

IGWA Bulletin



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I'M LOOKING FORWARD TO TAKING OUR ASSOCIATION INTO OUR 60TH YEAR AS PRESIDENT IN 2008. OUR MISSION HAS NOT CHANGED SINCE 1948. WE ARE ON TRACK AND THERE IS A LOT OF WORK AHEAD OF US THIS YEAR. I WOULD LIKE TO THANK TONY HACKETT (IGWA PAST PRESIDENT) FOR HIS HELP IN PREPARING ME FOR THIS JOB. THE BOARD HAS ALSO BEEN A GREAT SUPPORT TO ME. WE HAVE MADE A LOT OF CHANGES THIS PAST YEAR, WHICH HAS PUT US IN A GOOD POSITION FOR THE CHALLENGES WE FACE.

THE CONVENTION WAS EXCELLENT, WITH A RECORD ATTENDANCE OF ABOUT 290. THERE WERE INFORMATIVE CLASSES ON CURRENT ISSUES AND WE HAD A REALLY ATTENTIVE AUDIENCE. I WOULD LIKE TO THANK EACH OF YOU FOR THE SUPPORT OF THE IGWA. ROGER BATT, IGWA'S EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, HELPED MAKE THE CONVENTION COME TOGETHER WITH HIS PROFESSIONALISM AND EXPERIENCE. THANK YOU ROGER FOR ALL OF THE HARD WORK YOU HAVE PUT IN SINCE YOU HAVE BEEN ON BOARD! THE BOARD AND I WOULD ALSO LIKE TO THANK GAYLE BATT, ROGER'S WIFE, FOR A LITTLE FINE-TUNING AT THE RIGHT TIME AND HER SUPPORT DURING THE CONVENTION. THEY MAKE A GREAT TEAM!

THE MANUFACTURERS' AND SUPPLIERS' 30-SECOND PRESENTATIONS REALLY HIT THE SPOT AND VENDORS HAD EXCELLENT DISPLAYS AND INFORMATION. I WANT TO EXTEND A SPECIAL THANKS TO THE M&S FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF THE IGWA. YOU ARE VERY IMPORTANT TO WHAT WE DO. AS I WRITE THIS, I LOOK FORWARD TO YOUR INPUT. WITH FEEDBACK FROM THE IGWA CONVENTION, WE WILL HAVE AN EVEN BETTER CONVENTION IN 2008.

THE CONSTRUCTION RULES ARE STILL ONGOING AND IT IS CRITICAL THAT THEY BE DONE THE RIGHT WAY. THERE HAS BEEN SOME PROGRESS, BUT THERE IS STILL A LOT OF WORK TO BE DONE. I ENCOURAGE EVERYONE TO STAY INVOLVED, UNDERSTAND WHAT THE

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RULES SAY ON PAPER, AND DETERMINE HOW THIS WILL EFFECT THE INDUSTRY AND ECONOMY OF THE STATE. THESE RULES WILL BE WITH US LONG INTO THE FUTURE.

I HAVE MADE CONTACT WITH A BOARD MEMBER OF THE LIQUID PROPANE & GAS ASSOCIATION ABOUT UNDERGROUND PROPANE TANKS. WE WILL BE TALKING TO THEM ABOUT OUR CONCERNS OF MARKING THE LOCATIONS OF THESE TANKS TO PROTECT THE SAFETY OF THE MEMBERS OF OUR INDUSTRY. WE MUST PREVENT THE TYPE OF ACCIDENT THAT HAPPENED TO DEVIN STRONG OF TREASURE VALLEY DRILLING LAST YEAR.

