

"The Pipeline" NUCA OF THE CAROLINAS

PRESIDENTS REPORT

July 2022

Heat and humidity are sure signs that Summer is Here! We have at least had some relief with slightly cooler temps and some much needed rain. Summer is typically a busy time of year for everyone, and I am personally ready for our upcoming family vacation. Speaking of busy, NUCA of the Carolinas has had a lot going on with a lot more to come through the end of the year.



I attended the Washington Summit in DC in late May with several other Carolinas Members. What a great event; I highly recommend you attending if you are interested next year. We got the opportunity to hear about everything that was going on in the Capital pertaining to our interests and we learned what NUCA could do to help educate our lawmakers on how these bills will affect our State and Country's underground utility infrastructure in the future. National NUCA did an excellent job preparing us to visit our Congressman and Senators. Our group from the Carolinas spent an entire day visiting North Carolina lawmakers discussing appropriate oversight of the upcoming Infrastructure Bill, Immigration, Lead Pipe Replacement, Workforce Development/Labor Shortages, and Government mandated Project Labor Agreements. These are issues important to all of us and the real value of NUCA. It was truly an eye-opening experience being on "The Hill" and seeing how it all goes down. I was overly impressed with the majority of the staffers we spoke with and their interest in the future of our industry.

I can't talk about our future without bringing up the Young Leaders group. We met with the co-chairs of the Young Leaders during our recent board meeting to discuss what they have planned. One event on their calendar is the social in Charlotte at the Olde Mecklenburg Brewery and Biergarten August 23rd from 5:30pm-7:30pm. They have more information about this event in the newsletter. Thanks to everyone who is supporting this event and helping our Young Leaders grow their group. Get your up-and-coming leaders out there to network with others and grow inside our industry.

The NUCA Open is this week and it's totally sold out!! What an awesome show of support from you all! It's much appreciated to see everyone so involved in our events – many thanks to you all! Tee time is at 10am with a putting competition starting around 9:30. Be on the lookout for an email from Linda with all the final details. I heard this morning the course is in incredible shape and is sure to be a fun time for all involved.

Lastly, registration for the Fall Conference in Asheville at the Grove Park Inn will be opening soon. Keep an eye out for an email and act quickly as we expect the room block to fill up fast. We will be meeting October 6th-9th and have a great agenda planned along with a little surprise for everyone we will unveil at the Presidents Dinner Saturday night. I look forward to seeing you all soon and hope the rest of your Summer is Great!

PAUL HUNTER/TA LOVING CO. —NUCA PRESIDENT

2022 Officers and Board of Directors

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Paul Hunter	TA Loving Company	President
Scott Little	State Utility Contractors	Vice President
Mike Hewitt	Garney Construction	Secretary/Treasurer
Brian Wilkerson	JF Wilkerson Contracting	Immediate Past President
John Barringer	B.R.S., Inc.	Past President

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EX OFFICIO'S

Steve Brown—State Utility Contractors

(CGA)

Kevin Cripps—Gen3 Energy Solutions

(NUCA National)

2022

President

Paul Hunter—TA Loving Company

Immediate Past President

Brian Wilkerson—JF Wilkerson Construction



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

INTRAGRADE

Matt Ellington

4617 Zebulon Road

Zebulon, N.C. 27597

919-375-4667/matt@eucinc.net

**Water/Sewer; Pipe Liners; Vacuum Excavation, Manhole Rehabilitation,
Pipe Cleaning & CCTV Inspection**

LEAK LOCATORS, INC.

Sadie Brown

9 Eight Js Lane, Clayton, N.C. 27520

919-376-9203/sadie@leaklocatorservices.com

Leak Detection Company

Sub-Utility Leak Locators

EXCEED SAFETY, LLC

Tim Neubauer

P.O. Box 3032, Henderson, N.C. 27536

919-728-7233/Tim@exceedsafetyllc.com

**Safety Consulting, Scaffolding, Inspections, Document Creation,
Incident Responses (OSHA, Fatality, etc.)**



Safety & Risk Management

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

Hello again Everyone! Summer is definitely in full swing and Fall and Football are right around the corner. Encourage everyone to keep an eye on the Tropics as the annual Tropical Season heads towards its peak and also keep Heat Related Illness on the forefront of our weekly topics and safety measures to account for. We still have three months of some hot weather to work in here in the Carolinas and we have to make sure we are taking care of our people.

