

Groundbreaking News

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New Privileges

The North Carolina One-Call Center held its 1st Quarter Board Meeting on April 21, 2006 in Atlantic Beach. The Board passed a motion to give voting rights to the advisory seats.

The Department of Transportation, The Carolina's Associated General Contractors and Contract Locators each have a representative on the Board which held the three non-voting advisory positions. These three Board Members will now be able to vote on all matters submitted to the Board for action.

Ticket Management System Is Available to Members

The North Carolina One-Call Center, Inc. has a web based Ticket Management System (TMS) available to its members. A TMS allows for efficient and effective management of location requests. It will also send ticket status information to the Positive Response System. A ticket can be routed to locators in many ways or a combinations of ways: by grid number, location, due date or type; just to name a few. This is all done by the TMS, no more sorting printed tickets by hand.

The WebTMS was purchased from Norfield Data Products of Norwalk, CT. It can be used on any computer with Internet access. Even locators in the field with wireless laptops can input their locate status information directly into the TMS.

The TMS will also automatically communicate with The North Carolina One-Call Center's Positive Response System and update the locate status of tickets. All the member/user has to do is enter the ticket status information as tickets are cleared and the TMS will send the data to the Positive Response System.

The best part of the new WebTMS is that there is no charge to our members; it is free for the asking. Training is also offered along with an instruction manual in case there are questions later.

For more information about our new WebTMS, send an email to tms@ncooc.org or call Lesley Brady at 336-854-8597 and she will be happy to answer all of your questions.

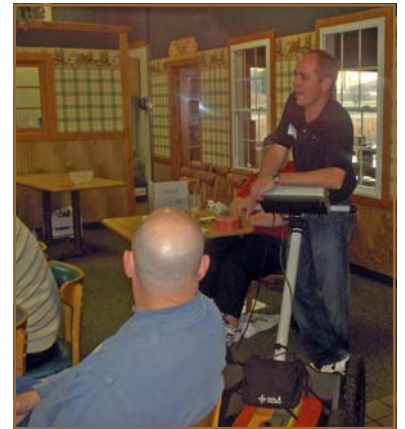
Bevy of Breakfasts

The Utility Coordinating Committees (UCC's) continue to have Damage Prevention Awareness Breakfasts across North Carolina to educate excavators. In January the Cabarrus/Rowan/Stanly County Breakfast was held at the Holiday Inn in Salisbury with a good turnout. The Iredell County Breakfast was at the Golden Corral in Mooresville on February 2nd and was also well attended.



Attendance encouraging door prizes are ready to be given out.

Mike Shinn of Mulkey Engineering spoke about Subsurface Utility Engineering (SUE) at the Iredell County Breakfast. Mr. Shinn said, "SUE is the use of technology to locate underground utility lines in the design phase of a construction project to help prevent unexpected utility conflicts, construction delays, contractor claims, utility relocations and redesigns; which save a lot of money."



Mike Shinn of Mulkey Engineering speaks about SUE.



Brian Weatherman speaks at the Iredell Breakfast.

At the Iredell County Breakfast, Brian Weatherman of PSNC Energy, educated listeners about what not to do when a gas line is damaged. Mr. Weatherman said, "It is extremely dangerous to try to bend a gas line to stop a leak. And never try to repair a damaged gas line yourself, contact the gas company instead." He also encouraged everyone not to leave a damaged gas line without reporting it, due to the danger it poses.







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All Over The Map

By Marshall Dean
a.k.a. The Mad Mapper

In the last issue I said we would be visiting unusual street names of the North Carolina mountains and I have quite a few streets to pick from. Some mountain counties may require two issues to list all the names. But this time, I've decided to share road names in Jackson County.

- Big Spider Rd
- Come Along Way
- Do Rae Me Ln
- Flapjack Ln
- Thataway Dr
- Thisaway Dr
- Too Goo Doo Ln
- Toothless Ave
- Upsy Daisy Ln

Next time, we'll continue our visit to the North Carolina mountains since there is an abundance of uncommon street names there.



We want all machines to be perfect, with the exception of the bathroom scale.

Solution to last issue's Scramble-amble

NOTIFICATION
ORANGE
RETRANSMIT
TOMORROW
HOURS

COMPUTER
ADDRESS
ROADWAY
OVERHEAD
LOCATE
INTERSECTION
NEWSLETTER
AVENUE

Notice the acrostic highlighted in brown letters.

Cartoon Query

The cartoon below represents a common phrase that everyone has heard or said at one time or another. Can you figure it out? The answer will be revealed in the next edition.



