

A Letter from the President

I hope all of you have had a great summer and are doing well. The cooler days and nights remind us that Thanksgiving and Christmas are just around the corner. I always look forward to spending this time with family and friends, and I hope that you do also.

The NCGWA held a continuing education class in October in Atlantic Beach, and I was able to attend with my wife. The weather was great for a fall weekend at the beach, and we really enjoyed it. The ocean was beautiful, food was good and lots of great things to see. I hope next year more of you will take advantage of this opportunity to mix business with pleasure. I want to thank everyone who attended the classes as well as our instructors, who did a great job.

I invite all of you to join us at our annual winter trade show annual convention in January. Our new location at the Embassy Suites in Greensboro is a very nice facility, and the location between Winston-Salem and Greensboro is easy to get to. We will have our annual dinner and defense fundraising events on Friday evening. John Boyette will be our auctioneer again, and Doug Young will be conducting the "Prize Wheel" raffle spins. Each year they do a great job in raising money to support our lobby efforts, but we need your participation to make it successful.

I want to wish the NCGWA a happy 65th birthday this year. The first meeting of the North Carolina Well Drill-

ers Association (as it was called then) was held in Winston-Salem at the Robert E Lee Hotel in June 1946 with 13 people attending. We do not know who first organized that meeting but those 13 people knew that the ground water industry needed unity and a voice. Membership fee was set at \$25 per year. The NCWDA experienced steady growth, and in 1949 membership climbed to 57 people. It was reported that the 1951 annual meeting had more than 200 people attend. (WOW) That is more people than we currently have attending our annual meeting. Is our industry any less important today?

The NCGWA has had a good legislative year and our lobby effort has begun to bear fruit with the passing of SB 676. We would like to continue to be more proactive in legislation regarding wells and ground water, but that effort is very expensive.

I am asking you to invest in your future and continue to support the NCGWA with your membership and our fundraising efforts. Please plan on attending our annual meeting in January and show your support. The NCWDA was formed in 1946 to give all of us in our industry a voice and unity, and we still need that today. I wish good health and good times to you and your family.

David Hutson

** Facts about the NCGWA obtained in "HISTORY of the South Atlantic Well Drillers Jubilee."*

Dates To Remember

Don't miss the annual **NCGWA winter trade show and convention, which will take place Friday-Saturday, Jan. 27-28, 2012 at the Embassy Suites in Greensboro.** The association has moved the annual event this year to a larger facility with some added amenities. This promises to be a bigger and better show than ever! Please plan to attend! See Page 2 for more details.

The **South Atlantic Well Drillers Jubilee** will be held **July 21-23, 2012 in Virginia Beach, Va.**

WHAT'S ON TAP

Annual Meeting, Trade Show

Prepare for another outstanding two-day conference and trade show! For 2012, we have some new, exciting items on the agenda, including:

- ◆ Full, Live Auction
- ◆ Pig Pickin'
- ◆ Prize Wheel
- ◆ Continuing Education
- ◆ Election of Officers
- ◆ Industry Networking

(Proceeds from the Auction and Prize Wheel will go toward the NCGWA Defense Fund.)

The events, including our always popular trade show, will be Jan. 27-28, 2012 at the Embassy Suites in Greensboro.

Our new location will give us more room with newer facilities and on-property amenities! Make your hotel reservations today! Call the Embassy Suites in Greensboro at 336-668-4535. Let them know you are with the NCGWA!

Stay tuned, and we look forward to seeing you in Greensboro!!

Educate Your Customers!

The NCGWA is starting a new program that will help educate the public and ground water users about wells and rights. This program will send email blasts to those who sign up for this service. We ask that you send your customers' information (name, mailing address, city, ZIP, email address) to elaine@execman.net. This information will solely be used to contact those who wish to compensate NCGWA for the educational service. The annual fee will be \$20. NCGWA asks that you pay the first year, and the association will bill your customer annually beginning the second year. This information and the relationships will be invaluable in upcoming fights for ground water and well driller rights! Your dues invoice packet will contain more details.

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PUBLICATION DATES

Articles and ad deadlines

are the first day of

MARCH

JUNE

SEPTEMBER

DECEMBER

Any and all NCGWA members are encouraged to send information on past or coming events or news articles that would be of interest to other well drillers. Please send profiles of well drillers/companies that you feel deserve to be highlighted in our newsletter.

Floyd Receives McCall Award, Joins JUBILEE Board of Dirs.

From staff reports

Longtime NCGWA member Mike Floyd recently won the South Atlantic Well Drillers Jubilee McCall Award for his efforts in the ground water and geological industries.

Floyd, who has served as president of NCGWA and currently is a member of the NCGWA Board of Directors, received the honor at the SAWD Jubilee in August.

Floyd has spent much of his lifetime dedicated to the environment, the industry and how to best educate ground water consumers. Floyd currently is president of McCall Brothers, the company of which the award earned its name.

In addition to the McCall Award, the Jubilee board of directors tapped Floyd to fill a vacant board position, to which Floyd humbly accepted.

Floyd lives in Shelby, N.C., with his wife, Micha'l, and two children.

Scholarships Available

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 2012 scholarship is April 15, 2012.

Contact the NCGWA office at 919-876-0687 for more details.

JUBILEE Scholarship

The South Atlantic Well Drillers JUBILEE offers the JUBILEE Scholarship.

Any properly executed application will be accepted, though, a higher priority will be given to any applicant who is pursuing a degree in water well or ground water-related studies.

For eligibility requirements and an application form, please visit the South Atlantic Well Drillers' website, www.well-drillers.com, and click on the Scholarship link.

The deadline for the 2012 scholarship is March 1, 2012.

Call 540-740-3329 for more details and information.

North Carolina Continuing Education Requirements Make Several Changes

Effective May 1, 2011, many changes have been made to the continuing education requirements listed in the Chapter 27 Well Contractor Certification Rules. Below are just a few of those changes:

- ◆ The term professional development hours, also known as PDH, is changed to the more common term, continuing education units, or CEU.
- ◆ A CEU is also more clearly defined as equivalent to 60 minutes of instructional time. Only instructional time is counted, not breaks.
- ◆ The eight PDH requirement has been dropped to six CEU, with carry-over hours also being reduced to six.
- ◆ First Aid, Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR), Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) Mine Safety, and Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response (HAZWOPER) Refresher classes may only be approved for CEU credit in odd-numbered certification periods. For example, July 1, 2011, to June 30, 2012, is the "2011" certification period. Therefore, you are able to use these courses taken during that time toward your recertification requirement.
- ◆ All courses must be pre-approved at least 30 days prior to the course date.
- ◆ Course approvals apply to the particular class submitted. Therefore, make sure all dates and locations for a course meet the requirement of being held during that certification period and are listed on the pre-approval request form.
- ◆ Course approvals expire June 30. If the same course will be held again in the next certification period, submit a separate request form for those dates.

Please take the time to read the revised rules as there are other changes that will be of interest to you.

If you have further questions on the continuing education requirements for certified well contractors, please contact Joanne Rutkofske with the Well Contractors Certification Commission at 919-715-9135.

Nominations for 2012 Board Of Directors

Do you have interest in being a member of the NCGWA Board of Directors? Want to help guide the association and the industry? Please contact Jerry Merrill, Nominations Chairman, at 828-877-4450/jerrymerrill@gmail.com to let the committee know. Or, you may contact David Hutson at 919-544-1940/bigacme@aol.com or Mike Floyd at 704-399-1506/mike@mccallbro.com.

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