

# The Driller's Digest

Volume 9, Fall/Winter Issue

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*This newsletter is published as a service to certified well contractors and others in the groundwater industry. Suggestions for articles for publication in the newsletter are welcome.*

## Commission Member Changes

by Drew Morgan, WCC Staff

At the September 9, 2008 meeting of the Well Contractors Certification Commission (WCCC), Chris Dickey and Buck Demarest were sworn in by J. Breeden Blackwell, Chairman of Cumberland County board of Commissioners.

Commissioner Dickey, President of Cherokee Well Drilling in Murphy North Carolina, is the new western well drilling representative on the commission.



Blackwell      Demarest      Dickey

Commissioner Demarest, the founder of Bore & Core Incorporated of Raleigh North Carolina, is the new geotechnical representative for the commission.

Sadly, the appointment terms for Commissioners Elmer Newman (western representative) and Mike Floyd (geotechnical representative) have expired.



Newman      Floyd

Both former commissioners were presented plaques in appreciation for their dedicated service to the commission, the State of North Carolina and the trade.

## Future Office Move

by Joanne Rutkofske, WCC Staff

The Well Contractor Certification Offices, at Ashley House, are currently part of the Blount Street redevelopment project. The property is already sold and it is just a matter of time until we change locations. Current projections place our move date to be around April of either 2009 or 2010.

Once a moving date is selected, we will post the date, new address and contact

information on the website [www.ncwelldriller.org](http://www.ncwelldriller.org). Look for more updates in the next issue of the Drillers Digest, Spring 2009 edition.



## Summary of Civil Penalty Assessments

*Penalties for violations of NCGS Chapter 87, Article 7A and NCAC Title 15A, Chapter 27 vary depending upon the particular facts and circumstances present in each case. Note: only finalized uncontested cases or cases not seeking remission and at the collection stage are included in this list (payment of fines and corrections of violations may already have occurred).*

### Alan S. Gantt

McDowell County, NC. Allegations of misconduct violating of 15A NCAC 2C. Violations include failure to properly grout well to a minimum of 20 ft., install a well seal and affix a well tag. Assessed a civil penalty of four thousand one hundred dollars (\$4,100.00).

**Effective Date 4/7/08 Case #2C 2007-0009.**

### Gary Justice

McDowell County, NC. Allegations of misconduct violating of 15A NCAC 2C. Violations include failure to properly grout well to minimum of 20 ft., install a well contractor identification plate and install a well seal. Assessed a civil penalty of four thousand one hundred dollars (\$4,100.00).

**Effective Date 3/3/08 Case #2C 2007-0010.**

### Rick Crane

Swain County, NC. Allegations of misconduct violating of 15A NCAC 2C. Violations include failure to properly grout well to a minimum of 20 ft., complete and file a GW-1 well record, and affix a completed well tag. Assessed a civil penalty of one thousand two hundred dollars (\$1,200.00).

**Effective Date 4/2/08 Case #2C 2007-0011.**

### Keith Latulipe

Haywood County, NC. Allegations of misconduct violating of 15A NCAC 2C. Violations include failure to properly grout the well to a minimum of 20 ft. Assessed a civil penalty of two thousand dollars (\$2,000.00).

**Effective Date 5/7/08 Case #2C 2007-0012.**

### Ken Vanderberg

Pitt County, NC. Allegations of contracting without the benefit of certification in violation of 15A NCAC 27. Assessed a civil penalty of one thousand dollars (\$1,000). **Effective Date 12/12/07 Case # WCC 014-07**

## PDH for Newly Certified

by Joanne Rutkofske, WCC Staff

All certified well contractors are required to earn eight professional development hours (PDH) by the June 30 renewal deadline (with a few minor exceptions). If you earn more than that you may also "carry over" up to eight of the additional PDH into the next certification period. It is highly recommended to "stay ahead" by earning these extra hours. The PDH requirement must be met before you can renew. PDH earned after the June 30th deadline are not acceptable.

If you are newly certified (became certified after 6/30/2008) and passed an exam to acquire certification, then you are exempt from earning eight PDH by your first renewal deadline (June 30, 2009). This is due to the intrinsic value given to your efforts of studying for, taking and passing the certification exam. If you do decide to take some classes right away, they will be treated as carryover and up to eight hours will be carried forward to the next certification period. Continuing education taken prior to becoming certified are not eligible for PDH credit.

If you are newly certified but did not take an exam to obtain certification (Level D by exam waiver), then you are required to earn eight PDH by June 30, 2009.

For ideas on where to obtain PDH, please visit our website at [www.ncwelldriller.org](http://www.ncwelldriller.org), click on "Continuing Education", then "Helpsheet- Finding Continuing Education", for a list of all of our sponsors and many non-sponsor sources. Sponsors will submit your PDH documentation for you. If you take a non-sponsor course please use the "Application for Approval of Continuing Education" form to submit with your documentation. This form is also available on our website.

Courses must be related to well contractor activities to qualify for PDH credit but a large variety of courses are acceptable. The commission does accept Internet-based training. If you are interested in this type of training, check out our sponsors- "RedVector" and "International School of Well Drilling."

