



"The Pipeline"

PRESIDENTS REPORT

July 2024



Well, is it hot enough for everybody Yet! Seems like summer is here and has settled in. Summer is typically a busy time for everyone in our business and I am sure we are all ready for a summer vacation. We here at NUCA of the Carolina's have been busy as well, a lot more to come throughout the rest of the year.

A quick update on some of the events we have had here in the Carolina's. In early May we attended the Washington Summit in DC. We had a great event meeting with our Senators and Congressman discussing Infrastructure funding, Lead Pipe Replacement, work force development and many other topics critical to us here at NUCA. I would like to thank Linda Goslee, Brian Wilkerson, Sid Carpenter, Kevin Cripps for attending. We cannot do it without your continued support.

We most recently just finished the NUCA Open in June at Forest Oaks Country Club in Greensboro what a great event and once again it was Sold Out. A few things different this year we held the tournament in June, and we had beautiful weather with overcast skies, and I bet the golfers really appreciated that. Special thanks to Gen 3 for sponsoring Drones Exploration 360. We were able to raise \$2,000 dollars for The Make A Wish Foundation, so thank you to everyone who donated.

Reminder - Fall Conference coming up on October 10- 12th at the Grove Park in Ashville NC. You will not want to miss this event. Registration coming soon. Remember this conference sells out very quickly so book early!

Enjoy the rest of your summer stay cool and I look forward to seeing everyone in Ashville this year's fall conference at The Grove Park Inn.

Mike Hewitt – Garney Construction
President – NUCA of the Carolina's

We Dig the Carolinas!

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Any person, firm, or corporation that employs labor on the job site, but does not bid or perform any utility construction or excavation work.

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Any person, firm, or corporation involved in the excavation or utility construction industry as a supplier of equipment, materials, or services to contractors.

INSTITUTIONAL MEMBER

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For more information or for a Membership Application please contact Linda Goslee

lgoslee@nuccarolinas.org or go to www.nuccarolinas.org

Spread the word and invite your friends to join NUCA!

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2024 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

The National Utility Contractors Association of the Carolinas is pleased to announce the students who were selected to receive a \$2,500.00 scholarship for the 2024 fall semester. The student with the highest scores in the community involvement category will have the honor of being named the winner of the *Simon Everett Scholarship*.

High Schools seniors seeking higher learning opportunities as first year students and currently enrolled students are eligible for a \$2,500.00 scholarship to study at a four-year or two-year community college or university or trade school.

Recipients must be a dependent child of an individual who is employed by a NUCA member company and in good standing at the time the award is granted. The selection is based on the following criteria:

- Academic achievements and records
- Community involvement
- Volunteerism
- Extracurricular Activities
- Work/Internship experience

The NUCA Educational Foundation, funded and supported by the members companies of the NUCA of the Carolinas chapter, hope to broaden educational opportunities and provide support to child students of employees from NUCA member companies. The International Scholarship and Tuition Service (ISTS) administers the program and selects students for awards based on the above criteria.

Brett Sondergard—Chairman of the NUCA of the Carolinas Educational Foundation Committee

SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Andrew Cox	NC State—Raleigh, NC	Freshman
Tyler Shaw	University of S.C.—Columbia, SC	Junior
Ella Carter	NC State—Raleigh, NC	Freshman
Emma Hewitt	NC State—Raleigh, NC	Junior
Katherine Hunter	University of NC—Chapel Hill, NC	Freshman
Shelby Hunter	Clemson University—Clemson, SC	Senior

SIMMON EVERETT COMMUNITY SERVICE SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT

AARON PAINTER—NC STATE UNIVERSITY—FRESHMAN



SCHOLARSHIP FUND - PLEASE SEND DONATIONS TO
NUCA OF THE CAROLINAS
P.O. Box 10519, Wilmington, NC 28405



Greetings from your friendly neighborhood 811 center! It's hot. Hydrate. Thanks for your time.

No seriously, we are busy during this 2024 summer and are currently running about 6% over 2023. And this is before the true release of the BEAD monies.

