



"The Pipeline"

PRESIDENTS REPORT

January , 2024

Happy New Year to Everyone! I hope everyone had a great holiday break and you were able to spend some quality time with family and friends and rest up. I am looking forward to an exciting and very busy 2024.

We had an excellent board meeting on January 11 in Garner at James River / John Deere. Lots of exciting things coming up; we were able to finalize our agenda for the spring conference coming up April 18-21 and lots of good feedback from the newly formed committees. Looking forward to hearing committee updates and exciting news from them at our virtual Board meeting in February. Most of all, without the support of our members these meetings wouldn't be possible, thank you Brian Dillenback for allowing us to have the meeting at your facility.

I would like to take this time to welcome our newest member to the NUCA of the Carolina's family. EC GRADING, LLC. Thank you for supporting our organization. We hope you will join us at our Spring Conference in April!

The NUCA National Convention is coming up on March 20-23 and we hope a few of the members will make the trip out to Palm Springs CA. Linda Goslee and I will be attending the convention. Please let Linda or me know if you're interested in attending.

Spring Conference is just around the corner. Make plans to join us in Isle of Palms SC on April 18-20. Registration is out and remember the room block books fast. Don't want you to miss out. If you have any questions, contact Linda Goslee.

The February S&RM meeting is set for February 13th in Pineville, N.C. and will focus on Work Zone Safety! We hope to see you there!

The annual NUCA of The Carolina's Clay shoot is coming up on May 10 at Beaver Pond. Registration will be out soon. Thank You Paul Hunter for your commitment for making this a success every year.

Some of the most exciting news I get to share is the revamping of the NUCA of the Carolina's scholarship program. The board of directors have recently approved the largest ever distribution of funds for the scholarships. We will be offering 7- \$2,500 scholarships this year. This is something we all should be proud of. Thank you to our members for your generous contributions to make this happen. If you would like to donate to this fund, please contact Linda Goslee. Further information will be announced once the application process opens. I want to Thank Brett Sondergard for all time and effort he has put into this program, without his dedication this wouldn't have been possible.

I am Looking forward to another successful and productive year ahead.

Thank You,

Mike Hewitt - Garney Construction

President- NUCA of the Carolina's

We Dig the Carolinas!

2024 Officers and Board of Directors

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2024

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WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

EC GRADING, LLC

Avery Ekren-President

Harrisburg, N.C.

708-805-0336

avery@ecgradinganddemo.com

<http://ecgradinganddemo.com>

Excavation, Site Development, Sewer/Water Construction

MEMBERSHIP CATAGORIES

CONTRACTOR MEMBER

Any person, firm, or corporation engaged in excavation, site preparation, earth moving or the construction and/or rehabilitation of utility systems including, but not limited to, storm sewers, sanitary sewers and drainage systems, water lines, cables (underground communication and electric), ducts, conduits, gas lines, tunneling, boring, trenchless construction, treatment systems, pump stations and other utility construction and appurtenances thereof.

SPECIALTY CONTRACTOR MEMBER

Any person, firm, or corporation that employs labor on the job site, but does not bid or perform any utility construction or excavation work.

ASSOCIATE MEMBER

Any person, firm, or corporation involved in the excavation or utility construction industry as a supplier of equipment, materials, or services to contractors.

INSTITUTIONAL MEMBER

Any school or governmental entity (local, state or federal) involved in the utility construction and/or excavation industry.

For more information or for a Membership Application please contact Linda Goslee

lgoslee@nucacarolinas.org or go to www.nucacarolinas.org

Spread the word and invite your friends to join NUCA!



Welcome to 2024. NC 811 finished 2023 with a 7.2 % increase in ticket volume over 2022. 2,677,733 tickets were generated. This year we are bracing for the impact of the grant fueled fiber initiatives. NC 811 is taking steps to properly educate those contractors coming into NC and encouraging white lining, pre-construction meetings, UCC attendance and generally improved communication with affected parties through the process. Part of these improvements includes reducing the extra noise in the system caused by things like excessive updates, tickets called for both sides of the road and tickets called in for areas in which the work isn't taking place yet or has been completed. We want to thank NUCA for their diligence in helping us emphasize the importance of project communication to protect their workers. In addition, we will be focusing on the success stories of projects completed on time and at or under budget with minimal damages. Following these guidelines helps improve the overall process and relationships between affected parties. UCC attendance puts a face with a name for engaged parties and takes away the "them vs. us" mentality that undermines the necessity for working together.

As I watch the snow fall down I am refreshed and ready to continue the ongoing efforts to support you and your teams. Any help NC 811 can provide, know we are here to assist.

