CARB TO REVISE AND DELAY ATCM & PERP REGULATIONS

The Airborne Toxic Control Measures (ATCM), adopted by the California Air Resources Board (CARB) in 2004 and scheduled to become increasingly stringent in January of 2017, were delayed pending the development of revised standards to take place over at least the next year. CARB has concluded that “the upcoming 2017 ATCM fleet average standards are not reasonably achievable for fleet owners, because cleaner engine technologies did not become available as quickly as was anticipated when the Rule was adopted in 2004”. Revisions made to the standards will also be reflected in the Portable Equipment Registration Program (PERP).

A series of public workshops, to be held throughout the state, begin this month. They are intended to provide an opportunity for interested parties to submit comments, suggestions, and recommendations. CGA will be represented at these meetings. Those wishing to attend future meetings, can find information on the CARB website (http://www.arb.ca.gov/portable/perpact/poritable-activity.htm).

Although CGA wasn’t the only organization to bring the achievability of the proposed stringent standards to CARB’s attention, we certainly had profound influence. Following our meeting with CARB officials in Assemblymember Tom Lackey’s office last August, representatives of CARB met with Larry Rottman, Chair of the Air Emissions Task Force, at one of his drilling sites. He was able to demonstrate convincingly how the new required technology was not going to be compatible with the needs of his operation.

This is a small victory in a long struggle. Over the next year, make sure that your ideas and concerns are heard. Attend the workshops and report back to your association. By doing so, we can assure that future regulations, even though inevitable, will at least be considerate of our industry.

SCHOLARSHIP DEADLINE FAST APPROACHING

March 31 is the deadline to submit applications for CGA scholarships. This year, up to four scholarships are available.

CGA Scholarships – Up to two $2,000 one-year scholarships are available.

CGA Memorial Scholarship – Up to $2,500 is awarded annually to honor and remember CGA members who have passed away. The scholarship is available to any CGA member, family or employee of a CGA-member company.

Sheryl Kratz Scholarship – Honoring the memory of a CGA family member we lost many years ago, this $2,000 scholarship has been opened to include both men and women pursuing higher education.

Please encourage your family, friends & employees to apply now for these great scholarships. Your fellow members welcome the opportunity to award these valuable scholarships to deserving folks who will help maintain our great industry.
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DATES TO REMEMBER – 2016

APRIL 7 - WATER WELL CONSTR. WORKSHOP
Piccadilly Inn Shaw, Fresno, CA

APRIL 8-9 - BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Piccadilly Inn Shaw, Fresno, CA

SEPTEMBER 8 - WATER WELL CONSTR WORKSHOP
Doubletree by Hilton Golf Resort Palm Springs, Cathedral City, CA

SEPTEMBER 9-10 - BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Doubletree by Hilton Golf Resort Palm Springs, Cathedral City, CA

OCTOBER 20-22 - CGA 68th ANNUAL CONVENTION & TRADE SHOW
Peppermill Resort Spa Casino, Reno, NV

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Contact CGA at 707-578-4408; fax: 707-546-4906
email: cga@groundh2o.org
CGA website: www.groundh2o.org
As we enter another year of drought, CGA’s plate remains full. The updating of bulletin 74, CARB regulations, and the relocation of the CGA headquarters are among the issues we are focusing on.

As the owner of a small, 3rd generation drilling company, I understand firsthand how daunting a task it can be to try and keep up with all of the seemingly endless new regulations trickling down from our powers that be. With that said, I strongly encourage everyone, as groundwater professionals, to help protect yourselves, and to help protect our industry as a whole, get involved! Stay involved! And let’s make our collective voice be heard! Groundwater is our livelihood and this organization is only as strong as its membership! Let’s work together to solve the pressing issues that may be affecting the industry at both the state and local levels regarding any policy, permitting or other changes.

I want to thank everyone for the success of the CGA “Grand” Convention in 2015. The 2016 convention is in the works and will be held at The Peppermill in Reno, Nevada. I hope to see you all there!

Many thanks to our Past President Mike Maggiora for the support and encouragement to me as this year progresses and a continued thank you to Executive Director John Hofer, and CGA staff, Renee Hofer and Bev Haley.

Thank You for your time and for being a part of the voice in this challenging year!

Ron

Happy 2016 Everyone.

