

"The Pipeline" NUCA OF THE CAROLINAS

PRESIDENTS REPORT

March 2022

Hello All! Spring is upon us and I for one am looking forward to longer days and warmer temps. We've had a lot going on within NUCA of the Carolinas with more great things to come throughout the year.

The NUCA 2022 Annual Meeting and Convention was held in San Antonio, TX on March 2nd – 5th. It was an awesome meeting with lots of interesting topics, fun events, and as always, the fellowship was the best part. We had a strong presence from NUCA of the Carolinas members at the meeting. Congratulations to Mike Hewitt and Kevin Cripps on both being elected to the National Board of Directors! I am especially pleased to announce that the Top Jobs Award for Water Distribution went to T.A. Loving Company for the Neuse River Raw Water Intake Project we completed last year. If you've never attended this meeting, please consider it in the future. It's a well-planned all-around great event.



Our first NUCA Young Leaders meeting was held on March 9th at Bowstring Pizza and Brew Yard in Raleigh. Participation was great and everyone had a fun night of networking with others in our industry. Austin Merritt with United Rentals Trench Safety and Chase Boyer with Indaco Risk Advisors spear headed this new group to our chapter and did an excellent job planning the first event! If you don't have anyone within your organization participating, I highly recommend you do so. This is definitely something that will grow and become a key component to the success of our organization as well as your company.

Crew Leader training classes continue to be a huge success. NUCA of the Carolinas has held two separate classes this year alone. BRS, Inc. and Moffat Pipe each hosted separate events in February. These classes were well attended with approximately 35 up and coming leaders trained. Special thanks to both companies for hosting these events. More classes will be scheduled soon. Please reach out to Linda or me if you have an interest in sending your future leaders.

Spring Conference is right around the corner and I am excited to let you know that this event at Isle of Palms at Wild Dunes Resort on April 21-24th is COMPLETELY sold out!!! I am blown away at the participation for this event and look forward to seeing you all there. We have an amazing line up of speakers and fun events planned. I hope you are all signed up for Friday's nights Hawaiian Cookout at the Grand Pavilion by the beach. Don't forget to wear your Hawaiian Shirt and let's all hope for a warm evening! Can't wait to see all of you in a few weeks!

Please make your plans now to attend the Fall Conference at the Grove Park Inn October 6th-9th. Check out the NUCA of the Carolinas website or contact Linda Goslee if you have any questions.

This is shaping up to be a busy, successful year in NUCA of the Carolinas. I am grateful to be a part of it and look forward to the rest of the year with you! See you all soon!

Paul Hunter—TA Loving Company
NUCA of the Carolinas 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

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Justus Everett	ABE Utilities	Tim Hogan	Pipeline Utility Contractors
Keith Burke	Garney Construction	Glenn Foley	Gregory Poole Equipment
Brett Sondergard	United Rentals Trench Safety	Jimmy Helms	Core and Main
Tim Haechten	Foremost Pipeline	Roger Richards	Sanders Utility Construction
Joe Williams	Concrete Pipe & Precast	Bobbie Raynor	Park Construction of NC
Jarrold Williamson	Holland Pump	Michael Sturgill	Xylem, Inc.
Freddie Young	Sanders Utility Construction	Dennis Holloway	AnSCO & Associates
Chris Sellman	Smith Kesler & Assoc.		

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



NUCA Annual Convention—San Antonio, Texas

CONGRATULATIONS TO FOREMOST PIPELINE

Cliff Dugas/Foremost Pipeline accepts the
William H. Feathers Safety Award



NUCA NATIONALS ASSOCIATE OF THE YEAR!

MICHAEL STURGILL
XYLEM, INC.

