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# Comments

A Publication of Gulf Coast Waste Disposal Authority



October 1999

## Wildenthal Honored by GCA Board



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Judge Wildenthal accepts service appreciation plaque from GCA Chairman Mark Schultz.

*At its September meeting, the Board of Directors took official action to honor John Wildenthal, who was appointed to GCA's original Board in 1969, for his service to the organization.*

Judge Wildenthal and his wife, Carolyn, were present to accept the plaque and resolution.

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## Schultz Elected GCA Board Chairman



**Mark Schultz**

The Board of Directors of Gulf Coast Waste Disposal Authority elected Mark Schultz as Chairman. This action, taken at the September Board Meeting, followed the resignation of long-time Board Member and then Chairman John Wildenthal.

Rafael Ortega, Vice Chairman, chaired the nomination and election procedure. Other officers remain the same and include Ortega; Shirley Seale, Treasurer, and Sam Dell'Olio, Secretary.

Schultz, who has served previously as Board Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Secretary represents the Commissioners Court of Chambers County. With the resignation of Judge Wildenthal, Schultz has become the longest serving member of the GCA Board of Directors.

## Ron Crowder Appointed to GCA Board



Chairman Schultz congratulates Ron Crowder and welcomes him to the GCA Board.

Ron Crowder, former Mayor of LaMarque, Texas, was sworn-in to the GCA Board of Directors during its October meeting. The Galveston County Mayor's Council appointed Crowder to the GCA Board.

Crowder is an entrepreneur with a diversified business portfolio. Crowder is a licensed Funeral Director for Crowder Funeral Home, has additional business affiliations including Crowder Investments Inc., Crowder Holdings Inc., W.C.J. Corp. Inc., Rifle Transportation Inc., and Remschel-Crowder Partnership.

Ron Crowder served as LaMarque's Mayor from 1979 - 1983, and was also a Galveston County Commissioner from 1985 - 1989.

Crowder replaces former Board Member Gail Bradley.



*Judge Wildenthal and wife Carolyn.*

"It has been a pleasure to serve, and I am grateful for your friendship," Judge Wildenthal wrote in his resignation letter.

Judge Wildenthal, a Houston municipal judge since 1977, graduated from the University of Texas School of Law in 1950. Judge Wildenthal practiced law in South Texas and Houston before serving as an Assistant State Attorney General. Previously, Wildenthal had been La Salle County Attorney, an attorney with the Senate Armed Services Committee, and on the U.S. Senate staff of Lyndon B. Johnson from 1950 to 1952.

**The Board Resolution reads:**

**WHEREAS** Judge John Wildenthal has dutifully served since 1969, and is the longest standing member of the Board of Directors of Gulf Coast Waste Disposal Authority; and

**WHEREAS** he has been honored by election as Chairman, and as Vice Chairman by his fellow Board Members; and

**WHEREAS** he has chaired and served on numerous committees for this Board; and

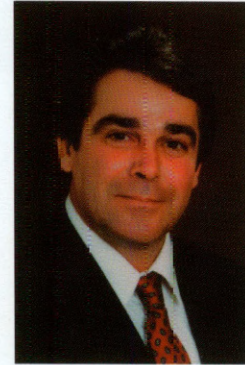
**WHEREAS** he has been faithful in his attendance at Board Meetings, Special Events and Educational Conferences; and

**WHEREAS** he has dedicated his time and his talent in the furtherance of the purposes of this organization; and

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Directors of Gulf Coast Waste Disposal Authority holds John Wildenthal in its highest esteem and honors him for his thirty years of leadership, hard work, and friendship.

General Manager Dick Brown said, "I know I speak for the entire GCA staff when I say that it has been our privilege to work with a man as dedicated and knowledgeable as John Wildenthal. He is a true gentleman who took the time to be an active participant over these 30 years."

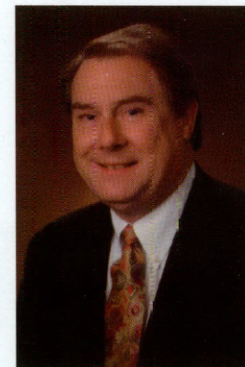
## Matthews & Smith Renamed to GCA Board



**James A. Matthews, Jr.**

James A. "Ossie" Matthews, Jr. was reappointed to serve another two-year term on the GCA Board of Directors.

Matthews, a Galveston County Commissioners Court Appointee since 1987, is a graduate of the University of Houston School of Business. Matthews owns and operates a tire dealership and an oil and gas distributorship in Texas City.