Our first CGAA board meeting was a delight - participants voted and installed the Executive Committee: Vice President Keri Greenwood, Treasurer Margaret Fulton, Secretary Nicole Guardino, Past President Stephanie Mickelson and Manufacturer/Supplier Representative Judy Delenikos. Much gratitude for agreeing to attend and participate.

Other important positions filled: Karen Weimer as ‘Historian’ and Renee Hofer for “We Care”. Creating annual history books and corresponding life events are a part of what we do as an auxiliary and these two are masters at it, please help by sending cards/communicating life events regarding our members. Email to the main office please.

Kathy Rottman agreed to announce Woman of the Year and share the chosen’s life and industry accomplishments oh so eloquently. Thank You Kathy. If you have a nominations please send to vicky@hedmandrilling.com.

Many auxiliary members came in early to attend the Day at the Capital, deepening knowledge at the legislative level with regards to the states groundwater, incoming regulations, current status and representing CGA. Thank You for your presence!

Our committee meetings on Friday were kicked off with a great bang and followed by a day’s full of work. We all gathered for a fine Italian dinner and got a good night’s sleep and up for the next day of completing the CGAA board meeting work we gathered for. Tasks executed, we had a fabulous lunch at the hotel and then enjoyed shopping and Art Gallery viewing.

Where there is intense work there must be some fun, is the CGAA motto. Every CGA members spouse/partner is welcome to attend the auxiliary meetings. Looking forward to a successful year and it can’t be done without you!

Kindest Regards and Much Gratitude,
Vicky
Last month, CGA held a successful Day at the Capitol. Attendees were not only updated by legislators and other stakeholders on the current developments in the groundwater business, but our members managed to make contact with all 80 legislative offices. In many instances, we were remembered from previous visits.

On the day before we all convened for the Day at the Capitol, the CGA-sponsored SB-995 was introduced by Senator Fran Pavley. This bill requires the state to update the water well standards (Bulletin 74). CGA has been fighting for this update for many years, and in fact was instrumental, along with the California Conference of Directors of Environmental Health (CCDEH), in developing a complete draft revision of the standards in 2013.

When visiting legislative offices, CGA members were able to focus on gathering support for SB-995. Generally, comments from staff and the legislators themselves were positive.

But now the real work begins. Over the next several months assuming continued support, the bill will grind through Senate committees and eventually to a full vote, and then on to the Assembly with a similar process.

By the time this process is completed, probably sometime in mid-Summer, legislators who were supportive last month have forgotten CGA completely. It therefore becomes imperative to maintain contact with your local Senator and Assemblyperson until the bill is signed by Governor Brown.

CGA will be sure to remind members to email legislators or even visit their local office at particularly critical times during this legislative process. This is the only way that we can hope to get this bill passed. It’s the way the system works. “The squeaky wheel gets the grease!”

Those who attended the Day at the Capitol and got this ball rolling should be commended, but we need to keep the heat on our elected legislators. Let’s not let over 20 years of work trying to update Bulletin 74 be lost for the lack of a quick email or phone call. Give your association some help increasing its creditability in Sacramento.

John
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LEGISLATIVE REPORT

By Pete Conaty
Legislative Advocate

SB 995-Pavley: Well Standards

The CGA’s sponsored bill to update the DWR’s Bulletin 74 well standards was introduced on February 10 by Senator Fran Pavley (D-Agoura Hills). Senator Pavley is the Chair of the Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee (NR&W).

In addition to the CGA’s obvious desire to update the state’s regulations regarding well construction, SB 995 is timely given the ongoing implementation of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act along with the historic drought that placed intense pressure on groundwater to meet water needs.

SB 995, as currently written, seeks to:

- Within two years, require DWR to update well regulations based on existing knowledge. This will provide a short-term improvement in well standards until the next part is completed.
- Within five years, require DWR to create an advisory panel that will identify critical gaps in the existing knowledge of well construction, maintenance, and destruction. Based on the advisory panel’s recommendations, any research needed to address those questions will be conducted.
- Require DWR to update the well standards and submit them to the State Water Resources Control Board for adoption in the Model Well Ordinance.

