



IOWA ASSOCIATION OF MUNICIPAL UTILITIES NEWSLETTER

"To support and strengthen Iowa's municipal utilities"

INDIVIDUALS, UTILITIES SALUTED AT CONFERENCE



IAMU Annual Conference award winners included (top to bottom): **Jack Gould**, Pocahontas Municipal Utilities; **Jon Martens**, Atlantic Municipal Utilities; and **Jim Milam**, NIMECA (more award photos, pgs. 6, 7).



*Shining Stars
in the
Utility Universe*

IAMU Annual Conference
February 20 - 22, 2008



IAMU was again pleased to honor several individuals and utilities at the IAMU Annual Conference for their outstanding contributions to your association, their communities and municipal utilities statewide.

L.D. McMullen, who recently retired as General Manager of the **Des Moines Water Works**, was honored with the Distinguished Service Award. McMullen began his municipal utility career at Des Moines Water Works in 1978, as a Design Engineer. He advanced through several positions there and became CEO and General Manager in 1986. He became a very recognizable public figure when he provided heroic leadership during the floods of 1993. During his distinguished career at Des Moines Water Works he has won national recognition for his work in the American Water Works Association, the Association of Metropolitan Water Agencies, and with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, where he served on various industry advisory bodies.

McMullen has also been a leader within IAMU. His work with the association began early in his career at Des Moines Water Works, when he joined the Rules Review Committee. He also served on the board as president in 2002 - 2003. McMullen was vacationing at the time of the Annual Conference, so was not able to personally accept the award.

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JOINT WIND PROJECTS: BIG GAINS IN PRELIM STUDIES



IAMU News

As national interest in renewable resources increases, a group of 37 municipal utilities, their joint action agencies (including the Municipal Energy Agency of Nebraska (MEAN), Missouri River Energy Services (MRES), South Iowa Municipal Electric Cooperative Association (SIMECA), Western Iowa Municipal Electric Cooperative Association (WIMECA), and the Iowa Public Power Agency (IPPA) are continuing their work to develop joint wind projects. The group has made substantial progress to complete its Phase 1 studies, including investigations into economics, transmission arrangements and land acquisition rights and is heading into Phase 2, with a focus on developing participation agreements, financing, and environmental permitting studies. For more information, contact Anne Kimber at IAMU, 800/810-4268 or akimber@iamu.org.



HISTORIC TRANSMISSION MEETING HELD AT IAMU

IAMU hosted a transmission planning meeting at its Office & Training Complex March 12. It is not too dramatic to say this was a historic event, offered by MidAmerican for stakeholders.



The meeting was historic because it and the long-range planning process now underway was a result of changes by MEC (MidAmerican Energy Company) to its Open Access Transmission Tariff (OATT Attachment M) in response to FERC Order 890. The MEC tariff now filed at FERC includes new language on the planning process that was developed to include the concerns of IAMU and the Municipal Energy Agency of Nebraska (MEAN).



NESC REQUIREMENTS: ARE YOU READY FOR JAN. 1 2009?

The clock is ticking for electric utilities to make their plans for compliance with the National Electric Safety Code (NESC) 2007 requirements. Less than one year remains before new and potentially costly changes must be put into place. Utilities that have not yet begun steps toward meeting the deadline may find it a daunting task. The revision in the code that will have a major impact – especially on small utilities – is the requirement for Flame Retardant (FR) clothing for all employees at risk for arc flash burns. The revision recognizes the long history of arc flash incidents that have resulted in non-FR clothing catching fire, causing serious injury and death.

Because of these incidents, NESC added a new rule, 410A3, which states: “Effective January 1, 2009, the employer shall ensure that an assessment is performed to determine potential exposure to an electric arc for employees who work on or near energized parts or equipment. If the assessment determines a potential employee exposure greater than 2 cal/cm² exists, the employer shall require the employee to wear clothing or a clothing system that has an effective rating at least equal to the anticipated level of arc energy.” The standard also requires “clothing that will not ignite and continue to burn when

exposed to an electrical arc, has an arc rating or ATPV rating at least equal to the level of energy calculated by an arc hazard analysis for the specific job assignment.” It goes on to say that clothing made of rayon, polyester, acetate, and nylon shall not be worn at any time.

Implementing this safety program will involve not only identifying exposure levels, but also deciding on what method will be used to identify those hazards, selecting the proper PPE for the hazard, and training workers to wear the PPE properly. It was widely anticipated that most utilities needing to implement the new standard would need to hire an engineering firm to oversee the project.

The NESC, administered by the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers, is a voluntary industry standard, not a federal mandate – however, all utilities are cautioned to follow the code, as officials agree that once a rule becomes a standard, the courts expect that it has been met in the event of any legal case that should arise.

For more information contact Eric Stoll, IAMU Electric Services coordinator, at 800/810-4268.



TAX BREAK EXTENSION FOR SOY TRANSFORMER FLUID

Tax benefits for electric utilities using soy-based transformer fluid can now be obtained for an additional year.

Governor Culver has signed Senate File 572, which extends by one year the period for which taxes will be reduced for the use of soy-based transformer fluid. Section 422.11R, Code Supplement 2007, has been amended to read: “The taxes imposed under this division, less the credits allowed under section 422.12, shall be reduced by a soy-based transformer fluid tax credit allowed under chapter 476D.”

The section is to be repealed December 31, 2009, as opposed to the original date of December 31, 2008.

For the full text of the bill, see the Iowa Legislature website, www.legis.state.ia.us/, (click “Track Legislation” and search SF 572).

