those skills to create a world class wastewater facility.*

**Plant of the Year (Small)**

***Announcer:*** *The Small plant of the year is* ***Olivenhain (OH-LEE-VIN-HINE) Municipal Water District****. (applause)*  
*The Olivenhain Municipal Water District expert staff focuses on providing high quality wastewater and recycled water related services for the residents and businesses of 4S Ranch and Rancho Cielo. They are proud stewards of their facilities and appreciate contributing to the greater good of their community.*

# **Collection System (Small)**

# ***Announcer****: The Collection system of the year award is given in recognition for outstanding maintenance programs, regulatory compliance and safety & training procedures.*

# *Awarded to agencies in three categories: small, medium and large.*

# *The Small Collection system of the year is the* ***Castro Valley Sanitary District****. (applause)*

# *The Castro Valley Sanitary District is a small public agency organized under the Health and Safety Code of the State of California. As a California Special District, CVSan (C-V-San) has responsibility for the operation and maintenance of the sanitary sewer collection system within the unincorporated community of Castro Valley. The District also is in charge of the administration of a refuse collection franchise, the District's 25% interest in a wastewater treatment facility, implementation and administration of State and local mandated recycling programs, as well as District participation in sub-regional wastewater discharge and solid/hazardous (say ‘and/or’) waste management agencies.*

# **Collection System (Medium)**

# ***Announcer:*** *The medium Collection System of the year winner is the* ***City of Vista (Viz-ta)****. (applause)*

# *The City of Vista owns and operates approximately 300 miles of sewer pipe, along with two pump stations and is located in the North County area of San Diego. The City of Vista operates two sewer systems: the City of Vista system and the Buena Sanitation District to serve those residents in the unincorporated areas of Vista.*

# **Collection System (Large)**

# ***Announcer:*** *The large Collection System of the year winner is* ***Coachella Valley Water District*** *(applause)* *The Coachella Valley Water District has been servicing customers since 1918. Their Collection System includes over 1100 miles of gravity mains, 86 miles of force main, over 22,000 manholes, 28 lift stations and 136 air release units. They take pride in providing excellent customer service, a safe work environment and protecting public health.*

# **Collection System Person of the Year**

***Announcer:*** *The Collection System Person of the Year recognizes innovation and excellence in the performance of collection system maintenance.*

*The Collection System of Person of the Year is awarded to* ***Barry Blevins Carmel Area Wastewater District.*** *(applause)*  
*Barry has been involved in the implementation and start up of the District’s GIS (acronym) program including GPS locating of manholes and cleanouts. In 2015, Barry won the CWEA Gimmicks and Gadgets Award and has been working to make his (name of gadget? – NO NAME) gadget marketable for all collections workers to use. Barry has worked for the Collections department at Carmel Area Wastewater District for 9 years and has helped develop hydro cleaning routes (root or rowt? – no preference), CCTV inspection routes, and helps mentor and train other staff members. Barry continually puts his knowledge to use in the day to day activities.*

**Electrical Instrumentation Person of the Year**

***Announcer:*** *The Electrical and Instrumentation Person of the Year award recognizes significant contributions to the electrical and instrumentation field related to wastewater treatment and contributions to CWEA. This year’s winner is* ***Ignacio (IG-NOSS-EEE-OH) Just (HOOST) City of Santa Barbara.*** *(applause)*  
*Ignacio Hoost, Control System Operator Specialist "Extraordinaire" for the City of Santa Barbara,*

*El Estero (S-tero) Wastewater Treatment Plant exists to provide quality services through teamwork, trust and a positive attitude. Ignacio holds a Electrical/Instrumentation Grade 4 and a Mechanical Technologist Grade 4. Ignacio continues to thrive as a well respected member of the El Estero team.*

**Mechanical Technician of the Year**

***Announcer:*** *The Mechanical Technician Person of the Year Award recognizes: outstanding performance, dedication to the job, and sharing knowledge of maintenance procedures. The Mechanical Technician Person of the Year is* ***Marcos Avila (AH-vee-luh or Ah-vee-ya) of Victor Valley Wastewater Reclamation Authority.*** *(applause)*  
  