We will keep CGA members informed as to the bill’s progress as it moves through the legislative process. The bill will first be heard in the Senate NR&W Committee, then the Senate Environmental Quality Committee, and on to the Appropriations Committee. After a vote on the Senate Floor, the bill will take the same route in the Assembly. The timeline for all of this will be between now and August 31. The Governor then has until September 30 to sign or veto bills on his desk. When a bill is first introduced, it must go into print where it can be viewed by the public for 30 days. No amendments or hearings can take place on the bill during this time. SB 995 is eligible to move on March 12; however the actual date will depend on when the committee can hear the bill.

We will be soliciting letters of support from CGA members supporting SB 995. It is important that we do our part to support Senator Pavley’s efforts on our behalf. Support letters can be from CGA members, local health departments, community water groups, customers, or anyone who would benefit from updated well standards. We will be sending out instructions, via the CGA Executive Director, on support letters soon.

CGA Day at the Capitol, February 11, 2016

CGA’s DAC was a critical first step to launching SB 995. We were briefed by Senator Pavley’s Principal Consultant and his Science Fellow on the bill. This was also a chance for CGA members to introduce themselves to them. CGA members visited legislative offices and delivered 80 folders containing information about the association, a fact sheet on SB 995, and a co-author request inviting other legislators to join Senator Pavley on the bill. If any CGA members have a relationship with their local legislators, ask them to sign on as a coauthor to our bill.

CGA DAC attendees were visited by key legislators and governmental experts on groundwater issues. The following people showed up during the DAC morning session to speak to the group:

- Assemblyman Tom Lackey (R-Palmdale). Local CGA members had been working with Mr. Lackey previously on CARB issues. This is a great example of how to meet legislators and educate them on issues of importance to groundwater.
- Assemblyman Devon Mathis (R-Visalia). Member of the Agriculture and Water, Parks, and Wildlife Committees.
- Justin Malan, owner of the lobbying firm EcoConsult. One of his clients is the California Association of Environmental Health Administrators. You may recall that Justin worked with us in 2012 on a geothermal heat pump and ground loop technologies bill by Assemblyman Das Williams.
- Dennis O’Connor, Principal Consultant to the Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Water. Dennis is one of the experts on groundwater issues in the Capitol.
- Matt Dumla PhD, Senate Science Fellow assigned to the Senate Committee on Natural Resources Committee.

Continued on Page 14
In Memoriam:

Joe Birman

Dr. Joseph Harold Birman, Geologist, Professor Emeritus at Occidental College, and founder of Geothermal Surveys, Inc. (GSi/water), passed away on December 23rd, 2015. He was 91. Joe was an integral part of the CGA Standards Committee for many years, and was the 1994 recipient of the Jeremy C. Wire Technical Member of the Year award. Joe also left behind a remarkable scientific legacy that spans more than 60 years of original research, from mapping the paths of the glaciers that once dominated Earth, making the case for early civilization in the Persian Gulf, to inventing the technology that uses shallow temperature probes to detect the movement of groundwater. He leaves behind his two sons, David and Daniel Birman, his grandchildren Jessica Johnson and Aaron Birman, and four great grandchildren.

Aaron Thornton

Aaron Thornton, founder of Salinas Pump Company, passed away on January 8, 2016 in Ozan, Arkansas. He was 81. Aaron was a long-time ADC/CGA member, and was an active participant in the Central Coast Branch for many of the early years of the association. Aaron leaves behind his wife, Carolyn; his children, Mark (Pam) Thornton, Rhonda Watras; step-children, Tammy Chessir, Lysile (Francis) Silva, Terry (Jon) Vogel, Allen Henry; his grandchildren, Aaron (Neena) Thornton, Kristi (Dennis) Thornton-Bicek, Tommy Thornton, Bill Watras, Molly Watras; his great-grandchildren, Elizabeth, Jackson, Addison and Blake; his uncle, Dalton Harris; numerous cousins and many great friends.

Kathleen Hofvendahl-Clark

It is with great sadness that the CGA family notes the passing of Augie Guardino’s mother, Kathleen Hofvendahl-Clark. Our thoughts and prayers go out to Augie, a long-time member and Past-President, in his time of need.

CGA Welcomes New Members

Since the last issue, CGA has added 8 new or returning members:

Timothy Seeno, San Diego, CA
JGB BioPharma Consulting, Inc., Belmont, CA
Carl Nelson Insurance Agency, Inc., Hanford, CA
Michael Malone, Sebastopol, CA
Bertram Drilling, Inc., Billings, MT
Anderson and Co., Aptos, CA
Sabrina Niles, Riverside, CA
T. Michael Pendergrass, Rancho Santa Margarita, CA

When you meet any of these folks, please extend some CGA hospitality!

