

12TH ANNUAL IRRIGATION LEADERS WORKSHOP

“Efficiency”

Sponsored by *Irrigation Leader* magazine
Crowne Plaza Resort Phoenix–Chandler Golf Resort
1 San Marcos Place
Chandler, AZ 85225
January 21–23, 2025
(December 19, 2024 DRAFT)

TUESDAY, January 21

5:00–6:00 p.m. **Welcome Reception**

WEDNESDAY, January 22

7:00 a.m. **Networking Continental Breakfast and Coffee**

7:50 a.m. Welcome: Kris Polly
 Irrigation Leader magazine

Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

Introductions and Opening Comments

8:00 a.m. **The Successful Water Manager**
Speaker: Keith Denos
 GK Consulting, Water Management Solutions

8:30 a.m. **Making Sure the Manager is Successful: The Invaluable Executive Secretary**
Speakers: Marilyn Blunck
 Quincy Columbia Irrigation District

Terrie Larsen
South Columbia Irrigation District

Tarah Jaramillo
Middle Rio Grande Water Conservancy District

Naomi Ontiveros
Elephant Butte Irrigation District

9:30 a.m. **How to Lobby Congress Efficiently**
Speakers: Kris Polly
 Water Strategies, LLC

Dillon Kuehn

Water Strategies, LLC

- 10:00 a.m. **Networking Break**
- 10:30 a.m. **Time Management Forum:** Each attending manager will be asked to share a few words on how they manage their time and stay organized
- 11:00 a.m. **Board Members/Manager Roles, Responsibilities, and the Importance of Communications Training**
Moderator/ Tom Knutson
Speaker Water Management Solutions, LLC
- Speakers: Charles Freeman
 Freeman Pathways, LLC
- Keith Yaskin (Invited)
 Flipside Communications
- 12:00 p.m. **Lunch Sponsored Sponsored by Aqualastic**
Reducing Costs on New Equipment
Speaker: Bryce Evans (Invited)
 Evans Equipment
- 1:30 p.m. **Multi-Use Equipment: MowerMax**
Speaker: David MacGregor (invited)
 ATMAX Equipment Company
- 2:00 p.m. **Assistant Manager Training/Development Case Studies**
Moderator/ Tom Knutson
Speaker Water Management Solutions, LLC
- Speakers: Eric Dixon, P.E.
 South Columbia Basin Irrigation District
- Matt Lukasiewicz (Invited)
 Loup Basin Reclamation District
- 2:30 p.m. **Advantages of Leased Vehicles**
Speaker: Joah Franzoy
 Elephant Butte Irrigation District
- 3:00 p.m. **Ice Cream Sundae Break Sponsored by IWS**
- 3:30 p.m. **Efficiency Forum: Each attendee will be asked to share their district's most successful efficiency effort.**
Moderator: Kris Polly
 Irrigation Leader magazine

4:00 p.m. **Shark Tank Technology Presentations**
Presenters: Jerry Weiland
 Fratco

5:00 p.m. **Vendor Reception Sponsored by Rubicon Water**

THURSDAY, January 23

7:00 a.m. **Networking Continental Breakfast and Coffee**

7:55 a.m. Welcome: Kris Polly
 Irrigation Leader magazine

Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

8:00 a.m. **Converting to Smart Pumps**

Speakers: Noel Carter
 Buckeye Water Conservation and Drainage District

 Robbie Milton
 Watertronics

8:30 a.m. **Automated Canal Herbicide Application**

Speaker: Trent Lewis, FPC
 Pondmedics Family of Brands

9:00 a.m. **Capitalizing on Urbanization Case Studies**

Speakers: Steve Johnson
 Emrgy

 Carl Hayes
 Emmett Irrigation District

 Noel Carter
 Buckeye Water Conservation and Drainage District

10:00 a.m. **Networking Break**

10:30 a.m. **Australian Irrigation Scheme Efficiency**

Speakers: Phil Zimmermann and John Lind
 Rubicon Water

11:00 a.m. **New Zealand Technology Applied in the US**

Speaker: Hamish Howard
 Assura Software

 Justin Harter

Naches Selah

- 11:30 a.m. **Israeli Irrigation in Arizona**
Speaker: Prof. Uri Shani
 The Robert H. Smith Faculty of Agriculture, Food & Environment
 The Hebrew University of Jerusalem
- 12:00 p.m. **Lunch**
 Urban Hydropower and Canal Design
Speakers:
- 2:00 p.m. **Bus Tour**
Bus departs for International Water Screen project site and tour of urbanized canal development site in Scottsdale.
- 5:00 p.m. **Reception**

(Note: The bus will deliver people to the final reception and not return to the hotel. Options for returning to the hotel include taxi and Uber services.)

HOTEL INFORMATION: Crowne Plaza Phoenix–Chandler Golf Resort, 1 San Marcos Place, Chandler, AZ 85225. Phone: (480) 812-0900

Irrigation Leaders

In my 30-plus years working on irrigation and water-related issues, during which we debuted *Irrigation Leader* and its subsequent state-specific editions, *Municipal Water Leader*, and *Hydro Leader* magazines, I have had the great opportunity to meet thousands of people.

The following is a list of qualities and shared behaviors that I have observed among the most successful, effective, and happy people in the water sector:

1. Faith and family are their two top priorities.
2. Integrity. These are reliable, honest people who keep their promises and commitments.
3. Healthy. They take their health and general fitness seriously.
4. Positive outlook. They are upbeat people and look for the good in everything.
5. Never complain. As a rule, they do not complain or share their woes with others.
6. Solution orientated. They see solutions and opportunities, not problems.
7. Responsible. They take immediate and full responsibility for mishaps and are generous in giving credit to others for successes.
8. Highly organized. Their work spaces are clean and orderly, sometimes shockingly so.
9. Timely. They take pride in being early for meetings and not wasting other people's time.
10. Strong work ethic. They are hard workers. They get up early and put in the time and effort to get things done.
11. Good communicators. They speak directly and communicate clearly. They have strong writing skills and are well practiced at public speaking.

12. Even tempered. They are always in careful control of their emotions; they tend to speak lower and slower when angry.
13. Hobbies. They always have outside-of-work interests, such as hunting, fishing, hiking, watching sports, reading, traveling, sailing, flying, or mountain climbing.
14. Treat others well. Most importantly, they are personable, polite, and humble.
15. Manage their people well. They provide adequate resources, clear objectives, guidance as needed, and credit for jobs well done.