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PRESIDENT'S LETTER

By Trevor Dickerson

Welcome to another year of the IOWWA's *Onsite Observer*. I write this watching our winter wonderland continue with Mother Nature dumping yet another round of snow across the area. This most recent round of snow has provided some time to reflect on the past year and the craziness that has continued in the septic industry ever since the pandemic.

With things trying to get back to a pre-pandemic normal, the industry seems to have reached a new normal of its own. We have supply shortages and price inflation on everything — materials, gas, labor, etc. — yet everyone seems to be busier than ever.

The 2023 IOWWA conference back in January is one thing that seemed to return to its pre-pandemic normal. Thank you to all who attended. Seeing all of you makes the effort that goes into putting it on worth it. We would not be able to provide a successful conference without the hard work and planning of the people

behind the scenes. First, a special thanks to Matt, Shirley, and everyone at Alice Vinsand Inc.

It is their dedication, planning, organizing and labor that makes the conference something that we all can be proud of. Also thank you to all the volunteers and various committee members who donated their time in planning, and during the conference with the raffle, check-in, punch cards, etc.

Thank you to all the exhibitors; your products and knowledge keep the industry progressing and your continued support keeps the IOWWA membership always moving forward. A special thanks as well to those exhibitors that went above and beyond by providing sponsorships and donations. See page 3 for a list of our generous sponsors and valuable donations.



Continued on page 2 »

SPRING | 2023

IOWWA'S ONSITE OBSERVER

PRESIDENT'S LETTER, CONTINUED

We were fortunate to have some new exhibitors at this year's event. I hope everyone was able to stop by and visit them at their booths, as we hope they found the conference beneficial and want to return next year. I have had a few people reach out already about other companies that would be interested in exhibiting for next year's conference.

We look forward to working with everyone wanting to become an exhibitor, and with any luck we will also have some new companies for 2024.

When it comes to the conference we always are looking for new ideas; whether it be new breakout sessions, exhibitors, activities, etc. If there is a topic you would like to see covered, a potential exhibitor for the hall, or an activity to undertake, please contact any one of the board members and we will see what we can do. The more input we receive the easier it is for us to learn together and progress as an industry in Iowa.

Thank you again to everyone and we hope to see you at the 2023 IOWWA workshops (see pages 6 & 7) and next year's conference. Please check iowwa.com and our organization's emails for workshop and conference updates. Here is to a prosperous new season. Stay Safe.

25TH IOWWA CONFERENCE

JANUARY 10-11, 2024

(PRE-CONFERENCE

JANUARY 9, 2024)

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The financial support of industry companies committed to the success of IOWWA and its members help IOWWA keep conference registration costs down and generate funds to operate the organization. We thank our sponsors and exhibitor who helped make it happen.

SPONSORS

- + **Advance Pump & Equipment, Inc.** – Keynote | Welcome
- + **Altorfer Inc** – Internet Access
- + **Cam Spray** – Audio Visual
- + **Cedar Rapids Winpump** – Refreshment Breaks
- + **Des Moines Winsupply Inc.** – Program Printing
- + **Housby** – Roe-D-Hoe
- + **Premier Tech Water And Environment** – Platinum Plus
- + **Rexco Equipment** – President’s Reception
- + **Swales Precast, Inc.** – Annual Business Lunch
- + **Wastewater Supply** – Lanyards
- + **Waterloo Biofilter Systems, Inc.** – Platinum Plus

EXHIBITORS

- | | |
|---|--|
| + Advance Pump & Equipment, Inc. | + Iowa Pump Works |
| + Advanced Drainage Systems | + Iowa Step and Tank |
| + Allied Systems, Inc. | + Kahn Tile Supply LLC |
| + Ashland Pump | + Mid-Tech Services, Inc. |
| + Cam Spray | + Municipal Supply Midwest Pipe Supply |
| + Capital City Equipment Company | + National Vacuum Equipment |
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| + Infiltrator Water Technologies | + Wieser Concrete |
| + Iowa Environmental Health Association | + Wieser Precast Steps |
| | + Ziegler CAT |

It is the policy of the Iowa Onsite Waste Water Association (IOWWA) that no individual be excluded from any association activity based on the grounds of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, or disability.