RESCHEDULED DIESEL WORKSHOP COMING UP

The IAMU Diesel Generation Workshop, originally scheduled for late February and postponed due to bad weather, has been rescheduled for March 25 – 26 at the Five Sullivan Bros. Convention Center in Waterloo. The original workshop agenda will remain unchanged, including the on-site generator training locations in four different communities.

For more information, contact IAMU at 800/810-4268, or see the IAMU website, www.iamu.org (click on “Calendar/Registrations” and follow the instructions).





NEW IAMU DISASTER PLAN/CONTRACTOR PROGRAMS ON CD

IAMU is now offering an important new document: **The Disaster Recovery Plan for Electric, Gas, and Telecommunications Utilities**. The Disaster Recovery Plan was devised to ensure an overall effective and well-organized response to any natural disaster or major system incident which would severely limit or interrupt service to electric, gas and telecommunication customers. The primary objective of this plan is to protect the public and facilities, and to minimize customer inconvenience due to loss of service.

Early in 2007 the Iowa Utilities Board asked utilities in Iowa if they had a written plan in place to address disasters recovery and continuity of business. IAMU has had an Emergency Action Plan in place for many years, but not a disaster recovery plan. IAMU contacted the American Public Power Association (APPA), which in turn contacted their members to help IAMU with any plans that were already developed. APPA's members sent IAMU several plans. IAMU sent these plans to the municipal utilities of Independence, Iowa, for review. After many months of planning, Independence completed and established a disaster recovery plan for their electric and telecommunication utilities. This plan became the model for IAMU's plan. IAMU has added gas utilities to this plan, and is now making it available to association members.

The procedures that comprise the Disaster Recovery Plan are intended to serve as a general guideline to help establish lines of communication in the event of a natural disaster or major system incident. With these lines of communication and responsibilities established, and with periodic testing of the plan, it is hoped that the objective of minimizing loss of service can be met.

The Disaster Recovery Plan is comprised of separate plans. Each plan calls for convening a group of experts, or Crisis Management Teams, to respond and coordinate all efforts pertaining to any situation where communication and control of an incident would be improved by implementing the plan. Additionally, these teams will be the focal points through which outside aid will be requested from, and coordinated with, local, state, and federal emergency management agencies.

The plan is available on CD for \$25 per copy. For more information, or to purchase, contact IAMU at 800-810-4268.

IAMU has developed a new **Contractors Safety Program** to provide guidance and clarification for the procedures and responsibilities regarding the selection, review, oversight, assessment and disciplinary actions of contractors your utility and city hires.

It is important that utilities and cities have a contractor program in place to limit their liability exposure from costly injury claims, safety fines and equipment and property damage.

The program establishes the practice of hiring only contractors with established and well-documented safety and health programs, which can be verified prior to beginning work. The program sections include the policy; limitations; insurance requirements; responsibilities; procedures; selection; information and training; oversight and disciplinary action; program assessment; and record keeping. Also included in the program are the documents needed to establish the program with your contractors: A contractor safety questionnaire; contractor safety agreement; contractor health and safety infraction notice; contractor health and safety inspection checklist; contractor program assessment checklist; and approved contractor list.

The program is available on CD at a cost of \$90 per copy. For more information on the Contractors Safety Program, or to purchase, contact IAMU at 800/810-4268.

JOB TRAINING WORKSHOP TO PRESENT FOUR TOPICS

Four different safety topics will be presented in the IAMU Job Training Workshop March 25 – 26 at the association's Training & Office Complex in Ankeny.

Trenching & Shoring/Competent Person, Work Zone Safety, Backhoe Safety and Confined Space Safety will all be presented. Participants may register for March 25 (Work Zone, Backhoe, Confined Space) only; March 26 (Trenching & Shoring, Competent Person) only; or both days.

CEUs offered are as follows: Work Zone, 0.2 (Water Distribution and Wastewater only); Backhoe, 0.2 (Water Distribution and Wastewater only); Confined Space, 0.2 (Water Treatment, Water Distribution, Wastewater); and Trenching

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GAS "BOOT CAMP" HITS THE GROUND APRIL 14 – 18

IAMU will roll out a Gas "Boot Camp" Operator Qualification Training Workshop April 14 – 18 at the association's Training & Office Complex in Ankeny.

This workshop is recommended for new operators; dispatchers; on-call personnel; and operators who would like to qualify or requalify on the covered tasks being presented. Hands-on and written evaluations will be offered. Participants may attend one individual day or the entire week. Note: Dispatch personnel should plan to attend the April 14 session. Training will be held from noon – 4 p.m. April 14; 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. April 15; 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. April 16 and 17; and 8 a.m. – noon April 18.

Modules and tasks to be presented are as follows (modules listed first in each pairing): April 14: 101,102, 103, 104/1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 2.5. April 15: 221, 231, 232, 241, 271/5.1, 5.2, 5.3, 5.4, 5.5, 6.1. April 16: 261, 272, 402/2.1, 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 3.4, 3.5, 5.6, 6.2, 11.3 (hands-on

only). April 17: 201, 202, 211, 321, 322/4.5, 4.6, 4.7, 6.7, 6.8, 10.4. April 18: 131, 301, 441, 452/4.4, 6.3, 7.6, 7.19, 7.20 (hands-on only).

Some of the hands-on training in this workshop will be conducted on the IAMU Safety & Training Field, and participants may be required to bring certain equipment to the workshop (see the workshop brochure for details).

No hotel room blocks have been reserved for this workshop, but the brochure lists contact information for recommended area hotels.

See the brochure for specific registration costs. The registration deadline is April 9, 2008. The printed brochure and registration form has been distributed; or, register online with the IAMU website, www.iamu.org (click on Calendar/Registrations and follow the instructions).

For more information, contact IAMU at 800/810-4268.

