

# UTAH GROUND WATER ASSOCIATION

## The Advocate SUMMER 2015 EDITION

### LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT RICHARD PETERSEN — LAST DROP DRILLING AND PUMP SERVICES

To all the members: it has been an odd year for weather. Either rained out, lightninged out, or in the frying pan. Work seems to be picking up in some areas. For those of you who attended Moab, I heard it was a great year with lots of fun and excitement. More of us need to take advantage of that opportunity to have a break together.

Congratulations to the scholarship recipients! It was wonderful to be able to help so many students with their educational goals. It is my hope to continue awarding scholarships to all deserving applicants. It is good to see the entire board working hard to improve many aspects of our association; both in awarding scholarships, and recognizing significant past contributors to our industry in Utah. It is great to have these kinds of ideas coming forward and working toward improving our association. Any of you out there, who have good ideas or thoughts for us as a group to consider, please make them known.

As for now, we are a little short handed in Utah for experienced drillers and helpers. I believe as an association we truly are missing all of those who have chosen other areas with drought to apply their trades. I hope they will be safe and choose to return and continue participating in our association.

In my area, it has altered the way we typically plan our year. We are grateful for the staff that we do have, and they are making it a good year. In light of this change, we seem to be bombarded with work due to the lack of help, which is an opportunity to increase your profitability. Having sold 2 rigs in the last 90 days, one to California, and one to Arizona, I have had long conversations with the buyers. In doing so, I have found that in their drought states they are charging, on average, over three times the amount of what we typically charge here in Utah.

I don't know how many of you are struggling to make ends meet. It seems that growing up in the industry, and being part of a family with 3 generations of drillers, I never remember getting paid too much for a job. But after listening to some of their stories, it was easy for me to understand why some of our

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## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT (CONTINUED)

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drillers have left to greener pastures.

I believe it may be about time that we follow the advice of one of our members' that he seems to give every class he participates in. And that is to quit giving away our knowledge and work for nothing. Just because we enjoy what we do doesn't mean we have to do it for free. Maybe it's about time to relook at our choice when we charge our customers. Are you getting enough to pay benefits, taxes, overhead, renew your equipment, and keep your business modern, and up to date on all the new technology? Are you able to train all your employees and keep their skill levels up to a point that you don't have to do their work? If not, why? I told a customer recently, that I was going to have to relook at doing service work, because it was not covering the cost of operating the business. I needed to be drilling more to cover those costs. His response to me was "that's your fault, not mine. Send me a bill."

So what should we do as an industry in Utah? Take less, because we love our work, and we love where we live? Or, send a bill. I don't have the answers for everyone. I do have a lot of questions for myself and why and how I choose to charge what I do. I know that I must quit allowing fellow drillers to dictate what I charge. This does not pay my bills. Every office or business is different. We all must choose for ourselves. But, I ask you, are you happy with what you are paid? Is that why you do what you do? It's an interesting dilemma.

I started this article not wanting to be too controversial. And yet, here I am. Maybe there is no answer that fits all. But as the president, I do worry and hope that all of you participating as members in our association find your businesses profitable, and your lives enjoyable. Be safe, and if you figure out all the answers, call me first.

