

FALL MEETING SET

Mark your calendar now for the Association's Fall Meeting and drilling demonstration. The date is set for October 8 and is scheduled to take place at Falwell Corporation in Lynchburg, VA. The focus will be on geothermal drilling, grouting pipe fusion and conductivity testing.

Watch the website and the next newsletter for an information update.



Outdoor demos always attract a big crowd
(Oct, 2009)

GEOHERMAL ISSUES SWEEPING THE COUNTRY

Who can install geothermal systems? What parts? With what restrictions? These are just a few of the questions that are surfacing as the popularity of geothermal systems increases.

Currently, VWVA has a task force working to insure that VA laws continue to permit water systems providers to install geo systems up to

the point of connection. The group's position is that overall the most important issue is whether an installer has the training and credentials necessary for groundwater protection.

In some states, geothermal wells are considered to be water wells and must be grouted according to state regulations governing water wells. In other states there are no construction regulations that govern geothermal wells. Variations go on and on.

Several states have comprehensive laws and regulations. But in states such as Pennsylvania, special interest groups such as pipe fitters are rushing to persuade legislators and regulators that only "they" should do certain parts of the installation.

In the state of North Carolina, a regulatory board has declared no one except heating contractors can install the piping systems. In Pennsylvania, the pipe fitters union is working to see that only their union members can work with the pipe installation.

VWVA TO UNDERWRITE STATEWIDE PROGRAM

At the May Board of Directors meeting, directors voted to allocate \$1,500.00 to underwrite the Virginia Water Quality Program.

The program offers drinking water clinics across the state for homeowners who rely on private water supplies such as wells and springs. Virginia Cooperative Extension agents complete a 1.5 day Master Well Owner training workshop, and work with program coordinators from Virginia Tech to conduct

drinking water clinics. The program was developed by Virginia Tech staff and is designed to help well owners learn to test their wells correctly and to interpret test results.

Several VWWA board members have participated in trainings as experts and think that the information attendees received was accurate and very supportive of wells and well use. They also thought that the continuation of the program was critical to getting well owners educated on the testing and treatment of their wells. Board members thought that a statewide education program such as this was very supportive of wells and well users.

The program is designed as follows:

1. A brief presentation addresses common water quality issues in the area and instructions for collecting water samples from the tap. Water sampling kits are distributed with sampling directions and a short survey about the individual's water supply.

2. Sample Collection

Participants are notified when to collect their samples at home and where to take them. They must follow the sampling directions carefully to ensure accurate results. They must complete the short survey included with the sample bottles! Samples are transported to the Virginia Tech campus for analysis.

3. Analysis

Samples are analyzed for the following: iron, manganese, nitrate, chloride, fluoride, sulfate, corrosives, pH, total dissolved solids, hardness, sodium, copper, total coliform bacteria and E. Coli bacteria. Confidential reports are easy to read and accompanied by a sheet explaining what the numbers mean.

4. Interpretation Meeting

Participants receive their confidential water test results. A presentation explains what the numbers on the test report mean and what possible options participants may consider to deal with water problems. Experts will be on hand to answer any specific questions you may have about your water and water system.

5. What does it cost?

Participation in a drinking water clinic includes analysis for 14 chemical and bacteriological constituents. Since analysis occurs at Tech's cost recovery lab, the analysis is \$46. Comparable analysis at a private commercial lab would cost \$150-200. If you are interested in participating in one of the programs, Contact Jane at 540-740-3329.

NEW WEBSITE TO GO UP SOON

VWWA's new website will be launched in the next few weeks. The completely redesigned site will have a fresh new look along with a member "look up" feature and more accessibility to association news and information. Watch for the "web is up" announcement in the near future.

DPOR NOMINATIONS

The association nominated five Master Drillers for the Water Systems Provider position that now exists on the Board for Contractors. The decision on who will be chosen to serve is now in the hands of Governor McDonald.

Last year, VWWA sponsored and supported legislation that created a seat specifically for the well industry on the board. In the past, any driller who was on the board served under the "heavy hauling" designation.

An announcement regarding the appointment is expected soon.

THANK YOU VAMAC!

All association members should join in a big "thank you" to VAMAC, Inc. and the Perry family for their most generous gift to the association of \$7,295.00. The gift was the amount of a pledge by VAMAC to give the association a percentage of the income VAMAC received from the sale of well drilling equipment and supplies.

