



IWA PIPELINE

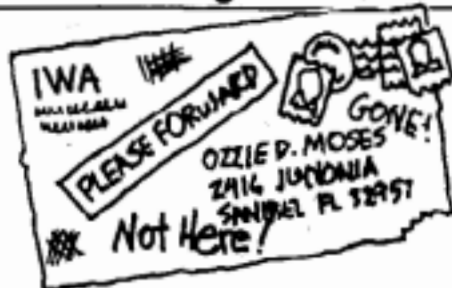


FALL 1991

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VOLUME 14, ISSUE 3

How about doing us a favor



Leaving on vacation? How about giving us a call with your vacation address? That way we can send you your bills direct and avoid the delays that seem to happen with forwarded mail. In many cases having our members vacation addresses could save us the cost of reminders.

If you can do so it's a good idea to shut off the pipe into your home, or at least the valves to your washing machine hoses before you leave. You should also pull the electric plug on your hot water heater if you shut off the water supply.

Utilitarians selected

We'd like to thank all the "utilitarians" who responded to our call for volunteers for our water Rate Review Committee.

The President of the Board has selected the following persons to serve on the committee:

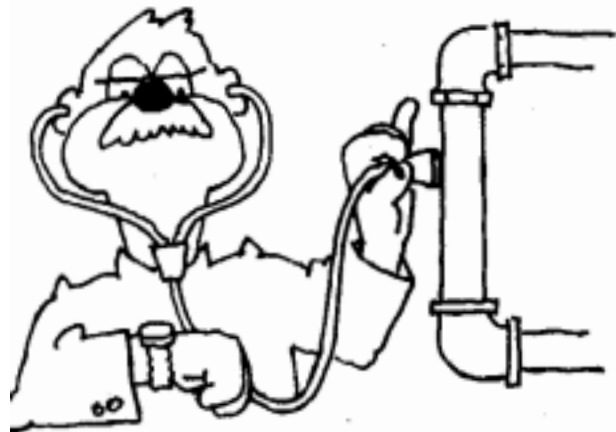
William D. Angst of Sanibel
Richard A. Calabrese of Sanibel
Timothy A. Gardner of Sanibel
Robert Wigley of Plymouth,
MN & Sanibel
William S. Kingman of Captiva

We'll have progress reports for you in our next issue.

Second chance

Our new Automatic Bill Payment program is so easy and convenient! For those of you who haven't signed up yet, we'll give you another chance. Just drop us a note and we'll send you a form to fill out.

Testing — 1-2-3 — testing



In July of 1992 the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency will begin a program of monitoring lead content in household water. The program will concentrate on "high risk" homes including those less than 10 years old which were plumbed with copper piping joined with solder containing lead.

Unless current regulations are changed IWA will be required to sample some sixty homes drawing water from a kitchen or bathroom tap after a period of six hours when no water has been run.

We've started a list of possible test homes and will contact certain homeowners to ask for their help in plenty of time to meet Uncle Sam's deadline.

...and more testing

In May and June of this year the residents of Cape Coral and Fort Myers were notified that their household water was unsafe to drink because fecal coliform bacteria was found in routine tests carried on by the Lee County Department of Health.

Needless to say this caused considerable alarm in these communities. What was happening to neighboring water supplies? Why, suddenly, were these tests indicating dangerous levels of pollution?

The answers to those questions are complex and while there's nothing to celebrate, the situation may not be as alarming as it first appeared.

Perhaps the primary reason for this rash of notifications is a change in the interpretation of the laws regarding notification. In the past if a certain percentage of the tests conducted showed bacteria levels higher than acceptable standards it was required that a second test be taken to be sure that there was indeed polluted water rather than merely polluted test samples. It should be noted that there is no way to collect test samples in the field that is absolutely sterile and safe from wind blown bacteria or other contaminants. If the second tests showed the same results as the first, notification to the general public was required.

Under the new interpretation of the law the second test procedure has been eliminated. If the first test shows unacceptable levels of bacteria the public must be notified. Again it should be noted that the sample collection process is not flawless and this new interpretation was not the result of any new or improved method of sampling.

Another factor to consider is the percentage factor. The number of tests required is dictated by the size of the population involved, but the percentage of failed tests requiring notification remains constant. For example, in a city the size of Miami it might require 25 failed tests to require notification. In Fort Myers it would



be 5 failed tests. On Sanibel and Captiva just one sample showing unacceptable levels of coliform bacteria would require public notification under the new interpretation.

Now here's the other side of the coin. A contaminated water supply could indeed be a serious danger. The best way to see that the public is protected from that hazard is a good testing program with adequate notice to all.

As always IWA is doing everything reasonable to protect your water supply from contamination. But under the new rules it is more likely that a warning will someday be sounded. If in the future there should be notification of unacceptable contaminant levels we urge you to take the warning seriously while the failed test is being verified or overturned.

What a bargain!

According to a recent report on the area infrastructure by the Lee County Business Development Council, our water is becoming more and more of a bargain. According to the study, the price of off island water is steadily growing while IWA's rates have remained stable.

Florida Cities Water company serving Fort Myers Beach has the highest rate at over \$3 per 1000 gallons. Lehigh Acres and Pine Island are second and third highest followed by Sanibel/Captiva with a cost of \$2.50 per thousand gallons.