I look forward to seeing everyone at the spring conference!

Louis Panzer

Executive Director



Follow us

on: [Facebook](#) / [Twitter](#) / [LinkedIn](#) / [Instagram](#) / [TikTok](#) / [YouTube](#) / [Wordpress](#)

Free Damage Prevention Training: NCPipesPlus.org

North Carolina Utilities Coordinating Committee:
ncucc.org

Be sure to attend your local UCC meetings

Don't miss out on discussions regarding various issues that impact your projects!

To view all meeting locations, visit <https://ncucc.org/county-uccs/>



We will pass 1.3 million notifications this year, averaging 144,000 notifications monthly. Our top 3 counties doing the work are Greenville, Richland, and Spartanburg. Electrical and fiber work is taking the lead in work types.

We are excited to offer new Sponsorship opportunities in 2024! We will be hosting a USE event as well as two Safety Summits in 2024. If you want to be a part of this amazing opportunity, contact us at PublicAwareness@sc811.com

We are looking for motivated, dependable, and team-oriented individuals looking for a fulfilling career that impacts the crucial efforts in keeping citizens of SC and our communities safe. For more information about open positions, visit our [careers](#) page.

Safeguarding South Carolina's Tomorrow, One Dig at a Time.

Misty Wise - Executive Director

South Carolina 811

(O) 803-451-7715

misty.wise@sc811.com | www.sc811.com

Free Online Education: <https://sc811.com/education-outreach/online-training/>

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Overview of NUCA National Benefits

Stay in the Know...



Safety, Training & Education

- Training Classes & Safety Instructor Certifications
- NUCA STAR
- Damage Prevention & Claims Avoidance Program (CAP)



Advocacy

- Advocacy Resources for both Local and National
- Washington Summit in DC
- Priority Issues



NUCA Publications & Communications

- Utility Contractors Magazine
- Utility Contractors Magazine - Buyer's Guide Edition
- Business Journal
- NUCA@Work

Save Money...



Business Savings Programs - Insurance+

- NUCA Advantage
- NUCA Choice
- NUCA Assurance



Business Savings Programs - Discounts

- NUCA Wins
- UPS
- T-Force (Freight Services)
- Lenovo & Office Depot
- ConsensusDocs
- CLC Lodging



Individual Member Discounts

Coming Soon!

- Travel Vacation Center, includes: Car Rentals and Hotel Stays
- GE Products
- Insurance - Auto, Home, Pet, Renters, Travel, and more!

...and Network with NUCA.



NUCA National Events

- Members are eligible for member rates at NUCA events
- See what is coming soon!



Online Member Directories

- Individual Directory
- Organization Directory of NUCA Members



NUCA Career Center

- List job openings at a discount and search for the right candidates in one place
- Apply to Job Listings within the utility industry

Membership in NUCA includes access to a wide variety of resources that you should use to improve your business' bottom line.

We are always adding more business discounts for our membership throughout the year, so check back often. Browse around and discover the services you already require to run a successful utility construction business are now available to you at an even lower cost.



3925 Chain Bridge Rd, Ste 300
Fairfax, VA 22030



703-358-9300



www.nuca.com



Lauren Hensley,
Director of Chapter and
Member Services



Lauren@nuca.com



YOUNG LEADERS CONFERENCE

MARCH 14-16, 2024

LUMINA ON WRIGHTSVILLE BEACH

HOLIDAY INN RESORT



Conference Registration is now open!

Register on line @ www.nucacarolinas.org

Or contact Linda Goslee at lgoslee@nucacarolinas.org

Hotel Rooms Deadline is February 13th

Please call the hotel at 910-256-2231 for room reservations and reference "NUCA of the Carolinas" for the room block rate of \$194.00/night plus taxes for Run of House Oceanfront rooms and \$174.00/night plus taxes for Run of House Soundview rooms. The room block deadline is February 13, 2024. Parking is \$15.00 per day.

Spring Conference



WILD DUNES RESORT
Isle Of Palms, S.C.
APRIL 18-20, 2024

Registration and Hotel Information
Contact Linda Goslee
Lgoslee@nucacarolinas.org
OR
www.nucacarolinas.org

DONATION OPPORTUNITIES

NUCA PAC

2024 is an Election Year
Let's stand together and have a Voice!!

