



*NCGWA
Celebrating Over
70 Years*

JUNE 2019

WATER WORDS

A Letter From The President

Hello Everyone,

I hope this finds you well. The last time we spoke was in late March with wet weather. Summer is now upon us and it is hot and dry. This hot weather just drains the energy out of me. Be careful when you are out working in that heat, it can be dangerous. Stay hydrated and drink a lot water. That is our business.

On April 26th in Wilson the NCGWA held its 20th Spring continuing education opportunity lead by John Boyette. We had Doug Shackelford speak to us about DMV and CDL requirements. Our second topic was on uses of bentonite presented by Tyson Smith. Due to possible storms that day, we decided to reschedule the outside drilling event until another time. As always, we had a great barbeque for lunch. After lunch we kicked off our second annual golf tournament. The afternoon was filled with great golf and fellowship. This year, team Preferred Pump out of the Greensboro branch took 1st place. Weather threatened us all afternoon but held off until the last hole of the tournament. Then it rained so hard you could not see across the course. Thanks to all of those that participated in making it a successful event.

The Board will be meeting in June to start planning a possible event in the west this fall. Watch out for the next newsletter and emails for details. Speaking of events, mark your calendar for July 27th to the 29th to come down to Myrtle Beach to the Jubilee. The NCGWA and the Jubilee have a deep history, so come be a part of the event. We will have a general membership meeting on Monday the 29th at 12:00 noon (tentatively Room 106).

As you know I have always been an advocate of continuing education. I feel the business side of running a company in the water well industry needs to improve. I am first in line to want to learn more. It is so important to know your cost of doing business, because your cost is always changing. Then taking that cost and adding a percentage for profit in order to operate a healthy successful business. In order to accomplish that goal, there are a lot of factors. How much percentage should be added to cost? What can your market bear? Is your company in line with other companies in charging for their service? Are the other companies charging enough to continue to be financially healthy? Do they even know how? When we talk about this topic, it is imperative that we concur with the antitrust laws. I believe that competition is extremely important in the marketplace. The antitrust laws are in place to protect fair competition in the market. We need to continue this conversation to be better businesspeople but when we do our antitrust laws should always be honored.

On a personal note. I lost my Mother to Alzheimer's on Palm Sunday. To the end she was as I had always known her; gracious, appreciative, humble and grounded in her faith. I only share this with you because you touched my soul through your actions, thoughts and prayers. For this I am humbled and grateful. Thank you! I have always been a member of the NCGWA. Once I decided to start participating in this Association years ago it has offered me so much personal growth. I had no idea that I would have the opportunity to develop so many relationships. Together you made me better.

With Respect,
Chauncey Leggett

**NCGWA 2020 Conference and Trade Show
January 30-31, 2020
Embassy Suites, Greensboro, NC**

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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.

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Save The Dates!

- ◆ South Atlantic Jubilee - July 27-29, 2019 - Myrtle Beach Convention Center, Myrtle Beach, SC
- ◆ Continuing Education and Skeet Shoot - September 27, 2019 - Hunting Creek Preserves, Harmony, NC
- ◆ National Ground Water Association Groundwater Week Summit 2019 - December 3-5, 2019 - Las Vegas, Nevada
- ◆ NCGWA Conference and Trade Show - January 30-31, 2020 - Embassy Suites, Greensboro, NC

2019 Annual Scholarship Winners

The following students are recipients of the 2019 Worth Pickard Scholarships:

- ◆ Madison Price: DL Mullis Well Drilling, Allison Price
- ◆ Charidy Ledford: Crane Brothers Well Drilling, Donnie Crane
- ◆ Kaylee Camp: Camp's Well & Pump Co., Inc., David Camp
- ◆ Zachary Crane: Crane Brothers Well Drilling, Richard Crane

Congratulations to all the recipients and we wish them all the luck in their future endeavors!

Second Annual NCGWA Golf Tournament and Fundraiser

The rain held off just long enough for the second Annual NCGWA Golf Tournament and Fundraiser, which was held on April 26, 2019 at the Wedgewood Golf Course in Wilson, NC. We had a good turnout of participants and sponsors.



Congratulations to our winners—1st Place—Preferred Pump’s Team (Craig Gilbert, Matt Landrum, and Mike Tynan) 2nd Place—Adam Currin’s Team (Adam Currin, Tyler Farmer, Cody Britt, and Lloyd Davis) and 3rd Place—Wilson Mize’s Team (Wilson Mize, Tim Bardin, Josh Saleeby, and Kevin Joyner)



THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

The NC Ground Water Association would like to thank all of the sponsors that helped make the Second Annual NCGWA Golf Tournament and Fundraiser a big success. Without you it would not have been possible!