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

2016 membership renewal second notices have been mailed out. Don’t forget to get your dues paid, and support your association.

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Tom Foley (Southern CA)
520-488-1249
Joe Beloso (Northern & Central CA)
775-224-7208

Atlas Copco
It’s not often that we have a real life example of Murphy’s Law; but it only reinforces the importance of doing the right thing…you’ll dig this!

Yesterday (February 23rd), Dave Landino (our Insurance & Safety Committee Chair) called to share his humorous near miss. Dave had a job for the City of Santa Cruz Water Department. Remembering our last committee meeting, Dave called 811 to get the PG&E lines marked; and took the steps before beginning to drill.

1. Identified and marked the drilling area with a white substance.
2. Called 811 at least two business days prior. Contractors are required by State law to call!
3. PG&E came out and marked the site with appropriate colored flags according to uniform color code.

Dave Landino then contacted AT&T to cover all bases. They came out and confirmed the site. In addition, since it was public property, he had the Santa Cruz Water representative come out to inspect prior to drilling and clear him to drill the 100 foot well where they were directing. So begins the reality show….

Dave the Driller positioned his rig in the exact spot that was indicated and began the drilling after doing everything by the book! Being the experienced CGA drilling contractor that he is, Mr. Landino felt something was not right and stopped at about 20 feet to check out the hole. Upon checking, he had been moved directly over a 24” water pipe with 150psi or about 1000 gallons per minute.

Everything was done safely, by the book, and then some! If the inevitable had happened, there would be more than a small claim and Landino Drilling would be included in the actions filed. We would have worked with him to tender the claim to the correct party and get him out of any defense or judgement for the damages.

Fortunately, he did not create a new lake on the site. Remember, call before you dig. It’s the law; and I don’t mean Murphy’s Law.

Thanks for the material, Dave!

Bob
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CGA HOLDS DAY AT THE CAPITOL

On January 11, 2016, CGA held its annual legislative day, the Day at the Capitol. Over 20 members convened at Vallejo’s Restaurant for a morning of informative updates from legislators and government experts in the groundwater industry. Pete Conaty, our Legislative Advocate, informed us that the day before, Senator Fran Pavley (D-Agoura Hills) had introduced SB-995, sponsored by CGA, requiring the Department of Water Resources to finally update Bulletin 74. Pete summarized the legislative process, and emphasized that CGA will have much more work to do during the next six months to assure that our bill is signed into law by Governor Jerry Brown.

The afternoon was devoted to visits to individual legislative offices. In all, CGA members were able to stop by 80 offices to discuss issues impacting our industry, or at the very least drop off materials requesting support for SB-995 and including background information on CGA.

Assembymember Tom Lacky addresses CGA Day at the Capitol attendees

David Gutierrez, Program Manager for the Groundwater Sustainability Program, gives an overview of the program implementation

CGA attendees updated on groundwater issues

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1973 GD 2000: 7 ½” x 10” Pump, Double DD....$265K
1987 Reichdrill C700: Track Rig, 1100/150 Air....$78K
Fanks 50: Double DD, 2=GD 5x6 Pumps.............$59K

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Ingersoll Rand XHP 1170x350, CAT C-15, Skid Mntd....$38K
Sullair 1150x350 XH: CAT C-15, Truck Mntd......$37K
(3) Quincy Joy 1100 x 200: Det Ser 60, Skid Mntd...$14K
GD 1100x125: P/b CAT 3408, 8’x20’ Skid Mounted.....$9K
Last month, the CGA Board of Directors convened in Sacramento for the initial meeting of 2016. Among items discussed during the meeting, the Board approved the 2016 goals for the association that included the passage of SB-995 to implement revisions to Bulletin 74. Additionally, the Board approved the Convention Committee recommendation to hold the 2017 convention at the Grand Sierra Resort and Casino in Reno, Nevada on October 19 through 21, 2017.