Richard Petersen — UGWA President



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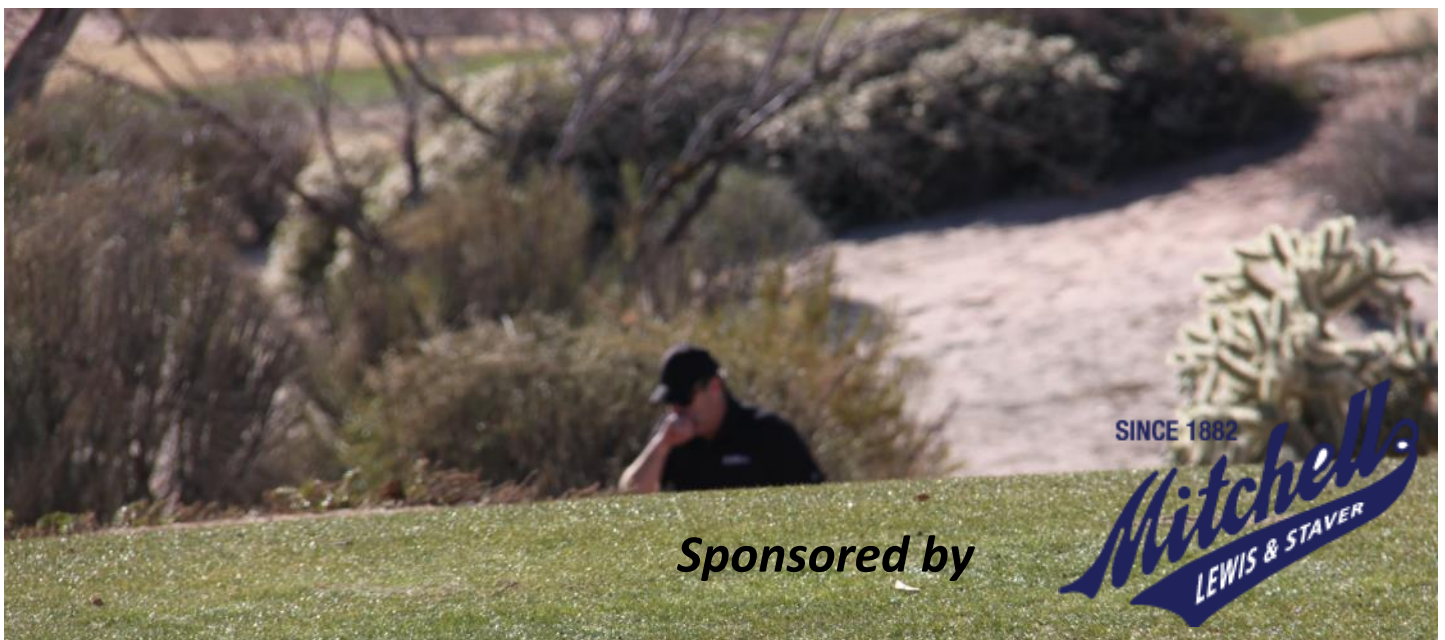
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## UGWA 2015 MOAB CONVENTION REPORT

CHRIS MIKELL, P.G. — V.P. CONVENTIONS UGWA

The Moab “Event” is a long standing tradition of UGWA. Way before my time, but as I understand, some of original founder’s of UGWA started meeting in Moab for a driller’s get together over 3 decades ago. The tradition lives on.

Our 2015 UGWA Moab PED and Convention was held on June 12-13. Our location is at the Moab Valley Inn as it’s been for about the past 6 years. They have a nice sized conference room that fits our needs, and the swimming pool is the favorite hangout for any family waiting for Dad to get done with his CEU training.

This year we had a good turnout with over 25 drillers attending our 6 continuing education presentations. Topics included updates on Utah’s well drilling rules (Jim Goddard/Water Rights), Courthouse Wash and Arches NP Groundwater Study (Stefan Kirby, Utah Geologic Survey), solar powered pump systems (Charlie Fox, Franklin Electric), Spanish Valley Groundwater Management Plan (Marc Stilson, P.E. Utah Water Rights Regional Engineer), DOT Safety and inspection protocols (Trooper Giles/Utah Highway Patrol), and the interactive group Millerville Well Design (Thom Hanna, Bilfinger - Johnson Screens).

The BBQ social on Friday night at Rotary Park in Moab was outstanding. Rotary Park is a nice, green, treed, quiet park, on the river that flows through town. We had over 50 UGWA members and families attend. It was great to see Chuck and Marianna Zimmerman who haven’t been able to attend the past few years. And there was a surprise visit by Bob Beeman. Mike Zimmerman was the man with the BBQ. He hauled his state -of-the art smoker and BBQ all the way down from Erda for the event. Mike and his helpers from 2M Company spent the better part of day tending the goods, and turned out some really tasty brisket, chicken, dogs, and dutch oven potatoes. Jerry Bronicel was working by his side and cooked up his secret recipe Cajun

catfish which he had brought back from a recent trip to New Orleans. Chris DeKorver was also allowed to assist with the cooking. Zimmerman even made dessert, dutch oven peach cobbler. Since I was so polite and let the ladies and kids go first, I was definitely outta luck on the Zimmerman brisket, but loved Jerry’s catfish. Next year, forget the chips, dips, and extra’s Mike – just bring twice the brisket!



