

IWA PIPELINE



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GOODBYE!!

This makes number 56! It's hard to believe, but this is the 56th edition of this newsletter that I have ghost-written for our company reporter/mascot, Ozzie the Otter (see portrait at the top of this page). My first edition was in the Fall of 1993, when the big news was the completion of IWA's new offices and our new General Manager (me). Back then, we used an outside public relations firm to write and produce the newsletter. It quickly became obvious that we could do the work more efficiently entirely in-house, even with the rudimentary computer systems which we had at the time. The very next edition was written and produced in-house, as has every other one since that time.

Every 3 months, when the next newsletter is written, it starts with a blank computer screen, and frequently an equally blank list of things about which to write. Fifty-six newsletters contain 224 pages, and that's a lot of blank paper! However, there has always seemed to be something interesting about which to write. Our Members sometimes called-in or wrote to us about something in the newsletter, indicating that at least a few people take the time to read it, prior to using it to line the bottom of their birdcage.

The articles which have generated by far the most response were the reports on our office kitty, Lizzie. On occasion, we have even been criticized for omitting a Lizzie article for a couple of consecutive issues (yes, she's still doing just fine and is as "plump" as ever). Running a close second (in terms of popularity) to the Lizzie articles was the one we wrote immediately after hurricane Charley visited our islands on August 13, 2004. In that issue, we shared pictures and our thoughts about that experience, which although memorable, is obviously not one we care to ever repeat.

Beginning with the next issue, the editorship/authorship mantle will be passed to IWA's new

General Manager, Rusty Isler. I sincerely hope that he enjoys the task as much as I have. If you ever have any suggestions for future newsletter topics, just give Rusty a call on (239) 472-1502, and, most importantly, don't let him forget about the need for periodic Lizzie updates!!!

Roger Blind (aka Ozzie)

MEET DAVE CRANDALL



Dave Crandall joined IWA in our Maintenance Department on May 1, 2007, as our Electrician Apprentice. In his new position, Dave is responsible for maintaining all the electrical and computer equipment in the Reverse Osmosis Plant and other areas of our operations. Dave had been working for a local electrical contractor, where he was responsible for troubleshooting residential and commercial electrical systems.

Dave graduated from high school in Venice Florida. He and his wife DeAnna reside in Lehigh Acres, where he says he enjoys outdoor activities, reading and computers. Welcome to IWA, Dave!

WATERING RESTRICTIONS

On June 13th, the South Florida Water Management District imposed Phase II (2 days/week, 4 hours/day) watering restrictions for most of Southwest Florida. However restrictions for residents of the City of Sanibel and Captiva Island, who irrigate with water provided by IWA, remain as they have been since June 2003, when permanent three days per week watering restrictions were implemented for all of Southwest Florida. The more stringent Phase II restrictions do not apply to people irrigating with IWA's water, due to the very deep and salty water source which IWA uses in its treatment process. While IWA's water source is not affected by the new restrictions, it is still very important that our Members follow the existing restrictions, since current water use is at an all-time record high level.

The three-days per week restrictions allow watering anytime within an 18-hour window on permitted watering days, as opposed to the 4-hour window in the Phase II restrictions. This greatly reduces the peak water demand and allows IWA to more effectively distribute its water supply. On April 25, 2007 water demand exceeded 8,000 gallons per minute from about 4:00 a.m. to 5:30 a.m. Nearly every pump in the IWA system has to be operating at the same time to supply this extremely high peak demand. If a need for additional water became necessary, such as for fighting a fire, system pressure may fall to unacceptably low levels, and public safety may be jeopardized.

IWA would like to ask all its Members to utilize the available 18-hour time window for watering on the appropriate days. **Please avoid irrigation between the hours of 4 a.m. and 6 a.m.** By working together during this time of extreme drought, we can all have adequate water for our needs, but we can't all have it at exactly the same time!

Although IWA's water supply is subject to the three-day restrictions, Members who irrigate with 100% reuse water are not subject to any watering restrictions, and those using either a private well or a surface water supply (such as a lake/pond) are subject to the more stringent two-day restrictions of Phase II. The restrictions for each water class are summarized below:

IWA Water Supply:

Odd numbered addresses (1, 3, 5, 7, 9) – Monday, Wednesday and/or Saturday

Even numbered addresses (0, 2, 4, 6, 8) or no address – Tuesday, Thursday and/or Sunday.

