

# North Carolina Ground Water Association

# Water Words

February 2009

## A Letter from the President

The increased attention to North Carolina's water problems brought on by the droughts of years past has heightened our appreciation for clean & reliable water supplies. This attention may also compound the existing perception that this is a passing problem rather than a challenge to our long-term plans for economic growth.

**Water is**, or will be, North Carolina's **oil** of the 21st century. We will some day see war fought over water rights all around the world.

All economic activity and growth in the years to come will be determined by the availability, reliability and affordability of clean water sources. Agriculture, cities and industry will be competing with personal consumption for this fundamental, life sustaining resource.

If this pronouncement prompts you to yawn, consider the emerging global reality. While 3/4 of the earth is covered in water, only 3% is fresh, and more than 2/3 of that is found in glaciers, ice caps or underground that is too deep to obtain. By 2015 about 1/2 of the world population will live in countries with insufficient water supplies. Human population growth has pushed to increase supplies through dams, canals, wells and aqua ducts. But the absolute limit of fresh water supplies remains constant. Surely this doesn't apply to us here in North Carolina, does it? **YES IT DOES!**

Agriculture uses twice as much of the nation's water as all building, industry and mining combined. What does this say for our state where "**Agriculture**" is the number one industry?

Farmers in Texas are using wired gypsum cubes embedded in the root zone and attached to meters that indicate soil moisture levels. This allows more even watering, more efficient watering schedules and reduced runoff. The last 20 years Gillette has reduced the water used in producing razor blades by 96%.

Government can stimulate efficiency too. Cities are using gray water from sinks and showers to provide home owners and landscapers with water for irrigation.

The answer to decreasing water supply will not be through increasing availability by public water lines, but through efficiency and more private wells.

North Carolina will prosper and grow if we adopt state water usage policies whose goal is similar to the national water policy of South Africa.

"Some for all, forever"

**Jerry Merrill**

**Make plans to attend one of our continuing education classes in April! Classes are all day and include lunch in your registration!**



Asheville, NC  
April 17, 2009 Holiday Inn  
(Formerly Ramada Inn)

Wilson, NC  
April 24, 2009  
Wilson County Shrine Club

# NCGWA WINTER TRADE SHOW AND CONTINUING EDUCATION RESULTS

## Defense Fund Auction

The Board of Directors would like to thank all those that participated in our Defense Fund Auction and also purchased raffle tickets during the trade show. We raised over \$16,000! This money will help us, help you. It will be used to defend and promote the groundwater industry concerning legislative issues during 2009.

Very special thanks to the vendors and individuals who donated items for the raffle and auction. During these hard economic times, without your generosity, the auction and raffle would not have been possible.

Kristie Waters

## Companies Who Donated Items for the Auction

A.O. Smith	Mincon RockDrills
Acme Well Co.	Mountain Water Works
Amtrol	Noland Drilling Equipment
Chauncey Leggett	Parkway Water Systems
Chris Dickey	Pentair
Danny Lloyd	Preferred Pump & Equip- ment
David Hutson	Rakestraw Insurance Center
Drillers Service Inc.	Red Jacket Pumps
Drilling Equipment Sales	Roanoke Water Treatment
Eastern Drillers Mfg. Co	Ronnie Venable
Flint & Walling	Simmons Mfg.
Franklin Electric	South Atlantic Well Drillers
Grundfos Pumps	Jubilee
HD Supply Waterworks	Venable Brothers Well Const.
Jerry Merrill	Wyo-ben
John Boyette	
Kristie Waters	

## Raffle Winners

Congratulations to our Raffle Winners of the 2009 NCGWA Trade Show  
and Continuing Education held in Hickory, NC

