

July 2017

IGWA Newsletter

The newsletter of the Indiana Ground Water Association (IGWA)

IGWA Office: PO Box 160, Covington, IN 47932 • Phone: 888-443-7330 • Fax: 765-231-4430
Email: ingroundwater@gmail.com • Website: www.indianagroundwater.org



IGWA MAY FIELD DAY

Nathan Rutledge, Rutledge Well Drilling

May 16, 2017 there was wonderful weather for our field day. Geoprobe® was kind enough to join the IGWA at the Hamilton County Fair grounds for our outing, where they provided an environmental drilling demonstration. Geoprobe® showed off three of their premium quality track rigs and drove 3 test holes, demonstrating how to drive sleeves and take core samples, as well as driving monitoring wells. Gravel pack and grouting procedures were demonstrated on a small scale in a clear piece of pipe, physically showing what your gravel pack actually looks like with the grout above it. This was a great visual aid to water well construction.

I found the field day interesting and informative where I could easily earn CEU points and be around rigs that you can actually get close to and personally talk with professionals that know these rigs and environmental drilling.

Thanks again to Todd Courbot and the guys from Geoprobe® for bringing out their machines and showing us what they can do. They showed us textbook examples of drilling processes.

In conclusion the field day was a success and the IGWA looks forward to doing more field days to peak your interest and help you get your CEU credits. Look for a fall field day in September.





ANNUAL MEETING AND ELECTION *** Important Information ***

Although this is an off year for our convention, the IGWA has annual meetings. Our annual meeting this year will be November 2, held in conjunction with a three-hour education day in Greenwood, Indiana. There will be several seats open for election this year. It is important for members to attend this meeting to vote for the upcoming board seats.

Nominations are being taken for new board members. Board members must be members of the IGWA. There is a time commitment of four board meetings a year, committee meetings and helping at various IGWA events.

If you are nominating someone — they need to have your approval to do so, be aware of the time commitments and be present at the November 2nd meeting. There will be a board meeting immediately following the annual meeting.

Indiana Ground Water Association Board of Directors 2017-2018 Call for Nominations

If you are interested or would like to nominate someone to serve on the IGWA board of directors, please submit your nominations by October 15, 2017. The 2017-2018 officers and board will be elected during the Annual Membership meeting on Thursday, November 2nd during the Annual Conference at Greenwood.

The final ballot will be available on November 2nd at the annual meeting.

Note: Please request the approval of the person you wish to nominate. They must be present at the November 2 meeting.

Nominee for IGWA Board of Directors:

Nominee's Name _____

Nominee's Company _____

Nominees Phone Number _____

Nominated by:

Name _____

Company _____

Phone Number _____

Email _____

FAX TO 765-231-4430 or email to ingroundwater@gmail.com by October 15, 2017.

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PREFERRED PUMP

2017 JOSEPH L. ARMSTRONG FAMILY IN BUSINESS SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS ANNOUNCED

The IGWA scholarship committee received ten applications this year for the scholarship. Our selection process is a blind process. The scholarship committee only received redacted applications. They make their choices based on content only.

After much deliberation the committee chose two applicants who stood out from the rest. Each winner was awarded a scholarship of \$750.00. They are pleased to announce that winners this year are:

- **Matthew Mauer** – Matthew's father is Robert Mauer of Mauer Well Service in South Bend, Indiana. Matthew graduated from Penn High School. He has been accepted at Trine University in Angola, Indiana. Matthew plans to pursue studies in Mechanical Engineering.
- **Hailley Peters** – Hailley's father is Tony Peters of Pete's Trenching, LLC in Brownstown, Indiana. Hailley graduated from Trinity Lutheran High School. She has been accepted at Ball State University in Muncie, Indiana. Hailley plans to pursue studies in nursing.

The IGWA recognizes these students as outstanding applicants. We wish them great success in their pursuit of higher learning.

If your student has submitted an application in the past, they may re-submit every year, even if they were awarded a scholarship in the past.

The IGWA scholarship application is located on the IGWA website at www.indianagroundwater.org.



Matthew Mauer



Hailley Peters



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LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

I hope that this letter finds each of you busy and enjoying the warmer weather! I am always amazed at how quickly the water well industry changes. It seems like one day we are planning jobs and the next day everyone is ready all at once! It is good to have great working weather and long hours of daylight this time of year!

