

MINNESOTA GROUND WATER ASSOCIATION

NEWSLETTER v.4 n.1 FALL 1985

Another early morning phone call.

"Good Morning, Ms. Ground Water speaking, may I help you?"

"Uh, yea, is Mr. Ground Water there?"

"Yes, but he is making coffee at the moment, we work together, so I can help you."

"Uh, sure. Hey, where have you people been for the last five months? A lot of us have been wondering about what's going on in the world of ground water."

"You could say we've been underground for awhile; but no excuses except things have been very busy. But now that I'm here, things will pick up again."

"Great! Say, I wanted to ask Mr. Ground Water about the Minnesota Department of Health's recent decision not to allow the use of flushed-threaded Schedule 40 and 80 PVC pipe for monitoring wells. I thought the decision was rather sudden considering the fact that they previously had told people that Schedule 80 was acceptable."

"I can't answer for the MDH, but there is a statute, Chapter 156A.031, which allows for the use of PVC casing, but it also states that the casing should be capable of withstanding a pressure equal to or greater than 200 lbs per square inch. The problem isn't if the pipe passes the test; but, whether the flushed-threaded joint passes the test. The MDH has used several ASTM standards for PVC pipe specifications. One in particular, ASTM F:480 describes a 25 psi test for joints; however, this standard does not specifically address flushed-threaded joints. The MDH has advanced the idea that this lack of comment in the ASTM standard could be construed as a disapproval of any flushed-threaded joints."

"So, anything not covered by an ASTM standard could be construed as not approved."

"Yes, that's the idea I get from reading that. Yet, ASTM does not have a standard method for permeability tests; but, the test results are accepted and approved by professionals. However, the question I ask is what was the intent of the statute and should it apply to monitoring wells? I think it was intended for water supply wells. Another question I ask is how deep one must go before a pressure of 200 psi is encountered? The pressure gradient of pure water is 0.43 psi/ft, so to achieve a pressure of 200 psi, one needs over 460' of water; the load pressure exerted by a column of average rock including pore water is about 1 psi/ft, so one needs at least 200' of rock in order to acquire a 200 psi pressure. Most PVC monitoring wells are installed at depths less than 100'. Actually, this is not the issue, the real issue is if flushed-threaded joints are water tight. So until someone does the actual testing we will have to use either PVC welded-joints, stainless steel or teflon casing."

"Has anyone tested stainless steel or teflon joints to see if they are water tight?"

"Not that I know of."

(Continued on Page 9)

National Water Well Association Convention & Exposition

- Mike Convery

The 37th annual National Water Well Association Convention was held in Baltimore, Maryland, during September 7-12, 1985. The convention and exposition were attended by well over 2,000 water well contractors, consultants, government officials, suppliers, and manufacturers. The exposition consisted of over 200 displays, staffed by approximately 1,000 manufacturers and suppliers.

One issue before the Association general assembly of delegates was a bylaw proposal to change the name of the National Water Well Association to the National Ground Water Association. This proposed change was defeated.

The Association of Ground Water Scientists and Engineers - a Division of the National Water Well Association (the old Technical Division) met to formally adopt the name change of the Division. Also, the Division will be implementing the certification program as outlined in the June, 1985, newsletter. This program will require 36 credits of continuing education every three years for recertification. All courses, seminars, or workshops should be approved prior to taking the course for determination of credit value. An individual can also petition the review committee for credit for certain special activities outside the normal training programs or publishing articles. At this point, the application charge is set at \$125.00, with a \$75.00 renewal every three years. Two review committees have been established to handle the applications. Details of the certification program and its implementation will be in the October, 1985, newsletter.

The Association of Ground Water Scientists and Engineers will now coordinate the Ground Water Quality Symposiums, scheduled for every other year and coinciding with the National Water Well Association Convention. The next symposium will be in Kansas City, Missouri, in September, 1986.

