

## "The Pipeline"

### PRESIDENTS REPORT

March, 2024

I hope everyone is enjoying the beautiful warm weather and longer days. We've had a lot going on within NUCA of the Carolina's lately and lot more to come.

The NUCA 2024 Annual meeting and Convention was recently held in Palm Springs, CA on March 21 – 24. We had a strong presence from the Carolina's, Special thanks to Young Construction, JF Wilkerson Construction for attending the event with Linda and myself. It was a great conference with A lot of great speakers and events. One event was the Team Building which Linda and myself were on the winning team. We will be flying our winning flag proudly at the upcoming Spring Conference. So, with make sure you check it out. I am proud to announce that JF Wilkerson was awarded the William H. Feather Overall safety winner and awarded the TOP JOB for NUCA National for their Eno River sewer project in Durham. That was a huge accomplishment competing against some of the top contractors in the country.

Our first NUCA Young Leaders conference was held this month at Lumina at Wrightsville Beach. What an awesome event with over 110 attendees. Thank You to our members who were able to send their employees to the event. It wouldn't be possible without your support.

Spring Conference is right around the corner, and I am excited to announce the event at Isle of Palms Wild Dunes Resort on April 18 – 20<sup>th</sup> is sold out once again. Thank You Linda for all you do to make these events so special. A few other upcoming events is the annual Clay Shoot May 10<sup>th</sup> at Beaver Pond in Snow Camp NC. If you're not registered due it soon this event always sells out. 2024 Washington Summit on May 22 – 24<sup>th</sup>. Our annual NUCA Open is June 6<sup>th</sup> registration coming soon so keep your eyes out for that.

Once again this is going to be a very busy and successful year in NUCA of the Carolina's. I am honored to be part of the organization and look forward to the rest of the year. See you all soon in Isle of Palms!

Mike Hewitt – Garney Construction NUCA of the Carolina's President

We Dig the Carolinas!

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2024

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### **MEMBERSHIP CATAGORIES**

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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.

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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.or go to www.nucacarolinas.org

Spread the word and invite your friends to join NUCA!



### **NUCA OF THE CAROLINAS SCHOLARSHIPS APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE**

PLEASE SHARE WITH YOUR EMPLOYEES SO THEIR HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS AND COLLEGE STUDENTS CAN APPLY.

### To complete the application process:

Go to <a href="https://aim.applyists.net/NUCA">https://aim.applyists.net/NUCA</a> and register for a new account

On your Home page click "Add New Application"

Enter the Program Key: **NUCA** then click "Apply"

Complete all required fields, upload any required materials and click "Submit"

The link is also available on our website at www.nucacarolinas.org

**DEADLINE TO APPLY IS APRIL 3, 2024** 



Hello again from NC 811! March is here and with it comes...you guessed it...more tickets. So far the year has been up around 8% over last year's volume which continues to increase year over year. The weather has certainly been a factor in this as well. But there is a TREMENDOUS amount of fiber work happening as well as lots of other projects keeping those locators busy around the state. As more details about the grant awards become available I will be certain to share with everyone here.

Meanwhile, as we prepare to present at the excavation safety conference, I want to remind everyone here of the benefits of working together. Not just at the job sites. Or at the UCCs. But in the upcoming months as we begin to look into the damage prevention law and craft language for a 2025 bill. We had great success in 2013 and again in 2019 making changes to the law. We did so by operating from a place of consensus. Not everyone was happy and not everything was perfect.

But the law has served us pretty well over the past 10 years. Now it is time to take what we have learned from the process, best practices and other state experiences to clarify some of the responsibilities.

Technology will play a factor in this as we seek to streamline the ability to post attachments to tickets by both excavators and locators.

This "enhanced positive response" has been available in NC since 2017 but we acknowledge the process was not as smooth or intuitive as it could be. We are working to improve that aspect of the communication process.

I am looking forward to seeing NUCA folks in April and sharing updates on safe digging month, legislative efforts and general NC 811 goings on. Many thanks to those of you on the front lines of safety every day. Let's keep moving the bar forward in making the Carolinas the safest place to work!

### **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 <a href="https://ncucc.org/county-uccs/">https://ncucc.org/county-uccs/</a>



As South Carolina's growth and expansion persist, we anticipate another bustling year in 2024. Fiber and electric projects remain at the forefront, indicating the robust development of new communities and the strength of fiber build plans in the state.