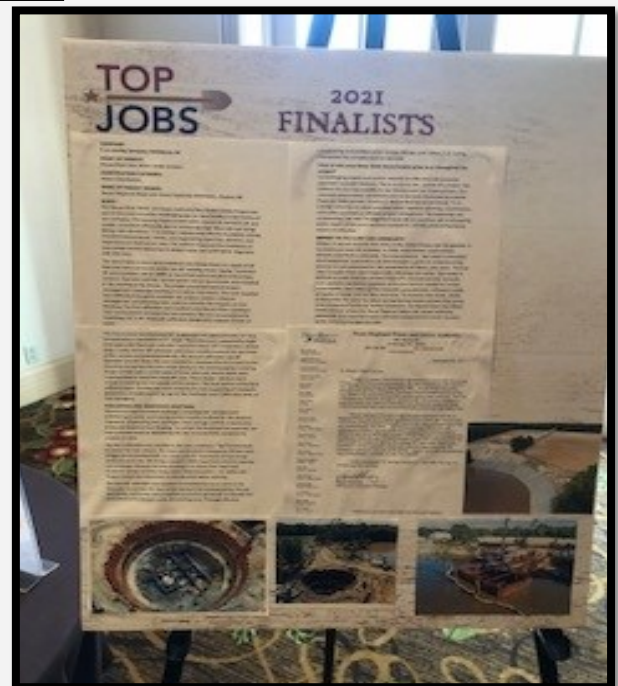


TA LOVING COMPANY WINS NUCA "TOP JOBS" AWARD CATEGORY OF "WATER DISTRIBUTION" PROJECT NAME

Neuse River Raw Water Intake Screens



Paul Hunter/TA Loving Co.
NUCA of the Carolinas President



**NUCA ANNUAL CONVENTION WAS HELD IN
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS
MARCH 2-5, 2022**



**KEVIN CRIPPS AND MIKE HEWITT
REPRESENT NUCA OF THE CAROLINAS ON
THE NUCA NATIONAL BOARD**



**L-R Kevin Cripps, Steve Brown, Linda Goslee,
Mike Hewitt and Paul Hunter**



DAVE DONAHUE—XYLEM, INC.



**Chastity & Neville Missen
Vermeer**

Member News

Congratulations to:

*Roger Richards
Sanders Utility Construction*

Roger has been invited by Commissioner of Labor, Josh Dobson, to serve on the State Advisory Council on Occupational Safety and Health.

Roger will serve as one of three representatives of management. His term will run until December 31, 2024.

Roger has many years of experience with workplace safety in the Construction Industry and Commissioner Dobson is excited to work with him on their common mission of promoting safety in the construction industry.

NUCA National Board Members

Kevin Cripps—Gen3 Energy Services and
Mike Hewitt—Garney Construction



NUCA of the Carolinas Young Leaders Group



For Information on NUCA of the Carolinas Young Leaders contact

Austin Merritt—Amerritt1@ur.com

Chase Boyer—ceb@indacoriskadvisors.com

2022

NUCA CONVENTION FOLLOW-UP



Customized Benefit Solutions

The Memberfy team is in high gear after attending the *NUCA Annual Convention* in San Antonio last week. Truly, it was a magnificent event!

We were thrilled to find many of the members had an interest in learning more about the new insurance solutions exclusive to NUCA members that complement the robust package of value-added benefits we currently provide.

We are busy this week following up with everyone on the benefits package offerings!

[Visit our Website](#)

NUCA Employee Benefits



A glance at the NEW insurance solutions offered by Memberfy as NUCA Employee Benefits:

- ✓ Medical health group coverage
- ✓ 401K Retirement Program
- ✓ Dental & Vision Coverage
- ✓ Worksite Programs
- ✓ AND MORE!

FREE to NUCA Members



Your NUCA Advantage client portal is free to you as a NUCA member and includes:

- ✓ HR portal / HR hotline
- ✓ Compliance resources
- ✓ Learning Management System
- ✓ Employee Handbook Builder
- ✓ OSHA tools
- ✓ AND MORE!

It's not too late - Get Your Benefits Package!