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641-330-7440, jsherman@floydcoia.org

CONTACT IOWWA » MATT VINSAND
Executive Director, Urbandale
515-225-1051, matt.vinsand@gmail.com or
contactus@iowwa.com • www.iowwa.com

WELCOME, ANDY BARBER!



The IOWWA Board of Directors has added **Andy Barber** as its newest member. Andy began working at Crystal Heating, Plumbing and Excavating in Waverly in 2000, installing septic systems 10 years ago, and purchased the business in 2017.

He's been involved with IOWWA for a decade.

Andy graduated from Waverly Shell Rock High School and then went to Northeast Iowa Community College for the plumbing program, followed by Hawkeye Community College for the HVAC program. Andy enjoys talking to customers and helping them with their projects or issues. He and his wife Stacey have five children. Andy is the nephew of Steve Darrah, IOWWA's 2013 president and past board member who passed away in 2020, and Andy found himself ready to step up for that type of leadership within the organization for 2023.

IS A NATIONAL CONFERENCE IN IOWWA'S FUTURE?

NOWRA — the National Onsite Wastewater Recycling Association — has been observing IOWWA's successful conferences for several years. NOWRA is the largest organization in the U.S. dedicated to representing the onsite and decentralized wastewater industry. IOWWA has been approached about being the host organization for NOWRA's Onsite Wastewater Mega-Conference in an upcoming year. The Onsite Wastewater Mega-Conference is a collaborative effort between NOWRA, the National Association of Wastewater Technicians (NAWT) and the State Onsite Regulators Association (SORA). That conference is the largest event of its kind and offers onsite/decentralized professionals the highest quality education and training available.

Your IOWWA Board of Directors is asking for your thoughts on undertaking such an effort.

Is this something you would attend and support? Please provide your feedback ASAP to Trevor Dickerson, trevor@groundndown.com, 319-855-2837, or Matt Vinsand, matt.vinsand@gmail.com.

NEWLY CERTIFIED INSTALLERS



Congratulations to those who recently became COWTS-credentialed! Each is now a Certified Installer of Onsite Wastewater Systems at the basic level, which sets a standard of practice and creates a baseline of knowledge of onsite wastewater system installations in the state.

- + **Penny Andorf**, New Hampton
- + **Joshua Coe**, Clarion
- + **Rick Finely**, Truro
- + **Zach Frank**, Riverside
- + **Aaron Johnson**, New Hampton
- + **Laura Johnston**, Nevada
- + **Doug Kinzenbaw**, Marengo
- + **Jakob Kinzenbaw**, Marengo
- + **Jason Klingenberg**, Shell Rock
- + **James Kurth**, Cascade
- + **Glenwyn Mast**, Kalona
- + **Marcus (Elijah) McCartney**, Earlham
- + **Ben Miller**, Pleasantville
- + **Merv Miller**, Kalona
- + **Nicholas (Joe) Miller**, Shell Rock
- + **Brent Prucha**, Silver City
- + **Ethan Quick**, Carlisle
- + **Niki Reynolds**, Madrid
- + **Larry Rohrer**, Marengo
- + **Brody Schneider**, Guttenberg
- + **Daniel Sommers**, Winterset
- + **Walker Thomas**, Cambridge
- + **Matthew Tufte**, Dumont
- + **Andrew Wulf**, Tipton

Counties in Iowa that require basic level certification are: Benton, Black Hawk, Bremer, Buchanan, Butler, Cedar, Chickasaw, Clayton, Dallas, Delaware, Floyd, Grundy, Hamilton, Hardin, Iowa, Jasper, Jones, Linn, Marion, Scott, Story, Tama, Warren, Washington, and Winneshiek.



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MARK YOUR CALENDARS: 2023 WORKSHOPS

Spring is coming, and so are more IOWWA workshops of the year! Keep earning your CEUs.

Commercial and High Strength Wastewater: Design, Installation and Management

Date: Wednesday, April 5, 2023

Schedule: Check-in 7:30 AM; Workshop 8:00 AM–3:00 PM; Lunch included)

Instructors: Dr. Sara Heger, University of MN, and Allison Blodig, REHS, Infiltrator Water Technologies

Location: Ziegler CAT Education Center, 1500 Ziegler Dr. NW, Altoona, IA (off NE Hubbell Ave, Hwy 65)

Continuing Education: 6.0 hours approved for CLOWTS credential and Iowa DNR Time of Transfer Inspectors.