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EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

If you would like to support our
Scholarship Fund

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NCUCA Educational Fund
NUCA of the Carolinas
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Wilmington, NC 28404

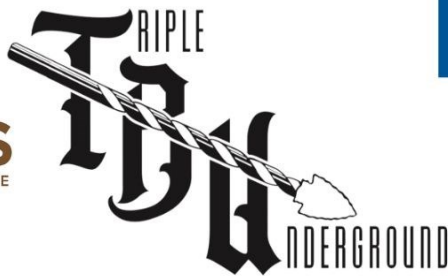


SOUTH CAROLINA SOCIAL

Wednesday, Feb 7th 5:00 - 8:00 PM

HOSTED AT: SAVAGE CRAFT ALE WORKS
430 CENTER STREET, WEST COLUMBIA, SC

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS!



**FOR MORE INFORMATION ON HOW TO GET INVOLVED AS A SPONSOR,
CONTACT AUSTIN LOGUE (AUSTIN.LOGUE@COREANDMAIN.COM)**

SAFETY AWARDS

The NUCA of the Carolinas Safety Awards are for contractor members who want to document their commitment to safety and gain statewide recognition for outstanding performance. NUCA of the Carolinas aims to honor and properly recognize those of you who work diligently to provide a safe work environment for your personnel. The Safety Award is recognition from your own peers and for that reason the NUCA of the Carolinas Safety and Risk Management Committee encourages all Contractor Members to apply for this special award.

Go [HERE](#) for the application
Application Deadline is February 12th



A word from the S&RM Committee Chairman

Happy New Year!

As we welcome 2024, it seems as though it will be another busy year for the utility industry in the Carolinas. We are blessed to be busy. Last year your Safety and Risk Management Committee focused on *Moving Trench Fatalities to Zero*. I am very proud to report that after a significant national increase in trench related deaths in 2022, the Carolinas reported ZERO trench related deaths in 2023. It is through hard work and serious focus that this goal became reality. Programs such as, *Think Inside The Box* and our S&RM Committee certainly played a role in achieving that milestone. Achievements like this require a commitment from everyone.

Thank You All !!

Despite the introduction of a new focus for 2024 the NUCA S&RM Committee will continue to highlight and pursue safety awareness for trenching and excavating. Afterall....We Dig the Carolinas!!!

During 2024, the S&RM Committee will be emphasizing Work Zone Safety. It goes without saying that many of our co-workers face issues with the people we are working to help. During 2021 it was reported that a combined 36 fatalities occurred in work zones in North and South Carolina. While several reasons can be attributed to these issues, these issues can be helped, and our co-workers can have a safer day on the job.

We will kickoff our meetings in less than a month on Feb. 13th at Pineville United Methodist Church, in Pineville NC. During this meeting we will touch on issues that are being addressed on a state level and opportunities we can take to help keep our folks safe. Going forward we are planning to drill down and look at Work Zone Setup, Worker on Foot, (safety issues inside the work zone), and then wrapping the year with a review. More specifics to follow as we move forward.

I would like to thank all of you for supporting the NUCA S&RM Committee. I would also like to thank Mike Coates / Safety Committee Co-Chair and Linda for their continued efforts for this committee. There is little doubt that with your continued support the S&RM Committee will continue to grow and be a conduit for safety to all our co-workers and their families.

Please make sure to get your 2024 Safety Award Applications into Linda ASAP!! Show off the hard, **SAFE** work your companies have accomplished in 2023. ITS NOT BRAGGING IF ITS TRUE!

I'm excited for a safe and prosperous 2024.

Stay Safe and Be Well,

Industry News and Advocacy

Industry Funding Bills Await Congress's Action By Feb. 2

Congress returned for work on January 9 to begin an arduous sprint where the GOP-controlled House and Democrat-controlled Senate must resolve significant differences over transportation and other government funding in a short period of time. Under the two step "laddered" continuing resolution agreement brokered by Speaker Mike Johnson (R-LA-04), the House and Senate have until Jan. 19 to sort out their FY2024 transportation appropriations (T-HUD) differences or else face a partial government shutdown. Remaining funding bills including FY2024 Interior-Environment (EPA SRF resources) have a Feb. 2 deadline, by which point a possible partial government shutdown would turn to a full one. Meanwhile, the beginning of the appropriations process for FY2025 will soon be upon us and NUCA will be there to defend the resources we use to improve this nation's infrastructure.

Other critical deadlines and legislation loom as well. Pipeline Safety and Hazardous Materials Administration (PHMSA) re-authorization under the PIPES Act - and its associated damage prevention language - still lags far behind its previous expiration date of Sept. 30, 2023. And the Senate must act on its version of FAA airport reauthorization (S. 1939) to meet the next authorization deadline set for March 8 (see paragraph below). The Senate bill must first pass out of committee before the full Senate can vote on it, and then face a conference committee to resolve differences. Congress will need to move swiftly to address these key issues before election 2024 begins to pull them away. It will be a busy year on Capitol Hill, and we want you to be part of NUCA's advocacy efforts.

