

# FOUNTAINHEAD

3rd Quarter 2021

## Convention Wrap up

### TGWA Annual Convention 2021 Wrap up

By ADELINE FOX, TGWA



Compliments of WorldWide Drilling Resources 2021



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The 2021 convention was well worth the wait! Thank you to all exhibitors and attendees who made the event a success. About 400 people attended the convention hosted in San Marcos to network, take continuing education classes, and enjoy seeing their friends again.

Some highlights included the adoption of the amended bylaws and board structure, scholarship auction, award ceremony, and the bingo/cornhole tournaments. The key difference of the amended bylaws is that one overarching board, made up of

the directors from each division, will govern the association. Divisions will still exist and meet to discuss division-specific matters and business. The amended bylaws also create an executive committee made up of the president, president-elect, past-president, treasurer, and one representative from each division.

**Board.** We'd like to recognize the board members who stepped down from the board and welcome those who

See Convention, page 10

## TGWA Scholarship Foundation Award Winners

By ADELINE FOX, TGWA



The TGWA Scholarship Foundation board met in July to award the 2021 scholarships. This year, a record-breaking 34 students have been awarded a scholarship. Based on the board's ranking system for applicants, Colton Scott, Myla Childers, Macy Downs, and Madison Hill earned the highest scores on their applications and received a \$2500, \$2000, and \$1000 annual scholarship, respectively.

Scholarships are funded by the scholarship auction that happens during the Association's Annual Convention. In this issue, TGWA is recognizing the top four ranking students and returning recipients from 2020. To see photos of all 34 scholarship recipients, visit [tgwa.org/scholarship](http://tgwa.org/scholarship).

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Meet the New Division Chairs - Pg. 2

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In Loving Memory of David Rumbelow - Pg. 17



# From the top of the rig

Perspectives of Division Chairs



**William McPike**  
TGWA President and  
C&D Chair  
Geothermal Drilling, Inc.



**Robert Dilldine**  
M&S Chair  
Austin Pump & Supply



**Kelley Vickers**  
GWS Chair  
Guadalupe County GCD

## Better Together

As the new president, it is an honor that all my peers have such faith in me. It has been a great experience to this point, and I look forward to my tenure. A special thank you to Terry Lowe for all you did before handing it over to me. I appreciate you!! For all of those that are on the fence about joining this great organization, we are one big family, so please join us. If you have questions, this is the place to get your answers. There is always someone in the group that can help. We need input from everyone to help us move forward, so please get involved. Now that we are meeting together again, it will be a great time to get ideas out on the table to help each other. I look forward to working with each of you as well as the groundwater districts to help make the industry better for all of us.

### REMEMBER – WE ARE BETTER TOGETHER!!

I would like to take a minute to say thank you to all that came to the convention. It was great to see each and every one of you. I want to thank the staff for all the work that they put in for us to be able to get together. I would, also, like to thank all the suppliers for their help during these COVID

Please see McPike, page 7

## Nice to Meet You.

My name is Robert Dilldine and I work at the Austin Pump & Supply branch in Fort Worth. I am honored to serve as the next M&S Division chair. I came onto the board in 2018 and have since gotten involved in TGWA initiatives such as the nominating committee and convention planning. I look forward to serving TGWA in this new capacity. Thank you for the opportunity.

Sincerely,

## Introduction

Hi, everyone! Some of you already know me, but for those who don't – let me introduce myself. I'm Kelley Vickers.

I am the General Manager of the Guadalupe County Groundwater Conservation District. I bring a policy perspective to the group along with my passion for conserving and protecting groundwater. And that is something that connects us all.

I've been with the Ground Water Science Division of TGWA for several years now and most recently served as Vice President under the awesome leadership of Rusty Tarver.

Under the new structure of the recently adopted bylaws, I was voted to Chair the GWS Division. I now have the privilege of being the first female to hold this position. I am truly honored. So now it's my turn to share my thoughts from the GWS side.

