



# Drip Newsletter

OWPCA Quarterly Publication  
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Woodward, Oklahoma 73802  
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## Renew Your Membership Today

This issue of the DRIP Newsletter may be your last issue. So, please make sure you have renewed your membership today. The Membership Application can be found on page 5.

## ODEQ Requires New Operator Certification

The State of Oklahoma has passed a new Immigration Bill that went into affect on November 1, 2007. This requires further documentation from each licensed operator. Please read the articles on page 7 and 8.

## Letter from "Drip" and "Drop"

Hello Everyone. Drip and Drop have completed our first year with the Drip Newsletter and "WOW," what a year we have had. We have seen so many new faces and activities happening with the OWPCA Organization, the OWPCA Short School, and the DRIP Newsletter. It is definitely the place to be.

The 2007 OWPCA Short School was definitely the place to be this year. If you were there, you know what we are talking about. If you weren't, you can read all about it in this newsletter and see the pictures on the OWPCA Web Page at [www.owpca.com](http://www.owpca.com). Make sure to check them out. You might find yourself "caught" in the act of having fun and learning something.

....continued on page 8

### **About OWPCA**

The Oklahoma Water and Pollution Control Association is a non-profit operator association organized in 1926 and dedicated to the advancement of knowledge among water and wastewater system operators. OWPCA receives no state or federal funds. It is supported only through membership dues, advertising fees for the Drip Magazine, and the proceeds from its Annual Conference and Short School, held each year during the last week of October.

OWPCA works closely with the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality to provide high quality training opportunities that meet the standards for approved training credit. OWPCA District Directors and other volunteers conduct training sessions at District Meetings throughout the state. Over the years OWPCA has hosted hundreds of District Meetings providing approved Training to Operators over the State of Oklahoma.

### **OWPCA Mission**

OWPCA is dedicated to the advancement of knowledge pertaining to the science of Water, Waste Management and Wastewater Works Operations; the promotion of cooperation among members, the American Water Works Association, AWWA, the Water Environment Federation, WEF, the Oklahoma Rural Water Association, ORWA, and the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality, ODEQ; and the interchange of experience among all groups.

### **What OWPCA Provides**

- An Annual Conference & Short School
- Approved Operator Training at District Meetings Statewide
- Operator Training Materials and Publications
- Opportunities to "Network" with fellow Operators
- Limited Operator Consultation Services
- College Scholarships for Members and Families of Members
- Special Recognition for Outstanding Plants and Operators through Annual Awards Program
- Official Representation for Operators on Oklahoma Water and Wastewater Operator Certification Advisory Council
- Representation for Oklahoma Operators in National Legislation and Policy Development through AWWA & WEF
- Statewide Employment Listings for Positions Wanted and Positions Available
- Product and Service Referrals for Vendors

### **Reasons To Join OWPCA**

- Support your State Water, Waste Management and Wastewater Operator Association
- Receive Drip Magazine Quarterly
- Be Eligible for door prizes at OWPCA District Meetings
- Have Voting Privileges at OWPCA District Meetings
- Support Use of Most Current Operator Training Materials
- Gain a Stronger Voice in the Development of State and National Water and Pollution Control Regulation

**OWPCA  
Officers**

- President
  - Rodger Gilchrist
- President Elect
  - Arnold Miller
- Executive Secretary
  - Kristi Hill
- Program Chair
  - Alan Coffin
- Golf Tournament
  - Chair - Robert Turner
  - Co-Chair - Ray Gamble
- Exhibitor Committee
  - Chair - Scott Gouard
  - Co-Chair - Kristi Hill
  - Co-Chair - Kevin Menning
- Scholarship Committee
  - Chair - Arnold Miller
  - Co-Chair - Carl Gray
  - Co-Chair - Woody Epperson
  - Co-Chair - Jim Pumphrey
  - Co-Chair - Tom Tolbart
  - Co-Chair - Tony Lacy
- Awards Committee
  - Chair - Jim Pumphrey
  - Co-Chair - Alan Coffin
  - Co-Chair - Sam Drain
  - Co-Chair - Woody Epperson
- Advisory Council
  - Chair - Chris Wisniewski
  - Co-Chair - Carl Gray
  - Co-Chair - Jim Pumphrey
  - Co-Chair - Alan Coffin
  - Co-Chair - Arnold Miller
- Education Committee
  - Chair - David Rodriguez
  - Co-Chair - Woody Epperson
- Water Works Division
  - Chair - Sam Drain
  - Co-Chair - Mike McFall
- Water Pollution Control Division
  - Chair - Brian Conroy
  - Co-Chair - Joyce Hight
- Membership
  - Chair - Alan Coffin
  - Co-Chair - Kevin Menning
  - Co-Chair - Scott Gouard
  - Co-Chair - David Rodriguez
- Editor of Web & Drip Publication
  - Clarke Hodson
- ODEQ Advisory Member
  - Chris Wisniewski



