

# **Thousands Raised AT Scholarship Live Auction** AND **Equipment Raffle**

By Lisa Schatz

The North Dakota Rural Water Systems Association (NDRWSA) held its annual Patrick Denne Scholarship live auction and equipment raffle during the 33rd Rural Water Expo.

The items donated remain a popular topic as crowds gather around the sponsorship table to discuss how much an item may bring at auction. This year's auction and cash donations raised nearly \$8,400 due to the generosity of individuals, associate members and rural water systems. The money raised for the scholarship will be awarded to deserving students this July. For additional information, call 800-349-6951 or visit www.ndrw.org. Tax deductible contributions may be sent to NDRWSA, 2718 Gateway Ave, Suite 201, Bismarck, ND 58503. All donations are greatly appreciated!

"With the continued support from our members, this live auction will remain an annual event. I would like to extend a special thank you to all those who donated items or contributed financially for this worthwhile event. Without your generosity, this event would not be possible," says Eric Volk, executive director of NDRWSA.

The Patrick Denne Memorial Scholarship is awarded in memory of a dedicated water circuit rider that traveled approximately 750,000 miles to provide assistance anywhere or anytime it was needed. To keep Denne's memory alive, the NDRWSA Board of Directors awards money to deserving students. Students may use the money to defray tuition and college expenses. A selection committee reviews applications and selects the recipients based on academic performance, career goals, extracurricular activities, leadership, financial need, and a brief essay on a predetermined topic. Watch for this year's recipients in an upcoming Spigot article.



### **Equipment Raffle** DONATIONS

The dollars generated at the equipment raffle went towards a leak correlator, which was purchased in March 2019.

#### GOLD

Agassiz Water Users District **Barnes Rural Water District** Dakota Rural Water District Greater Ramsey Water District Northeast Regional Water District South Central Regional Water District Southeast Water Users District Stutsman Rural Water District Walsh Rural Water District

#### SILVER

Cass Rural Water Users District Central Plains Water District City of Drake City of Flaxton City of Foutuna City of Maddock City of New Rockford City of Surrey City of Upham City of Wimbledon **Denton Zubke** Ellingson Drainage Inc. Eric Volk Fairveiw Hutterian Brethren H&H Coatings, Inc Northeast Regional Water District Northwest Rural Water District Northwestern Power Equipment Company Inc. **R&T** Water District Southeast Water Users District Stutsman Rural Water District **Tri-County Rural Water District** Walsh Rural Water District Western Area Water Supply Authority

#### BRONZE

Cal Thelen City of Zap **Clark Cronquist** Gary Rust Lloyd Veil McLean Sheridan Water District Range Data Inc.

## **Rural Water Welcomes Keith Hegney and Bids Farwell to Jeremy Sheeley**

By Lisa Schatz

Jeremy Sheeley, NDRWSA's eastern circuit rider, has accepted a position with Ferguson Waterworks in outside sales. During his tenure, Sheeley traveled thousands of miles to provide technical assistance to those involved in the water industry; from treatment to distribution, he was an invaluable asset sharing his expertise among communities. Good luck, Jeremy, and thank you for years of dedication and hard work!



Keith Hegney

Rural water welcomes Keith Hegney as the new circuit rider for North Dakota. Hegney was born and raised in the Minot area and has lived primarily in the north-central region of the state. He has more than five years of experience in planning, organizing, implementing, and directing public works programs in the areas of fresh and wastewater collection and treatment, management and operation of a drinking water system, solid waste disposal and recycling, public building maintenance, transit systems, street and sidewalk construction and maintenance, public parking, traffic control, vector control certification, herbicide/pesticide certification, vehicle and equipment maintenance, and public contract administration. He has received his Class 1 Water Distribution System and Class 1 Wastewater Collection System.

Prior to accepting the position with NDRWSA, Hegney was employed as the public works director with the city of Surrey. During that time, he was heavily involved in the erection of a new water tower, installation of new water lines, and installation and replacement of gate valves and fire hydrants. Hegney played an integral part of the freshwater reservoir upgrades to variable speed pumps, the upgrade of wastewater dumpsters to VFD computerized drive systems, the SCADA system for Surrey's entire operation (wastewater/drinking water systems), and the addition of two separate housing developments within the city. As a public works director, he gained extensive knowledge of modern principles, methods, practices, and materials in planning, designing, operating, and maintaining public works services.

Hegney lives in Surrey with his future wife, Jenny. He has three children and two bonus children, ages 17, 15, 14, 12 and 10. In his free time, he enjoys relaxing at the lake, hunting, fishing, and spending quality time with family and friends.

Rural water is excited to have Keith part of the rural water team!