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## UGWA 2015 MOAB CONVENTION REPORT (CONTINUED)

*(Continued from page 5)*

On Saturday we had a UGWA group of 12 do a river raft trip on the Colorado. This has been happening for about 6 years. The weather was perfect, the river was high, we got wet, and we had a blast! Due to some last minute add-ons we changed our guide service to Navtec. I thought they did a good job. The transport van had AC! The guides were a little less entertaining than previous years but pleasant. Although my wife would beg to differ, she sat next to "Festus", our guide, and claimed there was no shower in his life recently.... phew! Highlights of the raft trip were anybody who took a turn in the inflatable kayak – Hansen Perkins, Thom Hanna, Scott Krug, me! Mike Anzalone stayed in the boat, very near and dear to his favorite cooler.

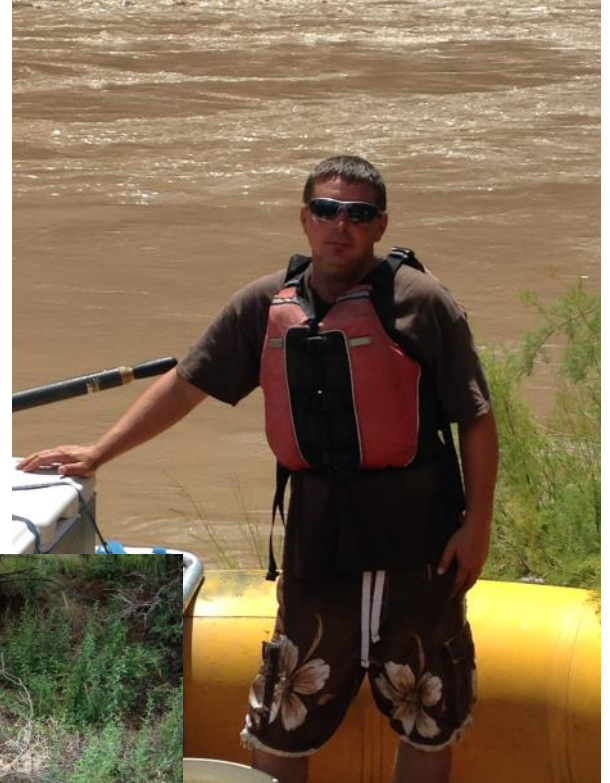


One reason the Moab event is so successful and fun is our sponsors. We couldn't do it without these company's attendance and financial support. This year Western Hydro and 2M Company were Platinum sponsors. Mitchell, Lewis & Staver sponsored the lunch. Mike Zimmerman hosted the BBQ and Moab Bit & Tool provided the drinks. And Beeman Equipment Leasing Co. out of Moab is a UGWA Gold sponsor. Please give them a big round of applause and support them in your business dealings.

Hope to see you next year at this really fun event!

Chris Mikell, PG  
VP, Conventions  
[cmikell@bowencollins.com](mailto:cmikell@bowencollins.com)

# UGWA 2015 MOAB CONVENTION REPORT (CONTINUED)



## NEWS RELEASE

Glens Falls, NY – Flomatic Corporation introduces a new, special patent-pending pump check valve especially designed for use with variable-frequency drive (VFD) controlled submersible pumps. Standard check valves will “chatter” and be noisy when a VFD goes to low flow conditions, causing noise, premature wear, and eventual failure. The unique **Model 80E VFD** and **100E VFD** valve is designed to minimize flow losses and hydraulic shocks in the pumping system. It features an unleaded alloy body available in sizes 1”, 2”, 3” and 4” threaded Female NPT connection. An exclusive guided poppet system (stainless steel in 2” thru 4”), ensures that the valve automatically adjusts noiselessly from high to very low flow rates. The radiuses of the valve seat allow a self-cleaning “one point swiping action” by the radius-edged custom molded rubber seal disc. All internal parts are made from corrosion-resistant materials and have a durable high strength design. The valve can be uniquely installed in either horizontal or vertical piping installations.



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## TALES FROM THE FIELD

CHRIS DEKORVER, P.G.—BOWEN COLLINS AND ASSOCIATES

### Drilling, Construction and Testing of Hill Air Force Base Well 8

Over the years many consultants and drillers have attempted to design and construct successful water wells at Hill Air Force Base (HAFB). Many of the existing wells onsite targeted water exceeding Utah drinking water standards for TDS, iron, manganese and arsenic and required extensive treatment. A number of the wells also made fine sands that required additional treatment.

