



**NORTH CAROLINA WATERWORKS  
OPERATORS ASSOCIATION**

**2021**

***Year In Review***





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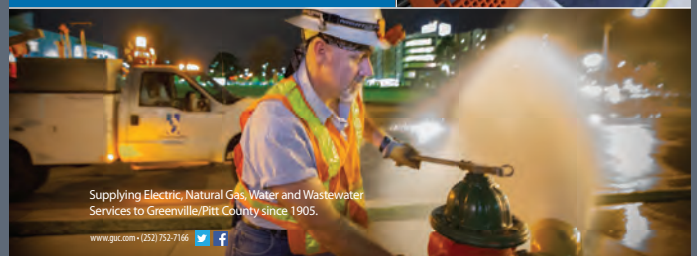


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## *From the President*

This year has been another extremely challenging year for everyone. No one expected to still be facing the challenges of a pandemic as we start 2022!

Again, I want to give a huge thank you to all NC Operators who have continued to perform their essential duties during this pandemic. The COVID-19 Pandemic has presented many challenges, such as, obtaining the continuing education hours required for certification renewals and training hours needed to qualify for certification exams. NCWOA volunteers and staff worked tirelessly to provide virtual schools, training sessions and section meetings to assist with meeting these needs. Without their continued hard work and dedication, these events would not have been possible.

In 2021 NCWOA continued to adjust and prepare for virtual schools and training sessions. The Annual Business Meeting and Awards presentation was cancelled for the second year in a row. Both Spring School and Annual Fall School were provided virtually. NCWOA also provided virtual C level certificate schools and worked with section leadership to provide sectional meetings and training events virtually with some limited events in person.

The NCWOA has provided many years of dedicated educational and training opportunities for water treatment operators. In 2022 that tradition will continue. The association will continue to provide the quality of training you have come to know and expect. We hope to be able to return to in person instruction. However, we fully anticipate that some aspects of the virtual training will continue to be a part of future training events as we move forward.

I continue to challenge members to become involved in the Association's work. Only then can the NCWOA continue to grow and expand to best meet our members' educational needs. Please consider this and let 2022 be the year you join the NCWOA team.

Sincerely,

NCWOA President





## *From the Editor*

Welcome to the 2021 edition of the Year in Review

How did you respond to 2021? We're never promised that every year will be perfect, but what's important is how we respond. Looking back in our Go with the Flows reminded me that no matter what life sets before us, we have the option to choose how we will respond. Winston Salem/Forsyth County has a very popular water tank with a beautiful river otter mural painted on it. Sure, they could have just left the tank one solid color, but they chose to take what they have and make it even better. Our lives are the same way. We should be walking billboards. Do the people you come in contact with know what you're really good at? Is there some hidden talent that you have that could possibly make life better for those around you? Life is so short and we shouldn't want to be just an operator. We should instead want to be the most unique and positive operator possible. If something bad comes your way, make something good happen. If something seems dull or boring, make it more interesting. Reading the article about Michelle Clements, with The East Group, reminded me how important family and friends are. I could not imagine going through life without my family by my side and the friendships that I have made along the way. Tena Mullis, with the City of Concord, always makes me feel welcome when I'm around her. Her article made me want to enjoy my travels and to appreciate the small details of the journey.

I would love to thank all of our sponsors and volunteers. Without you, we would not be able to do what we do. If you've not been involved with our meetings, make 2022 the year you get involved. I can honestly say that I do enjoy our NCWOA meetings and board meetings. We have some that show up that bring laughter to the room, which is great medicine! They could come and just be there, but instead they make sure that someone is smiling and laughing before the meeting is over. Why don't you be that person this year? If you are interested in volunteering and sharing your talents, please feel free to reach out to any of our committee members and we would love to have you on our team.

As always, thank you for making North Carolina's water safe!

Sincerely,  
Allen Daniels  
Water Guard, Inc.  
Public Image Chair

# Executive Committee/Staff



## President

**Ken Loflin**

kloflin95@gmail.com



## Chair – Nomination Committee

**Chris Smith**

smithcr89@gmail.com



## First Vice-President

**Sam Molinas**

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## Chair – Western Section

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## Second Vice-President

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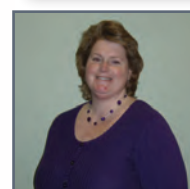
## Chair – North Piedmont Section

**Melanie Clark**

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## Secretary

**Michelle Clements**

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## Chair – South Piedmont Section

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## Chair – Southeast Section