FY2025 Appropriations Process Begins In February

Last year's House cuts to both State Revolving Funds (SRF) in the FY2024 EPA appropriations bill took many water sector organizations and supporters by surprise. This time around, NUCA and other associations plan to be much more aggressive for the FY2025 appropriations cycle. Our outreach to appropriations committee lawmakers and staff has been underway for several months. With your help [alerting your lawmakers](#) via our Muster system, NUCA shined a spotlight on how destructive these cuts can be to a community's health and economic growth, and it appears that House leadership recognized their mistake. But working with appropriations--one of the most specialized lobbying functions in Washington--will remain challenging, especially in an election year where lawmakers are reluctant to increase the federal debt or taxation.

Pipeline Reauthorization Bill Passes House T&I Committee

The long-anticipated House action on pipeline reauthorization took place in early December, when the House Transportation and Infrastructure (T&I) Committee passed on Dec. 6 by voice vote the Pipeline Efficiency and Safety (PIPES) Act (H.R. 6494).

[NUCA released a statement](#) strongly supporting the PIPES Act. "NUCA in particular endorses the bipartisan proposal to strengthen damage prevention laws, by encouraging and endorsing state implementation of best practices long advocated for by those in the excavation community," said NUCA Chief Executive Officer Doug Carlson. The damage prevention and excavation safety language in the legislation largely aligns with the recommendations made by the Infrastructure Protection Coalition's 2021 Damage Prevention study, which can be found at ipcweb.org. The legislation now moves to the full House for a vote this spring.

Association News

2024: NUCA's 60th Anniversary!

NUCA turns 60 years old in 2024, and we'll be celebrating throughout the year this important association milestone. We'll be recognizing the association's numerous contributions to the construction industry since our incorporation on April 11, 1964. Since the beginning, our association has been instrumental in promoting the interests of the underground utility and excavation contracting industry before legislators and regulators, and has worked tirelessly to secure more funding for America's aging underground infrastructure. NUCA's annual awards program recognizes the excellent achievements in the utility construction industry from its contractor members, industry partners, and national chapters. And since 1970, our NUCA Conventions have been the top venue for contractors to network with and meet our many National Partner suppliers, showcasing their latest equipment, services, and management products.

Over the past 60 years NUCA has been the strongest force in improving safety and business conditions throughout the \$152 billion American utility construction industry. We know you'll want to join us throughout this year in celebrating this shared achievement. [Read more.](#)

Safety Pros: Attend The Safety Damage Prevention Conference, Jan. 25-26, 2024

NUCA's annual Safety Damage Prevention Conference offers a unique opportunity for members involved in safety and damage prevention to hear from experts on a wide variety of topics that impact the industry, and network with others from across the country. This conference also provides an opportunity to address and strategize how members can better navigate complex damage prevention issues. If you're an industry safety professional, mark your calendars for January 25-26, 2024, held at the Hyatt Centric French Quarter hotel in exciting New Orleans, Louisiana. More information will be found at nuca.com/sdpc.

NUCA at 60: Contractors, Come To The 2024 Annual Convention & Exhibit in California!

This year is NUCA's 60th anniversary, and what better way to celebrate it than at the elegant high desert resort hosting our NUCA's 2024 Annual Convention & Exhibit. Member contractors & suppliers are invited to join us March 20-23 in Palm Springs, California for the industry's best networking events, educational sessions, industry awards, and much more. Our luxury destination at the Hyatt Regency Indian Wells Resort & Spa will entice you and your guest with its many delights. Registration is now open at NUCADigs.com.

NUCA's Newest Membership Benefit: NUCA Choice

NUCA is proud to promote our newest member benefit, NUCA Choice. NUCA Choice will offer NUCA members commercial insurance options for auto, crime, property, general liability, marine, surety, umbrella, and workers' compensation. Members can also consult with our provider's local risk control team and use the FCCI Risk Solutions Network, a cloud-based platform to help participants stay compliant, manage risks, and educate employees. FCCI Insurance Group (FCCI) and NUCA have a joint partnership for FCCI to become NUCA's preferred commercial insurance carrier. NUCA Choice is offered to NUCA members where FCCI writes business. To find out more, go to NUCA-Choice.com.

