



# Maine Groundwater Newsletter

## “Keeping you in the Flow”

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### What's Inside

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Spring Demo in May was well attended and a wide variety of activities both charitable and educational took place. Thirty-one attendees passed the pump installer's license endorsement test.

## Mark Your Calendars

Here are the dates which have been set for various meetings. All are subject to change.

MGWA Director's are usually the second Monday of each month. They are at The Grand Hotel, 375 Main St. (Exit 130 off Rte.95), Waterville. There are Director's meetings scheduled for Sept. 10 and the Annual Safety Meeting on Oct. 8

The Commission will be meeting on Sept. 12 and Oct. 10. These meetings are held at 286 Water Street, Key Bank Plaza, in Augusta.

The NGWA Expo is in Las Vegas from Dec. 4-7

For questions on Commission business call Dave Braley at 207-441-5324

To send information for this newsletter or to make inquiries: Contact Ike or Jody Goodwin: Call - 225-3370, Fax - 224-7174, Email to [jodyike@megalink.net](mailto:jodyike@megalink.net)

# National Groundwater Expo Highlights

On Wed., Dec. 5 at 10 a.m., come hear the Keynote Address - "Living His Dream"

Come hear Tommy "Two Gloves" Gainey, former A.O. Smith Corp. employee-turned-pro golfer, as he recounts his story of making his dream come true. He will share his journey from small town beginnings in Bishopville, South Carolina, to making it to the PGA Tour and the importance of staying true to your form.

It's said one needs talent and luck to become a professional golfer, but when it came to making his dream a reality, Gainey preferred the tried and true method that "anything in life worth having is worth working for."

He left his job wrapping insulation around hot water heater tanks at A.O. Smith to pursue his

**NGWA Expo  
Las Vegas  
December 4-7**

boyhood dream of becoming a professional golfer. After years of chasing his goal on the Nationwide Tour, Gainey finally earned his PGA Tour card in December 2008, with A.O. Smith electing to sponsor him in 2009.

In spite of his successes — on and off the links — Gainey's work ethic, commitment to family, and desire to give back to fans is both honest and refreshing. It's something not typically seen in today's ego-driven, look-at-me sports world.

Of course, his grip and unorthodox swing do set him apart on the tour. The two-gloved grip, which gave rise to his nickname, came from how his father played golf, while his swing comes from his days as a promising high school baseball player.

Please see **EXPO** on page 3

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# NGWA Expo, continued from page 2

Whether you are new to the industry or a seasoned professional who needs more information, the educational offerings at the Expo are for you. Here are just a few examples of what is being offered this year.

## Fundamentals and Refresher Course on Groundwater and Wells

Tuesday, December 4, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

As a new professional, you may have come to realize gaps exist in what you learned during your academic career as you are trying to transfer the theories, principles, and lessons you learned to your work setting.

Or perhaps you are a seasoned industry professional who has taken on a new assignment or project, and want to brush up on groundwater basics.

Either way, this new one-day program can help. The topics to be addressed are:

- Groundwater occurrence and aquifer types
- Hydrogeologic logging
- Borehole geophysics
- Groundwater monitoring wells
- High-capacity well design
- Aquifer test data collection and analysis.

This day-long event is worth 0.7 CEUs and certificates will be awarded to all who attend the entire program. (Please note that there will be a break for lunch, which is on your own.)

You must preregister for the Expo to attend this course. The cost for this course is FREE if you register on or before November 9, thereafter the cost is \$150.

.....  
**Keeping the Pump Primed:  
Aquifer Sustainability**  
presented by John Jansen, Ph.D., PG

How will your groundwa- Please see Expo on page 8



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# Longtime driller C. Thayne "Skip" Hodgdon



Skip Hodgdon in one of his familiar spots - the back of a drilling rig "putting down hole."

We are sorry to announce that business owner and longtime driller Skip Hodgdon passed away on Aug. 25. Skip was a friend to many and in May was a major contributor to the Spring Demo. Skip and his son Scott, Hodgdon Well Drilling, donated the well for the project at the Robert's Farm Preserve in Norway.