We are excited to announce our new sponsorship opportunities for this year that are tailored to suit various budgets and objectives. Your support will not only benefit your organization but also ties directly into the well-being of countless individuals and communities across the entire state of South Carolina. If you have any interest in becoming a sponsor, visit our website Sponsorship 2024.

The public awareness team has put together some very educational events for 2024. In addition to the Underground Simulated Emergency (U.S.E) event, SC811 will also be hosting two Safety Summits (West and East).



Our inaugural Safety Summit is scheduled for April 2nd in Greenville, featuring Brad Livingston as our distinguished Keynote Speaker. This event promises to deliver valuable insights through breakout sessions, allowing attendees the flexibility to select and participate in sessions of their choice. Registration is now available. For more information and to secure your spot, please visit <a href="https://sc811.com/safety-summit/">https://sc811.com/safety-summit/</a>

Misty Wise - Executive Director

South Carolina 811

(O) 803-451-7715

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

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### A WORD FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Welcome Spring! Hope you are all doing well and staying busy. Daylight savings is here. A little bit of daylight after a long day at work is sure to help knock off some of the wintertime slumber. Gardening, fishing, biking or whatever your hobbies, it's time to get rolling! We are so fortunate to live and work in such a beautiful part of our great country. Enjoy!!

The Safety and Risk Management Committee held its first of four meetings relating to Work Zone Safety. Our Co-chair, Mike Coates reviewed a toolbox talk taken directly from your NUCA of the Carolina's web page. A great resource that I hope you all use to help your folks stay safe. Jacob Garmon gave a nice summary of activities to elevate awareness at a legislative level and adding educational programs for new drivers. Very exciting stuff that could really make a difference for our industry. Thank you to all our presenters who helped make the meeting a success. We appreciate your continued support.

Up next, the S&RM Committee will be in Durham on May 14th for the second installment of "Work Zone Safety." Sunbelt Rentals has graciously agreed to host the event and sponsor lunch. We will be drilling down and focusing on work zone setup and what we can do to provide better barriers of defense for our workers. Traffic seems to always be growing and distracted driving really has become a huge risk for all utility companies and especially our co-workers. We look forward to seeing you all there.

Of course, all this will be after the upcoming NUCA Spring Conference. This year we had several great applicants for our NUCA Safety Awards, it will be great to see which company comes out on top. We have four great presenters who are excited to represent their great companies. It will be exciting to see each company's specific strategy when it comes to their workers' safety. As a teaser, between the four companies selected to present, there were over 1.5 million hours worked and only two lost time accidents. No doubt the goal is ZERO, but with the amount of work being done that's not an easy task. We will all be able to take away something specific to help keep our co- workers safe. It will be great!

With that I would just like to thank everyone for supporting NUCA and our Safety and Risk Management Committee. It certainly couldn't happen without all of you. We stay committed to growing our industry and keeping each other safe.

Thank you all! Stay Safe!

Jason Walker NUCA Safety/Risk Management Chair



# Safety & Risk Management Meeting

# Thanks to LONG ISLAND LUMBER FOR SPONSORING OUR LUNCH! NATE BOYER, TOMMY TROYER AND CORBIN PILLOW





Thanks to everyone who attended the January S&RM Meeting in Pineville, NC! Chairman, Jason Walker, pulled together some great speakers for the meeting. Thanks to you all! These meetings would not be possible without you, and your commitment to safety.

Jacob Garmon/AGC; Ann Rushing/NC811; Lee Peacock/NCDOL/OSHA; Mike Coates/Committee Vice Chair, Greg Maready/Committee Past Chair, Roger Richards/CAGC and Mike Hewitt/NUCA of the Carolinas President.





THE NEXT S&RM MEETING WILL BE HELD MAY 14TH IN DURHAM, N.C. AT SUNBELT RENTALS.

**Details coming soon!** 

# **NUCA NATIONAL CONVENTION HIGHLIGHTS**



Madison Stanford—Young Construction
Participated in the "Young Guns" Panel

The panel questions were geared towards understanding the perspective of the industry's younger leaders, and the promotion of NUCA Member value through meaningful programs and networking.