Registration Fee: \$125.00 (member and non-member)

Continuing Education: 6.0 hours approved for CLOWTS and Iowa DNR Time of Transfer Inspectors.

Content: Onsite systems used for commercial and high strength waste (HSW) applications which can encounter significantly different usage patterns, waste strength and waste stream characteristics. An overview of key design wastewater characteristics such as organics, solids and nutrients will be discussed. Commercial facilities can have flow extremes which can impact system performance. This presentation will discuss design solutions to mitigate the issues focusing on flow equalization. Design solutions for high strength waste will be offered. Key aspects of management and troubleshooting will be covered.

Alternative Treatment Systems

Date: Monday, April 17, 2023

Schedule: Check-in 8:30 AM; Workshop 9:00 AM–3:30 PM; Lunch included

Instructors: Dr. Sara Heger, University of MN, and Trevor Dickerson, Ground N Down LLC

Location: Scott County Administrative Center, First Floor Board Room, 600 W. 4th St., Davenport IA

Registration Fee: \$125.00 (member and non-member)

Continuing Education: 6.0 hours approved for CLOWTS and Iowa DNR Time of Transfer Inspectors.

Content: There are more and more sites and projects where conventional system won't work. This workshop will focus on identifying facilities, sites, and soils conditions not conducive for conventional systems. Then we will go over the two most common alternative systems – aerobic treatment units and media filters. Design examples from sites in Iowa will be presented along with installation and management keys for long term performance.

Trainings and CE Hours

IOWWA lists known upcoming training events on the IOWWA website and you can register online at <https://www.iowwa.com/pages/trainings>. For IOWWA trainings, information is provided in the event description concerning the approved hours for continuing education.

Registration links are also provided from other training sources, include the DMACC Onsite Wastewater Training Center (OWTC), Infiltrator Technologies, Orenco Systems and NOWRA so you have easy access from multiple sources.

If you hold the Certified Installer of Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems (CLOWTS) credential you need a minimum of 12.0 CE hours to renew that credential in each 2-year cycle. Continuing education must be earned during the two-year credential cycle. Events listed on the IOWWA website are pre-approved for the credential. IOWWA will accept up to 6 CE hours of online training per CLOWTS credential cycle and 2 CE hours per credential cycle for county contractor meetings (even if multiple county contractor meetings are attended).

Plumbing licensing CE hours earned for the Iowa Department of Public Health's Plumbing and Plumbing Code Disciplines are approved for the CLOWTS credential. Submit via email to contactus@iowwa.com with the date, location, instructor, course title and CE hours earned.

Note: For those with the Iowa DNR Time of Transfer license, refer to the Iowa DNR Operator Certification website to check your Iowa DNR Time of Transfer continuing education hours: <https://programs.iowadnr.gov/opcertweb/pages/opmenu.aspx>



IOWWA WORKSHOP REGISTRATION

Registration available online: www.iowwa.com/pages/trainings



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Company: _____

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Email: _____

WORKSHOP				
MARK WORKSHOP	DATE	CHECK-IN	WORKSHOP	FEE
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial and High Strength Wastewater: Design, Installation and Management	Wed., April 5, 2023	Check-in 7:30 AM	8:00 AM–3:00 PM	\$125.00
Location: Ziegler CAT Education Center, 1500 Ziegler Dr. NW, Altoona, IA (off NE Hubbell Ave, Hwy 65)				
Instructors: Dr. Sara Heger, University of Minnesota; Allison Blodig, REHS, Infiltrator Water Technologies				
Continuing Education: 6.0 hours approved for CIOWTS Credential and Iowa DNR Time of Transfer.				
<input type="checkbox"/> Alternative Treatment Systems	Mon., April 17, 2023	Check-in 8:00 AM	9:00 AM–3:30 PM	\$125.00
Location: Scott County Administrative Center, First Floor Board Room, 600 W. 4th St., Davenport IA				
Instructor: Dr. Sara Heger, University of MN, and Trevor Dickerson, Ground N Down LLC				
Continuing Education: 6.0 hours approved for CIOWTS Credential and Iowa DNR Time of Transfer.				

