

IGWA Bulletin



Greetings Fellow IGWA Members and Associates,

I would like to thank everyone for voting me back on to the Board of Directors, and allowing me to be your President for another year. I took the one-year term remaining from David Baker who stepped down a couple years ago for personal reasons, and Roger Buchanan who finished out the year to allow for another election. I am planning on running again next year for a full 4-year term.

I believe we have a very good Board of Directors right now. Everyone seems to be involved and contributing to our discussions. We have a very diverse board with small business doing domestic wells to larger companies doing larger municipal and irrigation wells, and everything in between. One thing I would like to see is a couple of Pump Company's on the board. Although most of the board also do pumps it would be nice to have more involvement from the pump industry as a lot of the issues, we are dealing with effect pump installers as well.

We as a board and an Association have helped tremendously to stop, or at least slow down some of the legislation that could greatly impact our industry. We are very fortunate to have Roger Batt and his team as our director. Roger's relationship with Idaho's Political parties from Legislators to the Governor, and other Associations with similar interests, has helped us be aware of changes that could be very detrimental to our industry. Please take the time to read Roger's article in this newsletter which informs you of what we have accomplished this year and what may be coming up. It will give you a very good idea of how much he has done and how valuable he is to our Association.

We had a great attendance at our Winter Convention this last January. I would like to thank all of those who attended. I believe it was the best turnout we have ever had. Having all 12 CEC's available I'm sure contributed, maybe the weather, time of year, or that it was on a Thursday-Friday instead of Wednesday-Thursday? Any feedback "good, or bad" would be greatly appreciated. It was brought to our attention that although we allowed the other State's (WA, OR) CECs for credits in Idaho, we did not offer much actual Well Drilling Presentations. So, we will work harder this year to offer more valuable presentations next year. Again, any recommendations would be much appreciated.

CONT'D INSIDE >>

The Virtual Workshop, and the Eastern Idaho Workshop both also went very well. Roger Batt has already started working on the North Idaho Workshop coming up in September. We expect to have a great turnout there as well, so keep a lookout for more information coming up on that.

Looking forward to this year we have IDWR making changes to our rules and regulations, including Low Temperature Geothermal limits. We will be overlooking that as much as possible. I expect that Idaho Water Users will still be coming back with some sort of legislation on Domestic Water Rights and we will also be monitoring that as close as possible.

On an ending note, some areas of the state are noticing things slowing down and price cutting has already begun. Please keep in mind the last several years have been very good for well drilling, and dropping prices will not help anyone. We all know that you have to do what it takes to pay the bills, but dropping your prices may not pay them either. I'm no expert, do not want to act like one, and it is not my place to tell you what you need to profit to stay in business, just keep in mind if you do not have profit, you will not be in business for very long. Thank you for taking the time to read this article. I wish you all a safe and profitable year.



Sam Kingrey
President, IGWA

Eastern Idaho and Virtual Workshops

On March 1, the IGWA hosted a successful Eastern Idaho Workshop on the Idaho State University campus. About 50 drillers attended the Workshop to obtain Continuing Education Credits for their licenses. On March 7, the IGWA hosted the annual Virtual Workshop and had over 50 in attendance. The IGWA will also continue to provide updated education videos and exams as part of its online CEC Program so that folks can continue to receive the Credits needed for relicensing.



Report from IGWA's Executive Director

DOMESTIC WELL EXEMPTION LEGISLATION

During the 2024 Idaho Ground Water Annual Convention we reported that the domestic well exemption Legislation drafted by the Idaho Water Users Association would be a critical issue for our industry. At that point in time the DRAFT would have required that any subdivision with less than 5-acre lots would have needed to have a water right approved and a community or shared well developed. IGWA was part of some discussions in 2023 but did not agree with the final DRAFT that was presented to the IGWA Board on January 25 by the Idaho Water Users Association's Executive Director. Following our Convention and the meeting with the IWUA Executive Director on January 25, the Legislative DRAFT changed to only requiring a shared or community well in subdivisions with more than 10 lots that are 5 or less acres in size only in areas where people do not receive irrigation water from an irrigation district, canal, or ditch company. An e-mail was sent out to the IGWA membership with this information. This past week I



was notified that the Legislation (Senate Bill 1370) would not be moving forward this Session. 2024 will provide another opportunity for the IGWA and the water user community to continue to meet on this issue and discuss a common-sense solution that doesn't impact the drilling industry.

Roger Batt
Executive Director, IGWA



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Scholarship Chairman Update

We are excited to announce that for the second year now, we will be hosting the IGWA Scholarship Program. The Application is NOW OPEN. We are awarding one \$2000 scholarship and two \$1000 scholarships.

REQUIREMENTS:

1. You must be a relative of an IGWA member, child/grandchild/great grandchild.
2. You must have completed high school and received a diploma.
3. You must have a declared course of study (degree), not a general education course. At this time there is no limit on what that course of study must be, i.e., nursing, accounting, etc. is ok. We are not holding applicants to a water industry degree.

Please share with those that are eligible. You can find the scholarship application on the next page or visit igwa.info. The **Application Deadline is APRIL 15th, 2024**. Please send all application materials and questions to Cassidey at cassidey@amgidaho.com.

