

"The Pipeline"

NUCA OF THE CAROLINAS

PRESIDENTS REPORT

July, 2019

Summer is here for sure! I hope all of you are finding it to be a time of great production and profitability while remaining safe! A couple of quick items of note:

I appreciated the opportunity in May to travel to D.C with Brian Wilkerson, Keith Vandergrift, Greg Volz and Linda to represent NUCA of The Carolinas at the Washington Summit. Thank you to these folks and their companies for taking the time to impress on representatives of North and South Carolina the importance of NUCA and what the association does. We tried to be YOUR voice! While we were a little more low key than Trump, Wilkerson did a wonderful job leading our discussions, with an emphasis on the need for increased funding for an all-inclusive infrastructure package, more long term funding for the highway transportation bill, and modifications to current higher education programs to help with the labor shortage that not just NUCA members are facing, but all contractors are facing. We did not come home with a signed bill, but certainly planted a seed in the minds of every one we meet with.

Thank you to everyone that participated in the NUCA Trench Safety Stand Down. Do not forget to email your pictures to Linda, as well as NUCA National to receive your hard hat stickers.

What is next: LOTS COMING UP:

We have our NUCA Open scheduled for July 25th at Sedgefield again. PLEASE SIGN-UP so we can finalize all details as early as possible. Thank you to our many sponsors that have already stepped up to the plate.

We will soon be selling raffle tickets again for not one, but TWO guns. This is a great opportunity sell a & Risk Management meeting – August 13, 2019 – do not miss these

FALL CONFERENCE: October 17-19, 2019. If spring conference is any indication, you WILL NOT want to miss this.

As always, thank you for your support of NUCA of The Carolinas. We are excited about all of the upcoming events and look forward to seeing you there.

Chris Sellman, Smith Kesler & Company
NUCA of the Carolinas President

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Washington Summit



[NUCA OF THE CAROLINAS WORKING FOR YOU DURING THE 2019 WASHINGTON SUMMIT](#)

Brian Wilkerson, JF Wilkerson Contracting; Chris Sellman, Smith Kesler & Company; Keith Vandergrift, Ferguson Waterworks; Greg Volz, Fortiline and Linda Goslee, NUCA of the Carolinas Executive Director traveled to Washington D.C. May 21-23 for the NUCA Washington Summit to advocate for Investing in Critical Water Infrastructure, Transportation & the Highway Trust Fund and Preparing the Workforce for the Construction Industry.

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Safety & Risk Management

THANKS TO NC811 for hosting the May,
2019 Safety & Risk Management Meeting!



NC Pipeline Operators & NC811 are hosting a FREE Mock Line Strike event at the Cabarrus Arena and Event Center in Concord October 2, 2019. The event will include a vendor exhibit area for the anticipated attendance of up to 650 contractors/excavators.

The Mock Line Strike demonstration covers a complete excavation lifecycle from making the one-call, line locating, proper excavation tactics, line strike and emergency/operator response to the line strike. The forum is set on an excavation site and representatives from each stakeholder group speak on each topic during the excavation lifecycle. Education through Demonstration is designed to transform the contractor's experiences, improve reach and create the critical connections necessary to prevent a pipeline incident.

Excavators, emergency responders, utility operators, and public officials will witness the live-action demonstration. The event featured a simulated natural gas pipeline damage to illustrate the importance of calling before you dig and using industry best practices when working in close proximity to underground utility lines. While a narrator describes the details, industry professionals will demonstrate each step in the safe digging process using real equipment.

For more information or to register go to:

<http://www.ncpipesplus.org/mock-line-strike.html>



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NUCA knows that getting GREAT health coverage at a competitive premium for your employees and their families is important to you.

That is why we have teamed up with Compass Risk Management.

They can help to take the guess work out and help get coverage for you and your team.

Give us a call or send us an email to get the best insurance coverage to fit your needs.



Kimberly Carter



703-890-7816



kim@nuca.com

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Safety & Risk Management Report

1984? Don Henley? The Boys of Summer? Does that ring a bell with you? I, myself, was 18 years old, working and playing baseball and not a care in the world. I worked on every farm in Richfield during the day and played ball at night. I hauled hay in the heat and in the sun.... it just made me tan!!! Again, I say I didn't have a care in the world except for me being me. Well, my how times have changed. I find myself each and every day telling employees to hydrate, use sunscreen, and wear protective clothing when working outside.

In the Utility Construction Industry, we are the "Men and Women of Summer". We must endure blistering heat and high humidity here in the South. We are working on outfall sewers, in subdivisions, on city streets, and beside interstates when the only breeze is coming off a passing car at 70 or 80 miles per hour. We don't have the options of choosing where our work can and can't be. We don't always have a shade tree to work under or wait until a cooler time of the day to complete our tasks. We just go get the job done!!