In 2024, Share The Details About Trenchless Tech Efficiency

Are you seeking to know more about horizontal direction drilling, or auger boring, or wish your city's administrators did, too? NUCA's "Trenchless Construction and New Installation Methods" manual can help your estimators, engineers, and project managers recognize that trenchless technology could deliver large cost savings to your excavation projects. The 148-page, full-color illustrated manual carefully addresses and explains the most common trenchless installation methods. This year, buy a copy for your local planning department as a professional gift to introduce their staff to these cost-efficient subsurface construction methods. The manual is available exclusively from NUCA and can be ordered online at www.nuca.com/trenchlessmanual.

**NUCA members now have a choice
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- Crime
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- Workers' Compensation
- Surety Bond Discounts

Find out what NUCA's new partnership with FCCI Insurance Group can do for your company's risk control needs.

Learn more at NUCAChoice.com



Save the Dates

January 25-26, 2024	Safety/Damage Prevention Conference New Orleans, LA
February 12, 2024	Safety Application Deadline
February 13, 2024	S&RM Meeting—Pineville, N.C.
March 5-8, 2024	Train the Trainer Class—Raleigh, N.C.
March 14-16, 2024	Young Leaders Conference Wrightsville Beach, N.C.
March 20-23, 2024	NUCA National Annual Convention Palm Springs, CA
April 18-21 2024	NUCA of the Carolinas Spring Conference Wild Dunes Resort, Isle of Palms, SC
May 10, 2024	NUCA Clay Shoot—Drake Landing, Snow Camp, NC
May 22-24, 2024	Washington Summit Hyatt Regency Washington Capital Hill
June 6, 2024	NUCA Open—Forest Oaks Country Club,



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UPCOMING COURSE

March 5-8, 2024

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Garner, North Carolina 27529

NUCA-Approved Instructors are an elite group of individuals who have helped to build and improve this program as the years passed. Just as your trained employees are retiring, so are many of our trainers, creating a need for new, well-trained instructors to teach the NUCA programs.

PRICE (NUCA MEMBERS ONLY):

Competent Person Training:

\$587/person

Confined Space Entry Training:

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Both Trainings: \$1,174/person

INSTRUCTORS:

MIKE FLOWERS | JACOB PONCE

CONTACT MIKE FLOWERS TO REGISTER:

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 Mike@nuca.com

<https://www.nuca.com/trainthetrainer>



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NUCA ANNUAL CONVENTION & EXHIBIT

MARCH 20-23, 2024

Hyatt Regency Indian Wells Resort & Spa

Who should attend this year?

The contractors, engineers, and operations managers who are responsible for your business's success.

The 2024 NUCA Convention & Exhibit offers your attendees an opportunity to collaborate with industry leaders confronting the same daily issues.

As part of the NUCA family, you cannot miss attending the 60th Anniversary celebration to understand where we came from, see where we are going, reflect on our past, and be equipped to succeed in the future.

Gain the insider tools you need to develop a successful utility construction business at the 2024 NUCA Convention & Exhibit!

Learning From The Past Will Make Us Better Equipped For The Future

- How similar-sized firms are preparing for the infrastructure boom
- Avoiding the pitfalls that others experienced
- Connect with fellow members who can help you when that job is just a bit bigger than you estimated
- Discover innovative ways to develop your workforce
- High-tech tools to manage your business using less manpower and reduced costs
- Learn the latest trends from our leading National Partner vendors

***#NUCA2024 will help you expand
your network, build your workforce,
and finish a job profitably.***

*Registration is now open! Please visit our
Convention website: NUCAdigs.com.*

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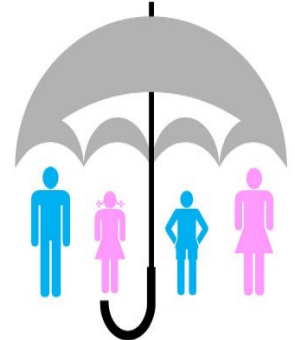
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Email/Phone Number _____

POLO GOLF SHIRT—CIRCLE COLOR AND SIZE

NAVY	M	L	XL	2XL	3XL	4XL
RED	M	L	XL	2XL	3XL	4XL
LIGHT BLUE	M	L	XL	2XL	3XL	4XL
T-SHIRT	M	L	XL	2XL	3XL	4XL
Hoodie	M	L	XL	2XL	3XL	4XL

POLO/GOLF SHIRTS—\$45.00/EACH

T-SHIRTS—\$15.00/EACH

HOODIES—\$35.00/EACH

Plus Shipping Costs

Credit Card Information

Name on Card (Please Print)

Company Name (If Applicable)

Card Number

Expiration Date

CVV Code

Billing Address for Credit Card—Address, State, and Zip Code

A 4% Processing Fee will be added to all credit card payments