



# HoleTalk

Spring 2025  
Published Quarterly

[www.nywelldriller.org](http://www.nywelldriller.org)

## SPRING MEETING April 25-26, 2025

*Best Western PLUS Hotel, Kingston, NY*

*The 2025 spring meeting of the ESWWDA will take place at the Best Western PLUS Hotel, 503 Washington Ave., Kingston, NY 12401 on April 25-26th, 2025 hosted by the Boyd family. Room rates remain the same as last year at \$149.00 and room reservations may be made by calling (888) 978-4819 and stating that you are with the Empire State Water Well Drillers group. Cut-off date for reservations at the group rate is March 26, 2025.*



at 5:00 pm. Dinner on Friday is on your own, the hotel bar and restaurant will be open and available for anyone choosing to stay on site.

A board of directors meeting will be held on Saturday morning at 8:00 a.m. followed by a general membership meeting

A **General Drilling and Pump Installers class** will be held on Friday afternoon with registration beginning at 12:30. The class will run until 5pm. Preregistration and prepayment is required by contacting **Julie Boyd** at (845) 225-3196. **Deadline for class registration is April 15th.** There will be a cocktail party with hors d'oeuvres and a cash bar following the class conclusion

which includes a continental breakfast. We will have a speaker from **Gallagher, Bill O'Connor**, who will address updates to the OSHA and other regulatory programs. Analisa will do a short presentation on Inland Marine coverage and the misinterpretations of many of the covered/noncovered items. A question and answer period will follow.

The hotel features an indoor pool, fitness center, room service, both smoking and smoke free areas, a spa and a 24hr concierge. 🗨️

### 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

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# Spring Meeting Itinerary

Best Western PLUS Hotel - April 25-26, 2025

Friday, April 25, 2025

12:30 p.m. Class Registration

1:00-5:00 p.m. General Drilling and Pump Installers Class

5:00 p.m. **Cocktail Hour** with hors d'oeuvres; cash bar

Saturday, April 26, 2025

8:00 a.m. **Board of Directors Meeting**

9:00 a.m. **General Membership Meeting**  
with continental breakfast

*Speakers:* **Bill O'Conner** and **Analisa Bastiani-Jesco** will have discussions on OSHA updates and insurance endorsement program. Comparisons between Gallagher and others' programs and what you actually get for your money.



## Location:

### BEST WESTERN PLUS

503 Washinton Ave.  
Kingston, NY 12401

888-978-4819

**Hotel Rooms:** \$149.00 per night plus tax

Reservations may be made by calling **800-219-2797** and mentioning that you are with the **Empire State Water Well**

**Drillers.** The cut-off date for reservations at the group rate is March 26, 2025. *This rate includes breakfast.*

**Directions:** Follow I-87 to exit 19 to Washington Ave. Location is in Ulster County.

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

If you are looking for a full-service hotel with convenient access to any of the Catskill Mountain ski slopes, our modern, spacious and comfortable hotel has everything you need. We are located within walking distance to the trendy restaurants and shops of historic uptown Kingston. The Best Western Plus Kingston Hotel and Conference Center is located in the Historic Hudson River Valley region of New York State and surrounded by the picturesque beauty of the Catskill Mountains. Centrally located between Albany and New York City, this Kingston hotel is easily accessible from the NYS Thruway I-87 at Exit 19. 

## 2025 Officers and Directors

### President

Chris Root, CWD/PI, Root Contracting  
(585) 593-4304 • [Rootwaterwell@gmail.com](mailto:Rootwaterwell@gmail.com)

### Vice President

Jeremy Baldwin, MGWC, Hawk Drilling Co., Inc.  
(518) 885-7952 • [hawkdrilling@aol.com](mailto:hawkdrilling@aol.com)

### Past President

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

### Secretary/Treasurer

Charles W. Crover, CWD/PI  
Roarke Well Drilling, Inc.  
431 Scotchtown Ave., Goshen, NY 10924  
(845) 783-9355 • [Chuck@RoarkeWellDrilling.com](mailto:Chuck@RoarkeWellDrilling.com)

### ESWWDA Correspondence Manager

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(845) 225-3196 • [Jewels2564@aol.com](mailto:Jewels2564@aol.com)

### ESWWDA Assistant Correspondence Manager

Susan Bates  
900 N. James St., Rome, NY 13440  
(315) 225-3060 • [Gramsue67@gmail.com](mailto:Gramsue67@gmail.com)

### 3 - Year Directors

Mike Palleschi, CPG, CWD  
Senior Geologist, Alpha Geoscience  
(518) 348-6995 • [mpalleschi@alphageoscience.com](mailto:mpalleschi@alphageoscience.com)

Richard Tompkins, Reliable Pump & Well  
845-629-8301 • [reliablepumpandwell@gmail.com](mailto:reliablepumpandwell@gmail.com)

### 3 - Year Directors

Mike Palleschi, CPG, CWD  
Senior Geologist, Alpha Geoscience  
(518) 348-6995 • [mpalleschi@alphageoscience.com](mailto:mpalleschi@alphageoscience.com)

Richard Tompkins, Reliable Pump & Well  
845-629-8301 • [reliablepumpandwell@gmail.com](mailto:reliablepumpandwell@gmail.com)

### 2 - Year Directors

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

Zack Barlett, Bartlett Well Drilling  
315-331-6900

### 1 - Year Directors

William Frey, MGWC, Frey Well Drilling Inc.  
(716) 937-7977 • [DrillerFrey@aol.com](mailto:DrillerFrey@aol.com)

James Utter, Utter Well Drilling  
607-582-7436 • [jimdrilling@yahoo.com](mailto:jimdrilling@yahoo.com)

### Supplier Directors

Alan Dretel, D&S Pump and Supply  
845-279-3785 • [aldretel@aol.com](mailto:aldretel@aol.com)

Bernie Kistner, Group One Northeast, Inc.  
(845) 473-1969 • [bckistner@aol.com](mailto:bckistner@aol.com)

Dave Keough, Blake Equipment  
(845) 258-7867 • [Dave.keough@blakeequip.com](mailto:Dave.keough@blakeequip.com)

Christopher Beatson, Xylem  
585-469-0069 • [christopher.beatson@xylem.com](mailto: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

# A Lot Going On

### To the members of the Empire State Water Well Drillers Association,

I would like to introduce myself as the new President of the ESWWDA! Thank you for trusting me with this important role. I come from a family heritage of drillers that began in the oil and gas industry. Today, our focus is on water—ranging from drilling for it, to pumping it, and also conditioning and treating water.

