ESWWDA SPRING MEETING

APRIL 19-20, 2024

BEST WESTERN PLUS, KINGSTON, NY 12401

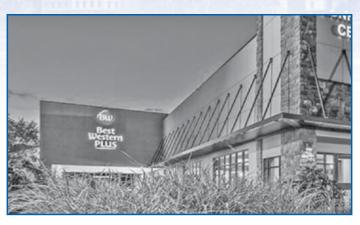
The 2024 Spring meeting, hosted by the **Boyd Family**, will take place in the **Hudson Valley** at a site where we have held many of our previous spring meetings, Kingston, NY.

Reservations may be made by calling (833) 441-1264 and mentioning that you are with the ESWWDA group. The cut-off date for reservations at the group rate of \$149.00 is March 20, 2024. This rate includes breakfast.

The **general membership meeting** being held on Saturday, April 20th will feature a **First Aid Class** as well as valuable information regarding **Narcan** and it's uses presented by **Dr. Molly Boyd**.

Also presenting will be **Dan Hushion** who will speak on **Workers Compensation**.

The hotel features an arcade game room as well as internet access, swimming pool, spa, fitness center, restaurant and



BEST WESTERN PLUS, 503 Washinton Ave. KINGSTON, NY 12401

bar, room service, meeting facilities. smoking areas as well as smoke free areas, 24hr concierge, conference center as well as dry cleaning.

FIRST AID & y
NARCAN

Dr. Molly Boyd will be doing a **first aid and Narcan presentation**. Dr. Boyd did a very informative and interesting presentation several years ago at the Beeches in Rome, NY. There will be lots of information and pictures. Dr. Boyd works at Albany Medical Center and is board certified in Emergency Medicine and Medical Toxicology.

Mission

The ESWWDA is committed to taking a leadership role in protecting our natural resources through the promotion of the ground water industry. It strives to support a spirit of cooperation, communication, and education within the industry and with the consumers and regulatory agencies.

Visit www.nywelldriller.org

What's in this Issue Board of Directors	Legislative Update
Membership Report/Application . 6-7	Upcoming Events24

Spring Meeting Itinerary

APRIL 19-20, 2024

Friday, April 19th, 2024

6:00 - 7:30 p.m. **Board of Directors** Meet in the Fair Street Salon

7:30 - 9:00 p.m. Cocktail Hour - Dinner on your own

Saturday, April 20th, 2024

8:00 - 9:00 a.m. Continental breakfast

in the St. James & Fair Street Salon

9:00 - 12:30 a.m. Presentation by Molly Boyd, MD

on First Aid and Narcan followed by

Dan Hushion's Workers Compensation presentation.

12:30 p.m. Lunch

The rest of the day is yours to visit historic Kingston or shop boutiques.

Kingston is divided into three main sections: **Uptown** (the most vibrant area, featuring historic buildings, boutique shops, and fab restaurants), Midtown (here, you'll find a few more shops and a theater), and Downtown (a.k.a. the Rondout National Historic District, where you'll find the pretty waterfront, boat tours, eateries, and trolley rides.)

Not sure where to start exploring? Use the list of the **best things to do in Kingston**, NY.



Location:

BEST WESTERN PLUS

503 Washinton Ave. Kingston, NY 12401

(833) 441-1264

Accommodations:

Hotel Rooms: \$149.00 per night plus tax

Reservations may be made by calling

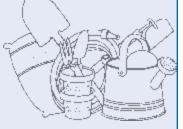
(833) 441-1264 and mentioning that you are with the ESWWDA group. The cut-off date for reservations at the group rate is March 20, 2024.

This rate includes breakfast.

Directions:

Follow I-87 S to Washington Ave in Ulster. Take exit 19 from I-87 S

For road conditions, phone **800-THRUWAY**.



2024 Officers and Directors

President

Dave Rosick, CWD/PI, Rosick Well Drilling LLC 1175 Farley Road, Hudson Falls, NY 12839 (518) 746-0173 · Rosickdrilling@yahoo.com

Vice President

Chris Root, CWD/PI, Root Contracting (585) 593-4304 · Rootwaterwell@gmail.com

Past President

Tyler Wills, MGWC, Smith Well Drilling PO Box 585, Niverville, NY 12130 (518) 758-6142 · Driller1234.tw@gmail.com

Secretary/Treasurer

Charles W. Crover, CWD/PI

Roarke Well Drilling, Inc.

431 Scotchtown Ave., Goshen, NY 10924 (845) 783-9355 · Chuck@RoarkeWellDrilling.com

ESWWDA Correspondence Manager

Julie Bovd

1054 Route 52, Carmel, NY 10512 (845) 225-3196 · Jewels2564@aol.com

ESWWDA Assistant Correspondence Manager

Susan Bates

900 N. James St., Rome, NY 13440 (315) 225-3060 · Gramsue67@gmail.com

3 - Year Directors

Jeremy Baldwin, MGWC, Hawk Drilling Co., Inc. (518) 885-7952 · hawkdrilling@aol.com