Who said Sanibel and Captiva weren't for bargain hunters.

And still more testing

This time we're testing you on your H₂O IQ. The answers to most of these puzzlers can be found in past issues of *Pipeline* so if you've been doing your compulsory reading, this test should be a breeze.

If you haven't, don't you think it's time to get with the program? (Check your answers on back page.)

1. IWA's Disaster Preparedness Plan says our employees should evacuate the island before a hurricane strikes. But before we go they're supposed to:

- A. Kill all the pressure on the system to save water for post-storm needs.
- B. Leave the whole system pressurized on automatic control and stand-by power.
- C. Leave a limited supply of water by shutting down everything but two smaller tanks and pump stations.

2. One federal agency provided \$6 million in 5% "seed money" loans for IWA's original start-up. Was that the:

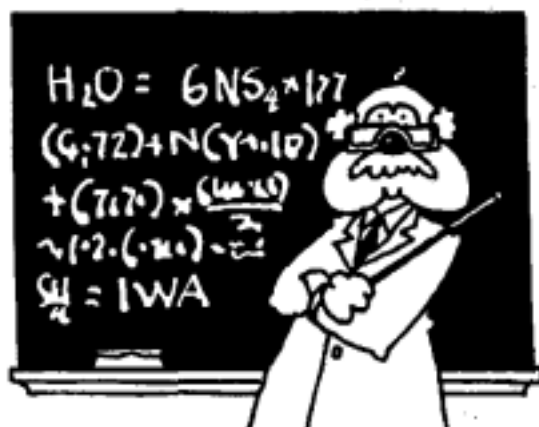
- A. Department of Housing & Urban Development
- B. Environmental Protection Agency
- C. Farmer's Home Administration

3. In a recent issue of *Pipeline* Ozzie mentioned the acronym "SCADA". Was he talking about:

- A. Sanitary Chlorination and Disinfection Application
- B. System Control And Data Acquisition
- C. Sanibel/Captivans Against Dribbling Aqueducts

4. IWA's big capital project for 1991 is called "Sulfide Conversion". The half-million bucks for this job are being spent to:

- A. Eliminate "pitt corrosion" of copper plumbing pipes in island homes.
- B. Eliminate the "rotten egg breath" caused by hydrogen sulfide emissions from IWA's well water.
- C. Start a compliance program to meet tough new environmental rules covering IWA's disposal of R.O. wastewater streams.



Meet Jay Bourne

Jonathan "Jay" Bourne has been with IWA longer than anybody around. He started on January 2, 1974 as a maintenance man and you can believe that in those early days there was plenty of maintenance to go around.

Presently Jay is Operations & Maintenance Supervisor which means he's in charge of 11 plant operators...or to put it more simply...if you turn on your tap and water comes out tasting good Jay is about as responsible as anybody.

Jay lives in Fort Myers with his wife Caron and their two daughters age 8 and 4. In his spare time, which he says he has very little of, he does some gardening in his back yard. He also likes to get away to North Carolina when he can.

That's about as far north as this native Philadelphian ever wants to be.

Answers to Quiz

1. IWA's Disaster Preparedness Plan says our employees should evacuate the island before a hurricane strikes. But before we go they're supposed to:

C. Leave a limited supply of water by shutting down everything but two smaller tanks and pump stations.

2. One federal agency provided \$6 million in 5% "seed money" loans for IWA's

original start-up. That was the:

C. Farmer's Home Administration

3. In a recent issue of *Pipeline Ozzie* mentioned the acronym "SCADA". He was talking about:

B. System Control And Data Acquisition

4. IWA's big capital project for 1991 is called "Sulfide Conversion". The half-million bucks for this job are being spent on all of the above.

A., B. and C.

THE ISLAND WATER ASSOCIATION, INC. COMPARISON OF 1991 BUDGET TO ACTUAL RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS

RECEIPTS	1991 Budget	SIX MONTHS OF	
		Actual Receipts	
Water Sales	\$2,081,412	\$1,928,826	
Interest	40,000	33,912	
Other Receipts	13,000	32,005	
Connection Fees	60,000	57,004	
TOTAL RECEIPTS	\$2,194,412	\$2,051,747	
1/4 1991 Carryover	593,823	593,823	
TOTAL FUNDS	\$2,788,235	\$2,645,570	
DISBURSEMENTS	1991 Budget	SIX MONTHS OF	
		Actual Disbursements	
Wages and Benefits	\$728,378	\$739,573	
Professional Fees	82,185	82,631	
Electricity	297,854	277,050	
Telephone	8,000	8,546	
O & M Service & Supply	321,600	215,794	
Motor Fuels	7,404	6,787	
Insurance	53,400	51,886	
Postal Charges	6,300	5,948	
Travel, Training, Conferences	12,888	12,890	
Debt Repayments	125,650	137,789	
Capital Expenditures	733,200	1,082,702	
Contingency Fund	0	0	
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	\$2,375,959	\$2,661,446	
EXCESS OF FUNDS OVER DISBURSEMENTS FOR 1991		\$84,124	
FOR CASH POSITION ADD REMAINING CARRYOVER (\$593,823)		\$677,946	
LESS RESERVE REQUIREMENTS		\$ 704,312	
NET AVAILABLE FUNDS		(\$26,366)	

These figures represent the unaudited accounts as of June 30, 1991.

Thomas A. Sharp
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President