Two committees have also formed within the Division. One group consists of public officials from federal, state, and local units of government that are involved with water well regulations, groundwater resource management and planning, environmental regulation, and groundwater research. A second group consists primarily of consultants serving both public and private clients. The purpose of the committees is simply to provide the specific groups with a forum to discuss common problems and strategies, and yet maintain a close tie to the mixed community of the Division.

A final issue addressed by the Division involved establishing a distinguished lecture tour. This would involve sponsoring a well-respected hydrologist to conduct lectures at 10-15 locations around the country annually. The lectures will be a mix of theoretical discussion and practical applications or experiences. This lecture tour can be coordinated with regional or state associations.

BYLAWS OF THE MINNESOTA GROUND WATER ASSOCIATION

Article I. Name:

1. This Organization shall be known as the "Minnesota Ground Water Association" hereinafter referred to as the Association.

Article II. Purposes:

1. The primary objectives of the Association are the promotion and encouragement of the science of ground water hydrology, and the education of the general public regarding ground water resources.
2. To further these stated objectives the Association may disseminate information on ground water through meetings of the membership, newsletters, and participation in any other activities enumerated herein that are designed to encourage the exchange of information relating to ground water resources.

Article III. Definitions:

1. The definitions used in these bylaws shall be as follows unless the context requires otherwise:
 - a. "Approved or approval by the Board" shall mean a majority of Board members voting.
 - b. "Quorum" shall mean those members in good standing attending any publicized meeting of the Association.

Article IV. Board of Directors of the Association:

1. The Board of Directors shall consist of five elected officers which are the Past-President, President, President-Elect, Treasurer, and Secretary.
2. The Treasurer and Secretary shall serve a two year term with elections in odd numbered years. The President-Elect is elected each year. The President-Elect serves for one year, then automatically becomes President for one year, and then automatically becomes Past-President for one year.
3. The President shall call and conduct meetings of the Board and of the Association, shall be the primary operating officer of the Association and shall be the program committee chairman. The Past-President and the President-Elect will serve on the program committee along with members selected at large from the general membership. The Secretary shall

shall be the chairperson of the newsletter committee, shall keep and report the minutes of the Board and of the Association, shall keep and report to the Minnesota Secretary of State any revisions or changes in the Articles of Incorporation, shall keep a list of property belonging to the Association, and shall keep all books, correspondence, and papers relating to the business of the corporation (except those of the Treasurer). The Treasurer shall maintain the accounts of the Association including: all financial transactions, dues information, active membership and mailing lists, tax statements, necessary reports to the IRS (both State of Federal), and funding information, and shall present a financial report at each meeting of the Board and of the Association. All officers shall be responsible for such other duties as the Board may prescribe.

4. Vacancies on the Board shall be filled as follows:

- a. President: The President-Elect shall assume the Presidency of the Board should the latter position become vacant.
- b. Other vacancies on the Board shall be filled by appointment by the President with approval by the Board at the next regular meeting of the Board. The appointment of the new officer shall be announced at the next regular meeting of the Association.
- c. The term of the appointed officer(s) shall be limited to the unexpired term of the vacated position.

5. The regular business meetings of the Board may be attended by any member in good standing.

6. Any officer may be removed from the Board by an affirmative vote of the majority of directors present at an official meeting of the Board. Notice of the proposed removal will be given to members with the notice of the meeting. The officer involved will be given an opportunity to be present and be heard at the meeting at which his or her removal is considered.

Article V. Membership:

1. Membership shall be open to persons who have an interest in scientific, technical, or legal aspects of ground water resources.
2. Condition of membership shall be payment of annual dues prescribed by the Board.
3. A member in good standing is one whose dues are paid for that year.

