

# Kansas Rural Water welcomes Tony Kimmi as a new staff member

**T**he Kansas Rural Water Association is pleased to announce the employment of Tony Kimmi of rural Everest, Kansas, as an additional Technical Assistant.

Tony has extensive experience in the operation of a variety of equipment including wheel and track loaders, trenchers and commercial trucks. His family owned and operated Kimmi Lumber and Sawmill, Inc., where Tony was responsible for all aspects of sawmill operation including log procurement, operating the mill and kiln, domestic lumber sales, invoicing and purchasing. He and his wife Michele presently own Kimmi Trucking where they operate and maintain a fleet of cross-country refrigerated trailers.

Tony is experienced with the installation of water and sewer systems. He is very familiar with the operation of skid loaders, backhoes, trenchers and end dumps. He has also assisted with the installation of chlorination systems and has experience installing electrical systems and components. In addition, he has used various computer programs including typical office suites.

Tony is a quick learner who will compliment other KRWA staff in efforts to help systems with operational issues, particularly with the identification of contributors to high unaccounted for water loss. Much of that work involves testing of master meters and leak detection.

“I think the best thing that happened to me was the experience I gained growing up and helping operate our family’s sawmill. I have traveled to nearly every

community within a 120-mile radius of Everest, KS and have been on nearly every county and township backroad in that area,”

Tony says. “I’ve spent a lot of time on the road looking for people to contact who would have an interest in selling product. My father sent me out in the summer when I turned 16 to begin purchasing product; I did that for 13 additional years.

A lot of the lumber we processed was shipped to Japan. One interesting order was for hackberry that was sent to Littleton, NH and then placed on submarines for the woodworking shops. When those onboard had free time, they turned out bunk bed frames in their wood shop. I realize that none of this has anything much to do directly with operating a water system – but, I know how to communicate with people and get along. I am grateful for the opportunity to begin a career with Kansas Rural Water Association helping smaller towns and rural water districts,” Tony says.

Tony and Michelle and their three children live near Everest, KS in Atchison County. A daughter, Taylor, passed away in 2007 at the age of 11.



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