The impact of the infrastructure bill has yet to be felt throughout NC and meanwhile there is plenty of work being done across the state. The general word on the street is that locators are being hired and trained to meet demand (a few hundred in the Raleigh market alone) but hiring and training takes time... The patience of excavators with the process is appreciated! Of course that goodwill can only extend so far. We are working as a group to establish changes to be introduced for the 2025 session. Although NC 811 does not have a dog directly in the fight we do work to help coordinate the discussions, keep notes and distribute redlined versions of the law. The goal is to have this language prepared for bill writers no later than November 1.

This is likely going to involve some give and take between the parties. My encouragement is always to measure any changes against existing laws, especially the ones recently passed, to identify how common specific aspects of the language (ticket length (currently 15 working days in NC), tolerance zone (currently 24 inches in NC), white lining requirements and other items already are in practice. The focus must always be on safety and how we can help to streamline the process to allow it to work as designed. This means excavators calling in exactly what is needed for the appropriate time frame, locators responding within the legally required time frame and ultimately safe digging around facilities.

I always know I am preaching to the choir here but spread the word: safe digging is a shared responsibility.

We see damages continue to rise in the state as well as an update percentage north of 30%.

I look forward to a much cooler experience in October with you all at Grove Park! Stay safe, stay cool and always reach out if there is something I can help with!

Louis Panzer
Executive Director



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Free Damage Prevention Training: NCPipesPlus.org

North Carolina Utilities Coordinating Committee:
ncucc.org

Be sure to attend your local UCC meetings

Don't miss out on discussions regarding various issues that impact your projects!

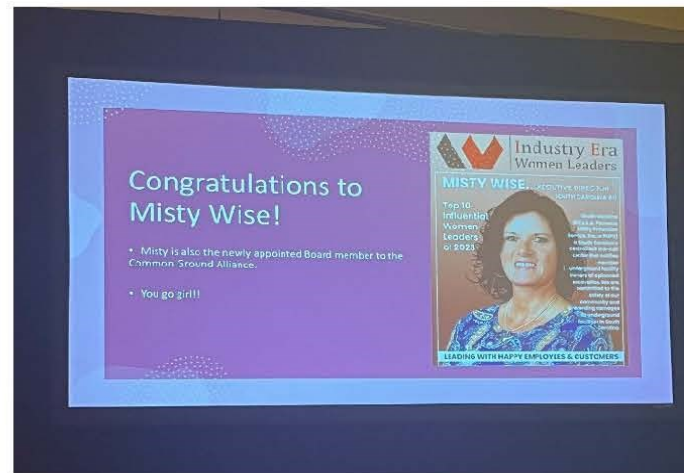
To view all meeting locations, visit <https://ncucc.org/county-uccs/>



Summer is officially here in South Carolina, ushering in a surge in digging activities. We continue to strive towards reducing damages following the CGA's (Common Ground Alliance) "50 in 5" initiative, which targets to reduce damages by 50% in 5 years.

I was recently appointed to the board of the Common Ground Alliance, which is a huge milestone. This achievement was recognized at the May SC/NC Joint UCC event, and I am so proud to represent SC811 in this capacity.

Our 2nd Safety Summit Event is taking place in Hopkins on July 25th. Our keynote speaker, Ricky Rollins, is a former steel industry veteran turned motivational safety speaker on a mission to drive positive change within South Carolina and across the nation. We also look forward to our guest speaker, Jamie Mercado, Damage Prevention Specialist from Dominion Energy, who will be discussing Locator Best Practices. Learn more about the event and register here: <https://sc811.com/safety-summit/>. If you are interested in becoming a sponsor visit our sponsorship page (<https://sc811.com/education-outreach/sponsorships/>) or contact publicawareness@sc811.com



Our notifications have been on the rise since dig season started. In May, compared to last year, we had a 766 increase in notifications. This upward trend continued in June, with 833 more notifications compared to the previous year. We will continue to monitor these differences throughout the year. We still maintain Electric, Fiber, and Cable TV as the most common dig projects in South Carolina, followed closely by Telephone Work. The areas seeing the highest volume of these projects are Greenville, Richland, Spartanburg, Charleston, and Horry County.



