



IWA PIPELINE



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Hollander weighs anchor...

On September 1, after twelve and a half years of outstanding leadership, Bob Hollander has passed the position of General Manager of The Island Water Association to Roger Blind, previously IWA's Chief Engineer and Assistant General Manager.

Bob will continue to serve IWA as a consultant at least until his 65th birthday next March.

Bob came to IWA in 1981 after 25 years in municipal administration in the water supply field and general city government. Prior to joining IWA he had been the City Manager of three municipalities including Punta Gorda. Bob holds a Masters Degree in Political Science.

During his tenure at IWA Bob has encouraged the use of new technology in our facilities including some unique systems developed in-house. This has helped the Association to nearly double its water production ability which now stands at more than one billion gallons per year.

During the same period IWA has also added more than 20 miles of new water mains bringing improved fire protection to many island homes.

Although these are important capital improve-

ments, Bob considers other changes at IWA even more significant...namely the increased working knowledge and the drive of its employees. This has contributed greatly to IWA's production capacity and allowed the size of the work force to remain at or near a constant level.

Roger Blind, 48, joined IWA in April, 1989. He holds Bachelors and Masters Degrees in Civil Engineering, majoring in water treatment. He is a Registered Professional Engineer.

Prior to joining IWA, Roger was employed by Exxon Corporation for over 18 years. He and his wife, Janet, have been residents of Captiva since 1987.

After retirement, Bob Hollander plans to begin full time enjoyment of his many interests, the foremost of which is his sailboat, the Delfina.



Finally, new digs for IWA

It seems that the time has finally arrived to move IWA into new offices.

It's certainly not a new idea. The new offices were included in the IWA budget as far back as 1984; but there always seemed to be some need a little more pressing, some new technology a little more important than more convenient and efficient office accommodations.

So the IWA staff has continued to make do in offices that consist of a one-time pump house built in 1965 and the attic of a garage built in the early '70's. They've put up with communication deficien-

cies, gotten drenched with monsoon rains trying to get from one building to the other, and ascended and descended untold thousands of stairs just to get the day's work done.

But, now that the F. D. plant has been shut down, it makes sense to sell that 2 acre tract and consolidate the staff in new digs at the R.O. plant site where there is plenty of room.

Architect Joe St. Cyr is already at work on plans for the new office. Construction should begin in early 1994 and be complete by the end of the year.

We'll be sure to send you an invitation to our housewarming, so leave some room on your social calendar.

Making your turf "Water Wise"

According to the folks at the Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation, there are several ways to increase the moisture holding capacity of your turf and reduce the need for irrigation water. Here are some of the best:

- **DRESSING WITH COMPOST:** Top dressing turf areas with a 1" layer of finely screened compost 1-2 times per year can increase the moisture holding capacity of soil 2-3 times. If the compost also contains a manure, you will be fertilizing at the same time. Other advantages of top dressing include organic control of grass fungi and decomposition of thatch by the micro-organisms found in the compost. The layer of compost will also bury disease spores, preventing their spread.

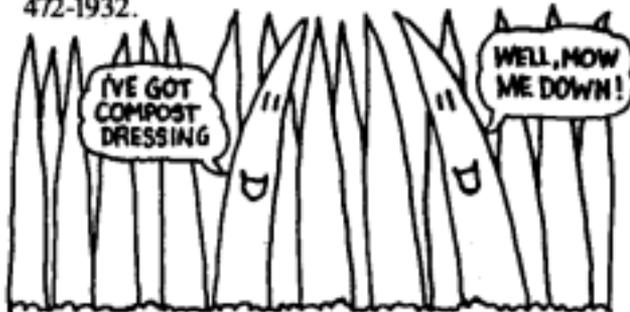
- **USING COMMERCIAL PREPARATIONS:** "Retain" can be applied by hose-end sprayer to turf 1-2 times per year. It is made from complex colloidal minerals helping to build the organic matter and carbon structure of the soil, increasing its water holding capacity and the grass' root structure.

