



IOWA ASSOCIATION OF MUNICIPAL UTILITIES NEWSLETTER

"To support and strengthen Iowa's municipal utilities"

GREG FRITZ TO NIMECA CEO POST

Greg Fritz, formerly City Administrator of Pocahontas, has become Chief Executive Officer of the North Iowa Municipal Electric Cooperative Association (NIMECA), effective April 1. He replaces Jim Milam, who served in the association's top position since 1988.

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. NIMECA coordinates electric purchases, sales and transmission for its members. Members jointly and individually own generating capacity and possess undivided ownership interest in the Corn Belt/NIMECA transmission system. NIMECA is a member of Humboldt-based Corn Belt Power Cooperative.



The Iowa Utilities Board (IUB) has revised the contact number for reporting incidents, outages and accidents to the Board Duty Officer.

The new telephone number is:
515-745-2332.

This is a Blackberry cell phone number. When it is dialed, a Duty Officer will personally answer most calls. If your call does go to voicemail, you are asked to leave a message with your call back number.

You may also relay reporting incident information via email to:
IUBDutyOfficer@iub.state.ia.us

Emails sent to this address will send an alert to the Duty Officer Blackberry and your information will then be retrieve. Be sure to include your call back contact information.

This change affects incident reporting requirements for natural gas, electric and water utilities; communications providers; and owners and operators and operators of electric facilities [199 IAC chapters 10, 20, 21, 22 and 25].

Any questions should be referred to Chuck Seel at IUB, 515-281-5618 or 515-321-9523 (cell).

New Iowa Utilities Board Emergency Reporting Phone Number:

515-745-2332

Or email: IUBDutyOfficer@iub.state.ia.us

COMMON GROUND IOWA SEEKS MUNICIPAL MEMBERS



Common Ground Iowa

One voice. One vision. One Iowa.

Common Ground Iowa (CGI) is a regional partner with the Common Ground Alliance (CGA). CGI's

purpose is to promote public safety through damage prevention and shared responsibility, while utilizing the CGA's Best Practices for advancing underground utility safety in Iowa.

In recent years, CGA has established itself as the leading organization in an effort to reduce damages to all underground facilities in North America through shared responsibility among all stakeholders. Stakeholder members include: agriculture, electric, emergency services, engineering/design, excavators, IDOT, insurance, locators, municipalities, Iowa One Call, pipelines (transmission & distribution, private water, railroad, road builder, state regulator and telecommunications.

A year ago a steering committee was formed to establish a regional partner in Iowa. Joel Yanda, Maquoketa Municipal Electric Utility Distribution Superintendent and IAMU Program Director Dave Hraha served on this committee and in January, 2008 the formal establishment of CGI was completed. Municipal representatives are now being sought to become members of Common Ground Iowa.

Major benefits of the CGI are:

- Model and articulate the CGA best practices;
- Exchange information among stakeholders; and
- Help promote subsurface facility awareness



SAFE CITY



IAMU's Safe City was shown to board and committee members during an open house in the fall of 2007. Development will continue in 2008.

IAMU'S SAFE CITY RECEIVES APPA MAGAZINE COVERAGE

IAMU's Safe City facility has been featured in a story included in the American Public Power Association's (APPA) *Public Power Magazine* (March/April 2008 edition).

The electronic edition of the magazine can be accessed by members of the general public via the APPA website, while the issue is "current" (it is available without time restrictions to individuals who are APPA members).

To view the online electronic edition of *Public Power*, use the following link: <http://www.nxtbook.com/nxtbooks/naylor/APPS0208/>

Or, go the APPA website, www.appanet.org, roll across "Newsletters and Magazines" and "Public Power Magazine" (any indi-

vidual who is an APPA member may subscribe to *Public Power Magazine* and/or the *Public Power Weekly Newsletter* by sending an email message to: PublicPowerWeekly@APPAnet.org.

Safe City is a cluster of miniature structures on the IAMU Safety & Training Field which will simulate real life utility construction activities, emergency response scenarios and more, featuring actual operating utility infrastructure. Development of Safe City will continue throughout 2008, with infrastructure installation to be done in conjunction with IAMU workshops this year. If you'd like to learn more about IAMU's Safe City facility, or to contribute money or equipment, contact Dave Hraha at IAMU, 800-810-4268 or dhraha@iamu.org

OVERHEAD ELECTRIC WORKSHOP MAY 21 – 23: REGISTER NOW



One of IAMU's oldest workshops, the Overhead Electric Transmission & Distribution Workshop, returns May 21 – 23 at the association's Training & Office Complex (with apprentice evaluation May 20).

This year's workshop will focus on transmission framing and rubber gloving for the hands-on portion, and state electric licensing requirements during the classroom portion.

Apprentices should take note of special opportunities with the workshop: An apprenticeship evaluation session will be held from 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. May 20 (pre-registration is required, and the number of apprentices is limited to 15).

A beginning pole climbing class will also be held the afternoon of May 20 and morning of May 21. The Overhead Workshop will begin at 1 p.m. May 21 with hands-on training. Hands-on training will continue all day May 22, with the classroom activities scheduled for the morning of May 23.