Something that I have wanted to write about for some time is the manufacturer-supplier-installer relationship that we have in this industry. As many of you know I have been around this industry my whole life, and I have been able to meet some really great people over the years! I can remember some of the salesmen that used to call on us from over 30 years ago. I would always somehow find my way down to the shop in the mornings in the summers or after school most days. This allowed me to get to know some of the salesmen and we were able to form a relationship even though I was just a kid. We had many laughs with our salesmen over the years and I still enjoy the relationships today.

One memory always stands out for me. We had a salesman and he was a great guy, but he had a lot of pride and arrogance. He was somewhat local and liked to bring his friends over to where we were working so they could see how a well was drilled. Now before I continue this short story you have to understand that this guy had a great sense of humor and always had a joke of the day. One day we were drilling and here he comes on his golf cart with his friend from out of town. He had his shirt off, gold chain around his neck, and brand new bright white shorts. We were set up on kind of a hill that day. I came walking around the mud tank with my hands full and slipped in the mud. Of course I went into my best driller's dance routine and managed to slip around but not drop anything. Then I looked up and there was the salesman splattered with mud from his mirror sunglasses to his white shorts! He said a few choice words and got in the golf

cart and took off! Every time I saw him after that we had a laugh! Sometimes I was the joke and sometimes he was, but it was a part of our relationship. This man has since passed, but every time we drive past that job site, Dad and I still have a laugh!

The people in this industry make it great! We have great manufacturers whose support of the IGWA is outstanding! And the products are changing and getting better all the time! I would have never thought a cell phone would run a pump or water softener 30 years ago! Also, I am impressed at the willingness of the manufacturers to be available to the installers. Whether it is on site trouble shooting, or a cell phone call from the job site, they are there! Thank you!

I really cannot say enough about our suppliers. They come through for us over and over again! They go above and beyond from sales to delivery. The early morning phone calls or text messages go a long way to helping us get the job done! Having what we need when we need it, and then going out of their way to make sure we get it, is very hard to forget! Thank you!

And finally I appreciate the friendliness and camaraderie of the many drillers/installers throughout Indiana! Many of you have answered the phone when we had questions, or needed to discuss an unfamiliar situation with someone we trusted. Many of you have gone out of your way to help us when things were out of our control. And most of all many of you have made me laugh at many times throughout the IGWA meetings and field events! Thank you!

The ground water industry in Indiana is healthy and in my opinion it is the IGWA that assists the most in bringing all of us together! Have a great summer!

Sincerely,
Rusty McGrew, McGrew Well Drilling



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TALES FROM THE TRENCHES

Mark Ortman, Ortman Drilling

We have had the opportunity and the challenge to work on many different types of jobs with many different types of drilling, but if one thing stays constant, it is that drilling can be a challenge no matter the situation. This short tale is about drilling some dewatering holes with a bucket rig in Ohio.

We completed drilling the last hole on the jobsite. I had been welding ears on our casing to prepare to set pipe. I walked back over to the rig with my hard hat and safety glasses on right when we were pulling back on the conductor pipe. I was a safe distance away when just like that the steel choker on the conductor broke and sent part of the cable and a clevis right toward me. The clevis struck me just above my glasses knocking my hard hat off and sending me to the ground. I blacked out for about 15 seconds and then I was back up with a compound skull fracture to the head. My coworkers quickly called 911 and an ambulance arrived in about 10 minutes. I was rushed to the local urgent care and then life-lined to a larger hospital. Within a few hours I was out of surgery with the fracture repaired and doing well.

I suppose the point of my tale is that even with good equipment, the right PPE, and a good safety program you never know what will happen. Please stay safe out there my friends, and have some fun in what can be one of the most rewarding careers ever.

CEU HEADS UP!

We will have three more opportunities this year for CEU's. There will be two events in September and one in November.

September 8th will be held in Carmel again with AWWA. There will be 6 hours available that day. Three will be classroom hours and three will be field hours.

September 15th will be held at the Hamilton County Fairgrounds and will be a three-hour field day.