***Marcos Avila(AH-vee-luh or Ah-vee-ya)*** *has been working for Victor Valley Wastewater Reclamation since 2011, his contributions to the maintenance team are countless and his dedication to his team and the agency is unparalleled.*

**Operator of the Year**

***Announcer:*** *The Operator of the Year award recognizes outstanding contributions to the operations of wastewater treatment facilities and the application of knowledge to improve plant processes.*

*This year’s Operator of the Year is* ***Garon Goularte (JER-RUN GOUL-ART)*** *(applause)*  
*Garon (Jer-run) is an outstanding operator who always goes above and beyond. Garon (Jer-run) is not only an outstanding operator but he is humble and great person to work with.*

**Laboratory Person of the Year**

***Announcer:*** *The Laboratory Person of the Year award recognizes involvement with projects that have advanced the science of laboratory technology and activity in CWEA functions. The Laboratory Person of the Year is* ***Kurtis Westbrook from the City of Vacaville (VACK-A-VILLE).*** *(applause)*  
  
*Kurtis has worked for the City of Vacaville for 7 years, moving up from fresh out of college to a Lab Analyst II and currently holds his grade II Analyst certification, ready to test for his Grade IV. Kurtis is a great team player, a wonderful trainer of new staff and an active member of the community with the outside projects and groups he belongs to.*

**P3S Person of the Year**

*Announcer: The Pretreatment, Pollution Prevention & Stormwater Person of the Year Award recognizes significant contributions to the field. The P-3-S Person of the year is* ***Jennifer Peet from City of Modesto****. (applause)*  
  
*Jennifer has been an Environmental Compliance Inspector for the City of Modesto for 10 years, working concurrently under both the city's pretreatment and stormwater programs as well as being fully in charge of both the city's stormwater municipal operations program and the public outreach and education program for wastewater and stormwater. In 2017 she was awarded the CWEA Community Engagement and Outreach Person of the Year (from a large agency) for her work with her public outreach program. She is currently volunteering in two CWEA committees: as secretary for the CWEA P-3-S committee and as a member of the CWEA Community Engagement and Outreach committee.*

**Safety Plant (Small, Medium)**

***Announcer:*** *Plant Safety is awarded in three categories, small, medium and large. Criteria includes number of injuries, lost-time accidents, record keeping, in-house training, emergency response and program implementation.*

**Safety Plant (Small)**

***Announcer:*** *First place for plant safety small goes to* ***Southern Region Tertiary Treatment Plant****. (applause)*  
  
*The Southern Region Tertiary Treatment Plant is a 7.5 M-G-D wastewater plant serving the United States Marine Corp on Camp Pendleton. This well designed facility enables the operations and maintenance staff to produce high quality effluent (EFF-lu-ent) effectively and safely in order to comply with permit requirements. Effluent is used throughout the southern portion of the base to irrigate the Naval Hospital, Golf Course and Parade Grounds. CDM Smith (CEE-DEE-EM) prides themselves on attention to safety and instills this philosophy in their employees.*

**Safety Plant (Medium)**

***Announcer:*** *Plant Safety medium award goes to* ***Fairfield-Suisun (SAS-SOON) Sewer District****. (applause)*  
*The Fairfield-Suisun Sewer District serves more than 135,000 residential, commercial and industrial customers in central Solano County, about 40 miles northeast of San Francisco. FSSD owns and operates a system of sanitary sewers and pumping stations and oversees wastewater collection and treatment, water recycling and stormwater management services.*

*Fairfield-Suisun Sewer District protects public health and the environment for the communities they serve in an efficient, responsible and sustainable manner.*

*Based on their high scores in judging, Fairfield-Suisun Sewer District has also been chosen as winner of the Water Environment Federation George W. Burke Jr. Award.*