I have been in this industry my entire life and have attended ESWWDA meetings since I was a child—over 30 years now. I am committed to upholding the mission of the ESWWDA in protecting this vital resource through the promotion of cooperation, communication, and education within our industry. Our industry is becoming increasingly more important to the future of our communities.



### Special Acknowledgment

I would like to make special acknowledgment to Mr. David Rosick and his family for his many years of service to this association. Dave first started coming to ESWWDA meetings as a member who did not really know what all went on within the association but quickly dove right in headfirst. Now many years later, Dave has served on the board of directors for

many years, as well as serving as your Vice President and President for the past four years. The ESWWDA has greatly benefited from all your hard work, experience, and determination. Dave, from myself and the entire membership, thank you, Sir! I look forward to hearing your voice and opinions as a “past president” for many more years to come. Once again, thank you.

This year has started off with a “bang” and not the bad kind we listen for on the rig while drilling. We just had our annual meeting at the Turning Stone and had a very good attendance along with a whole banquet hall full of vendors with table displays. I want to thank all the vendors who came to participate. We also had a full array of classes and lectures. Thank you to our education team who put on the rotary class primer. We had some professional talks on fleet safety, water conditioning and got to hear our annual government affairs update from Mr. Oppenheimer. Thank you to all of you as well. The government affairs committee has been very busy with talks between NYS DEC on the potential inclusion of geothermal drilling being incorporated into our current DEC water well regulations. We are also looking into the new updates made to the “wetlands” act, which increases the reach of all wetland classifications from 1,000 ft to 3,000 ft. *Needless to say, there is a lot going on.*

As we move forward together, I encourage each member to actively participate and engage in the discussions and initiatives that shape the future of our industry. Your insights and dedication are crucial as we navigate these dynamic challenges and opportunities ahead. Let us work collaboratively to ensure the longevity and sustainability of our resources and associations.

**Chris Root**, ESWWDA President 

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# Annual Meeting

## January 14, 2025

The 2025 Annual meeting of the **Empire State Water Well Drillers' Association** was called to order at **9:09 am** by **President Dave Rosick** with 85 members in attendance. The following officers and directors were in attendance:

President **Dave Rosick**

Vice President **Chris Root**

Past President **Tyler Wills**

Director **Jeremy Baldwin**

Director **Daniel Boyd**

Director **William Frey**

Director **James Utter**

Director **Mike Palleschi**

Director **Richard Tompkins**

Supplier Director **Bernie Kistner**

Supplier Director **Dave Keough**

**Adrienne Boyd** sold the **50/50 tickets**. **President Dave Rosick** made a motion to wave the reading of the minutes and accept them as printed in *Hole Talk*. **Henry Boyd** seconded the motion. The motion was passed.

President Rosick informed the membership that the **treasurer's report** had been reviewed by the Board at the Board meeting Tuesday morning since the Treasurer was absent. **Al Gerisch** made a motion to accept the report that was approved by the Board. **Chris Root** seconded the motion. The motion was passed.

**President Dave Rosick** thanked everyone for attending the meeting and supporting our industry. The meeting was dedicated to **Jeff Quinn** aka **The Man of the Year**. Jeff passed away unexpectedly last year but had done quite a bit for the industry. As President, Davie's last duty was to negotiate our contract with **Greenberg Traurig**. Dave reported that the fees would remain the

same as last year. President Rosick thanked his committees for all their hard work. He thanked his board for being willing to not only work at the quarterly meeting but do early Saturday morning zoom meetings. He thanks **Chris Root** for his support and for stepping up as President and wish him good luck.

**Communications:** **Sue Bates** reported that we received a thank you letter from **Water Systems Council** for renewing our membership.

**Sickness & Health:** **Julie Boyd** reported that **John Findorack** passed away at the beginning of December 2024. She also noted that **Rick Mensheusen** has been ill though is now at home and recovering.

At this time **Dennis Duty** and **Julie Boyd** spoke about the donation to the association from **Baroid** in memory of **Jeff Quinn**. Baroid had donated three items to the auction. These items raised over \$3000 dollars. Baroid had also set aside spaces in their **2026 Mud School** for lucky ESWWDA members. The association will assist the two members chosen with their airfare, room and board. *Tickets for a chance to go will be sold at the April, July and October meetings* with the winners drawn at the October meeting. You can also buy chances by contacting Julie Boyd directly. Julie stated that more details will be in *Hole Talk*. **Dennis Duty** then explained to the membership what **Mud School** is. It is a one-week course at the Baroid facilities in Houston, Texas.

At this time **Josh Oppenheimer** from **Greenberg Traurig** was introduced. Mr. Oppenheimer's presentation is located separately in *Hole Talk* under legislative update.