Team Building Event
Winning Team

Captain MIKE HEWITT





WE DIG AMERICA



### Congratulations

AUSTIN MERRITT
UNITED RENTALS TRENCH
2023 TOP MEMBERSHIP
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# XEVIN CRIPPS—Gen3Energy 2024 NUCA National Vice Chair

CONGRATULATIONS

JF WILKERSON CONTRACTING!



MICHAEL COATES

JF WILKERSON CONTRACTING

2003

WILLIAM H. FEATHER SAFETY AWARD 101,000—200,000 MAN HOURS



2003

**WILLIAM H. FEATHER SAFETY AWARD** 

**OVERALL WINNER** 





**JF Wilkerson Contracting** 

**EXCELLENCE IN UNDERGROUND - OVERALL WINNER** 

Sanitary Sewage Collection

Durham Eno River Outfall Phase 1 & 2







# THANKS TO BRIAN DILENBACK WITH JAMES RIVER EQUIPMENT, GARNER, NC FOR HOSTING THE

### TRAIN THE TRAINER CLASS!

The following Companies participated in the class:

Sanders Utility, Southeast Connections, Moffat Pipe, Sullivan Eastern, J.F. Wilkerson Contracting, Carolina Grading and Utilities, Park Construction, Razorback Boring, and CJT Associates.

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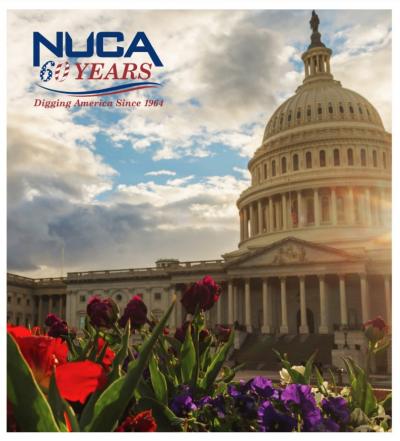
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# Be The Key To NUCA's Washington Summit!

May 22-24, 2024



Infrastructure is built on relationships.

NUCA members are coming to Washington this spring to construct critical new connections for our industry.

Our 2024 Advocacy Goals Include:

- Water & Wastewater Investment Is Critical: Support Increased Funding in FY2025
- Implementing the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law:
   Three More Years Of Funding Required
- Workforce Development: Finding Our New Employees / Immigration and H-2B Visa Reforms
- Lead-Pipe Replacement: Delivering The Right Resources To Finish The Job
- Your Chapter's Government Affairs Agenda Items: Keeping Local Projects Funded

#NUCA60 | #NUCASummit

At this year's Summit, meet in-person with your lawmakers. We'll provide fact sheets and information. Your Chapter will arrange the group meetings. And we'll wrap it up with our evening Congressional Reception on Capitol Hill. Lobby Day is Thursday, May 23.

We need to see you in Washington, D.C. at NUCA's Washington Summit.

Registration and hotel information: **WeDigAmerica.org** 



Digging America's Future

#### Update from the NUCA of The Carolinas Young Leaders

Our NUCA of the Carolinas Young Leaders recently organized a highly successful social event in Columbia, South Carolina. The event took place at Savage Craft Ale Works and was attended by a diverse group of professionals from the utility industry in the same geographical area. The attendees had an excellent opportunity to interact, network, and exchange ideas with each other. The event was well received, and we received positive feedback from the attendees.

We are grateful to our sponsors for supporting this event, including Williams Infrastructure, LLC; TRIPLE B UNDERGROUND SERVICES INCORPORATED; ISCO Industries, Inc.; DRIGGERS CONSTRUCTION LLC; SHADY GROVE CONSTRUCTION, LLC; and Foremost Pipeline Construction. Their contribution to the event's success is greatly appreciated.

We aim to organize more events in the South Carolina area, providing a platform for professionals in the utility industry to connect, network, and build relationships. Stay tuned for more updates on upcoming events!



### Update from the NUCA of The Carolinas Young Leaders

Ve are thrilled to announce that our first-ever Young Leaders Conference has been successfully concluded, and we are already looking orward to the next one! The conference was a huge success, with over 100 attendees who participated in value-packed sessions, great conversations, and a fun-filled cornhole tournament.

f you were a part of this event, we encourage you to share your experience with us by tagging us in your social media posts and using the lashtag #NUCAYLConference. Your feedback and experiences will help us improve future conferences and make them even better.

