

Coming Together

NCUCA Expands Its Territory and Strengthens Its Focus on Membership

Two will become one next year, as the North Carolina Utility Contractors Association (NCUCA) expands its territory into South Carolina. This transformation — which will take place Jan. 1, 2013 — allows the chapter to branch out to new members and concentrate on growth. The new chapter gets a name change too and will be called NUCA of the Carolinas.

Rewinding a bit back, NCUCA began in 1980 with C.J. “Pete” Ramey of Ramey Inc. as its first president and Rob Goslee of State Utility Contractors holds the current president’s position. Today, the chapter has established itself as a regional trade association working solely for the utility and excavation construction industry. As an organization, NCUCA brings together contractors and associates to address industry needs and help strengthen the markets for everyone. One way the chapter does this is through education.

“The chapter is designed to bring contractors and associates together to educate them about the current construction industry and the issues that arise and how to deal with them,” says Linda Goslee, Executive Director of NCUCA. “We have a strong Safety and Risk Management program with quarterly ‘Lunch & Learn’ meetings. Topics of discussion have been: heat related illnesses; the value and importance of a functioning safety committee; safety violations in the workplace; and driving safely with construction pickups. The Safety and Risk Management Committee has also sponsored seminars and classes on Positive Shoring, Reasonable Suspicion and Confined Space Training. Chris Humbert with Park Construction does a fantastic job as the Safety and Risk Management Committee Chairman.”

Safety is a top priority for the chapter, so it places great value on its partnerships

with NC811 and the Common Ground Alliance. These relationships help strengthen NCUCA’s commitment to its members by reinforcing the importance of proper project planning.

Getting Involved

The chapter encourages its members to be involved and take advantage of the great benefits the state association offers. These opportunities include events centered on professional and personal development. Membership also gives associate members direct access to contractors to promote their products through networking.

“NCUCA members can get involved by sitting on the Board of Directors, attending forums and taking part in training classes,” says Goslee. “We also have spring and fall conferences that are filled with informative speakers, as well as golf and sporting clay activities. Our annual golf tournament is held in July to help promote the association and let contractors and associate members network together.”

To highlight exceptional contractors and associates, NCUCA recognizes its members with awards for excellence such as the Ditch Digger of the Year, Associate Member of the Year and educational scholarships.

Aside of the benefits of NCUCA, Goslee encourages members to take advantage of all the great things NUCA national has to offer.

“Members benefit from the national organization through roundtables and breakout sessions at the annual NUCA Convention and other leadership and safety programs, as well as industry publications [Utility Contractor, NUCA Reports, Washington Reports and NUCA Safety News],” she says. “Aside from the annual convention, NUCA also provides networking events through



the Washington Summit and the Safety Director’s Forum. NUCA also offers member discounts for a variety of industry related products.”