Daniel Boyd, DNA Well Maintenance (772) 626-4515 • Daniel.Boyd70@gmail.com

2 - Year Directors

William Frey, MGWC, Frey Well Drilling Inc. (716) 937-7977 · DrillerFrey@aol.com

James Utter, Utter Well Drilling **607-582-7436** • jimdrilling@yahoo.com

1 - Year Directors

Mike Palleschi, CPG, CWD

Senior Geologist, Alpha Geoscience (518) 348-6995 · mpalleschi@alphageoscience.com

Richard Tompkins, Reliable Pump & Well

845-629-8301 • reliablepumpandwell@gmail.com

Supplier Directors

Alan Dretel, D&S Pump and Supply 845-279-3785 · aldretel@aol.com

Bernie Kistner, Group One Northeast, Inc. (845) 473-1969 · bckistner@aol.com

Dave Keough, Blake Equipment (845) 258-7867 · Dave.keough@blakeequip.com

Christopher Beatson, Xylem **585-469-0069** • christopher.beatson@xylem.com

Values

The Board of Directors and membership of E.S.W.W.D.A. believe in the promotion of the ground water industry through:

Professional Standards • Communication Education • Integrity • Affordability

The President's Thoughts

Another Successful Meeting

Here it is February already. Another winter up here anyway, where it has not been terribly cold and more rain than snow, so far anyway.

The annual meeting was a real success with a very large attendance. I would like to thank Henry Boyd for the class on Tuesday morning. It helps those taking certification exams. We also had several

other classes on crane safety, cyber security, a peer-to-peer meeting, and of course geothermal updates. All were incredibly good and brought up many topics and issues. Hopefully, you attended one or more as you always pick up something new to learn. Thanks to those who participated in them.

Thanks to **Julie** and **Sue** for their time doing *Hole* Talk. This is our main source of communication for our association for sure and they do a lot to get it done.



The auction for our disabled veterans was a tremendous SUCCESS again and we will be helping a few veterans get much needed water at their homes. Thanks to who donated and were a part of the auction.

The suppliers also had a lot to offer. As I said before, this meeting has something for everyone, so thank everyone who attended.

The next day, our general meeting was very well attended, also. Thank you, Mark Glaser, our lobbyist, who keeps us up to date on government issues.

Lastly, thank you all for allowing me to be president for 1 more year. Hopefully, all will be good, and as I have said before, if you have an issue or an idea that I can help with please call or email me. I cannot do it if I do not know.

David Rosick,

ESWWDA President



Save the Date...July 12-13, 2024

The Moravec Family, Barney Moravec, Inc. will be graciously hosting our summer meeting at their place of business, 124 Hudson Park Dr., Penn Yan, NY 14527. As such, they will be celebrating 90 years in the business of water well drilling and are choosing to host our meeting in conjunction with their celebration.

Rooms have been reserved at the Showboat Motel and Restaurant. Please call (607) 243-7434 for a reservation. The reservation code for the Showboat Motel is "well2024". Penn Yan is a small town so choices for lodging are limited, they are asking that reservations be made well in advance to guarantee that you'll have a room. Rooms have also been set aside at the Hampton Inn by calling (888) 787-1885.

More details will be made available both in the Summer Issue of Hole Talk, on our website and on our facebook page.

The tentative schedule of events includes:

Friday, July 12, 2024

8:00 a.m.	Drilling begins,
0.00 a.m.	Diming begins,

500' Bore and water well

12-1:00 p.m. Catered Lunch and vender set-up

1:00-2:30 p.m. Vendor trade show and Geo presentation

2:30-3:30 p.m. Board of Directors meeting

3:30-5:00 p.m. Suppliers Cocktail Party and Trade Show

5:00 p.m. Dinner Catered by the Wagner Restaurant

Saturday, July 13, 2024

8:30-9:00 a.m. Continental Breakfast/Coffee

9-10:00 a.m. General Membership Meeting

10-11:00 a.m. Presentation: Water Well & Geo Bore

logging and importance of accurate

details and geologic descriptions.

11-12:30 p.m. Hydrogracturing Demonstration-

Utter Well Drilling

12:30 p.m. Catered Lunch

Annual Meeting January 17, 2024

The annual meeting of the *Empire State Water Well Drillers'* Association was called to order at 9:03 am on January 17, 2024, at Turning Stone Resort and Casino in Verona, NY with 112 members in attendance. Sandra Baldwin, with the assistance of Carol Lawrence sold 50/50 raffle tickets.

A roll call of officers showed the following Board members to be in attendance:

Dave Rosick, President

Chris Root, Vice President

Tyler Wills, Past President

Julie Bullock, Correspondence Manager

Sue Bates, Assistant Correspondence Manger

James Utter, Director

Mike Palleschi, Director

Richard Tompkins, Director

Jeremy Baldwin, Director

Daniel Boyd, Director

Bernie Kistner, Director

Dave Keough, Director

Alan Dretel, Director

Dave Root made a motion to wave the reading of the minutes from the previous meeting and accepted the minutes as written in *Hole Talk*. Jeremy Baldwin seconded the motion. All were in favor of the motion and the motion was passed.

