



## Welcome Greeting and Project Overview

Hello alumni of EWB-Valpo! I hope that you all are doing well. EWB-Valpo thought it would be a good idea to reach out and update the alumni on the project. This newsletter will be sent once or twice a semester with updates on the project. The organization has gone through major changes over the last few semesters. Professor Daniel Blood has replaced Professor Michael Hagenberger as Chief Advisor. Professor Hagenberger did great work for the organization, but has moved to Ohio State University.

However, there is one thing that he taught us:

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*“It takes a community to help a community.”*

— Michael Hagenberger

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*Sincerely-*

*EWB- Valpo*

### Contact information

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## Background on Our Community

EWB-Valpo is working with a rural village in Nicaragua to help rehabilitate their water distribution system. The community is a small village on the east side of Ometepe Island at the base of the volcano Maderas, and most of its inhabitants work as subsistence farmers. At their request, EWB-Valpo is working toward building a secondary water storage tank and replacing part of the

distribution system with new pipes. Out of the more than 220 homes in the village, more than twenty do not receive running water. The existing water storage tank, though stable and functioning, overflows at night, wasting valuable water. EWB-Valpo plans to address all of these concerns. In addition to these goals, EWB-Valpo is pursuing opportunities in installing a filtration system at the request of the town's water committee and collecting water quality data.

## Current Progress

This past semester Projects Team has been drafting new tank designs for the community, designing a lock box for the pipe valves, and creating a strainer for the source. In addition, they have looked into water level readers that will be installed inside the tank.

Our intention is to install the strainer during the next trip in March of 2015 so leaves and dirt do not get into the water system. Water level readers and flow meters will be installed in the current tank to determine how much water the community uses. Hopefully the community will make a decision on a tank design to move forward with their new tank.

Grant Writing is working with Munster Rotary to complete a Rotary International grant that will subsidize the cost for most the tank construction as well as some of the piping.

Fundraising team conducted several successful fundraisers this year including a Pizza Tasting Competition in which local restaurants competed. It attracted about 150 people and raised over \$400.

## FIVE-YEAR PLAN

**Year 1:** EWB-Valpo worked with the village to map the community using GPS technology, take measurements of the existing water storage tank, measure the volume of water that overflows out of the tank, and conduct health surveys.

**Year 2:** Design new tank for the community, and install water level readers in current tank and valve boxes around piping

**Year 3:** Complete tank construction and start replacing piping, as well as connect homes that are not connected to pipeline.

**Year 4:** Replace any remaining pipes. Conduct tests and surveys.

**Year 5:** Perform final evaluation and confirm the community has all info needed to maintain system on their own.

## Executive Board

### President:

Seth Strelow (Civil Engineer–Junior)

### President Elect:

Jacob Yager (Mechanical Engineer-Sophomore)

### Projects Leader:

Gabriel Valencia (Mechanical Engineer-Sophomore)

### Finance Team Leader:

Kristen Klippert (Business–Sophomore)

### Public Relations Leader:

Khalid Zaki (Civil Engineer-Junior)

### Secretary:

Jack Hoeniges (Mechanical Engineer-Sophomore)

## Chairs

### Technical Chair:

Lars Anderson (Civil Engineer-Junior)

### Fundraising Chair:

John Peshorn (Civil Engineer–Freshman)

### Grant Writing Chair:

Stephen Freund (Physics-Junior)

### Recruitment Chair:

Pall Baggot (Business–Freshman)

### Webmaster Chair:

Krista Stribling (Civil Engineer-Freshman)

### Health and Safety Chair:

Kelsey Fader (Nursing–Junior)

Emily Knippenberg (Nursing-Junior)

## Advisors

### Chief Advisor:

Professor Daniel Blood

### Professional Advisor:

Bob Andrews

### Health and Safety Advisor:

Professor Amy Cory

### Business Advisor:

Professor Coleen Wilder

### Public Relations Advisor:

[OPEN]

### Technical Advisor:

Bob Andrews



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