ECO@HOME: AN ENERGY EFFICIENCY ANSWER FROM IAMU

Cities and utilities are facing an increasing amount of pressure to encourage energy efficiency on the part of their customers – including a sharpened focus on the issue from the Iowa legislature.

One of the most important components of this push is customer education. IAMU has officially launched a significant informational tool for just that purpose: a new publication called *Eco@Home*.

Eco@Home is a 12-page, digest-sized booklet full of energy efficiency topics and ideas, personalized for your city or utility. It includes such subjects as recycling, green products for the home and the advantages of buying local. *Eco@Home* will be published bi-monthly (every other month).

This easy-to-read, full color booklet is designed to motivate your customers to consume gas, electricity, and water more efficiently. Your city/utility name, website and

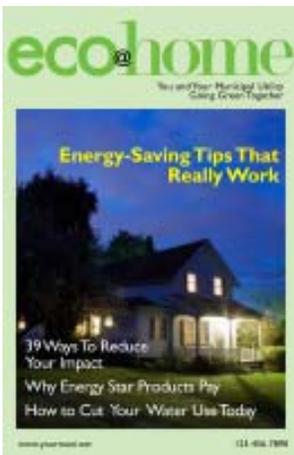
phone number are placed on the front cover for easy recognition by your customers.

IAMU coordinates all *Eco@Home* content – with all material designed to be universally customer-friendly, and presented in an easy-to-read, attention-grabbing format. In addition to being an easy solution to your energy efficiency communication needs, *Eco@Home* will also become a significant public relations tool for your city or utility.

And *Eco@Home* is affordable – your cost is only 29 cents per copy.

Delivery and distribution is easy – *Eco@Home* can be drop shipped to your utility for redistribution, or it can be mailed directly to your customers for as little as 22 cents per copy.

If you would like to see a sample of *Eco@Home*, or would like more information, contact Sandy Longfellow at IAMU at 800/810-4268 or by email at slongfellow@iamu.org.



Eco@Home is an all-new consumer education publication from IAMU that is now available for your customers.



BUSY, SUCCESSFUL YEAR FOR IAMU WATER DEPARTMENT

The past year got off to a quick start for the IAMU Water Services Department with a round of training beginning in March 2007. Over the past few years and again in 2007 many of the workshops given by the department were funded through grants from the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (IDNR). The 2007 grant-funded workshops included: Consumer Confidence Report; Cross Connection Control; Leak Detection & Line Locating; Water Distribution; Sampling Techniques & Plan Development; Disinfection; and Grade I Water Treatment.

Even with the busy grant training schedule, the department was still able to hold the Advanced Water Treatment and Advanced Water Distribution workshops. Speakers from around the state were invited to present on topics geared towards operators with higher levels of certification. The 13th Annual Water/Wastewater Operator's Training Workshop was held once again in November 2007 with over 180 attendees and 32 vendors (a new record) displaying their products and services. The workshop was again a huge success with great reviews from not only the participants, but from the vendors as well!

2007 also brought the completion of the association's on-site water lab and, after a "train the trainer" session given by Hach, the first Water Operator Lab Workshops. This workshop, which is designed for new operators or as a refresher for seasoned operators, covered introductions to colorimetry and

chlorine and analysis of pH, fluoride, iron, manganese and phosphate. Despite having to postpone once due to weather, the classes were well attended and we look forward to offering them again in the coming year.

The IDNR awarded the Viability Technical Assistance grant to IAMU and work began on this contract last spring. On-site training and technical assistance on the financial, technical and managerial aspects of water system operation will be provided to communities/systems through this three-year agreement. Water utility board/city council member training is also provided to systems that are referred by IDNR.

The rollout of the IAMU Water/Wastewater Apprentice Program was a great achievement for the year. IAMU partnered with the Department of Labor, Kirkwood Community College, and the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees to design a program giving participants the skills and education necessary to obtain not only Grades I and II licenses, but to also lay the foundation for achieving a Grade III or IV license later in their career path.

2007 was a year filled with training opportunities, but also saw an end to many of the grant contracts with IDNR. During 2008 IAMU water services will continue to offer quality training for our members. Be sure to keep an eye out for new workshops and services!



Activities at the recent IAMU Advanced H₂O Workshops saw vendor displays (left) and numerous guest speakers including Teresa Konda of HDR Engineering and Joel Mohr of Iowa American Water.



ANNUAL CONFERENCE AWARDS

Continued from Page 1



Jack Gould, who will soon retire as Electric Superintendent of Pocahontas Municipal Utilities, was presented with the Honor Roll Award. Gould has been a key component in many advances the City of Pocahontas has seen in the past 20-plus years, including a complete rebuilding of the electric system, and its conversion from an overhead to much more reliable underground line system. He was also involved with installing many other improvements in the city's electrical system, including changes to the load management system, the purchase of a substation and increased electric generation capabilities.

He has also served the residents of Pocahontas as a member of the city's fire department for 22 years, and through involvement in the reconstruction of the Rialto Theatre, a community landmark. He served on the theatre's board of directors for more than ten years.



Two officials received the Individual Achievement Award: **Jon Martens** of Atlantic Municipal Utilities and **Jim Milam** of the North Iowa Municipal Electric Cooperative Association (NIMECA). Martens has served not only Atlantic Municipal Utilities, but many municipal utilities in Iowa through service on IAMU's Water Safety & Training Committee for more than ten years. Through this role, he has helped in the training of countless municipal utility employees from around the state at IAMU workshops and seminars. He has also been a key component in assisting with the planning and development of water training facilities at IAMU's Office & Training Complex in Ankeny, and in securing the donation of equipment used there. With his extensive knowledge of water utility operations, he also serves as a resource for other water utilities in many smaller southwest Iowa communities. He also represents IAMU and small water utilities as part of several Iowa Department of Natural Resources committees. He is also active with the Iowa Section of the American Water Works Association.