President Rosick stated the Treasurer was recuperating from knee surgery and was unable to attend. Chuck Crover had presented the treasurer's report to the Board on Tuesday via zoom. The Board had accepted the report. Jim Dwyer made a motion from the floor to accept the treasurer's

report that had been given the previous day. **Art Becker** seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

President Rosick thanked everyone for attending. This is my first time running the meeting. The first part of last year started out at a fast pace and I wondered what I had gotten myself into. Then, as the year went on, things slowed down regarding the association. Thanks to Sue and **Julie** for producing *Hole Talk* which keeps us informed. Thanks to Henry and the other instructors for the informative and educational classes yesterday. The world seems to be in chaos, and you wonder where things are going. The cost of vehicles, insurance and other things are going up. You have to remember that the association is working behind the scenes to support our industry. So, on this note I would like to introduce our lobbyist, Mark Glaser. (Turn to page 9 for the Legislative Update.) There was a significant period of questions and answers with Mr. Glaser. The topics ranged from the price of water quality testing for the suggested items on the revised fact sheet, to talking with NYS DEC regarding the regulations for drilling below 500 feet, to discussing the possibility of tax credits for geothermal, to the environmental impact and cost of drilling deeper than 500 feet and the discussion of the certification of geothermal drillers. The NYS budget introduced by Governor Hocul is over \$229 billion. Usually, after the Legislature gets a hold of the budget it tends to increase. The State is receiving increased revenue with monies coming in from sports betting and additional casinos.

Insurance & Safety: Greg Scott from Arthur J. Gallagher gave the report. First, he summarized the presentation from the day before on cyber security for small businesses. The cost of a policy can ranges from \$750 to \$2000 annually for small businesses. The industry is seeing more breaches with contractors. Expenses that the company can incur include a forensic team to go through their computer, loss of business, and much more. Mr. Scott referred back to the presentation of site safety and workers' compensation. He reminded employers to watch their mods and to keep in mind exposure and clean sites. With the delays in access to the medical industry for some workers' compensation injuries, the insurance industry is promoting light duty/ return to work options to minimize the claim. Greg reminded everyone to apply for the NYS Construction Credit. If they are unsure how to do it to reach out to your insurance company. Mr. Scott informed us that auto insurance is by far the most active regarding claims. With cars becoming more expensive so is repairing them. He recommends businesses sign up for the NYS LENS program and add cameras inside vehicles. Both of these items could help reduce insurance rates. Finally, annually check your inland marine policy to make sure the values are accurate, and all pieces are listed. If equipment is 6 years or newer, you can list the value at replacement cost.

Scholarship: Jim Utter stated that we had an applicant for each of our scholarships. The applicant for the Albert Mack scholarship did not meet the requirements as laid out in the application. The applicant for the Daniel M. Shultes Scholarship, Grace

ESWWDA Values

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Okon, was given conditional acceptance by the Board for a one-time award of \$500 and will be notified.

Membership: Sue Bates announced that we have a total of 292 members. We had only four new members last year. Currently 190 members are paid and 102 are unpaid. The second invoice will be sent in February.

NEWWA: Henry Boyd announced that the meeting is all set for March 8-9, 2024, in Marlborough, MA. There is a full slate of speakers and a rumor that there might be some iron on the floor.

Budget & Finance: Alan Dretel from the budget and finance committee gave the presentation. After hearing the treasurer's report yesterday, the Board voted to increase dues. It has been over 20 years since dues have increased. The dues increase will take place in 2025. The contractor and supplier/manufacturer's dues will increase to \$250 and the associate members to \$50.

Education: Henry Boyd reported that there was a good turn out in all the classes. We are also looking for ideas.

NGWA & WSC: No report was given.

Hole Talk: Julie Boyd stated that the next <u>deadline would be February 1st</u> for all submissions.

Public Information: Sue Bates reminded everyone to check our website to make sure your information is correct. If you need changes, contact Sue or Julie.

DOT: No report was given.

Continuing Education: No report was given.

Past President: Past President Tyler Wills talked about the dues increase. He stated that three years ago as president he thought we should increase the dues. At that time, the Treasurer recommended we wait. The association has always had generous suppliers and manufacturers. If we are looking at working on legislation to protect and advance our industry, it will cost money. Secondly, he had attended the first Peer-to-Peer meeting aka bitch session which was great. It was a chance to discuss ideas about a variety of topics with your peers. He also thought the geothermal panel was highly informative.

Old Business: President Rosick said the Board had discussed the association advertising on the billboards in NYS. The discussion was tabled until more information was received. Kevin Moravec stated that we might be able to get some funding from NYSERTA for more advertising.

New Business: Sue Bates summarized the upcoming meetings this year. The **spring meeting** will be held on April 19 at Best Western in Kingston, NY. The summer meeting will be held in Penn Yan on July 12 and 13th to coincide with the 90th anniversary of Barney Moravec, Inc. There will be vendors, a drilling demo, geothermal loop, grouting demo, hydrofracking demo, and much more. There will be rooms at the **Showboat** and the Hampton Inn. Most importantly, everyone remember your dancing shoes. The fall meeting is looking for a host or location. We have been trying to get information from the Lodge at Schroon Lake, but no one is returning calls. In the summer of 2025, Flomatic will be hosting a meeting. If anyone is interested in hosting or sponsoring a meeting, please reach out to Sue.

