

# International Association of Hydrogeologists U.S. National Chapter Newsletter

Vol. 39, no. 2: October, 2010

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## CONFERENCES AND ASSOCIATED SOCIETIES

- 2010 Geological Society of America (GSA) Annual Meeting, Denver, CO; October 31- November 3, 2010 – IAH USNC meeting Tuesday November 2 at 4:30 pm
- May 1-5, 2011; Baltimore, Maryland; 2011 Ground Water Summit and 2011 Ground Water Protection Council Spring Meeting, National Ground Water Association.
- ISMAR7 (2010 International Symposium on Managed Aquifer Recharge) October 9-13; Abu Dhabi; Co-sponsored by IAH.
- September 25-26, 2011; in Porto de Galinhas, Brazil; World Water Congress of the International Water Resources Association.
- October 9-12, 2011; Minneapolis, Minnesota USA; Minneapolis Convention Center (<http://www.geosociety.org/meetings/2011/>) 2011 Geological Society of America - Annual Meeting
- Groundwater Resources Association of California 2010- 2011 Events



## IAH/US NATIONAL CHAPTER: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2009-20012

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## A NOTE FROM THE CHAIR

Greetings to all USNC members! The US National Chapter of IAH continues to be strong, vibrant chapter. The Executive Committee is very committed to keeping our US Chapter strong. We have been very active since the last newsletter in March. A meeting of the Executive Committee was held on April 13, 2010 in Denver during the NGWA Ground Water Summit meeting. Seven of the eight Committee members were present along with six guests. In July Lenny Konikow, Andrew Stone, and Vicki Kretsinger Grabert attended the Forward Look meeting hosted by the IAH Council in Reading, England. Thanks to Lenny, Andrew, and Vicki for representing the US Chapter at this meeting. A summary of the Forward Look meeting is included in this newsletter. The USNC was an active co-sponsor of a very good conference entitled *Toward Sustainable Groundwater in Agriculture - An International Conference Linking Science and Policy*. The USNC was well represented at the meeting. The USNC also co-sponsored a very successful Arizona Hydrological Society meeting in Tucson in September. The USNC website continues to improve and I hope everyone has checked out the information on the site. We have been working with Grant Ferguson, the President of the Canadian Chapter of IAH, along with Ken Howard and Steve Holysh to coordinate activities at the 2012 IAH Congress in Niagara Falls. Finally, the USNC was well represented at the 2010 IAH Congress in Krakow, Poland. The USNC had several members at the IAH Krakow Congress –please see the article in this newsletter. The next full Executive Committee will be held on November 2 (4:30 PM) at the GSA meeting in Denver. All USNC members and guests are invited. A meeting agenda will be sent out in advance of the November 2 meeting.

*Mike Wireman, Chair – IAH-USNC Executive Board*

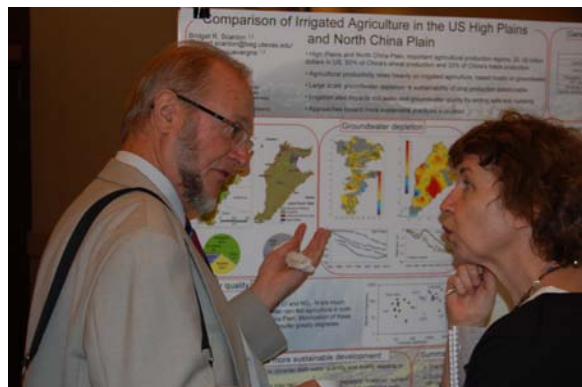


Panelists in the sustainable groundwater conference. From left to right: Jacob Burke, Jean Fried, Mark Giordano, Michael Campana, Margaret Catley-Carlson

## Toward Sustainable Groundwater in Agriculture – An International Conference Linking Science and Policy

... was the title of the [international conference](#) held in Burlingame/San Francisco, June 14 – 18, 2010. The conference was organized by the University of California Davis and the Water Education Foundation with help from the Groundwater Resources Association. The meeting brought together leading scientists, policy analysts, policy and decision makers, and agricultural and environmental stakeholder groups to define and highlight the science, challenges, and potential policy solutions in agricultural groundwater resources management and agricultural groundwater quality protection that will provide a sustainable future at regional, national, and global scales. The US National Chapter of IAH was a key co-sponsor of this conference.

Groundwater is the lifeline for many rural and agricultural regions and their associated cultures and populations around the globe and a cornerstone of global food production. Groundwater constitutes nearly half the world's drinking water and much of the world's irrigation water supply. Population growth, overexploitation, salinization, nonpoint source pollution from agricultural activities (including animal farming, ranching, and forestry activities), impacts to surface water from groundwater depletion and degradation, and groundwater quality and quantity conflicts at the urban-rural interface have reached global dimensions and threaten the health and livelihood of this planet.





**This international conference attempted to bridge the multiple disciplinary and geographic divides around groundwater in agricultural regions: between groundwater resources management and groundwater quality protection; between groundwater scientists working in agricultural regions, groundwater managers, and policy and decision makers governing agricultural groundwater basins; in the Southwestern, Central, and Eastern U.S., in northern, central, or southern Europe, in the Mediterranean, the Middle East, Africa, Asia (China, India, Pakistan foremost), Australia, and South America.**

During the conference, each day began with a plenary session before the conference audience divided into four separate presentation tracks for the remainder of each day. On the last afternoon, the conference wrapped up with a forward looking plenary session offering lively discussion. Altogether, 35 conference sessions, including the four plenary session and a poster session were offered over the three days involving 135 speakers and 25 poster presenters.

The conference was an amazing gathering of movers and shakers, thinkers and tinkerers, decision-makers, policy makers, planners, farmers, ag-industry representatives, consultants, students, even high-school students, and researchers. The over 250 attendees came from California, from across the United States, and from around the globe - Asia, Africa, Europe, Latin America, Australia. All had one thing in common - a shared interest in groundwater resources of agricultural regions and in agriculture's role in sustaining groundwater resources for future uses in agriculture and for other uses.

***Thomas Harter, University of California, Davis***



**Conference Field Trip**



**Robert Glennon signs copies of his new book, *Unquenchable: America's Water Crisis and What to Do About It***