As we prepare this article for submission into the Pipeline Newsletter, we have just received notice of Federal and State OSHA personnel putting a renewed emphasis on Trench and Excavation Operations and work practices. Linda shared a News Release from the Department of OSHA on some very disturbing numbers in our industry for the 2022 year. Trench and Excavation Operational Incident fatalities are currently showing a 68 % increase over all T&E fatalities in 2021. Within one week of the National Trench Safety Stand Down observance, 5 people were killed in Trench and Excavation Operations. One of those here in NC in Stanley County on July 5th.

It is imperative on each and everyone of us who are performing this type of work to do everything we possibly can do to keep our employees and our subs and trade partners safe. Education and Accountability are of the utmost importance at this time. Everyone please take time to talk to your crews, your subs, and our general construction industry personnel on the dangers of not working Safely in Trench and Excavations. Slope it! Shield it! Or Shore it! And "Think Inside The Box!" NUCA of the Carolinas Safety and Risk Committee ask all of you to make this emphasis count and effective. We have to stop this trend as an industry.

Our Safety and Risk Committee Meeting will be upcoming on Tuesday, August 23rd in Charlotte. Special shout out to Jason Walker (Safety and Risk Committee Vice Chair) for planning an outstanding program to share with our group. I know this Trench and Excavation Emphasis will also be on the forefront of our discussions. Hope to see as many of you at the meeting as possible. Please try and attend as the information we share together makes all of us and our industry safer and stronger. We are also coordinating this meeting time with the NUCA Young Leaders outing later that evening, so it also gives us an opportunity to welcome as many of our young leaders in our industry to attend our Safety and Risk Committee Meeting.

Everyone please remember that our Safety and Risk Committee is an opportunity to network and help keep our industry strong and viable through Productive Safe Work! We are here for you!

Stay healthy! Stay focused! Stay SAFE! And enjoy summer in the Carolinas with your families!!!

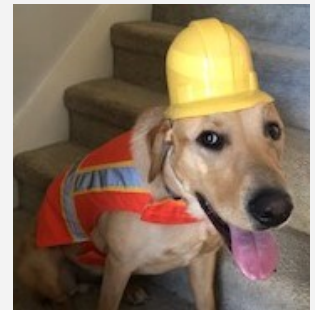
Greg Maready – NUCA Safety Committee Chair

Greg Maready

TA LOVING

T. A. LOVING COMPANY

400 PATETOWN ROAD | GOLDSBORO, NORTH CAROLINA 27530



TOOLBOX

Talks



NUCA
We Dig America

www.nuca.com

Trench Safety Stand Down's

Foremost Pipeline



Thanks to everyone that participated in the Stand Down this year and keeping your employees safe!

Contact NUCA National to receive hard hat stickers and certificates of participation [HERE](#)



ANSCO & Associates trained 1249 employees throughout multiple locations during the TSSD.

Sunstate Equipment hosted their Raleigh location and provided breakfast



TA LOVING COMPANY



Welcome to July (and almost August)... where is the year going? Hopefully somewhere where this heat goes away. Please stay hydrated folks and watch others to make sure they do the same.

Our volume for the year is up over 2021 roughly 6%. We are still seeing steady activity around the state. We are also watching update tickets as they are creeping over 30% of our volume. It is an ongoing challenge to make sure people only update work that is continuing. And if it is paused for any reason, we don't need continual updates.

I know I'm preaching to the choir but this definitely impacts how the process flows. And even though we are taking 75% of our tickets electronically, we still struggle with keeping up objectives as the volume increases. We are modifying the recording to allow people to request a call back sooner in the call. This provides us better control over the flow and we work to return those calls within an hour or two at the most.