The Hodgdon's and their crew went above and beyond any of the MGWA's expectations as the total depth of the well was 1160'. It had to be hydrofractured twice for a yield of 4 gpm. To show their gratitude, the school district is naming one of the future buildings on site after the Hodgdon's.

The following obituary appeared in the Sun Journal on Aug. 27.

**POLAND** - Cecil Thayne "Skip" Hodgdon, 75, passed away at his home on Aug. 25, after a valiant battle with cancer.

Skip was born on Oct. 28, 1936, in Hermon, to Thayne and Guyla (Byers) Hodgdon. He was a graduate of the class of 1953 at Bangor High

Please see Skip on page 5

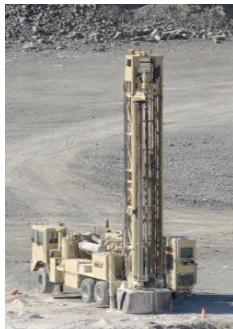
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# Skip, continued from page 4

School. He married the former Patricia Yokell on June 28, 1958.

He was affiliated with Masonic Organizations and Order of the Eastern Star. He was also a member of the National Water Well Association and the New England Ground Water Assoc.

A lifelong motor sports enthusiast, Skip raced on horse tracks at fairgrounds and at many tracks in Maine, including Oxford Plains Speedway.

Skip acquired the family business, Hodgdon Well Drilling, in 1956, and expanded it to include a fourth generation. Recently, he had a barn dedicated in his name at Robert's Farm Preserve, an educational facility for children in Norway.

Survivors include his wife of Poland; three daughters, Kathy Williamson and companion, Steven Dillon, of Auburn; Johanna Barnett and husband Steven of Gardiner and Cindy Hodgdon of Minot; two sons, Michael of Sabattus and Scott and companion, Pam Luce,



3 Generations of Hodgdon's: Grandson Tate, Skip and Son Scott

of Poland; his grandchildren, Jason and Joel Torrey, Thomas Bowie, Taylor and Tate Hodgdon and John Williamson and great-grandson, Wayland Bowie.

He is also survived by four sisters and three brothers.

He was predeceased by a daughter, Deborah Lee Hodgdon and a brother, Chalmers Gene Goodwin.

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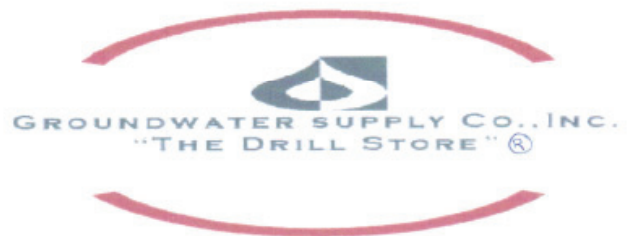
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# Water Well Commission Minutes for June

Minutes of June 13, 2012 Meeting

**Members Present:** Donald Robbins, Chairman; Tom Weddle, MGS; Joseph Gallant, driller; Dwight Doughty, DOT; Ike Goodwin, driller; Ed Bowie, driller; and David Braley, DHHS.

**Others Present:** Paul Gauvreau, AAG; James Innis, well driller; Travis Morton, well driller; Mr. Peter Morton, well driller; and Jessica Bishop, board clerk.

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 9:07 a.m.

**Approval of May 9, 2012 meeting minutes:** Ike Goodwin motions to approve the minutes. Joe Gallant 2nd the motion. Passed unanimously.

## Pending Complaints:

**Complaint received from:** Ron Poulin

**Allegation:** Ferrous smell, very low pH and poor water quality.

**Well Drilling Company:** James Philbrick Well Drilling

**Responsible Master Driller:** James Philbrick

**Commission Action:** Dwight Doughty motions that corrective action was completed successfully. Ed Bowie 2nd the motion. Passed unanimously.