So as CEO's, Presidents, Owners, Safety Coordinators, etc. we must help protect our employees from heat stress. We need to make sure they are hydrated. We need to make sure that employees have scheduled breaks. We may need to help them plan their schedule so we can avoid some of the stress from the heat. We need to make sure that our employees can recognize the symptoms of Heat Cramps, Heat Exhaustion, and Heat Stroke. We must also help our new hires get acclimated to their working conditions. You can provide this training through a morning huddle, tailgate meeting, or a Tool Box Safety Talk. It is the employer's responsibility to provide this training. The NUCA website, OSHA.GOV website, and NCDOL website have lots of information about Heat Stress that we can access so we can provide training to our employee's.

Stay cool, stay focused and I hope that you a safe, productive Summer. If you get bored, just Youtube Don Henley- "The Boys of Summer" and we can enjoy the 80's just one more time. I always thought "the boys of summer" were us baseball players. Well it's not baseball players, it's just us "ditch diggers." Have a great Summer!!

From the Trenches,
Wes Sells
Chairman, Safety and Risk Management Committee

NUCA'S SAFETY DIRECTORS FORUM

November 6 - 7, 2019

Fairfield Nashville Downtown / The Gulch

901 Division St

Nashville, TN 37203

Sponsored by the *Safety Ambassadors Club (SAC)* and our *National Partners*

Typically held in the Fall, NUCA's two-day Safety Directors Forum offers the unique opportunity for safety management to network with other utility construction safety managers from across the country. Safety experts will present open-forum discussions on the most important and relevant safety information members need.

If you have questions regarding SDF please contact George Kennedy by [email](#) or phone #518.885.2560.

NUCA OPEN

Thursday, July 25, 2019

Sedgefield Country Club: Dye Course

5700 Cardinal Way

Greensboro, N.C. 27410

Registration/Sponsor Opportunities

Please visit www.nucacarolinas.org or contact Linda Goslee @
Lgoslee@nucacarolinas.org



Common Ground Alliance

The next Common Ground Alliance Meeting will be held in San Diego, California on July 24th.

If you have any questions, comments, or concerns about underground damage prevention, CGA, or Best Practices, please do not hesitate to call me at 704-201-6676 or email steve@sucontractors.com. Together with our team and NUCA of the Carolinas we are making a difference.

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NUCA of the Carolinas Scholarship Winners!

2019 Scholarships Awarded

First Place

Anna Wisniewski—Goldsboro, NC - **Meredith College**

Second Place (Tie)

Emily Hall—IVA, SC - **North Greenville University**

Logan Johnson—New London, NC - **East Carolina or CCCC**

Simon Everett Community Service Scholarship

Allison Shingleton-Stantonsburg, NC - **University of Mt. Olive**

Congratulations!





Welcome to July! Yes, we are actually halfway through 2019 and it has been a challenging year. I have had the opportunity to attend the Wake and Mecklenburg UCC meetings and was encouraged by the discussion, exchange of contacts and frank dialog about the issues. As a side note there were almost 90 people in attendance at the Wake UCC: probably the largest ever.

NC 811 is here to help facilitate the flow of traffic between the parties and we continue to look into ways that improvements can be made.

Beyond the obvious manpower issues, efforts are being made to isolate the “noise” in the system caused by unnecessary updates, false emergencies and tickets that cover much more area than the true locate should require. NC 811 will continue to educate about the importance of whitelining while at the same time trending the performance of locates so that operators can take steps to improve this side of the coin.

As we watch HB 872 move through the legislature, the stakeholders should be pleased that many technical changes are included to improve communication. At the same time, the Underground Damage Prevention Review Board will get a much needed infusion of administrative support, a dedicated website, electronic ability to submit requests and improvements to the timeliness of responses throughout the process. Once signed into law, changes will take effect October 1, 2019.

NC 811 will spend time discussing the changes at UCC meetings around the state.

And if YOU (yes, you) are not participating in a UCC in your area, you are missing out on a key ingredient in the low country boil of communication. Getting to know who is who in your area, putting names to faces, sharing telephone contacts and major ongoing and upcoming projects: these are invaluable to helping with the success of your jobs.

As always we at NC 811 are united in the goal to keep people safe in North Carolina. Please accept my thanks for your support in these efforts!

Louis Panzer
Executive Director
Cell: 336-707-1736



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

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Josh Ennis

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Save The Dates

SAFETY & RISK MANAGEMENT

NEXT MEETING

AUGUST 13, 2019

MEETING HOST—TA LOVING COMPANY, GOLDSBORO, NC

Details Coming Soon!

Fall Conference

October 17-20, 2019

The Omni Homestead Resort

Hot Spring, Virginia

Registration Coming Soon!!