**R. Wayne Smith, P.E.**

The Harris County Commissioners Court appointed Wayne Smith to serve a third term on the GCA Board of Directors.

A 1968 Civil Engineer graduate of the University of Texas at Arlington, Smith is founder and President of Wayne Smith & Associates, a Houston-based engineering firm. Smith also serves as a director on the Harris County - Houston Sports Authority.

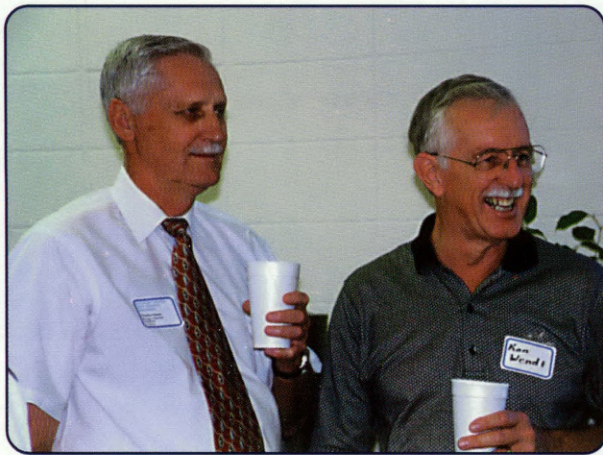
# GCA's 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Reception at Blackhawk

During the month of September, Gulf Coast Waste Disposal Authority continued its 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration with a Facility Reception at the Blackhawk Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant.

The well-attended reception brought attendees together from Blackhawk's contractual and construction beginnings all the way through to its present friends, Participants and Advisory Committee.



GCA General Operations Manager Charles Goode (center) welcomes guests to Blackhawk Facility Reception with GCA General Manager Dick Brown (left) and GCA Board Member Wayne Smith (right).



GCA Industrial Operations Manager Charles Ganze (left) and Environmental Improvements Inc., Sales Engineer Ron Wendt enjoying the afternoon's festivities.



GCA Board Member Rita Standridge (right) chats with GCA's Luanne Go'n (left) and Municipal Operations Superintendent Gordon Pederson.



City of Friendswood Council Member Kitten Hajecate (far left), Former City of Friendswood Mayor Evelyn Newman (left), GCA's Judy Odom (center), City of Friendswood City Manager Ron Cox (center - right), Kasem Hamidicn, Assistant Public Works Director, City of Friendswood, and City of Friendswood Mayor Harold Whitaker (far right).



*Mayor Whitaker and GCA's Gordon Pederson.*

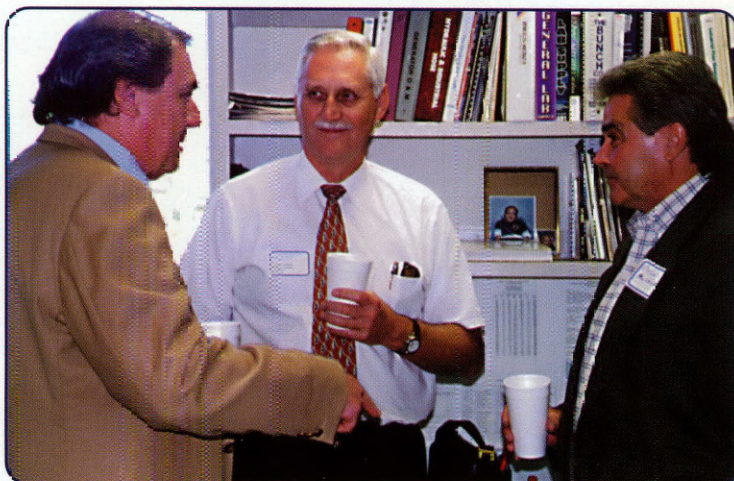
*Turner, Collie & Braden's Jerry Newell, with GCA's Debbie Churchill, Charles Ganze, Washburn Tunnel Facility Manager Jack Wahlstrom and Charlie Milstead, Environmental Improvements Inc.*



*Brown and Milstead with GCA Board Chairman Mark Schultz.*



*GCA Board Vice Chairman Rafael Ortega (left) with Goode and Wayne Ahrens of Dannenbaum Engineering.*



*GCA Board Member James "Ossie" Matthews (right) joins Smith and Ganze.*

# Marsh Bash

On August 28<sup>th</sup>, GCA teamed up with the Galveston Bay Foundation, various sponsors and more than 1,500 volunteers to restore a record-breaking 14.5 acres of marsh at eight separate Galveston Bay sites in 2 1/2 hours. Marsh Bash shattered the previous record held by the Tampa Bay Watch in Florida of 325 volunteers planting 10 acres in two days.