Approved Watering Times: - Midnight to 10 a.m. or 4 p.m. to midnight.

No Watering Is Allowed: - Any day between 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and never on Friday

Private Wells and/or Surface Water Supplies (Lakes/Ponds):

Odd numbered addresses (1, 3, 5, 7, 9) – Wednesday and/or Saturday

Even numbered addresses (0, 2, 4, 6, 8) or no address – Thursday and/or Sunday.

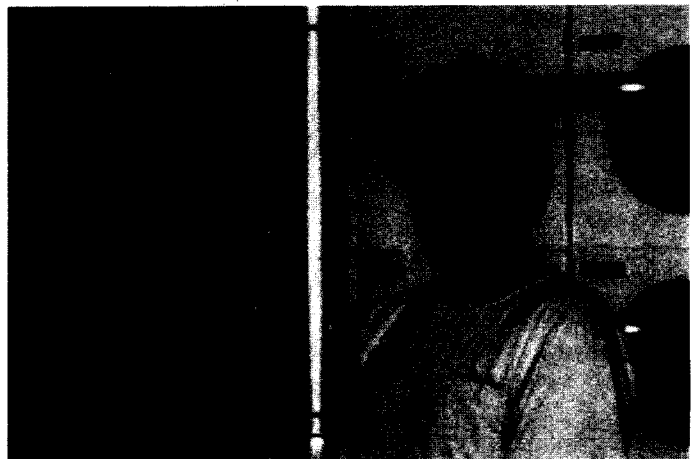
Approved Watering Times: - 4 a.m. to 8 a.m.

No Watering Is Allowed: - Any day between midnight to 4 a.m. and 8 a.m. to midnight, and never on Monday, Tuesday or Friday

100% Reuse Water:

No restrictions

OUTSTANDING OPERATOR!!



IWA Level IV Plant Operator, Brandon Henke, has been honored by being named the Outstanding Water Treatment Plant Operator for 2007 by the Florida Section of the American Water Works Association (FSAWWA). This is the first time any IWA Operator has been so honored. FSAWWA officials tell us that Brandon was selected based on his efforts to continue his training/education, his work record and involvement in FSAWWA activities, and his involvement in activities to improve safety in our plant.

Brandon joined IWA back in July of 1997. Over the following nearly 10-year period, he steadily moved up in our organization, obtaining his C, B and finally his A licenses in treatment plant operation. He has developed and presented several papers on the history of IWA at industry meetings. Congratulations Brandon!

2007 ANNUAL MEETING

On April 9, 2007 the Annual Meeting of The Island Water Association, Inc. (IWA) was held in the Association's offices, located at 3651 Sanibel-Captiva Road.

President, David Demaree, reported on the state of the Company. He first commented on the adverse effects of rapidly rising energy prices on IWA's financial situation. He noted that energy-related costs totaled over \$900,000 in 2006, or 16% of IWA's total expenditures. He then went on to discuss the many steps which IWA has taken to reduce energy consumption over the years. Mr. Demaree reviewed the changes he had seen during his 6-year tenure on the Board, noting that IWA had remained remarkably stable, despite hurricanes, causeway restrictions, and 6 years of inflation. He closed his presentation by reviewing what he sees as one major future challenge that IWA will face. We will need to replace a significant number of very experienced employees over the next decade or so, as they reach retirement age and leave IWA, taking with them many years of valuable experience.

Vice President/Treasurer, William Fenniman, presented the Treasurer's report. He indicated that IWA remains a very financially sound company. He said that IWA's total revenue in 2006 was \$6.3 million, while operating/maintenance costs increased by around \$300,000, to \$4.6 million, primarily as a result of increased costs for insurance and electricity. Cash reserves exceed total debt by around \$2.8 million. Finally, Mr. Fenniman discussed the factors which will eventually lead IWA to request a rate increase at some undetermined point in the future.