*The award was established in 1982 to honor Mr. Burke for his years of service to the water environment field. He was instrumental in developing WEF's annual safety survey and assisting in the production of safety training packets.*

*Please give another big round of applause to the* ***Fairfield-Suisun Sewer District****. (applause).*

**Community Engagement & Outreach Project of the Year (Small, Large)**

***Announcer:*** *The Community Engagement & Outreach Program of the Year Award recognizes significant achievements in promoting awareness and understanding of water quality and environmental issues among the general public.*

***Announcer:*** *In the small budget, under $20,000, the Community Engagement & Outreach Program of the Year is the* ***East Bay Municipal Utility District.*** *(applause)*  
  
*For the second consecutive year, the East Bay Municipal Utility District published “Watershed to Bay,” a 12-page insert in the East Bay Express with a printed run of 35,000 papers distributed at 950 locations in the San Francisco Bay Area. The “Watershed to Bay” insert is a visually engaging publication, that offers an overview of the services that East Bay MUD provides and shares volunteer opportunities and pollution prevention tips that readers can implement in their daily lives. The pollution prevention messages were carefully crafted to positively promote behavior change on three important pollution prevention topics: pharmaceutical take back, wipes clog pipes, and fats, oils and grease disposal. Each pollution prevention message uses a testimonial approach to encourage customers to change behaviors. These ads featured East Bay MUD employees, who reflect the East Bay’s diverse demographics. Matching bus and billboard advertising were created and posted throughout the wastewater service area.*

**Community Engagement & Outreach Project of the Year (Large)**

***Announcer:*** *The large Community Engagement & Outreach Program of the Year is the* ***City of Los Angeles******One Water LA.*** *(applause)  
  
The City of Los Angeles has completed the One Water LA 2040 Plan. In 2013, Los Angeles Sanitation and the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power led the effort and partnered with other City departments, regional agencies, non-profits, academia, the business community, and other stakeholders. One Water LA is a collaborative approach to develop an integrated framework for managing the City's watersheds, water resources, and water facilities in an environmentally, economically, and socially beneficial manner. Next steps include completing a Programmatic Environmental Impact Report, and deepening department, agency and stakeholder relationships through continued engagement and the formation of implementation committees and new partnerships. The City of LA has embraced a new way of thinking about its water resources and provides a bold vision for a more, integrated, resilient, and water smart City. The City is committed to working with all its partners to make the Plan’s Vision a reality.*

**Community Engagement & Outreach Person of the Year**

***Announcer:*** *Community Engagement & Outreach Person of the Year Award recognizes an individual’s achievements in promoting awareness and understanding of water quality and environmental issues among the general public.*

*The Community Engagement & Outreach Person of the Year is* ***Mary Jo Ramey (Ray-me)*** *(applause)*

*Mary Jo is a very honest and friendly outreach employee for the Central Marin (Muh-rin) Sanitation Agency. Her approachable style of engagement fosters an environment of learning and facilitates environmental change. Mary Jo is a highly valued environmental service analyst that has significantly impacted CMSA's FOG education program and source control in so many ways. Her contribution to both the CWEA and CMSA community is appreciated beyond measure.*

**Community Engagement & Outreach Best Use of Social Media**

***Announcer:*** *The Community Engagement & Outreach Best Use of Social Media of the Year Award recognizes achievement in promoting public awareness across all social media channels. This is a new award for the Community Engagement & Outreach Committee and this year they awarded a large and small category.*

*The large Best Use of Social Media award goes to* ***Sacramento Area Sewer District.*** *(applause)*

*The critical role that SASD plays in protecting public health and the environment—along with other agencies like theirs—is being formally recognized through the newly established Water Professionals Appreciation Week. In late 2017, the California Legislature approved Senate Concurrent Resolution 80, which established the first full week of October as Water Professionals Appreciation Week. This annual designation highlights the critically important role that water and wastewater professionals play in ensuring the safe and reliable management of water, wastewater, and recycled water throughout California.*