One of the many things that I love about this great organization is that it brings together folks from all across the water industry. Contractors & Drillers, Manufacturers & Suppliers, Groundwater Scientists, consultants, etc. all get to come together at these amazing conventions

Please see Vickers, page 7



# A MESSAGE FROM THE TGWA WOMEN'S DIVISION

## Thanks for this Wonderful Opportunity!

Jan McPike, TGWA Women's Division President

First off, thank you for providing me the opportunity to work with such a great group of ladies!! We have a great time together while also working to benefit TGWA. If you aren't already part of the TGWA Women's Division, we hope you will join us at the 2022 TGWA Convention in Frisco. Plans have not been set yet as to what we are going to do, but we will have a great time – you can count on that!! See you in Frisco!!!

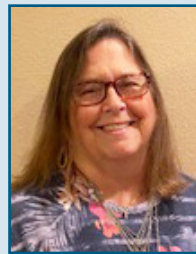
Now to back-track a little, we had a great convention in San Marcos this past August. It was a little strange meeting in August rather than our usual January, but it was great getting to see those that were in attendance. We even had some new ladies join us who hopefully will come again in January 2022. I want to again thank all that were so helpful to me in getting everything going for the convention and all that you did. I couldn't have done any of it without y'all!! We also want to let those that were not able to join us, know that we truly missed every one of you. I know there were various reasons why, with COVID certainly being among the lead causes. We hope those that have been affected by COVID are better.

Speaking of COVID, none of us know where this is going to end up or for that matter even when/if it's going to end, but I pray that all stay safe! Having been fully vaccinated, I feel that being vaccinated is very important for this country to break the cycle of COVID, but I realize not all feel that way. For those that don't feel the way I do, that's your right, but I do think it's the safest way for everyone to stay safe. Let's all continue to mask up and social distance as needed, and, of course, practice proper hygiene, as we were taught as kids. With everyone working together, hopefully, we'll be done with COVID sooner rather than later. It's way past time for this to be a thing of the past!

I, also, want to remind everyone that the Women's Division will be donating pop-tabs to the Ronald McDonald House while we are in Frisco, so please keep saving!! We'll take tabs from any cans – soup, pet food, soft drinks, beer, just whatever has an aluminum pop-tab, we'll take it. This is so beneficial to the families who have children in the hospital – a safe home away from home – a haven during difficult times. Please encourage all your employees, co-workers, friends, and family to join in this very important, yet simple way to help. Thanks to those who have already donated and are continuing to save. You can bring them to the board meeting (October, I think), or you can hold onto them until January. Either way, I want to thank all of you from the bottom of my heart for helping this cause!!!

Also, stay up to date with the latest by following the TGWA Women's Division group Facebook page.

Until I see you again – Take Care & Be Safe -- Hugs!

Cambrey, Linda, Jan, and Penny pose in front of the Women's Division booth. Taken by WorldWide Drilling, Inc. at the 2021 TGWA Annual Convention.



Official Publication of the  
Texas Ground Water Association  
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### TGWA Officers and Executive Committee

William McPike, President  
John Julian, President-Elect  
Mike Pyburn, Treasurer  
Terry Lowe, Immediate Past President

**Division Representatives**  
Roger Russell, C&D Division  
Robert Dilldine, M&S Division  
Kelley Vickers, GWS Division

### Contractors & Drillers Division

**Division Chair:** William McPike

**Division Vice-Chair:** John Julian

| 2022             | 2023           | 2024            |
|------------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Jaythan Browning | J. Clark Abel  | Pete Brien      |
| Patrick Casarez  | Jeff Brien     | Dale Felder     |
| Brad Davis       | Chad Hillis    | John Julian     |
| Terry Lowe       | Dennis Kern    | Bill Lange      |
| Don McElroy      | Chris Lange    | Mike Pyburn     |
| Ty Raymond       | William McPike | Roger Russell   |
| Bill Stoner      | Randy Roberts  | Robert Wagstaff |

### C&D Chapter Directors

Ross Smart - Central Texas    Eric McElroy - Pan./S. Plains  
Josh Barrett - East Texas    Alex Neely - South Texas  
Wendell Goss - Gulf Coast    Open - West Texas  
Open - Mid-Coast  
David Dennett - North TX