The second presentation was from **Carrie Friello** from the **DEC Division**

**of Mineral and Mining**. Ms. Friello discussed the regulation of various well types under Article 23 of the **Environmental Conservation Law** which for our industry is borehole over 500 feet for geothermal use only. She provided an update on the rulemaking process for closed-loop geothermal boreholes and closed-loop test wells (stratigraphic wells). Carrie clarified the differences between these well types and outlined the goals of the rulemaking process, which include protecting groundwater, surface water, and natural resources, reducing administrative burdens, and providing clear, consistent, and transparent requirements. She also discussed the permit application requirements, the introduction of an addition to Chapter 5: Subchapter B for closed-loop geothermal wells which would include definition and term clarity, focusing on stratigraphic wells and closed-loop geothermal wells and incorporation of industry standards by reference groups such as **NGWA** and **IGSHPA**. Carrie emphasized the importance of a qualified contractor registration, understanding of diverse geology, drilling and installation standards, waste hauling, and the potential for cost reduction and efficiency measures. She talked about the **Generic Environmental Impact Statement (GEIS)**.

Our third speaker for the day was **Beth Guidetti** from the **DEC Water Well Program**. Ms. Guidetti showed the membership how to use the **DECInfoLocator** and other data bases. She discussed the revised completion reports. She emphasized the importance of correctly reporting well locations and filling out forms with accurate information. Beth also mentioned the possibility of sending back incorrect reports and the need for better quality reporting. She



## ESWWDA Values

encouraged the membership to use the online data sets and maps for quick information retrieval. Beth addressed the draft legislation document and encouraged the legislative committee to review it and provide feedback. Lastly, she addressed the topic of licensing fees and encouraged the team to discuss it with Josh. Ms. Guidetti discussed the challenges of enforcing certification requirements for drillers in the industry. She explained that due to staffing limitations, it's difficult to catch unlicensed drillers and pump installers and to enforce the rules. She suggested that one solution could be to list certified drillers on the company's website but noted that this would require legal approval. She suggested that unlicensed contractors could be addressed by having

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**Professional Standards** ◦ **Communication**  
**Education** ◦ **Integrity** ◦ **Affordability**

local code enforcement or health department officials more involved in monitoring the industry. The group agreed that better enforcement was needed but also recognized the challenges in implementing it.

President Rosick thanked the three speakers for all of their information. He especially thanked **Beth** for working with us and our members. At this time, **Kevin Moravec** was introduced. Kevin stated that at their 90th Anniversary party in July, which was combined with our meeting, **Barney Moravec Inc.**

raised an additional \$6000 dollars which they would like to donate to the **Empire State Water Well Drillers' Association**. Kevin requested that \$1000 dollars be directed to the **Veterans Give Back** program and the remaining monies to be added to the general fund. Kevin thanked the association for their hard work. The Moravecs were met with a round of applause and thanks from the membership.

**Insurance & Safety: Greg Scott** from **Gallagher Insurance** was invited to discuss the water well industry's insurance by highlighting a significant decrease in claims over the past year. Greg emphasized the importance of safety and monitoring employees, particularly in auto claims, and suggested enrolling

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”

  
**Chip H.**  
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★★★★★  
“ The HDD Hammer performed exactly as was sold to me.  
Straight shooters! ”



in the **Lens program** for real-time notifications of violations. He also advised reviewing equipment coverage and values regularly. Lastly, Greg mentioned the increasing trend of cyber liability and encouraged the team to consider a cyber liability policy for protection.

**Membership:** Sue Bates reported that in 2024 we had eight new members. Currently we have a total of **300 members**. The breakdown of the 300 members is 168 contractors, 55 suppliers/manufacturers and 77 associates. The second round of membership invoicing will be sent out in February.

**Scholarships:** Director Jim Utter reported that we had no new applications this quarter. The previous two **Dan Shultes winners** had been sent their checks after completing their first quarter with above average grades.

**Government Affairs:** Covered by Josh Oppenheimer.

**NEWWA:** Henry Boyd reported that the **NEWWA Expo** is March 14-15 in Marlborough, Massachusetts. There is a list of classes posted on the bulletin board downstairs. The association had received \$3000 dollars from NEWWA this fall. Also, he noted that the **Best Western Royal Plaza** hotel was recently remodeled.

**Budget & Finance:** No report at this time.

**Education:** Henry Boyd reported that in October we did a class at **D&S Pump and Supply** at their main office in Brewster. It was well attended. He was very surprised by the attendance in the Rotary class today and thanked **Jeremy Baldwin** for teaching also. The rest of the classes yesterday were very well attended and very informative. Henry thanked all the speakers.

**NGWA:** Chris Root noted that NGWA had released the new **Business Pro** which is a combination of Well Vu and QuickBooks. There was information on the bulletin board regarding **NGWA University**. The **Fly-In** will be March 25-26.

**WSC:** Chris Root informed the membership that **WSC** sent out information on nine new types of **PFAS**.

At this time **President Rosick** introduced **Seth Kellogg** who is currently President-elect of NGWA. Seth Kellogg spoke about NGWA is looking at goal setting and that this was a great time for input. NGWA is looking at various needs in the industry including workforce development. It would like to assist its memberships with training options including the **NGWA University** and assisting employers with retention. The headquarters of NGWA just had a retro fit of a geothermal system. They were surprised by the footprint. This allows opportunities to show off the

systems as well as reduce their energy costs. As Chris mentioned, Seth spoke about the **Business Pro** release. She will also take back our concern regarding the new DEC well logs being updated on the system. NGWA has the **Water Well Loan** program which provides loans through a third party for wells. The interest rate is based on the applicant's credit score. Ms. Kellogg also spoke about the **Groundwater Foundation** and the awesome aquifer. Companies can sponsor an awesome aquifer to a local middle school. The program is looking at ways to continue educational programs through high school. There is also the **Water Well Wish** program where state affiliates can help identify candidates who cannot afford a well. 13 of the 22 projects on the list have been completed. Finally, Seth reminded everyone again of the **Fly-In** in March. With the new congress it should be a very impactful year.