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Cancel/Refund: Notice must be received at least 7 days prior to event to receive a refund, less \$25 processing fee.

Questions? Contact Matt Vinsand, IOWWA Executive Director, Phone: 515-225-1051 (no texts, Fax: 1-480-802-6643, Email: contactus@iowwa.com)

AUCTION AND RAFFLE RAISE OPERATIONAL DOLLARS

Each year the January conference auction and raffles provide funds that help operate IOWWA throughout the year. This fundraising effort helps keep dues and workshop registration fees low for the organization's members.

AUCTION TOTAL: \$13,450

We thank these companies for their generous support of auction packages, as well as the attendees who stepped up and purchased those packages:

- + **Capital City Equipment:** purchased by Tyler Wangsness, Housby, \$275.00
- + **Des Moines Winsupply Inc.:** purchased by Tim Rozendaal, Rozendaal Tiling, \$1,150.00
- + **Indianola Precast LLC:** purchased by Chris Becker, Becker Construction, \$3,000.00
- + **Municipal Supply | Midwest Pipe Supply:** purchased by Tim Rozendaal, Rozendaal Tiling, \$2,450.00
- + **Wieser Precast Steps :** purchased by Kent Morton, Mort's Water Company, \$6,250.00
- + **Ashland Pump:** purchased by Jayme Arkfeld, Arkfeld Water Services, \$325.00



RAFFLE TOTAL: \$5,743

This year's annual raffle raised \$3,413 and companies that donated products included:

- + **Capital City Equipment Company**
- + **Des Moines Winsupply**
- + **Headwater Wholesale**
- + **Municipal Supply**
- + **Swales Precast**
- + **Wieser Concrete**
- + And special thanks to **Theisen's**, Iowa Falls IA!

The gun raffle brought in \$2,330 of the raffle total shown above.

Apologies if we have missed naming your company! Please let IOWWA know (contactus@iowwa.com) so that you can be recognized for your participation in the summer Onsite Observer.

CONGRATULATIONS, BLACK-OUT BINGO WINNERS!

Each of these conference attendees is \$100 richer because they made the rounds and talked with all conference exhibitors in January! Hope they found their interactions with industry suppliers to be of great value, as another \$100 in one's wallet would be for anyone. Congratulations to **Kelly Amador, Bradley Berg, Rudy Brownfield, J.D. Griffith, Corey Groth, Harrison Hayes, Hunter Hayes, Eric Heinen, Justin Rozendaal and Mike Shelangoski.**

Roe-D-Hoe

ACCOMMODATES MORE PARTICIPANTS

When Brandon Rogers joined the IOWWA board a year ago, the association's annual Roe-D-Hoe competition was on his mind. He committed to securing an excavator upgrade for 2023 with a backhoe offering controls that could be switched between Deere and CAT styles. That change for 2023 — a versatile Roe-D-Hoe hoe — resulted in more conference attendees participating in the competition, as well as some new names at the top!

1ST One of those first-time competitors was **Jordan Boley of Miene Septic Service, Inc.** He took first place and was new to the winner's circle of IOWWA's annual Roe-D-Hoe competition. His time of 1 minute 3 seconds is the second-fastest ever recorded. While he's been with Miene since August of 2020, he previously did not enter the competition because the backhoe only had one style of controls. With two control options available on the equipment this year, Boley tried his hand — and won big!

2ND **Travis Hunter, Mort's Water Company,** earned the second place spot this year, a ranking he captured in both 2019 and 2020. Hunter had a third place finish last year. His time was 1 minute 21 seconds.

3RD With a time of 1 minute, 25 seconds, **Tanner Porter of A-One Geothermal, Inc.** finished third. It was the first time he's entered the competition.

So was it beginner's luck for Boley and Porter? We'll find out next year! Congratulations to the winners of the 2023, ever-popular Roe-D-Hoe competition!