ALL IGWA COMMITTEES HAVE BEEN APPOINTED SO THEY CAN BRING BACK TO THE BOARD THEIR RECOMMENDATIONS ON LEGISLATIVE ISSUES BY-LAW UPDATES, SCHOLARSHIPS AND OTHERS. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, IDEAS OR COMMENTS THAT YOU FEEL WOULD BENEFIT THE ASSOCIATION OR ABOUT WHAT IS HAPPENING WITHIN THE ASSOCIATION, PLEASE CALL ME AT MY HOME AT (208) 722-5304 OR ON MY CELLULAR PHONE AT (208) 899-3131. IT HELPS ME TO UNDERSTAND THE NEEDS OF THE INDUSTRY.

THE IGWA BOARD OF DIRECTORS IS ALSO AVAILABLE TO TALK WITH YOU TO ADDRESS ANY NEEDS, QUESTIONS, OR CONCERNS YOU MAY HAVE. THEIR INFORMATION IS LOCATED ON THE FINAL PAGE OF THIS NEWSLETTER. REMEMBER THAT THIS IS YOUR ASSOCIATION! PLEASE SPEAK UP AND GET INVOLVED. EVEN THOUGH IT TAKES TIME TO DO SO, IT PAYS OFF IN THE LONG RUN.

I HOPE EVERYONE HAS A SUCCESSFUL AND SAFE 2007. ALSO, IF YOU ARE A COMPANY AND TAKE CARE OF AND ARE RESPONSIBLE TO THE FOLLOWING: FAMILY, EMPLOYEES, IDWR, DEQ, EPA, DOT, OSHA, IDAHO STATE TAX COMMISSION, UNEMPLOYMENT, IRS, INSURANCE COMPANIES, SUPPLIERS, LAWYERS... THEN YOU ARE GOING TO NEED A VERY, VERY GOOD YEAR. TAKE REAL GOOD CARE OF YOURSELVES AND HAVE SOME FUN.

I WILL CLOSE WITH A POEM THAT SUMS UP HOW I LOOK AT LIFE:

IF A TASK IS ONCE BEGUN
NEVER LEAVE IT TILL IT'S DONE
BE THE LABOR GREAT OR SMALL
DO IT WELL OR NOT AT ALL.

AUTHOR UNKNOWN

GARY DUSPIVA, PRESIDENT

2007 ANNUAL IGWA CONVENTION

THE 2007 ANNUAL IGWA CONVENTION TURNED OUT TO BE A VERY SUCCESSFUL AND WELL-ATTENDED EVENT FOR THE IDAHO GROUND WATER INDUSTRY. THERE WERE APPROXIMATELY 290 PARTICIPANTS, INCLUDING DRILLERS, PUMP INSTALLERS, GROUND WATER CONSULTANTS, MANUFACTURERS AND SUPPLIERS, STATE AGENCY PERSONNEL, ELECTRICIANS, AND POLITICIANS FROM THE STATE. THE DOUBLETREE RIVERSIDE WAS AN EXCELLENT FACILITY TO CONDUCT THE MEETINGS AND PROVIDED A RELAXING ATMOSPHERE FOR ITS PARTICIPANTS.

GOVERNOR OTTER JOINED US ON FEBRUARY 2ND. HIS SPEECH TO THE IGWA INCLUDED THE MANY ISSUES THAT ARE ONGOING WITH THE STATE'S MOST PRECIOUS NATURAL RESOURCE...WATER. GOVERNOR OTTER NOTED THAT HE INTENDS TO PUT TOGETHER A COMMITTEE OF INDIVIDUALS AFFILIATED IN THE GROUND AND SURFACE WATER INDUSTRIES TO DISCUSS THE MANY ISSUES THAT IDAHO IS FACING AND TO COME UP WITH REASONABLE SOLUTIONS. THE IGWA BOARD OF DIRECTORS HAS NOMINATED BRETT McCARTY, GARY DUSPIVA AND ROGER BUCHANAN AS POTENTIAL CANDIDATES FOR THE GOVERNOR'S CONSIDERATION.