At this time past President Wills came forward to run the election of officers and directors. The following slate of officers and directors as appeared in **Hole Talk** are the following: President: Dave Rosick, CWD/PI, Vice President: Chris Root, CWD/PI, Secretary/Treasurer: Charles Crover, CWD/PI, 3-year directors: Jeremy Baldwin, MGWC and Daniel Boyd, 2-year directors: William Frey, MGWC and James Utter, and 1-year directors: Mike Palleschi, CPG/CWD and Richard Tompkins. At this time, Tyler asked if there are any nominations from the floor for the any of these positions. Tyler again asked if there are any nominations from the floor for these positions. For the third and final time Tyler asked if there are any nominations from the floor. There being no nominations from the floor, Tyler hereby instructed the executive secretary to cast one ballot for each of the nominated directors and officers. Congratulations to everyone. At this time, President Rosick dismissed the nominating committee.

Spencer Meadow was the winner of the 50/50 drawing. At this time **Alan Dretel** made a motion to adjourn the annual meeting at 10:38 am. The motion was seconded by **Jim Wild**. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Respectfully Submitted by,

Julie Boyd 🗩

2024 ESWWDA Committees

2024 1	23 W WDA CO)]]]]]]]]]
Scholars	hip	
Chairperson	Jim Utter	607-582-7436
	Kevin Moravec	315-536-3911
Education		
Chairperson		845-225-3196
	Jeremy Baldwin	518-885-7952
	Sandra Baldwin Brian Frey	518-396-9499 716-937-7977
	•	/10-93/-/9//
Member		215 225 2060
Chairperson	William Frey	315-225-3060 716-937-7977
	Chris Root	585-593-4309
Incurre		
Chairperson	:e/ Safety Analisa Jesco	888-869-3535
Gillin percent	Jeff Smith	518-758-6142
	Chuck Crover	845-783-9355
Governn	nent Affairs	
Chairperson		in 518-885-7952
-	Sandra Baldwin	518-885-7952
Alt.	,	518-758-6142
	All Board of Direc	tors
NEWWA		
Chairperson		845-225-3196
A 14	Julie Bullock Alan Dretel	845-225-3196
Alt.	James Utter	914-522-7855 607-351-1002
	<i>•</i>	007-331-1002
	to NGWA/WSC Chris Root	EOE EO2 4204
Chairperson	Henry Boyd	585-593-4304 845-225-3196
	Jeff Smith	518-758-6142
	Alan Dretel	914-522-7855
	Michael Palleshi	518-348-6995
	Richard Moravec	315-536-3911
Budget 8	& Finance	
Chairperson	Chuck Crover	845-783-9355
	Bernie Kistner	845-473-1969
	Analisa Jesco Alan Dretel	888-869-3535
		914-522-7855
Hole Tall		0.45 225 2107
Chairperson	Julie Bullock Sue Bates	845-225-3196 315-225-3060
	Suc Dates	313-223-3000
By-Laws Chairperson	Tony Ferraioli	518-861-8733
Chuirperson	Henry Boyd	845-225-3196
F		010 220 0170
Environi Chairperson		845-225-3196
Gillin percent	Daniel Boyd	772-626-4515
DOT	,	
Chairperson	Jeremy Baldwin	518-885-7952
1	Chris Root	585-593-4304
	Brian Frey	716-937-7977
	Daniel Boyd	772-626-4515
Geother		
Chairperson		315-536-3911
	Jeremy Baldwin Richard Tompkins	518-885-7952 8 845-629-8301
		6 643-029-6301
Giving B Chairperson	ack Sandra Baldwin	518-885-7952
Chuit person	Chris Root	585-593-4304
	William Frey	716-937-7977
	Tyler Wills	518-758-6142
Suppliers' Division		
Chairperson		845-473-1969
I cross	Dave Keough	845-258-7867
	Alan Dretel	845-279-3785
	Christopher Beatson	

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

February 2024

CATEGORY	TOTAL	PAID	UNPAID
Contractors	171	119	52
Suppliers/Manufacturers	47	24	23
Associates	77	51	26
	===	===	==
Total Members	295	194	101

Members in arrears for 2+ years will be dropped from active membership

Payments may be made by mailing checks to: ESWWDA, 1054 Route 52, Carmel, NY 10512

or PayPal at www.nywelldriller.org



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

CONTRACTORS:

Cedar Ridge Well Drilling

Josh Scrima

PO Box 253

Esperance, NY 12066 Sponsor: Rejoin

Pierson Well & Pump Service

Cody Pierson

16 Ryan Avenue Queensbury, NY 12804

Sponsor: JD's Well and Pump

SUPPLIER:

Water Furnace

Kevin Austin

9000 Conservation Way Fort Wayne, NY 46809

ASSOCIATE:

HVCC

Joanne Coons

4 Balsam Way

Clifton Park NY 12035



ESWWDA & You ... A Smart Alliance

The industry is in an era of change. To understand the changes taking place and to lead the industry through its transitions, drillers need to access the best minds available - each other.

That's why your affiliation with the ESWWDA is a smart investment. It's an alliance of individual drillers that work for you and with you.

Your membership gives you access to programs and services specifically formulated for the professional growth and success of water well drillers and pump installers.

The association provides:

- **Educational programs in:** water well drilling, pump installation, general management.
 - **Informative newsletter:** *Hole Talk* covers local, state and national issues and news.
 - Annual Tuition Scholarships
 - ^o **A united voice:** ESWWDA speaks for drillers on issues of far-reaching impact.
 - ^o A voice: A vote on the direction ESWWDA takes.

