

# **"The Pipeline"**

## **NUCA OF THE CAROLINAS**

PRESIDENTS REPORT

November, 2019

The heat is finally starting to subside as summer has officially ended.

I would like to thank everyone that came out to the Homestead. What a great long weekend with friends and family it was. From golf, shooting clay targets, zip lining, spa, or just relaxing in the cool mountain air it was a true blessing to get away from our everyday lives. I would also like to thank everyone for their support as I transition into being NUCA's president. I appreciate the opportunity and look forward to working together to see that our events are well attended and with some new members aboard.



A big congratulations to Wes Sells on becoming our 2019 "Ditch Digger" of the Year. Wes, as we all know, not only cares about his BRS colleagues, but he has the entire industry at heart when it comes to safety and the wellbeing of each and every employee on any jobsite. I would like to personally thank Wes for being the Chairman for our NUCA Safety and Risk Management Committee for the past 7 years! He has taken it to a new level of involvement.

We know the labor shortage has been on the radar this past year and will continue to be, but after the Homestead meeting, I hope we all realize the importance of good locates and holding the facility owners accountable for this. We are in a dangerous enough business for gas and electric facilities to not be marked correctly (and on time). We all know this in nothing new, but it's getting worse, and I would like for it to be a focus point on our agenda this year. No single company has the answers for the entire group, but communicating our different ways of handling the problems will help us find something that can fit our respective companies. We have to get our entire group to join in the fight and I think we had a great start on a direction needed from our Homestead meetings.

Our next couple events coming up are Safety & Risk Management Meeting (November) and Our Skeet Shoot in January.

Christmas is just around the corner and I hope that everyone gets to enjoy some time with family and be blessed with many memories to always cherish.

Thank you to all the past presidents and support of members over the years that have got us to this coming 2020 - 40 year Anniversary for NUCA!

John Barringer, B.R.S., Inc.

NUCA of the Carolinas President

# 2020 Officers and Board of Directors

## EXECUTIVE BOARD

John Barringer	B.R.S., Inc.	PRESIDENT
Brian Wilkerson	JF Wilkerson Construction	VICE PRESIDENT
Paul Hunter	TA Loving Company	Secretary/Treasurer
Chris Sellman	Smith, Kesler & Company	IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT
Chris Humbert	Park Construction of NC	PAST PRESIDENT

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Justus Everett	ABE Utilities
Keith Burke	Garney Construction
Scott Thomas	Gregory Poole Equipment
Jarrod Williamson	Xylem/Godwin Pumps
Tim Haechten	Foremost Pipeline
Joe Williams	Concrete Pipe & Precast
Brett Sondergard	United Rentals
Scott Little	State Utility Contractors
Mike Hewitt	Garney Construction
Tim Hogan	Pipeline Utility Contractors
Freddie Young	Sanders Utility Construction
Wes Sells	B.R.S., Inc.
Austin Bailey	Park Construction of NC
Roger Richards	Sanders Utility Construction
Jimmy Helms	Core and Main

## EX OFFICIO'S

Steve Brown—State Utility Contractors

(CGA)

Kevin Cripps—Gen3 Energy Solutions

(NUCA National)

2020

President—John Barringer

Immediate Past President—Chris Sellman



# FALL CONFERENCE

## THANKS TO OUR CONFERENCE SPONSORS

*Without their generous support, this educational & networking event would not be possible*

### PATRONS

TA Loving Company  
Park Construction of NC  
KBS Construction  
James River Equipment  
Cross Country Infrastructure  
J.F. Wilkerson Contracting

### CONTRIBUTORS

Sauls Seismic  
Concrete Pipe & Precast  
ABE Utilities

### WELCOME RECEPTION

Xylem, Inc.

### SPEAKER SPONSORS

Core and Main

### GOLF TOURNAMENT

National Trench Safety  
Sunbelt Rentals

### PRESIDENTS AWARDS RECEPTION

James River Equipment  
Ditch Witch of N.C.

### SUPPORTERS

Gen3 Energy Service  
State Utility Contractors  
Ascendum Machinery  
Consolidate Pipe & Supply  
GAC Enterprises, LLC

### BREAKFAST SPONSORS

Crumpler Plastic Pipe  
GAC Enterprises, LLC

### FRIDAY @ GUN CLUB RECEPTION

B.R.S., Inc.