We are excited for our inaugural 811 Day on August 11th. We will be hosting our Family Fun Day in Greenville this year and have invited our employees, staff, and board members to join us in celebrating.

We hope you have a wonderful Summer and look forward to seeing you at the Safety Summit East!

Misty Wise - Executive Director

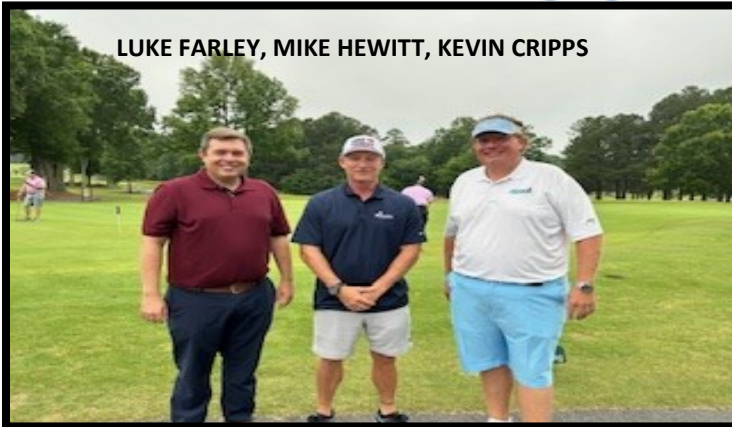
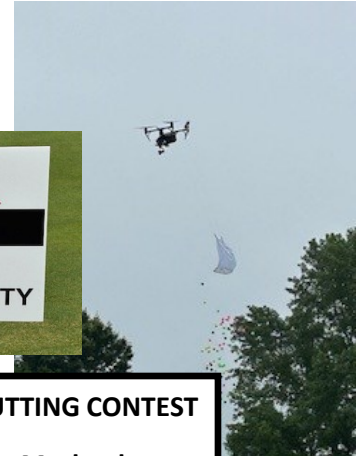
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A WORD FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Hope everyone is doing well and staying as cool as possible. It's hard to believe that 2024 is halfway over. At our last Safety and Risk Management meeting we discussed "Work Zone Setup" presented by Ken Thornwell. Ken offered some great insight and eye-opening statistics when it comes to safety in and around our work zones. The presentation was excellent. We can't thank Ken enough for sharing his knowledge. Thank you, Ken!

We were also fortunate to be introduced to Luke Farley, the NUCA endorsed candidate for the NC Commissioner of Labor. It was nice to get some time with Luke and discuss his platform. Luke's information can be found on his website, <https://www.luke4labor.com/>. Please take a minute and look him up. This position plays a critical role in safety and in our industry.

I hope everyone was able to participate in the National Trench Safety Stand Down Week. It's always good to be able to get in front of your crews and remind them of the necessary precautions while working in trenches and excavations. If you weren't able to participate, just remember that anytime is a good time to discuss safety with your crews.

Since our last meeting we received a question from a member concerning auto insurance coverage and its continually rising costs. I would like to take this opportunity to request some feedback from our other members. If you would like to give some insight on what you are doing to help keep your auto losses down, it would be greatly appreciated. Please send me your info so I can pass it along. JWalker@Sucontractors.com Appreciate your assistance. This could be a possible topic for discussion at a future meeting.

The Safety and Risk Management Committee will be meeting on Aug 13th at the NC 811 office in Greensboro NC from 10:00-12:00. Lunch will be provided afterward. This will be our third installment of our Work Zone Safety Program, focusing on "Workers on Foot" inside the work zone. We will also get an opportunity to view the new NC 811 Training Trailer! Our lunch will be provided by Stay Alert Safety. Stay Alert has been a great supporter of our NUCA S&RM Committee, and we appreciate their