Don't feel left out if you were not able to attend the convention. We want to chat with you too! Contact us or your chapter's Executive Director to get started!

info@memberfy.com
844-636-2739

Memberfy Benefits
844-636-2739
info@memberfy.com
www.memberfy.com

Connect with us





Safety & Risk Management

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

Hello again Everyone! Spring is here! Warm days with the daylight getting longer each day and the "Pollen" can definitely let you know Springtime in the Carolinas is here!

Many of our crews are hard at work. Making production and taking advantage of the winter months being behind us and some nice spring days ahead. As we reflect on February, we had an incredible Safety / Risk Management Committee Meeting on February 15th at Clayton Caterpillar. The Staff at the site did an incredible job hosting our event. Labor Commissioner Josh Dobson and several members of his staff were in attendance and Josh gave a great message on the NCDOL and the help that they can give to us through various means within their department. We appreciate Josh and his staff coming to spend that time with us and share in the message that all of us get out every day... Stay Safe at Work and at Home!! In addition to Commissioner Dobson's remarks, we also had a presentation by Justin Ganschow from Caterpillar Safety Services. Justin, along with coworker Kelly Scott, flew in from Illinois to come spend their day with us and did a tremendous job with a presentation focusing on Safety Leadership. With over 50 industry members in attendance, our time together was informative and our fellowship together was timely. Thank you again to Mike Bastin and Olivia Lampe with Clayton Caterpillar and Glenn Foley with Gregory Poole for putting on this event for us.

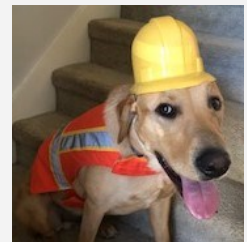
March and April are great months to be in construction. Many of our members typically see an increase in various safety related incidents this time of year. Our workers have been battling the winter conditions now for a few months and they are ready to cut loose and get some work done. Keep reminding our crews and employees that we must be proactive in our conversations before work and during work each day to recognize our job site hazards and make sure we are doing all we can to talk about, recognize, and mitigate hazards that could injure our employees. Stay on top of your work. And talk to one another about the hazards we face. Remember... Today's reward for being Safe is.... Tomorrow!

Spring Conference is right around the corner and will be held at the Isle of Palms on April 21st, 22nd, and 23rd. We have some outstanding speakers presenting this year and our four Safety Award Presentations are going to be very exciting. We have four outstanding companies who will be competing head to head with presentations on their respective programs. Two will be sharing in the smaller contractor category and two in the larger contractor category. Should be an exciting time for everyone and the conference is completely Sold Out!!! That is awesome!

Everyone know 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!

Greg Maready – NUCA Safety Committee Chair



TOOLBOX

Talks



NUCA
We Dig America

www.nuca.com

Welcome to spring (almost)! At NC 811 we are seeing increasing volume with statewide numbers up 6% in January and 10% in February. Of course this is all building to what we anticipate will be an extremely busy season. I'm happy to report that the Board of Directors unanimously approved a 1\$ increase for all the CSRs. This brings our minimum starting pay to \$15. It has been an increasingly difficult exercise to hire and retain good people. Also, hard to look at the inflation around us and not feel folks needed a boost. We are still actively hiring. Our electronic pass through ticket volume is running at 73%: an all time high and very important to our ability to manage the requests coming in from live callers. We typically will see homeowner volume and first time callers significantly increase during the months of March and April. This requires more time on the phones and potentially longer waits. We appreciate the patience of our excavators and especially those who are creating their tickets online! I am looking forward to coming to SC next month. I intend to share an update on the CGA to the group in addition to the state activities. Much is happening in terms of studies, surveys and reports from a variety of sources. The most important thing to remember is that we want everyone to be safe, knowledgeable and an active participant in the damage prevention process!

Louis Panzer - Executive Director

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](#)
 Follow us on: [Facebook](#) / [Twitter](#) / [LinkedIn](#) / [Instagram](#) / [YouTube](#) / [Wordpress](#)
 Free Damage Prevention Training: [Pipes Plus](#)



JUNE IS TRENCH SAFETY MONTH!

