

Dave's Here!  
By Dave Cole, Training Manager, Mueller Company

I read John Hartz's article in the last Aquafacts Magazine and couldn't resist. I must say, it's nice to know that the members of this association appreciated my work. The article did put a smile on my face, something my association, with this association, did on a regular basis. As I travel across the U.S. in my new job, I find myself reflecting back all the time, on the great time I had while working for the New York Rural Water Association. I start all of my classes now with some background on myself, and how I ended up in my new position. I ALWAYS talk about NYRWA and what a great opportunity it was for me.

Working there enabled me to learn much more than I ever thought was possible. But, more importantly, it gave me the opportunity to meet so many wonderful people that I will never forget. All of the operators, many who became very good friends, often taught me more than I ever taught them. I still keep in touch with many of them via email and look forward to hearing about their lives and communities.

I also had the pleasure to work with David Miller and his staff at USDA Rural Development. And let's not forget Charlie Amento and Teresa Boepple at the NY State Department of Health. They all supported Rural Water in a big way while I was there and I'm sure they will continue to do so. I appreciate all the support they provided me and the friendships which went along with that support.

In my new position, I have had the opportunity to teach some classes with several Rural Water Associations across the country. They have all proven to be very helpful and appreciative of my training and assisted in what ever way they could. But, I can honestly say, as I have many times before, that NYRWA is one of the best, if not the best association in the country.

From the Board of Directors, Pat Scalera and the entire staff, you are very fortunate to have such a dedicated, responsive and professional group of individuals guiding your association. And lets not forget your Associate Members (especially now that I am one) I know from experience how important they are to the success of this association. They all work together to make NYRWA the best. So..... I say hello to ALL of you and I do miss you.

I had the pleasure of working for, and with, the greatest group of people anyone could ever hope for. And for that I will always be grateful. I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible when I'm in NY doing training late next summer. I wish you all the best. But John, really, calling me Training Specialist extraordinaire! Well.....OK !!

Regards,  
David Cole  
Training Manager

Mueller Company