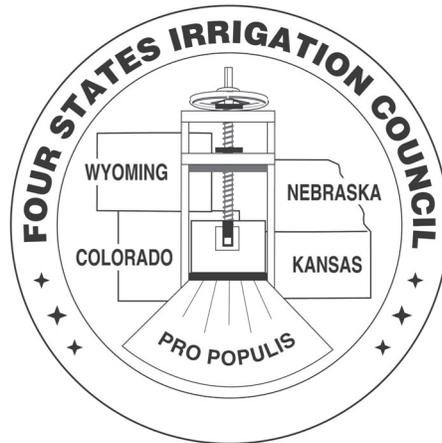


Four States
Irrigation Council
60th Annual Meeting

AWARDS



**January 16-18, 2013
Fort Collins, Colorado
Hilton**



Mike Purcell

Ditchrider Award – Mike Purcell

I was very honored to hear that I would be this year's recipient of the Ditch Rider Award. I apologize that I can not attend the banquet. As an explanation, I would offer the following: I retired in July. My retirement strategy is to play bad golf and drink cheap beer. Unfortunately, I did not understand that playing more bad golf makes worse golf. Good news, however, drinking cheap beer is going quite well. In any event, I had scheduled a trip to Phoenix to pursue more bad golf before I heard the news that I had received the award.

I am proud to have served as the Director of the Wyoming Water Development Program. I am sure that I received the award in recognition that the Program understood that the major problems facing irrigated agriculture were aging infrastructure and increased operation and maintenance costs. The State of Wyoming had the wisdom to set aside a portion of its mineral royalties to allow the Program to provide financial assistance to irrigation districts that had the interest and foresight to invest in their water supply systems. Therefore, I humbly accept this award with the knowledge that I am receiving it because of the work of the Wyoming Water Development Program and the Wyoming irrigation districts.

Thank you. Best of luck to the Council. Keep up the good work.



Ron Richner

Wyoming Headgate Award – Ron Richner

Ron Richner was born in Denver, Colorado and moved to Wyoming in 1976 when he was 18. He married Stacey in 1986 and they have two children: Kailey, 18, and Weston, 15. He is the vice president of the Casper Alcova Irrigation District Board and has been on the board for fifteen years. He is the owner of Lone Tree Drift Boat Rentals and is an avid supporter of his kids' soccer, football, and hockey teams.

Kansas Headgate Award – Monty Dahl

Monty was born in Belleville, Kansas and raised on a farm near Courtland. He attended school in Republic until 6th grade. When the school closed, he transferred to Belleville High School and graduated in 1987. During high school, Monty was president and an active member of his local FFA. Monty attended Kansas State University and graduated with a Bachelor of Science Degree in agriculture in the spring of 1991.

On the farm, Monty raises corn, soybeans, alfalfa, and occasionally wheat. He has updated and maintains a feed lot along with running a cow/calf herd.

Monty was elected to the Board of Directors of the Kansas Bostwick Irrigation District in 2006 and remains an active director. He has been instrumental in guiding the district through its many conservation efforts and leveraging of funds through 2025, WaterSMART, and Field Service grants to improve operations. In a district that was originally designed for gravity irrigation, Monty led the way in his area, converting his operations to pivot irrigation. Future challenges as director includes appropriate administration of the Republican River Compact. Living three miles south of the Nebraska border, this topic makes for interesting discussions among friends and neighbors.

Monty loves his family and follows them to all their sporting, 4-H, and church activities. He and his wife, Heather, have four children, Elly, 14; Jony, 12; Cody, 10; and Collin, 7.



Monty Dahl

Nebraska Headgate Award – Tim Anderson

Tim was born and raised in Holdrege Nebraska. He attended the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and Kearney State College. After college, he was part of the United States Navy Seabees and served two tours in Vietnam. Tim spent 20 years as president at W.F. Anderson Company, a multi-disciplinary construction company working in 17 states. The past 22 years Tim has been the public relations manager and lobbyist for Central Nebraska Public Power & Irrigation District.

The Anderson family has had a long history with water. Tim's Great Grandfather installed hundreds of well and windmills in Phelps County in the early 1900's. His Grandfather owned a plumbing business and installed municipal water and sewer lines all across the state of Nebraska and Kansas.



Tim Anderson



David Simpson

Colorado Headgate Award – David Simpson

In May of 1973, David officially starting working for the St. Charles Mesa Water District. This coming May will mark his 40th year as an employee of the District. David started working in the distribution side of the industry, installing new water lines, water services and repairs to existing water mains. At the same time, he helped cover weekends in the water treatment side, checking pumps, water tank levels and the treatment plant.

In 1986, David became the manager of the St. Charles Mesa Water District Water Treatment facilities. In January 2000, David became the District Manager for the St. Charles Mesa Water District, a position he still holds. The District serves 4077 water taps over a 64 square mile service area. In addition to his normal manager duties, he maintains the District's water rights along with making recommendations to his Board regarding water cases that may impact the District.

Due to the 2002 drought, David recommended and the SCMWD Board of Directors authorized a 3.6 million dollar revenue bond for the construction of an 1800 acre foot raw water reservoir. David spent the next two years diligently working with the design engineers to oversee the construction of the new reservoir along several other related components that included a toe drain, outlet piping, raw water pump station and raw water division structure. The total project cost was 4.2 million.

David has served on a variety of water related committees and boards, including: Colorado Plant Operators Water Exam Committee, Colorado Water and Wastewater Plant Operators Certification Board, Colorado Well Development and Protective Association, Arkansas Valley Conduit Advisory Committee, and Colorado Rural Water Board of Directors. David was appointed to the Southeastern Colorado Water Conservancy District Board in 2009 and serves on three committees: Allocation, Arkansas Valley Conduit, and Resource & Engineering Planning Committees.

He and his wife, Kathy, have been married for 37 years. They have three children and eight grandchildren.

Congratulations!

Thank you all for your hard work and dedication.

