



# The Water Spout

## Upcoming Dates in 2014

- Texas Water 2014, April 14-17, Dallas, TX
- Lone Star State Water Summit, June 23-25, Austin, TX (see page 4)
- IA Irrigation Show and Education Conference, November 17-21, Phoenix, AZ
- Amarillo Farm & Ranch Show, December 2-4, Amarillo, TX
- Beltwide Cotton Conference, January 5-7, 2015

## Annual Membership Meeting and Banquet Held in Connection with IA Show in Austin

The TAIA Annual Membership Meeting and Banquet this year was held in conjunction with the Irrigation Show and Education Conference in Austin, November 6, 2013. About 40 members and guests gathered at the Old Pecan Street Cafe at 504 Trinity Street to hear remarks from guest speaker, Representative Charles Perry.

Election of new TAIA Board members resulted in the following:

North Representative Marty Hughes, Irrigation Components International;

West Representative Kenneth Ewings, Senninger Irrigation;

At Large Representative Steven Driewer, Great Plains McCrometer.

Albert Reyna, Kroy Industries was elected Secretary-Treasurer.

President Layne Hardesty, Equipment Supply introduced incoming president, Andy Brumley, Waggoner and Sons Electric. Andy thanked Layne for his service as president and presented him with a plaque in recognition of his service to TAIA.

**Thanks to those of you who attended the annual meeting and banquet in support of TAIA!**

**April 15 last date to pay membership dues to be included in 2014 Directory!**

## **A Message from your President**

Hello TAIA members:

It's been a fast and furious time this first quarter of 2014. WATER is the topic on top of every group's list, and it is prime time for associations such as TAIA to make a difference in the state of Texas. Through the offering of four scholarships, we can make a difference with Texas leadership in the future. The scholarship that is to be awarded this spring has had over 70 applicants. Good luck to the scholarship committee.

Two billion dollars has been set aside out of the Texas rainy-day fund to conserve and find new sources of water for the state. States, counties, municipalities, and even individuals are stretching to stay friends with each other in the fight for water rights. Most cities, towns, and farms have reduced their consumption by 30% or more in the last four years. Appliance manufacturers are offering appliances that use less water to do the same tasks. Individuals have either installed equipment, or are looking to install equipment, to capture rainwater to water trees and shrubs. Others are changing their landscaping to low, or no, water consumption. Farmers are working with scientists, labs, and research facilities to use less water in order to raise the same produce that has required more water in the past. Many cities are recycling waste-water and desalinating water from the ocean. Irrigation equipment manufacturers constantly redesign new and more conservative ways to apply water to crops. Agronomists design greater drought-tolerant seeds and plants. I can go on and on and on.

The point I'm trying to make is that people from every walk need water, and we are getting low. Yes, we have begun to do something about it, but why has it taken so long to get started? Well, my best guess is that the old saying "nobody misses the water until the well runs dry" is true. As the people of Texas, we must pray for, and pay more attention to, what we need in life - instead of what we want in life. One other thing; educating people of all the different needs we have for water in Texas will go a long way in resolving our water shortage. TEXAS AGRICULTURAL IRRIGATION ASSOCIATION is devoted to the goal of educating people in the agricultural sectors of our state to get smart on all the technology we have today, and to be ready for the technology that is coming tomorrow. As president of TAIA, in the year 2014 I am calling for your help and support, as members, to do all you can do to achieve our common goal. If you are not a member and would like to be a part of the solution, instead of the problem, please get a membership.

I appreciate the opportunity to serve TAIA as president in 2014 and will do all I can to educate others in the ways of our most valuable resource.

Thank you,

Andy Brumley

## DSI - Precision Agricultural Irrigation is Here to Stay!

With aspirations to be a crop duster, DSI owner, Rusty Houston, spent his summers working for his uncle in the agricultural business. In 1994 he went to Arizona to work for a local company installing drip irrigation systems. After seeing the importance of water management and the benefits of increased crop production he returned to the Texas High Plains and started DSI, installing about 800 acres of sub-surface drip in the first year.