<b>Allen Merrill</b> Merrill Well & Pump	<b>Jerry Sherman</b> Sandvik Mining & Const.
<b>Brenda Glover</b> The Pump Caddy	<b>John Boyette</b> John Boyette Well & Pump
<b>Brian Kassell</b> Eastern Drilling Mfg.	<b>Kevin Roberson</b> Mitchell Well Drilling
<b>Dave Robison</b> South Atlantic Well Drillers Jubilee	<b>Kirk Maher</b> Mid-Atlantic Sales
<b>David Hendricks</b> Hendricks Pump Svc.	<b>Roy Price</b> Price Well Drilling
<b>Duane Lyda</b> Duane Lyda Services, LLC	<b>Stanley Arrington</b> Affordable Pump
<b>Edwin Mullis</b> Gopher Utilities	<b>Tim Hendricks</b> Hendricks Pump Svc
<b>Gary Silver</b> Silver Well & Pump	<b>Tim East</b> East Plumbing Repair
<b>Hilliard Scott</b> Reece Pump Service	<b>W.R. Blevins</b> W.R. Blevins Plumbing Co
<b>Hubert Arrington</b> Arrington Well & Pump Service	<b>Wayne East</b> East Plumbing Repair
<b>James Council</b> Acme Well Co.	

## Special thanks to the vendors of the 2009 NCGWA Trade Show!!

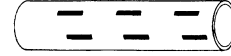
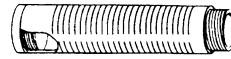
Amtrol, Inc.	Harry Warren	Roanoke Water Treatment
Baroid Industrial Drilling Products	HD Supply/Waterworks	S.G. Bowman Ent., Inc.
Confederate Sales Associates	Interstate Bit Service Co.	Sandvik Mining and Construction
Crossroads Insurance	Johnston, Inc.	Schramm Rotadrills
D & S Pump And Supply Company	McKinney & Associates	Simmons Manufacturing Company
Douglas Drill Services, Inc.	Mechanical Equipment Sales, Inc.	SJE-Rhombus
Drilling Equipment Sales, Inc.	Mid-Atlantic Sales	South Atlantic Well Drillers JUBILEE
Drillers Service, Inc.	Parkway Water Systems	SVE Portable Roadway Systems
Eastern Drillers Mfg. Co., Inc.	Pentair Water	The Pump Caddy
Flint & Walling, Inc.	Preferred Pump & Equipment	Well Contractors Certification Commission
Franklin Electric	Preferred Sources	White Insurance Agency
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	Noland Drilling Equipment	



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# HydroFracture

by

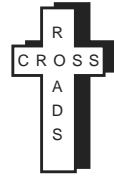
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## James Silas Newman Passes



Silas Newman, 85 of Elkin, N.C. passed away December 10, 2008. Born September 15, 1923 in Surry County, he was one of four children. He is survived by his wife off 66 years, Ruth Newman, and two children James Michael Newman and Mary N. Ashley.

Mr. Newman was a member of Swan Creek Baptist Church in Yadkin County. After High School graduation, he worked at a saw mill and then the Chatham Woolen Mill. He worked at night and he and his wife farmed in the day. Later he performed carpentry work and continued to farm.

In the early 1950's, Silas joined his brother, R.A. (Arthur) Newman and formed a partnership and went into the water well drilling business. This partnership was called Newman Brothers Well Drilling.

One of Silas' most significant contributions to the water well industry was to spear head the need to protect ground water, one of our great natural resources. He labored long hours and weeks in Raleigh helping to form the North Carolina Ground Water Association. He has also served as Past President of the South Atlantic Water Well Drillers Association.

Mr. Newman was self taught and hard working. When the time came for Mr. Silas and his brother to retire, they passed the business down to their sons who operate in the same location along Hwy 268 in Elkin, N.C.

He will be fondly remembered for the good ole fish fries at Carolina Beach at the South Atlantic Well Drillers Jubilee, helping to cook. But most of all, he will be remembered as a wonderful husband, father, grandfather, and friend, sharing his wit and wisdom, and always ready to help others.

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# *Worth Pickard Scholarship is Available*

(See Insert)



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**We need your email address!!!** In order to keep you updated on important issues we need to contact you quickly! Please call the NCGWA office at 919-876-0687 or email us at [execman@att.net](mailto:execman@att.net) with your email address!