SAPS (Super Absorbent Polymers) can be applied mechanically to your existing turf's root zone. These polymers, when hydrated act as water reservoirs, holding up to four hundred times their weight. Roots grow through them, reducing irrigation by 40-70%. A one time application stays active in the soil for years and can also reduce fertilizer requirements.

- **PROPER WATERING AND MOWING:** Any of the above techniques combined with a one-time per week application of 3/4" water and frequent mowing to no less than 3", encouraging root depth, will insure a great reduction in irrigation needs.

During the rainy season, the installation of a rain sensor to your irrigation system will further reduce irrigation.

For more information, please call Dee Sarge of Project "Water Works" at the Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation Native Plant Nursery at 472-1932.



Happy Hydrants

We're happy to report great progress in our fire protection program. We have recently installed 4,600 feet of 8" pipe in the Beachview Country Club area and 2,200 feet on Anchor Drive. This new pipe facilitated the installation of nine new fire hydrants. This has been a team effort between IWA, the Fire District, the City of Sanibel, Cabana Construction Company and the community.

IWA provides the funding, permitting, engineering, contract administration and field coordination. The Fire District determines the fire hydrant locations, inspects, tests and pays for them. The City of Sanibel (or Lee County when we are working on Captiva) assists us in the road and drainage system repairs. Cabana Construction is doing the actual pipe installation work. They have two crews, each with their own men and equipment.

We're also happy about the cooperation we are receiving from the community. They have provided us places to temporarily store equipment. They have also been patient and understanding as we tear up and replace their landscaping and driveways. We appreciate their help.

We are now working on Tarpon Bay Road and Middle Gulf Drive. After that we will do Henderson Road, Starling Way, Land's End Place, Blue Crab Court, Los Colony Road, Caloosa Drive, Caloosa's End Place, Punta Caloosa Court, Woodring Road and East Gulf Drive.



It just doesn't get any better than this

The R.O. Plant has now been tweaked to full efficiency with the last of the R.O. Trains converted to the new, more efficient membranes.

At present this means a rather comfortable cushion between the islands' needs and the R.O. Plant's capacity...about half a million gallons on our peak day.

It should be stressed, however, that water conservation is still an important factor in the mix. Without sensible water use we could experience a shortfall in the coming years necessitating further plant expansion.

Meet Rick Courson



Rick Courson, IWA's electronic technician, is a Florida native. He was born in Hialeah some 35 years ago and, except for a brief sojourn in southern Georgia, has been knocking around Florida ever since.

He went to high school in Lee County and got his Associate Arts Degree from Edison Community College.

After graduation he planned to get into horticulture, but he got a job in construction where, he claims, he backed into electrical work.

He joined IWA in 1981 and since then has been backing his way up to electronic technician while restricting his horticultural urges to his back yard.

He likes his job — "sometimes a little stressful but never boring" and he does it well...everything from new construction to troubleshooting.

Rick lives in North Fort Myers with his wife, Lori, and their two children: Ryan 12 and Nicki 10. In his spare time he grows vegetables in his back yard, helps out with Little League Baseball, and even finds time for some fishing. Last outing: Arkansas... pretty scenery, so-so fishing.

Turn it off!

In the unhappy event that our islands are seriously threatened by a hurricane, an evacuation may be required.

There are plenty of things to think about once you decide to evacuate...but please don't forget about us!

We strongly suggest that you shut off the water main valve outside your home as close to our meter as possible. That way, after the storm, we won't have to worry about water loss or contamination from broken pipes in your home and you won't have to worry about water damage from leaks in your home.

We've got a great set of pipes

Copper pipe corrosion is big news these days. Some people in Cape Coral are having severe problems in houses that are less than ten years old.