*The small Best Use of Social Media award goes to* ***Leucadia (LOO-KADE-EE-A) Wastewater District.*** *(applause)*

*Leucadia Wastewater District covers a total service area of 10,200 acres (16 square miles) which includes the original service area in Leucadia as well as portions of the cities of Carlsbad (the La Costa (cost-uh) area) and Encinitas. With over 62,000 households in service, the District serves the public by collecting, transporting, recycling and treating wastewater in a safe, reliable, efficient, cost effective and environmentally responsible manner, while providing excellent service.*

**Engineering Achievement**

***Announcer:*** *The engineering achievement award recognizes an outstanding individual, agency or company.*

*This year the winner is* ***Central Marin Sanitation Agency.*** *(applause)*  
  
*The Central Marin Sanitation Agency Power Delivery Program is a comprehensive multi-year effort that began in the early 2000s and includes numerous individual engineering projects with the overall goal of leveraging CMSA’s existing wastewater infrastructure to maximize the amount of renewable power produced from wastewater and other external organic feedstocks. The Program also provides the flexibility for CMSA to sell excess renewable power into the grid. In 2018, the Program reached several significant milestones, including execution of a Power Purchase Agreement with Marin Clean Energy for excess power sales into the grid, and construction and testing of PG&E interconnection infrastructure, to allow exporting excess power.*

**Research Achievement**

***Announcer:*** *The Research Achievement award recognizes an outstanding individual, agency or company.*

*This year’s first place winner is the* ***Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County and Kennedy/Jenks Consultants.*** *(applause)*  
  
*Primary Filtration using a pile cloth-depth filter is an emerging treatment process that may provide significant benefits to the wastewater treatment industry. Rather than using a primary clarifier, a PCDF is used after screening and grit removal prior to the activated sludge process. To evaluate this technology as a potential option for replacement of the existing primary clarifiers at the Lancaster Water Reclamation Plant, a one-year pilot-scale study was conducted. During the study, over ten million gallons of screened and de-gritted raw sewage was treated without any significant operational or maintenance issues. The results from this study demonstrate some of the key reported benefits of PF, including enhanced removal of particulates and organics and a related reduction in activated sludge process aeration energy requirements, as well as the potential for increased digester gas production, if implemented full-scale.*

# **Supervisor of the Year**

# ***Announcer:*** *The Supervisor of the year award recognizes successful mentoring of subordinates, professional development, and effective communication between staff and management.*

# *The Supervisor of the year is* ***Ted Gerber of Orange County Sanitation District.*** *(applause)*

# *Ted is the Engineering Supervisor for the Industrial Source Control Group of the Resource Protection Division at the Orange County Sanitation District. Ted is responsible for overseeing permitting and enforcement for OCSD’s industrial pretreatment program. Ted has excelled in this role, emerging as a recognized leader at OCSD. Ted has been a staff member at OCSD for seven years, and in a lead or supervisory role for over two years. He previously worked as an engineering consultant in wastewater and other utility industries. As a supervisor, he has demonstrated thoughtful decision making, promoted collaboration with staff, and the ability to influence and lead others. Ted leads a group of ten employees, including seven engineers, an environmental specialist, and two program assistants, in addition to providing work direction for two principal IT staff members supporting OCSD’s pretreatment software.*

**Outstanding Young Professional**

***Announcer:*** *The Outstanding Young professional award is given to professionals who demonstrate excellence in the water environment field and are under the age of 35.*

*The Outstanding Young Professional award goes to* ***Ryan Sellman of Carollo (kuh-roll-o) Engineers.*** *(applause)*

*Ryan Sellman is the current President of the Northern San Joaquin Section, and has been involved with CWEA since 2007 and active on the NSJS Board since 2016. He has worked at Carollo Engineers, Inc. since earning his BS in Civil Engineering from University of the Pacific in 2007. Ryan has gone above and beyond, both at work and volunteering for CWEA.*