A SURVEY WAS CONDUCTED ON THE LAST DAY OF THE CONVENTION TO PROVIDE FEEDBACK TO THE IGWA ON HOW TO MAKE THINGS BETTER FOR 2008. I HAVE PERSONALLY REVIEWED YOUR COMMENTS AND PLAN TO TAKE ACTION ON THE ITEMS THAT REQUIRE THE

MOST ATTENTION (I.E.: THE QUALITY OF THE FOOD). I WANT TO PERSONALLY THANK ALL OF YOU THAT ATTENDED THE 2007 IGWA CONVENTION. IN DOING SO, YOU HAVE SUPPORTED THE ASSOCIATION AND THE IDAHO GROUND WATER INDUSTRY.

ROGER BATT, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



THE IGWA AND NEGOTIATED RULEMAKING

TO BRING YOU UP-TO-DATE ON THE NEGOTIATED RULEMAKING EFFORTS WITH THE IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, THE RULEMAKING COMMITTEE MET AGAIN ON JANUARY 4TH AND REVIEWED THE LATEST DRAFT CREATED BY IDWR. MANY NEW CHANGES WERE DISCOVERED IN THAT DRAFT, AND LANGUAGE THAT THE DRILLING COMMUNITY FOUND TO BE INFLAMMATORY, AND INCITED SOME HEATED DISCUSSIONS THAT RESULTED IN A LETTER BEING CREATE BY THE IGWA DEMANDING THAT THE IDWR CEASE RULEMAKING IN THE CURRENT FORMAT.

THE METHODS EMPLOYED BY IDWR THROUGHOUT THIS LENGTHY PROCESS WERE NOT IN LINE WITH WHAT THE DRILLING COMMUNITY CONSIDERED REAL NEGOTIATED RULEMAKING. THE IGWA BOARD ASKED IN THAT LETTER TO HOLD RULEMAKING MEETINGS AT OUR MERIDIAN OFFICE WHERE SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSIONS COULD TAKE PLACE AND RESULT IN RULE LANGUAGE THAT WAS REALISTIC AND ENFORCEABLE. OUR OFFER WAS REJECTED AND THE PREVIOUSLY SCHEDULED RULEMAKING MEETING WAS HELD ON JANUARY 26TH. AS PROMISED IN THAT LETTER, REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE DRILLING COMMUNITY ATTENDED. DURING THAT MEETING, IDWR STAFF HAD A VERY DIFFERENT ATTITUDE, AND WAS OPEN TO DISCUSS NEW IDEAS AND CONCEPTS.

MANY OTHERS AND I FELT THAT WE HAD FINALLY REACHED AN UNDERSTANDING, AND ARE NOW ABLE TO WORK ON A CONSENSUS-BASED DISCUSSION FOR RULES THAT MAKE SENSE TO THE DRILLING COMMUNITY, AND CAN BE ENFORCED BY THE DEPARTMENT. THE COMMITTEE WORKED QUITE WELL TOGETHER THAT DAY AND FOLLOW-UP CORRESPONDENCE HAS BEEN SUBMITTED TO IDWR FOR CONSIDERATION. TO REVIEW THE LETTER SENT TO IDWR AND IDWR'S REPLY, AS WELL AS OTHER INPUT ON THE RULEMAKING PROCESS, OR THE LATEST DRAFT, PLEASE LOG ONTO IDWR'S WEBSITE AT (WWW.IDWR.IDAHO.GOV), SLIDE OVER TO THE FAR RIGHT SIDE OF THE HOME PAGE AND CLICK ON NEGOTIATED RULEMAKING. IT IS ALL THERE.

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS FOR IDWR YOU MAY CONTACT TOM NEACE IN BOISE BY DIALING 208-287-4800, OR FOR THE IGWA, YOU CAN CALL ME AT 208-687-9170. THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD ON MARCH 2ND IN BOISE. SEE YOU THERE.

BRETT McCARTY, VICE PRESIDENT



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DON'T MISS THE 2007 GROUND WATER SUMMIT - REGISTER EARLY AND SAVE!