In a time of tight finances for everyone, VAMAC's donation has helped keep the association's programs and projects rolling – particularly in the regulatory and legislative arenas. Once again, **THANK YOU VAMAC!**

GROUND WATER ORDINANCE RAISES CONCERNS

Stafford County, VA, through their Department of Planning and Zoning, has drafted a groundwater ordinance which requires extensive ground water supply planning and testing.

VWWA's Attorney, Jesse Richardson, has examined the ordinance and found many requirements that he thinks over-reach the county's authority to regulate. Richardson has prepared comments on the ordinance which will be submitted at public meetings on the subject.

If the ordinance survives in its present form, it certainly would push developers in the direction of using public water instead of considering private wells. The Association's Legislative Committee, along with Mr. Richardson, will be monitoring development of this ordinance.

THE 55TH CELEBRATES YOU, THE JUBILEE ATTENDEE!

For 55 years, industry professionals and their families have been supporting the JUBILEE with their continued attendance. This year, in celebration of the 55th, registrants will get a 55 percent fee reduction!

- **Full registration:** \$29.25 (includes all events/meals)
- **Limited registration:** \$22.50 (16 and up, includes everything *but* continuing education); (first 5 "limiteds" are free)
- **Youth registration:** Free (age 15 and under);

For information and registration forms got www.well-drillers.com.

NEW! This year the JUBILEE features several interesting innovations in its traditional educational offerings.

Featured are individualized classes that bring specialized training and skills to attendees interested in the following:

- International Ground Source Heat Pump Accredited Driller Training;
- The legal requirements of successful business succession; and,
- Improving customer contact and marketing skills.

*IGSHPA Accredited Driller Training:

Begins: Friday July 30, 8am – 5pm.

Continues: Saturday, July 31, 8am-5pm.:

Ends: Sunday August 1, 8am-12 noon, with testing.

IGSHPA has formed this training course to provide drilling contractors with information that's unique to them on a GeoExchange job site. **It is an accreditation that is recognized nationwide.** You must pre-register using the enclosed form. Don't miss this opportunity to complete the training, pass the exam and still have time to attend the opening of the Trade Show Preview on Sunday evening.

* **Business Succession Seminar:**

Two attorneys with extensive experience in estate planning to transfer the family businesses to the next generation will give specific, hands-on pointers to families in the water industry. *To make sure the attorneys can give as much help as possible, bring copies of all important documents (deeds, wills, corporate minutes, etc.) with you on Friday so that the attorneys can review them on Friday night and think of strategies for your family.*

Begins: Friday, July 30, 1-5pm, with a general informational session.

Ends: Saturday, July 31 with individual appointments from 8am-12noon.

Part 1. General session. Attorneys Jesse Richardson and Andrew Branan will acquaint participants with the general knowledge necessary to a successful transfer of your business.

Part 2. Make private appointments with the attorneys for you and a family member who is also registered for the JUBILEE. Appointments will be approximately 20 -30 minutes long. **You must attend part one to participate in Part 2.**

Address Service Requested

P.O. Box 1128
New Market, Virginia 22844



JUBILEE, cont.

*** Business is Better with Branding:**

Does your advertising stand out? It needs to! Are you getting the most from your advertising dollar? Join us for this two part session on how you can enhance your marketing and build your company's success.

Begins: Saturday July 31, 1 -3:00pm (Part 1)

Ends: Saturday July 31, 3:30-5:30pm (Part 2)

Part 1: We will discuss types of advertising options, what is a good ad, plus tips for improving your current advertising. Questions are welcome!

Part 2: Bring us your business cards, ads, and emails! We will have 30 minute sessions offering one on one help with marketing professionals. Our marketing professionals will give suggestions on how to make your advertising more effective, help with logos, or just answer your questions. ***You must attend part one to participate in Part 2.***

Be sure to attend the 2010 South Atlantic JUBILEE – July 31 – August 2.

EQUIPMENT FOR SALE

Caldwell Well Drilling is offering the following items for sale:

Aqua Vu Underwater Camera, 500 foot depth,
\$500.00

Miller Welder Trailblazer, 250G, 553 hours,
excellent condition, trailer mounted, \$2,000.00

6T Smeal Pump Hoist, 12,000 lb. capacity with
11 foot utility body on 1981 4x4 automatic
diesel. 29,000 miles, excellent condition,
\$35,000.00

For Information call 540-943-3954