### Manufacturers & Suppliers Division

**Division Chair:** Robert Dilldine

**Division Vice-Chair:** Open

| 2022            | 2023            | 2024          |
|-----------------|-----------------|---------------|
| Rodney Ball     | Judy Burkett    | Andrew Bettle |
| Don J. Childers | Robert Dilldine | Lacey Nivens  |
| Bob Hill        | Mike Melancon   | Eli Rodriguez |
| Jim Jackson     | Ruben Reyna     | Jacob Strunk  |
|                 | Jimmy Vela      |               |

### Ground Water Science Division

**Division Chair:** Kelley Vickers

**Division Vice-Chair:** Mike Miller

| 2022          | 2023             | 2024            |
|---------------|------------------|-----------------|
| Allan Standen | Mike Miller      | CJ Bennett      |
| Bill Stein    | Stefan Stamoulis | Billy Gamblin   |
| Rusty Tarver  | Kelley Vickers   | Steve P. Musick |
|               | John Waugh       |                 |

### Association Staff

Stacey Allison Steinbach, General Manager  
Sarah Kirkle  
Lisa Henley  
Adeline Fox  
Becky Arledge

## Congratulations to all our scholarship recipients!

Colton Scott, Myla Childers, Macy Downs, and Madison Hill received the highest rankings among applicants in 2021.

### Colton Smith

**Name of university:**

Lamar University

**Class standing:**

Freshman

**Current major:**

Mathematics with  
minor in physical education

**About/Hobbies:** My hobbies include playing sports and staying active in my community. I am also a volunteer firefighter in Kress.



**Where do you see yourself in five years?**

In five years, I see myself taking a football team to state and having a good reputation in the classroom.

**What does the groundwater industry mean to you?**

The groundwater industry is a huge part of me. Not only because of my father's work but because of the work and issues I have learned about through experience and research.

### Myla Childers

**Name of university:**

Texas A&M University

**Class standing:**

Sophomore

**Current major:**

Environmental  
Geoscience

**About/Hobbies:** I enjoy participating in Women in Geoscience organization, volunteering for community service projects like cleaning up trash in parks, and hiking every chance I get.



**Where do you see yourself in five years?**

In five years, my goal is to be graduated from college and a year or two into my desired field. This work would include working with aquifers, doing field work like water testing, or something educational...Moving to a large city that is near a large body of water or on top of an aquifer like the Edwards or Ogallala would be great too.

### Macy Downs

**Name of university:**

West Texas A&M  
University

**Class standing:**

Freshman

**Current major:**

Agricultural Media &  
Communications

**About/Hobbies:** My hobbies include watching movies, dancing, and shopping at thrift shops for vintage western clothing.



**What does the groundwater industry mean to you?**

Without a doubt, the groundwater industry is the backbone of water conservation as a whole. Where there is groundwater activism, there is water conservation in other forms. The industry is more than an occupation; it is a career that quite literally determines the future...I can imagine no greater or more impactful responsibility than preparing Texas' groundwater usage with the intent to sustain the most important resource in existence.

### Madison Hill

**Name of university:**

Texas A&M University

**Class standing:**

Sophomore

**Current major:**

Psychology

**About/Hobbies:** Throughout my childhood, I was involved with cheerleading...Now that I am in college, I love working out at Orangetheory Fitness.



**Where do you see yourself in five years?**

In five years, I hope to be attending school to either become a physicians assistant or a pediatric nurse practitioner.

**What does the groundwater industry mean to you?**

The groundwater industry to me means making connections with a diverse group of people. You get to meet all types of people and make bonds with them that will grow the industry.