Martens' influence has also spread internationally, as he was part of delegation that traveled to Tanzania in 2007 to assist in the deployment of a special water purification system developed by a fellow Iowa water utility official. The system allows the residents of African communities to consume water that is free of disease-causing impurities. Martens is planning a future trip to Mexico to help in the distribution of the same system in certain communities there. Locally, Martens is a member of the Atlantic school system board, and his church board.

Milam, who will soon retire, came to NIMECA from Memphis (Tenn.) Water, Light and Power in 1980. He began serving the association as Operations Manager, and was promoted to his current position in 1998.

During his career at NIMECA, he has led efforts to acquire joint ownership of electric generating resources as well as purchased power contracts for wind energy. He has also been active in efforts to secure electric transmission ownership rights. He has helped foster good working relationships among NIMECA members and with other municipal utilities, as well as investor-owned utility entities, such as MidAmerican Energy and Alliant Energy. Jim has also been active in the local community and with his church.

NIMECA is composed of 12 IAMU member utilities located in Alta, Bancroft, Coon Rapids, Graettinger, Grundy Center, Laurens, Milford, New Hampton, Spencer, Sumner, Webster City and West Bend. The member utilities jointly and individually own electric generating capacity. NIMECA is a member of Humboldt-based Corn Belt Power Cooperative.

Leonard Kaufmann, of the Manilla Municipal Utilities Board of Trustees, was presented with the Public Service Award. Kaufmann served on the Manilla Board of Trustees from January, 1989 to December, 2007, and played a major role in the local Manilla community. As a board member, he was instrumental in creating two new subdivisions in the city and helped fund fire trucks, housing rehabilitation and park projects. He has also played a part in Manilla electric underground projects, getting better cell phone service to the area and coordinated state representatives meeting with local utilities.

In addition to serving the local Manilla community, Kaufmann has also worked closely with Missouri River Energy Services, a power supply agency based in Sioux Falls, SD, and with the American Public Power Association (APPA), which serves publicly-owned electric utilities nationwide. Through his connection with APPA, Kaufmann has been involved in U.S. Congressional delegations working to maintain reliable and cost effective electric service to utilities in Iowa and elsewhere.

The Story City and Winterset Municipal Electric Utilities, respectively, were honored with the System Achievement Award for their assistance with a special biodiesel emissions study coordinated by IAMU and the Iowa Energy Center of Ames.



Mike Wilkinson, Winterset Municipal Electric Utility (top); **Jeff Ishmael**, Story City Municipal Electric Utility (center); and **Leonard Kaufmann**, Manilla Municipal Utilities Board of Trustees (bottom), were among those accepting awards at the Annual Conference.

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MEHL, CHAPMAN RECEIVE IAMU ASSOCIATE MEMBER AWARD

Two deserving representatives of IAMU associate member businesses were presented with the Jim McCaskey Associate Member Award at the IAMU Annual Conference: Tom Mehl of Ruan Securities and Larry Chapman of Chapman Metering.

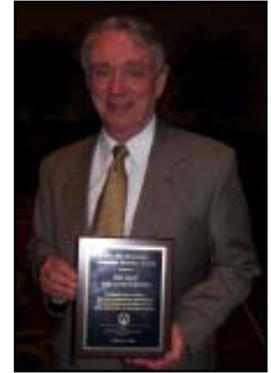
Through Ruan Securities, **Tom Mehl** has provided municipal and utility financing for IAMU members for many years. He has also actively supported IAMU by providing expertise on financing options for a number of different projects. Last year Tom approached IAMU with an offer to fund scholarships for a workshop or course on municipal finance. With a matching contribution from the Ahlers Law Firm, IAMU was able to provide scholarships to several IAMU members who attended an APPA Accounting and Finance Workshop in Minneapolis.

Tom has provided valuable services to Iowa municipalities by involving local and area banks in the financing needs of member communities. And he has always helped IAMU when the association needed an independent

voice as a joint action advocate to legislators and the governor.

Larry Chapman began in business with his father 40 years ago. Today he is the owner of Chapman Metering LLC in Avoca. He has been a generous contributor to IAMU, serving as an instructor at your association's Watt Hour Metering Workshops and providing essential information to many municipal utility employees. Larry assisted with the Biodiesel emission tests at Winterset Municipal Utilities, which helped set standards for the use biodiesel fuel in peaking generation plants. Larry is active in his church in Avoca, and pursues the dynamic hobby of owning and flying two airplanes, a rebuilt Beech Bonanza and a Starduster biplane, which is capable of aerobatics.

IAMU extends its thanks and appreciation to Tom Mehl and Larry Chapman for their loyal support of the association and its members for many years.



Tom Mehl of Ruan Securities (top) and **Larry Chapman** of Chapman Metering (shown conducting an IAMU workshop) received the Jim McCaskey Associate Member Award at the Annual Conference.



A sold out associate member exhibit hall at the IAMU Annual Conference saw busy times for vendors. At left, Patti Cale-Finnegan, representing the Iowa Finance Authority's State Revolving Fund, chats with guest speaker Roy Stanley of the Iowa Office of Energy Independence; also shown are Short Elliot Hendrickson representatives (center photo) and Jerry Rutenburg of Peaker Services (right photo).

The 2006 study involved the burning of different formulations of biodiesel fuel in the plants' generators. The emissions created were then measured, and were studied by the Iowa Department of Natural Resources. The 100 percent biodiesel fuel test in Story City was believed to have been the first of its kind in the nation done in accordance with U.S. Environmental Protection Agency methods and using a generator of the age of the Story City unit.