Safety Training and Protective Systems Save Lives



Trench Safety Stand Down Week | June 20–24, 2022

Make plans for your company to participate in this year's NUCA Trench Safety Stand Down Week. Being a part of our popular 6th annual TSSD Week will help educate your employees on trenching hazards at the jobsite.

OSHA's National Emphasis Program on Trenching and Excavation is a high agency priority. NUCA and OSHA have teamed up again this year for our annual trench safety program. More than 22,000 employees on 2,200 jobsites from 340 companies participated in the 2021 TSSD.

Every company or organization that holds a TSSD will receive a certificate of participation, as well as hard-hat stickers for every employee who participated. Recognition will also be given in NUCA publications. Please plan for your company to be a part of this vital industry safety event this year.



Also sponsored by NUCA's Safety Ambassadors Club

- | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Alex E. Paris Contracting | John Deere |
| Atlas Excavating | Johnson Bros. |
| Barber Utilities | Komatsu America Corp. |
| Case Construction Equipment | L.G. Roloff Construction |
| Caterpillar, Inc. | McLaughlin Boring Systems |
| Cemen Tech, Inc. | National Trench Safety |
| Core & Main | Oxford Plastics USA |
| CNA | Petticoat-Schmitt Civil Contractors |
| Ditch Witch | Safety Management Services |
| Efficiency Production | Sunstate Equipment Co. |
| Ferguson Waterworks | Team Fishel |
| Greg Strudwick & Associates | United Rentals |
| HCSS | Xylom |
| HRP Construction | Wacker Neuson Corp. |
| Hymax by Krausz | |

For more details and TSSD materials: nuca.com/tssd #TSSD22 #TrenchSafetyMonth

Welcome New Members!

Carolina Utilities Co., LLC

121 Garnet Lane, Jacksonville, N.C.

Eric Ward—ericw@carolinautilitiesnc.com

919-538-2741

Water & Sewer Construction

THALLE CONSTRUCTION CO.

900 NC Hwy. 86N, Hillsborough, NC

James Allen—jallen@thalle.com

919-245-1490

Excavation, Site Development, Roadway/Highway/ Bridge/Water & Sewer Treatment Plant Construction

Paragon Safety Group

829 Purser Drive, Raleigh, NC

Anthony Dohmann—Director of Safety

919-329-0006 -

adohomann@paragonsafetygroup.com

SAFETY CONSULTING

Infrastructure Solutions Group

505 E Plaza Drive, Mooresville, N.C.

Sean Lemcke (704) 663-8265

Sean@weareisg.com

Equipment Leasing/Rental/Sales
Training Services

Star Pipe Products

Peter Lisowski

Blufton, SC—713-416-4658

PeteL@starpipelineproducts.com

Ductile Iron Pipe

Thompson Pipe Group

Scott Stubbs

Greenville, S.C. - 678-463-6474

Scott.stubbs@thompsonpipegroup.com

Concrete and fiberglass pipe



**It's An Election Year.
Washington Beckons
To Our Industry.**

May 23–25, 2022

We're not sitting on our laurels, after our industry's historic success with last year's \$1.2 trillion infrastructure bill.

This year's Washington Summit opens up the next chapter of this bill: **Implementation.**

We've got four important Summit goals ahead:

- **Implementing the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act:** Five Years Of Funding
- **Workforce / Labor:** Finding Our New Employees / H-2B Visa Reforms / Project Labor Agreements
- **Private Activity Bonds (PAB):** Unlocking Private Finance for Infrastructure
- **Lead-Pipe Replacement:** Delivering The Resources To Finish The Job

WeDigAmerica.org | #NUCASummit

Come to Washington, D.C. this spring and meet in-person with your lawmakers for our annual Washington Summit. Last year's success proved your advocacy works. Let's keep the momentum on Congress, especially during this crucial election year.