THE 2007 GROUND WATER SUMMIT, APRIL 29-MAY 3, IN ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO, IS DESIGNED TO ENGAGE LOCAL, NATIONAL, AND INTERNATIONAL SCIENCE PARTNERS IN A SETTING THAT FACILITATES THE EXCHANGE AND DISSEMINATION OF TECHNICAL INFORMATION AND NEW SCIENCE DEVELOPMENTS, ALLOWS A MEANS FOR DISCUSSION OF POLICY AND REGULATORY ISSUES PERTAINING TO GROUND WATER, AND PROMOTES GOODWILL BETWEEN SCIENTISTS AND ENGINEERS WORLDWIDE. SUMMIT SESSIONS COVER A WIDE RANGE OF TOPICS TO ALLOW RECENT ISSUES AND ADVANCES IN GROUND WATER SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, AND POLICY TO BE BROUGHT TO THE FOREFRONT.

THIS YEAR'S SUMMIT WILL FEATURE 211 PLATFORM PRESENTATIONS AND 41 POSTERS. EXHIBITS WILL BE OPEN APRIL 30 AND MAY 1. THREE SHORT COURSES WILL BE OFFERED ON APRIL 29; ANOTHER SHORT COURSE AND A FIELD TRIP WILL TAKE PLACE MAY 3. THE 2007 DARCY DISTINGUISHED LECTURER, JAMES J. BUTLER JR., PH. D., AND THE 2007 BIRDSALL-DREISS LECTURER, BRIDGET SCANLON, WILL BE FEATURED DURING THE PROGRAM AS WELL.

YOU CAN RECEIVE A DISCOUNTED EARLY REGISTRATION RATE IF YOU REGISTER BEFORE MARCH 12. TO REGISTER, VISIT [HTTP://WWW.NGWA.ORG/E/CONF/0704295095.CFM](http://www.ngwa.org/e/conf/0704295095.cfm) OR CALL NGWA CUSTOMER SERVICE AT 800 551.7379 (614 898.7791 OUTSIDE OF THE UNITED STATES).

NATIONAL GROUND WATER ASSOCIATION



2007 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

THE 2007 LEGISLATIVE SESSION IS STARTING TO WIND DOWN WITH A PROJECTED COMPLETION (SINE' DIE) OF MARCH 23RD. WE HAVE BEEN TOLD THAT THE CAPITOL BUILDING HAS TO BE TOTALLY VACATED BY THE MIDDLE OF MAY TO CONTINUE WITH RESTORATION EFFORTS. STATUES AND OTHER ITEMS ARE STARTING TO DISAPPEAR FROM THEIR USUAL LOCATIONS. THE NEW BUILDING TO THE EAST (OLD ADA COUNTY COURTHOUSE) WILL BE CALLED CAPITOL ANNEX ONE. THE LATEST INFORMATION IS THAT THE LEGISLATURE PLANS TO RETURN TO THE CURRENT CAPITOL BUILDING BY 2010.

THE AMOUNT OF LEGISLATION BEING BROUGHT FORTH COMPARED TO A MOVING AVERAGE OF THE PREVIOUS 5 YEARS IS DOWN CONSIDERABLY. THE IGWA IS CURRENTLY WORKING ON A PIECE OF LEGISLATION THAT WILL CHANGE THE WAY NEGOTIATED RULEMAKING IS CURRENTLY BEING CONDUCTED IN THE STATE. I HAVE APPROACHED RANKING MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATURE ABOUT THIS ISSUE. THESE MEMBERS ARE IN FULL AGREEMENT THAT NEGOTIATED RULEMAKING NEEDS TO BE CHANGED TO BETTER THE PROCESS AND TO ALLOW FOR A MORE FAVORABLE OUTCOME OF CONSENSUS FOR GROUPS SUCH AS THE IGWA. THE IGWA LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE AND I WILL BE PERSONALLY WORKING WITH THESE MEMBERS AND WITH OTHER ASSOCIATIONS OVER THE NEXT FEW MONTHS TO HELP CONSTRUCT A GOOD PIECE OF LEGISLATION TO PRESENT DURING THE 2008 SESSION.