Ve would also like to take this opportunity to thank all our sponsors who made this event possible. Their contribution played a significant ole in the success of the conference. Our sponsors included Core & Main, Bitting Electric Inc; D.H. GRIFFIN INFRASTRUCTURE, LLC; Jnited Rentals Trench Safety; Fortiline Waterworks; BRS Inc; YOUNG Construction Company; Xylem; Indaco Risk Advisors; Sanders Jtility Construction Co. Inc.; Sunbelt Rentals, Inc.; and Sunstate Equipment Co., LLC.

.astly, attendees should have received an email containing a link to a quick survey about the conference. We would be grateful if you could take a few minutes to fill out the survey and help us improve the next conference. Your valuable feedback will help us make future conferences even more engaging, informative, and exciting.





# **Young Leaders Conference**





### **CORNHOLE TOURNAMENT WINNERS!**



FIRST PLACE
David Singletary
Mike Thornton



Second Place

Kyle Anderson Kyle Hatcher



Third Place

Doug Price Kristin Kessler







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# YOUNG LEADERS CONFERENCE SPONSORS

### **Welcome Reception**

**Young Construction** 

**Xylem** 

**Speaker Sponsor** 

B.R.S., Inc.

**Breakfast** 

**Sanders Utility Construction** 

**Indaco Risk Advisors** 

**Lunch** 

**Terrahawk** 

**Core and Main** 

**United Rentals Trench Safety** 

**Sunbelt Rentals Trench Safety** 

**Xylem** 

**Sunstate Trench Safety** 

**Friday Night at Brewery** 

**D.H. Griffin Infrastructure** 

**Core and Main** 

**United Rentals Trench Safety** 

**Bitting Electric** 

**Fortiline** 

### **CONFERENCE SPEAKERS**









Also a part of the conference was Aaron Whitt with Build Witt who spoke to the group via zoom on

"Workforce Development"



### James Bernash Moderator for

Round Table Discussion with Industry
Professionals for
"Success in the Utility Industry"

### **PANEL**

Corey Stanford—Young Construction
Mike Evans—Palmetto Rock
Mike Hewitt—Garney Construction

### **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. 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.

### 2024 Washington Summit: May 22-24

It's an election year, and NUCA is calling you to the Nation's Capital! Congress must be reminded in 2024 that the water and wastewater resources allocated through the EPA's State Revolving Fund programs are a critical component this nation uses to improve public health, economic strength, job creation--and your company's success. The 2024 Washington Summit will be held May 22-24, 2024, headquartered at the famous Hyatt Regency Washington on Capitol Hill. Registration is now open at WeDigAmerica.org--sign up today to join your NUCA Chapter in D.C.

### **NUCA Advantage: Make It Yours Today!**

Your NUCA membership investment can deliver benefits far in excess of the dues cost--but only if you ask your human resources office to explore what it offers. "We worked with Theresa to switch from our previous benefits broker after we heard about Memberfy from NUCA. She went above and beyond to help us find a plan that worked best for us. The application process was simple, and the rollout of benefits to our employees was seamless!" testified Luke Miller of Colorado Pavement Solutions about their helpful NUCA Advantage experience. NUCA Advantage leads to expanded healthcare benefits options for your company, as well as payroll, wellness, compliance, benefits administration, 401K programs, online training, OSHA logs, and a wealth of free HR benefits available only to NUCA members. Find out about our expanded NUCA Advantage benefits program at <a href="https://www.NUCAAdvantage.com">www.NUCAAdvantage.com</a>.

### **NUCA-WINS Now Available As Monthly Subscription**

You spoke, NUCA-WINS listened. NUCA-WINS 3.0 is available as a low-cost monthly subscription. New users will now get all the features of the annual subscription version with no setup fees: Onboarding, Training, Maintenance, Support, and Updates are all included, along with the same generous 33% NUCA discount. Once you start using NU-CA-WINS, you'll wonder how you managed your jobsites without it. Start by visiting <a href="https://www.NUCAWins.com">www.NUCAWins.com</a> and request access today.

### 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 <a href="https://www.nuca.com/trenchlessmanual">www.nuca.com/trenchlessmanual</a>.