Registration and hotel information:
WeDigAmerica.org



Digging America's Future

NUCA NEWS

Industry News

Project Labor Agreement EO Will Increase Infrastructure Expenses

On Feb. 3 the Biden Administration released an executive order (EO) requiring the use of project labor agreements (PLAs) on most federal construction projects. NUCA considers mandating PLAs will only exacerbate existing workforce capacity challenges by our industry. This ill-advised EO by the Administration will only exacerbate the industry's existing workforce shortages and disregard experienced local contractors from upcoming infrastructure projects. NUCA is working with several construction coalitions to oppose this order and will have more news about our efforts in the weeks ahead. [Read more here.](#)

FY2022 Infrastructure Funding Facing Delay

The House passed on a 272-162 Feb. 8 vote another continuing resolution to keep the government funded through March 11, with the Senate expecting to act before the current short-term resolution expires on Feb. 18. This impasse affects our industry, as billions of dollars in the new core infrastructure law scheduled to be released for FY2022 will remain in limbo. NUCA is working with senior House committee leadership to alert them that last year's big infrastructure win--and district projects--will be affected by this dispute if not resolved soon. NUCA signed onto a Feb. 15 letter sent by Reps. Seth Moulton (D-MA) and John Katko (R-NY) to House and Senate leadership calling for the release of billions of dollars for infrastructure. [Read more here.](#)

2022 H-2B Visas Increases Are Welcome, But More Are Needed

A recent change to the Federal government's temporary visa rules increasing the amount of available H-2B visas to be issued in 2022 is welcome news for America's utility construction companies, but it still falls short of what is needed. 13,500 of the new visas are being made available to returning past visa holders over the last three years. The additional 6,500 visas were reserved for citizens from Haiti, Honduras, El Salvador, and Guatemala. The construction industry is still short about 430,000 employees to fill open jobs. NUCA has urged Congress to expand the existing H-2B visa program, citing the competition for the existing 66,000 visa slots is nowhere near enough to meet the labor demands of the U.S. construction industry and those of other businesses using this program. [Read more here.](#)

Take Advantage of NUCA's Virtual Safety Training Programs

NUCA's motto is 'There Is NO competition In Safety' and we are pleased to offer another safety and education training avenue to our members. Through National Partner United Rentals, NUCA is now offering our members virtual training classes for "Confined Spaces in Construction Training" and "Excavation Safety for Competent Person." These live virtual trainings can give members the opportunity to pick from multiple dates while giving them the flexibility of remote training. January to March classes and registration can be found on the NUCA website under "[Event Calendar.](#)" Please log into your NUCA membership profile to register for the seminars.

Association News

Your Investment in NUCA Delivers Many Benefits: Webinar-on-Demand

Are you a new member of NUCA? Or as a long-time member you're seeking a refresher on all the many benefits your annual NUCA membership investment delivers to you and your employees? Our membership department recently held a quick webinar on the growing number of benefits NUCA offers to each member, including some you may not know about. We invite you to watch our quick NUCA membership overview to make sure you're getting the most for your business. [Click here](#) to watch our YouTube video.

The Next-Generation NUCA Advantage 401(k) Employee Retirement Program Is Here

NUCA's newest member benefit is here: the NUCA Advantage 401(k) employee retirement program! Many members asked us to add this to our popular membership benefits package to help their business retain key employees and remain competitive in a tight industry job market. NUCA has partnered with Lincoln Financial Group to give members access to pricing and service efficiencies. And if you already have a retirement plan, we can determine if transitioning to the new NUCA Advantage group 401(k) program could better meet your employee's needs. Find out more program details at NUCAAdvantage.com/401k-lincoln.

The NUCA Advantage program can become your 401(k) department, so you can focus on what's profitable--running your business. Please schedule a quick call with advisor Chris Price to learn more & save: 954-625-1531.