### New Recipients 2021-2022

#### Daisy Berry

Tarleton State University

#### Frances Collins

The University of Texas at Austin

#### Cambrey Hardy

Howard College

#### Houston Harris

Texas A&M University

#### Jalynn Justice

Trinity University

#### James Laforge

Texas Tech University

#### Caitlin Lange

South Plains College

#### Gabriel Ramthun

Temple College

#### Luke Read

Texas A&M University

#### Aaron Salazar

Houston Baptist University

#### Mary Salazar

Houston Baptist University

#### Jaden Spiegelhauer

Blinn College

#### Annika Stevens

Texas A&M University  
- Corpus Christi

#### Mason Warren

Texas A&M University

#### Copeland Welch

Tarleton State University

#### Grayson Wiggins

Texas Tech University

#### Kylie Woods

Concordia University - Austin



Returning Recipients - First received a scholarship in 2020.

**Andrew Bettle**

**Name of university:**

Sul Ross State University

**Class standing:**

Sophomore

**Current major:** Pre Veterinarian Medicine

**About/Hobbies:** My hobbies/interests include working with animals, hunting and fishing.



**Where do you see yourself in five years?**

I see myself in my second year pursuing my graduate degree to receive my Doctorate in Veterinary Medicine.

**What does the groundwater industry mean to you?**

The groundwater industry means that this is the group of people in America and around the world who are at the forefront of making sure people have safe drinking water.

**Mikaela Calami**

**Name of university:**

Sam Houston State University

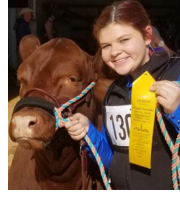
**Class standing:**

Sophomore

**Current major:**

Agriculture Business

**About/Hobbies:** I am a first generation college student which is something I am very proud of. I am goal oriented and other than family and my livestock, my number one priority is my school. I am a full time college student and I also work part time.



**Where do you see yourself in five years?**

In five years, I see myself being a well established cattle breeder with land to raise them on. I also see myself being a graduate at Sam Houston and starting my search for a teaching job at a small town school so that I am better able to share my knowledge with students.

All scholarship award winners are featured on our website.

Visit [www.tgwa.org/scholarship](http://www.tgwa.org/scholarship) to see all 34 recipients.

**Avery Johnson**

**Name of university:**

University of Texas

**Class standing:**

Junior

**Current major:**

Neuroscience

**About/Hobbies:** I was born and raised in Austin, a true Austinite, and the live music scene, outdoor life, and hippy culture have made it hard to leave! I play guitar and sing in a blues/alternative/rock band, as well as play drums, bass, and piano on the side, so it is safe to say that music is my biggest passion.



**Where do you see yourself in five years?**

In five years I hope to be somewhere in the middle of medical school, unless of course my band gets famous and takes off before then!

**Emily Schmuck**

**Name of university:**

Concordia University - Texas

**Class standing:**

Sophomore

**Current major:**

Education

**Hobbies:** I like to coach, hang with my friends, go to the gym, play with my dogs, be anywhere outdoors, and play softball.



**Where do you see yourself in five years?**

In five years I see myself teaching and coaching at a local high school.

**What does the groundwater industry mean to you?**

Without the groundwater industry, I would not be able to do what I love. Not only because it helps us with our necessities such as food and water, which I need a lot of being a student-athlete, but also because my dad has been able to provide everything that I have been blessed with to this point in my life due to his link to the groundwater industry.

**Zoie Stevens**

**Name of university:**

Sam Houston State University

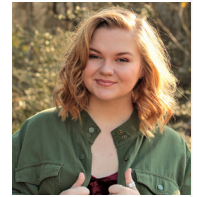
**Class standing:**

Sophomore

**Current major:**

Interdisciplinary Agriculture

**About/Hobbies:** As a teacher, I would have to say the best way to describe me is probably through the words of my current students. "Miss Zoie is loud, she likes to dance, and she's always talking about animals." My kids know me pretty well. My hobbies include western swing dancing, public speaking, and volunteering with my local 4-H programs.



**Where do you see yourself in five years?**

I'd say I have pretty ambitious plans for the next five years of my life. Hopefully, I will have graduated from Sam Houston State University with a degree in Interdisciplinary Agriculture and be working as an ag teacher. I also hope to be running a show stock operation on my family's farm while starting an agriculture-loving family of my own.