If a nickel knew what it's worth today, it would feel like two cents.



Upcoming Holidays

The North Carolina One-Call Center, Inc.

will observe the following holidays:

Memorial Day: Monday, May 29th

Independence Day: Tuesday, July 4th

*As a reminder, only emergency tickets
are taken during holidays.*

It's All In There!

Anyone who calls The One-Call Center is bound to have questions since there is a lot involved in underground utility locating. People often ask: When should I call? How long is a locate good for? How large an area can I put on one locate request? and What information does North Carolina One-Call need from me?

All of these questions and more are answered in The North Carolina One-Call Center Excavation Manual. It is a pocket-sized booklet that covers practically every aspect of excavation and the information required to get underground utility lines marked. It even has the Underground Damage Prevention Act; which is the North Carolina State Statute enacted to protect underground utilities.

Anyone may view or print the Manual from our website at www.ncocc.org. To find it quickly, use the Quick Jump list on the bottom right of the page and choose "Excavation Brochure". Both English and Spanish versions are available.

As You Like It

If you would prefer to receive *Groundbreaking News* in PDF by email instead of receiving a hard copy in the mail; sign up on our website. Look for the Newsletter tab at www.ncocc.org.

Market Growth

Join us in welcoming our newest Marketing Representative, George Bloodworth. He is retired from Skyline TMC after 14 years. George has also worked for other utilities in North Carolina in different positions during his career; including the Marketing Department of Sprint Telephone from 1987 to 1993.

As do the other Marketing Representatives, George will be working with Utility Coordinating Committees, the North Carolina One-Call Members and potential members. His main market focus will be in the North Carolina mountains, but is available to help in all areas of the state as well.

If you would like to attend or host a Contractor Damage Prevention Breakfast, contact any of our Marketing Representatives.



Advertising in *Groundbreaking News* is a great way to let the One-Call industry know about your business. For more information contact Marshall Dean at 336-854-8597.



To make a long story short, there's nothing like the boss walking in.

Turning the Page

A new North Carolina One-Call Center webpage is up and running. Have you seen it? It has been completely redesigned and it looks great!

The webmaster, Steve Moore, has a degree in Graphic Arts as well as IT experience. The site still has all of the usual information, but there are several areas of new information. Steve has done an excellent job on the look and the user friendliness of the site. Please check it out.

One bit of information: The new site uses "Flash Paper" to display various documents. If you do not have the Flash plug-in on your computer, there are PDF links for viewing and printing documents of interest.

The screenshot shows the homepage of the North Carolina One-Call Center website. At the top, there is a banner with a map of North Carolina and the text "CALL BEFORE YOU DIG" and the phone number "1-800-632-4949". Below the banner is a navigation menu with links for "HOME", "About", "NC State Status", "Electronic Forms", "Database", "Damage Prevention", and "Newsletter". The main content area features a large image of a construction site with a yellow excavator and a worker. To the right of the image is a "Welcome to the North Carolina One-Call Center" message. Below the image is a "Flash Player" section with a warning message: "This website has some FLASH elements on its pages. If you don't have a FLASH enabled browser click on the link below to download the FLASH player." There are three main content boxes: "Response" (Positive Response is a system housed at the North Carolina One-Call Center, Inc. that will allow participating facility owners or their locating contractor to provide status of dig tickets sent to them by North Carolina One-Call), "REMOTE TICKET ENTRY" (Web Ticket Entry is an electronic program accessed via the Internet, available free of charge to utility companies, contractors, and companies whose work involves excavation and monthly locate requests total 50 or more per month. The program will allow locate requests to be entered from their work location 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, without having to contact the NC One-Call Center), and "Contractors Home Owners and Members Information" (The member services section will provide you with links to information on education, electronic forms, and other services that the North Carolina One-Call Center provides to all of its members). To the right of the main content area is a "Call Before You Dig" contact information box (2300 W. Meadowview Rd., Suite 227, Greensboro, NC 27407, Fax: 336-295-1914) and a "Mission Statement" box (To provide an efficient, affordable communication network service of the highest industry standards to contractors, utilities, and the general public for the purpose of requesting location of buried utilities prior to excavation activities in the interest of promoting job safety and damage prevention). At the bottom of the main content area is a "TELL US HOW WE ARE DOING" button with the text "Fill out our NCOCC Online Survey Form". To the right of the bottom content area is a "Find a page on NCOCC quickly" search box with a "Quick Jump" dropdown menu and a "CLICK HERE" link.

Visit our new and improved website at: www.ncocc.org

The *North Carolina* One-Call Center, Inc.
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Dig  Safely.