**District Managers**

- District One**  
Fred Rice 405-216-7696
- District Two**  
Kevin Menning 1-800-227-4224 ext 2132
- District Three**  
Ron Swafford
- District Four**  
Mike McFall 580-225-4995
- District Five**  
Joyce Hight 580-249-4919
- District Six**  
Vivian Moody



**2008 OWPCA Meetings**

OWPCA holds District Meetings throughout the year to discuss and plan for the Annual OWPCA Short School, training classes throughout the the state, and operating business of the OWPCA. The meetings are open for the public and members to attend. We do urge everyone to attend or contact your District Manager to express your interests and inputs for the organizational meetings. The following is the the current schedule for the OWPCA Meetings. We hope to see you there. We are working on moving the meetings and the Annual Short School this year to the Professional Training and Education Center on Hudiburg Drive, Rose State College, in Midwest City.

- 08 February 2008 Rose State College
- 11 April 2008 Rose State College
- 13 June 2008 Rose State College
- 22 August 2008 Rose State College
- 27 - 31 October 2008**

**Short School - Rose State College  
Professional Training & Education Center**

## The President's First Word

Well a new year has started and another year is behind us. I would like to thank everyone for helping to make the Short School a success once again. 2008 brings in a year with many changes planned. OWPCA is moving the short school to Rose State Collage in October and Arnold Miller will become the President, just to mention a couple of the changes. A big thing coming down the road is compliance with a new law wherein we must prove we are citizens of this great country to renew our license. This organization believes in operators training other operators, if you need a renewal class in your area, please call your district director and set it up. Remember OWPCA is a volunteer organization so we always need your help and suggestions to make things work, we can always use your help! I hope 2008 is a great year for everyone! **Rodger Gilchrist**



### Famous Quotes

Many of life's failures are people who did not realize how close they were to success when they gave up. - Thomas A. Edison

Opportunity is missed by most people because it is dressed in overalls and looks like work. - Thomas A. Edison

### OWPCA New Officers

We want to congratulate **Arnold Miller** for being the new **President Elect**, **Sam Drain** for becoming the new **Water Works Chair**, and **Joyce Hight** for being the new **Water Pollution Control Co-Chair**. We are excited about these new additions to the Executive Committee. Please make sure to give them a big "Pat-on-the-Back" the next time you see them and ask if there is anything you can do to help them in their new positions.

### DID YOU KNOW?

Bottling and shipping water is the least efficient method of water delivery ever invented. The energy we waste using bottled water would be enough to power 190,000 homes. But, refilling your water bottle from the tap requires no expenditure of energy, and zero waste of resources.

### OWPCA Web Page

Check out the OWPCA Web Page at [www.owpca.com](http://www.owpca.com). The web page has been updated with current "News Updates" and the results of the 2007 OWPCA Annual Short School Awards and Activities. New photos of Oklahoma Water and Wastewater Treatment Plants and Employment Opportunities around the state are always being added. If you have some plant photos or employment opportunities at your facility, please contact Clarke Hodson at Accurate Environmental Training Center at 1-800-516-5227, or e-mail him at [clarke-atc@accuratelabs.com](mailto:clarke-atc@accuratelabs.com) or [docentstw@brightok.net](mailto:docentstw@brightok.net).