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McPike, continued from page 2

times!! Also, how about a big thank you to Bob Hill and Mike Melancon for the cornhole and bingo! People were having a great time, with Bill Lange killing it in cornhole for a little while. I think we had close to 400 people at the three-day convention. For those that were not able to gather with us at the last convention, we pray that all are well, and that you will be able to gather with us in Frisco next January. I ask everyone to come and bring a friend, and then we'll all make new friends.

I want to congratulate the great group of students that received scholarships and wish them the best with their education. I pray that all have a great year.

Now, to all the members, we have a winner in Stacey. When she came to TGWA, we had meetings on what we needed and where we wanted to go, and with her leadership, we were able to make needed changes. What a great group to be associated with.

Please reach out if I can be of assistance. If I don't have the answer, I'll find someone that does. I pray that all are as busy as you want to be, but remember to leave a little time for family! Stay safe and help your neighbor!

Sincerely,



**SAVE THE DATE**  
**TGWA Annual Convention 2022**  
**January 25-28**  
**Embassy Suites in Frisco**

More details coming soon.

Vickers, continued from page 2

to learn from one another's experiences in such a welcoming environment. The greatest value to me are the friendships we make along the way.

I am excited to serve and represent the GWS Division. There are so many amazing people in this organization – I am looking forward to getting to know you all as we unite the divisions under the new TGWA Board of Directors (aka "Big Board" a nickname I imagine will stick – sorry Sarah and Stacey).

Now is a perfect time for me to applaud the outstanding job done by TGWA staff for such a successful convention under such unpredictable circumstances. Thank you all for everything you do! I hope everyone will be able to attend the January 2022 Convention in Frisco. Looking forward to it. Stay safe!

Sincerely,



## Who Was Owen F. Jensen?

By **ROGER RUSSELL**, *Russell Drilling, Inc.*

I was born April 1961. By this time, Owen F. Jensen was likely a well known water well expert. In 1961, he authored a publication titled *Water Well Design, Construction and Materials*. In 1965, he wrote another technical paper on the use of downhole camera surveys. This is just a small glimpse of how he shared ideas that would help others improve the groundwater industry. He was the Vice President of Layne Texas during this time.

In the 60's, most rural homes were served by individual water sources. For instance, our home had a 14 ft. hand dug well about 50 ft. from our septic system. I'm sure it had very acidic water to dissolve any lead that was used in the plumbing, but we happily drank it along with the bacteria until it would go dry. Most everyone was poor and had water that was bad. About the time the first man landed on the moon, a rural water system was making its way to our community. It was called "city water" because it had chlorine. It took a while for us to break the habit of sharing bath water, but we did and I was glad because I was normally the last to bathe.

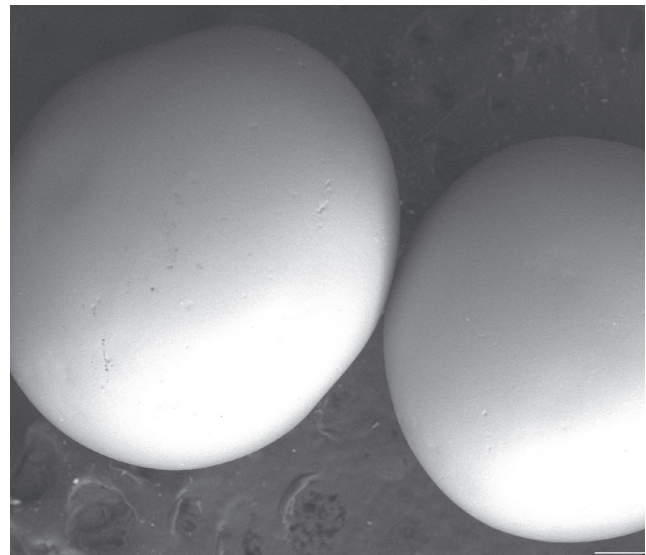
I never had the pleasure of meeting Mr. Jensen. I only know his name because it is on the TGWA Contractor of the Year Award. That leaves me to speculate that he was a man who set standards for others to follow for well construction and design. I believe people like him have helped us all. I believe there are still people who will be their best every day. I work with some of them daily. TGWA members are some of them. Everyone wins if we strive to be the best. Thanks for the honor of being the 2021 Owen F. Jensen award recipient.