ROGER BATT, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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EDITORIAL - "SETTING THE RECORD STRAIGHT"

SOME OF YOU ARE AWARE THAT I RESIGNED MY DIRECTORSHIP WITH THE NATIONAL GROUND WATER ASSOCIATION IN OCTOBER OF 2006. I HAVE NOT BEEN VERY PUBLIC ABOUT MY EXPERIENCE WITH NGWA, WISHING TO "TAKE THE HIGH ROAD" IN THIS MATTER, AS ONE NGWA DIRECTOR ADVISED.

AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE 2007 IGWA CONVENTION, THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MET FOR THEIR FIRST ANNUAL MEETING. DURING THE SATURDAY MORNING BOARD MEETING, AN AGENDA ITEM CAME UP THAT WAS SURPRISING TO ME. THE IGWA BOARD WANTED TO KNOW FROM ME, THE NATURE OF THE CIRCUMSTANCES SURROUNDING MY RESIGNATION FROM NGWA. THEIR CONCERNS STEMMED FROM CONVERSATIONS VISITING NGWA DIRECTORS WERE HAVING WITH OUR MEMBERSHIP. THESE DIRECTORS SAW FIT TO CALL INTO QUESTION MY SERVICE TO NGWA, AND TO MISCHARACTERIZE MY DEPARTURE BY SPREADING FALSE INFORMATION. AFTER THE BOARD HEARD FROM ME, THEY ASKED ME TO INFORM THE MEMBERSHIP IN AN ARTICLE.

WHEN I WAS ELECTED TO THE NGWA BOARD IN NASHVILLE IN 2000, I WAS VERY EXCITED TO DO GOOD THINGS FOR CONTRACTORS WHO, LIKE ME, WHO WORKED HARD FOR A LIVING AND DESERVED NATIONAL REPRESENTATION. I BELIEVED IT WOULD BE A CHANCE TO GIVE BACK TO OUR INDUSTRY. MANY PAST PRESIDENTS TOLD ME THAT I HAD A HUGE RESPONSIBILITY IN SUPPORTING CONTRACTORS AND DEFENDING OUR INDUSTRY ON A NATIONAL LEVEL. ONE PAST PRESIDENT ASSURED ME "NOT TO EVER FORGET WHO I REPRESENT." I TOOK THAT RESPONSIBILITY VERY SERIOUSLY.

I SOON FOUND MY IMPRESSION OF NGWA WAS CHANGING. I DISCOVERED THAT WITHIN THE NGWA HIERARCHY, THEY ARE, TO MY SURPRISE, VERY CONDESCENDING TOWARD THE BLUE-COLLAR WORKING CLASS OF OUR INDUSTRY. SENIOR STAFF AND MANY DIRECTORS SEE CONTRACTORS AS BEING UNEDUCATED, AND UNABLE TO COMPREHEND THE LOFTIER THINGS OF A "PROFESSIONAL SOCIETY" OF NGWA'S CALIBER. IT WAS POINTED OUT THAT UNLIKE THE AGWSE DIVISION MEMBERS, CONTRACTORS DO NOT SPEAK ELOQUENTLY, ARE NOT IN CONSTANT TOUCH BY E-MAIL ALL DAY, DO NOT WRITE WHITE PAPERS AND GIVE IMPRESSIVE SPEECHES OR UNDERSTAND THE GLOBAL IMPACT OF NGWA.