**Oklahoma Water & Pollution Control Association**

P.O. Box 946

Woodward, OK 73802

1-800-776-9722 or 580-256-9722

[www.owpca.org](http://www.owpca.org)

***Individual Active Membership Application***

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

Employer: \_\_\_\_\_

**Individual Membership \$10.00**

**Invoice Information**

City / Company Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Billing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail Membership Application with Membership Dues to the above address.

Thank You and Welcome to the OWPCA.

Tell Us About Yourself

We are looking for news & information about our members and communities that we can "Brag About." If you have a story to tell and would like to see it in the DRIP Newsletter and or the OWPCA Web Site, send it along to any of the Executive Committee Members or to Clarke Hodson at [docentstw@brightok.net](mailto:docentstw@brightok.net) and ask them to consider it for the DRIP Newsletter and or the Web Page. We will try to utilize it as space is allowed. We reserve the right to edit it as necessary to accommodate it to the space available.

\* \* \*

2007 OWPCA Awards  
Water Plant Awards

Medium Water Plant	City of Del City
Water Newcomer	Phillip Ozment - City of Midwest City
Large Water Plant Operator	George Decher - City of Edmond
Small Water Plant Operator	Ray Nelson - City of Guthrie
Large Water Plant Laboratory Technician	Jack Dean - City of Shawnee
	Stephen Payne - City of Edmond
Large Water Well Technician	Paul Fitzpatrick - City of Edmond
Small Water Well Technician	Albert Makescry III - City of Weatherford
Large Water Plant Electronics Technician	James Montgomery - City of Edmond
Large Water Plant Maintenance Technician	Nichols Binion - City of Midwest City
Lifetime Member Award	Monroe McKissic - ODEQ
President Award	Alan Coffee - City of Del City

Wastewater Plant Awards

Medium Wastewater Plant	City of Chickasha
Small Wastewater Plant	City of Weatherford
Most Improved Wastewater Plant	City of Newcastle
Large Wastewater Plant Supervisor	Kris Neifing - City of Edmond
Small Wastewater Plant Supervisor	Bill Canary - City of Newcastle
Wastewater Line Maintenance Supervisor	Robin Ary - City of Midwest City
Wastewater Pretreatment Operator	Michelle Aumiller - City of Midwest City
Wastewater Plant Newcomer of the Year	James Fowler - City of Pawnee
Large Wastewater Plant Operator	Chris Thomas - City of Midwest City
Medium Wastewater Plant Operator	Kevin Browner - City of Del City
Small Wastewater Plant Operator	Jack Olson - City of Weatherford
Medium Wastewater Line Maintenance Operator	Chuck Avers - City of Del City
Small Wastewater Line Maintenance Operator	Steven Owens - City of Weatherford
	Barry Van Auken - City of Weatherford

Other Awards

Oklahoma Environmental Training Center Award  
Most Improved Wastewater Treatment Plant - City of Pawnee - James Fowler

Accurate Environmentl Training Center \$500 Scholarship Awards  
For High Performance In the Classroom, On the ODEQ Exams, and On the Job  
James Fobbs - City of Antlers  
Frank Durham - City of Tulsa



### New Examination Application Procedures

The treatment of water and wastewater in Oklahoma is regulated by the EPA and ODEQ. The "Rules & Regulations" concerning the Oklahoma Operators and Laboratory Technicians can be found in the ODEQ Chapter 252:710 Waterworks and Wastewater Works Operator Certification on the ODEQ web site at:

<http://www.deq.state.ok.us/mainlinks/deqrules.htm>.

The following is **ONLY A PART** of the new ODEQ regulations beginning 01 November 2007, to obtain a ODEQ License. Please refer to the ODEQ Web Page for further information.

[http://www.deq.state.ok.us/wqdnew/forms/opcert\\_exam\\_application\\_package\\_nov\\_2007.pdf](http://www.deq.state.ok.us/wqdnew/forms/opcert_exam_application_package_nov_2007.pdf)

In order to comply with Oklahoma's new immigration law, 56 Okla. Stat. § 71, the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality has established the following new procedures for an individual to obtain an agency-issued license/certification.