Washington Summit - Save the Date: May 23-25

Save the date for later this spring to return to Washington, D.C. for the 2022 Washington Summit. Coming off the biggest legislative win this industry has ever seen with last year's \$1.2 trillion infrastructure law will be a tough act to follow, but the job is not done. Now that we have the resources, we need the employees to finish these projects. Workforce development will be at the top of Summit's agenda, with the details of implementing these vast resources not far behind, as well as H-2B visa reforms Registration for the May 23-25 Summit will open in mid-March.

Reduce Your Business Lodging Expenses Today: CLC Lodging

NUCA's new partnership with CLC Lodging, the traveling construction team experts, can help you save time and money on hotels and corporate apartments at every step, from hotel reservations to hotel reconciliation and project reporting. CLC Lodging combines reservation, reporting, and reconciliation requirements into one website, with over 45,000 pre-negotiated and discounted hotels participating. NUCA members can join for free, so sign up today and start experiencing your choice in lodging for your next business trip or for your employees working on remote jobsites. More here: <https://clclodging.com/lp/nuca/>

NUCA-WINS: Start Your Year By Making Your Damage Reporting Easier!

The path to your company's damage reporting solution just got clearer. The NUCA-WINS app records and reports on your smartphone or tablet jobsite damage, injuries, utility strikes, vehicular and property damage right at the point of occurrence. Properly recorded incidents can save contractors thousands of dollars, making your NUCA-WINS return-on-investment something to smile about in 2022. To get started, please contact Lauren Hensley at 703-358-9300 or visit nuawins.com.

Save The Dates

Safety & Risk Management Meeting

May 17, 2022

TA Loving Co.—Goldsboro, N.C.

Details coming soon!

Washington Summit

Registration is Open For The
May 2022 Washington Summit!

Official Website for the Washington
Summit www.WeDigAmerica.org

SPRING CONFERENCE NUCA of the Carolinas

Wild Dunes Resort, Isle of Palms, S.C.

ROOM BLOCK, EXHIBITOR TABLES & GOLF SOLD OUT!

April 21-24, 2022





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



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

NUCAAdvantage.com



Our New Grassroots Outreach Software Partnership

Organize. Mobilize. Muster.



Grassroots Tools To Drive Action

Muster's advocacy tools not only make it easy for you to build powerful campaigns, but simple for your advocates to click and take action via email, patch-through phone calls, social media, and more.



Advocacy At Every Level

Whether you have a local, state, or national issue to conquer, Muster's advocacy software gives you the power to target policy-makers at every level of government along with committees and custom targets.



Unparalleled District Matching

All of your contacts are geocoded, meaning we go beyond just zip-to-district matching to ensure your advocates are matched with their correct elected official by creating a coordinate for each address.



Data For Better Advocacy Campaigns

With real-time engagement analytics and the ability to export campaign and contact data — your organization can measure ROI, discover new supporters, and benchmark member engagement.

What Muster Does for NUCA Members

Muster – our new grassroots campaign platform – will allow NUCA to mobilize its membership for grassroots messaging campaigns, conduct geotargeted member surveys, and easily communicate with NUCA members on state and national issues. Our new convenient platform gives you a direct line to your Members of Congress and the Administration, and makes it easy to join other NUCA members in making your voice heard about the issues that matter to you and your business.

Muster messages will consist of email broadcasts and targeted online messaging campaigns which allow you to send letters to your state and federal lawmakers with only a few clicks, helping you to contact your representatives on issues that matter while only taking a few minutes out of your busy day. At a time when everything is virtual, your participation in our grassroots campaigns will be more effective than ever in pushing for positive change on NUCA issues.

What We Need from NUCA Members

Your contact information – name, email address, mailing address (for geotargeting purposes), and phone number – please ensure that your Chapter has your latest information, as Chapters will serve as our database

NUCA will be using an OPT-OUT system –

Please contact your ED as soon as possible if you do not wish to be contacted with NUCA grassroots communications. If you wish to opt-out in the future, please email zack@wymanassociates.net with your name and NUCA Chapter.

Note: this option will also remove you from member surveys and news broadcasts sent out through Muster