

“A Recollection -- or Two or Three: The Origin and Early Days of the Chicago Industrial Water, Waste & Sewage Group (CIWW&SG)”

(Originally written for the 40 year anniversary of IWWSG)

By E. Ted Erickson (1902-1994)

It was hot in Chicago! It was late in August 1948 and the American Chemical Society (ACS) was holding its semi-annual (Fall) national meeting at the Stevens Hotel (now the Hilton Towers). It was even hotter in the meeting room in which the ACS members of the Division of Water and Sewage listened to very dull and boring speakers. A speaker would read his paper, sit down to mild, polite applause, and then another speaker would appear and so on -- for three days!

As I recollect, some of us ACS members gathered after one of the sessions, wondering why we were exposed to the reading of papers (the selection of which none of us had any control) without any discussion of the issues. We thought the discussions of these papers would be the most interesting part of the meeting! It was through this exchange of such ideas and a desire to correct the deplorable condition that the CIWWSG was born (now 67) years ago.

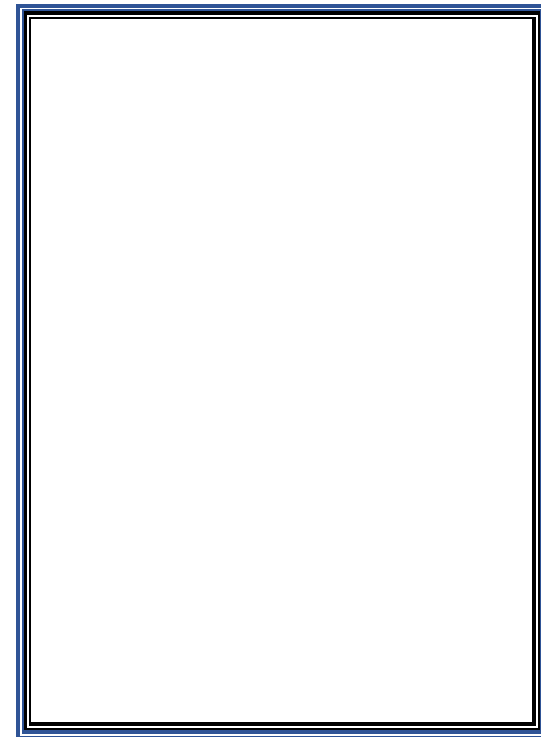
Go to www.iwwsg.org for “the rest of the story”!!

The **Distinguished Environmental Professional Award**, named in honor of founder E. Ted Erickson, was established by the IWWSG in 2000 to recognize an individual who has made a significant contribution(s) in the environmental area, especially at the local and regional levels. The award is granted based on recognition of the recipient’s community service advancing IWWSG’s goals, leadership / service to environmental professional organizations, including the IWWSG, and contributions to the field of environmental laws / compliance / management / education.

Industrial Water, Waste & Sewage Group
E. Ted Erickson

Distinguished Environmental
Professional Award

2017 Recipient



Tom Granato, Ph.D.

MWRD, Director of Monitoring & Research
Department (retired)

Tom Granato, Ph.D.

Tom Granato, a native of Chicago, was the director of the Monitoring and Research Department of the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago, where he was employed for 29 years. The M&R Department that he led is comprised of 308 employees. The Department conducts environmental monitoring to assess regulatory compliance and impacts of District operations, applies research to provide technical support for operations and administers the District's Industrial Pretreatment and User Charge programs. The Department also leads long term strategic capital planning.

Dr. Granato holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Agricultural Science and a Master of Science degree in Soil Chemistry from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. He earned his Ph.D. in Environmental Soil Science at North Carolina State University. Dr. Granato is a certified environmental scientist by the American Academy of Environmental Engineers and Scientists.

Dr. Granato served on the national peer review panel for the development of the USEPA's 40 CFR Part 503 biosolids regulation, he was chair of the Illinois Water Environment Association's Biosolids Committee, he served on the Water Environment Research Foundation's Research Council for six years, he served on the editorial boards of several scientific journals including Water Environment Research, and he is currently serving on the National Biosolids Partnership Blue Ribbon Panel and Appeals Committee. Dr. Granato has authored or coauthored two book chapters and more than 100 peer reviewed articles and technical reports.

IWWSG E. Ted Erickson Distinguished Environmental Professional Award Past Recipients

- May 2000** **Thomas McSwiggin**, *Illinois EPA*
- May 2000** **James T. Harrington**, *McGuire Woods LLP*
- May 2001** **Richard Lanyon**, *MWRD*
- May 2002** **James B. Parks**, *Illinois EPA*
- May 2003** **Ron Flemal**, *Illinois Pollution Control Board*
- May 2006** **Fred G. Krikau**, *Acme Steel Company / Interlake*
- May 2007** **Cecil Lue-Hing, D.Sc.**, *MWRD*
- May 2008** **Toby Frevert**, *Illinois EPA*
- May 2009** **Alan Jirik**, *Corn Products International*
- May 2010** **Suzanne Malec-McKenna**,
Chicago Department of Environment
- May 2011** **Howard Chinn**, *Illinois Attorney General's Office*
- March 2012** **Robert (Bob) S. Elvert**, *ExxonMobil Corporation*
- March 2013** **Lee Botts**, *Great Lakes Environmentalist*
- March 2014** **G. Tanner Girard, Ph.D.**,
Illinois Pollution Control Board
- March 2015** **Marcia Willhite**, *Illinois EPA*
- March 2015** **Bill Compton**, *Caterpillar Inc.*
- March 2016** **Jean B. "Susie" Schreiber**, *Chair,*
Waukegan Harbor Citizens Advisory Group
- March 2016** **Bharat Mathur**, *USEPA & IEPA*
- March 2017** **Mark Bouman, Ph.D.**,
The Field Museum / Chicago State University