

Outstanding County Officials Announced



Hamilton County Surveyor Kenton C. Ward Receives AIC's Highest Honor

The Association of Indiana Counties (AIC) has named Hamilton County Surveyor Kenton C. Ward as the 2009 Himsel Award Winner. The Arthur R. Himsel Award is the AIC's highest honor and is named for an individual who dedicated his public career as a Hendricks County Commissioner. Himsel was also one of the AIC's founding members. For many years, Himsel served as Indiana's representative on the National Association of Counties (NACo) Board of Directors. Since the inception of the Himsel Award in 1984, it has been given to an elected county official who has served the interest of county government through involvement with the AIC. The award was presented this week during the AIC Annual Conference, the largest gathering of county officials in the state. The conference was held at the French Lick Hotel in Orange County September 28 - October 1 and included meetings designed specifically for each elected county office.

Kenton C. Ward has been serving as the Hamilton County Surveyor since 1977. He is currently the President of the National Association of County Surveyors, is a member of the Board of Directors of the National Association of Counties (NACo) and serves on the GIS Committee for NACo. He is also a charter member of the Indiana Association for Floodplain and Stormwater Management (INAFSM). In 1995 he was appointed by Governor Bayh to serve on the work group that compiled the Indiana Drainage Handbook which is utilized by stormwater designers throughout Indiana. In 2002 and 2003 he served on the Indiana Department of Environmental Management's external workgroup for the writing of Rule 13 which is Indiana's administrative rule for the compliance with EPA's Stormwater Phase II regulations, along with the external workgroup which compiled the Guidance Document for Indiana's Rule 13. He has received the Outstanding County Surveyor Award from the AIC in 1984 and 2004.

Pictured in photo left to right: Kenton C. Ward and AIC President Mary Ann Beard (Rush County Treasurer)