Both utilities were instrumental in initially setting up the tests, in supplying letters of support to the

Iowa Energy Center, which helped secure funding for the program. Data will be used in continuing studies into the possible future use of different forms of environmentally friendly biodiesel fuel for electric generation.

Jeff Ishmael, Administrator of the Story City Municipal Electric Utility, and **Mike Wilkinson** of the Winterset Municipal Electric Utility, were on hand to receive their awards.

ANNUAL CONFERENCE AWARDS

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Shining Stars in the Utility Universe

IAMU Annual Conference
February 20 – 22, 2008



Just some of the many speakers at the IAMU Annual Conference included (top row, left to right): **Roya Stanley** of the Iowa Office of Energy Independence; **Cindy Bogorad**, Spiegel & McDiarmid; and **Terry Huval**, Lafayette (LA) Utilities System. Second row, left to right): **Kim Didier**, Newton Development Corporation; **Dennis Fannin**, Osage Municipal Utilities; **Jon Martens**, Atlantic Municipal Utilities; and **Mark Hegedus**, Spiegel & McDiarmid. Third row, left to right): Numerous speakers presenting different topics at the **Issues Fair**; **Gary Higbee**, Higbee & Associates; and **Bert Kalisch**, American Public Gas Association (APGA).



Find selected Annual Conference presentations on the IAMU website, www.iamu.org (under "Hot News").



IAMU 2008 Board of Directors

(as approved at the IAMU Annual Conference Business Meeting February 22, 2008)

- President** **Brian Geschke**, New Hampton (to replace Jim Hoye)
- 1st Vice President** **Bob Sewell**, Milford (to replace Brian Geschke)
- 2nd Vice President** **Jim Krieg**, Cedar Falls (to replace Bob Sewell)
- Sec./Treasurer** **John Bilsten**, Algona (to replace Greg Fritz, Pocahontas)
- Past President** **Jim Hoye**, Rock Rapids (to replace John Bilsten)
- Director '09** **David Kalkwarf**, Marion (continues)
- Director '09** **Craig Hall**, Brooklyn (to replace Jim Krieg)
- Director '10** **Darrel Wenzel**, Independence (continues)
- Director '10** **Diane Lucas**, Breda (continues)
- Director '11** **John Hays**, Washington (for a full three-year term)
- Director '11** **Pat Stief**, Traer (to replace Brad Honold, Coon Rapids)



Jim Hoye of Rock Rapids (right), outgoing IAMU Board President, accepts a plaque from incoming President Brian Geschke of New Hampton.



CALENDAR OF IAMU WORKSHOPS AND EVENTS



All information subject to change.

Unless otherwise noted, all events held at IAMU Training & Office Complex: 1735 NE 70th Ave., Ankeny, IA

March 2008

March 25 – 26
 March 25 – 26
 March 27

Safety: Job Training Workshop
Electric: Diesel Generation Workshop, Waterloo (rescheduled)
Storm Water: Rain Garden Test Session



April 2008

April 9
 April 10

 April 10

 April 14 – 18

 April 16
 April 17
 April 23
 April 23

Water/WW: Consumer Confidence Report Workshop, Mason City
Water/WW: Consumer Confidence Report Workshop, Alta

Storm Water: Construction Site SWPPP & Inspections Workshop, Spencer

Gas: "Boot Camp" Operator Qualification Training Workshop

Water/WW: Consumer Confidence Report Workshop, Coralville
Water/WW: Consumer Confidence Report Workshop, Manchester
Water/WW: Consumer Confidence Report Workshop, Atlantic
Water/WW: Consumer Confidence Report Workshop, Ankeny (IAMU)



**Register for
 IAMU workshops online
 with the IAMU website,
www.iamu.org**

*(Click on "Calendar/
 Registrations")*

May 2008

May 20 – 23

Electric: Electric Overhead Workshop



Leading in AMR for 40 years, Neptune Technology has developed systems that read over 59 million meters monthly. With innovative products like the R900G for gas and the E-Coder|R900i™ for water, Neptune provides high output power, long battery life, and accurate, intelligent data that puts you in control.

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www.IowaFinanceAuthority.gov



BIG PLANS REVEALED FOR LENOX TELECOM SYSTEM

Lenox Municipal Utilities is taking a big step to insure that future technology needs are met in Lenox with a new communications system that will be installed this year.

The Lenox Municipal Utilities board recently held a public hearing and approved spending \$1.9 million for a new telephone, internet and cable television system.

The utility will team with Farmers Mutual Telephone Company of Stanton, which will provide the dial tone for the telephone and internet portion of the system. Farmers Mutual Telephone will run fiber optic lines to Lenox. Lenox Municipal Utilities will be responsible for installation of fiber optics to homes and businesses within the city.

Lenox Municipal Utilities had looked into overhauling the cable television system in 2006. At that time, the cost was projected to be \$1.7 million. "It was crazy to put that much money in the old system when we could build a new system," said board members.

The internet portion of the system will provide the speed necessary to meet present and future needs for businesses and industries.

Cable television customers will have analog and digital capabilities, and will see an increase of up to three times the number of stations now available, including Spanish language stations. Those residents changing to the new phone service will keep their same phone number and local calls would be made in the same way as the current system.

Bids have been awarded for the project. KLK Construction of Pella will be run the fiber optic lines to homes and businesses and Cailax Co. of California will install the equipment to run the system. A new structure will be built to house the equipment.