During the drilling of the existing wells, many, if not all, the drillers had excessive issues advancing the borehole to the desired depth, cable tool drillers included. Many battled lost tooling, heaving/flowing sands, lost circulation, poor water quality and collapsing boreholes amongst other issues. A recent attempt to drill a replacement well on HAFB fell to the issues many others have experienced. In the end, the drilling contractor was unable to complete the well. Learning from the issues others have experienced as well as the mistakes, Boart Longyear (Boart) and Bowen Collins & Associates (BCA) attempted their fate at drilling and designing the best well possible for the base. BCA initially designed the well back in 2012 for HAFB. Boart then made modifications in 2014 based on their experiences. In 2015, the initial design and modifications were incorporated into a final design. Goals of the project included minimal drilling issues, finding the highest quality water possible, creating a sand free well and completing the project on time.

Extensive research of the site and existing wells was completed before turning the bit to the right. Potential problem zones, known aquifer production and known water quality were utilized to conceptually design the new well. The old (existing) well at the site was drilled to a depth of 900 feet and produced water with high iron, manganese and arsenic exceeding drinking water standards. A few wells within 2 miles have been drilled deeper than 900 feet with high yields and acceptable water quality. Based on that info, the target zones were projected beyond 900 feet, though there was no guarantee on finding high quality or high yielding zones.

The target depth of the replacement well was preliminary designed at 1,500 ft. A number of precautions were taken in order to accomplish that goal. A total of three surface casings were installed to avoid issues other drillers have experienced as well as to seal off known poor quality water. However, the surface casings would seal off known high water producing zones, limiting the probability of completing a well with the required yield. The problem depth was determined to be between 400 and 900 feet from existing logs, therefore, the surface casings were installed and sealed to depths of 40 feet, 500 feet and 960 feet. Following the installation of the surface casings, a pilot hole was drilled to the total depth to explore for potential aquifer zones and to test for water quality. A geophysical log suite was run in the pilot borehole to assess the depths of potential target aquifer zones to correlate next to the lithologic cuttings collected during drilling.

Upon completion of the geophysical logging, three total zones were identified as potential aquifers. Based on the unknown water quality in the vicinity of the existing well below 900 feet, a temporary well screen (zone tool) approximately 20 feet in length was installed on the end of the drill steel to perform zonal water quality testing. This method is being performed more and more as wells are drilled deeper and located in remote locations with little known information. The zone tool was in-

*(Continued on page 11)*

## TALES FROM THE FIELD (CONTINUED)

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stalled to the required depth and the annular space around the tool was backfilled with a gravel pack and sealed with bentonite prior to development of the zone. Dual tube air-lifting was the development method of choice. Once the produced water ran clear, water samples were collected and submitted for analysis. During the zone testing, cutting samples collected during drilling from the anticipated aquifers were submitted for sieve analysis to select the appropriate gravel pack and screen slot size. Sieve analysis is highly recommended on wells constructed with an engineered screen and gravel pack. The two main screen suppliers utilized in Utah will perform the analysis for minimal to no cost if the screen is purchased through them.

Water quality results from each zone analyzed for TDS, iron, manganese and arsenic were below Utah drinking water standards. Once the sieve analysis and water quality results were received and reviewed, BCA provided the final well design to Boart. The pre-ordering of well construction materials was prohibited during the project. The reason for this is to design the well based on what was encountered as it was unknown whether adequate zones would be found. No need to order 400 feet of screen only to use 250 feet in the final construction. Once all materials (screen, casing, and gravel pack) were onsite, Boart was authorized to ream the borehole to the required diameter and depth.

The well was telescoped from 920 feet in the third surface casing to a total depth of 1,465 feet. Boart provided a back off sub assembly to accomplish the telescope completion. The annular space was filled with the selected gravel pack and the well developed with the drill rig. During the initial development with the drill rig, two chemical treatments were performed to break down the mud cake on the borehole wall. The chemical treatments included high concentration chlorine and a clay dispersant. The initial development was complete when the discharge water ran clear and the gravel pack was settled.