Join or renew your membership and keep this powerful alliance alive!



Dues are NOT Tax Deductible

ESWWDA

Affiliate State Membership Application Empire State Water Well Drillers' Association • Organized 1941

Name:		Date:
Street:		Work Phone:
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County:		FAX:
Business Name		E-mail:
	Contractor/Driller \$125	National Member Yes No
	Pump Installer \$125	CWD #
	Supplier/Manufacturer \$125	CPI #
Asso	ociate Company Member\$25	NYS DEC Reg. #
Sponsor:		

Mail application to: Susan Bates, 900 N James Street, Rome, NY 13440 (checks payable to: ESWWDA)



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Client Service Mgr. Senior 518.533.6841 Analisa_Jesco@ajg.com

Todd Flanigan

Sales Executive 518.391.2228 Todd_Flanigan@ajg.com

Greg Scott

Area Vice President 518.533.6897 Greg_Scott@ajg.com

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Legislative Update

from Joshua Oppenheimer, Greenberg Traurig

On Wednesday, January 17, 2024, Mark Glaser, our lobbyist from Greenberg Traurig, gave government affairs updates on the State of New York. Here is the summary of his presentation. The current governor is Kathy Hochul who won election in 2022 and is very much in charge even though the Legislature thinks they are. Governor Hochel will be rerunning in 2026 and has already raised more money than Andrew Cuomo ever did. Lieutenant Governor Delgado is also a very competent and capable person. Basil Seggos is the current Department of Environmental Commissioner. He survived the transition after Cuomo. He loves what he is doing and is sensitive to the well drilling industry. James V. McDonald, MD was confirmed on June 9, 2023, as the current Commissioner of Health. Commissioner McDonald comes to New York from Rhode Island.

There has been little change in the leadership of the State Senate which is comprised of 63 members with once again the Democrats have a supermajority of 42 to 21. Senator Andrea Stewart-Cousins in the Majority leader. Senator **Pete Harckham** is the chair of the Senate Environmental Conservation Committee and **Senator Gustavo Rivera** is the chair of the Senate Health Committee. We have a good relationship here. Little has changed in the Assembly this year. There is 150 members in the Assembly with Democrats holding the super majority here also. There is one vacancy in Assembly District 77 from the Bronx. Currently, Assemblymember Carl Heastie is the speaker which is an almost impossible job trying to form a coalition from the socialist to the conservatives. Assemblymember **Deborah** Glick is the chair of the Environmental Conservation Committee. We have a good relationship with her, and she knows her mind. She is second or third in seniority. The Chair of the Health Committee is Assemblymember Amy **Paulin** who also has seniority in the Assembly.

Now under regulations, **Private Well Testing Act** (A.5979/S.1650) has been around for two decades. It has occasionally passed the Assembly but never the Senate. It had no action in 2023.

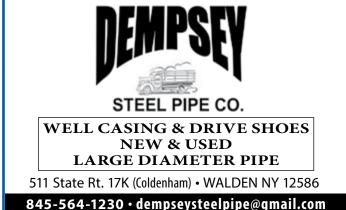
Governor Hochul signed into legislation the **Geothermal Boreholes Exception** (A.6949/S.6604) with a caveat that the
Legislature passed legislation requiring DEC regulations
for wells deeper than 500 ft. In 2022 NYS Climate Action
Council's scoping plan recommended that electrification
of buildings through closed loop geothermal heating and

"Support your Suppliers who support You"

cooling systems can help with the State's efforts to achieve decarbonization goals. The Geothermal Borehole Exception extended the permitting rules regarding geothermal wells that are less than 500 ft to those geothermal wells that are deeper than 500 ft which would increase access to these goals and allegedly save money. S.6604/A.6949 would have exempted closed-loop boreholes for geothermal systems from the general requirements for well that are deeper than 500 ft. It basically removed DEC oversight on wells below 500 ft. Due to the Governor's caveat A.8565/S.8060 amends the legislation to require DEC to adopt regulations governing geothermal wells below 500 ft. This bill is expected to be enacted in the next few weeks. Also, legislation A.637 amends the Real Property Law to provide for a tax abatement for geothermal wells. The abatement amount would be up to \$62,500. A companion bill has not been introduced in the Senate.

In April 2023, the **Department of Health** revised their **Fact Sheet on testing water wells**. It can be found on our website and the Department of Health's web site. The fact sheet recommends fifteen different tests including arsenic, chloride, coliform bacterial, lead, nitrate, nitrite, iron, manganese, iron plus manganese, turbidity, sulfate, pH, hardness, alkalinity, and sodium. The Department of Health also recommends that the tests be performed following "proper" well installation and development, and prior to the homeowner use. Beyond these initial tests the guidance recommends testing for coliform bacteria every year and to periodically re-test water quality for other well-specific constituents of concern.

Also, in the **2022 Environmental Bond Act** approved by the voters, it provides \$4.2 billion for various environmental projects including upgrades or replacement of municipal wells. For example, the Town of **Walkill** recently received funding for various water supply improvements including the drilling of five new water wells.