### FRIDAY @ GUN CLUB DINNER

United Rentals Trench Safety

### JIM LOWRY CLAY SHOOT

Foremost Pipeline Construction  
National Trench Safety

### PRESIDENTS BANQUET

Ferguson Waterworks

## Conference Exhibitors

### ***Core and Main***

***Crumpler Plastic Pipe, Inc.***

***United Rentals Trench Safety***

***Xylem, Inc.***

***National Trench Safety***

***Ascendum***

***Tag Manufacturing***

***Shamrock Environmental***

***Sauls Seismic***

***James River Equipment***

***Sunbelt Rentals***

***GAC Enterprises, LLC***

***Consolidate Pipe & Supply***

***SR&R Environmental***

***Inland Pipe Rehabilitation***

***Ledwell***

***McGriff Insurance***

***Cross Country Infrastructure***

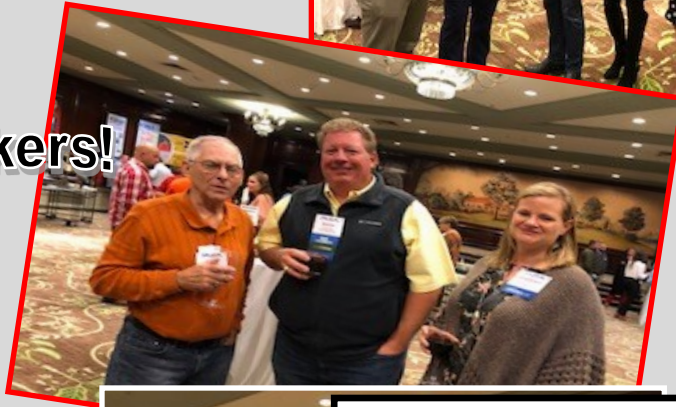


# Fall Conference Highlights!

Welcome Reception sponsored by:  
Jarrod Williamson—Xylem, Inc.



## Thanks to our Speakers!



**Eben Wyman**—NUCA Government Relations and  
**Dan Buckley**—NUCA National Chairman of the Board



**Steve Brown**—State Utility Contractors  
Common Ground Alliance Representative



**Paul McCain**—McCain Special Projects Services—  
"Working in the Trenches"

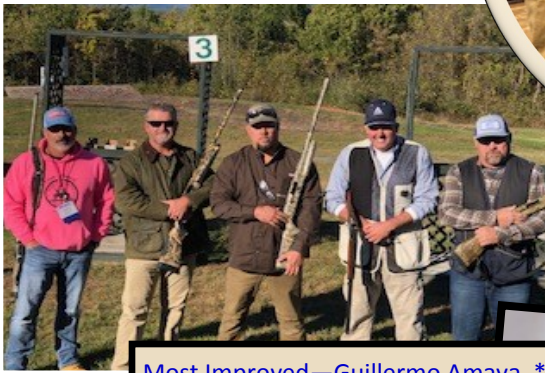


**Stan Phelps**—"The Purple Goldfish"





**TOP GUN**  
Matt Barringer



Skeet Shoot at the Homestead Gun Club  
Top 5 Shooters - Matt Barringer, Paul Hunter, John Barringer, Matt Marion and Wes Sells

Most Improved—Guillermo Amaya \*Top Gun Lady—Holly Williams \* Closest to the Bird—Joe Williams



FIRST PLACE GOLF TEAM  
Robby Adkins, Brent Brewer and Roger Richards



Closest to the Pin  
Robby Adkins  
Longest Drive  
Rich Kelly (Not Shown)



# Ditch Digger of the Year!

## Wes Sells - B.R.S., Inc.



Wes with B.R.S., Inc.  
family  
John, Matt, Brad,  
and Gunnar

Wes with wife, Tracie & sons  
Carson and Jordon & wife  
Katherine



One of the main goals of NUCA of the Carolinas is, has been, and will continue to be: **to promote a safety culture throughout the underground utility construction industry.** When thinking about this goal, not one single person does more towards this goal than our **2019 Ditch Digger of the Year Wes Sells.** Seven years ago Wes took over a thriving safety program and committee and has continued to increase its value to NUCA members. Over the last year as President I had the pleasure of attending several Safety & Risk Management Meetings and one word comes to mind: IMPRESSIVE. Attendees leave each meeting with something specific they can take back to their organization to help improve their safety program. Why is this all so important? At the end of the day each and every employee of each and every NUCA organization is family. Wes – thank you for your effort to be sure everyone in the family returns home safely.