Customers will be able to subscribe cable, telephone, or internet service, or all three. There will also be packages designed to fit the needs of the subscriber. Lenox Municipal Utilities will be working with a marketing firm to help with the packages and with the promotion of the new system. Monthly costs will be very competitive with other companies, according to officials. "This is a colossal opportunity for Lenox," said Brent Wise, a member of the Lenox Municipal Utilities board. "Technology is the wave of the future. Communities with these systems have bloomed."

The utility board indicated other communities have been successful with this type of service with more than 50 percent of customers signing up. Lenox officials said they expect finances to be running "in the black" by the end of the third year. Financing for the project has been secured through Ruan Securities. Funds to pay for the project will come from the revenues generated by the new system.

"We are doing this for present patrons and businesses and for future businesses," said Dennis Bunch, utility board chairman. "Communications is important."

Successful bidders are reportedly ready to go to work as soon as weather permits, and officials say it is hoped the project will be completed this fall.



Happy times at the IAMU Annual Conference saw guest speaker **Terry Huval** of Louisiana (an accomplished Cajun performer) grab his fiddle and join Iowa State University's **Mike Giles** on saxophone for an impromptu jam session at the Associate Member Reception. **Eldon Snook** of Montezuma is happy with the Iowa Hawkeyes jacket he won in the prize drawing, as was **Diane Lucas** of Breda (shown with IAMU's Kathy Hoffman) with her prize. Guest speaker **Cindy Bogorad** of Spiegel & McDiarmid (left in photo) enjoys time with **Deb Birgen** of Missouri River Energy Services.



Cascade Municipal Utilities (CMU) has had an energy efficiency commission since the 1990s. The purpose of the commission is to analyze CMU's current energy efficiency programs and recommend new opportunities for effective energy savings.

The commission consists of five CMU customers who come from several sectors of the community. The broad range of perspectives on the commission helps ensure that CMU's energy efficiency programs serve all customer sectors in the most effective ways possible.

CMU General Manager Ron Benke points to the latest program improved by the commis-

sion: the shade tree planting program. In order to make the program work more effectively, the commission tightened standards on the types of allowable trees and eligible locations in which they could be planted. Recently the commission has also done work to promote insulating concrete forms in their residential new construction program.

This unique form of feedback has been critical for CMU, as the utility has tailored its electric and natural gas energy efficiency programs to the community during the last 15+ years.

**Energy
Efficiency**
Did You Know?

CCR WORKSHOPS COMING YOUR WAY: PICK YOUR LOCATION

IAMU's Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) Workshops for water operators will return in April. If you need help in preparing your report, you should plan now to attend one of the workshops, which have the goal of each participant leaving with a draft of their water supply's CCR.

The workshops schedule is as follows:

April 9, Mason City
April 10, Alta
April 16, Coralville
April 17, Manchester
April 23, Atlantic
April 24, Ankeny (IAMU)

These one-day workshops will include an overview of CCR requirements and template instructions. An instructor will be available for individual assistance. There will be 0.3 CEUs for Water Treatment OR 0/3 CEUs for Water Distribution available (\$10 cost if CEUs provided). The workshops are funded through a grant from the Iowa Department of Natural Resources.

A diskette containing a CCR template will be given to each workshop participant.

A brochure with more information and a registration form has been distributed; or, register online with the IAMU website, www.iamu.org (click on "Calendar/Registrations"). The registration deadline is April 4. See

the brochure for an important list of materials that need to be brought to the workshop.

For more information contact IAMU at 800/810-4268.






FEATURING GE METERS IN THE STATE OF IOWA

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For More Information Call:
Dan Sinclair
Territory Manager
515-250-1852
800-325-0514

**METERING
TECHNOLOGY**



HIGH-SPEED INTERNET ACCESS IN IOWA KEEPS GROWING

Iowans' access to high-speed Internet service continues to grow according to the latest statewide survey conducted by the Iowa Utilities Board (IUB). The IUB's sixth survey report shows high-speed Internet service is available in about 94 percent of Iowa's communities, an increase of two percent since the previous survey report in 2006. The full report is available online at www.state.ia.us/iub.

This latest report finds the number of rural communities where at least one type of high-speed Internet technology is largely available has increased from 918 (95 percent) in 2006 to 925 (96 percent). Non-rural communities with access rose from 226 (84 percent) to 231 (86 percent) during the same period. This growth of high-speed Internet availability in Iowa exceeded the industry projections in the 2006 report. Communities with populations of less than 2,500 are generally categorized as rural in the IUB assessment reports, but some smaller communities with local telephone calling areas tied to larger population bases may be listed as non-rural.

Three hundred fifty-three service providers of various high-speed Internet technologies provided responses for the sixth survey, including local exchange carriers, cable companies, wireless companies, and satellite providers. More Iowans have access to some form of high-speed Internet service today because of the expansion of options such as Digital Subscriber Line, cable-modem, wireless, and/or satellite technologies.

The survey reports have indicated continuing growth in the availability of high-speed Internet in Iowa. Only 31 percent of Iowa communities reported high-speed Internet service availability when the first assessment was made in October 2000. That initial report assessed conditions for deploying high-speed Internet technologies and identified strategies to ensure access to high-speed service in both rural and non-rural areas of Iowa.

JOB TRAINING WORKSHOP

Continued from Page 3

& Shoring/Competent Person, 0.6 (Water Distribution and Wastewater only). Total CEUs available for the full workshop is 1.20.

No hotel rooms blocks have been reserved for this workshop, but the brochure lists recommended area hotels and their contact information. A detailed workshop brochure and registration form have been distributed; or register on the

IAMU website, www.iamu.org (click on "Calendar/Registrations" and follow the instructions). Registration deadline is March 18.

For more information contact IAMU at 800/810-4268.

public power
day of giving
Join APPA and the St. Bernard Project to help rebuild homes in a community devastated by Hurricane Katrina.