Cordgrass plants were harvested, sorted, and transported from HL&P's Cedar Bayou Plant in Baytown to Marsh Bash sites two days before the actual planting.



With dibble stick in hand, Port of Houston Captain Wayne Guzman and wife receive instructions on cordgrass planting from GCA's Denee DiLuigi.



Marsh Bash Partnership Representatives from Celanese, GCA, Enron, Dupont, Reliant Energy, and Galveston Bay Foundation join Houston City Councilman Rob Toad (second from right) during Marsh Bash Media Day at Sam Houston Park.

Marsh Bash was organized to involve citizens in the restoration of lost Bay habitats. Over the years, the Galveston Bay system has lost more than 30,000 acres of marsh.

Galveston Bay marshland is a vital component of the Bay's ecosystem. Ninety percent of fish and shrimp caught in Galveston Bay and the Gulf of Mexico depend on bay marshes during some part of their lives. The marsh also provides a sanctuary for more than 600 species of birds and wildlife, filters pollutants from runoff and protects shorelines from erosion.



Marsh Bash volunteers watering plants at San Jacinto Battleground location.

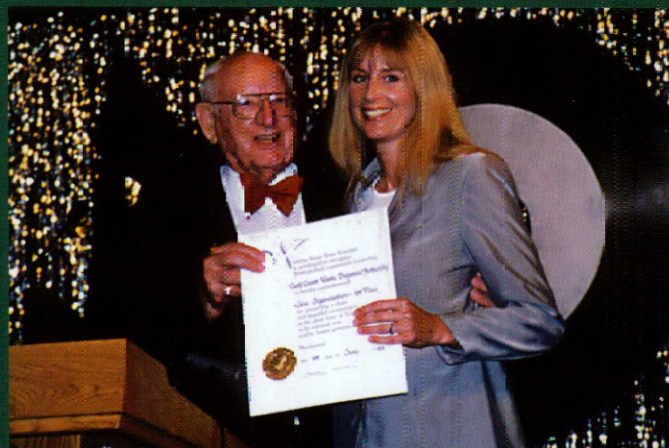
## GCA's Blackhawk and 40-Acre Facilities Receive 1998 AMSA Awards



During the August GCA Board of Directors meeting, GCA's Blackhawk Regional Treatment Plant and 40-Acre Facility were presented Gold Awards issued by the Association of Metropolitan Sewerage Agencies. The Gold Award honors member agency treatment facilities which had no National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit violations during the 1998 calendar year. Former GCA Chairman Judge Wildenthal is pictured with (left) Clyde LeBlanc, Blackhawk Chief Operator and (right) Laverne Pedersen, 40-Acre Facility Manager.

## KTB Award Presentation

Gulf Coast Waste Disposal Authority was recognized by Keep Texas Beautiful for its Regional Coordination of the River, Lakes, Bays 'N Bayous Trash Bash during KTB's Awards Presentation Banquet in Austin. Keep Austin Beautiful's "Mr. Austin", attorney Willie Kocurek, presented the Outstanding Civic Leadership award to GCA's Special Projects Manager Lori Rousel. The leadership award is given for supporting KTB's mission of conserving and enhancing the natural resources of Texas during 1998 - 99.



## Comments

### Board of Directors

#### Harris County

R. Wayne Smith, F.E., Member-C  
Rafael Ortega, P.E., Vice Chairman-G

#### Galveston County

James A. Matthews, Jr., Member-C  
Ron Crowder, Member-M  
Sam Dell'Olio, Secretary-G

#### Chambers County

J.M. "Mark" Schultz, Chairman-C  
Rita E. Standridge, Member-M  
Shirley Seale, Treasurer-G

*C - County Commissioners Court Appointee*

*M - Mayors Council Appointee*

*G - Governor's Appointee*

### Administrative

Dick Brown  
General Manager  
James L. Cooksey  
Manager Financial Services  
Charles W. Ganze  
Manager Industrial Operations  
Charles Gocde  
Manager General Operations  
Lori Rousel  
Manager Special Projects  
Pamela Collins  
Editor

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### Gulf Coast Comments

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