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- Testing to Hydraulic Institute compliance standards

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**Convention Wrap up, continued from cover page**

joined. Thank you for your service Ken Grant (C&D), Van Schmuck (M&S), Pat Goodson and Steven Bond (GWS). Welcome to our new board members and officers!

**C&D Division** - Brad Davis  
Davis Water Well

**M&S Division** - Jacob Strunk  
Pumps of Houston

**GWS Division** - CJ Bennett, Bullock,  
Bennett & Associates and Stefan Stamoulis  
Hydrogeologic/Environmental Testing, Inc.

**Overarching TGWA Board Officers**  
President - William McPike  
Geothermal Drilling, Inc.

**President-Elect** - John Julian  
Canadian Water Well

**Treasurer** - Mike Pyburn  
Alameda Water Well Service

**Past-President** - Terry Lowe  
Lowe Water Wells, Inc.

**Scholarship & Social Events.**

The TGWA Scholarship Foundation auction was also a great success. Thank you to everyone who purchased an auction item to raise funds for the scholarship foundation fund. The auction raised about \$45,000 this year.

Another highlight was the social event where we tried something new; cornhole and bingo. Congrats to Chad Hillis and BJ Ward for winning the cornhole tournament. We are grateful to all of the exhibitors, sponsors, and attendees who made this event a success.

The 2022 Annual Convention is planned for Frisco on January 25-28. The Ground Water Science Division will most likely host a Geoscience Seminar like they have in the past. Stay tuned for more details.

**All Photos Provided by WorldWide Drilling Resource, Inc.**



Terry Lowe awards Jeff Brien the Gary D. Grant Award.



Terry Lowe awards Wendell Goss the Robert J. "Bob" Neely Award.



Terry Lowe awards Adeline Fox the Mark Campbell Excellence in Training Award.



Terry Lowe awards Ray Bedair the Wesley Young (M&S Person of the Year) Award.



Terry Lowe awards Roger Russell the Owen F. Jensen (Contractor of the Year) Award.

**MORE INFO:**

Who was Owen F. Jensen? This year's award winner explores this question in his write up on page 7.

**President's Awards**



Terry Lowe poses with his President's Award recipients Sarah Kirkle and Charlie Waller.



Outgoing division presidents (L to R): C&D Division Terry Lowe (right) poses with incoming president William McPike. M&S Division President Andrew Bettle and GWS Division President Rusty Tarver pose with TGWA General Manager Stacey Steinbach.





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# Groundwater Week 2021 is heading to Nashville this December

By PAT LEVAK, NGWA

The National Ground Water Association will descend on Nashville, Tennessee, to host the industry's premier event, Groundwater Week 2021, December 14-16 at the Music City Center.

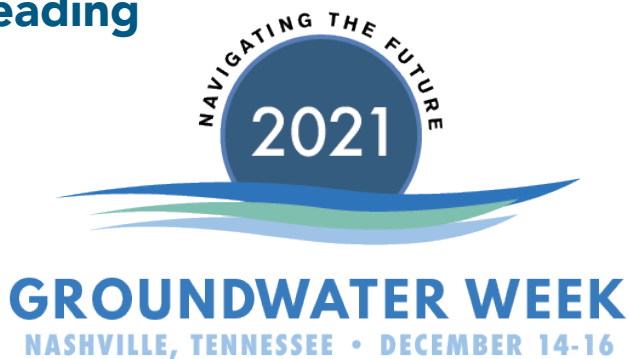
This year's event will return to an in-person format and will be adhering to all local health and safety requirements stemming from COVID-19. Attendees will be informed of these prior to the event.