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FEDERAL UPDATE on The Healthy H2O Act

Introduced by Senator Tammy Baldwin (WI), Senator Susan Collins (ME), Representative Chellie Pingree (ME), and Representative David Rouzer (NC) S. 806 / H.R. 1721

The Healthy Drinking Water Affordability Act (The Healthy H2O Act)

Legislation that would provide direct assistance to rural communities, households, and non-profits to test their drinking water and fund filtration technology to provide safer drinking water.

Problem: Rural communities have historically been overlooked by federal investments when it comes to addressing drinking water challenges, especially those who are dependent on private wells.

Solution: We can protect public health and use voluntary solutions to address a key gap in drinking water safety, by ensuring people have tools to:

- Test their drinking water
- Understand the impact of health contaminants found in their water sources
- Access a solution that best fits their situation

Untreated health contaminants threaten water quality for millions of people. Across the United States, communities face threats to their drinking water from a number of contaminants, including lead, arsenic, nitrates, volatile organic compounds (VOCs), PFOA, PFOS, hexavalent chromium-6, and others. Public water systems monitor for these threats and treat water before it is distributed to points of consumption. However, nearly 23 million households rely exclusively on groundwater delivered through private wells for their drinking water. This water is not subject to the same regular oversight and testing for contamination, which can delay the identification of and response to health threats. Children are especially vulnerable to water contaminants such as lead and PFAS, and water filtration systems can often provide relief for families upon installation.

Solutions are available but access and use needs to be increased to protect public health. There are many ready-to-

use technologies for testing and water treatment at the point of consumption. The challenge is that many people do not realize they may be at risk or understand how to identify an effective treatment solution. Low-cost technology solutions installed at the faucet or within a building can provide short-term and ongoing protection from known and emerging water contaminants. These solutions are especially critical because they provide a rapidly deployable solution to newly discovered water contamination. These water issues are often overlooked by existing federal water programs since they mostly focus on assistance for public water systems.

The Healthy Drinking Water Affordability Act or "Healthy H2O Act" would drive positive public health benefits for millions of rural, underserved communities (populations of 10,000 or less), with persistent water challenges that lack near-term solutions to contamination by:

- Providing grants to conduct water quality testing and the purchase, installation, and maintenance of point-of-use or point-of-entry water treatment systems that remove or reduce health-based contaminants from drinking water.
- □ Having the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) directly provide grants to individuals and licensed child-care facilities in addition to non-profits who are equipped to help people go through the process of testing and then finding and installing a water treatment product to address their situation.
- Requiring water treatment systems funded through the program be third-party certified to address the health-based contaminant found in their drinking water.

The Healthy H20 Act has received support from 25+ organizations including the Water Quality Association, RCAP, National Groundwater Association, IAPMO, Water Systems Council, and NSF International

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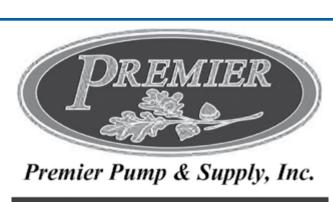
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We all take for granted the cocktail hours that take place at each and every ESWWDA meeting. All of this is thanks to our supporting staff, our suppliers and manufacturers, who generously contribute to make each gathering a fun and valuable social networking event. Many ideas have come out of these times and thanks to our supporters, we continue to value these events and look forward to many more in the future.

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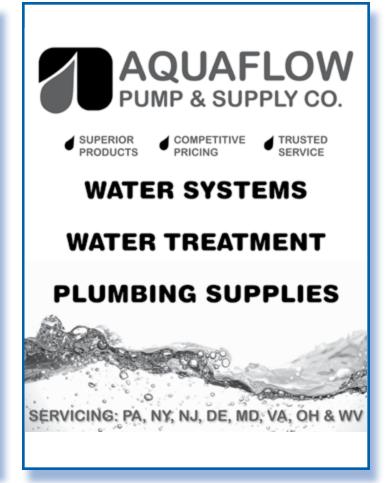
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Contact: Michael Palleschi, PG, CPG mpalleschi@alphageoscience.com



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for your Company's Safety Meeting

Learn From Near-Accidents

From NGWA Safety Facts Sheets

When you're driving down the highway at a pretty good clip and another car pulls out in front of you, it's necessary to hit the brakes or execute a quick maneuver to avoid an accident.

Chances are that you'll be pretty hot under the collar over the other driver's action, and you'll run your hand over your forehead to remove the perspiration.

But, if you're smart, you won't let anger overpower your safe driving habits, and you'll also make a mental note that you should be more alert and watch for cars approaching the highway from side roads. This could save your life next time.

Close calls or near-accidents on the job should be converted into safety precautions. A near-accident is an indication that something is wrong. It's a warning. A machine isn't operating correctly, materials aren't stacked properly or someone has done something that is unsafe.

When you're driving and you notice a red light glowing on the dashboard, you know that your engine is overheating or that there's another problem. Even a simple headache signals trouble in the human body, though it may be minor.

Now, let's consider some typical accidents that could have been avoided if the close call warning had been heeded.

A shop employee stumbled over a two-by-four and fractured an ankle. A janitor tripped over a loose floor tile and fell against a metal guardrail. After slipping on some trash and grabbing a metal file cabinet in an attempt to break the fall, the cabinet landed on the falling secretary. An injury resulted to a machine operator when a hi-lo struck the machine being operated.

