



Maine Groundwater Newsletter

“Keeping you in the Flow”

Officers:

President Ted Rolfe
622-4018

VP: Jim Innis
942-5646

Treasurer: Ike Goodwin:
754-1970

Secretary: Pat Pratt:
666-5687

Past President: Ted
McLeod: 848-5520

Directors

Term expiring 2012:

Susan Smith - 839-3293
Joe Gallant - 839-3030
Mark Taplin - 374-5447

Term expiring 2013:

Harry Hanscom
825-4983
Tom Mason - 695-2493
Mark Weeks - 465-3753

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At the 2012 NEWWA Expo in Massachusetts, Redlon Johnson's Scott Bradbury, left, Rodney Pratt of C & R Well Drilling and Don Holly, also of Redlon Johnson.

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. The next regular Director's meetings will be May 14 and June 11.

The Commission will be meeting on May 9 and June 13. These meetings are held at 286 Water Street, Key Bank Plaza, in Augusta.

Spring Demo is Saturday, May 12 in Norway

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

NEWWA Holds Annual Expo

Attendees get Nascar Experience

The New England Water Well Association Spring Expo was held in Fitchburg, Massachusetts on March 30th and 31st 2012. The Expo was well attended.

The Friday night at the hotel ballroom was a huge success with the NASCAR Racing Game and numerous other games for entertainment for both the young and old.

The Expo Show at the Exhibit Hall Friday afternoon and Saturday morning was also well attended by contractors while some adults and children played at the nearby water park.

This event is held annually and prices are kept low in order to make it more available to a wider range of those in the water well industry. The tickets for this year's show were \$25 at the door and allowed those

attending to not only enjoy the exhibits at the Expo as well as the chance to gather information on new products but to also attend a long list of seminars that could prove very valuable to their businesses.

Seminar topics this year ranged from driver safety, to well rehabilitation, pipe fusion certification and drill rig safety. Geothermal fusion and hydraulic fracturing seminars were also available.

On the business side of things, those attending could learn about health insurance and worker compensation updates as well as how to improve profits in individual business situations.

There is never a shortage of entertainment for those who venture to the Expo including the indoor water park which is part

Please see **Expo** on page 3

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NEWWA Annual Expo, continued from page 2

The purpose of this association is to promote education in the industry; help each state organization promote rules and regulations in order to make state regulations more compatible, and to protect the environment of the New England States.

of the hotel and convention complex as well as those activities which are planned by the NEWWA folks. This year that included a big Friday night Nascar Game event as well as Extreme Gaming that included WII 100 Pin Bowling, Guitar Hero, Rockband, Mario Cart Gran Turismo and WII Resort Sports as well as a number of sports games from baseball to hockey.

For those who did not attend, you may want to consider doing so next year for both fun and business reasons. Supporting both local and regional industry organizations not only will increase your business knowledge but will strengthen the whole industry.



Mark Taplin of Williams & Taplin in Blue Hill catches up on industry news at the NEWWA Expo.



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MGWA Director's Minutes for February 2012

Maine Ground Water Association
Director's Meeting
February 13, 2012
The Best Western Plus in Waterville, Maine

The meeting was called to order by President Ted Rolfe at 6:09 p.m. with the following present: Susan Smith, Joe Gallant, Jim Innis, Ike Goodwin, Ted McLeod, Tom Mason, Mark and Michelle Weeks.

Minutes of Meeting: A motion to approve the Minutes of the Director's Meeting of December 12, 2011 was made by Ted McLeod and seconded by Tom Mason and was unanimously approved.

Treasurer's Report: A motion to approve the Treasurer's Report was made by Ted McLeod and seconded by Joe Gallant and was unanimously approved.

Membership Applications:

A motion to approve an active membership application from Frank Hegarty of Hegarty Plumbing & Heating Inc. was made by Ike Goodwin and was seconded by Ted McLeod and was unanimously approved.