All participants are required to bring their own climbing equipment and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), including: leather gloves; hard hat and safety glasses; rubber gloves/sleeves; proper footwear (no sneakers); rain gear; harness and lanyard. No participant will be allowed on the training field without proper PPE (limited quantities of PPE will be available for loan, for a fee).

A workshop brochure, including registration and hotel information, has been distributed. Register by completing and returning the form in the brochure; or, register online with the IAMU website, www.iamu.org (click on "Calendar/Registrations"). Separate registration fees apply for the Pole Climbing Pre-Workshop May 20, and one-day registrations are available. The registration deadline is May 16, 2008.

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



APPA SAFETY MANUAL CAN BE PURCHASED THROUGH IAMU



Be safe – and compliant – with the latest American Public Power Association (APPA) Safety Manual, now available from IAMU.

The new 14th edition has been revised to include the current OSHA and NESC standards, as well as new and expanded sections, including: a Lock Out/Tag Out step-by-step switching procedure; clothing; confined or enclosed spaces; work on

energized and de-energized cables; work on energized lines and equipment; eye and face protection; climbing and working on poles; grounding; and tree trimming.

The manuals are available from IAMU at a price of \$18.95 per copy, plus \$2.50 shipping. To order, or for more information, contact Eric Stoll (estoll@iamu.org) or Kristin Daniel (kdaniel@iamu.org) at IAMU, 800/810-4268.



Thomas J. Barton, an Iowa State University Distinguished Professor in Liberal Arts and Sciences and former director of the U.S. Department of Energy's Ames Laboratory, has been named interim director of the Iowa Energy Center.


Barton's appointment became effective April 1. He will direct the energy center until a permanent director joins the staff. Barton succeeds Floyd Barwig who recently left the center to become director of energy efficiency and the

environment for the New York State Public Service Commission in Albany.

Barton directed the Ames Laboratory from 1988 until his resignation in February 2007. He also directed Iowa State's Institute for Physical Research and Technology from 1998 to 2007. A search committee has been appointed to find a permanent director for the center.


The Iowa Energy Center was created by the Iowa General Assembly and signed into law by former Gov. Terry Branstad in 1990. The energy center is administered by Iowa State University.

IOWA ENERGY CENTER NAMES INTERIM DIRECTOR



... for a three-year, **no-interest** Planning and Design Loan from the State Revolving Fund to finance the early stages of public drinking water and wastewater projects.

Contact Lori Beary at lari.beary@iowa.gov or 800.433.7230.



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WATER DISTRIBUTION AND LEAK WORKSHOPS IN MAY

The spring 2008 edition of IAMU's Water Distribution and Water Leak Detection Workshops will be held May 14 and 15 at IAMU's Training & Office Complex in Ankeny. The Distribution Workshop will be held May 14, with the Leak Detection Workshop slated for May 15. Participants may register for either workshop individually, or both. Each workshop will award 0.6 CEUs for Water Distribution.

Hands-on rotating group sessions make up each workshop. The Distribution Workshop will cover fire hydrant maintenance; water main tapping/HydraStop; water main installation and repair; fittings; and water main disinfection. The Leak Detection Workshop will include leak detection practice with various equipment and line locating.

Participants in the Distribution Workshop must supply their own hard hat; safety glasses; gloves;

hearing protection; and steel-toed boots or hard-soled shoes. For the Leak Detection Workshop, participants must supply their own steel-toed or hard-soled shoes and gloves.

Registration fees are \$70 per person/per day OR \$130 per person/both days for IAMU members; and \$100 per person/per day OR \$190 per person/both days for non-IAMU members. A workshop brochure has been distributed and is posted on the IAMU website, www.iamu.org. Register with the brochure registration form; or register on the IAMU website (click on "Calendar/Registrations"). Each workshop requires a minimum of 15 participants to be held. The registration deadline is May 9.

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

WATER LAB WORKSHOPS SCHEDULED FOR JUNE

Sign up now for one of IAMU's newest workshops – the Water Operator 2008 Lab Workshop, June 11 or June 12.

Utilizing IAMU's recently installed water laboratory facility at the association's Office and Training Complex, this workshop will cover water testing; colorimetry; chlorine training and testing; and pH, fluoride, iron manganese, phosphate and nitrate testing. Analytical equipment will be supplied by IAMU, but workshop attendees are encouraged to bring their own equipment for use during the hands-on portion of the workshop.

The workshop will be offered on two different days, June 11 and June 12. Registration fees are \$70 for IAMU members and \$100 for non-IAMU members. 0.5 CEUs for Water Treatment will be awarded.

Each workshop is limited to 10 participants, so early registration is encouraged. A workshop brochure has been distributed, and is posted on the IAMU website, www.iamu.org. Register by completing and sending the brochure's registration form; or, register online with the IAMU website (click on "Calendar/Registrations"). The registration deadline is June 6.