I'm sorry to miss folks at the golf tournament but I do look forward to the fall conference. In the meantime, CGA is coming to town so if you're in the area, interested in seeing how the committees function, come on down July 25-27 to Grandover.

And swing by the center between 4-6 on the 25th for some world famous Stamey's barbecue.

Thank you for all you do and stay safe and cool as we all try to get through the summer. My door is always open.

Stay safe!

Louis Panzer - Executive Director
North Carolina 811
Cell: 336-707-1736
Fax: 336-299-1914
Website: www.nc811.org
Download the NC811 app: [iPhone](#) / [Android](#)



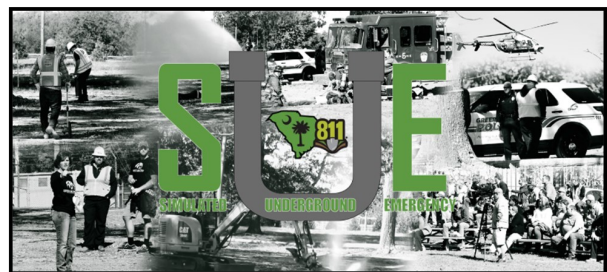
South Carolina 811 wants everyone to Dig Safe. State law requires underground utilities must be marked to avoid injuries, outages, and property damages. During the summer, our homeowner and excavator notifications increase significantly. We have received over 600K notifications this year, with approximately 10,000 more notices per month compared the same time during 2021.

Greenville, Spartanburg, and Richland counties have the most notices, with fiber, cable tv, sewer work, electric, and telephone being the top five work types. You are encouraged to take advantage of our online option for submitting locate tickets, checking positive responses, and closing tickets after your excavation project. You can visit our website <https://sc811.com>. For general questions about your notification, you can submit them to SC811 Assist by clicking the Chat Now icon on our homepage.

Our flagship event is back! SUE (Simulated Underground Emergency) will be held at the South Carolina Fire Academy on September 21. Click the link <https://sc811.com/education-outreach/simulated-underground-emergency/> to register for the morning or afternoon session. Space is limited and will be open to those who register before filling the slots.

We hope everyone has a fun and safe summer.

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/>
Follow us: Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, YouTube & TikTok



2022

Safety Directors Forum 811 One Call Meeting Damage Prevention Meeting

November 17–18
The Westin Downtown Denver
Denver, Colorado



*Sponsored by NUCA's 2022
National Partners*

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

NUCA Members: \$295

Non-Members: \$395

HOTEL INFORMATION

The Westin Downtown Denver
1672 Lawrence Street
Denver, Colorado 80202

*Registration includes participation in the
Safety Directors Forum, and the 811 One Call /
Damage Prevention meeting.*



ONE CONFERENCE FOR ALL

NUCA's 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 sought by industry professionals.

Speakers for this year's event include:

- Dr. Katie Welfare — Construction Safety Research Alliance (CSRA)
- John Olaechea — Compliance Assistance Specialist (OSHA)
- Sharon Lipinski — CEO, Habit Mastery Consulting
- Perry Silvey — Safety Manager with BT Construction, Inc.
- Trenching and Excavation Safety Taskforce (TEST) Representative

The 811 One Call/Damage Prevention Meeting will again focus on damage prevention best practices.

For the most up-to-date list of industry speakers, session topics, discussion forums, and event registration, please visit:

www.NUCA.com/sdf



Federal OSHA Announced the Launch of a National Emphasis Program (NEP) On Heat Illness and Injury.



When it is extremely hot and humid weather, your body's ability to cool itself is diminished. If your body heats too rapidly it will use body fluids to cool itself. When this happens, too much fluid or salt is lost through sweating. The body temperature rises, and you may experience a heat-related illness. It is important that you know the symptoms of excessive heat exposure and the appropriate responses. To help you know these signs, OSHA's revised Heat Illness Prevention webpage consolidates resources to keep workers safe indoors and outdoors.