**Hole Talk:** The deadline for **Hole Talk** is **February 1**.



New England Water Well Association

NEWWA

Join Us!

**NEWWA EXPO 2025**  
Friday, March 14  
Saturday, March 15

Friday, March 14	
Educational Seminars	10 am to 4 pm.
Expo – Trade Hall	4 pm to 7 pm
with Grab & Go food and family fun games.	

Saturday, March 15	
Educational Seminars	9 am to 11 am.
Expo – Trade Hall	8 am to 1 pm
with demonstrations and family fun games.	

Attendee Tickets:  
\$25 (before 3/1) and  
\$30 at the door.

For registration or more details go to [www.newwassocation.org](http://www.newwassocation.org)

RESERVATIONS: Call the Best Western Hotel located at 181 Boston Post Road West Marlborough, MA 01752 to make your reservation and mention NEWWA to get negotiated rate. Best Western's phone number is (508)-460-0700.



**Public Information:** Please check the website to see if you are listed correctly.

**DOT:** No report at this time.

**Geothermal:** **Kevin Moravec** stated that the **NY-Geo Conference** will be held in Saratoga Springs April 22-24 and will include multiple demonstrations. Sponsorship opportunities are available. The demo will be at the local **BOCES** and will involve the HVAC students, and the forestry students will be planting trees.

**Veteran Program:** **Jim Utter** reported that **Root Contracting** had completed a job. The application for the program was revised and will be available on the website soon.

**Past Presidents:** No report at this time.

**Old Business:** **Sue Bates** announced that the spring meeting will be held in Kingston, NY at the Best Western. The dates are **April 25-26**. There will be a **General Drilling/Pump Installer class** on Friday afternoon. Our summer meeting will be **Flomatic** in Glens Falls. No location has been determined for the fall meeting.

At this time Past President **Tony Ferraioli**, Past President **Henry Boyd** and President **Dave Rosick** handed out awards. Here is the list of recipients: The Ed Ebel award was given to **Dan Dempsey** of **Dempsey Steel Pipe Co**; the **Neal Crandall award** was presented to **Kevin Moravec**; **Lifetime Membership awards** were presented to Past President **Al Gerisch** and Past President **Tony Ferraioli**. **Sue Bates** and **Julie Boyd** were presented handmade jewelry boxes for service to the association. The boxes and most of the awards were handmade by **Tony Ferraioli**.

President **Rosick** then handed over the gavel to Past President **Tony Ferraioli** to run the elections.

**Hole Talk**

Mr. Ferraioli asked if there was anyone interested in running for an office from the floor. There was no response. Tony then announced the slate of officers and directors that was brought forth from the board of directors. The proposed slate was **President Chris Root**, **Vice President Jeremy Baldwin**, **Secretary/Treasurer Charles Crover**, **third-year directors Mike Palleschi** and **Richard Tompkins**, **second-year directors Daniel Boyd** and **Zack Barlett** and **first-year directors William Frey** and **James Utter**. At this time the floor was open for nominations. Mr. Ferraioli placed the nominations of **Mike Palleschi** and **Richard Tompkins** for **third-year directors**, **Daniel Boyd** and **Zack Barlett** for **second-year directors** and **William Frey** and **James Utter** for **first-year directors**. Mr. Ferraioli asked if there are any nominations from the floor for these positions. Tony again asks if there are any nominations from the floor for the positions. There being no nominations from the floor, Tony hereby instructs the executive secretary to cast 1 ballot for each of the nominated directors for their positions. Congratulations to the Directors.

At this time the floor was open for nominations. At this time, Mr. Ferraioli placed into nomination for the position of Secretary/Treasurer **Charles Crover**. Mr. Ferraioli asks if there are any nominations from the floor for this position. Tony again asks if there are any nominations from the floor for this position. There being no nominations from the floor, Tony hereby instructs the executive secretary to cast 1 ballot for **Charles Crover** for the position of **Secretary/Treasurer**. Congratulations to Mr. Crover.

Then Mr. Ferraioli placed into nomination for the position of

Vice President **Jeremy Baldwin**. Mr. Ferraioli asks if there are any nominations from the floor for this position. Tony again asks if there are any nominations from the floor for this position. There being no nominations from the floor, Tony hereby instructs the executive secretary to cast 1 ballot for **Jeremy Baldwin** for the position of **Vice President**. Congratulations to Mr. Baldwin.

Finally, Mr. Ferraioli placed into nomination for the position of President **Chris Root**. Mr. Ferraioli asks if there are any nominations from the floor for this position. Tony again asks if there are any nominations from the floor for this position. There being no nominations from the floor, Tony hereby instructs the executive secretary to cast 1 ballot for **Chris Root** for the position of **President**. Congratulations to Mr. Root.

**Past President Dave Rosick** passed the gavel to **Chris Root**. President **Chris Root** presented Past President **Dave Rosick** with a plaque thanking him for his serve to the industry and the association.

**President Root** thanked the membership for their support and pledged to keep the ship upright. He feels a strong sense of duty to the industry. At this time President **Root** dismissed and thanked the nominating committee for their service.

Newly installed President **Root** drew the name of **Jim Utter** from the bowl as winner of the **50/50 drawing**. Mr. **Utter** donated his share back to the association.