Article VI. Election of Board:

1. The Board shall annually appoint a nominating committee to prepare a slate of candidates for office. The nominating committee shall give notice to the general membership of upcoming vacancies. The slate shall be announced in the newsletter prior to the annual business meeting. Nominees must agree to serve if elected. Election of officers shall be by mail ballot completed before the meeting, and the outcome of the election shall be announced at the meeting. The nominating committee shall act as Teller and shall notify the Officers and Officer-elect of the outcome of the election before the annual meeting. Those candidates who receive a plurality of ballots for each position shall be declared elected. Ties shall be decided by a majority vote of the Board. They shall take office at a subsequent meeting designated by the Board, but no later than four (4) months after the meeting.

Article VII. Management and Finances:

1. The business and property of the Association shall be managed by the Board, which shall meet as often as it deems necessary for efficient operation of the Association, but at least once a year. The Board is empowered to appoint from among the members of the Association such committees as it considers necessary to conduct any phases of Association business.
2. The operating funds of the Association shall be derived from annual dues, any residual funds arising from advertisements, and from grants, contributions and endowments.
3. The President and/or Treasurer are empowered to expend funds for the Association to an extent, and for purposes, approved by the Board.

Article VIII. Affiliation:

1. The Association shall be affiliated with the Association of Ground Water Scientists and Engineers of the National Water Well Association. Cooperation or affiliation with other organizations may be arranged by the Board as it deems such action consistent with the objectives and interests of the Association.

Article IX. Amendments:

1. Proposed amendments to the bylaws may be made by petition to the Board signed by at least 10 percent of current members in good standing.
2. The Board must present the petition to the membership at the next Association meeting. Ballots are to be mailed out to all members within 30 days of the meeting in order to vote on the proposed amendment.
3. The bylaws of the Association shall be so amended if the proposed amendment is approved by a majority of mail ballots cast by members of the Association. Ballots must be returned to the Association within 30 days to be counted.

Article X. Nonprofit:

1. The Association shall not afford pecuniary gain, incidentally or otherwise, to its members.

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"Sounds like someone could make a lot of money if they could develop a pipe with a water tight joint that meets the test."

"Well, Mr. Ground Water is experimenting with different types of materials. He wants to develop a pipe that is as strong as stainless steel, as inert as teflon, as tight as a clay liner and as inexpensive as PVC. He has been experimenting with cardboard tubes and aspartame. He plans to call it VCP."

"Uh, what does that stand for, vinyl chloride something-or-other?"

"No. Very cheap pipe!"

"Say, we are back, and we apologize for the long delay in sending out another newsletter. However, this summer we tried several times to organize a conference on geophysical methods but we could not get a date that did not conflict with other meetings. This conference has been rescheduled for next spring. Inside this newsletter, you will find a new membership roster and a revised set of bylaws. The major reason for changing the bylaws was to reorganize the Board of Directors and to resolve organizational problems that were apparent after three years. You will find most of the bylaw changes in Article IV. Briefly, we have consolidated the Membership and Treasurer positions into just that of the Treasurer. The Secretary position has been given responsibilities of the newsletter and will be the chairperson of a newsletter committee. It was decided that the newsletter was one of two important products of the Minnesota Ground Water Association and we had not adequately represented it previously on the Board of Directors. The President and the Vice-President positions have been changed and a new position has been added to replace that of Membership. The new directors will be the Past-President, the President and the President-Elect. Each year the MGWA will elect a new President-Elect. That individual will serve for one year and then automatically become the President and serve in that position for one year. After that year, the President will become Past-President for one year. The President will be the chair of the program committee and will be assisted by the Past-President and the President-Elect. The meetings and seminars were considered to be the other important product of the MGWA and responsibility for organizing programs required additional support on the Board. The Board of Directors discussed the role of the President and the amount of responsibility that individual has carried and decided that the position needed to be spread out and more responsibilities be given to other board members. Other than these changes, there are minor changes in the bylaws which relate to the terms of office and elections of these Board members. There is a ballot in the newsletter for voting on the bylaw changes. Please take the time to complete and return your ballot.