Please visit their website listed here for more information:

<https://www.osha.gov/heat>

New Oregon OSHA rules protecting workers from high heat went into effect On June 15th. A link to that article can be found here: <https://osha.oregon.gov/pages/topics/heat-stress.aspx>

Nevada OSHA is adopting the NEP in a modified form to reflect local factors. It will be effective on June 15, 2022. A link to that information can be found here: <https://dir.nv.gov>

The National Emphasis Program affects all industries including construction. The NEP can be read in its entirety at the link provided here:

https://www.osha.gov/sites/default/files/enforcement/directives/CPL_03-00-024.pdf

Tim Neubauer, MS, CSP

President, Exceed Safety

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(919) 728-SAFE (7233)

www.exceedsafetyllc.com

info@exceedsafetyllc.com

NUCA OF THE CAROLINAS YOUNG LEADERS SOCIAL

WHEN

**Tuesday, August 23rd
5:30PM – 7:30PM**

WHERE

**Olde Mecklenburg
Brewery & Biergarten**
4150 Yancey Road, Charlotte, NC 28217



**AGES 21+ &
UNDER 40
ARE
ENCOURAGED
TO ATTEND**

**MEMBERS &
GUESTS ARE
WELCOME**

SPONSORS

**Garney
Construction
&
Xylem, Inc.
&
Sanders
Utility
Construction
Co., Inc.**

S&RM MEETING

PIEDMONT NATURAL GAS

4320 Yancey Road

Charlotte, N.C. 28217

Tuesday, August 23rd

3:00—5:00 p.m.

TOPICS OF DISCUSSION

Updates from—OSHA, NC811, AGC, &
Young Leaders

EXCAVATION SAFETY

ROUND TABLE—WORKER BURNOUT

PLEASE RSVP BY FRIDAY, AUGUST 19TH

Lgoslee@nucacarolinas.org



Virtual Safety Training

United Rentals offers virtual, instructor-led training for Excavation Safety, Confined Space Safety, OSHA10 and more. These distance learning classes are regularly available in English and Spanish on our open enrollment schedule, or as a private session just for your group. This is safety powered by productivity.

Visit the calendar of events to see upcoming sessions: www.nuca.com/calendar_list.asp

CREW LEADER TRAINING

Please contact

**Linda Goslee if interested
in a Crew Leader Training
Class**

Lgoslee@nucacarolinas.org

NEW MEMBER DISCOUNT

Mid-Year Discount on
Membership Dues For
New Members!

Contact Linda Goslee

Lgoslee@nucacarolinas.org

Invite Someone to Join!



Industry News & Advocacy

Your Completed Trench Safety Stand Down Reports Are Needed

The sixth annual Trench Safety Stand Down (TSSD) held last month delivered to thousands of our industry's employees what NUCA sought: an increased attention to safety around jobsite excavations. So far, NUCA has TSSD 2022 reports from 292 companies, instructing 18,488 employees at 1,480 jobsites. We know more NUCA members took the time out of their busy workdays and conducted their stand down to keep their employees safe. Please send NUCA your completed TSSD reports by the end of July (and your event photos, too)! Helmet stickers will be going out soon--but only if we have your reports! Report submission information can be found at nuca.com/tssd. #TSSD2022

Half-Price NUCA National Dues Until September

Do you know an industry colleague that hasn't joined NUCA yet? Now is the perfect time for them to join! New members can join NUCA at mid-year rates until Aug. 31--half the regular membership cost. Benefits of joining NUCA include access to NUCA education, certification and training, our national advocacy program, listing in our exclusive member directory, cost-saving business benefit programs such as healthcare and 401k retirement options, local industry networking events, and much more! Contact NUCA's Lauren Hensley at lauren@nuca.com or 703-358-9300 to learn more about us, or to refer a colleague for NUCA membership go to nuca.com/membership.