A motion to approve an affiliate membership from Robert Cushman of Goodwin Well & Water was made by Ted McLeod and seconded by Joe Gallant and was unanimously approved.

A motion to approve an affiliate membership from Ralph Ryder of Goodwin Well & Water was made by Ted McLeod and seconded by Joe Gallant and was unanimously approved.

A motion to approve an affiliate membership from Wesley Lucas of Goodwin Well & Water was made by Ted McLeod and seconded by Joe Gallant and was unanimously approved.

Please see **MGWA** on page 5.

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MGWA Directors, continued from page 4

Legislative Committee:

The Legislative Committee is working on a matrix for specialty wells for the amount of casing needed for distances less than 60' from leach fields, tanks, lifts and pumping stations. There was a discussion on Section 401.5 of our rules. Ted Rolfe will write a letter to the Commission in regards to this section.

Ike reported that two Commission appointments have expired. Ed Bowie and Don Robbins, may not apply again. *(Editor's note - This information was incorrect and it is Joe Gallant's term that has expired along with Ed Bowie's and not Don Robbins. It is not known if either is seeking reappointment.)* If anyone wants to apply it is done through the governor's office. It is a five year term or until someone is re-appointed to your position.

Education Committee:

Ted Rolfe reported and there was a discussion on the spring demo being held at Roberts Farm Preserve in Norway on a recommendation from Scott Hodgton.

Web Site Committee:

Susan Smith reported that the web site working well. If anyone wants any changes please contact her. There are a few companies that are not listed. Please fax, email or send the info to her.

Old Business: None

New Business: None

A motion to adjourn at 7:42 p.m. was made by Ted McLeod and seconded by Jim Innis and was unanimously approved.

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Water Well Commission Minutes for February

Minutes of February 8, 2012 Meeting

Members Present: Ed Bowie, Chairman; Ike Goodwin, well driller; Tom Weddle, MGS; Don Robbins, public member; and David Braley, DHHS.

Others Present: Paul Gauvreau, AAG and Jessica Bishop, board clerk.

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 9:13 a.m.

Approval of January 11, 2011 meeting minutes:

Tom Weddle motions to approve the January 11, 2012 minutes. Ike Goodwin 2nd the motion. Commission unanimously approves.

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:

Ike Goodwin recused himself from the vote on whether or not to approve the final decision that decides whether the corrective order still stands.

Don Robbins moves that the Commission approve the final decision that rejects the driller's appeal and the decision and corrective order stands. Tom Weddle 2nd the motion. Passed unanimously.

Complaint received from: Anonymous

Owner is Cynthia 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:

Written notification from Affordable Well Drilling that corrective action has been completed has been received before the deadline.

Don Robbins moves that the Commission sends out the inspector to inspect Austin's well done by Affordable Well Drilling to see the top and bottom seals and that it is not leaking. Tom 2nd the motion. Passed unanimously.

Complaint received from: Jamie and Beth Guimond

Allegation: Possible cracked casing in well.

Well Drilling Company: Estey Water Well Inc

Responsible Master Driller: Scott Estey

Commission Action:

Don Robbins moves that the Commission send David Philbrook to inspect Jamie & Beth Guimond's well. Joe Gallant 2nd the motion. Passed unanimously.

Scott Estey's response to the Well Commission came in right after the last Commission meeting on the day of the meeting. Scott Estey will be asked to attend the meeting following the inspection either in person or on the phone.

Please see **Feb.Commission** on page 7.

Water Well Commission Minutes, continued from page 6

Inspection of the well has not been completed at this time.

Board clerk will contact David Philbrook about when the inspections will be complete and ask that the inspection report be sent as soon as possible after the inspection to be able to send it to all parties before the meeting following the inspection.

