Greetings fellow Water Professionals!

While many of you have known me throughout the years, there are still new faces I see every year at our yearly convention, a fact that shows our association remains strong and growing. Most of you know me as Joe Veches (or Big Joe) the new and “larger” version Grundfos guy. After 29 years, Mr. Greg Luck retired in January 2018 and officially took over the Northwest Region (MT, WY, ID, WA, OR, AK). With the blessing of my most amazing and beautiful better half- Jessi and our four children, I spend most of my time on the road making sure that Grundfos takes care of you professionals however I can help.

With this year’s convention in the bag, education absorbed, beers drank, and food consumed, the Manufacturers and Suppliers found themselves without a representative for the reason of why we all work- RETIREMENT! Mr. Dave Wilson (Baroid) a close personal friend, an amazing educator, and otherwise legend in the drilling fluid world, decided to hang his spurs up and drive off into the sunset- you will be missed Dave, thank you for all the years of service to our industry, and if you ever need me to draw a map for you, I’m a phone call away (ketchup and place mat ready!!).

A little about myself, heading into almost 20 years in the Drilling and Pump Industry, I’m extremely blessed to be a part of something that we all share as our passion and livelihood- providing those with a natural resource that they must have for life- WATER. Water is the basis of life, nothing on our beautiful earth can survive without water, and we as professionals often get over looked, and under-appreciated for what we do. Providing water is something I wake up to every single day and every single day look forward to doing so. I live a simple life with my family in Billings. I don’t spend much time hunting or fishing anymore- but I do volunteer for the State of Montana as a Hunter’s Education instructor and live my passions of the outdoors a couple of weeks a year teaching our youth safety, conservationism, and the privileges of hunting and fishing. As a Masonic Brother, I spend time trying to better myself and lead others by example.

I look forward to being at your service as your Manufacturer & Supplier Representative. I hope to bring fresh ideas and support from all our vendors forward, to share my past 8 years’ board experience on the Montana Water Well Drillers Association, and otherwise strengthen our association in Wyoming. As an association, we may not always agree on a given topic or vote. In these times is when we as an association must remember the reason why we have come together, the cause of which we wake up and get behind our drill rigs, service trucks, or our sales vehicles- Protecting and providing the world with WATER. My hat’s off to all of you for YOUR SERVICE. You are the Water Professionals.

Be Safe, and with good health and a happy heart.

Joseph “Big Joe” Veches
Surcharge for Credit Cards

Effective March 8, 2019 WGWA will be charging a 4% surcharge on all credit cards.

The fee will apply only to credit card transactions.

All membership and registration forms will be updated to reflect this change.

Have something you would like to see in the newsletter? Please submit it by the 25th of the month.

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NEWS FROM WWCB

Brian Fawcett, the Executive Director of the Wyoming Licensing Board for Water Well Drilling Contractors and Water Well Pump Installation Contractors submitted his resignation - his last day is this Friday, March 15th. The Executive Director position (BABO09-Business Coordinator II) is open Statewide. Preferences will be given to applicants that reside in Cheyenne but we are open to other options outside of Cheyenne as well.
If you have any questions, please call Lisa Lindemann at 307.777.5063
Did you know...

Approximately 132 million Americans rely on groundwater for drinking water. It is used for irrigation, livestock, manufacturing, mining, thermoelectric power, and several additional purposes, making it one of the most widely used and valuable natural resources we have. Consider the following facts:

- Americans use 79.6 billion gallons of groundwater each day.
- Groundwater is 20 to 30 times larger than all US lakes, streams and rivers combined.
- 44 percent of the US population depends on groundwater for its drinking water supply.
- More than 13.2 million households have their own well, representing 34 million people.

Groundwater Myths

- Groundwater migrates thousands of miles.
- Groundwater removed from the Earth is never returned.
- Groundwater is not a significant source of water supply.
- Groundwater is abundantly available, therefore doesn’t need to be conserved.
- There is no relationship between groundwater and surface water.

This year’s theme, Think, was designed to urge each of us to consider various ways we can protect our most valuable natural resource. So Think about not running the water while you brush your teeth. Or Think about getting that leaking faucet fixed. Think about the farmers that rely on groundwater to grow the food we eat. And Think about having your well inspected to protect your drinking water system. In short, during #GWAW, Think about our future.

Get Involved- In the weeks leading up to #GWAW, NGWA encourages everyone to become official “groundwater protectors” by taking steps to conserve and protect the resource. Businesses, individuals, educators, students, federal agencies, cities, associations, and everyone in between can ask to be added to NGWA’s groundwater protector list through its website or on social media. Have an awesome story to tell? Great! Send it to NGWA and they might highlight your efforts.

Pump Installer Certification Helps Contractors Stand Out Among Competition

The National Ground Water Association Well Construction and Pump Installation Certification Program, which began in 1970, is the only national certification program for water well contractors and pump installers in the groundwater industry. Through this program, you may earn the Certified Well Driller (CWD) and/or the Certified Pump Installer (CPI) designation. Other designations may be established.

“The certification process lets the customer know that choosing a licensed and certified groundwater professional is in their best interest and will assure them that the man or woman on the job understands their project and is up to the task at hand,” says NGWA Past President Todd Hunter, CWD/PI, owner of Ground Water Pump Systems in Boulder, Colorado.

Governed by groundwater contractors who understand the daily activities in the field, the program is designed to demonstrate pride in the job and to promote professionalism in the groundwater industry. It is recognized as the leading program in the industry by numerous state agencies, which have adopted the tests for their own programs.

To learn more, visit www.NGWA.org/Certification.
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