WHAT NGWA HAS BECOME, IN MY OPINION, IS NOTHING LIKE A TRADE ASSOCIATION, BUT A PROFESSIONAL SOCIETY WHERE THE CONTRACTOR IS AN UNFORTUNATE NECESSITY. THE MONEY CONTRACTORS SPEND SUPPORTS THE INTERESTS AND GOALS OF STAFF, AND PAYS

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FOR FOLKS TO JET AROUND THE COUNTRY AND LOOK IMPORTANT. THEIR FOCUS IS ON THE WHOLE AND NOT ANY PART. DIRECTORS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS DO NOT SET THE AGENDA FOR ACTIVITIES WITHIN EACH COMMITTEE, STAFF DOES. THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ONCE TOLD ME “BOARD MEMBERS COME AND GO, BUT IT’S THE STAFF THAT GUIDES AND RUNS THE ORGANIZATION.” WE ARE BEING FOOLED INTO BELIEVING THAT NGWA EXISTS FOR CONTRACTORS BECAUSE WE NO LONGER HAVE THE INFLUENCE WE ONCE HAD. IF YOUR ONLY EXPOSURE IS THE WATER WELL JOURNAL OR THE EXPO, YOU MIGHT BELIEVE THAT IT IS A NON-PROFIT TRADE ORGANIZATION; I SWEAR THAT IT IS NOT. BECAUSE OF PAST FINANCIAL TROUBLES, NGWA IS EXCESSIVELY FOCUSED ON ONLY PROGRAMS AND SERVICES THAT MAKE MONEY. CONTRACTOR MEMBERS STILL PAY NEARLY THREE TIMES WHAT AGWSE MEMBERS PAY IN DUES.

TO MY ASTONISHMENT, THERE ARE MANY DEFICIENCIES. I SAW HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS WASTED EACH YEAR, MONEY I FELT COULD HAVE BEEN BETTER USED TO SUPPORT THE MEMBERSHIP. I WATCHED THE BOARD HOARD AWAY NEARLY A MILLION-DOLLAR CASH SURPLUS IN 2005 AND DISREGARD THE NEEDS OF MEMBER PROGRAMS AND SERVICES. I SAW THE RECENT MEMBERSHIP SURVEY DATA SKEWED BY STAFF TO GIVE MEMBERS FALSE IMPRESSIONS OF WHAT THE CONTRACTOR MEMBERSHIP IS SAYING ABOUT NGWA’S PERFORMANCE. I SAW BOARD-APPROVED AGENDAS BECOME IGNORED BY STAFF BECAUSE STAFF DISAGREED WITH THEM. I WAS THE ONLY VOICE ON THE BOARD THAT STOOD UP AGAINST THE GOVERNANCE ISSUE. I STOOD ALONE AND ARGUED STRONGLY AGAINST THE NEW THREE COUNCILS FORMAT OF BOARD STRUCTURE, CREATED BY STAFF, WHICH IN MY OPINION, FURTHER DILUTED THE INFLUENCE OF CONTRACTORS, AND TEMPORARILY APPEASED THE GOVERNANCE ISSUE. CONTRACTOR DIRECTORS ACCUSED ME OF BEING “TOO OLD-SCHOOL” WHEN I SPOKE OUT AGAINST THEM.

I WAS POLITELY SHUT DOWN WHILE TRYING TO EFFECT ANY CHANGE IN NGWA FOR CONTRACTORS. MOST CONTRACTOR DIRECTORS TODAY ARE MORE LIKELY TO GO ALONG WITH THE STATUS QUO, BECAUSE GOING AGAINST THE GRAIN WOULD CLEARLY PREVENT THEM FROM MOVING UP THROUGH THE CHAIRS AND BECOMING NGWA PRESIDENT. DESPITE HAVING RESERVATIONS, I AGREED TO RUN FOR A SECOND TERM IN 2004, AFTER BEING ASSURED BY MANY PAST PRESIDENTS THAT I STILL COULD MAKE A DIFFERENCE, DESPITE THE CURRENT SITUATION. I REALIZED I WAS TRULY WASTING MY TIME EARLY LAST SUMMER WHEN THE BOARD AND STAFF CONTINUED TO PULL AWAY FROM CONTRACTOR SUPPORT.