**Complaint received from:** Anonymous

**Owner** is Mr & Mrs. Austin.

**Allegation:** Well Drilled does not meet the minimum requirement of no closer than 100 feet to the leach field.

**Well Drilling Company:** Affordable Well Drilling

**Responsible Master Driller:** James Bisson

## Commission Action:

The Commission viewed the video tape done by its independent inspector, David Philbrook. However, the inspection did not provide enough information to come to any conclusions. David Philbrook will be asked to do another inspection to gather further information.

The Commission would like to see full documentation of this complaint at its next meeting.

A letter will be sent to Affordable Well Drilling that the inspection is still ongoing.

## New Complaints:

**Complaint received from:** Nancy Dellegarto

**Allegation:** Water dripping into cellar from cut pipe

**Well Drilling Company:** Levesque Well Drilling

**Responsible Master Driller:** Kevin Levesque

## Commission Action:

The Commission reviewed the complaint about water dripping into the cellar from piping attached to the water tank in the proximity of electrical wiring. The Commission's rules establish specific performance standards which govern the location, construction and materials for water wells and water pumps, however, the Rules do not appear to address the concerns in the complaint.

Ike Goodwin motions that there is no potential violation of our rules based on the complaint. Ed Bowie 2nd the motion. Passed unanimously.

Please see **June Commission** on page 7

## June Commission, continued from page 6

A letter will be sent out to the homeowner explaining why no violation was found and that she should contact the government agency that she went through for guidance.

**Complaint received from:** Alan White

**Allegation:** Well not finished properly, leaving filters clogged.

**Well Drilling Company:** Innis Well Drilling, LLC

**Responsible Master Driller:** James Innis

**Commission Action:**

Complaint has been tabled until Alan White can be notified in writing of the proceedings so that he may provide information during the investigation.

**Report of Potential Threat of Contamination:**

Report received from: Stanley Waltz, Code Enforcement Officer for Nobleboro, ME.

**Allegation:** Well originally drilled too close to neighbor's holding tank/ pump station and not properly abandoned.

**Well Drilling Company:** Gallants Artesian Wells Inc

**Responsible Master Driller:** Peter Morton

Ed Bowie motions that the Commission sends a letter to Nobleboro CEO, Stanley Waltz, to ask that he communicate directly to the Commission on issues relating to wells rather than dealing with the owner and or contractor. Ike Goodwin 2nd the motion. Passed unanimously.

**Finding of Fact:**

•Gallants Artesian Wells Inc relied on information provided from the homeowner, his cus

tomor, about distances for septic tanks and leach field.

•Driller drilled a well with 60 feet of casing.

•Gallants Artesian Wells Inc later found through the town that the well was too close to a pumping station to meet the Maine Well Driller's Rules in chapter 4.

•Driller drilled a replacement well that meets setback requirements according to the Maine Well Driller's Rules.

•Driller offered to abandon the original well.

•Property owner had the original well abandoned by his building contractor.

•Driller had not submitted the Geological Survey but provided it at the Commission meeting.

**Commission Action:**

Ike Goodwin motions to accept finding of fact. Ed Bowie 2nd the motion. Passed unanimously.

Ike Goodwin moves that no violation occurred. David Braley 2nd the motion. Passed unanimously.

**Specialty Well Applications:**

**Wayne Barlow - Temple Well Drilling, Inc.,** Proposed well to be located no closer than 38 feet from the leach field and 53 feet from the septic tank on property and no closer than 58 feet from neighbor's leach field and 60+ feet from neighbor's tank.

Ed Bowie motions to approve the specialty well application from Temple Well Drilling with 120 feet of casing, 10 inch hole, grouted. If this is the first one done less than 40 feet, an inspector will need to be present during grouting. Ike

Please see June Commission on page 8.

# June Commission,

continued from page 7

Goodwin 2nd the motion. Passed unanimously.

## **Robert Lorigan- Lawrence Lord & Sons, Inc.,**

Proposed well to be located no closer than 67 feet from the leach field and 33 feet from the septic tank on property and no closer than 106 feet from neighbor's leach field and 45 feet from neighbor's tank.

Ike motions to approve the specialty well application from Lawrence Lord & Sons, Inc with 90 feet of casing. Joe Gallant 2nd the motion.

Passed unanimously.