In addition, there is a questionnaire in the newsletter regarding employment status of ground water related positions in this area. The questionnaire was developed in order to supply information for everyone on types of employers, salaries and job opportunities in ground water related fields. The questionnaire is completely voluntary, and we ask that you fill it in and return it with the ballot. One final item, in the newsletter you will also find a notice for the Midwest Ground Water Conference to be held in St. Paul, Minnesota on October 23 through October 25, 1985. This conference has in the past, at least for me, been one of the better conferences on ground water that I have attended.

(Continued on Next Page)

Although there are formal presentations, I have found the conference to be an excellent format for informal discussion with other professionals working in ground water related field. I highly recommend that you consider attending, registration cost is reasonable and I'm sure you will find yourself to be in good company. To ensure that you are in good company, after the first full day's session, several state ground water associations including the Minnesota Ground Water Association will sponsor a hospitality room in the hotel of the conference. Everyone is invited to attend. We look forward to seeing you at the Midwest Ground Water Conference and at future meetings to be announced.

Please read the new bylaws, complete the ballot and the questionnaire, and return them to us.

Thanks,

Gil Gabanski, President
MGWA

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MINNESOTA GROUND WATER ASSOCIATION SALARY SURVEY

Because of the expansion of the groundwater profession and the proliferation of employers of groundwater professionals, there is a growing confusion among professionals and employers alike about what constitutes appropriate compensation for employment. To help determine the prevailing salaries, the MGWA is polling its members and are asking YOU to complete the following survey. The more members complete the survey, the more useful it will be. Please fill it out NOW!

1. ARE YOU EMPLOYED BY (check one):
- Local government
 - State government
 - Federal government
 - Educational institution
 - Self-employed consultant
 - Member of private consulting firm
 - Industrial company
 - Research institute
 - Other _____
2. ARE YOU EMPLOYED AS A:
- Geologist
 - Hydrogeologist
 - Hydrologist
 - Engineer
 - Ground water geologist
 - Soil scientist
 - Other _____

4. WHAT EDUCATIONAL LEVELS HAVE YOU ATTAINED?
- B.A./B.S. Major/Institution _____
 - M.A./M.S. Major/Institution _____
 - Ph.D. Major/Institution _____
 - Other (please describe) _____

5. HOW MANY YEARS OF EXPERIENCE do you have as a groundwater professional? _____

6. ARE YOU REGISTERED? _____ If so, where? _____

7. ARE YOU CERTIFIED? _____ If so, by whom? _____

8. DOES YOUR JOB INVOLVE OVERSEEING OR MANAGING OTHERS? _____
How many? _____

9. WHAT IS YOUR CURRENT ANNUAL SALARY? _____

10. WHAT IS THE TOTAL OF ANY OTHER CASH BENEFITS? _____

Please return this survey before OCTOBER 31, 1985 to MGWA, P. O. Box 65362, St. Paul, MN 55165. Thanks.

BALLOT
I vote to: approve _____
disapprove _____
the proposed changes in the MGWA Bylaws.

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October 23-25, 1985 St. Paul, MN

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Fill out the form below, include payment, and mail to Sarah P. Tufford, Midwest Ground Water Conference, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, 500 Lafayette Rd., St. Paul 55146.

Make all checks payable to:
Midwest Ground Water Conference

Name _____

Name _____

Affiliation _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

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- _____ registrations at \$40.00 each
before October 11.
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- _____ student registrations at \$25.00 each
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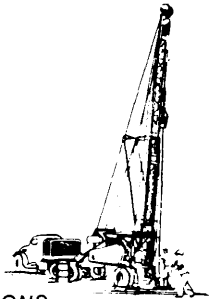
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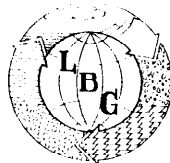


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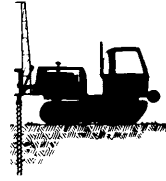
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