- A. In order to obtain a license/certification or to renew an existing license/certification, the documentation requested in Sections C and E, including a signed Affidavit Regarding Citizenship, is required. In the absence of the required documentation, citizenship and immigration status cannot be determined and applicants may not be eligible for the license/certification for which they are applying.
- B. The Department of Environmental Quality will have available notary public services for the Affidavit Regarding Citizenship at no cost to the applicant at the main office located at 707 N. Robinson, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73101 during regular business hours (8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, except holidays).
- C. The following documents **must** be provided to the agency with the relevant license/certification application in order to establish eligibility:

#### ALL U.S. CITIZENS

1. A copy of a valid, unexpired Driver's License or Photo-Identification Card from your state of residency; **AND**
2. An original or certified copy of a Birth Certificate, a photocopy of a valid, unexpired U.S. Passport, a photocopy of a Certificate of Citizenship (N-560 or N-561), or a photocopy of a Naturalization Certificate (N-550 or N-570); **AND**
3. A signed and notarized Affidavit Regarding Citizenship (see attached affidavit)

#### ALL NON-U.S. CITIZENS:

If you are not a U.S. Citizen, but are a qualified alien under the federal Immigration and Nationality Act and are lawfully present in the U.S. to work, please provide one of the documents listed in Section E, along with the Affidavit Regarding Citizenship.

- D. The Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality participates in the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements (SAVE) Program, which is an intergovernmental information-sharing initiative designed to aid in determining a non-citizen applicant's immigration status (lawful presence), and thereby ensuring only eligible non-citizens receive government benefits, such as licenses/certifications.

Due to the **MANY** request that the State Vital Records Departments will be facing to supply the "Birth Certificate" requests, be aware that the "Normal" turn around time to obtain a birth certificate is 3 - 4 weeks, the new turn around time may be quite longer.

To have the fullest understanding of operator and laboratory technician requirements and responsibilities, please take time to read and understand the "Rules & Regulations" regulating our industry.

## ODEQ Requires Further Documentations for Licensed Operators

Beginning November 01, 2007, ODEQ is requiring **ALL** individuals who wish to obtain a license/certification or to renew an existing license/certification to provide additional documentation (see previous page) to the ODEQ. These documents must be presented **BEFORE** taking a certification exam or at time of renewals by June 2008, which ever comes first. The Birth Certificate must be the original Certified Birth Certificate issued by the state. If you do not wish to give up the original, you must provide a self addressed stamped envelope and a note asking the ODEQ to make a copy of it and return it to you, or you can take it in person to the ODEQ office at 707 North Robinson, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma and ask them to make a copy of it in person. They will make a copy of the original and return it to you. You will only have to do this one time.

Normal turn around time to order a new Certified Birth Certificate is 3 - 4 weeks. Due to the number of operators requesting a Birth Certificate, you can expect that time to be extended. Also, do **NOT** wait until June to send these documents in to the state and expect to receive your license in a timely manner. It would be near to impossible for ODEQ to process all 7000 plus operator's documentation if they all waited until June 2008. So, beat the rush and do it today.

### Continued from Page 1      Letter from DRIP & DROP

Drip and Drop's involvement with the OWPCA Organization, Short School and DRIP Magazine has been very exciting this year. We have seen the growth and resurgence of operators, vendors, and advertisers' interest and participation with OWPCA over the year. We have seen increased new excitement and involvement from the OWPCA Committee Members. With so many talented people involved with OWPCA this past year, it would be difficult to give "Thanks" to everyone who were involved. So, the next time you see or talk with one of the OWPCA Committee Members, make sure you let them know how much you appreciate their efforts in making the OWPCA Organization the best organization to belong to and network with. If you do not have a chance to see or talk with any of the committee members face-to-face or by phone, you can always drop them an e-mail via the OWPCA Web Page at [www.owpca.com](http://www.owpca.com).

Better yet, let that committee member(s) know you have some special talents, skills, interest, and / or suggestions to contribute to the OWPCA Organization and ask how you can be more involved with OWPCA. "Drip" and "Drop" always believes there is always someplace special and special things to do for those who want to jump on the "Band Wagon." A little excitement can be very contagious.

Check out the rest of the newsletter to see the results of this year's Short School and Award's Presentations.