Once you have taken a class, please send in the documentation right away, do not wait for renewal time. This will help to avoid further slowing down the renewal process. By sending your documentation to us promptly, you will have time to adjust if the course is denied and to find an appropriate class. If you are unsure if a course will qualify for PDH credit you can also submit it in advance for "pre-approval."

## Wallet Card Improvements

by Joanne Rutkofske, WCC Staff

You may have noticed a few changes to the wallet card this year. The certification number is preceded by "NCWC" (North Carolina Well Contractor) and followed by your Level of certification. Please use this full reference (ex.- "NCWC 4567-A") on all your related documentation: well tags, GW-1, GW-30, continuing education forms (especially multistate events such as the South Atlantic Jubilee)... This will help differentiate your license from the other types of licenses in the state (and other states) such as plumbers, electricians, pump installers, etc.

Another new feature is a place for your photo. Most cards currently have a yellow box with text that reads "Please Ask For Photo ID." All new contractors coming in for the exam will have their photos taken at that time. For existing well contractors, staff will be gathering photos over the course of the coming year. Please visit our booth if you attend some of the larger events such as the Jubilee or NCGWA trade show as we plan to set aside time for photos. You can even stop by the office (please call first so we can be sure to have the camera available). We hope to have photos added to the database for the majority of certified well contractors in time for next year's renewal.

## Renewal Notices

by Joanne Rutkofske, WCC Staff

It is the responsibility of each certified well contractor to renew (and have fulfilled PDH requirements) by **June 30th** each year. This expiration date is noted on every well contractor's wallet card. WCC Staff sends renewal notices out in May of each year. If you do not receive a renewal notice, that does not change your responsibility to renew nor does it change the deadline. **If you have not received your renewal notice by mid-June, please call WCC staff so we can fax or mail a copy of it to you.** Do not worry that we are busy, just call! It is important to us that your renewal goes as smoothly as possible.

Each year a few renewals are lost in the mail, the dog ate it, or are confused with mounds of junk mail. Database errors sometimes happen too. Please be proactive and mark mid-June on your calendars now. If you wait until after the renewal window has passed to contact staff about a missing renewal notice, you may end up sending in a new application instead of a renewal.

## North Carolina Well Contractors Certification Commission

1618 Mail Service Center / Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-1618  
 Telephone: (919) 733-0026 Fax: (919) 733-1338

### Commission Members

- Greg Bright, Chairman** — Louisburg, NC
- Buck Demarest** – Raleigh, NC
- Chris Dickey**– Murphy, NC
- Benford Graham** - West End, NC
- Bill Hamlin**– Dobson, NC
- Bill Magette, Vice Chairman** - Ahoskie, NC
- John Nykamp** - Greensboro, NC

### WCCC Staff (DWQ / BOG / WCCC)

- Drew Morgan, R.S.** (919) 733-0026 x302 (enforcement)  
 Andrew.Morgan@ncmail.net
- Joanne Rutkofske** (919) 733-0026 x315 (CE, general info.)  
 Joanne.Rutkofske@ncmail.net

## Certification Numbers Update

Total number certified.....	1318
Total number of applicants for certification.....	207
Approved to take exam.....	137
Applications pending.....	70
Certifications currently suspended.....	4

## NC Division of Water Quality Aquifer Protection Section (APS)

*For assistance with well construction problems, or questions about well construction rules, contact your regional office- Aquifer Protection Section at:*

<u>Asheville</u>	828-296-4500
<u>Fayetteville</u>	910-433-3300
<u>Mooreville</u>	704-663-1699
<u>Raleigh</u>	919-791-4200
<u>Washington</u>	252-946-6481
<u>Wilmington</u>	910-796-7215
<u>Winston-Salem</u>	336-771-5000

APS website: <http://h2o.enr.state.nc.us/aps>

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## Continuing Education Variety

by Joanne Rutkofske, WCC Staff

Please be aware of the following guidelines from the Commission's continuing education evaluation policy when selecting courses for professional development hours (PDH) credit:

- PDH credit will not be awarded for a class, when the same exact class was already taken during the same workshop. (ex.– taking “Intro to Geothermal” at the Jubilee Saturday, then taking the same repeated course again Sunday)
- PDH credit will not be awarded for a class, when the same exact class was already taken and credited for the same certification period. (ex.– taking “Submersible Motor Seminar” from Franklin Electric in March, then taking same class from them again in May.)

## 1st Aid/CPR Restriction Lifted

by Joanne Rutkofske, WCC Staff

At the September 9, 2008 meeting of the Well Contractors Certification Commission, a motion was passed to lift the once-every-three-years restriction on First Aid and CPR classes. As with other classes, you may now take these annually if you wish.

## 2C.0100 Rules revision update

by Joanne Rutkofske, WCC Staff

The 2C.0100 Well Construction Rules underwent rulemaking this year with the public comment period ending August 15, 2008.

Final rules are expected to be out in early 2009.

For more information, go to [www.ncwelldriller.org](http://www.ncwelldriller.org), click on “Regulations & Rulemaking”, then click on “2C– Well Construction Standards.” This will link you to the APS Groundwater Protection webpage for a copy of the proposed changes and contact information.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS from the  
Well Contractor Certification Staff



To Report Violations or Uncertified Well Contractors Call (919) 733-0026 x302