Public Power Day of Giving
June 20, 2008
New Orleans, Louisiana

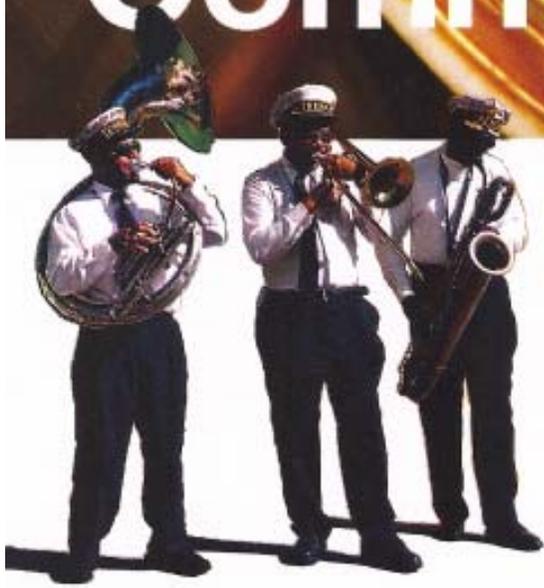
APPA



public power
**day
of
giving**
a day of giving
a lifetime of service

Join us a day early to help rebuild a community during the Public Power Day of Giving on June 20th.

Celebrate the Power of Communities

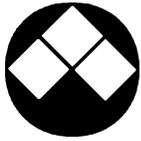


APPA 2008 National Conference & Public Power Expo

June 21-25
New Orleans, Louisiana
Hilton New Orleans Riverside

For more information, visit www.APPAnet.org and select Events





— HELP WANTED —

WATER TREATMENT PLANT OPERATOR: The Burlington Municipal Waterworks is seeking qualified applicants for this position. Applicants should possess a valid Iowa driver's license, an Iowa Grade II Water Treatment Plant Operator's License and must be able to comply with shift rotation schedules. Duties include some heavy physical labor, monitoring of the treatment and pumping processes, recording data, and collecting and analyzing water samples. Competitive hourly wage and excellent benefits package is offered. Pre-employment drug/alcohol screening is required. Must live within Des Moines County and within 10 miles of Burlington. EOE/AA. Send resume, references and salary history by April 2, 2008, to:

Plant Supervisor
Burlington Municipal Waterworks
PO Box 786
Burlington, IA 52601 2/08

WATER/WASTEWATER OPERATOR: The Iowa Falls (pop. 5,193) water/wastewater department is seeking a qualified applicant for this position. The qualified candidate must possess a State of Iowa Grade I Water and Wastewater certificate or be able to obtain within six months. Must possess a valid Iowa CDL vehicle operator's license or ability to obtain within six months. Pre-employment drug screening and physical required. Excellent benefits. *Application deadline May 15, 2008.* EOE. For application, contact:

City of Iowa Falls
315 Stevens Street
Iowa Falls, IA 50126
or phone 641-648-2527 2/08

ELECTRIC LINE WORKER: Competitive salary, DOQ. Minimum qualifications: high school grad. or GED and graduation from an accredited electric line worker program, or min. two years of experience in a recognized apprenticeship program. Must possess Iowa CDL, Class B. Position will be cross-trained with other public works operations. Deadline for application March 28, 2008. AA/EOE/ADA. Submit cover letter, resume, salary history and five work related references to:

City of Denver
100 Washington St.
Denver, IA 50622
Ph: 319-984-5642
Fax: 319-984-6013 2/08

— HELP WANTED —

ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT: Stuart Municipal Utilities has a new opening for this position. Responsibilities include, but are not limited to, electric utility operations and water treatment facilities and distribution. Individual should hold a Grade II Water Treatment certificate from the State of Iowa or have the ability to obtain in a reasonable amount of time. Position requires an extensive knowledge of electricity and materials and supplies associated with electric power distribution work, including overhead and underground line construction and maintenance. The individual should be familiar with electric distribution, including material purchasing, inventory maintenance, and customer relations. Minimum four (4) years experience in electrical work and/or electric distribution system operation required. Proficiency in the use of a personal computer required. This individual will work under the direct supervision of the Superintendent. Applicant should possess excellent organizational ability to accept responsibility and make decisions within a wide range of duties. Some knowledge of the methods, procedures, and practices used in the operation of a diesel-fired electric power generation plant is preferred. Individual should have a working knowledge of OSHA rules, as will be responsible for ensuring safe working conditions and enforcement of all safety rules and regulations. Very competitive wage and benefit package, clothing and boot allowance. Pre-employment physical, background check and drug/alcohol screen required. EOE.

Position open until filled. Send resume to:
Stuart Municipal Utilities
Superintendent
114 N Fremont
PO Box 370
Stuart, IA 50250 2/08

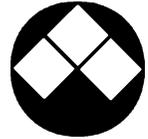
WATER TREATMENT: The City of Bloomfield is seeking candidates for the water treatment plant. A Grade I Water Treatment Certification is preferred, but not required. Starting salary will vary according to the current union scale and applicant's qualifications. Contact Bloomfield Department of Public Works at 641/664-2260, ext. 14 to request a job description. EOE. *Applications close April 14, 2008.* Send resume with cover letter and references to:

Department of Public Works
City of Bloomfield
111 W. Franklin St.
Bloomfield, IA 52537 2/08



IAMU Classified Ads are provided on a space-available basis at no charge to IAMU member utilities. At the discretion of IAMU, ad space may be granted to other entities for a fee. Please call IAMU for more information. Ads will be run for a minimum of one month. Ads placed by IAMU member utilities may be repeated, at the advertiser's request, if space allows. If an ad carries a specific deadline for response, before placing the ad, please call to check the Newsletter publication schedule.