### **Industry News and Advocacy**

### **Congress Punted – Again**

The House has not acted on any of the pending FY2024 appropriations bills, including the EPA legislation containing a restoration of the \$1.7 billion in State Revolving Funds NUCA has been advocating for since last summer. The Congressional calendar worked against the March 1 and March 8 deadlines imposed by the two chambers in January. However, there was not enough time in the legislative calendar to properly address these massive funding bills. The House and Senate was forced to adopt a short-term stopgap measure late in the following week, punting this decision to March 22. A government shutdown is not expected, given its negative optics in an election year.

### **NLRB Joint Employer Rule Blocked, Heads For Appeal**

On Mar. 1, a federal judge in Texas struck down the Biden Administration's new "joint employer" rule, agreeing with the U.S. Chamber of Commerce that the law is too broad and violates federal labor law. The rule, issued last August, was scheduled to take effect on Monday, March 11. However, legal maneuvers to the rule continue, with the government expected to appeal this decision to the Fifth U.S. Circuit of Appeals. Employers should note that this news is not the final decision, and continue to follow NUCA and other news sources for the last word.

### **EPA Releases \$5.8 Billion for Drinking Water, Wastewater Projects in SRFs**

The EPA announced Feb. 19 that it is releasing \$5.8 billion in funding to upgrade drinking water and wastewater infrastructure projects around the nation. The new funding supports EPA's state revolving funds (SRF), which are used by the utility construction industry for federal water infrastructure programs. The funding comes from the 2021 Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) and was previous appropriated by Congress. Of the newly announced total, \$3.2 billion goes for drinking water SRFs and \$2.6 billion for clean water SRFs, which help to finance wastewater treatment and stormwater projects. A breakdown of state-by-state allocations can be found <a href="here">here</a> (nuca.com/fixwater).

NUCA strongly applauds this action, and hopes that this support by the Administration for needed infrastructure resources will be continued forward this year and beyond.



# **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

ROOM BLOCK SOLD OUT EXHIBITOR TABLES—SOLD OUT

2024 NUCA CLAY SHOOT

MAY 10, 2024

BEAVER POND SPORTING CLUB

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TO REGISTER GO TO www.nucacarolinas.org

### **NUCA OPEN**

June 6, 2024
Forest Oaks Country Club
Greensboro, N.C.
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SOON!

## **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

### **Please send Donations to:**

NCUCA Educational Fund
NUCA of the Carolinas
P.O. Box 10519
Wilmington, NC 28404



# YOUNG LEADERS PROGRAM Lays the Foundation for Future Success

By Jim Rush

hat started as an idea between NUCA members just a few short years ago has blossomed into full-fledged group of dedicated professionals working toward the goal of positioning the utility construction industry well for the future.

The Young Leaders of NUCA of the Carolinas was launched in 2022 based on the brainchild of chapter members Chase Boyer and Austin Merritt. They recognized a lack of engagement and participation among the chapter's younger members and approached chapter executive director Linda Goslee with the idea of hosting social and service events for professionals under the age of 40. In just two years, the events have attracted more than 100 young professionals from across North and South Carolina for the fledging group's activities.

"It was really just one of those things that kind of started like an idea on the back of a napkin," said Boyer, account executive with Indaco Risk Advisors. "We took the idea to our executive director and the board, and they basically said, 'go get 'em!' The amount of support we have had – both administrative and financial – has just been phenomenal."

The group is catching the attention of NUCA members outside of the Carolinas too. At the recent NUCA Convention in Florida, Boyer and Merritt made a presentation on the Young Leaders activities to an enthusiastic response. In fact, it wouldn't be surprising to see similar initiatives take shape in other chapters across the country.

"The Young Leaders is a great group, they are very passionate about what they do and they are making a difference," said Goslee. "It has been amazing to see how they have taken the ball and run with it. They are not only bringing in new members to NUCA, but are helping to recruit new people into the construction industry."

The goal of the Young Leaders is three-fold, according to Merritt, Trench Shoring, Confined Space, Traffic Safety Representative at United Rentals Trench Safety:

"The first goal is to create an environment or community where young people within the utility industry can get together and create connections and relationships with people within the construction utility industry. We saw there was a void for that, and that was our main goal.

"Second, in sitting in on NUCA board meetings and talking with different contractors, we recognized that there is a lack of young people coming into the utility industry. We wanted to promote the construction industry, particularly utility con-



"Chase and Austin with NUCA President.jpg" – Austin Merritt, left, and Chase Boyer, right, with NUCA of the Carolinas Immediate Past President – Scott Little – State Utility Contractors

struction, to young professionals, young people still in school, and even working adults who might be looking for a different opportunity. We want to make sure they are aware of the opportunities that exist within the utility industry.