November 2nd will be held in Greenwood. It will be a three classroom on well rehab. This is also the members' annual meeting, so if you are a member please plan to attend this date. More info on this is in the next newsletter.

Watch the website and Facebook for registration for all events.

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FROM THE NATIONAL GROUNDWATER ASSOCIATION

FMCSA Withdraws Proposed Safety Fitness Determination Rule

The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration withdrew its proposed rulemaking on safety fitness determinations. The controversial rulemaking was pulled, given the review of the Compliance, Safety and Accountability program currently underway.

Advocates for rescinding the rulemaking argued it was based on a flawed CSA system. The CSA program review is scheduled to be completed by June 2017.

The rulemaking is unlikely to be resurrected until the review of the CSA program is implemented.

NGWA impact: The proposed rulemaking had the potential to deem certain fleets of vehicles unfit for service, which could have impacted some NGWA members.

Supreme Court Denies ELD Petition; Effort Focuses on Congress to Halt or Delay

The U.S. Supreme Court on June 19 denied the Owner–Operator Independent Drivers Association’s petition requesting the Court to hear a case against the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration’s electronic logging device (ELD) mandate.

While this setback is disappointing, it greatly increases the need for Congress to provide some level of regulatory relief for industries like ours, which will bear most of the more than \$2 billion in costs associated with the mandate.

Already, elected officials have expressed greater interest in addressing this issue as a result of the Supreme Court’s decision. As a growing number of new associations voice serious concerns with the mandate, more and more stakeholders seek exemptions—including some who advocated for the mandate.

NGWA continues to work with a coalition of associations to address critical elements of implementation and is hopeful of congressional action to delay or halt the rule.

NGWA impact: The decision could lead to greater costs for companies operating fleets of vehicles, making it important to urge for Congressional action.

Leaked Document Reveals Major Cuts to Water Programs at EPA

A leaked budget memo from U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s acting chief financial officer David Bloom outlines how the EPA plans to implement a 31% cut in funding. In addition to reducing staff by 25%, several programs are proposed to be dramatically reduced or eliminated entirely.

The cuts were framed as re-centering the agency on its “core legal requirement” and transferring activities back to state and local government. Funding for State Revolving Funds and the WIFIA (Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act) program received support in the budget memo.

Some of the programs EPA is proposing be eliminated that could adversely impact NGWA members and groundwater:

- Critical Infrastructure Protection
- Lead Risk Reduction Program
- Leaking Underground Storage Tanks
- Water Quality Research and Support Grants

Programs facing substantial cuts:

- Brownfields
- Nonpoint Source Pollution Control
- Underground Injection Control
- Superfund Cleanup Enforcement
- Science Advisory Board

It is important to note the budget plan must be approved by Congress through the annual appropriations process—so the proposal is unlikely to be adopted by EPA without substantial revisions.

NGWA is working to outline the broad range of impacts to groundwater; NGWA membership will be preparing a response to share with EPA, as well as key committees on Capitol Hill.

NGWA impact: The budget memo represents the clearest look at the priorities of the Trump era’s EPA. The cuts could have a range of impacts not just impeding the cleanup of groundwater, but also reducing opportunities for NGWA members to contract with the federal government on projects.



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Calendar

September 8

AWWA education and field
in Carmel, IN



September 15

Fall Field Day with Mobile Drill at Hamilton
County Fairgrounds

November 2

Annual Meeting & Fall 2017 CEU class in
Greenwood, IN

November 2

DNR testing in Greenwood, IN

November 30

Dues renewal

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Cell: 812-798-7880
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Rutledge Well Drilling
Atlanta, IN 46031
Cell: 317-903-7187
rut.digity@gmail.com

Dustin Findlay (2017)
Dilden Bros. Drilling
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Office: 765-742-1717
dustin@dildendrilling.com

Dale Remmler (2018)
Remmler Well Drilling
Greensburg, IN 47240
Cell: 317-361-2844
dremmler@sbcc.net

Richard Mumma (2018)
Mumma Brothers
Lyons, IN 47443
Cell: 812-798-5255
mumma@wispaninternet.com

**IGWA Office:**

PO Box 160, Covington, IN 47932

Ph: 888-443-7330 / Fax: 765-231-4430

Email: ingroundwater@gmail.com

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