

KRWA Donates \$2,500 for Circuit Rider Work in Central America



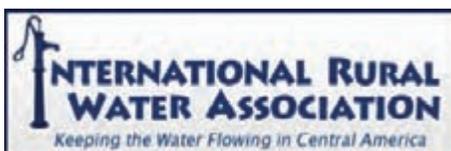
The board of directors of the Kansas Rural Water Association has voted to donate \$2,500 to the International Rural Water Association (IRWA) to provide support for technical assistance to small water systems in Central America. The IRWA is unlike many other organizations involved in water and sanitation projects in that the primary mission is to provide ongoing technical assistance and training to rural communities, empowering them to sustain their water and sanitation infrastructure.

According to IRWA's Web site, (www.intlruralwater.org), the National Rural Water Association (NRWA) began the circuit rider program in the U.S. in the mid 1970's and it is still operating today helping rural communities throughout the fifty states, Puerto Rico and the U.S. territories in the South Pacific. The program was so successful that in 1988, the board of directors for NRWA provided seed capital to establish the IRWA. IRWA began operations shortly thereafter in Honduras and has been supporting rural communities in Central America ever since.

In providing the donation by Kansas Rural Water Association, President Sam Atherton states that while Americans have the benefit of safe drinking water, that is not the case with many people throughout the world. "Those people do have to worry about the safety and their health when they drink water," Atherton says. "The \$2,500 donation to help the circuit rider program through International Rural Water Association is a small gesture but it demonstrates the concern that people in Kansas have for others," he said.

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through regular and consistent follow-up. Far fewer than one percent of water projects completed by aid agencies and benevolent groups ever see any monitoring or follow-up past the first year. By contrast, 100 percent of IRWA projects receive follow-up by in-country circuit riders every one or two months.

The IRWA is governed by a board of directors, similar to other non-profit organizations. Mel Aust is IRWA Chairman. He is General Manager of Hidden Valley Lake Community Services District, Hidden Valley Lake, CA and is also a member of the National Rural Water Board of Directors.

Fred Stottlemeyer is currently the volunteer Field Coordinator for International Rural Water Association. Fred began his involvement with IRWA in 1995 and has since been the driving force and visionary for the program. He has committed significant time to developing the program as a grass roots program of instruction and technical assistance to rural communities through in-country groups dedicated to improving the quality, quantity and safety of drinking water. Fred has made numerous trips to Central America and the Caribbean. He is responsible for the program expanding from its starting point in Honduras into El

Salvador, Dominican Republic and Haiti.

Fred has held a variety of diverse jobs including General Manager of a public water and wastewater district in West Virginia (1976-2004), Special Assistant to the President of the United Mine Workers of America (1973-1975), Community Action Work (1969-1972), Director of State Planning in West Virginia (1966-1969) and was a Peace Corps volunteer in Pakistan (1962-1964).

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Date	Course	Location	Brochure	Operator Credits	Cost	
June 7	KanCap Board/Council Training - Hutchinson	Hutchinson	Details	w	No Charge	+ register
June 8	Confined Space Entry - Dodge City	Dodge City	Details	w/ww	No Charge	+ register
June 8	KanCap Board/Council Training - (this session has been cancelled) Emporia	Emporia	Details	w	No Charge	+ register
June 9	KanCap Board/Council Training - Lawrence	Lawrence	Details	w	No Charge	+ register
June 9	Confined Space Entry - Dodge City	Dodge City	Details	w/ww	No Charge	+ register
June 10	Utility Troubleshooting Electrical Motors and Drives - Pittsburg	Pittsburg	Details	w	No Charge	This session is filled.
June 21	Line Locators, Leak Detection and Meter Testing - Emporia	Emporia	Details	w	No Charge	+ register
June 21	Line Locators, Leak Detection and Meter Testing - Manhattan	Manhattan	Details	w	No Charge	+ register
June 23	Line Locators, Leak Detection and Meter Testing - Lawrence	Lawrence	Details	w	No Charge	+ register
Garden City	Chlorine Safety and Maintenance - Garden City	Garden City	Details	w/ww	No Charge	+ register
July 12	Wastewater Utility Training (by Hach Company) - Parsons	Parsons	Details	w	No Charge	+ register
July 13	Water and Wastewater Utility Training (by Hach Company) - Parsons	Parsons	Details	w/ww	No Charge	+ register
July 14	Wastewater Utility Training (by Hach Company) - Parsons	Parsons	Details	ww	No Charge	+ register
July 20	Competent Person for Trenching and Excavation - Phillipsburg	Phillipsburg	Details	w/ww	\$90.00	+ register
July 21	Confined Space Entry - Phillipsburg	Phillipsburg	Details	w/ww	\$90.00	+ register
August 10	Understanding / Troubleshooting	Winfield	Details	w/ww	No Charge	+ register

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