CONTINUING AS AN NGWA DIRECTOR, HOPING TO DO SOME GOOD AND BECOMING THE THIRD NGWA PRESIDENT FROM IDAHO WAS NOT WORTH THE PRICE I WOULD HAVE TO PAY TO

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COMPROMISE MY PRINCIPLES AND TURN MY BACK ON THE PEOPLE I REPRESENTED. I ANGUISHED OVER MY EVENTUAL DECISION TO RESIGN FOR MANY MONTHS. I COULD NO LONGER STAND IN FRONT OF A GROUP OF CONTRACTORS AT A STATE SHOW AND EXTOL THE VIRTUES OF AN ORGANIZATION I COULD NOT BELIEVE IN, NOR COULD I BE A RUBBER-STAMP DIRECTOR IN ORDER TO “JUST GET ALONG” AS I WAS ADVISED. I WILL NOT SELL OUT MY VALUES FOR EMPTY RECOGNITION.

DESPITE WHAT THEY MAY THINK, WE ARE NOT DUMB CONTRACTORS, AND I THINK WE DESERVE RESPECT. A POPULAR SONG I HEARD RECENTLY HAS A LINE IN IT THAT SAYS, “MY HAIR’S TURNING WHITE, MY NECK HAS ALWAYS BEEN RED, MY COLLAR’S STILL BLUE.” WE SHOULD BE PROUD OF WHAT WE DO FOR A LIVING. I LOVE THIS COUNTRY AND WHAT IT STANDS FOR AND THE FREEDOMS WE HAVE, AND ARE THANKFUL THAT WE HAVE THE RIGHT TO STAND UP AND SAY “NO” TO THINGS THAT ARE NOT RIGHT.

TODAY, I AM NO LONGER A MEMBER OF NGWA, AND I HAVE GIVEN UP ALL OF MY CERTIFICATIONS BECAUSE THEY REALLY DO NOT MEAN ANYTHING TO MY CUSTOMERS, THEY HAVE NEVER HEARD OF THE NGWA. UNTIL ANOTHER NATIONAL ORGANIZATION TAKES UP THE WORK OF STANDING UP FOR CONTRACTORS, I WILL ONLY SUPPORT MY STATE ASSOCIATION.

I AM PROUD OF THE FACT THAT OUR IGWA CONTINUES TO STAND UP FOR AND SUPPORT OUR INDUSTRY’S WORKING MEN AND WOMEN AND THEIR FAMILIES, AND AGGRESSIVELY DEFENDS OUR WAY OF LIFE. I AM SURE IT IS THAT WAY BECAUSE PEOPLE LIKE US RUN IT. I AM PLEASED TO HAVE BEEN RE-ELECTED TO THE IGWA BOARD AND WILL SERVE AS VP THIS YEAR. I WILL INVEST MY VOLUNTEER TIME DOING MEANINGFUL THINGS SUCH AS WORKING ON THE NEW WELL CONSTRUCTION RULES WITH IDWR UNTIL WE GET A SET OF RULES WE ALL CAN LIVE WITH. ADDITIONALLY, I INTEND TO SPEND MORE TIME WITH MY FAMILY AND FRIENDS, REAL FRIENDS WHO DO NOT DEMAND OF ME TO BE PHONY AND MISLEADING, TO “JUST GET ALONG.”

I APPRECIATE THE IGWA BOARD’S SUPPORT AND THE OPPORTUNITY TO SET THE RECORD STRAIGHT. PERHAPS NEXT YEAR, NGWA WILL FIND SOMEWHERE ELSE TO SEND THEIR DIRECTORS.