**Ed Bates** made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 12:10 pm. **Mannie Kokakis** seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Respectfully submitted by:  
**Julie Boyd** 🗨️

## 2025 ESWWDA Committees

### Scholarship

Chairperson Jim Utter 607-582-7436  
Kevin Moravec 315-536-3911

### Education

Chairperson Henry Boyd 845-225-3196  
Jeremy Baldwin 518-885-7952  
Sandra Baldwin 518-396-9499  
Brian Frey 716-937-7977

### Membership

Chairperson Sue Bates 315-225-3060  
William Frey 716-937-7977  
Chris Root 585-593-4309

### Insurance/ Safety

Chairperson Analisa Jesco 888-869-3535  
Jeff Smith 518-758-6142  
Chuck Crover 845-783-9355

### Government Affairs

Chairperson Janice Hawk-Baldwin 518-885-7952  
Sandra Baldwin 518-885-7952  
Alt. Jeff Smith 518-758-6142  
All Board of Directors

### NEWWA

Chairperson Henry Boyd 845-225-3196  
Julie Bullock 845-225-3196  
Alt. Alan Dretel 914-522-7855  
James Utter 607-351-1002

### Liaisons to NGWA/WSC

Chairperson Chris Root 585-593-4304  
Henry Boyd 845-225-3196  
Jeff Smith 518-758-6142  
Alan Dretel 914-522-7855  
Michael Palleshi 518-348-6995  
Richard Moravec 315-536-3911

### Budget & Finance

Chairperson Chuck Crover 845-783-9355  
Bernie Kistner 845-473-1969  
Analisa Jesco 888-869-3535  
Alan Dretel 914-522-7855

### Hole Talk

Chairperson Julie Bullock 845-225-3196  
Sue Bates 315-225-3060

### By-Laws

Chairperson Tony Ferraioli 518-861-8733  
Henry Boyd 845-225-3196

### Environment

Chairperson Henry Boyd 845-225-3196  
Daniel Boyd 772-626-4515

### DOT

Chairperson Jeremy Baldwin 518-885-7952  
Chris Root 585-593-4304  
Brian Frey 716-937-7977  
Daniel Boyd 772-626-4515

### Geothermal

Chairperson Kevin Moravec 315-536-3911  
Jeremy Baldwin 518-885-7952  
Richard Tompkins 845-629-8301

### Giving Back

Chairperson Sandra Baldwin 518-885-7952  
Chris Root 585-593-4304  
William Frey 716-937-7977  
Tyler Wills 518-758-6142

### Suppliers' Division

Chairperson Bernie Kistner 845-473-1969  
Dave Keough 845-258-7867  
Alan Dretel 845-279-3785  
Christopher Beatson 585-469-0069

## MEMBERSHIP REPORT

# November 2024

CATEGORY	TOTAL	PAID	UNPAID
Contractors	168	108	60
Suppliers/Manufacturers	55	41	14
Associates	78	54	24
	===	===	==
<b>Total Members</b>	<b>301</b>	<b>203</b>	<b>98</b>

*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](http://www.nywelldriller.org)*

## One new member this quarter

# WELCOME NEW MEMBER

### ASSOCIATE MEMBER:

*Charles A. Talcott Well Drilling*

*Charles Talcott, Jr.*

*215 Ketchum Rd. Nichols, NY 13812*

## 2025 DUES INCREASE

Contractor/Driller ..... \$250

Pump Installer ..... \$250

Supplier/Manufacturer ..... \$250

Associate Company Member ..... \$50

Retired Member ..... \$50

*(Who were self-employed with no employees)*



## 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**
- **A united voice:** ESWWDA speaks for drillers on issues of far-reaching impact.
- **A voice:** A vote on the direction ESWWDA takes.

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

# ESWWDA

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

Name: _____	Date: _____
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County: _____	Email: _____
Business Name: _____	Website: _____
Contractor/Driller ..... \$250	NGWA Member    Yes _____ No _____
Pump Installer ..... \$250	MGWC/CWD/CPI # _____
Supplier/Manufacturer ..... \$250	NYS DEC Reg # _____
Associate Company Member .....\$50	Sponsor: _____
Retired Member .....\$50 <i>(Who were self-employed with no employees)</i>	

**Dues are NOT Tax Deductible**

Mail application to: **Susan Bates, 900 N James Street, Rome, NY 13440** (Checks payable to: **ESWWDA**)  
Or visit our website at [www.nywelldriller.org](http://www.nywelldriller.org) to join.

SAVE THE DATE  
**JULY 11-12, 2025**

**Flomatic Valves** will be hosting this years **summer meeting** at their facility on Pruyns Island Dr. in Glens Falls, NY on **July 11-12, 2025**.

A tour of the facility will be given followed by a barbeque on Friday, July 11, 2025. A **general membership meeting** will be held on Saturday morning.

More details will be available in the next issue of *Hole Talk* as well as on our Facebook page and the website. 🗨️

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# A General Drilling and Pump Installer Classes

Will Be Offered at the Spring Meeting, **Friday, April 25, 2025**

*At the Spring meeting* of the Empire State Water Well Driller's Association, we will be offering classes.

**Preregistration is required one week in advance and classes must have a minimum attendance or classes will be cancelled. Registration deadline is April 15th.**

The first part of the class will cover general drilling knowledge, which will assist individuals in taking the Drilling General Exam and some questions on the General Water Systems Exam. The second part of the class will cover more of the Water Systems General and the Pumps under 100 gpm exam for pump installers. **Please note exams are not given on-site. There will be no Cable Tool or Rotary Classes.** You must schedule the test on your own and in advance.

Completion of this class and general firsthand experience will enable you to prepare for the required NGWA exams. Licensing for any person operating a drill rig or performing pump work is a DEC requirement.

***Class size will be limited.*** Registration will be \$75 for ESWWDA members and \$150 for non-members. Any member, who has already taken any of the primer classes offered in 2002 through 2024, may retake the class for \$40.00. Payment can be made with cash, check or credit card (MasterCard or Visa).