Chris Sellman—Past President



# Associate of the Year!

## JAMES RIVER EQUIPMENT



Many thanks to James River Equipment for all they do for NUCA of the Carolinas! Jeremy and Amanda Keiffer were devoted NUCA members with James River over the past several years! Jeremy and Amanda have moved to Florida and they will be greatly missed! We now welcome Jack Faircloth to the NUCA family to represent James River from Raleigh!! WELCOME JACK!

First Conference Registrant!  
Mike Hewitt



**EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION  
COMMITTEE**  
Chair—Angela Brown,  
Paige Humbert,  
Christie Sondergard &  
Tracie Sells



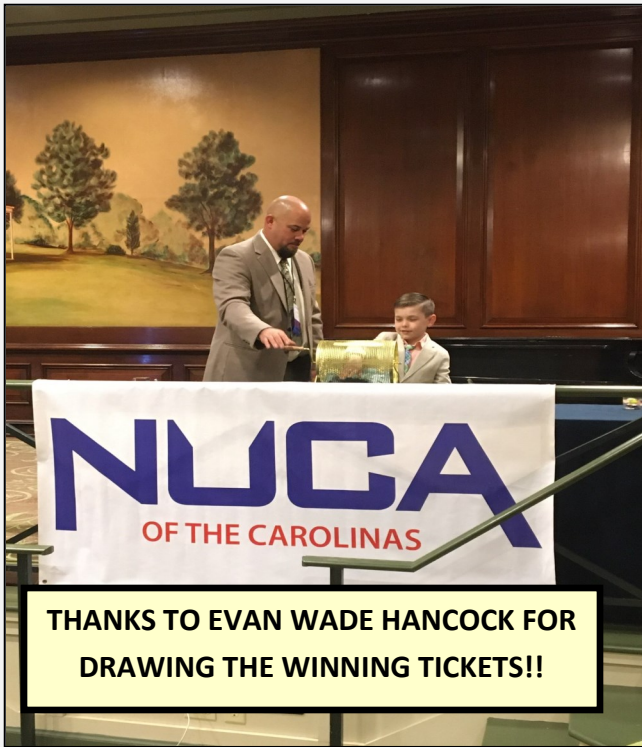
2020 President - John Barringer  
Outgoing President - Chris Sellman

## 2020 Officers & Board Members



# Fall Conference Gun Raffle

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## CONGRATULATIONS TO THE WINNERS!

Shannon Watson/TA Loving Company



Paul Carpenter with Carolina CAT was the winner of the 2nd gun!

A BIG THANK YOU TO EVERYONE THAT BOUGHT AND/OR SOLD TICKETS TO THE RAFFLE!  
WE GREATLY APPRECIATE ALL YOUR EFFORTS IN MAKING THIS A SUCCESS!

## Safety & Risk Management

Next Meeting

Tuesday, November 19th - 10:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m.

SANDERS UTILITY CONSTRUCTION  
6801 BROOKSHIRE BLVD., CHARLOTTE, N.C.

### *LUNCH AND LEARN*

National NUCA Safety Forum Recap & Updates by Wes Sells and Roger Richards

RSVP by: Friday, November 15th to [Lgoslee@nucacarolinas.org](mailto:Lgoslee@nucacarolinas.org)



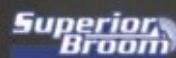
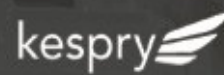
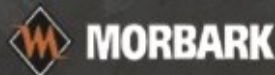


**JOHN DEERE**



**JAMES RIVER  
EQUIPMENT**

# PROUD TO PARTNER WITH THESE LINES:



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[www.JAMESRIVEREQUIPMENT.com](http://www.JAMESRIVEREQUIPMENT.com)

## Common Ground Alliance

### Best Practices Committee Report

**July 2019 Best Practices Committee & Technology Committee Joint Session:** For the first time, the Best Practices and Technology Committees held a joint session and schedule at the July meeting in San Diego, Ca.. The group met together in the morning for an opening session followed by breakout sessions. The afternoon was dedicated to structured committee meetings starting with Best Practices and ending with Technology. The joint structure allowed for greater cross-collaboration and sharing of information/resources.