## **Specialty Well Applications done "in House"**

None

**Exams requested:** None

**Examinations Passed:** None

### **New Business:**

Discussion was held over sending all notifications by mail to both the well driller/ pump installer and the homeowners.

### **Geothermal:**

David Braley and Don Robbins went to the Spring Demo to give the pump installer open loop endorsement exams. Approximately 30 people took the exam and passed.

The next Well Drillers Meeting will be: Friday, July 13, 2012 at 9:00, Key Bank, 286 Water Street, Augusta ME.

Meeting Adjourned 12:52 p.m.

## **Expo**, con't. from page 3

ter resources fare in the future and how will that affect your business? How can we ensure the sustainability of our aquifers through sound science? How should groundwater contractors and scientists confront economic and political challenges affecting the resource that is pivotal to the success of their businesses? How is "sustainability" defined and what tools and strategies can be used to protect groundwater systems as well as those who obtain and develop it? What information must be gathered and compiled to build consensus and present a compelling case to regulators and policy-makers?

By attending John Jansen's 2013 McElhiney Lecture presentation, you will gain an understanding of:

- How several different definitions of "sustainability" apply to the management of an aquifer, and how these different definitions may affect your business
- States' varying approaches to aquifer management, reflecting their local conditions and history — with specific considerations of how the approach in your state affects you and your business
- How regulatory practices are evolving, and why they must balance local economic and political realities with environmental needs to be accepted and successful
- Meaningful ways that you provide information and build consensus, to help the regulatory evolution move in a positive direction
- Steps needed for successful management from all perspectives.

Currently, there are states that manage aquifers by pumping to balance groundwater recharge, which can cause stream depletion. Others limit pumping to protect surface flows, which can have negative economic impacts. Yet still others manage aquifers for controlled depletion in recognition of the severe economic disruption that would occur from either stricter goals or a lack of any planning and management. Many

Please see **Expo** on page 11



# Water Well Commission Minutes for July

Minutes of July 13, 2012 Meeting

## New Complaints:

Members Present: Donald Robbins, Chairman; Tom Weddle, MGS; Joseph Gallant, driller; Dwight Doughty, DOT; Ike Goodwin, driller; Ed Bowie, driller; and David Braley, DHHS.

Others Present: Paul Gauvreau, AAG; James Innis, (By Phone) well driller; and Jessica Bishop, board clerk.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 9:09 a.m.

Approval of June 13, 2012 meeting minutes: Tom Weddle motions to accept minutes as amended. Ike Goodwin 2nd the motion. Passed unanimously.

## Pending Complaints:

**Complaint received from:** Anonymous

**Owner** is Mr & Mrs. Austin.

**Allegation:** Well drilled does not meet the minimum requirement of no closer than 100 feet to the leach field.

**Well Drilling Company:** Affordable Well Drilling

**Responsible Master Driller:** James Bisson

**Commission Action:**

The Commission was notified by its inspector that he was no longer granted access to the Austin's property to see if corrective action had been completed properly.

1st inspection showed the following:

- Observed leaking
- No evidence of top Jaswell seal
- Driller first said there was only a single seal and then said that there were two seals.

David Braley motions that the Commission authorize the Attorney General to petition the district court to seek an administrative search warrant but prior to all proceedings to have Paul Gauvreau, AAG, to write to the Austin's giving them one final chance to allow the Commission's inspector to do a 2nd inspection. Joseph Gallant 2nd the motion. Passed unanimously.

**Complaint received from:** Alan White

**Allegation:** Well not finished properly, leaving filters clogged.

**Well Drilling Company:** Innis Well Drilling, LLC

**Responsible Master Driller:** James Innis

**Commission Action:**

**Finding of Fact:**

- Presentation of a written agreement, although unsigned, was sent to the Commission by both the driller and homeowner
- Written agreement acknowledges that the driller is not responsible for quality or quantity of water
- Homeowners paid the full agreement price
- The complainant has not provided any evidence that the sediment was a result of improper construction
- Homeowner was notified and did not participate in the meeting

David Braley motions that the White's were notified in writing by this agreement, although unsigned, that the driller is not responsible for quality or quantity of the water and no violation is found. Edward Bowie 2nd the motion. Passed unanimously.

