

Irrigation experts form chapter

A Northeast chapter of the American Society of Irrigation Consultants has been formed. ASIC members Richard W. Smith, Robert M. Healey and James M. Barrett voted on April 27 to establish the chapter.

The purposes of ASIC-Northeast Chapter are those expressed in the goals and code of ethics of the national organization, with special emphasis on:

- Promoting efficient irrigation through sound design principles, system evaluation based on professional experience, and awareness of advances in irrigation technology and management.
- Addressing regional issues of environment, water and energy conservation, and a rapidly expanding irrigation industry through proper irrigation design and practices that respond to the specific requirements of local climate, environment and population.
- Promoting professionalism in the field of irrigation consulting.
- Promoting the use of irrigation consultants in all phases of irrigation projects from conceptual design through final approvals.

Regular membership is reserved for individuals who are working as independent irrigation consultants, and who have met the society's experience and education requirements. Associate membership is available for individuals and companies actively engaged in a related irrigation field. Apprentice and student memberships are also available.

Smith was elected president, Healey first vice president and Barrett second vice president. James M. White and Michael J. Agram was elected secretary treasurer.

All officers are regular members of ASIC and all are certified irrigation designers in the national Irrigation Association's certification program.

Smith has been in the irrigation business for nearly 30 years, as a contractor (owner of Smith Turf Irrigation), a wholesale supplier (president of I & E Supply), and as an independent consultant since the 1985 formation of Richard W. Smith & Associates, Inc. in Milford, Conn.

Healey has been involved in irrigation installation, maintenance, design and consulting for 16 years. His firm is located in Natick, Mass.

Barrett began his 20-years irrigation career working for an installer. He then spent 12 years with Robert Trent Jones, Inc. as a design associate and irrigation designer.

In 1985 he founded James Barrett Associates, Inc., located in Montclair, N.J.

White graduated from the University of Massachusetts, and is a PE licensed in Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Maine, Connecticut and Rhode Island. He has been involved in irrigation consulting and engineering since 1978.

Agram has been involved in irrigation consulting and design since 1980. His company, Northern Designs, is located in Milford, Conn., and specializes in irrigation design and specification work for architects, landscape architects and engineers. His projects have ranged from residential jobs to large commercial sites for major corporations.

The chapter intends to have periodic meetings throughout the Northeast with guest speakers addressing irrigation topics such as design, materials, contract liability, water management, and environmental considerations.

Irrigation Expo preparations made

Preparations for the 11th International Irrigation Exposition and 3rd National Irrigation Symposium continue as more than 200 companies have contracted to exhibit, Oct. 28-31, in Phoenix, Ariz.

The event, "Visions of the Future," is a joint production of the Irrigation Association (IA) and the American Society of Agricultural Engineers (ASAE). It will showcase technological developments.

Specific topics to be covered will be the leading methods of water conservation, in-depth technical training, presentations by urban/landscape and agricultural-irrigation experts, and dozens of original papers on irrigation research and technology.

"Visions of the Future" will also be the first time that the U.S.D.A.'s Agricultural Research

Service has honored the IA by selecting the show's Oct. 29 keynote session to present the B.Y. Morrison Lecturer for 1990.

Also, an international business center will set up for all international visitors to register, contact interpreters, and meet with U.S. firms interested in international trade.

Certification exams will be given Oct. 28. They include the Step 2 exam and a choice of the following Step 3 exams: Irrigation Designer General Agriculture (with drip, surface or sprinkler specialties); Irrigation Designer General Turf (with residential, golf course, or commercial specialties); Irrigation Contractor; or Irrigation Manager.

"IA University" will present a new series of short courses Oct. 27 and 28. These require separate registration, which includes a free

Expo pass for Sunday's grand opening.

The IA has set its headquarters for "Visions" at the Hyatt Regency Phoenix, while ASAE selected the Sheraton Phoenix. Both hotels are near the Phoenix Civic Plaza, where the expo/symposium will be held.

Tours will be offered throughout this highly irrigated desert region, some featuring general-interest sites and some with a special irrigation focus. Included is a trip to Biosphere II, 2.25 acres of dome-covered, controlled-climate landscape.

The IA President's Annual Reception and Banquet will be held Oct. 30 in the Hyatt Hotel.

People may contact the IA at 1911 North Fort Myer Drive, Suite 1009, Arlington, VA 22209-1630; 703-524-1200.

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