Jason Walker – NUCA Safety/Risk Committee Chair



Safety & Risk Management Meeting

TUESDAY, AUGUST 13TH - 10:00—12:00

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Shady Grove Construction

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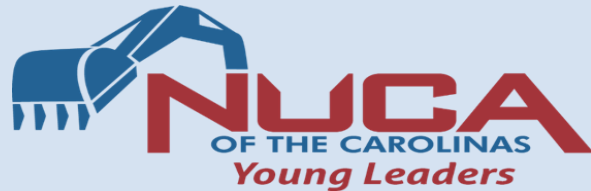
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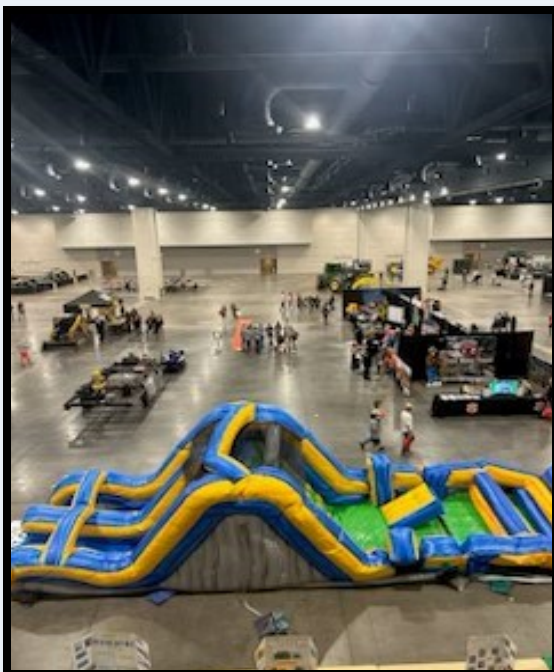
SUNBELT RENTALS



On June 25th and 26th our Young Leaders took part in the NC FFA State Convention. The event's career show and expo showcased colleges, universities, and agricultural-related businesses and organizations, offering students a chance to explore post-high school opportunities and teachers access to educational resources. With over 3,000 students in attendance, our Young Leaders enjoyed networking with peers and advisors.

During the 2 day convention, they highlighted what NUCA of the Carolinas represents to FFA students and their advisors.

A special thanks goes to Batista Grading, Inc. for providing the Water System Simulator!



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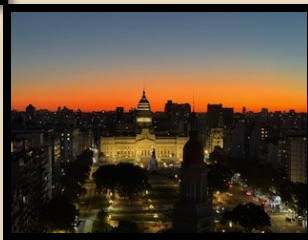
Find out what NUCA's new partnership with FCCI Insurance Group can do for your company's risk control needs.

Learn more at NUCAChoice.com



WASHINGTON SUMMIT - 2024

Thanks to Brian Wilkerson, Mike Hewitt, Kevin Cripps, Sid Carpenter, Scott Knoblauch and Linda Goslee for traveling to Washington D.C. for the annual NUCA Summit to take our industry needs to our Representatives!



NUCA CEO, Doug Carlson and NUCA of the Carolinas member, Sid Carpenter, met with Congresswoman, Virginia Foxx in Boone, NC. NUCA fully supports and endorses representative Foxx.

NUCA PAC

**2024 is an Election Year!
Let's stand together and have a
Voice!!**

PLEASE SEND DONATIONS TO:



NUCA PAC
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P.O. Box 33413
Raleigh, NC 28137

Association News

2024 Washington Summit: Highlights and News

NUCA's annual Washington Summit held May 22-23 once again delivered real results for our association and our industry. Our 106 attendees discussed our several top issues in a record-setting 107 meetings with House and Senate lawmakers and staffers. Those our attendees met with in Congress were very open to the association's legislative goals, and we expect this year's Summit to deliver dividends into the session ahead. We are optimistic that the two State Revolving Funds will be fully funded for FY2025, but work remains ahead over the summer months and possibly into fall before final numbers are determined.

To help attendees with their own follow-up meetings with lawmakers or their staff, the several Summit fact sheets will remain available at wedigamerica.org, under "Issues." The 2024 Summit photos can be viewed at our online photo website at nuca.smugmug.com. For those who attended this year's event, we hope you set aside time next May to come back to Capitol Hill for the 2025 Washington Summit, tentatively scheduled for May 13-15, 2025.