New Complaints: None

Specialty Well Applications: None

Specialty Well Applications done “in House”

Temple Well Drilling; Scott Temple; Roger Robitaille, 24 Cove Side Drive, Harpswell, ME. 04079

Proposed well to be located no closer than 50 feet from the septic tank and 50 feet from the leach field on property.

Proposed well to have 6 inch steel casing sealed into bedrock to a depth just above the first fresh water bearing fracture, with a minimum of 20 feet of casing. As an alternative, a minimum of 20 feet of 6 inch steel casing shall be sealed into bedrock with a solid 4 inch liner installed with top and bottom Jaswell type steel core seals with bottom seal just above fresh water fracture and top seal up inside 6 inch steel well casing. Both top and bottom seals shall be water tight.

Hansen’s Well Drilling; Susan Smith; Michael Warren, 397 Mountain Road, Oquossoc, ME. 04964

Proposed well to be located no closer than 70 feet from the leach field and 45 feet from septic tank on property and no closer than 100 feet from other leach field and 60 feet from the other septic tank on property.

Proposed well to have a minimum of 70 feet of 6 inch steel casing sealed into bedrock or as an alternative, a minimum of 20 feet of 6 inch steel casing shall be sealed into bedrock with a solid 4 inch liner installed with top and bottom Jaswell type steel core seals with bottom seal a minimum of 70 feet below grade and top seal up inside 6 inch steel well casing. Bottom and top seals shall be water tight.

Innis Well Drilling; James Innis; John H Shedd, 47 Holiday Lane, Enfield, ME. 04493

Proposed well to be located no closer than 100+ feet from the leach field and 50 feet from septic tank on property and no closer than 80 feet from neighbor’s leach field and 79 feet from the neighbor’s septic tank.

Proposed well to have a minimum of 70 feet of 6 inch steel casing sealed into bedrock or as an alternative, a minimum of 20 feet of 6 inch steel casing shall be sealed into bedrock with a solid 4 inch liner installed with top and bottom Jaswell type steel core seals with bottom seal a minimum of 70 feet below grade and top seal up inside 6 inch steel well casing. Bottom and top seals shall be water tight.

Exams requested:

Trent Robinson requested to take his Journeyman Well Driller exam. Ike Goodwin moves that the journeyman exam request be approved. Tom Weddle 2nd the motion. Passed unanimously.

Examinations Passed: None

New Business:

Ed Bowie and Joe Gallant are up for reappointment due to the Water Well Commission being a staggered Commission.

Please see **March Commission** on page 9

MGWA Director's Minutes for March 2012

Maine Ground Water Association
March 12, 2012
The Best Western Plus in Waterville, Maine

The meeting was called to order by President Ted Rolfe at 6:20 p.m. with the following present: Susan Smith, Joe Gallant, Jim Innis, Ted McLeod, Tom Mason and Mark Weeks.

Minutes of Meeting: A motion to approve the Minutes of the Director's Meeting of February 12, 2012 with a correction to the date from 2011 to 2012 was made by Ted McLeod and seconded by Tom Mason and was unanimously approved.

Treasurer's Report: A motion to approve the Treasurer's Report was made by Ted McLeod and seconded by Mark Weeks was unanimously approved.

Membership Applications: A motion to approve an affiliate membership application from Timothy Williams of Weeks & Sons was made by Ted McLeod and was seconded by Joe Gallant and was unanimously approved. A motion to approve an affiliate membership from James Hair of Ted McLeod Inc was made by Mark Weeks and seconded by Tom Mason and was unanimously approved. A motion to approve an affiliate membership from Ryan Stevenson of Ted McLeod Inc. was made by Mark Weeks and seconded by Tom Mason and was unanimously approved. A motion to approve an affiliate membership from Ted R. McLeod III of Ted McLeod Inc. was made by Mark Weeks and seconded by Jim Innis and was unanimously approved.