2007  
OWPCA Short School  
Results

WOW ! What a year for the 2007 OWPCA Annual Short School! The 2007 OWPCA Short School was a **BIG** Success this year. There were more Vendors, More Classes, More Participants, and More Award Winners. Plus, membership is definitely up. Make sure to check out the Web page at [www.owpca.com](http://www.owpca.com) for the list and photos of all of the Award Winners, Vendors, Programs, Classes and Activities that went on at this years Short School.

OWPCA presented 27 Awards this year to many deserving Plants, Operators, and Lab Technicians. We would like to congratulate all of the many well deserving recipients this year on doing such a wonderful job at their place of employment. We do not have enough room to congratulate each and everyone who won an award, but here are a few of the highlights. Alan Coffin was the recipient for this year's "Presidential" Award. Alan has contributed many dedicate hours of labor, love, and talent to the OWPCA in the countless years he has been involved with OWPCA. He is well deserving of the award this year. Thanks, Alan, for everything you have done for the OWPCA Organization.

Both Accurate Environmental Training Center and the Oklahoma Environmental Training Center contributed to the awards at the Award Ceremony. **Accurate Environmental Training Center** provided \$500 Scholarships to two students who's ODEQ Exam Scores were 90% or better on a Class "A," "B," or "C" Operator Exam or a Class "A" or "B" Laboratory Exam. The winners this year included **James Fobbs from the City of Antlers** and **Frank Durham from the City of Tulsa**. Congratulations to James Fobbs and Frank Durham for doing so well in class, on their exams, and on the job site.

The **Oklahoma Environmental Training Center** provided an award for the "**Most Improved Wastewater Plant**" this year. This year's award went to the **City of Pawnee and was accepted by James Fowler**. **James Fowler** also received the **Wastewater Newcomer of the Year Award** from OWPCA. James has been employed at the City of Pawnee for a little over a year and has made some **MAJOR** contributions in getting the City of Pawnee Wastewater Treatment Plant back up to running efficiently. Congratulations to James Fowler for doing such an excellent job for the City of Pawnee.

You definitely do not want to miss out on next year's OWPCA Short School. There are some major plans already in the works for it to be still bigger and better than ever. So, start polishing up your plants and academic training for next years activities and awards. If you know of an individual or plant that deserves some recognition, please start working on submitting their names for next years awards. The OWPCA is definitely looking forward to hearing from you.

## Games & Comic Relief

### HOLIDAY WORD SEARCH

V C F Q K U A P D S G Z W L A Q N M W  
 T K T T I T R V E T E R N S D A Y E F  
 A U K H I M G P J G N H H T N M L M A  
 Q M O F B L Q V G T L V H Z S H W O T  
 S T P A T R I C K S D A Y Y Z D A R H  
 T M R R E A S T E R X R N F C Q E I E  
 G Q J C O L U M B U S D A Y J R W A R  
 J N S J R L O Z N G N V C Y A N J L S  
 V Y O J Y A D R O B A L I S J J G D D  
 Z C Y T C H V S M T P S H N G E L A A  
 E E G A R V A L E N T I N E S D A Y Y  
 V Z J O R S Y A D R A E Y W E N E F N  
 Y A D S T N E D I S E R P T R G F Z S  
 N P Y U I Q F O X Y A D S R E H T O M  
 M F V P A Y M Y A D G O H D N U O R G  
 U B U O R A L L S A I N T S D A Y W G  
 A M C W C H R I S T M A S A E K O X S  
 P Y H N E E W O L L A H T H Y E N E K  
 J C O U F D G N I V I G S K N A H T X

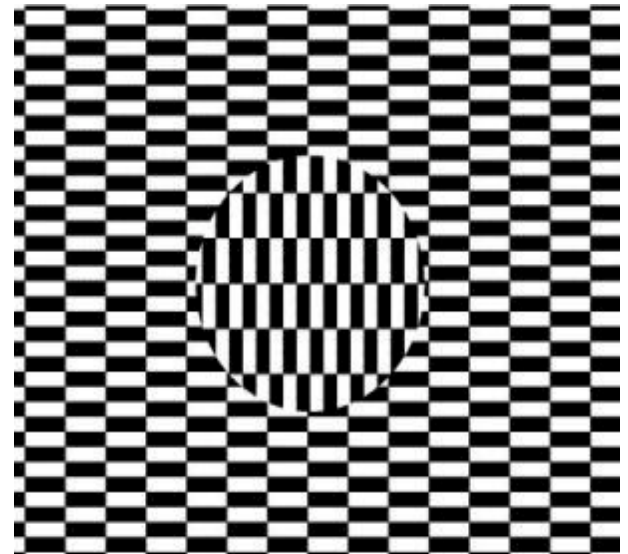
8				7	2			9
			9				3	5
6	4		1		5			
	1	5	2			6		3
		6		9		7		
4		7			6	9	5	
			6		3		4	7
1	3				4			
7			8	5				2