Mail, fax (515/289-2499) or e-mail (jburnett@iamu.org) ad copy to John Burnett at IAMU.



— HELP WANTED —

GRADE III – WATER TREATMENT: Mount Pleasant Municipal Utilities is seeking an Iowa certified Grade III Water Treatment Operator. This position maintains two (2) Jordan Aquifer Wells utilizing the Electrodialysis Reversal treatment process. Excellent benefit package. CDL required or ability to obtain within six months. Wage rate is \$23.82 per hour. Please send resume to:

Lori Glanzman
General Manager
Mount Pleasant Municipal Utilities
509 North Adams Street
Mount Pleasant, IA 52641 2/08

POWERLINE INSTRUCTOR: Full time, twelve-month teaching position. Diploma or Associate of Applied Science degree from accredited Powerline Program or completed a formal Journeyman Lineman Program and five years related work experience in all phases of utility work, including overhead and underground construction and related activities required. Five years recent work/industry experience in electrical field preferred. Applications accepted until position is filled with review of applications beginning February 29, 2008. Call Human Resources Office, Northwest Iowa Community College, Sheldon, Iowa, 712/324-5061. AAEOE 2/08

SANITARY SEWER SUPERINTENDENT: The City of Dallas Center is seeking applications for this position. Responsible for operation/maint. of wastewater treatment plant, sanitary/storm sewer collection systems, outfall sewers, as well as assisting w/ other City duties. Qualifications: HS diploma or GED, IDNR Grade 2WW Treatment or ability to obtain w/in six months, Water Treatment/Water Distribution Certification desirable; CDL, & exp. w/ a public or municipal utility desired. Competitive comp., dependent upon qualifications; residence required after hire. Application deadline: March 31, 2008. Send resume to:

Cindy Riesselman, City Clerk
City of Dallas Center
P.O. Box 396
Dallas Center, IA 50063 2/08

— HELP WANTED —

JOURNEY/APPRENTICE ELECTRIC LINEMAN: La Porte City Utilities has a full time opening for journey- or apprentice-level lineperson. Duties include construction, operation, maintenance and repair of overhead and underground electric distribution systems along with any other duties related to the operation of a municipal utility. Must possess or be able to obtain an Iowa Class A CDL. Pre-employment drug/alcohol screening and physical required. Willing to sponsor successful applicant in the IAMU Apprentice Lineman program. EOE. Competitive wages and excellent benefit package. Applications accepted until position is filled. Send introductory letter and resume to:

Mike Johnson
Operations Manager
200 Main Street
La Porte City, IA 50651 2/08

ELECTRIC SUPERINTENDENT: City of Pocahontas. Qualified candidate will possess strong construction and maintenance skills in underground and overhead distribution systems. Iowa class B CDL with airbrake endorsement required within 30 days of hire. Pre-employment physical and drug test required. Minimum starting wage \$29.00 per hour plus excellent benefit package. EOE. *Position open until filled.* Additional information about the community and position can be found at <http://www.pocahontasiowa.com/jobs.html> Send cover letter and resume to:

City Administrator
City of Pocahontas
PO Box 69
Pocahontas, IA 50574 1/08

— FOR SALE —

TRENCHER: 1991 Ditch Witch trencher model 7520 with H750 combo trencher/plow unit and A620 backhoe with 18-in. bucket. Asking \$25,000 for both trencher and 2002 T18 trailer. Contact: Joel Yanda, Distribution Superintendent, Maquoketa Utilities: 563-652-5455 or 563-528-1220. 2/08



CLASSIFIEDS

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Mail, fax (515/289-2499) or e-mail (jburnett@iamu.org) ad copy to John Burnett at IAMU.

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Help support IAMU's training programs when you buy safety equipment online from Omark Safety.

Omark, an IAMU associate member, will contribute three per cent of each online sale to support the association's safety programs. IAMU members simply enter the reference code "IAMU" during the checkout process of an online order. Purchases can be made through the company's web site at www.omarksafety.com or through the IAMU website: www.iamu.org under "Resources."

Questions? Call Omark Safety 800/383-7233

The IAMU Newsletter is published monthly to provide information to IAMU members on the safe, efficient and reliable operation of municipal electric, gas, water and telecommunication utilities. Contributions from members and others which advance this purpose are solicited and appreciated. Address changes should be sent to: IAMU, 1735 NE 70th Ave., Ankeny, IA 50021-9353.

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e-mail: jburnett@iamu.org
IAMU web site: www.iamu.org

This publication is designed to provide accurate and authoritative information in regard to the subject matter covered. It is furnished with the understanding that the Association is not engaged in rendering legal or other professional service. If legal advice or other professional or expert assistance is required, the services of a competent professional should be sought.

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SOLD! BOUGHT! HIRED!

IAMU Classifieds Work!

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Fax: 515/289-2499
e-mail: jburnett@iamu.org

or mail to:
1735 NE 70th Ave.
Ankeny, IA 50021-9353
No charge to IAMU Utility Members

RECOGNITION



WITH THE IAMU AWARD PROGRAM

Nominate an individual or organization. Call 800/810-4268 or visit the IAMU website: www.iamu.org

NEWSLETTER, Volume 41 Issue II, The Iowa Association of Municipal Utilities NEWSLETTER, ISSN 10589597, is published monthly for \$45 per year by the Iowa Association of Municipal Utilities, 1735 NE 70th Ave., Ankeny, Iowa 50021-9353. Periodicals postage paid at Ankeny, Iowa. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to the Iowa Association of Municipal Utilities Newsletter, 1735 NE 70th Ave., Ankeny, IA 50021-9353.



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