Designed to provide educational and networking experiences to industry professionals, Groundwater Week 2021 will feature the latest technologies and product demonstrations in the exhibit hall, educational opportunities, and numerous panels from industry thought leaders.

The event will take advantage of every opportunity to maximize the foundations of groundwater science including water supply, resource protection, and remediation.

During the event, attendees can:

- Explore products, technologies, and services from hundreds of exhibitors
- Learn about industry advances by attending any number of informational sessions
- Choose from more than 50 hours of educational offerings designed to increase job performance
- Gain valuable insight regarding future industry trends and offerings



- Raise money to support the groundwater industry through supporting NGWA's Groundwater Foundation.

This year's keynote presentation will feature the Nashville hitmakers and storytellers experience, affording attendees the opportunity to enjoy an engaging morning filled with unforgettable moments of music, stories, and connection. Attendees will hear hit songs from the actual songwriters who created them and experience the compelling stories of how the songs came to life and found their way to popular recording artists. Songs will include classics and favorites that have won Grammy, Country Music Association, and Academy of Country Music awards.

Music City Center is conveniently located only blocks away from Nashville's famous downtown, which will offer attendees easy access to the nation's top destination for country and bluegrass music.

"Groundwater Week is a unique gathering of professionals from our diverse membership and global presence — including scientists and engineers, contractors and consultants, suppliers and manufacturers, and attendees from over 20 different countries," said NGWA CEO Terry S. Morse, CAE, CIC.

"As the champion for professionals in our industry, the week is designed to develop and grow successful careers in groundwater. The connections made during Groundwater Week are proven to move the industry forward."

Groundwater Week will also feature NGWA's membership awards presented annually to honor the "Best of the Best" and that represent the highest quality in standards and business practices. Award recipients are recognized for outstanding contributions through service, innovation, research, safety, and projects of scientific and technological importance affecting the growth and well-being of the groundwater industry.

More information on event scheduling and program details can be found on our website, [GroundwaterWeek.com](https://GroundwaterWeek.com). To secure your early registration rate, make sure to register by November 12, 2021.

Sponsors of Groundwater Week 2021 include Franklin Electric; Baker Water Systems Division; Flomatic Valves; Goulds Water Technology, a Xylem brand; and Mud Puppy.





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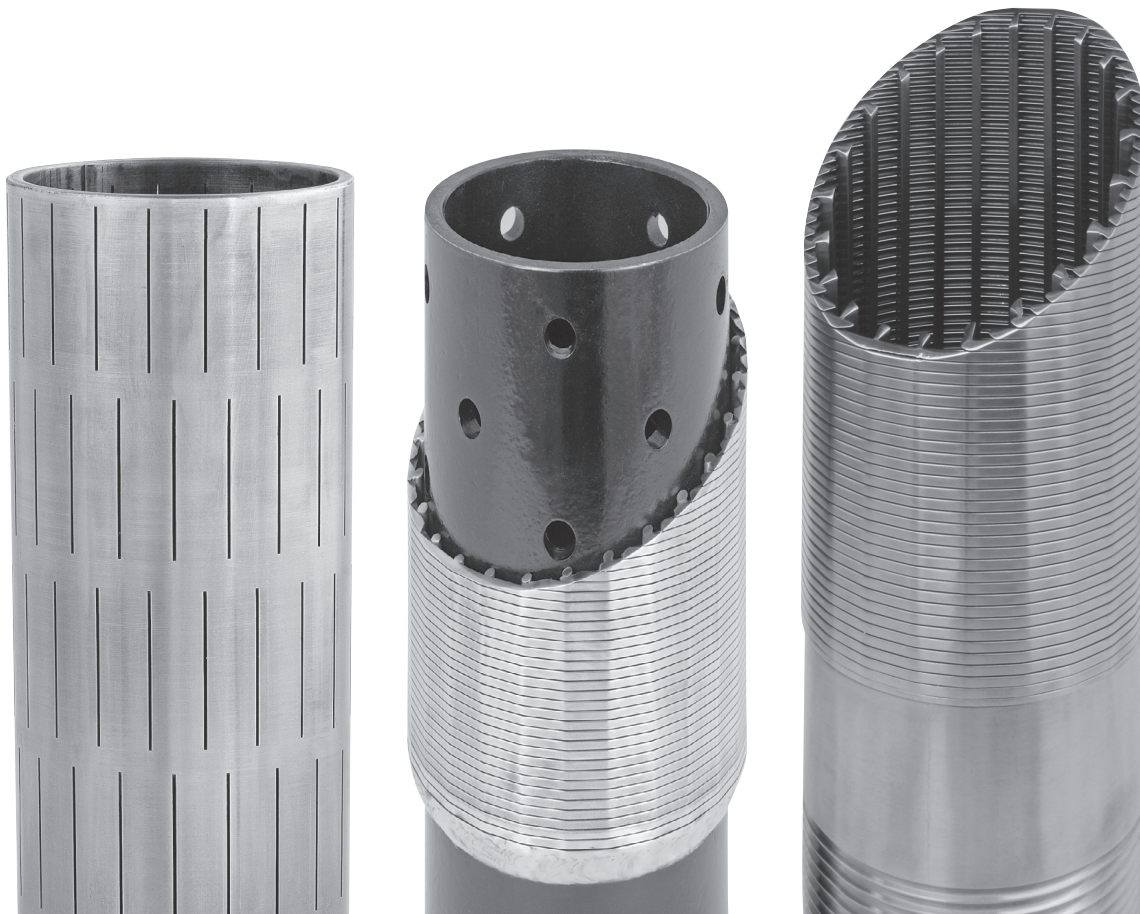
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**More Annual Convention Photos - Bingo & Cornhole**



