



# The Water Spout

## Upcoming Dates in 2016

- **WATTS** -Water Advancement, Technology, Training & Solutions Conference, March 22, Lubbock Civic Center . Lubbock, TX
- Texas Water, April 19-22, Fort Worth Convention Center. Fort Worth, TX
- Water Reuse in Texas Conference, July 14-15, San Marcos, TX
- TAIA Annual Meeting and Silver Anniversary Celebration, October 3, Inn on Barons Creek, Fredericksburg, TX.
- Amarillo Farm & Ranch Show, November 29-December 1, Amarillo, TX
- IA Irrigation Show and Education Conference, December 5-9, Las Vegas, NV.

## Annual Membership Meeting and Banquet Held in Connection with Farm and Ranch Show in Amarillo

The 2015 TAIA Annual Membership Meeting and Banquet was held December 2 at the Saltgrass Steak House in Amarillo where members and guests heard from Texas Ag Commissioner, Sid Miller, as invited speaker. Mr. Miller emphasized the importance of water in the state reminding the audience that he recently announced the opening of the Office on Water in the Texas Department of Agriculture. He also gave an overview of the many activities of the Texas Department of Agriculture.

Following Commissioner Miller's presentation, the annual business meeting was held including election of the following officers and board members for 2016.

President: Albert Reyna, Kroy Industries

Vice-president: Kenneth Ewings, Senninger Irrigation

Secretary-Treasurer: John Taylor, Equipment Supply Co.

West Region Rep. Mark McCormick, Ag Precision Supply

North Region Rep.: Anthony Kingery, D&K Manufacturing

At-Large Rep.: Greg Sokora, NRCS-USDA

Members of the various committees were named and are available on the website along with the minutes and financial report. (*See back page of this Newsletter.*)

## Save the Date

**October 3, 2016**

**TAIA Annual Meeting and Silver Anniversary Celebration**

**Inn at Barons Creek, Fredericksburg, Texas**

## Dick Laursen Memorial Scholarship

Applications are now being received for the 2016 Dick Laursen Scholarship. The application forms are available on the TAIA Website: [www.taia.org](http://www.taia.org) TAIA members are encouraged to get the word out about this scholarship opportunity to their local FFA Chapter, high school counselors, etc. Application deadline is **March 1, 2016**. This will give the committee time to review the applications and select the winner who will be announced at the high school graduation in May.

This year's scholarship committee, Chairman Eddy Riggins, Kenneth Ewings and Bobby De Leon, will be responsible for reviewing the 2016 applications and selecting the recipient.

Current scholarship students are Luke Stutler, Texas Tech University; Kaylee Ites, Texas A&M University.

## Coming up Silver

The Texas Agricultural Irrigation Association celebrates its Silver Anniversary this year! Founded in 1991, the organization is completing 25 years of service to the irrigation industry in Texas and neighboring states. A committee has been named to plan the celebration and consists of: Edie Bartos Canale, Bobby De Leon and Mark Stutler. They would welcome any input from the membership.

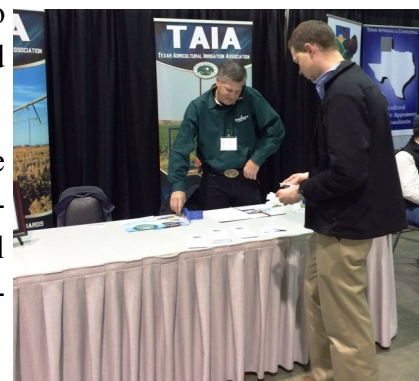
The Committee, with the approval of the Board of Directors, has selected the venue for the event: Inn at Barons Creek in Fredericksburg on October 3, 2016. This will include the Annual Meeting as well as other special activities for TAIA members, spouses and guests. A block of rooms has been reserved at the Inn at a special rate for the night of October 3, with the option of including the October 2 and/or October 4 at the same reduced rate. Details of how to make your reservation will be available soon. Tentative plans include a catered meal at the Inn Monday night, October 3; shopping, museum visits and tours on Monday and a golf tournament on Tuesday morning. Comments and suggestions may be sent to any member of the committee or to the Executive Secretary, Kern Stutler.

## Third Biennial Texas Panhandle—South Plains Water Conservation Symposium

### *SLOW THE FLOW: Keys to Successful Water Conservation*

The Panhandle Groundwater Conservation District held its Symposium February 24, 2016, in the Amarillo Civic Center. Over 250 people attended the symposium contributing to the mission of educating communities on many areas of water use and conservation in the public, municipal and agriculture areas.