**Best Practices:** The committee approved new practice wording submitted for *TR 2013-01 Identifying Newly Installed Under Construction Facilities*. Below is the approved wording:

**Transaction Record (TR) Number TR 2013-01:** Identifying newly installed or under construction facilities

**Proposed Practice Statement or Modification:** Facility owner or designee identifies with the one call center, an under ground facility that has been installed or is under construction but is not in service.

**Proposed Practice Description or Modification:** A facility owner provides the one call center with shape files or other suitable mapping data for the new or under construction facility that follows an existing or new corridor. A new facility includes facilities installed but not placed into service.

**Abandoned Lines:** We would like to make all NUCA of the Carolinas contractors aware of the continuing issues with establishing a Best Practice for Abandoned Lines.

The following is the CGA Roadbuilder Stakeholder Position on Abandoned Lines:

It is the position of the Road Builder Stakeholder Group that:

Abandoned lines be marked by the operator the same as non-abandoned lines.

Abandoned lines be treated as non-abandoned lines by the excavator.

Underground abandoned lines never be removed from maps/records unless they are physically removed, and no longer underground. Doing so compromises safety and the integrity of vital facilities. If an operator fails to mark an abandoned line, and damage occurs to a non-abandoned line within the area of excavation due to misidentification, and the excavator has fulfilled all requirements under prevailing law, the operator is responsible for the damage(s).

The potential for disaster when a non-abandoned line is mistaken for an abandoned line, particularly where gas and electric lines are concerned, outweighs matters of convenience where recording and marking such facilities are concerned.

When an operator marks a single in-service facility, the mark indicates there is one facility within the designated tolerance zone. Most state laws require the excavator to verify the location of marked facilities before commencing mechanized excavation activities within the tolerance zone. If there is an unmarked abandoned facility within the marked tolerance zone, there is a 50/50 chance the excavator will find it before finding the in-service line. Keep in mind, in-service and out-of-service facilities are difficult at best to differentiate, except by the operator. If the excavator finds the out-of-service line first, without being advised by the operator two like facilities are present, the life of the excavator, be they a homeowner or professional, is in imminent danger and public safety is compromised; particularly, where gas and electricity are concerned.

The next meeting of the Best Practice Committee will be November 20, 2019 in Nashville, TN.

As always, if anyone has any questions, concerns or interest in the Common Ground Alliance Best Practices Committee please do not hesitate to contact me.

Steve Brown

Email: [steve@sucontractors.com](mailto:steve@sucontractors.com)

Cell: 704-201-6676



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# **safety & Risk Management Message from the Chairman**

NUCA of the Carolinas had the 2019 Fall Conference at the Homestead in Virginia. This is a beautiful place once you arrive through the twisting, turning mountain roads. I, of course, just had to take the curvy road over the mountain. This Conference was packed full of information and even had a few “surprises”. We need to thank all of our speakers for the informative sessions that were held each day. We all need to give Linda a special thanks for all of her hard work to put together these fine conferences. The Friday Skeet shooting and Evening meal was great place to be. It is a great place to watch the sunset.

The “surprise” came when I walked in the room and saw my family attending the Saturday night banquet. I knew something was up. So thanks to NUCA of the Carolinas for awarding me as the 2019 Ditch Digger of the Year. It truly is an honor to receive this award. It’s also an honor to work with such great Contractor Members and great Associate Members. I look forward to continuing to work for and with this great Association, our NUCA family.

On Tuesday, November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2019, we will have our next Safety and Risk Management Committee meeting. It will be held at Sanders Utility in Charlotte, NC from 10am until 12. Lunch will follow meeting. We will discuss safety issues and the sessions from the National NUCA Safety Directors Forum. Paul Sullivan with NCDOL will give updates from the Department of Labor as well as Tami Stout will give updates from NC811. We will also be planning our Safety and Risk Management Committee meetings for 2020. Thanks to Sanders Utility for hosting us. Please make plans to attend!!