Brandon Rogers and Tim Rozendaal to the rescue! Due to a mishap with the mounting hook for the Roe-D-Hoe excavator during the competition, this pair went into action. Tim rigged a temporary solution with rebar so the evening competition could continue. Brandon spent a long evening making a replacement part and a keepsake plaque with broken rebar. Pictured with outgoing IOWWA president Kurt Leichy is Jessica Sheridan, Hardin County Environmental Health, who was awarded the "Roe-D-Hoe Mishap" plaque! Jessica was operating the backhoe during the mishap.



2023 ANNUAL CONFERENCE PHOTOGRAPHS



IOWWA's expansive annual conference exhibit hall was filled with equipment, attendees and places to gather to network and exchange knowledge.



*Middle right photo:
Kurt Leichty (on the
left) receives a plaque
recognizing his service as
2022 IOWWA president
from Trevor Dickerson,
2023 IOWWA president.*



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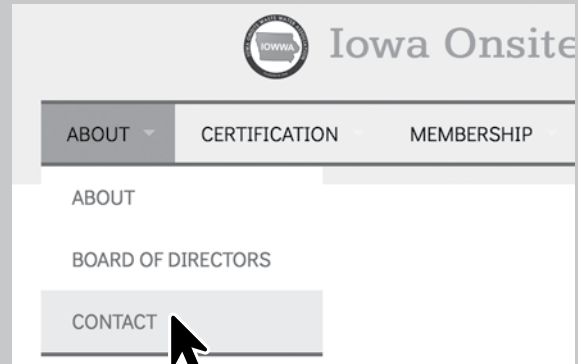
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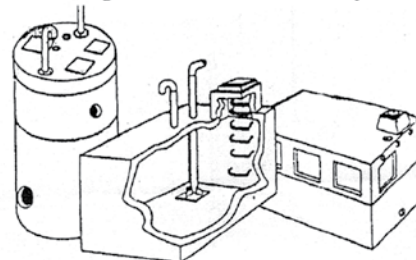
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APRIL 15 IOWWA SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION DEADLINE

Each year the Iowa Onsite Waste Water Association offers \$500 scholarships to high school seniors or high school graduates who are or will be attending a college or a trade school on a part-time (minimum 6 credit hours per quarter or semester) or full-time basis in 2023–2024.

An individual is eligible if s/he is an IOWWA member or related to an IOWWA member (primary or associate member). Scholarships are awarded one time only per individual.

The application deadline is Saturday, April 15, 2023. The application (a form field document) can be downloaded from the scholarship page on the IOWWA website, www.iowwa.com. Or email contactus@iowwa.com and an application will be sent to you by email. All applicants must submit the completed application, two letters of recommendation, school transcripts, and a photo (JPG form) to be considered for a scholarship.

\$500 SCHOLARSHIP DONORS

IOWWA is extremely grateful to these companies that each donated \$500 to support an IOWWA scholarship:

- + **Cam Spray**
- + **Cedar Rapids Winpump**
- + **Central Sales, Inc.**
- + **Des Moines Winsupply**
- + **Headwater Wholesale**
- + **Moorman Construction Inc.**
(two \$500 scholarships)
- + **Municipal Supply | Midwest Pipe Supply**
- + **Ziegler CAT**



Scholarship Recipients 2022–2023:

Danelle (Dani) Arkfeld, Kaydee Bennett, Ella Engel, Caelan Engelbrecht, Taylor Franzen, Carson Netser, Tyler Resor, Gunther Sandersfeld, McKenzi Young.

THREE CAPTION CONTESTS!



CONFERENCE WINNER:

"IF WE STACK IT LIKE THIS WE CAN FIT (TWO) CASES IN HERE!"

Submitted by Van Lucas, Indianola Precast

Prize: \$50 cash



WINTER ISSUE WINNER:

"I JUST DON'T KNOW HOW THAT GOT THERE!"

Submitted by Sherrie Wilson,
Sac Country Environmental/Zoning

Prize: \$50 Casey's gift card



WANT TO WIN?

Submit your top caption for this photo by May 5 to contactus@iowwa.com. Keep your suggestion "printable" for the summer issue of the *Onsite Observer*.

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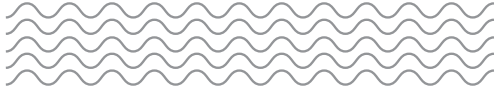


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