It's pretty obvious that the proper handling of nearaccidents could have prevented the real thing from happening in the cases just mentioned. The two-byfour in the aisle and loose tile or trash on the floor probably caused other employees to step aside to avoid tripping or even caused them to stumble. And how many near-misses did the hi-lo operator have with the machine? Chances are there were several.

However, in all of these cases no one paid any attention to the warnings. Nothing was done to correct the situations and accidents resulted.

We can't go through life depending on luck to keep us healthy. We have to make our own luck, as the saying goes. We have to act in a safe manner and take proper precautions.

It's not hard to recall accidents that you've had. You may still have the pains or scars to remind you. If you get burned at an early age, you don't need a slap on the wrist to remind you to be cautious from that point on. But, as we've noted, a near-accident is often forgotten without any benefits resulting from the experience.

How can we turn a close call into a contribution to safety? There are several ways and maybe some of you are already using them. First, we have to think safety and become concerned over near-accidents.

The next step is to correct the situation or remove the hazard that caused the near-accident. If you can't handle it routinely, then report it to your supervisor. In fact, near-accidents should be reported regardless of the action to be taken. This gives your supervisor an opportunity to get a line on potential problems and to make plans for the overall security of his employees.

There's at least one good lesson to be learned from every near-accident, and in many cases, there may be two or three. So, don't discount the value of reporting close calls and correcting hazardous situations.

Safety awareness is always important. It's a case of preparing yourself mentally to act in a safe manner and to recognize a close call as a warning. So, when a stack of boxes tips over – or the handle on a tool snaps – or a ladder slips – you should get the message and do something about it.

\$325 Million in Grants for Clean Water Infrastructure Projects Statewide

Applications to Go Live on Monday, February 5

*325 million in grants will be available for clean water infrastructure projects through the next round of the State's Water Infrastructure Improvement and Intermunicipal Grant programs. This action immediately delivers on Governor Hochul's clean water funding commitments announced in her 2024 State of the State, which includes a series of changes to maximize benefits for small, rural, and disadvantaged communities. With these important changes and critical financial support for local governments across New York, Governor Hochul is laying the foundation for a healthier, more resilient future, ensuring every New Yorker has access to safe and clean water, creating jobs, and boosting the economy.

This round of WIIA/IMG boasts improvements announced as part of Governor Hochul's 2024

State of the State to maximize benefits for rural and disadvantaged communities.

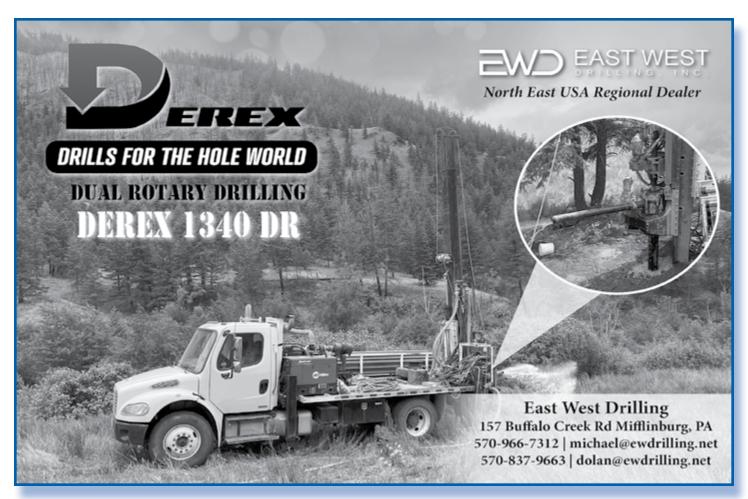
The Environmental Facilities Corporation (EFC) administers the WIIA and IMG programs in coordination with the Departments of Health (DOH) and Environmental Conservation (DEC). Governor Hochul's plans will expand the success of these programs by assisting municipalities that have often struggled with accessing clean water grants and delivering affordable projects.

Applications and full eligibility criteria will become available at the **Environmental Facilities Corporation** website on Monday, Feb. 5.

Read more details in the <u>full press release on the</u> Governor's website.



Empire State Water Well Association



Condolences

The ESWWDA wishes to express its deepest sympathies to the family of **Roger Goold** of **Goold Wells and Pumps** out of Valatie, NY. **Roger** passed away on January 18th after working most of his adult life at the family business, W. Gordon Goold Well Drilling.

He is survived by his wife, **Patricia**, his children, **Nancy**, **Karen** and **Randy** and his 5 grandchildren as well as his siblings **Betsy** and **David**.

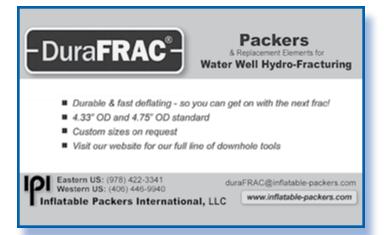
A celebration of life was held on January 27th at the Tri-Village Firehouse on Rt.13, Chatham.

Memorial donations may be made to the **Tri-Village Fire Department** or to the **Alzheimer's.org**. Condolences may be made at **frenchblasl.com**.