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

COMMON GROUND IOWA

Continued from Page 1

CGI strongly supports and recommends the national CGA Best Practices. This collection of best practices are intended to be shared among stakeholders involved with and dependent upon the safe and reliable operation, maintenance, construction, and protection of underground facilities. The best practices contain validated experiences gained that can be further examined and evaluated for possible consideration and incorporation into state and private stakeholder underground facility damage prevention programs.

The CGA Best Practices are divided into eight chapters that provide a collection of current damage prevention best practices. The eight chapters include:

1. Planning & Design Best Practices
2. One Call Center Best Practices
3. Location & Marking Best Practices
4. Excavation Best Practices
5. Mapping Best Practices
6. Compliance Best Practices
7. Public Education Best Practices
8. Reporting & Evaluation Best Practices

To join and/or to download a free copy of the Best Practices, go to the CGI website at www.commongroundiowa.com or call Dave Hraha at IAMU (800/810-4268) for more information.

**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***May 2008**

May 6 – 8

Gas: Plastic Pipe Joining (Fusion & Mechanical) & OQ Workshop

May 14

Water/WW: Distribution Workshop

May 15

Water/WW: Leak Detection Workshop

May 20 – 23

Electric: Electric Overhead Workshop (Apprentice workshop May 20)**June 2008**

June 11 & 12

Water/WW: Water Operator Lab Workshops

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

(Click on "Calendar/
Registrations")

GAS CALENDAR SHOWS PIPE JOINING WORKSHOP MAY 6 – 8

Gas distribution fusion technicians should plan now to attend the IAMU Plastic Pipe Joining (Fusion & Mechanical) and Operator Qualification Workshop May 6 – 8.

The workshop will be held at the IAMU Training & Office Complex in Ankeny and will provide the chance for technicians to meet the annual fusion qualification (49CFR Part 192.285) required by the Office of Pipeline Safety.

The three-day workshop agenda will include fusion qualifications (calibration and Sensit Gold, squeeze off, thermite welding and inspection for defective material); Iowa One Call; line locating; outside and inside leak detection (classroom); line locating (hands-on); line detection (hands-on); excavation/shoring and confined space (classroom); excess flow valves, pressure testing, tracer wire and odorant testing (hands-on). The workshop brochure provides more detail regarding hands-on qualifications available.

Workshop participants must bring their own hard hat, pipe material, fusion fittings and line locators.

A free barbeque for workshop participants will be held following workshop activities May 6. Workshop fees are \$310 per person for IAMU member gas systems and \$360 per person for non-IAMU members.

A workshop brochure has been distributed and posted on the IAMU website, www.iamu.org.

Register by sending the form included in the brochure, or register online with the IAMU website (click on "Calendar/Registrations"). The registration deadline is May 2. For more information contact IAMU at 800/810-4268.



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**CLASSIFIEDS**

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 —

WATER/WASTEWATER OPERATOR: The City of Charlotte is seeking applicants for this position. The qualified candidate must possess Grade I Water and Distribution certification as well as Wastewater Grade I certification, or be able to obtain within six months after date of hire. Wage negotiable, DOQ. Pre-employment background checks will be required. *Position open until filled.* Send resume to:

Water /Wastewater position
c/o Marty Jahn, Mayor
City of Charlotte
P.O. box 128
Charlotte, Iowa 52731 3/08

AFTER HOURS SERVICE WORKER: The Owatonna (Minnesota) Public Utilities (OPU) has an opening for this position. Minimum qualifications for this position include: Lineworker Technical Training Certificate/Degree and six (6) years performing electric, water and natural gas maintenance and operations work as a Journey Status Lineworker. This position provides service to Owatonna Public Utilities customers' emergencies and concerns, which include such items as gas leaks, pilots out, electrical outages, and water leaks. Hours are from 3:30 p.m. – 11:30 p.m. Monday – Friday. Starting wage DOQ: \$29.22 – \$20.45 plus shift premium. EOE - M/F/H/V. Application can be obtained at the OPU offices or by contacting Human Resources at 507-446-5414 or 507-446-5488.

Owatonna Public Utilities
Attn: Human Resources Department
208 S. Walnut Ave.
P.O. Box 800
Owatonna, MN 55060-0800
Ph: 507-451-2480 3/08

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

— 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

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 —

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

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 —

COOLING TOWER: Used Marley cooling tower, Model 4437. For specifications and more information, contact:

Stuart Municipal Utilities
 Superintendent
 114 N. Fremont
 PO Box 370
 Stuart, IA 50250 3/08

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



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**IAMU
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Send copy to John Burnett
Fax: 515/289-2499
e-mail: jburnett@iamu.org
or mail to:
1735 NE 70th Ave.
Ankeny, IA 50021-9353



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

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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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Telephone: 515/289-1999 FAX: 515/289-2499
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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eco@home



A "green" consumer education publication from IAMU for your customers.

See the IAMU website (www.iamu.org) or contact Sandy Longfellow at 800/810-4268 or slongfellow@iamu.org

RECOGNITION



WITH THE IAMU AWARD PROGRAM

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

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