Rod Hendricks
IGWA Scholarship Chairman

**SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION
ON THE FOLLOWING PAGE!**



IDAHO GROUND WATER ASSOCIATION

55 SW 5th Ave, Suite 100, Meridian, ID 83642 ● 208-888-0988 ● fax: 208-888-4586

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

AMOUNT: One \$2000 and two \$1000

DEADLINE: Application and supporting documents must be submitted to Cassidey at cassidey@amgidaho.com no later than **April 15TH, 2024**

WHO IS ELIGIBLE:

1. You must be a relative of an IGWA member, child/grandchild/great grandchild.
2. You must have completed high school and received a diploma.
3. You must have a declared course of study (degree), not a general education course. At this time there is no limit on what that course of study must be, i.e., nursing, accounting, etc. is ok. We are not holding applicants to a water industry degree.

NAME: _____

MAJOR/DEGREE: _____

CUMULATIVE GPA: _____ **ANTICIPATED GRADUATION DATE:** _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____ **EMAIL:** _____

Your application should include the following items:

1. **A Cover Letter:** The cover letter should include the name of the sponsoring IGWA member and your relationship. Why you are applying for the scholarship, and include your plans for further education: where you plan to attend school, anticipated major or focus of study or vocational plans.
2. **School Transcript** (required)
3. **School Involvement:** This might include school clubs, offices held, sports, expressive arts (music, drama, ect.) and committees.
4. **Community Involvement:** This might include church, clubs, organizations or activities outside of school.
5. **Volunteer Involvement:** List any volunteer activities, what you did and how much time you spent volunteering.
6. **Work Experience:** If you worked please let us know where you worked and for how long. Include practical work and family business experience.
7. **Honors, Awards and Recognition:** Tell us about any academic, music, service or other awards.
8. **Three Letters of Recommendation:** At least one must be from someone other than a teacher.
9. **Recipients will be required to do a letter of appreciation with information on how the money will be used to help with your education to be read at the IGWA Convention in January.**

This is not an automatic renewable scholarship, year to year. Reapplication is encouraged for another year, and will be graded/judged accordingly, and awarded based on performance and available funds.



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IGWA UPDATE: Crisis Fund

We're thrilled to announce the success of our Crisis Fund Auction & Raffle at the 2024 IGWA Convention! With your generous support, we sold all 400 tickets. A lucky winner walked away with the AR-15 package with a total retail value of \$1,850.00.

A heartfelt thank you to all who participated by purchasing tickets and contributing to this vital cause. Special appreciation goes to our esteemed auctioneer, Steve Smith, whose charisma and expertise elevated our auction at the IGWA Convention in Boise. Between the raffle and auction together, we rallied and raised a substantial sum of \$14,000, reinforcing our commitment to supporting fellow members in times of need.

Here's to the continued success of the IGWA Crisis Fund, and the meaningful impact it creates within our community. Until next year, let's keep the spirit of generosity alive and thriving!

Charlie Fox, *Crisis Fund Chairman*
208-949-0604 or cfox@fele.com

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Report from IGWA's Executive Director

ELECTRICAL EXAM & LOW TEMPERATURE GEOTHERMAL RULEMAKING

The IGWA has been working with the Idaho Division of Professional Licensing and the Electrical Board to initiate Negotiated Rulemaking following adjournment of the 2024 Idaho Legislative Session regarding the electrical exam and the issues our industry has with passing this exam. Once we get some dates scheduled, we will send out an invitation asking you to join our discussions so that we can draft the language needed to address the concerns we have heard. There may be a possibility that our industry could have its own electrical exam specifically for domestic pump installation. We are also soon expecting to see a DRAFT from the Idaho Department of Water Resources regarding the Low Temperature Geothermal Rules. In April we will be invited to participate in Negotiated Rulemaking with the Department to address the concerns the industry has with the current 85-degree Low Temperature Geothermal Temperature Rule. Over the past couple of years, the IGWA has voiced concerns regarding the 85-degree rule to the Department of Water Resources. We are hopeful that this Negotiated Rulemaking process this spring will result in a higher temperature that will resolve the issues for the industry.



Roger Batt
Executive Director, IGWA

IGWA 2024 Board of Directors

Name/Position	Address/Email	Phone(s)
President Sam Kingrey	Down Right Drilling & Pump 6025 Little Freezeout Caldwell, ID 83607 E: sam@downrightdrilling.com	P: (208) 454-3098
Vice President Bill Tanner	Tanner Pump & Drilling 602 S D St. Rupert, ID 83350 E: dr24driller@yahoo.com	P: (208) 431-9137
Assoc. President Jake Kingrey	Down Right Drilling & Pump 6025 Little Freezeout Caldwell, ID 83607 E: kingreyjake@gmail.com	P: (208) 466-6439 F: (208) 466-0008
Assoc. Vice President Anthony Broadie	Treasure Valley Drilling & Pump 2887 Sagebrush Lane. Homedale, ID 82628 E: broadie@tvdrilling.com	P: (208) 402-3319
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M & S Vice President David Garner	Bishop Well Drilling 1060 E 3500 N Buhl, ID 83316 E: bishopdrilling@gmail.com	C: (208) 308-1982
Past President John Bishop	Bishop Well Drilling 1060 E 3500 N Buhl, ID 83316 E: bishopdrilling@gmail.com	P: (208) 308-1982
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Monte Post	Water Pro Well Drilling 6000 Little Freezeout Rd. Caldwell, ID83607 E: waterprowell@yahoo.com	P: (208) 941-1722
Rod Hendricks	Independent Drilling 692 A West Hwy 39 Blackfoot, ID 83221 E: inform@independentdrilling.com	P: (208) 684-3788 F: (208) 684-3582
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