Onsite check-in begins at 12:30 pm.

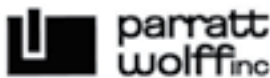
Contact Julie Boyd to pre-register at 845-225-3196.

**New York State Environmental Conservation Law ECL §15-1525 requires the following:**

- Water well drillers and pump contractors must be registered with the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation.
- After a well is drilled, contractors must provide a DEC well completion report to the well owner.
- At least one certified individual must be on site during well construction, pump installation or repair to either.
- Water wells must be constructed in accordance with NYS Department of Health rules and regulations (link leaves DEC website).
- Water well drillers and pump contractors are subject to General Business Law 36-A, which regulates home improvements.
- The NYS Health Department has Fact Sheets on Protection of Water Wells (link leaves DEC website).



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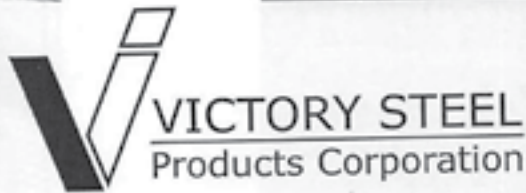


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## IN MEMORY OF JEFF QUINN MAN OF THE YEAR

Thank you very much to our friends at Baroid for their generosity at the auction and beyond. In this issue of Holetalk you can read how to win chances to attend **MUD SCHOOL** in Houston, TX. Thanks to our “retired” friend Dennis Duty for his support, our longtime friend Michael Miller, and our new friend Dustin Clausing for keeping Jeff’s spirit in our hearts.



### Awards were handed out at the general membership meeting held at Turning Stone Resort and Casino on January 15, 2025.



The **Neil Crandall award** was given to **Kevin Moravec** for his continued efforts in the geothermal field.



**Lifetime awards** were presented to **Al Gerish** and **Tony Ferraioli** Hosted by the **Bates Family**.



**Sue Bates** and **Julie Boyd** were presented handmade jewelry boxes for service to the association.



**Seth Kellogg**,  
NGWA President Elect

The **Ed Ebel award** was presented to **Dempsey Steel Pipe**, a longtime member and contributor to the **ESWWDA**.



The gavel being passed from outgoing president **David Rosick** to incoming president, **Chris Root**.



**The ESWWDA Expo 2017 Committee**  
*Express our Sincere Appreciation to*

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 Dave Root Chris Root

**Root Water Well Specialists**  
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*for all your time and support to help make this event a success!*









# TICKETS for SALE

## Mud School or Cash Raffle

If you would like to buy tickets before the next meeting, please send me a check or call with a credit card to buy tickets. I will then send them to you in the mail. Mud School drawing is \$30 per ticket and the drawing will be October 2025. Cash raffle is \$50 per ticket and the drawing will be January 2026.

Checks made out to ESWWDA and mailed to Julie Boyd at 1054 Route 52, Carmel, NY 10512. You can email at [jewels2564@aol.com](mailto:jewels2564@aol.com) or 845-225-3196.

**BAROID MUD SCHOOL**  
Win 1 of 2 chances to attend mud school in  
Houston, TX in 2026  
Drawing: October 2025 at the  
General Membership Meeting  
Tickets: \$30.00 each  
Winner need not be present to win

← MUD SCHOOL - \$30.00 per ticket

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↓



Past President **Jim Dwyer** and **Chuckie Crover**, son of current secretary/treasurer, **Chuck Crover**.

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5 - Third Prizes of \$1,000 each  
ESWWDA Annual Meeting - January 20, 2026  
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See Board members or staff to purchase tickets.  
*We appreciate your generous support of our organization!*  
Purchase of tickets or winning the prizes are NOT tax deductible.







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## Insurance Coverage Spotlight Inland Marine

*Inland marine coverage* is an important component of a contractor's insurance policy. It is designed to protect tools, equipment, and materials that are frequently transported or used offsite. Unlike standard property insurance, which typically covers items at a fixed location, inland marine insurance provides coverage for movable property and equipment. This can include common items such as tools, installation items like pumps, and large, expensive equipment such as pump hoists and drill rigs. An inland marine policy protects against theft, damage, or loss during transit, but it excludes coverage for wear and tear.

This topic will be discussed in more detail at the April general membership meeting in Kingston on April 26th. 



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# Clip-n-Copy

## for your Company's Safety Meeting

# Flammable Liquid Fire Safety

From NGWA Safety Facts Sheets

*After putting an underground type gasoline tank on the rails to be cut into pieces, John checked the tank by looking through a four-inch hole in the side of the tank and detected a strong odor of fumes. Bob Smith also checked and said it was mostly water. Bob followed the usual procedure prior to cutting a tank by placing the lighted torch at the bottom of the tank and removing himself about 30 feet down the track until a hole had been made in the tank. If any fumes were present and an explosion occurred, it would be vented through the two vent holes already punched into the sides of the tank. John saw Bob walk back to the tank and pick up the torch, he heard an explosion and saw Bob lying between the tracks and beneath the end of the tank which had blown off.*


People! Flammable liquids are among the most lethal potentially dangerous fire hazards imaginable, and almost every plant uses them!

Flammable liquids have a low flash-fire point. Their vapors are highly sensitive to the slightest spark. Static electricity alone can set them ablaze. Then how do we avoid a possible holocaust when dealing with such extremely volatile chemical substances?

Let's identify some problem areas so that corrective action can be taken.

- Are all connections on drums and piping carrying combustible liquids both vapor and liquid tight?