BRETT McCARTY, VICE PRESIDENT

A NOTE OF THANKS

MY WIFE, KARLA, AND I WOULD LIKE TO THANK THE IDAHO GROUND WATER ASSOCIATION FOR THE HONOR GIVEN TO US AT THE CONVENTION FEBRUARY, 2007. I WOULD LIKE TO THANK THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR PRESENTING US WITH HONORARY LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP AWARDS. I WOULD LIKE TO THANK ALL THE BOARD MEMBERS I HAVE HAD THE PLEASURE TO SERVE WITH THROUGH THE LAST 18+ YEARS FOR THEIR DEDICATION TO IGWA AND THE INDUSTRY.

I WOULD ESPECIALLY LIKE TO THANK THE MEMBERSHIP FOR ALLOWING ME TO REPRESENT THEM THROUGH THESE YEARS AND HAVING THE CONFIDENCE IN THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS TO MAKE DECISIONS ON SOME OF THE TOUGH CHALLENGES WE HAVE FACED. I HAVE SEEN GREAT ACCOMPLISHMENTS, A BETTER ASSOCIATION, AND A "RAISING OF THE BAR" PROFESSIONALLY OF OUR INDUSTRY. I CAN REMEMBER THE DAYS WHEN WE WERE NOT RESPECTED BY THE "REGULATORS". WE HAVE COME LIGHTYEARS FORWARD WITH THE ELECTRICAL AND PLUMBING BUREAUS IN OUR MUTUAL RESPECT AND UNDERSTANDING. WE WORK CONSTRUCTIVELY TO NEGOTIATE AND SOLVE PROBLEMS, AND FIND SOLUTIONS THAT HELP THE PUBLIC, OUR INDUSTRY, AND GOVERNMENT AGENCIES.

IT HAS BEEN A PRIVILEGE TO REPRESENT YOU. I HOPE THAT IN SOME SMALL WAY, THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND I HAVE MADE A POSITIVE IMPACT ON THE INDUSTRY DURING MY TENURE. I FEEL THAT WE HAVE. I WILL ALWAYS VALUE THE MANY FRIENDSHIPS I HAVE MADE THROUGHOUT THE YEARS, ALL AROUND THE STATE. I WOULD ENCOURAGE EACH AND EVERY ONE OF YOU TO GET INVOLVED WITH THE IGWA; SHARE YOUR IDEAS AND CONCERNS WITH A BOARD MEMBER. THE PROPOSED WELL CONSTRUCTION RULE CHANGES WILL AFFECT ALL OF YOU AND YOUR CUSTOMERS FOR DECADES TO COME; SO STAY INFORMED AND GET INVOLVED.

THANK YOU,

DALE PIPPITT



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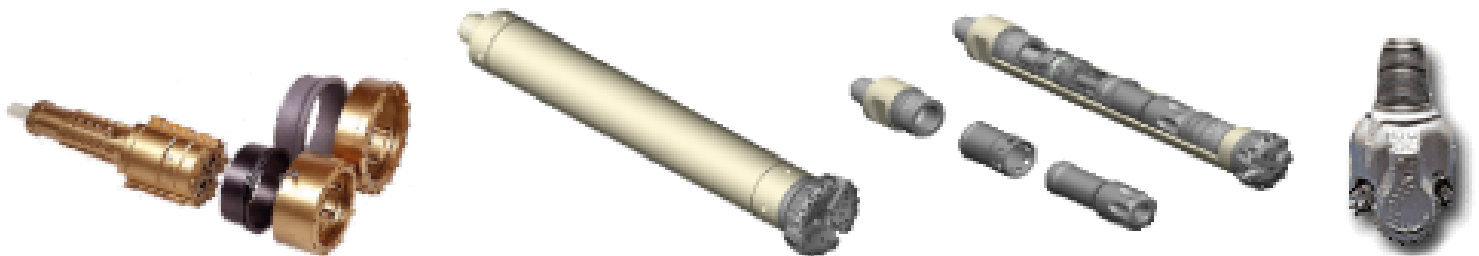


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