Spotlight on Excellence:

Oro Loma is pleased to welcome three new employees and announce the promotion of three others.

**Jason Warner—District Engineer**

Jason is a civil engineer and holds a professional engineering license. He first came to Oro Loma as Senior Project Engineer in March of 2004. In October of 2005, he returned to Delta Diablo Sanitation District, where he was also Senior Project Engineer. In July of this year, Jason rejoined Oro Loma, where he is now District Engineer, a position in which he reports directly to the General Manager. Jason is presently pursuing a Masters in Public Administration at Cal State East Bay.

**Jim Pinkevich—Supervisor of Plant Operations**

Jim joined Oro Loma 17 years ago as an Operator I. Ten years later, he became a Plant Operator II. Over the years, Jim proved to be a dedicated, trustworthy, and creative employee, generating many ideas for improving plant operations and procedures. When an opening for Supervisor of Plant Operations occurred, Jim was promoted into that position. He brings to the job extensive technical knowledge, as well as a willingness to succeed.

**Melody Knapp—Engineering Technician**

Melody began working for the District as an Engineering Technician in August of this year. Before that, she was the Engineering Technician for the Castro Valley Sanitary District. Melody has experience in Auto CAD, plan checking, permit issuing, and lateral and mainline construction inspection. She also holds a California Water Environment Association (CWEA) Collection System Maintenance I Certificate.

**Earl Miranda—Utility Worker Trainee**

Earl was selected out of a candidate pool of 171 applicants to become the District’s newest Utility Worker Trainee. Born in Hayward, where he still lives, Earl brings with him 11 years of automotive experience from New United Motors Manufacturing Inc. in Fremont. In addition, he has extensive experience in the trucking industry, and holds a Class A California driver’s license. And—if that were not enough—Earl plays in the Jibaro band, Latin Rhythm Boys.

**Rodney Smith—Plant Operator II**

Rodney was hired in December 2005 as a Plant Operator I, bringing with him over 10 years experience in information technology, an Associate Degree from Chabot College, a Certificate in Telecommunications and Network Engineering from UC Berkeley Extension, and an Operator-in-Training Certificate from the State Water Resources Control Board. During his two years at Oro Loma, Rodney acquired a Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator Grade III Certificate, and is now studying for his Grade V examination. He has just been promoted to a Plant Operator II position with the District.

**Ray Green—Mechanic I**

Ray joined Oro Loma in March 2005 as a temporary worker in the Operations Department, hoping to get the opportunity to work with his hands. He advanced to a Utility Worker Trainee position when it became available. His interest in the mechanical field led him to study for and obtain a CWEA Grade I Certificate in Mechanical Technology, which helped him become the District’s newest Mechanic I.