NUCA's Dig This! Podcast: Safety Programs To Improve Your Own Program

Our latest Dig This! podcast is posted and live for your listening enjoyment. This month's podcast segments cover NUCA's safety programs and the safety of your employees:

Bob Samanas, of Fehlinger Construction, PA discusses the company's award-winning safety program
Mike Flowers, NUCA safety director for the new NUCA STAR program and what it can do for your utility construction company

You can find our podcasts at nuca.com/podcast or on all major podcast services. Follow us for more episodes in the coming months.

Safety Directors Forum: Nov. 17-18 in Denver

NUCA will be holding its combined Safety Directors Forum (SDF), 811 One Call Meeting, and Damage Prevention Forum in Denver, Colorado this fall. The two-day event on Nov. 17-18 will be held at the Westin Downtown Denver hotel and like last year's event, combine all three NUCA conferences for ease of participation. SDF offers company safety managers to network with other utility construction safety managers from across the country. And like last year's popular event, safety experts will present open-forum discussions on the most important and relevant safety information members need. The 811 One Call and Damage Prevention Forum will focus on damage prevention in the utility construction industry. NUCA hopes to see your safety professionals in Denver! A link for registration can be found at nuca.com/sdf or [here](#).

Association News

Support The NUCA Foundation--And Get A Great Return on Your Unused Equipment

BigIron Auctions has partnered with the NUCA Foundation to host a Focus Auction Fundraiser on Sept. 21, 2022. Get a great return on the sale of your unused equipment through NUCA National Partner BigIron Auctions. BigIron will create your listing, market your equipment (listed and sold from your location), and collect buyer payments. A percentage of the proceeds will be donated to the NUCA Foundation for Education & Research. The deadline to list equipment is August 12, 2022. Contact BigIron at 1-800-937-3558 or bigiron.com/selling.

NUCA-STAR Company Safety Program Introduced

Safety is the utility construction industry's first priority. It is also the top priority of the National Utility Contractors Association (NUCA). To help our members reach that goal, NUCA is introducing this month the NUCA Safety, Training, Awareness and Recognition (NUCA STAR) Program. The NUCA STAR Program was developed by the association's Safety Committee to help evaluate, update, and recognize a member company's safety program and practices. NUCA members who volunteer to participate should see lower incident rates and accidents on their jobsites and in their company facilities. We'll be releasing more details about this new program in the weeks ahead. More at nuca.com/nucastar.

NUCA's Train-the-Trainer: A New Look, A New Course, Aug. 23-26

NUCA's Safety, Education & Training Dept. is pleased to announce that the venerable NUCA Train-the-Trainer (TTT) course has a fresh new look and a new focus. The updated Train-the-Trainer course emphasizes building instructors and teaching them the concepts of being an effective instructor while focusing on teaching the core NUCA Competent Person and NUCA Confined Space Courses. The 2022 TTT course will be offered in Coppell, Texas, on Aug. 23-26. If you would like to attend this course, be a NUCA Certified Instructor, or refresh your skills and training, please contact NUCA's training director Mike Flowers at mike@nuca.com.

NUCA Careers Website Open For Your Business: Post-Interview-Hire!

NUCA Careers is a premier online career resource connecting employees to the utility construction and excavation industry's talented professionals. Take advantage of your NUCA membership by posting your open jobs with NUCA Careers and tap into a concentrated talent pool of industry professionals at a fraction of the cost of online or local ads. Search the database, complete your employer profile, and let the resumes come to you. Visit online our website careers.nuca.com to learn more about this NUCA service.