The following companies were Hole Sponsors for the tournament.

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A special thank you to Flomatic for sponsoring the prize money that was awarded to our winners!

We would also like to thank Robb Armstrong for arranging the golf tournament. It was a lot of work and Robb did a wonderful job!

For more sporting fun, save the date for our Continuing Education & Skeet Shoot Event scheduled Friday, September 27, 2019 at Hunting Creek Preserves, Harmony, NC. More information is coming soon.



Goulds Water Technology Spearheads Joint Effort to Restore Clean Water to North Carolina Neighborhood

Efforts to provide safe water resources often are focused in developing countries, but the fact is nearly 2 million rural Americans do not have access to clean water.

Such was the case in the Holly Ridge neighborhood in Candler, North Carolina, located outside of Asheville. The subdivision was developed in 1990 in three phases with four wells serving 29 lots. Over the years, the well houses and well equipment fell into severe disrepair, and the 24 households served by these wells – including 45 adults and 18 children – were left with poor quality water or no water at all.

In January, Carol Gibson, president of the Holly Ridge homeowners association, contacted the Water Well Trust (WWT), a nonprofit arm of the Water Systems Council (WSC) established to provide wells for Americans who do not have a safe drinking water supply. Gibson told the WWT, "We can't use the water to drink or cook. I don't even like to bathe in it. It smells and it's dirty."

In response to the community's water crisis, WWT's Executive Director Margaret Martens and Susan O'Grady, Xylem Director of Marketing, Residential and Agriculture, joined forces to develop an effective and lasting solution for the subdivision's water needs. Their combined industry experience and united cause gave rise to a plan that harnessed each organization's resources for the largest project the WWT has undertaken to date. **They enlisted local help from Merrill Drilling & Water Resources in Penrose and Hughes Supply in Statesville.**

Although the Holly Ridge homeowners association had attempted to maintain the neighborhood well systems over the years, limited finances and knowledge thwarted proper upkeep.

"The homeowners attempted Band-Aid solutions over the last few years, purchasing pumps and tanks from retail stores that quickly failed because they weren't meant to support that many houses and the setup wasn't done properly," O'Grady explained.

Because the Holly Ridge neighborhood is located in a remote, hilly area, hooking into the municipal water supply would have been difficult and cost-prohibitive for homeowners. Martens said the cost-savings to homeowners in rural areas who drill a new well versus hooking up to a municipal water supply is estimated to be as much as 99 percent.

Along with Xylem, Dustin Merrill, owner of Merrill Drilling & Water Resources, helped design and build the new water well systems. When water pressure issues proved complicated, Merrill and Chris Preston, Residential Water Product Manager, Xylem AWS, collaborated to troubleshoot system issues.

"Multiple trips were made to the job site to uncover issues and determine the best path forward," said O'Grady.

In June, Merrill Drilling removed the existing water well systems, demolished the well houses and installed the new systems. Goulds Water Technology provided all of the materials for the project and supported the WWT with a \$1,000 grant through Watermark, Xylem's corporate citizenship program.

Two wells were outfitted with 18GP2020 ProPak pumps and Aquavar Solo² VFD controllers and V350 holding tanks. A 7GP2020 ProPak pump and VFD controller was installed on a third well along with a 1,000 gallon buried potable water storage cistern. Crews also laid down more than 1,000 feet of new piping and 2,000 feet of new electrical wiring. Hughes Supply, a Goulds Water Technology distributor in Statesville, North Carolina, coordinated the transport of the donated pumps and controls to the job site.

Low well yield, which is typical of the Appalachian region, prompted the decision to install variable frequency drives (VFDs) and large holding tanks. Before the system was replaced, one of the Holly Ridge wells had been drilled nearly 600 feet deep, but only produced 2 gallons of water per minute.

"It will be much easier to keep up with pressure demands with the variable speed drives in place," said Merrill.

(Cont'd next page)

In addition to consistent water pressure, the Aquavar Solo² VFD controllers feature a dry well sensitivity setting, which detects dry well conditions and shuts down the system to prevent damage to the motor and pump.

“In the past, submersible pumps that may not have had dry well protection would fail if the well ran dry,” explained O’Grady. “In a dry well situation there is no water cooling the motor and excessive heat is generated causing failure.”

After the new well systems were installed, a group of volunteers from the Xylem office in Charlotte, North Carolina, partnered with Hughes Supply and Merrill Drilling in early July to build three new well houses through Xylem Water-mark.

Thanks to these combined efforts, Holly Ridge residents have safe water again.

“Residents are grateful to be able to shower, to drink water and to bathe their children with clean water again,” said O’Grady.



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