Ron Hedman reported to the Board about the Executive Committee’s efforts to relocate the CGA office to Sacramento. They want to have the new office in place by January 1, 2017. They are formulating plans to replace John Hofer who is resigning effective December 31, 2016. They met with a recruitment specialist to give them some ideas on available options for small associations. Those options range from hiring a full-time Executive Director to contracting with a management company to handle the office duties. A full-time director would be more costly, but would be able to assist in growing the organization. A management company would be more cost-effective, but would probably not have the time or the resources to grow CGA. They will keep the Board informed as to the progress.

The Board also discussed the ongoing CARB regulations issue, centering around the apparent lack of communication and perceived disregard of CGA concerns from CARB personnel. It was pointed out that CARB officials had visited a Rottman Drilling site to see first-hand the problems with compliance. During the discussion, it was brought to the Board’s attention that CARB was holding a series of workshops during 2016, and that revisions to the regulation would be discussed no earlier than March of 2017, thereby delaying compliance for well over a year. The Board decided to have the Air Emissions Task Force, chaired by Larry Rottman, deal with CARB activities. Several members said they would attend the workshops and report back to the Board.

Committee Reports

Executive: Ron Hedman reported that the committee is continuing to work on relocating the office and finding a new Executive Director for 2017.

Budget: Dave Fulton reported that CGA has consolidated the restricted bank accounts at Luther Burbank Savings into one savings account at Bank of America. The committee discussed the option of outsourcing the bookkeeping and accounting services, and to convert to an accrual system.

CGA Standards: Dave Fulton reported that the committee discussed the Bulletin 74 update legislation, and the potential advantages to having RWQCB administer the state’s groundwater as opposed to the DWR. They will also look into a guideline from DWR on bentonite.

Convention: Mike Meyer reported that this year’s convention at the Peppermill will have basically the same schedule. They will find an event to replace the bowling on Thursday night. They are recommending the Grand Sierra Resort and Casino for the 2017 convention.

Education: Tim Guishard reported that the committee is planning to keep the convention seminar schedule the same as last year’s. Some seminars would be repeated. The whisky tasting seminar will be replaced with a similar event. They plan to update the regulator workshops.

Fundraising and Activity: Erik Lowe reported that the live and silent auctions and the wagon generated $8,213. They are looking into a pub crawl for 2016. All fundraising activities must be run by Fundraising Committee. The committee finalized costs for poker ($75) and blackjack ($100).

Insurance: The committee discussed the safety program and noted that heat illness was still an OSHA focus. Also, they urged contractors to call USA prior to excavating, even on agricultural land and private property. Bob Murphy reported that EMC has a new program designed to replace the old Well Guard plan. To maintain cyber-security, the committee suggests disconnecting the internet from the network and use laptops only. Workers Comp rates are trending down. Kelly Doherty reported that many are moving to Kaiser for health care insurance because of lower costs.

Legislative: Tom Weimer, Jr. reported that the committee is proposing to support AB-1647 and AB-1649. They are recommending that RWQCB be put in charge of groundwater, rather than DWR. They also recommend that the phrase “a C-57 licensed contractor” be inserted in Line 9 (b) (1) between “establish” and “advisory”. The committee will send out and email to members with CARB information, urging members to contact their legislators for support.

Continued on Page 14
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Coverage Gaps - A Reality for ACA Compliant Health Plans: CGA Benefits Plans Can Help Stop the Bleeding

You have an ACA compliant health plan - so now what? The promises were there: Better coverage, with broad access to California's physicians and specialists, & lower costs for care, etc. However as time passes and the reality of these plans set in, many insured people are facing higher costs for care, and limited physician choices.

The typical health plan now in California has a $2,000 deductible and an increased annual Out of pocket maximum (based on the calendar year) of $6,350.00. Although many preventive services are now offered at no cost, the availability of appointments is dwindling, making even seeing your doctor a challenge.

Unfortunately, small business plans are feeling the pinch as well. In today's challenging economic conditions, it remains very difficult for employers to offer a complete Employee Benefit Program for their employees. Budgetary constraints from premium increases are forcing employers to focus more on their bottom lines, rather than being able to cover the majority of the cost of health coverage for their employees and their families. Employees not only have more financial exposure with their ACA health plan but also are being asked to pay a higher portion of the premium thus lowering their take home pay.