Now we find out if the gamble of sealing off the shallower zones has paid off or if we should all be looking for a new job. Boart installed a test pump and completed approximately 90 hours of pump development which included pumping and surging (rawhiding) of the well at rates exceeding the anticipated yield. Now we can take a sigh of relief, it exceeds the anticipated yield! No need to send out that resume. The State of Utah required step test and constant rate test were performed to assess the safe yield of the well. The constant rate test was run for 24 hours at a rate of 2,500 gpm. At the end of the constant rate test, drawdown was measured at approximately 60 feet, giving the well a specific capacity of nearly 42 gpm/ft. Sand was also below 2 ppm. Based on existing wells completed at HAFB, the new Well 8 is the best producing, most efficient well with the best water quality in the HAFB system.

I would like to say that there were no issues encountered during the drilling and construction of the well. However, some small hurdles were overcome that resulted in no time lost. You all may know or refer to HAFB as the drillers grave yard. I am happy to say that a grave was not dug for Boart or BCA. Many thanks to the Boart crews for keeping everyone informed during the process and working through site constraints on a government facility.

In my opinion, the capabilities, knowledge, design and cohesiveness of the project team along with exceeding the expectations of the client made this the most successful well on HAFB.

*(Continued on page 12)*

## TALES FROM THE FIELD (CONTINUED)

*(Continued from page 11)*

BCA also designed the well pump station and conveyance piping for connection to the HAFB culinary system. The well is currently in the process of being equipped and will be in operation by the end of the year. Based on the water quality and efficiency, this well will be the future work horse of HAFB.

Chris DeKorver, P.G.  
Technical Representative — UGWA



**Photos:** Surface casing (upper left); Zone testing tool (upper right); and 2500 gpm constant-rate test (lower left).

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RENEW or JOIN ON-LINE at WWW.UTAHGROUNDWATER.ORG or  
MAIL THIS COMPLETED APPLICATION WITH YOUR PAYMENT of \$60 to:  
UGWA 5577 Walden Glen Dr, Murray UT 84123-7942

**MEMBERSHIP TYPE (CIRCLE ONE): A B C D E F**

**DRILLING LICENSE #** \_\_\_\_\_ **CONTRACTORS LICENSE #** \_\_\_\_\_

**NAME** \_\_\_\_\_

**PROFESSIONAL DESIGNATIONS** \_\_\_\_\_

**COMPANY** \_\_\_\_\_

**MAILING ADDRESS** \_\_\_\_\_

**CITY/STATE/ZIP** \_\_\_\_\_

**PHONE ( \_\_\_\_\_ )** \_\_\_\_\_ **EMAIL** \_\_\_\_\_

**HOW DID YOU HEAR ABOUT US** \_\_\_\_\_

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## Membership Types

- A. **CONTRACTOR:** Any person doing business and licensed to drill, either water wells or ground water monitoring.
- B. **PUMP INSTALLER:** Any person doing business and licensed to install ground-water pumping equipment.
- C. **MANUFACTURER:** Any person engaged in the manufacturing of equipment, or materials used in the ground water industry.
- D. **SUPPLIER:** Any person engaged in the sale of equipment or supplies associated with the ground water industry.
- E. **TECHNICAL:** Any hydrologist, geologist, or engineer involved in teaching, research, consulting and or government services associated with the ground water industry.
- F. **ASSOCIATE:** Any person engaged in the support of the UGWA who does not accurately fit in any of the above.

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This membership allows the joining of one individual to benefit from all the privileges of membership in the Utah Ground Water Association. Annual membership dues are \$60.00 per year. These dues cover membership only in the Utah Ground Water Association. The Utah Ground Water Association is affiliated with the National Ground Water Association and the Mountain States Ground Water Association. **All memberships are annual and run July 1st thru June 30th. Memberships purchased mid-year will have the 2nd year prorated to bring them compliant with this format.**

# UTAH GROUND WATER ASSOCIATION INC

## ADVERTISING FEE SCHEDULE

### NEWSLETTER (per quarterly issue)

DESCRIPTION	MEMBER	NON-MEMBER
1/8 Page or Business Card	\$25	\$30
1/4 Page	\$50	\$60
1/2 Page	\$75	\$90
Full Page	\$100	\$120