New Trenchless Technology Manual Now Available

Trenchless technology continues to expand at a very rapid rate, as more contractors recognize the efficiency and cost-savings that can be recognized in its usage. To help more of its members understand trenchless tech, the National Utility Contractors Association (NUCA) released this spring its updated "Trenchless Construction and New Installation Methods" manual. The 148-page, full-color illustrated manual carefully addresses and explains the most common trenchless installation methods. This manual was written by construction industry experts, describing both the contractors' and manufacturers' perspective with the goal to educate and guide others in choosing the best subsurface method to completing a project. The new manual is available exclusively from NUCA, and can be ordered online for US\$99.95 plus shipping. More here: nuca.com/trenchlessmanual

Test Drive NUCA-WINS & Leave Damage Incident Headaches Behind

Interested NUCA members may receive time-limited user credentials to try out the NUCA WINS 2.1 app and learn firsthand how NUCA WINS helps subscribers reduce costs, eliminate paperwork, and defend against fraud and unwarranted utility strike and damage claims. Once you use NUCA WINS, you'll wonder how you managed your jobsites without it. And our partner Compatica announced this week that NUCA WINS subscription fees will remain unchanged until June 2023, so sign up today! To download the NUCA WINS Test Drive simply go to www.NUCAWINS.com and request your access. For more information, please contact Lauren Hensley at 703-358-9300 or visit nucawins.com.

What If You Could Spend Less For Your 401k Employee Benefits?

A plan checkup is the most important tool for uncovering cost savings in your employee retirement plan. Because you're a NUCA member, you can now discover whether your existing 401(k) program still works for your benefits package. And a checkup can reveal when it's time to explore a change to a more cost-effective option. If you want to learn more about the NUCA Advantage 401k option today and how easy it is for your company to implement, contact NUCA Advantage program director Christopher Price at 954-625-1531 or by email. [NUCAAdvantage](https://NUCAAdvantage.com) is also online at nucaadvantage.com.

Save The Dates

FALL CONFERENCE



GROVE PARK INN

OCTOBER 6-8, 2022

REGISTRATION & Room Block now open!

Check your in-box or go to nucacarolinas.org

S&RM MEETING

PIEDMONT NATURAL GAS

4320 Yancey Road, Charlotte, N.C. 28217

Charlotte, N.C. 28217

Tuesday, August 23rd

3:00-5:00 p.m.

TOPICS OF DISCUSSION

Updates from—OSHA, NC811, AGC, & Young Leaders

EXCAVATION SAFETY

WORKER BURNOUT

PLEASE RSVP BY FRIDAY, AUGUST 19TH

Lgoslee@nucacarolinas.org

NUCA Advantage Is Now More Than Just Great Healthcare Options

Our Expanded NUCA Member Benefits Program Includes A Full Spectrum Of Solutions



NUCA Advantage Now Includes:

BENEFITS GUIDANCE

Healthcare | Dental | Vision | Life & Disability Plan Comparisons | Plan Administration

PAYROLL AND HUMAN RESOURCES SUPPORT

Managed Payroll | Paylocity, ADP, and Paycor Solutions | HR Outsourcing

PROPERTY & CASUALTY OPTIONS

Industry-Specific P&C Coverage | Top Rated Insurance Carriers & Dividends

WELLNESS PROGRAMS

Tailor-made Wellness Programs | Biometric Screenings | Health Risk Assessments

BENEFITS COMPLIANCE SOLUTIONS

Online resources to help your company meet your compliance obligations

Taking care of your employees just got easier and more cost-effective with the new and expanded NUCA Advantage benefits program, administered by Memberfy.

From HR compliance to employee communications, and into healthcare plans that provide great coverage for your employees, NUCA Advantage is a full spectrum of employee benefit solutions that give you the flexibility to work with your local insurance agencies and brokerage firms.

To find out more or to set up your NUCA member account, visit NUCAAdvantage.com.

Please contact NUCA's membership department for more information about your many new NUCA Advantage benefits.

Phone: 703.358.9300 | Email: nuca@nuca.com

New No-Cost NUCA Advantage Benefits

NUCA Advantage now includes the resources to help you manage compliance, administration, training, and employee benefits—and *they're free!*

- 150+ Industry Training Courses
- OSHA Logs: Tracking & Reporting
- HR Consultation Hotline
- HR Reporting & Compliance Apps
- Paperless Benefits Administration App
- HR Content Library
- Required Employee Notices

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