**Cornhole Tournament Winners**



Top: Chad Hillis & BJ Ward took first place.  
Bottom: Doug Hardy & Van Schmuck took second place.



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## IN LOVING MEMORY OF

**David Max Rumbelow**  
**September 8, 1951 - September 4, 2021**

David Max Rumbelow was born on September 8, 1951 and died September 4, 2021. He was the youngest child of Max and Peggy Rumbelow. He had one sister, Genie, and two brothers, Ernest and Lee. He had great memories of growing up in Van until age 16. He still has friends that he made in Houma, Louisiana, where he graduated high school. After serving a four-year notorious stint in the US Navy, he returned to Van, where he met and married Susan. They built a wonderful life over 43 years, raising four favorite children: Sara, Maggie, Max, and Price, and later welcoming their respective partners, Charlie, Tommy, Rachael, and Julie. They

enjoyed being surrounded by eight beautiful grandchildren, nieces and nephews, cousins and many friends. He loved being a lifetime member of the Van United Methodist Church. He is remembered for Rumbelow's Pizza and his work in the groundwater industry. He was a proud past president of the Texas Ground Water Association. He loved the Lord, and he loved people. He taught us this: If you can't share something, give it away.

David was a light in this association and industry. We are beyond thankful that we all got to know him better when he served as TGWA president from 2017-2019. We are sending thoughts and prayers to his family, friends, and community. He will be sorely missed.



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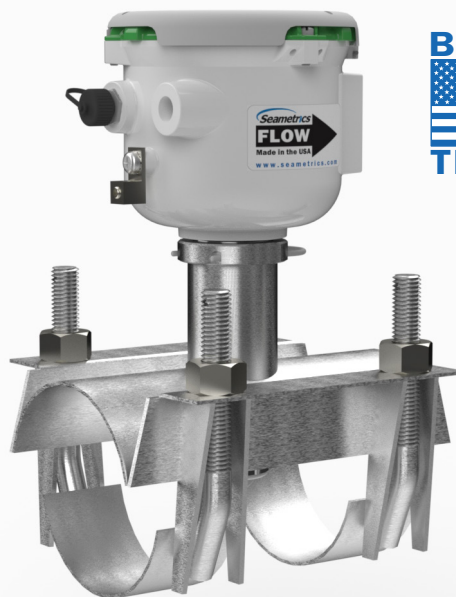
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