Legislative Committee: The Legislative Committee will present the matrix for specialty wells for the amount of casing needed for distances less than 60' from leach fields, tanks, lifts and pumping stations to the board. There was a discussion on Section 401.5 of our rules. Ted Rolfe sent a letter to the commission in regards to this section and it is below. A correction to the February 13, 2012 minutes: Ed Bowie and Joe Gallant's term is up not Don Robbins. Joe is going to reapply.

Education Committee: The spring demo will be held on May 5 or 12. Ted McLeod is the chair. The demo will be on the correct sizing and installation of a constant pressure pump. Scott

Hodgton will drill the well prior to the demo. David Braley is willing to come to the demo and provide the test for the "Open loop geothermal heat exchange license endorsement, Chapter 5. There is some confusion as to whether master and journeyman drillers have to take it or just pump installers. We are trying to get clarification. For those drillers that attended the Erosion Control Class, we are going to set up erosion control at the demo and have the State come and inspect so that we can get our certification. We will have more info soon. The Lions Club will do their Chicken B-B-Q and then the raffle.

Web Site Committee: Susan Smith reported that the web site is working well. If anyone wants any changes please contact her. There are a few companies that are not listed. Please fax, email or send the info to her.

Old Business: None

New Business: None

A motion to adjourn at 8:15 p.m. was made by Mark Weeks and seconded by Ted McLeod and was unanimously approved.

Letter To The Maine Water Well Commission,
Written by Ted Rolfe

FROM: Maine Groundwater Association Directors Meeting, February 13, 2012

TO: Maine Water Well Commission

SUBJECT: Interpretation of CMR CHAPTER 232-Well Driller and Pump Installer Rules Section 401.5 Casing extension into bedrock

DATE: February 14, 2012

Dear Commission Members,

Thank you for involving the MGWA in the interpretation of rules, as well as, the implementation of policies that affect well drilling contractors, in the State of Maine.

The directors and officers who were present at the February meeting, discussed and debated, what we believe to be the intent of Section 401.5, as written.

Section 401.5 in part, states, "It shall be the responsibility of the water well contractor to install a sufficient amount of casing into bedrock, and to affect a proper seal, in order to prevent surface water, and shallow ground

Please see Letter on page 9

Letter to Commission, continued from page 8

water, from transmitting gravel, sand, silt, clay, and coliform bacteria into the wellbore at the bottom of the casing or anywhere along the length of the casing'.

We believe this to indicate that it is our responsibility, as well drillers, to install the necessary amount of casing, into bedrock, to prevent surface water, and shallow ground water, from transmitting gravel, sand, silt, clay, and coliform bacteria into the

wellbore. We also understand this to mean that only gravel, sand, silt, clay, and coliform bacteria, introduced into the well via surface water or shallow ground water to be a violation of the rules. Also, surface water or shallow groundwater without gravel, sand, silt, clay, and coliform bacteria would not be considered a violation of the rules. This leaves us with two questions. (1) How do we define "surface water and shallow ground water", and (2) what indicators does the Commission intend to use to determine what is "surface water or shallow ground water".

Our rules define surface water as: Water occurring above the ground water table.

Please see Letter on page 10

March Commission, continued from page 7

Ed requests that someone else becomes chairman. He would like this to be discussed further at the next meeting.

Geothermal:

Geothermal Construction Rules are now in effect and are posted online. If a driller or pump installer is unable to print them, the Board Clerk will print and send the person a copy.

Meeting Adjourned 10:23 a.m.

Correction:

It was reported in the February newsletter that two terms on the Water Well Commission had expired. Those seats are currently held by Ed Bowie and Joe Gallant. Gallant has said he will ask to be reappointed. However, it is not known if Bowie will do so. We will run a further clarification in the June newsletter.

FYI:

Accessing the New Rules

For those wishing to access the new geothermal construction rules and bypass the somewhat complicated Commission site you can go to the new MGWA site at mainegroundwater.org. On the home page, go about halfway down and click on Maine Well Drillers and Pump Installers Rules. You will see it highlighted in blue. This will take you to a copy of the rules which you can print.

