

A Letter from the President

I hope all of you are doing well. I want to thank you for your support and confidence in me to again elect me President of the NCGWA. It was eight years ago when I left this position and a lot has changed in all of our lives. My first thoughts are of the too many close friends that are no longer with us Kenny Steele, Wilson Martin, Buck Demarest, Buster Dellinger and of course Mr. DSI, Al Lofland, but I thank God for having known them.

My next thought is I must be crazy to do this again because of the time and work it requires. That thought only makes me think of Jerry Merrell and the wonderful job he has done for the last three years in being the President of the NCGWA. The economic climate for the last three years only made his job harder, and we owe a great deal of thanks to Jerry for what he has meant to us and our association. JOB WELL DONE, JERRY MERRELL.

We are very fortunate to have a strong Board of Directors, and I wish to thank them for their service to our industry. Your Board of Directors donate their time and money in support of our industry, so please thank them when you get the opportunity. On Jan. 28 in Hickory, our defense fund raffle and dinner was a success because of the great work of board members Doug Young, Kristie Waters, John Boyette and all of you who donated items and money.

Thanks to everyone who purchased raffle tickets and supported your industry. Money raised for the defense fund benefits all of us.

I welcome all of you to get involved whether you are new to our industry or a 50-year veteran. The NCGWA is going to give you this opportunity on March 23 in Raleigh when we have a legislative lobby day.

This is an opportunity to meet with your state representative and senators and a chance for them to meet you. I think you will find it very rewarding to discuss your concerns about your job, industry and state and the interest they have in hearing from you.

This is a good time to promote groundwater and private water well rights so please sign up and join us in this effort. On June 25, 2008 we held our first legislative lobby day with 20 people attending, and this year we hope to have even more people participate.

In closing I want to leave you with this thought from as my wife calls me "the eternal pessimist." Our industry has been in a depression for the last three years with lost jobs, pay cuts, lost benefits and generally mentally depressed. It has affected both employee and employer and their families with uncertainty about the future. But I believe this is the year we will start our recovery both financially and mentally. Work hard to make me right but don't tell my wife of my optimism.

May God bless you all.

Best regards,

David Hutson
President

2011 CONTINUING EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

Please review and complete the enclosed form in order to attend

APRIL 15: 8 a.m.-5 p.m., Holiday Inn, Asheville

MAY 20: 8 a.m.-5 p.m., Location TBA, Wilson

Join Us For Legislative Day

The NCGWA has been active in this new legislative session trying to protect and preserve the rights of homeowners and keep our groundwater supplies safe. These efforts are necessary to protect our industry and keep us all working.

Our lobbyist, Colleen Kochanek, has worked closely with the NCGWA legislative committee and the NCGWA Board of Directors to keep us current on bills of interest to our industry. There are a couple that are particularly critical now:

The first is Senate Bill 181, which is a short bill that is designed to provide that no cleanup would be required for an underground petroleum spill or leaking underground storage tank if city water supplies or other public water supplies are available to those affected by the release and there are no surface waters within 1000' of the release.

This means that anyone who had a well that was impacted by the release would have to tie onto city water if it was available and would lose their well. Since no

cleanup would be implemented, there is no chance that any new wells would ever be constructed in the immediate area either. The NCGWA is opposed to this bill because we believe that all groundwater supplies need to be protected regardless of their immediate use or their proximity to a petroleum release. Furthermore, without any cleanup, the contamination could continue to migrate and impact other wells in the area. Someday, we will need that groundwater, and it is unfair for polluters not to be responsible for the damage they cause.

The second bill of interest is one that the NCGWA has crafted and is presently soliciting support. Our bill would clarify the rights of private citizens with respect to well ownership and the right to have a well if you want one. It would go a long way to making sure that any citizen could have a well if they so desired and that government or other entities could not prevent you from having a well (such as a local ordinance that prohibited water wells in the city). The NCGWA had been alerted to a situation in Ranlo, N.C., where the city would not allow wells in areas where

public water was available. We had seen other attempts to implement this policy and feel that getting this bill passed would go a long way to eliminating that potential. We are presently seeking sponsorship and support for this bill in the legislature.

Finally, we are scheduling a Legislative Day in Raleigh on March 23. All participants will be going to the Legislative Building and visiting with their elected representatives and seeking support for our bill and just getting to know our legislators. All members of the NCGWA are welcome to participate.

You can just go along to visit, or if you would like us to contact your legislator and arrange a personal visit for you, we can try and do that. We need your support. The more legislators that know about us and support us, the more impact we have in Raleigh. So please contact Elaine if you are interested in attending.

Sincerely,

Mike Floyd
Board Member

VIRGIL BRUINEKOOL
Company Manager



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Apply For The Worth Pickard Scholarship

The N.C. Ground Water Association offers the Worth Pickard Scholarship to eligible students who are currently enrolled or who have been accepted into an accredited college or university. Consideration will also be given to those seeking specialized courses of study, if the applicant is employed or otherwise involved in some area of the ground water industry. For eligibility requirements and an application form, please visit our website, www.ncgwa.org, and click on the link for the Worth Pickard Scholarship. The deadline for the 2011 scholarship is April 15, 2011. Contact the NCGWA office at 919-876-0687 for more details.