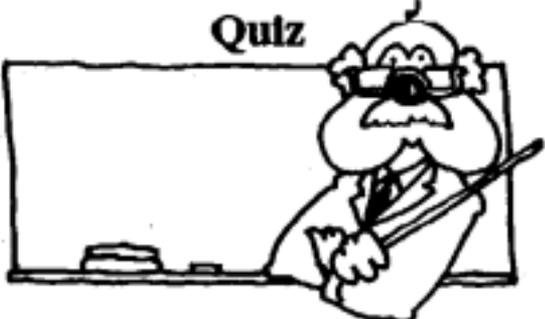
As we've reported in the past, the islands have also had their share of pipe problems — usually pin hole leaks caused by a combination of thin-wall copper pipe and reverse osmosis water which has a hearty appetite for copper.

At IWA we've taken steps to prevent copper corrosion problems. We use a zinc based corrosion inhibitor and installed our in-house, patented sulfide conversion process.

Now, it appears those steps are paying off. Recent reports show the copper corrosion rate in our water system has been reduced 75% in just one year. We are now at the level defined as "minimal corrosion".

We're continuing to work on this important problem and will keep you up to date on our progress.

Quiz



1. Approximately what percentage of IWA's water sales are to Captiva members?
A. 10% C. 30%
B. 20% D. 50%
2. How many gallons of water per minute are required from fire hydrants in a residential neighborhood.
A. 50 C. 750
B. 350 D. 2000
3. What is the average annual rainfall on Sanibel?
A. 34 inches C. 54 inches
B. 44 inches D. 64 inches
4. How long does an IWA Board member's term of office last?
A. 1 year C. 5 years
B. 2 years D. Indefinitely

I'd rather have a bottle in front of me...



Lots of people, these days, are drinking bottled water, but do they really know what they're drinking?

The FDA doesn't think so and plans to change that with new regulations for bottled water that have just gone into effect.

In the future, bottled-water labels will have to be more honest about where the water actually comes from. Today, about 25% of bottled water brands are ordinary tap water. With the new regulations, "spring water" will actually have to come from a spring. "Mineral water" will have to come from a geologically and physically protected underground source.

The new labels will also contain important health information about ingredients such as sodium, calcium and iron.

More importantly, bottled water will finally be held to standards now enforced by the EPA for public drinking water. So, water in the jug with the fancy label will be as safe to drink as water from the tap. Right now, at least one popular brand of bottled water would be illegal to sell as tap water.

The one thing that neither the EPA or the FDA can do anything about is taste. Many people, we are told, prefer IWA water to leading bottled brands. Many people, we hasten to add, do not.

But, whatever your choice, drink up and enjoy knowing that, whether it's from the bottle or the tap, it's safe to drink.

Drumming the Ospreys out of here

Everybody on the islands knows how stubborn ospreys can be about choosing a site for their nests. The power companies have dealt with the problem for years.

Several months ago it was IWA's turn. It seems Mr. and Mrs. Ozzie Sprey, good friends of our own Ozzie Moses, decided to set up housekeeping on the top of IWA's drilling rig...a dangerous spot, especially when the rig had to be moved, unless they liked the idea of a mobile home.

After several ideas had failed to frustrate the feathered friends, somebody came up with the solution. A 55 gallon drum, cut in half lengthwise and tied to the top of the rig, formed a round roof over the rig.

After a day or so of trying to balance sticks on the round surface only to watch them roll off, the Spreys decided to stick to power poles, or one of those specially constructed Osprey Towers.



Answers to quiz

1. The correct answer is B, 20%. IWA serves a total of 1,708 single- and multi-family dwellings and commercial property units on Captiva vs. 7,876 on Sanibel.
2. The correct answer is C.
3. The correct answer is B, 44 inches. This is the amount of average annual rainfall recorded at IWA's water treatment plant over the past decade. Sanibel only receives about 3/4 of the rainfall of Page Field.
4. The correct answer is B, two years. Board candidates are elected by the IWA membership at the Annual Meeting in April to two-year terms and they may serve three consecutive terms for a total of six years.