As in the past, TAIA was a sponsor of this event and had a booth at the trade show. The agenda included the technical and legal aspects of conserving the state's water resources and the development of additional sources of water in the public, municipal, industrial and agricultural settings.



## Letter from the 2016 President

As I reflect on my past experience in water related industries several thoughts come to mind. Starting with my days in the 1980's in the engineering department at Randolph Manufacturing Company. We were manufacturers of right angle gear drives for the vertical turbine pump industry. I recall visiting with customers and the mindset being that we would never run out of water. The higher the horsepower and the larger the pump the better. I recall attending a conference during those times on water conservation. I left the particular conference thinking maybe there's some truth to this. Well, fast forward to 2016 and the reality is upon us. Our precious commodity of water is at all-time lows. The subject of water conservation is upon us!

On that note we can say the 2016 High Plains Irrigation Conference was a success and is behind us. I would like to thank Dr. Dana Porter for all her time and effort on organizing such an outstanding event. Again, the emphasis on this event is smart irrigation and conservation practices. I recommend our membership to take advantage of the vital information being shared by all the excellent speakers and also an opportunity to earn education credits.

I would also like to ask the membership to please help in trying to increase our membership base. Our numbers have fallen somewhat in the past few years. If you know of associates in our industry that would possibly benefit from being members, please don't hesitate in promoting our association.

Our prestigious Texas Agricultural Irrigation Association is celebrating its 25th anniversary as an organization. Please join us in October in Fredericksburg for our annual meeting commemorating this event. You will also be receiving information on lodging and dates. We would also like to extend invitations to all past presidents and past board members. This milestone would not have happen without the vision of all those who got involved and sought that this organization serve as a viable entity in the irrigation industry.

I would like to thank the board of directors for the opportunity to serve as president for the year 2016. I sincerely look forward to working with the membership in striving to uphold all our bylaws and continuing to stress water conservation.

Best Regards,

Albert V. Reyna

Domestic & International Sales

Kroy Industries, Inc.



# 2015 Annual Meeting and Membership Banquet



### 2016 High Plains Irrigation Conference and Trade Show

This year's High Plains Irrigation Conference and Trade, held in the Amarillo Civic Center February 4 ,was another success. Over 100 people attended the conference and trade show to hear ten presentations on various topics related to irrigated agriculture and browse the displays of 22 exhibitors. A big thank you to the speakers, exhibitors and all those who attended. TAIA would like to recognize and thank our show sponsor and event sponsors for their generous support of the 2016 HPIC.

#### Show Sponsor: Jain Irrigation Systems Ltd.

#### Event Sponsors:

Equipment Supply Co., Inc.

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# 2016 High Plains Irrigation Conference and Trade Show



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T A I A

PO Box 10613  
Lubbock, TX 79408  
Phone: 806-786-5644  
E-mail: taia@taia.org

### 2016 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**President:** Albert Reyna, Kroy Industries

**At-Large:** Greg Sokora, NRCS-USDA

**Vice-President:** Kenneth Ewings, Senninger Irrigation

**At-Large:** Bobby De Leon, Jain Irrigation

**Secretary/Treasurer:** John Taylor, Equipment Supply Co.

**Nominations Committee:**

Bobby De Leon, Jain Irrigation (Chair)

**Immed. Past President:** Mark Stutler, SWISH, Inc.

Matt Laursen, SWISH, Inc.

**West Rep.:** Mark McDonald, Agricultural Precision Supply

**Scholarship Committee:**

Eddy Riggins, Equipment Supply Co., (Chair)

**East Rep.:** James Prochaska, JNM Technologies

Kenneth Ewings, Senninger Irrigation

Bobby De Leon, Jain Irrigation

**North Rep.:** Anthony Kingery, D&K Manufacturing

**Auditing Committee:**

Kenneth Ewings, Senninger Irrigation, (Chair)

**South Rep.:** David Lott, Fresno Valves & Casting, Inc.

Farris Hightower, Lindsay Corporation

#### Affiliate Members of:

Texas Agriculture Council, [www.texas.coop](http://www.texas.coop)  
Irrigation Association, [www.irrigation.org](http://www.irrigation.org)  
The Groundwater Foundation, [www.groundwater.org](http://www.groundwater.org)  
Texas Groundwater Association, [www.tgwa.org](http://www.tgwa.org)  
Texas Water Conservation Association, [www.twca.org](http://www.twca.org)