

RGRWA

RIO GRANDE REGIONAL WATER AUTHORITY

Charles Browning, Jr. Water Conservation Scholarship

BACKGROUND:

The Rio Grande Regional Water Authority, along with Mr. Jimmie Steidinger of the Donna Irrigation District, has established a \$10,000 scholarship fund at Texas A&M University-Kingsville that will be named in honor of Charles Browning, Jr., the former general manager of the North Alamo Water Supply Corporation who passed away in May. Mr. Browning was a founding member of the Rio Grande Regional Water Planning Group and a state leader in the area of water utilities management.



TEXAS A&M
UNIVERSITY
KINGSVILLE

The details are still being finalized, but the overall plan is to award scholarships of \$2,500 per year to support one rising junior in years one and two and an additional rising junior in years three and four of the four-year scholarship term.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

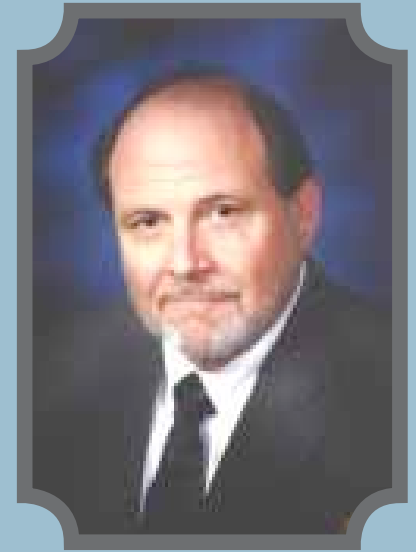
To apply for the scholarship, applicants must:

- Be currently enrolled, full-time undergraduate students at Texas A&M University-Kingsville, who have earned at least 60 or more college credit hours;
- Be majoring in at least one or more of the following areas: agronomy, civil or environmental engineering or wildlife science;
- Have a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.5; and
- Be a resident of the one of the six counties served by the RGRWA, which includes Willacy, Cameron, Hidalgo, Starr, Zapata, or Webb counties.



Charles Browning, Jr. 1954 - 2010

Mr. Browning was a founding member of the Rio Grande Regional Water Planning Group, one of the state's 16 regional planning groups for water supply needs. He was also a member of the Rio Grande Valley Partnership, the Lower Rio Grande Valley Water Committee, and the South Texas Water Utilities Manager Association. As a member of these planning groups, Mr. Browning was known as a thoughtful leader who helped the Rio Grande Valley become less dependent on the Rio Grande as a water source.



As the general manager of the North Alamo Water Supply Corporation (NAWSC), Mr. Browning spearheaded regional partnerships to develop brackish groundwater as a reliable source of drinking water for his customers. During his tenure as general manager, the NAWSC built four brackish groundwater desalination facilities – the North Cameron Regional Water Supply Project, and the La Sara, Owassa, and Doolittle Treatment Plants – that could produce up to 11 mgd (million gallons per day).



Just days before he died, Mr. Browning signed a contract to construct a fifth brackish groundwater desalination facility to supplement the Donna Water Treatment Plant. It was the first design-build contract in Texas for a desalination facility for public water supply.



TEXAS A&M
UNIVERSITY
KINGSVILLE

Please go to the Texas A&M University-Kingsville website, www.tamuk.edu, to apply online for this scholarship. Students matching the criteria will automatically be considered. Applications taken in the fall of 2010 will be considered for scholarships during the 2011-2012 academic year. Check the website for application deadlines.