



*PURE LIVING – Jonestown Water Supply Corporation was named 'Best Tasting Water in Texas' by the Texas Rural Water Association. Pictured above: JWSC President Billy Carter, JWSC General Manager John Tichi and JWSC Senior Plant Operator Mike Jossa. (photo by Jim Swayze)*

national taste test in 2003, the year they edged out JWSC for first place in the Texas competition.

A panel of three judges, consisting of the president of the NRWA and two board members from the TRWA selected JWSC as the winner in a blind taste test competition March 11 in conjunction with the TRWA's annual convention in Austin. More than 740 TRWA member water utilities, which combined supply water to some 2.5 million Texans, were eligible to enter the competition. JWSC placed first in the surface water division, and subsequently beat out water from ground water division winner Fort Davis WSC in a taste-off to determine the ultimate winner.

"It's a big feather in our cap," said JWSC President Billy Carter. "We're all excited about it." Asked how he thought the JWSC had been able to achieve this recognition, Carter said, "It's our people. Our general manager and our plant manager are two of the best water guys in the business," referring to JWSC General Manager John Tichi and Senior Plant Operator Mike Jossa.

"They're always striving to make the best water they can make. The minimum standards are just the beginning for them," said Carter. Carter also praised the organization as a whole, including the JWSC board of directors, saying, "We've got a great board."

JWSC Secretary/Treasurer Dave Stewart echoed Carter's comments, saying, "Mike Jossa is probably one of the best water chemists in the state." Stewart also noted that the JWSC entries were judged by two completely different panels of judges in 2003 and 2005. "The fact that we repeated and even bettered our success from two years ago is indicative that [winning the award] is not a fluke," said Stewart.

Asked how he thought the organization as a whole felt about winning the award, Tichi said, "We all feel great. Everybody's excited." Tichi also tipped his hat to Jossa, saying, "I really congratulate Mike Jossa. He's a one-of-a-kind. He's really dedicated to his job, and he really pays attention to the details."

## Jonestown water voted 'best in state'

By Correspondent Jim Swayze

Water from the Jonestown Water Supply Corporation has been named the "Best Tasting Water in Texas" from a rural water supply for 2005 by the Texas Rural Water Association. The win entitles JWSC to enter a water sample in the "Sixth Annual Great American Water Taste Test," part of the "National Rural Water Rally" to be held at the National Rural Water Association's convention April 19 in Washington, D.C.

The award marks the second time in the past three years that the JWSC has been honored for the quality of its water by the TRWA, a non-profit educational and trade association dedicated to the improvement of water quality and supply in Texas. JWSC took second to water from Zephyr WSC in 2003. Zephyr has won the competition for the last three years, and placed second in the