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Kent Wilkins, OWRB
Drillers Program Coordinator



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- Coordinator's Corner
- 7th Annual Trade Show and Conference a Success
- OGWA Continuing Education Classes
- Take Time to Schedule Your Well Checkup

Coordinator's Corner

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The Oklahoma Water Resources Board (OWRB) and Oklahoma Ground Water Association (OGWA) wrapped up another excellent two-day trade show and conference in February. Attendance was great again this year with approximately 250 groundwater related professionals. Industry topics, such as Geothermal Systems, DOT Regulations, Drilling Fluids, Oklahoma Rules and Regulations, Jobsite Safety, Bidding a Job, and a number of excellent technical sessions were presented. The Trade Show continues to grow larger each year and I appreciate everyone who assisted and participated.

New OGWA Board members elected include Jody Jarman, Accurate Drilling Services, Mustang; Beau Baker, Aqua Well Drilling, Harrah; Brent Lang, B & L Water Well, Enid; Deanna Atkinson, OEI, Enid; and Terry Williams, Williams Drilling, Antlers. Congratulations to all new Board members.

Renewal period for the odd numbered licensed firms is just around the corner. Please be aware that 8 credit hours of continuing education will be required for the two-year renewal period. We have scheduled five educational sessions to be held in June for each quadrant of the state and a final session in Oklahoma City to allow opportunities to obtain educational credit.

Proposed rules and regulations for the driller's program have been submitted to the legislature for their approval and a copy of the changes may be downloaded from our website. If you have any questions regarding rule changes or current rules, please give me a call at (405) 530-8800.

7th Annual Trade Show and Conference a Success

The OGWA 7th Annual Conference and Trade Show, held on February 19-20, 2009, had approximately 250 participants.

Attendees heard from Dr. W. Richard Laton, distinguished National Ground Water Association (NGWA) McElhiney lecturer. Mr. Laton presented a discussion titled "Boring Logs--What's Important and What's Not--A Scientific Viewpoint" that was very informative to the well drillers, agency employees, and consultants. Alan Eades, also with the NGWA, presented information regarding the groundwater industry from the national level.

Pump Installers heard presentations from Franklin Electric while drilling operators gained valuable knowledge of ODOT inspection and compliance issues presented by Oklahoma Department of Highway Patrol representatives and the use of bentonite products from Lyndon Pence of Baroid. We also had a very informative presentation from Attorney Diane Goldschmidt regarding legal ways to bid a job.

Geothermal drillers learned about ground source heating/cooling systems and grouting procedures from Garen N. Ewbank. Dan Ellis from Climate Master spoke about Federal and State tax credit for geothermal systems. Kent Wilkins and Kim Sullivan of the OWRB discussed Oklahoma Rules and Regulations at length. Participants also attended a number of excellent technical courses for continuing education credit.

We were honored to have Senator Kenneth Corn from Howe provide us with a presentation on the importance of groundwater, water in general, and how Oklahomans should work together to solve water issues.



Attendees listen intently as Dr. W. Richard Laton from the National Ground Water Association discusses the importance of boring logs.

(continued)

Oklahoma Driller's Log 1st Quarter, 2009

Duane A. Smith, Executive Director
Oklahoma Water Resources Board

Julie Cunningham, Division Chief
Planning & Management Division

Kent Wilkins
Drillers Program Coordinator

To ensure the integrity of water well construction, and thus prevent potential pollution of state groundwaters, the OWRB supervises the state licensing program of pump installers and drillers of water supply, geothermal, observation, and monitoring wells. The OWRB has published the *Oklahoma Driller's Log* quarterly since 2001 as a source of information for the state's licensed water well drillers and pump contractors. Please e-mail your comments and article ideas to pubinfo@owrb.ok.gov. Visit the OWRB web site at www.owrb.ok.gov and click on "well drilling" for more information or to access the online well log filing program or the water well record search program.

Trade Show and Conference . . . continued

The Board of Directors, committee members, and Beth Vannoy dedicated extensive time to produce another quality conference and tradeshow and should be commended. The Association would also like to thank all the vendors and manufacturers for their continued support and the NGWA for allowing Dr. Laton and Mr. Eades to attend and provide presentations.

For further information on the OGWA and the 2010 conference, please contact Beth Vannoy at P.O. Box 58130, Oklahoma City, OK, 888-884-6492, or visit the OGWA website at www.ogwa.biz.

OGWA Continuing Education Classes

All training to licensees is provided by OGWA at no charge. Each attendee will be able to obtain four hours of continuing education per workshop. Registration will begin at 8:00 am and instruction at 8:30 am. Classes will conclude at 12:30 pm. For more information, please contact Beth Vannoy at 888-884-6492 or Theda Adkisson at 405-530-8800.

June 4, 2009
Wilburton Franklin Electric Training Center
1301 W. Stovall Road
Wilburton, OK 74578

June 9, 2009
Tulsa Tulsa Tech Center
3638 S. Memorial
Tulsa, OK 74145

June 11, 2009
Altus Southwest Technology Center
711 West Tamarack
Altus, OK 73521

June 16, 2009
Enid GEFCO Training Facility
2215 S. Van Buren
Enid, OK 73703

June 18, 2009
Oklahoma City OWRB Main Office
3800 N. Classen Blvd.
Oklahoma City, OK 73118

Take Time to Schedule Your Well Checkup

According to the National Ground Water Association (NGWA), spring is a good season to have an annual water well checkup before the peak water use season begins. "An annual checkup by a qualified water well contractor is the best way to ensure problem-free service and quality water," says NGWA member & Well Driller and Pump Installer Program Coordinator, Kent Wilkins.

With well ownership comes the responsibility of keeping the water well in good working order. A check of your well by a qualified water well contractor may include the following:

- A flow test to determine system output, along with a check of the water level before and during pumping (if possible), pump motor performance (check amp load, grounding, and line voltage), pressure tank and pressure switch contact, and general water quality (odor, cloudiness, etc.).
- A well equipment inspection to assure it is sanitary and meets local code.
- A test of your water for coliform bacteria, nitrates, and anything else of local concern. Other typical additional tests are those for iron, manganese, water hardness, sulfides, and other water constituents that cause problems with plumbing, staining, water appearance, and odor.

Preventative maintenance usually is less costly than emergency maintenance, and good well maintenance—like good car maintenance—can prolong the life of your well and related equipment. NGWA further recommends you test your water whenever there is a change in taste, odor, or appearance, or when the system is serviced. In addition, well owners should also do the following:

- Keep hazardous chemicals, such as paint, fertilizer, pesticides, and motor oil far away from your well, and maintain a "clean" zone of at least 50 feet between your well and any kennels and livestock operations.
- Maintain proper separation between your well and buildings, waste systems, and chemical storage areas.
- Periodically check the well cover or well cap on top of the casing (well) to ensure it is in good repair and securely attached. Its seal should keep out insects and rodents.
- Keep your well records in a safe place. These include the construction report, and annual water well system maintenance and water testing results.

For more information, call Kent Wilkins at 405-530-8800.