"Finally, we want to help promote NUCA and NUCA of the Carolinas, specifically help engage the membership and provide more avenues for people to get involved. Chase and I have seen the benefits of getting involved with NUCA and the NUCA Chapters first-hand, and we know that other companies and individuals can benefit too."

### **Young Leaders Organization**

The Young Leaders group consists of four subcommittees as well as an overall board. The committees are: Engagement; Marketing; Outreach; and Philanthropy.



Young Leaders of the NUCA of the Carolinas has hosted a variety of social and services events over the past two years, drawing more than 100 people.







The Engagement Committee comprises the social and networking component of the Young Leaders, i.e., bringing members together in a social setting where contractors, suppliers and others involved in the utility construction industry can get together and build a rapport outside of the workplace. These events have been held in Raleigh and Charlotte and included get-togethers at breweries, go-karting and axe throwing.

The Philanthropic Committee is tasked with organizing events that support the local community, including building houses for Habitat for Humanity and participating in The Great Raleigh Cleanup, a volunteer-based initiative to help rid the city of litter and enhance environmental awareness. The Habitat Days in 2022 and 2023 raised more than \$33,000 com-

bined with an average of 25 volunteers.

The Outreach Committee's goal is to increase awareness of the benefits of working in the utility construction industry to individuals who may be considering a career decision. The committee reaches out to high schools, technical schools and community colleges, and participates in construction-related events like Touch-A-Truck.

Finally, the Marketing Committee is charged with summarizing the activities and communicating across the committees, as well as promoting the group and its events through social media.

### **Future**

With two years of successful events under their belt – each attracting between 30 and 70 individuals – the group is planning its most ambitious event to date, a Young Leaders Conference scheduled for March 14-16, 2024, at the Holiday Inn Resort Lumina Hotel in Wrightsville Beach, N.C. The event will be a mix of speakers and social and networking activities.

If all goes to plan, the conference can generate revenue to help the group become self-sustaining. "One decision we made early on was to eliminate as many barriers to entry as possible," Boyer said. "That meant no dues, and no fees for the events. To accomplish that, we have been fortunate to have a great deal of support from sponsors, but we are hoping to generate revenue that we can allocate back toward the group's own initiatives. That's something we're really excited about."

As the need to recruit the next generation of workers and leaders continues into the future, groups like the Young Leaders are helping bridge the gap. "Companies are invested in trying to get their young folks involved outside of work, and involved in the industry itself," Merritt said. "When we talk about the Young Leaders group, we are constantly approached by people asking how they can get involved or get their employees involved. I see this as something that is going to continue to gain momentum as the work continues to spread.

"With the success we've had, we are looking to grow our committees and branch out to make sure we're covering all of North Carolina and South Carolina vs. a couple hot spots in the area. We're also open to adding other committees that would support the mission of NUCA."

Added Boyer, "This is almost more of a starting line than a finish line. We're proud of what we've accomplished for sure, but we're excited as we look to the future. With the right people involved, there is so much we can accomplish."



# 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.

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(S) www.nuca.com



Lauren Hensley, Director of Chapter and Member Services



Lauren@nuca.com

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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**

**April 18-21 2024 NUCA of the Carolinas Spring Conference** 

Wild Dunes Resort, Isle of Palms, SC

May 10, 2024 NUCA Clay Shoot—Beaver Pond, Snow

Camp, NC

May 14, 2024 S&RM Meeting—Sunbelt Rentals,

Durham, N.C.

May 22-24, 2024 Washington Summit

**Hyatt Regency Washington Capital Hill** 

June 6, 2024 NUCA Open—Forest Oaks Country Club,

Greensboro, N.C.



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### **Employee Medical Health Insurance Plans**



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LIGHT BLUE	M	L	XL	2XL	3XL	4XL
T-SHIRT	M	L	XL	2XL	3XL	4XL
Hoodie	М	L	XL	2XL	3XL	4XL
LO/GOLF SHIRTS—\$45.00/EACH		T-SHIRT	S—\$20.0	00/EACH		HOODIES—\$40.00/EACH
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