

City of Vacaville

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Wednesday, December 09, 2009

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THREE CITY OF VACAVILLE EMPLOYEES HONORED AT AWARDS DINNER

Three members of the City of Vacaville's Utilities Department were honored at the California Water Environment Association's Redwood Empire Section Annual Awards dinner held November 20, 2009.

Tim Erskine, Dave Psaila, and Warren Banzet were recognized for their outstanding achievements in the wastewater field.

The CWEA is a State association with over 10,000 professionals in the wastewater industry that are dedicated to keeping California's water clean and stimulating public awareness of the importance of wastewater treatment to public health and the water environment.

Erskine, a Senior Wastewater Operator with 16 years of service with the City, was presented the Operator of the Year Award. He was nominated by his fellow operators based on their recognition of his devotion to his job, and his tireless efforts to make the team more effective. He initiates, develops, and implements new ideas that result in a very efficient plant operation. He also provided technical support and developed a plan to start a new volunteer operator training program.

Psaila, a Senior Mechanical Lead with 30 years of service with the City, was given the Mechanical Person of the Year Award. Psaila has a CWEA grade 3 Mechanic certification. He was instrumental in the demo work of an old Primary Plant. Psaila is counted on to be the go-to-guy on any major project that needs a keen eye for detail and a sense of safety.

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Warren Banzet, a Senior Mechanical Lead with 19 years of service with the City, received the Gimmicks and Gadgets Award. Banzet developed and built a clamp fastening tool that enhances safety by reducing the chance of repetitive motion injuries caused by the large number of clamps needing to be installed. The previous procedure called for mechanics to manually crimp each clamp with a pliers-type crimping tool, a process that needed to be done over 4,000 times. Banzet's device greatly reduces the number of times manual crimping is done, and ensures a more consistent and safer crimp.

This is the second consecutive year Banzet has won the Gimmicks and Gadgets Award from the CWEA Redwood Empire Section. He also won the CWEA State Award in 2008.

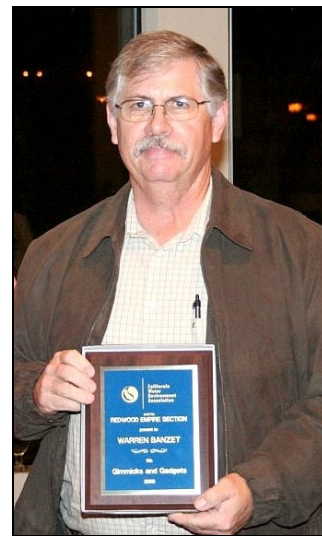
Each of these outstanding individuals will now compete with others from around the State for the CWEA State Award.



Tim Erskine



Dave Psaila



Warren Banzet

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