Patrick J. Sullivan of Potsdam, NY passed away on April 27, 2023 in Estero, FL following a short illness. Patrick is survived by his wife Sharon, children David, Timothy, Jim and Stacie along with stepchildren Tiffany, John, Christopher and Jennifer and one grandchild, Sara.

There were no calling hours. Donations may be made to **Hope Hospice**, **Hope Development Dept.** 9470, HealthPark Circle, Ft. Myers, NY 33508.





ATTN: SUPPLIERS AND MANUFACTURERS

Please note, at the top of our home website page www.nywelldriller.org

is a notation that says "click here for groundwater e-learning information".

Please forward all available e-learning opportunities that you would like to share with fellow members to gramsue67@gmail.com



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Any ESWWDA member wishing to voice their concern with the contamination of ground water by injection wells should contact:

Ms. Nicole Kraft, EPA Section Chief at

(212) 637-3093 or NicoleKraft@EPA.com.





Thank you for your support of the ground water industry!

Important Contacts:

NYS DEC: Beth Guidetti

(877) 472-2619 NYSWells@gw.dec.state.ny.us

NGWA Main Office:

(800) 551-7379

www.ngwa.org

PSI Exams:

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Water Systems Council:

(202) 625-4387 www.watersystemscouncil.org

American Ground Water Trust

(603) 228-5444 trustinfo@agwt.org

ESWWDA: Julie Boyd

(845) 225-3196

Iewels2564@aol.com

Hole Talk: Susan Bates

(315) 225-3060 Gramsue67@gmail.com

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Scholarship Money Available

As we approach the beginning of another school year, college-bound students and their families are searching for available funds to help offset the cost of further education. The ESWWDA offers a scholarship to applicants whose course of study is **related to the water well industry**. Preference is given to family members of association members and secondly to those attending 2-year programs at an accredited school.

Further information is available by contacting the **Scholarship Committee Chairperson**, Jim Utter.

Albert H. Mack Scholarship Guidelines

Guidelines for the establishment of the scholarship fund and awarding of scholarship monies for ESWWDA:

A. Scholarship Fund

- 1. Maximum funds available in one calendar year: \$2,500.
- 2. One thousand dollars per year to be set aside until the fund reaches \$7,500.

B. Awarding of Scholarships

- 1. Preference to be given to sons or daughters of association members.
- 2. Preference to be given to students attending 2-year programs.
- 3. Scholarships available only to persons whose course of study is related to the water well industry.
- 4. Persons may make application to the scholarship committee only after acceptance at an accredited school, offering a program related to the water well industry.
- 5. Funds may be distributed to more than one person in any one calendar year.
- 6. Scholarship funds are released upon acknowledgment of grades.

Daniel M. Shultes Scholarship Fund Guidelines

This scholarship is a one-time award to children of Contractor members in good standing who are attending college in a field of study outside the industry or areas not covered by the <u>Al Mack Scholarship</u>.

Awarding of Scholarships

- Preference to be given to children of Full Contractor members
- Preference to be given to students attending minimum of a 2-year program
- Persons may make applications to the scholarship committee only after acceptance at an accredited school.
- Funds may be distributed to more than one person in any one calendar year.
- Application deadline is April 1st of each year.
- Applicants are selected via a blind selection process.
- The number of scholarships and the amount of the scholarship are at the discretion of the Scholarship Committee and cannot exceed a total of \$1000 per calendar year.
- Scholarship funds are released upon acknowledgment of grades.

For more information contact the scholarship committee or go on our website at www.nywelldriller.org

ESWWDA Hole Talk Ad Rates (per year - 4 issues)

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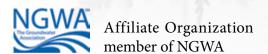
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Please call Susan Bates at (315) 225-3060 if you have any questions, or email your advertisement to: gramsue67@gmail.com.





The membership of the **ESWWDA** consists of contractors involved in the water supply industry including but not limited to:

- o Drilling Contractors
- ^o Water System Installers
- Manufacturers and Suppliers
- Engineers & Hydrogeologists
- Contractor Associates
- Student Associates



Send us your events!

To place an item in this calendar, or to submit an article or advertisement, please email Jewels2564@aol.com or Gramsue67@gmail.com no later than May 1, 2024, the next *Hole Talk* deadline.

UPCOMING EVENTS

New England Water Well Expo

March 8-9, 2024

Marlborough, MA

newwassociation.org for details

Water Systems Council Spring Meeting & Congressional Fly-In

March 18-21, 2024

Washington, DC

www.watersystemscouncil.org for details

Ground Water Awareness Week (GWAW)

March 10-16, 2024

www.ngwa.org for details

ESWWDA Spring Meeting

April 19-20, 2024

Best Western Plus

503 Washington Ave., Kingston, NY 12401 Hosted by **Boyd Artesian Wells** (Details on front page)

ESWWDA Summer Meeting

July 12-13, 2024

Hosted by Barney Moravec, Inc.

124 Horizon Park Drive, Penn Yan, NY 14527 Reservations may be made at: The Showboat

Motel and Restaurant or the Hampton Inn.

Details in a separate article included in this issue of Hole Talk.

ESWWDA Fall Meeting

TBA

ESWWDA Annual Meeting

January 14-15, 2025

Turning Stone Casino, Verona, NY



Visit www.nywelldriller.org