Outgoing General Manager, Roger Blind, then presented his annual report on IWA's operations and accomplishments in 2006. He said that annual water production in 2006 increased by around 140 million gallons to around 1.28 billion gallons. He reiterated that IWA remains a very financially sound company, despite having only one rate increase in the last 28 years (in 1992). Mr. Blind then discussed accomplishments in 2006, highlighting capital improvements and water conservation. He also discussed IWA's "Most Valuable Asset" ... its employees. Mr. Blind pointed-out that the average experience level of IWA's 34 employees is 11.5 years, and 8 employees will have over 20 years with the company by the end of 2007. He concluded by presenting awards to six employees who will be achieving the 20-year milestone in 2007 (see following picture).



At this point, incoming General Manager, William "Rusty" Isler, took the podium to discuss IWA's operations in the coming year. Mr. Isler thanked Mr. Blind for his 18 years of service to the company and accepted the challenges that the future will bring. He concluded by discussing the upcoming Captiva main replacement project and answering questions from Members who were present at the meeting.

Finally, Directors William Fenniman and Timothy Gardner were re-elected to their second two-year terms on the Board, and William Carr was elected to serve his first term.

After the Annual Meeting, Directors met to select officers for the 2007-2008 year. Timothy Gardner was elected President. William Fenniman was re-elected Vice President/Treasurer. Robert Wigley was re-elected Vice President/Secretary. Robert Lindman and William Carr were elected Vice Presidents.



CAPTIVA MAIN PROJECT UPDATE

As discussed in the previous issue of this newsletter, IWA will be replacing the majority of our 12 inch diameter water main on Captiva island, beginning about the time this newsletter is issued. The old main is made of ductile iron and has be-

come heavily corroded over its 25-year life, due primarily to soil and groundwater conditions on the island. The corrosion, which is on the exterior of the pipe, resulted in a major main break in the area of the southern s-curve, back in November.

IWA's Engineering staff recommended and the Board of Directors approved replacement of the majority of the ductile iron main with a new heavy-duty plastic one. The installation will not be an easy one. Due to the congested nature of the Captiva village area, most of the new main in that area will have to be installed under Captiva Drive. In other areas of the island, extensive landscaping has been installed within the road right-of-way, where the main will be installed. IWA will restore conditions to those in place before the project, to the best of our ability.

Installation of the new main will be further complicated by the possibility of several other projects that are currently in various stages of development/consideration. The overhead power lines on Captiva may be moved underground, competing for the same limited available space as our new main. In addition, Lee County is considering adding safety shoulders on both sides of Captiva Drive, again competing for the same limited space. The combination of our new water main project and these other two potential projects is going to result in extensive construction activity and disruption along Captiva Drive for some months to come.

Along the 'Tween Waters stretch, between the two s-curves, we are hoping to be able to retain our existing ductile iron main. Inspection of the pipe condition in this area indicates that corrosion is less severe, due most likely to the higher elevation. In addition, the right-of-way is extremely limited in this area, and we must leave room for the potential installation of underground power lines. If

we find more severe corrosion than anticipated in this area during construction, we will revert to "Plan B" and install a new plastic main here as well, located under Captiva Drive. Also, if the underground power line project does not become a reality, a new main may be installed just on/off the bay-side edge of the road.

In the village area, between the "blinking light curve" and the entrance to South Seas Island Resort, the existing main is constructed of a corrosion-resistant material, so that short stretch of main will also not be replaced, although some existing iron valves and fittings will be replaced.

Permitting for this project is another "challenge" upon which we have been working for the last 6 months. First, before permitting could even begin, we had to do the required extensive engineering. This work, as well as all of the permitting activities, have been done entirely in-house, by IWA Engineering staff, saving us a lot of money versus the alternative of using outside engineering consultants. We have already obtained the FDEP coastal construction set-back permit, the FDEP/HRS construction permit and the Lee County development order. The only remaining permit is the Lee County DOT right-of-way permit, which we hope to have by the end of May. Construction in the village area should begin by late May/early June and will last around 2 to 3 months, followed by another 2 to 3 months in the Gold Coast area. Major construction should be complete by late 2007 or early 2008, with restoration taking a bit longer.

It is anticipated that this major water main replacement project will cost IWA somewhere around \$3M. While IWA has ample financial reserve funds to cover this expense, there is no doubt that this project will result in the next water rate increase happening sooner, rather than later.

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