### WEBSITE (per calendar month)

DESCRIPTION	MEMBER	NON-MEMBER
Classified (no pictures)	\$0	\$10
Classified w/one picture	\$0	\$15
Careers/Help Wanted	\$0	\$0
Bronze Sponsor	1/8 Page Included with Annual Contract	
Silver Sponsor	¼ Page Included with Annual Contract	
Gold Sponsor	½ Page Included with Annual Contract	
Platinum Sponsor	Full Page Included with Annual Contract	

**BRONZE LEVEL SPONSOR:** One UGWA membership (\$60 value); One full color ad on the UGWA website, [www.utahgroundwater.org](http://www.utahgroundwater.org) with link to your website or email; One 1/8 page size/business card size ad in The Advocate, the UGWA's quarterly newsletter (\$100 value); Recognition at all UGWA events.

**SILVER LEVEL SPONSOR:** One UGWA membership (\$60 value); One full color ad on the UGWA website, [www.utahgroundwater.org](http://www.utahgroundwater.org) with link to your website or email & reoccurring HOME page placement; One ¼ page size ad in The Advocate, the UGWA's quarterly newsletter (\$200 value); 10% discount at all UGWA events (\$40 off annual conference sponsor registration); Recognition at all UGWA events.

**GOLD LEVEL SPONSOR:** One UGWA membership (\$60 value); One full color ad on the UGWA website, [www.utahgroundwater.org](http://www.utahgroundwater.org) with link to your website or email, HOME & SPONSOR tab placements; One ½ page size ad in The Advocate, the UGWA's quarterly newsletter (\$300 value); 15% discount at all UGWA events (\$60 off annual conference sponsor registration); Recognition at all UGWA events.

**PLATINUM LEVEL SPONSOR:** One UGWA memberships (\$60 value); Full color ad on the UGWA website, [www.utahgroundwater.org](http://www.utahgroundwater.org) with link to your website or email, Platinum all tabs placement; One full page size ad in The Advocate, the UGWA's quarterly newsletter (\$400 value); 25% discount at all UGWA events (\$100 off annual conference sponsor registration); Recognition at all UGWA events.

For More Information Contact: Colette Read at 801.541.7259, [colette@utahgroundwater.org](mailto:colette@utahgroundwater.org) or [www.utahgroundwater.org](http://www.utahgroundwater.org)

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[anzalonepumps@qwestoffice.net](mailto:anzalonepumps@qwestoffice.net)

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Doug Griggs  
Mitchell Lewis & Staver  
[dgriggs@mitchellewis.com](mailto:dgriggs@mitchellewis.com)

**CONVENTIONS**

Chris D. Mikell, P.G.  
Bowen Collins & Associates, Inc.  
[cmikell@bowencollins.com](mailto:cmikell@bowencollins.com)

**NEWSLETTER**

Neil Burk, P.G.  
Loughlin Water Associates, LLC  
[neil@loughlinwater.com](mailto:neil@loughlinwater.com)

**CONTRACTOR/PUMP INSTALLER  
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Hanson K. Perkins  
Wildcat Energy Services, LLC  
[hansonperkins@hotmail.com](mailto:hansonperkins@hotmail.com)  
John Zimmerman  
Mike Zimmerman Well Service  
[john.zimm\\_cabledriller@yahoo.com](mailto:john.zimm_cabledriller@yahoo.com)

**TECHNICAL  
REPRESENTATIVE**

Chris Dekorver, P.G.  
Bowen Collins & Associates, Inc.  
[cdekorver@bowencollins.com](mailto:cdekorver@bowencollins.com)  
Jerry L. Bronicel  
Water-Tite Consulting  
[jlbronicel@hotmail.com](mailto:jlbronicel@hotmail.com)

**MANUFACTURER/SUPPLIER  
REPRESENTATIVE**

Shawn Nordhoff  
Industrial Piping Products, Inc.  
[shawn@industrialpiping.net](mailto:shawn@industrialpiping.net)  
Gaylen Farnsworth  
Steve Regan Co.  
[gaylenfarnsworth@steveregan.com](mailto:gaylenfarnsworth@steveregan.com)

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Colette C Read CBA  
Utah Ground Water Association  
[colette@utahgroundwater.org](mailto:colette@utahgroundwater.org)