I hope that everyone has had a great 2019 and as we get ready for 2020, let’s remember to keep the safety of our employees in mind. Our employees are our most valuable asset, so let’s keep them in mind with every Bid, every Job, and every Day.

From the Trenches,

Wes Sells  
Chairman, Safety and Risk Management Committee





Let me start by thanking Linda and Justus for allowing us to speak at the Fall Conference about the state of excavation safety and 811 in North Carolina. It is always a pleasure to keep the open dialog with all stakeholders, especially during a year in which law changes take effect.

Please note that as of October 1, 2019 the law changed in regards to the size of the work area of an excavation request.

The specific language, including the definition of a parcel, is below:



"§ 87-117. Definitions

(18a) Parcel. – An extended area of land with fixed boundaries.

§ 87-122. Excavator responsibilities.

5) The location of the proposed excavation or demolition by one of the following:

- a. A single parcel that may exceed 1/4 mile in linear length identified by a single address.
- b. The lesser of five adjoining parcels identified by addresses, not to exceed 1/4 mile in linear length or an area not to exceed 1/4 mile in linear length.

The responsibility to provide accurate information in compliance with the statute rests with the excavator. NC 811 will ask the excavators if their work exceeds the requirement, however if addresses are not provided, we will not provide them to the caller. This is to protect NC 811 as well as the excavator by making certain the correct area is identified.

NC 811 will not refuse the ticket if it exceeds the boundaries established by statute, but we will educate the excavator of the requirement and note in the ticket comments that they have been informed.

If your company provides excavation information to contractors working on your behalf, we ask that the excavation requestors are made aware of the new requirements and are provided with address beginning and ending for each segment of proposed work.

Louis Panzer  
Executive Director  
Cell: 336-707-1736

## OUR mission

"To provide an efficient, affordable communication network service of the highest industry standards to contractors, utilities, and the general public for the purpose of requesting location of buried utilities prior to excavation activities in the interest of promoting job safety and damage prevention."

# WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

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## Driggers Construction

Excavation, Site Development, Water/Sewer Construction

Eric Driggers—Hamer, SC

843-841-0891—eric@driggersconstruction.com

www.driggersconstruction.com

## Tag Manufacturing

Attachments, Grapples, Steel Fabricating

423-893-3345—Mark Lunsford - Chattanooga, TN

mlunsford@tagmfg.us/www.tagmfg.us

## Inland Pipe Rehabilitation

Manhole Rehabilitation, Pipe Liners, Sewer/Water Maintenance,  
Trenchless Installation Equipment, Trenchless Rehab Equipment

713-542-0373—Bill Sharpe - Columbia, SC

Bsharpe@teamipr.com/www.teamipr.com

## Soggy Bottom Erosion, LLC

Silt Fence - Erosion Control

980-581-0656—Derek Williams, Matthew Mauldin & Jason Roberts

Richfield, N.C.

soggybottomerosion@gmail.com/www.soggybottomerosion.net



# Save The Dates

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## **NUCA OF THE CAROLINAS S&RM MEETING**

**Tuesday, November 19th—10:00 a.m.—Noon  
Lunch Provided!**

***Sanders Utility Construction***

***6801 Brookshire Blvd., Charlotte, NC 28216***

**Wes Sells & Roger Richards will share what they learned from the Safety Experts at the National NUCA Safety Forum in Nashville, TN!**

## **NUCA'S Utility Construction Career Fair**

**November 15, 2019**

**Dulles Expo Center, Chantilly, Virginia**

**Exhibiting Opportunities—call Cheryl Stratos at 703-358-9300**

## **2020 NUCA Carolinas Chapter Clay Shoot!**

**January 17, 2020**

**Drakes Landing, Fuquay Varina, NC**

**Details and Registration coming soon!**

## **2020 NUCA CONVENTION**

**February 27-29, 2020**

**Loews Ventana Canyon Resort, Tucson, AZ**

**Information/Registration - [www.nuca.com](http://www.nuca.com)**