NUCA Advantage: Make It Yours Today!

Your NUCA membership investment can deliver benefits far in excess of the dues cost--but only if you ask your human resources office to explore what it offers. "We worked with Theresa to switch from our previous benefits broker after we heard about Memberfy from NUCA. She went above and beyond to help us find a plan that worked best for us. The application process was simple, and the rollout of benefits to our employees was seamless!" testified Luke Miller of Colorado Pavement Solutions about their helpful NUCA Advantage experience. NUCA Advantage leads to expanded healthcare benefits options for your company, as well as payroll, wellness, compliance, benefits administration, 401K programs, online training, OSHA logs, and a wealth of free HR benefits available only to NUCA members. Find out about our expanded NUCA Advantage benefits program at www.NUCAAdvantage.com.

NUCA Choice: Your Choice For Commercial Insurance Coverage

Our newest business benefit may provide the insurance answer your company is seeking. NUCA Choice delivers to NUCA members commercial insurance options for auto, crime, property, general liability, marine, surety, umbrella, and workers' compensation. NUCA Choice is offered in partnership with FCCI Insurance Group, and offered to all NUCA members where FCCI writes business. Members can consult with FCCI's local risk control team and use the FCCI Risk Solutions Network, a cloud-based platform to help participants stay compliant, manage risks, and educate employees to build a safer workforce. To find out more about NUCA Choice, start at www.NUCAChoice.com to find a FCCI agent in your area.

In 2024, Share The Details About Trenchless Tech Efficiency

Are you seeking to know more about horizontal direction drilling, or auger boring, or wish your city's administrators did, too? NUCA's "Trenchless Construction and New Installation Methods" manual can help your estimators, engineers, and project managers recognize that trenchless technology could deliver large cost savings to your excavation projects. The 148-page, full-color illustrated manual carefully addresses and explains the most common trenchless installation methods. This year, buy a copy for your local planning department as a professional gift to introduce their staff to these cost-efficient subsurface construction methods. The manual is available exclusively from NUCA and can be ordered online at www.nuca.com/trenchlessmanual.

2024: NUCA's 60th Anniversary!

NUCA turns 60 years old in 2024, and we'll be celebrating throughout the year this important association milestone. Since the beginning in April 1964, our association has been instrumental in promoting the interests of the underground utility and excavation contracting industry before legislators and regulators, and has worked tirelessly to secure more funding for America's aging underground infrastructure. Over the past 60 years NUCA has been the strongest force in improving safety and business conditions throughout the \$152 billion American utility construction industry. Join us throughout this year in celebrating this shared achievement!

Industry News and Advocacy - Industry News & Advocacy

NUCA of Colorado Scores Big Legislative Win

Our Colorado chapter reports that the chapter and the state's utility construction industry scored a big legislative win when Gov. Jared Polis vetoed a bill May 17 that would have unfairly penalized contractors for wage violations committed by subcontractors. "This bill [HB 1008]...would let subcontractors who fail to pay their workers off the hook, do little if anything to prevent additional wage theft, and penalize good actors who pay all their workers on time," wrote the governor. NUCA of Colorado and other state business organizations conducted a brilliant advocacy campaign against the bill, convincing Polis to veto the measure. Congratulations to NUCA of Colorado for their hard work and success!

Federal Infrastructure Investment is Behind Schedule

Members will not be surprised to learn that the rollout of federal utility infrastructure investment is proceeding slower than expected. According to a new analysis compiled by Politico, of the \$1.1 trillion in direct federal infrastructure, climate, and energy investment passed since 2021, less than 17% has been spent. Only a small fraction of funding from the landmark 2021 infrastructure law has made it to projects – mostly surface transportation work – and nearly all of the critical funding for water and wastewater infrastructure, broadband, and other key programs remain unspent.