If you do not have access to the Internet, you can call Commission Board Clerk Jessica Bishop at 287-5699 to have a copy mailed to you.

Commission Meeting Dates for 2012

May 9, 2012

June 13, 2012

July 11, 2012

August 8, 2012

September 12, 2012

October 10, 2012

November 14, 2012

December 12, 2012

All meetings are subject to change

Letter, continued from page 9

The USGS defines surface water as: Water on the surface of the earth. That being said, we understand surface water to be waters on the earth's surface, above the water table, that are replenished by rain, and in Maine, melting snow and ice.

Our rules define ground water as: The water contained within the interconnected pores, cracks or fractures located below the water table of a confined or unconfined aquifer. This would include waters occurring in bedrock, as well as, waters occurring above bedrock that are below the water table, within the saturated or (saturation) zone. Shallow groundwater is rather difficult to define, as it is apparently still ground water and not surface water, where does this zone of water end? There are some indicators to aid us in discerning whether a particular water source is to be considered surface water, such as, low pH, tannins, and excessive sediments associated with heavy rainfall, to list a few.

We also believe that the Commission should take into consideration, the area of surface water intrusion, in the borehole, when issuing a violation. We feel that a small fracture nearer the bedrock surface, below the casing, may not be considered a reason for concern when installing the well. As opposed to, a large, obvious, area of weathered bedrock encountered near the bedrock surface that, may or may not, provide a conduit for surface water to enter the well, below the casing. In regards to the well casing and seal. We have always understood that the integrity of the well casing, from top to bottom, including the seal at the drive shoe, must remain intact, so that water and debris, outside the casing, cannot enter the well. Again, thank you for involving us in the process, please contact us with any questions.

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We would like to draw everyone's attention to the advertising on pages 2 through 11 which has made this newsletter possible.

Please mention to the advertisers who have supported the MGWA that you saw their ads and next time you need something.

Remember Their Support of Our Association!

The officers and directors of the MGWA just want to remind drillers and pump installers that Maine Water Well Commission meetings are open to the public and everyone is encouraged to attend.

As more rules are proposed and passed, it is important that members be involved in the process that affects their business.



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Spring Demo slated for certification, endorsement

David Braley will offer the open loop well drillers and pump installer's endorsement. You must RSVP by May 2, to David Braley directly to sit for the exam 441-5324 or David.Braley@maine.gov.

Franklin Electric will be presenting a "HANDS ON" demonstration of "HOW TO" properly size and install their constant pressure pumps. This system will be sized for and installed in the new well at Roberts Farm. The Franklin Electric team will be available to answer any questions you may have. The pump system will be installed after lunch and the raffle.

Erosion control certification will be done for those that took the class on February 28, 2012. You must be present at the Demo when Michelle Windsor from Oxford County Soil & Water is there. We will have set up the site with erosion control methods and she will check to be sure they are properly installed. You will fill out a form, give it to her and your certification will be mailed to you. The form is in the back of your Erosion control book.

We will be outside. Please dress appropriately. It could be cold and muddy. We will have a tent, tables and chairs.

Sign Up on page 12 for Details

Info on Roberts Farm Preserve, Two Centuries of Family Farming

The 150 acres that is now the Roberts Farm Preserve was historically part of the extensive holdings of Dudley Pike, one of Norway's founders. By 1787, Pike, for whom the steep hill south of Norway was named, acquired this land from Henry Rust. Between 1820-1830, Dudley's son Henry built a two-story home and began farming the property. By 1850, the farm included 52 acres of improved land and was producing "Indian" corn, oats, peas, potatoes, hay, milk, butter and cheese. By 1880, 72 acres were under cultivation.