### Sudoku

The objective is to fill a 9×9 grid so that each column, each row, and each of the nine 3×3 boxes contains the digits from 1 to 9, only one time each.



### ??? Optical Illusion ???



All Saints Day  
 Christmas  
 Columbus Day  
 Easter  
 Day



Memorial Day  
 Mothers Day  
 New Year Day  
 Presidents

Fathers Day  
 Day  
 Ground Hog Day  
 Halloween  
 Day  
 Labor Day

St Patricks  
 Thanksgiving  
 Valentines  
 Veterns Day

***How many holidays can you find?***

### Advertise in The Drip Newsletter



How would you like to get your company's name and advertisement seen by hundreds, maybe thousands, of operators, supervisors, superintendents, and city officials? You know, advertisements that would be seen by the actual people who buy your products. You can do that by placing your company's advertisement in the **OWPCA Drip Newsletter**. Go to the OWPCA web page at **www.owpca.com** and check out the advertisement form and send it in today. Not only will you get big advertisement for your dollars, you will also be supporting a great organization. So, what are you waiting for, go place your advertisement today.

#### Advertisers

#### Advertisers

Duke's Root Control, Inc.

Brian Conroy  
1020 Hiawatha Blvd., West  
Syracuse, New York 13204  
315-472-4781  
www.dukes.com

Oklahoma One-Call System, Inc.

Jerry West  
2831 NW 59<sup>th</sup> Street  
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73112  
405-840-9955 Ext. 7241  
www.callok.com  
dmacmillan@callok.com

Frontier Logging Corporation

Francis Weedon & Johnny Just  
7221 NW Third  
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73127  
www.frontierlogging.com  
borholog@sbcglobal.net

Rose State College

Stan Greil & Bill Clark  
6420 SE 15th Street  
Midwest City, Ok 73110  
405-733-7488

Haynes Equipment Company

117 NW 132<sup>nd</sup>  
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73114  
405-755-1357  
info@haynes-equipment.com

Southwest Chemical Services, Inc.

Rodger Gilchrist  
1227 East Washington  
McAlester, Oklahoma 74502  
1-800-256-3345  
rodger\_gilchrist@yahoo.com

Nomography Training

Gaines Bradford Jackson  
1260 Three Oaks Circle  
Midwest City, Oklahoma 73130-5309  
www.geocities.com/gainesb2000  
sewage1@juno.com

Southwest Service and Equipment

Tom Tolbart  
9898 North 167 East Avenue  
Owasso, Oklahoma 74055  
918-272-5273  
Sswse1@aol.com



Wow! Look at my company's advertisement in the **OWPCA Drip Newsletter**. It looks **GREAT!** I am so glad I advertise in the **OWPCA DRIP Newsletter**.

**Drip Newsletter**

**Volume 33 Issue 1 January - March 2008**

***Drip*** is the official publication of the Oklahoma Water and Pollution Control Association (OWPCA), published quarterly by the Publication Committee. The Association is a non-profit corporation dedicated to the improvement of water quality through operator training in the state of Oklahoma. Opinions of editorials and / or the Publication Committee do not necessarily reflect the official positions of the association or officers. Neither the Association or ***Drip*** accept responsibility for statements or claims made by advertisers for their products and / or services nor for published articles. Submit news articles, organization-related correspondence and letters to Clarke Hodson, OWPCA, P. O. Box 946, Woodward, Oklahoma 73802. Subscription to ***Drip*** is through membership in the Oklahoma Water and Pollution Control Association.

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