What about important ancillary benefits like: Dental, Vision, Life, Short Term Disability, & Critical Illness Plans? Although these plans do not sound as important as traditional medical insurance, the lack of such coverages can result in financial difficulties for both employees and employers. Employees may find it harder to deal with unexpected financial burdens from higher costs for care and lost wages due to missed work. Employers realize that due to heightened financial stress, their employees are less productive and have lower job satisfaction. These are serious concerns that can affect the bottom line but many employers feel that there doesn't seem to be any money left over to assist employees with these important options.

CGA may have the Solution: One solution to this problem, for many companies, can be incorporating Voluntary products into their overall Employee Benefit Programs. These products are offered by the employer, while paid for by participating employees. employees (mostly on a Pre-tax basis). The CGA's Employee Benefit Program offers Member Firms a diverse benefit portfolio at reduced rates from some of the nation's top carriers. Additionally because of your membership, your employees have access to options that they could not get on their own in the direct marketplace. We can tailor a benefit plan to meet the unique needs of a single enrolling employee.

4 Voluntary CGA Plans that can help your employees:

- **Colonial Life: Medical Bridge (Hospital Confinement Plan):** Designed to help employees pay their family deductibles for In-Patient and Out-Patient Medical Services. Offered in variable amounts based on each employee's individual deductible needs. Cash paid directly to employee to be used as they see fit.

  No longer will members have to delay getting services that are critical to their health because of restrictive and high deductibles. Instead with low cost Medical Bridge coverage, covered members are able to receive cash (up to their full deductible amount, depending on service) in as little as 3 days. Additionally, this plan can save Members significant premium dollars decisions by purchasing Medical Bridge plan alongside of a Bronze or Silver plan instead of a more costly higher Metal Tier plan.

  And worried that you may not have in or out patient services? This plan (like most CGA Colonial offerings) offers wellness benefits to covered men and women to who get their annual preventative health visits accomplished.

- **Colonial Life Short Term Disability Coverage:** Approximately two-thirds of private sector workers lack short term disability coverage, according to the Council for Disability Awareness. Lack of this coverage is a major risk for households because studies show that a 20-year-old individual has a 1 in 4 chance of becoming disabled for some time before

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Employee Benefits
By Kelly Doherty

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- Assemblyman Jim Wood (D-Santa Rosa). Represents where CGA’s headquarters is and Mr. Wood also serves on the Assembly Natural Resources Committee.

- David Gutierrez, Department of Water Resources, Chief of Division of Safety of Dams and Program Manager for the Groundwater Sustainability Program. David gave a great overview of the DWR’s rollout of the Groundwater Management Act.

- Jim Collin, Chief Consultant to the Assembly Committee on Agriculture. We worked closely with Jim when the CGA sponsored legislation regarding Air Resources Board diesel standards for truck mounted drilling rigs. Jim also worked for a north state driller in the past.

- Robert Reeb, owner of lobbying firm Reeb Government Relations, LLC. Bob assists public sector clients with policy analysis, issues management, and California legislative and regulatory advocacy. His experience in public water and wastewater systems at the local governmental level is unmatched by any lobbyist practicing in Sacramento.

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Membership: Kelly Doherty reported membership is up for this time of year. They are working on updating the CGA video. They need vendors to recommend CGA membership at their open houses. A newsletter will be going out soon.

Scholarship: Randy Delenikos reported that John Kratz will continue the Sheryl Kratz scholarship, but that they should draw out of the endowment until they can no longer fund a $2,000 award. At that point, he will decide whether to continue. They discussed new fundraising techniques. They suggested contacting previous recipients to see if they wanted to re-apply for an additional year, and they wanted to make sure that the website is updated with scholarship information.

Website: Tylor McMillan reported that the committee is requesting updates to the website including current committee member rosters, Branch and CGAA officers, and the ability to mass email committee members. They would like committee chairs responsible for getting minutes to the Executive Director within 24 hours of the meeting. McMillan will discuss with John Hofer whether to keep or replace Avectra, the CGA database. They would also like everyone to be able to view all committee notes.
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Hayward Warehouse Extension 1301
Sacramento Warehouse Extension 1307
Santa Maria Warehouse Extension 1306
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www.WesternHydro.com
This Fall, CGA will once again convene at the Peppermill Resort Spa Casino for its 68th Annual Convention and Trade Show. As in past years, the event will begin on Thursday, October 20 with a full day of seminars, followed by a Meet and Greet on the Trade Show floor. For those wishing to “learn” more at an outdoor course, CGA’s annual golf tournament will be held once again at Lakeridge Golf Course. Remember that those exhibitors wishing to play, will have priority booth setup on Wednesday, October 19.