Since then the company has continued to grow, designing and installing about 5,000 acres per year with a current total of approximately 90,000 acres. DSI provides a full range of services from design and installation to management and service for the producer. Using the principles of precision agriculture, installations are designed using GPS coordinates to meet the maximum uniformity and required application rate needed to meet peak performance. Using state of the art controllers, the systems can



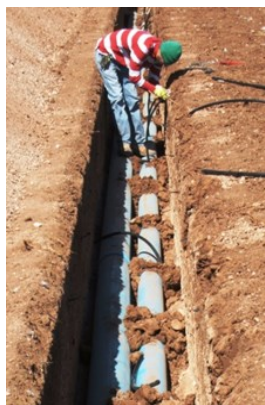
be monitored and managed remotely via computer, iPad, or iPhone.



The company has expanded from its principal location on the Slaton Highway in Lubbock, TX to Littlefield and Dimmit in Texas, as well as Minden, NE. All four of these locations provide a fully stocked service center for drip irrigation in their respective areas. The success of the business is

based not only on providing a quality product but also establishing a long term relationship with clients. This has resulted in tripling in size the last four years and becoming the second largest drip irrigation dealer in the area. For those do-it-yourself growers a self-install package is also available.

Rusty has been a member of TAIA for many years. He served as Secretary-Treasurer in 2003, but then had to refrain from moving up through the chain of officers because of time constraints, but still maintains active membership. He served on the Scholarship Selection Committee in 2013. Rusty states his fellow TAIA members have provided him with much appreciated help and support over the years. TAIA commends Rusty and DSI for their contributions to improving irrigated agriculture.



DSI is now a proud corporate sponsor for the Texas Tech Red Raiders, and is looking forward to supporting the agricultural community at this year's "Celebrate Cotton" game.





## High Plains Irrigation Conference and Trade Show



The 2014 High Plains Irrigation Conference and Trade Show, held January 16 at the Amarillo Civic Center again was very successful, although the attendance and number of exhibitors were down slightly from last year. The 140 attendees heard timely and informative presentations on a variety of topics related to irrigated agriculture and visited booths of 29 exhibitors. Thanks to TAIA Education Advisor, Dana Porter, for her diligent efforts in putting the technical program together.

Thanks to our Event Sponsors this year for their significant contribution to the success of the conference:

### **Eco-Drip Irrigation**

**Equipment Supply Co.**

**Lindsay Corporation**

**Reinke Manufacturing Co.**

**T-L Irrigation Co.**

**Valmont Industries**

See page 5 for HPIC photos.

### **Lone Star State Water Summit**

**June 23-25**

**Austin, Texas**

The Lone Star State Water Summit is being held this year in Austin, Texas. This unique event will focus exclusively on the opportunities, funding, technologies and project development essential to moving the development of critically needed Texas water infrastructure forward. Event organizer, Tim Parsons, is looking for people to serve as panelists on **“Industry Spotlight: Agricultural Panel”**. This is a good opportunity for TAIA members to become involved in the state’s water issues. Mike Buxkemper, Watermaster Irrigation Supply, is already serving as a member of this panel. Anyone else interested may contact Tim Parsons directly at: [timp@infocastevents.com](mailto:timp@infocastevents.com). You may also contact Kern at [taia@taia.org](mailto:taia@taia.org) for further information.

### **Dick Laursen Memorial Scholarship**

Seventy seven applications were received this year for the Dick Laursen Scholarship. Thanks to scholarship committee members Steven Driewer, Edwin Smith, and Farris Hightower for their efforts reviewing all of these candidates and selecting the winner, who will be announced May 1, 2014.



# 2014 High Plains Irrigation Conference and Trade Show





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T A I A

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#### 2014 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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**Vice-President:** Mark Stutler, SWISH, Inc.

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

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**At-Large:** Ronnie Dubois, Massey Irrigation

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