EPA Clean Water Survey Released

The EPA released in mid-May the latest need for investment to meet Clean Water Act water quality objectives over the next 20 years. The "2022 Clean Watershed Needs Survey" (CWNS) released May 14 is reporting that there are \$630.1 billion needs in clean water infrastructure for improved or new wastewater, stormwater, wastewater treatment, and nonpoint source control. \$347.7 billion in wastewater needs include repairing existing pipes and pump stations. Six states--New York, California, Florida, Virginia, Louisiana, and Georgia--accounted for 42% of nationwide needs. The last CWNS was released in 2012. Individual state needs and a report summary are found online at www.epa.gov/cwns/clean-watersheds-needs-survey-cwns-2022-report-and-data.

EPA Releases \$9 Billion For Lead Pipe Replacement

The EPA announced on May 2 that the agency will distribute \$3 billion annually over the next three years to replace an estimated 1.7 million lead service lines in the United States. The resources were authorized by the 2021 Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and will be distributed via the EPA's Drinking Water SRF. The Biden Administration said in its announcement that this will build upon their "Lead and Pipe Action Plan", which will send 50% of this funding to disadvantaged communities. There are more than 9 million lead service lines in the U.S. that will need to be replaced at an estimated cost of \$50 billion.



Overview of NUCA National Benefits

Stay in the Know...



Safety, Training & Education

- Training Classes & Safety Instructor Certifications
- NUCA STAR
- Damage Prevention & Claims Avoidance Program (CAP)



Advocacy

- Advocacy Resources for both Local and National
- Washington Summit in DC
- Priority Issues



NUCA Publications & Communications

- Utility Contractors Magazine
- Utility Contractors Magazine - Buyer's Guide Edition
- Business Journal
- NUCA@Work

Save Money...



Business Savings Programs - Insurance+

- NUCA Advantage
- NUCA Choice
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- See what is coming soon!



Online Member Directories

- Individual Directory
- Organization Directory of NUCA Members



NUCA Career Center

- List job openings at a discount and search for the right candidates in one place
- Apply to Job Listings within the utility industry

Membership in NUCA includes access to a wide variety of resources that you should use to improve your business' bottom line.

We are always adding more business discounts for our membership throughout the year, so check back often. Browse around and discover the services you already require to run a successful utility construction business are now available to you at an even lower cost.

NUCA members now have a choice in commercial insurance options.



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Medical coverage | **Life Insurance** | Retirement Plans | **Payroll and HR Solutions** | Dental/Vision Plans | **Short-Term and Long-Term Disability Plans** | Worksite Programs | **And More!**

CREATIVE OPTIONS AND SOLUTIONS

Reward and protect your associates by offering the industry's most competitive group benefits packages available. Having the ability select program choices that meet employer, employee and budget expectations. Whether you choose traditional options or more creative options, we have the solutions for your employee benefit package!

RESOURCES & SOLUTIONS

The client portal gives member companies access to bountiful resources that normally come at a huge cost when purchased out in the marketplace. The portal centralizes all the resources you need including not just insurance, but all your compliance, HR, wellness, and other business needs and even includes a Learning Management System!



ORDER FORM

POLO'S, T-SHIRTS & HOODIES

FILL OUT AND EMAIL TO LGOSLEE@NUCACAROLINAS.ORG

Name _____

Ship to Address _____

Email/Phone Number _____

ALSO AVAILABLE AT WWW.NUCACAROLINAS.ORG

POLO GOLF SHIRT—CIRCLE COLOR AND SIZE

NAVY	M	L	XL	2XL	3XL	4XL
RED	M	L	XL	2XL	3XL	4XL
LIGHT BLUE	M	L	XL	2XL	3XL	4XL
T-SHIRT	M	L	XL	2XL	3XL	4XL
Hoodie	M	L	XL	2XL	3XL	4XL

POLO/GOLF SHIRTS—\$45.00/EACH

T-SHIRTS—\$20.00/EACH

HOODIES—\$40.00/EACH

Plus Shipping Costs

Credit Card Information

Name on Card (Please Print)

Company Name (If Applicable)

Card Number

Expiration Date

CVV Code

Billing Address for Credit Card—Address, State, and Zip Code

A 4% Processing Fee will be added to all credit card payments