**Kirt Brooks Scholarship Winners**

**Announcer:** *The Kirt Brooks Memorial Scholarship is given to students interested in the water environment field.*

*Kirt Brooks recipients have gone on to serve the public in varied roles such as water quality lab analysts, engineers, university professors, pollution prevention professionals, regulators, utility managers, and operations and maintenance personnel.*

*Congratulations to this year’s recipients:*

* *Lauren Armistead (ARM-IS-STEAD)*
* *Alejandro Cerano-Lopez (SIR-ANO LOPEZ)*
* *Susan Hiestand (HIGH-STAND)*
* *Connie Ho*
* *Cassey (casey) Hong*
* *Kourosh Irani (KAR-OOSH EYE-RON-EE)*
* *Valerie Leone (LEE-OWN)*
* *Gabriel Snook*
* *Cole Parsons*
* *Visala Tallavarjula (VIS-ALL-A TALLA-VAR-JEWEL-A)*

*Please come to the stage to receive your certificate and let’s give these young scholars a big round of applause. (applause)*

1. **WEF Award Winners**  *Announcer 12:25 pm*

**~~Bedell Award~~**

***~~Announcer:~~*** *~~The Water Environment Federation’s Bedell Award for outstanding volunteer contributions goes to~~* ***~~Elizabeth Allan, CWEA Executive Director.~~*** *~~(applause)~~*

*~~The award is named for Arthur Sidney Bedell, WEF's second president and a dedicated volunteer to the New York Water Environment Associations in the 1940s.~~*

*~~Congratulations Elizabeth! (applause)~~*

# **WEF Quarter Century Operator Club**

***Announcer:*** *The WEF Quarter Century Operator Club for 2018 welcomes*

***Ralph Palomares (PAL-O-MAR-AYS), El Toro Water District****. (applause)*

*The Quarter Century Club recognizes operators of wastewater treatment facilities for their service and dedication in a difficult and dangerous profession. (applause)*

**CWEA Recognitions**

***Announcer:*** *CWEA is pleased to honor outstanding wastewater professionals. This week During our committee meetings we honored 40 passionate professionals for their dedication to clean water. If you received one of these recognitions please STAND –and please, hold your applause as we ask each group to stand…*

* PICK award winners from the Collection Systems Committee
* Golden Manhole winners
* Quarter Century honorees who received their pin
* The new 5S shovelers (Five S shovelers)
* Gimmicks and Gadgets Winners

# Please give these outstanding professionals a big round of applause. *(applause)*

1. ***Announcer:***   
   Will the AC19 conference committee please stand? *(pause)*Let’s give these folks a big round of applause for a great conference. *(applause)*   
   Please head to the photo area for your certificate of appreciation and a group photo.  
   *We’d like to recognize the Annual Conference Committee* for developing an outstanding Annual Conference. More than 200 volunteers, including speakers, make our Annual Conference possible. A very *special* thanks to conference Co-Chair Brian Peck and Education Program Team chair Gary Warren for putting on an outstanding event here in Palm Springs!

***Take a pause here so the commotion in the back can calm down a bit.*** Connie will also be coming up from the back to collect the checks in this next step.

# **Local Section Scholarship Donations to Kirt Brooks** ***Connie Leonard & Ian 12:35 pm***

# ***Announcer:*** *We’d like to ask Local Section leaders to now join us on stage for their donations to the Kirt Brooks Scholarship fund.*

# **(Connie comes to stage to accept checks - Donors announce amounts to the audience at the podium) (Photography will stay on the stage for this. Megan to record the amounts given. Checks and cash envelopes given to Renu)**

# **Closing Comments (**Connie & Kevin**)** ***Connie & Kevin 12:40 pm Announcer:*** *Please welcome to the stage CWEA’s President Kevin Calderwood. (announcer is now done!) Connie presents proclamation to CDM Smith.*(Kevin to present Past President Plaque and Pin to Connie)

# **Closing the Conference (**Kevin**)** **Kevin Calderwood *12:45 pm***