- Are flammable liquids kept in closed containers when not in use?
- Are we promptly cleaning up all spills of flammable or combustible liquids?
- Are we storing in covered metal receptacles all our combustible waste such as oily rags, etc., and disposing of it daily?
- Are we storing gas and other flammable liquid in approved containers?
- Are storage cabinets for flammable liquids labeled "Flammable – Keep Fire Away?" And are we attentive to the warning?
- Do we keep more than one day's supply of flammable liquid outside the approved storage cabinet or room?
- Are LP gas storage tanks guarded to prevent damage from vehicles?
- Are "No Smoking" signs posted on or near those LP gas tanks?

People, these are just a sample of prevalent conditions that may exist in our place of employment. I am quite sure some of these conditions do exist here. It is up to us, you and I, to be very conscious of the immediate danger imposed by improper fire prevention and lack of respect for flammable liquids. 


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**Analisa M. Bastiani-Jesco**

Area Director, Water Well Drillers Insurance Program  
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**Tracy E. Wronoski**

Area Vice President  
518.242.7550 [Tracy\\_Wronoski@ajg.com](mailto:Tracy_Wronoski@ajg.com)

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# 2025 Government Affairs Update

From Joshua Oppenheimer from Greenberg Traurig

A quick update from Albany showed very little changes in the Senate or the Assembly. Governor Kathy Hochul still has a democratic majority in both the Senate and Assembly. In the Senate only one seat flipped from Democrat to Republican and we have a few new Senators due to retirements. The Senate leadership is Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins, Senator Liz Krueger is the Chair of the Senate Finance Committee, Senator Pete Harckham is still the Chair of the Senate Environmental Conservation Committee and Senator Gustavo Rivera is the Chair of the Senate Health Committee. In the Assembly the Democrats overwhelming have control as they have for decades. In the Assembly, Carl Heastie is the speaker, Assemblyman Gary Prelow is the committee chair of the Ways and Means; Assemblymember Deborah Glick remains as chair of the Conservations Committee as well as Assemblymember Amy Paulin as chair of the health committee.

Here is an update on legislative and regulatory issues:

- **Private Well Testing Act (A.5979/S.1650):** It was first introduced nearly two decades ago. It occasionally passes in the Assembly but not in the Senate. It was not introduced in 2023 or 2024 but might be introduced in 2025.
- **Geothermal Tax Credit (A.637):** This bill was only introduced in the Assembly in 2019 and has no companion bill in the Senate.
- **DEC Water Well Program Update:** The DEC first advanced a draft approximately 10 years ago. ESWWDA has worked closely with the DEC and the Legislature to make sure the draft is consistent with actual industry practices. It was paused in prioritization but now it is back and being reviewed by your legislative committee.
- **DEC Mineral & Mining:** In 2024 the DEC Division of Mineral and Mining was directed to promulgate rules relating to geothermal drilling deeper than 500 feet. ESWWDA has been in regular contact with DEC as they formulate the draft, specifically highlighting the need for:
  - (a) a DEC permitting and logging process to track relevant details about the driller and the location of the boreholes.
  - (b) basic qualifications of persons drilling geothermal boreholes over 500 feet.
  - (c) basic standards to keep ground water safe.
- **DEC Wetlands:** in 2022 statutory changes broadened

the definition of wetland to not just that which is mapped. Currently there must be at least 12.4 acres to be subject to regulation and as of 1/1/2028 any wetland at least 7.4 acres will be subject to protection. The wetlands are also protected if meets “Unusual Importance” criteria.

Governor Hochul gave the State of the State address yesterday. There was nothing notable in the speech, but she referenced a plan to “launch a pilot program providing financial assistance for private well owners to **replace or treat contaminated wells.**” It included several items on **public** water:

- “Safeguard New York’s Water Infrastructure” – cybersecurity standards for water and wastewater utilities
- **Creating a Pro-Housing Supply fund** to assist with critical infrastructure projects necessary to create new housing, such as sewer and water infrastructure upgrades
- **Plan to “invest an additional \$500 million in water infrastructure to reduce water bills.”**

Budget will be released next week. 🗨️



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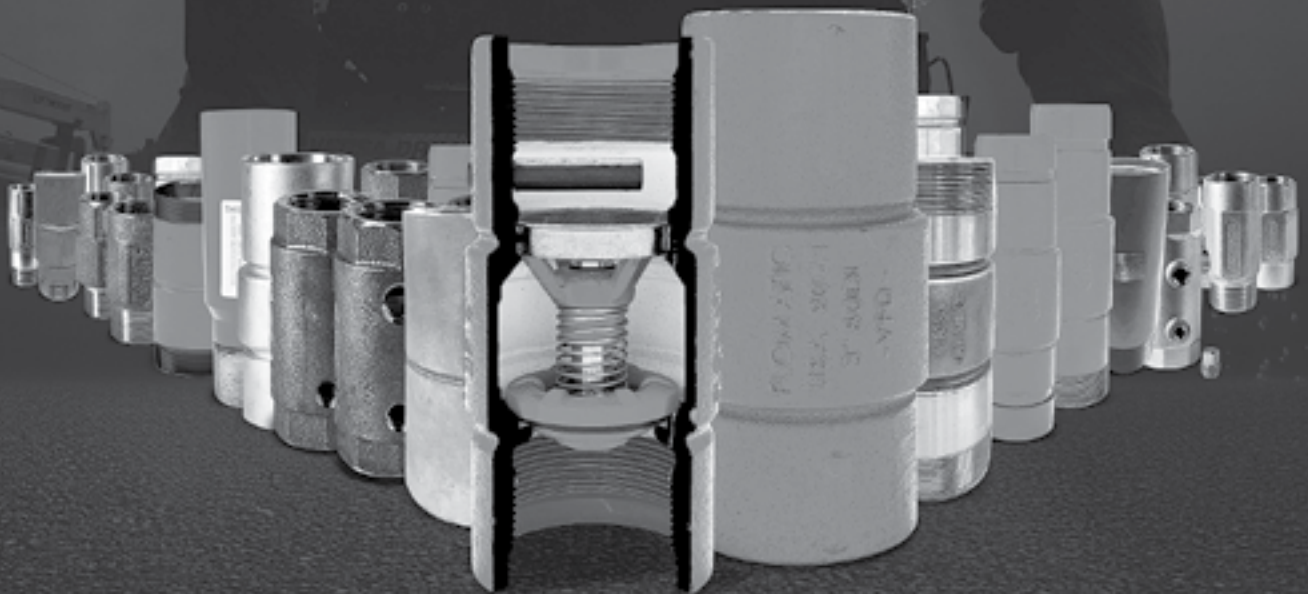