Friday will be devoted to the exhibits on the Trade Show Floor, and a full slate of seminars including the McEllhiney Lecture will fill Saturday’s schedule.

Plenty of fun events will be held throughout the show including a yet to be determined opening event on Thursday night, the banquet, auctions, gaming, and tasting. Much more information will be available as plans are finalized. Check back to this publication and the CGA website frequently for periodic updates.

Mark your calendars now, and plan to celebrate your association in October.

2017

Last month the CGA Board of Directors approved the Convention Committee’s recommendation to hold the 69th Annual Convention and Trade Show at the Grand Sierra Resort and Casino in Reno, Nevada, on October 19-21, 2017. This action marks a return to the site of last year’s highly successful event.
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reaching retirement age. In addition, the American Payroll Association in 2008 estimated that 70 percent of individuals live paycheck to paycheck and cannot afford a disruption in their incomes.

With the CGA Colonial Short Term Disability plans, covered members can plan ahead to make sure that they are financially whole when crisis strikes. Designed to help employees cover disabilities for up to one year, each participating employee can hand select the right amount of financial coverage, from $1,000 to $6,500 per month. These disability payments can then be used for anything that the covered member chooses: household expenses, mortgage & car payments, medical bills, or whatever else the member needs.

**Colonial Life Critical Illness Coverage:** The financial impact of critical illness is another major gap. Studies by the *American Journal of Medicine* and other sources have found that more than 62 percent of all bankruptcies have a medical cause. It’s a growing problem: there was a 50 percent rise in the share of bankruptcies attributable to medical problems between 2001 and 2007. Most medical debtors were well-educated and middle class, three-quarters had health insurance.

When a critical illness happens, there is never enough cash to fill all of the wholes. This is where our CGA Colonial Critical Illness plan can make a significant difference. Our Colonial Critical Illness plan will pay covered members up to a $50,000 lump sum (depending on illness, see schedule for more info) when diagnosed with covered illnesses. Members may then use these funds however they see fit, during the difficult times associated with having a critical illness. And, similar to our Medical Bridge plan, Wellness benefits are built in to take care of our members while they are healthy.

**Call A Doctor +:** Having difficulty gaining access to your physicians? The Doctor is always IN with CADR+. For the price of a few cups of coffee - Unlimited 24/7 access to Board Certified physicians via phone and Video. Physicians can offer care for non-emergency situations and can even assist you with maintenance medications. Avoid missing work/school and late night trips to the ER or Urgent Care center because your doctor's office is closed.

Please call or email our Benefits Consultants: Kelly Doherty kelly@qaim.com 707-326-2031 or Brian Cecy brian@cecyinsurance.com 888-685-1511 to find out how your company can benefit from these programs.

Membership has its Benefits....

** CGA Mission **
Caring for California's groundwater resources
Giving high quality service to members and the public
Acting in the best interest of the groundwater industry
WellGuard®

Is your most valuable asset properly protected?
Your drill rig(s) is your company’s most valuable asset. Without it your business is in shut down.

Do you know what your insurance policy will cover?
Will it cover lost or damaged equipment down the hole?

Does your schedule include actual descriptions of the items that may be lost or damaged?
(examples below)

• Drill pipe  • Drill bits and collars  • Down hole hammers
• Packers for Hydro-fracking  • Any item valued over $2,500

Will it cover a loss of income caused by a covered loss to equipment?

Do you have coverage for items damaged while being permanently installed prior to the job completion?

Does your Insurance Agent properly explain your insurance coverage to you?

Eligibility

The WellGuard insurance program offers solutions to contractors & suppliers of the water well industry. Eligible businesses include water well contractors: water well drilling & servicing, geothermal as well as pump work & core sample drilling for water monitoring.

Incidental operations cannot exceed more than 25% of the following combined operations:
• Electrical  • Plumbing (residential or commercial)  • Oil & gas or environmental work is ineligible.

For more information on WellGuard have your agent or broker contact:
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(860) 756-7316 | www.wellguard.com
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