THANKS TO ALL 2011 TRADE SHOW VENDORS!

Atlas Copco CMT USA	720-891-7164
Baroid IDP	281-871-4613
Carolina Hydrofracturing	828-231-6435
CETCO	847-851-1824
Charter Plastics	814-827-9665
CMC Supply Inc.	478-745-5866
Drillers Service	828-322-1100
Drilling Equipment Sales	828-322-3056
Eastern Driller Mfg.	717-684-3070
Flint & Walling Inc.	410-991-8081
Franklin Electric	321-356-6752
H.D. Supply Plumbing Carolinas	252-414-7910
Harry Warren LLC	877-487-5996
HD Supply/Waterworks	704-941-1795
In-Situ Inc.	970-498-1536
Interstate Bit Service Co.	803-360-6360
Jefferson Sales South	423-224-2307
Lewis Marketing Inc.	704-376-0262
Master Water Conditioning	610-323-8358
Noland Company Drilling Equipment	800-462-9340
Numa Tool Company	860-923-9551
Pentair Water	276-608-1169
Preferred Pump & Equipment	828-274-1882
Preferred Sources	704-504-3111
Rakestraw Insurance Center Inc.	336-427-5181
Schramm	610-696-2500
S.G. Bowman	828-632-6136
Simmons Manufacturing	770-957-3976
South Atlantic Jubilee	540-740-3329
The Pump Caddy	423-502-1792
Water Chemistry	540-343-3618
White Insurance	828-669-7912

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MEMBERS GAIN BUSINESS FROM NCGWA'S WEBSITE

Don't Lose Business Referrals –
make sure your
contact information
is correct!

One of the benefits of belonging to the N.C. Ground Water Association is being listed on the ncgwa.org website, viewed by the public when looking for a certified well contractor.

Please review your information – if the information is not correct, please send an email to elaine@execman.net with the correct information.

Help the Association help you!

C.W. Bing Mission Update

Many of you know or have heard the story of C.W. Bing Jr. (former NCGWA Board of Directors member), but for those of you who have not, I will try and give you a brief description of his remarkable story. C.W. ran a successful well drilling business in Kittrell, N.C., (near Henderson) with his wife, Leslie. C.W. is a quiet spoken man whose love of Jesus Christ led him to do missionary work each year in Africa.

In December of 2005 C.W. and Leslie closed his very successful business of two water well drills and pump crews to pursue his calling to start a well drilling ministry in Zambia, Africa, called Water for the Oppressed. His vision was “to drill boreholes in the oppressed areas of Africa through which an opportunity will be opened that will allow the gospel to be preached.”

With no drill equipment, he started by repairing and installing hand pumps while his wife Leslie was teaching the villagers basic hygiene. C.W. and Leslie live in a remote area in a small hut like home with no electricity or running water.

About two years ago they received electricity and now have running water and a life more near normal. Through donations and church sponsors they were able to purchase a small drill and are now drilling wells as well as installing pumps. Last year they completed around 40 wells. It appears his vision is becoming a reality.

In late November 2010, I received a phone call from C.W. informing me that he was in the USA at Duke Hospital.

On Nov. 11, 2010, C.W. underwent emergency surgery at a clinic in Lusaka, Zambia. The procedure revealed the presence of acute pancreatitis with life threatening infection levels. Once stable enough for travel, C.W. and Leslie returned to the USA. On Nov. 24, he entered Duke University Hospital.

C.W. was soon released but still faced several more procedures and was sent home to regain strength and weight. In late February CW had a few setbacks and was scheduled to have his gall bladder removed after he had gained about 15 pounds.

I talked to C.W. today, and he is home. He had his gall bladder removed March 1 at Rex Hospital, and he went home on March 2. He is hoping that this surgery will set him on the road to recovery. He is definitely feeling better because he is tired of sitting around and wants something to do.

Please keep him and his family in your prayers. His son, “C-3,” started Air Force boot camp in late February so remember him also. His email address is cw@wfto.cc. I will keep you updated on his condition as he hopes to recover soon and return to finish his work.

— David Hutson

South Atlantic Well Drillers JUBILEE

July 30 – August 1, 2011
Myrtle Beach, S.C.

The 56th Annual South Atlantic Well Drillers JUBILEE will be held July 30-Aug. 1, 2011 at the Myrtle Beach Convention Center in Myrtle Beach, S.C. The JUBILEE offers attendees a first-rate trade show, challenging continuing education classes with sufficient credit hours for all states, and the chance to meet and learn from hundreds of experienced industry practitioners. For complete information on the event, visit the website at www.well-drillers.com.

FUTURE JUBILEES

2012: July 21-July 23, Virginia Beach, Va.

2013: June 22-June 24, Virginia Beach, Va.