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# Condolence Corner



The ESWWDA would like to extend their condolences to the family of **John M. Findorak, Jr.**

John passed on December 2, 2024, in Wilton, CT at the age of 90. He became owner/

operator of **Findorak and Sons** after the passing of his father in 1965.

John was predeceased by his **parents**, and his brother **Loren**. John was survived by his daughter **Lisa** as well as his son-in-law **Aaron Nachbar**. He is also survived by 5 grandchildren and 2 great-granddaughters.

Services were private with interment at Hillside Cemetery.

Donations in John's name may be made to the **Wilton Volunteer Ambulance Corps**, 234 Danbury Rd. Wilton, CT 06897. 🗨️



Condolences go out to the family of **Anthony "Tony" Paul Alfalla, Sr.** from the **Empire State Water Well Drillers' Association**. Tony passed away on January 31, 2025 at the age of 70.

Tony is survived by his long time partner, **Karen**, as well as his children **Terry, Julie** and **Elizabeth** as well as his 7 grandchildren, siblings, nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his sons **Anthony, Jr.** and **Michael**.

Visitation was held on Sunday, February 9th from 1:00pm – 5:00pm at the **W. Gagan Funeral Home** in Pine Bush, NY. Burial will be private.

In lieu of flowers, please make a donation in Tony's name to the **American Foundation for Suicide or Section IX Wrestling**. 🗨️



It is with deep regrets that we acknowledge the passing of **Marty Harrington**. Marty passed away at his home on Friday, January 31, 2025, of an apparent heart attack at the age of 63. He was employed by **TJM, Inc. LLC** at the time of his passing.

Marty is survived by his wife **Michelle**, his son **Sean** and daughter **Sierra (Jeffrey) Case**, his granddaughter, **Olive Case**, one brother and one sister.

A celebration of life will take place on April 27th at his home. Donations in Marty's memory may be made to **The Second Chance Animal Shelter** in Arlington, VT. 🗨️

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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](mailto:NicoleKraft@EPA.com).

## Important Contacts:

**NYS DEC: Beth Guidetti**  
 (877) 472-2619  
[NYSWells@gw.dec.state.ny.us](mailto:NYSWells@gw.dec.state.ny.us)

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[www.watersystemscouncil.org](http://www.watersystemscouncil.org)

**American Ground Water Trust**  
 (603) 228-5444  
[trustinfo@agwt.org](mailto:trustinfo@agwt.org)

**ESWWDA: Julie Boyd**  
 (845) 225-3196  
[Jewels2564@aol.com](mailto:Jewels2564@aol.com)

**Hole Talk: Susan Bates**  
 (315) 225-3060  
[Gramsue67@gmail.com](mailto:Gramsue67@gmail.com)

**NYS DOT**  
 Division of Permitting  
**Ken Dodge**  
 (888) 783-1685

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**Bill Leonard**  
 (518) 457-2019

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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 Al Mack Scholarship.*

### 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](http://www.nywelldriller.org)**

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

Business Card ... \$200

1/4 Page ... \$500

1/2 Page ... \$1000

Full Page ... \$1,500

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



Affiliate Organization  
member of NGWA

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

- Drilling Contractors
- 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](mailto:Jewels2564@aol.com) or [Gramsue67@gmail.com](mailto:Gramsue67@gmail.com) no later than **May 1, 2025**, the next **Hole Talk** deadline.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### NEW ENGLAND WATER WELL EXPO

**March 14-15, 2025**

**Best Western Royal Plaza Trade Center**  
Marlborough, MA

For more information:

[www.newwassociation.org](http://www.newwassociation.org)

Hosted by the **Boyd family**

A class will be offered on April 25th in the afternoon

*Details on page 1-2*

### ESWWDA SUMMER MEETING

**July 11-12, 2025**

Sponsored by **Flomatic, Glens Falls, NY**

*Details to follow.*

### NGWA AND WQA FLY-IN

**March 25-26, 2025**

**Washington, DC**

For more information: [www.ngwa.org](http://www.ngwa.org)

### ESWWDA FALL MEETING

**October 2025**

*Details to follow.*

### WSC SPRING MEETING/ CONGRESSIONAL FLY-IN

**March 25-27, 2025**

**Phoenix Park Hotel, Washington, DC**

For more information: [www.wsc.org](http://www.wsc.org)

### NGWA GROUNDWATER TRADE SHOW

**December 9-11, 2025**

**New Orleans, LA**

For more information go to: [www.ngwa.org](http://www.ngwa.org)

### ESWWDA SPRING MEETING

**April 25-26, 2025**

**Best Western PLUS, Kingston, NY**

For reservations: **1-888-978-4819**

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*GROUP RATE OF \$149 PLUS TAX PER NIGHT*

### ESWWDA ANNUAL MEETING 2026

**January 20-21, 2026**

**Turning Stone Resort and Casino, Verona, NY**

Hosted by the **Bates Family**

*Details to follow*

Visit [www.nywelldriller.org](http://www.nywelldriller.org)