In 1881 Henry gave the farm to his daughter Carrie and her husband John Roberts. Mr. Roberts farmed "scientifically" and was very active in the Maine State Grange; he also served as the State's Commissioner of Agriculture from 1913 until his death in 1918. Carrie and John's son Thaddeus continued to farm the land and developed a dairy herd that brought the family modest success. Through the 1940s, local customers purchased Roberts Farm milk in the signature "Cop the Cream" milk bottles.

In 2000, after two centuries of stewardship by the Pike-Roberts family, the land was sold for timber harvest and potential development. The Western Foothills Land Trust agreed to purchase the property in the summer of 2007.



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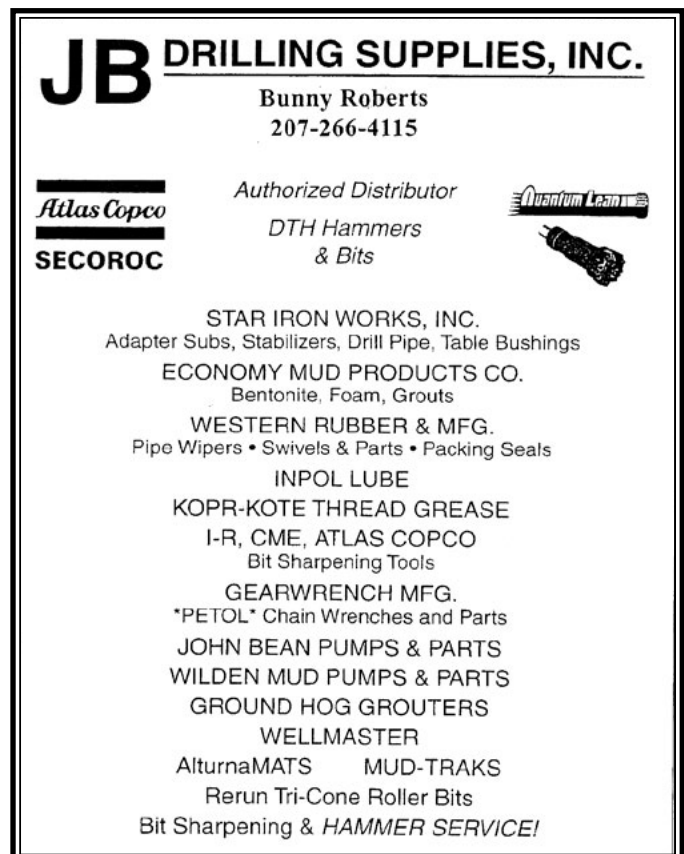
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Spring Demo Slated for May 12

Saturday, May 12, 2012
Roberts Farm
64 Roberts Road, Norway, Maine
(Off Rt. 117 & Rt. 118)

RSVP by May 2 to Susan Smith, P.O. Box 207,
Gorham, ME 04038-0207, or fax to: 207-839-
5863 or email to: info@mainegroundwater.org.

**Members you must RSVP by May 2 to be
entered in the raffle - you must be
present to win.**

8:00 a.m. Coffee and Donuts

8:30 a.m. Licensing Exams by David Braley
from Maine Well Drillers Commission

9:00 a.m. Franklin Electric Demo of how to cor
rectly size Constant pressure pump system

11:30 a.m. Erosion control certification by
Michelle Winsor of Oxford County Soil & Water
(from class on 2/28)

Noon Lions Chicken Barbecue

1:00 p.m. Business Meeting, Raffle & Pump
Installation

It is easier for us if we have an accurate num
ber of members attending. If you have any
questions please call Ted Rolfe.207-242-5114.

Company Name _____

Phone #: _____

Name: _____

Name: _____

Name: _____

Children attending: _____ There
will be a separate raffle for the children.

Please add a sheet if you need more space for
members attending.

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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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www.mainegroundwater.org

Mark Your Calendars!
MGWA Spring Demo
Saturday, May 12

Maine Groundwater Assoc.
280 Litchfield Road
Bowdoin, Maine 04287