## Specialty Well Applications:

**Geothermal Specialty Well Application:**

Ed Bowie makes a motion to accept Midnight Energy's geothermal specialty well application with a revised contact sheet. Joseph Gallant 2nd the motion. Passed unanimously.

No Deed Covenant will be required.

**Specialty Well Applications done "in House"**

None

Please see July Commission on page 10

# July Commission,

continued from page 9

## Exams requested:

John Dunbar- Edward Bowie motions to approve Dunbar's exam application to sit for the Master Pump Installer's Exam. David Braley 2nd the motion. Passed unanimously.

**Examinations Passed:** None

## New Business:

A phone call from Ron Poulin came in before the meeting to let the Commission know that the pump was not put back in by James Philbrick after corrective action/ inspection was completed.

David will write a letter to Ron Poulin saying that we received his letter and have talked to the driller who refused. He will also provide Ron Poulin with the water test results and explain what that may mean for him, such as treatment that may be needed.

There was discussion over setback notification forms not on the website. Because these forms are triplicate, information to contact the Commission Clerk will be put on the website.

## Geothermal:

Discussions were held about High Performance Geo Xchange namely the Rygan HPGX. Discussions took place over contacting other states or departments that allow its use and get factual data to see if it could be a standard in-house approval.

Meeting Adjourned 12:52 p.m.

## MGWA Thanks Advertisers

The officers and directors of MGWA would like to thank the advertisers who continue to support this newsletter, our organization and the industry. We are aware that in the ever changing economy, where you spend your dollars can be a very difficult decision. Your support is very much appreciated and we, as always, encourage the drillers, pump installers and filter specialists who use this newsletter to gather local industry news to support the advertisers who support you. The response to our annual call for advertisers was down just a bit and we would like to sincerely thank those who said "Yes." Your support of the  
**MGWA**  
is appreciated!

**MGWA Directors are asking all members to speak with drillers and/or pump installers who are not MGWA members and offer to get them an application to join MGWA and encourage them to do so.**



**Bob Lancaster**

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# Expo, continued from page 8

western states manage aquifers to protect surface water rights, while others ignore the connection between surface water and groundwater. Some eastern states seek the use of a hybrid "regulated riparian" approach to balance the free use of water with a reasonable use standard. What are the impacts of these approaches to your local groundwater industry and the reliability of water resources in the future?

No one can control, manage, or sustain what is not measured, so monitoring is the first step needed to ensure success. Monitoring can identify aquifers being used in an unsustainable manner and that information can be used to build information and consensus to find remedies to sustain groundwater systems as well as the industries and businesses that rely on them. One example of this is the deep sandstone aquifer of northern Illinois and southeastern Wisconsin, where decades of overpumping

have created one of the largest cones of depression in the world. Both states have conducted detailed studies of the aquifer and have begun regional planning to control the human and environmental impacts. Other regional examples from around the country will be presented, and an emphasis will be given to the local conditions and issues of the McEllhiney Lecture host organization.

Where to see the lecture

The kickoff presentation of the 2013 McEllhiney Lecture will take place December 5 during the 2012 NGWA Groundwater Expo and Annual Meeting in Las Vegas, Nevada.

The educational offerings are many and varied at the Expo this year. They range from reading financial statements to geothermal techniques and advances.

For a full listing of offerings and other info on the Expo including special events during the event please visit [www.ngwa.org](http://www.ngwa.org).

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# Annual Safety Meeting

The Annual Safety Meeting is scheduled for October 8. The MGWA Board of Directors is still working on the topic for the meeting and it will be announced later. Members will receive a notice in the mail concerning the meeting as well as any sign up or meal information. Please watch for the notice in your mailbox and the newsletter apologizes for not having it for the readers at this time.

This newsletter is funded by the Maine Groundwater Association through member dues and advertising. Any member of the Association wishing to receive a newsletter may contact the president or treasurer of the Association listed on the front of the newsletter.

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