**Del Coffman**

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## Past President

**Jeff Isley**

Isley1062@aol.com



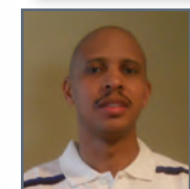
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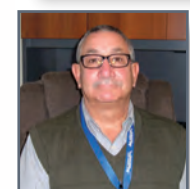
## NCWOA Administrator

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NCWOA

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## Chair – Board of Examiners

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## NCWOA Education Specialist

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## Chair - Public Image

**Allen Daniels**

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## ***Annual Business & Awards***

We were unable to hold the business meeting and awards luncheon due to the COVID pandemic but below is a summary of information usually provided. NCWOA hopes to resume a regular business meeting and awards presentation at the spring school held in March.

The financial statements were completed in 2021.

Beginning Balance	\$ 763,441.00
Revenue	\$ 368,853.00
Expenses	\$ 146,572.00
Investment Income	\$ 124,130.00
Total Net Assets of June 30, 2020	\$ 985,722.00

### **2021 Platinum Sponsor:**

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### **2021 Gold Sponsors:**

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### **2021 Life Members with 25 Years of consecutive membership:**

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### **2020 AWOP Awards**

64 surface water systems have met or exceeded the turbidity performance goals for settled and filtered water in Calendar Year 2020 and have received AWOP Awards from Public Water Supply.

Operator of the Year Awards will hopefully be presented at the upcoming spring school at the end of March.

# 2021 Certified Operator Awards

Operator of the Year Awards will hopefully be presented in-person at the spring school in March. Congratulations to our winners!!

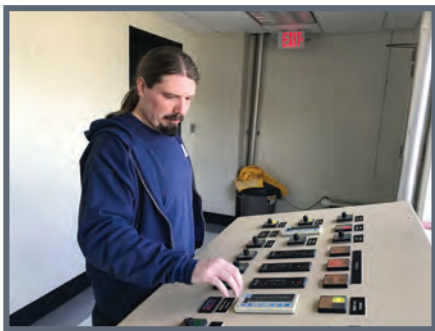


## A-Surface Gary Thompson Fayetteville PWC

Gary has been an Operator for Fayetteville PWC since 1995 and is the Senior Treatment Plant Operator for the P.O. Hoffer Water

Treatment Facility. He has been in the water industry for over 25 years. His knowledge and experience of Hoffer has made him a valuable resource during process disruptions and training the next generation of operators to prepare them for the challenges faced each day. He strives to produce the highest quality water possible by constantly analyzing ever-changing incoming water quality parameters of the Cape Fear River to ensure regulatory compliance has maintained.

Gary's supervisor believes that he truly cares about ensuring his customers have safe drinking water. He constantly volunteers to come in during challenging treatment conditions to assist his coworkers whenever needed and is not afraid of working in adverse conditions including severe weather events. He is an instrumental part of our ability to consistently achieve the Area Wide Optimization award and our President's Award for the Partnership for Safe Water for the P.O. Hoffer Water Treatment Facility.



## B-Surface John McConihay City of Asheville

John moved to Asheville in 2015 and began his career as a night shift Plant Operator Trainee at the

City's Mills River Water Treatment Plant. He quickly learned how to operate the facility and his pleasant personality and work ethic won the appreciation of all his co-workers. He received a C-Surface license and then advanced to B-Surface in 2017,

while also moving to the day shift. In 2021 the City experienced a shortage of certified operators and John volunteered to work in the North Fork Facility to help operate and train new employees. This change added an extra hour to his commute for a period of 7 months, but allowed him to hone his skills at yet another facility and impart his knowledge to new staff. He is looking forward to the future and this year plans to sit for his A-Surface exam. We appreciate all that he has done, and continues to do for the water supplies of the residents of North Carolina.



## C-Surface DeQuante Moore Fayetteville PWC

DeQuante has been an operator for Fayetteville PWC since 2020 at the Glenville Lake Water Treatment Facility. His supervisor believes that they are extremely lucky to have him on their staff. His work ethic and commitment are second to none and

he strives to be the best operator at their facilities. He is always trying to improve his knowledge of our processes and is quick to discover any potential issues throughout his shift. He has done an excellent job training a new coworker over the past several months, in preparation for the certification exam. He works diligently to ensure our customers receive the highest water quality possible and is an integral part of Glenville Lake's Area Wide Optimization awards and his system's ability to maintain the President's Award from the Partnership for Safe Water.

He passed his C-Surface exam on the first attempt and he is looking forward to working on his B-Surface certification. DeQuante is also a veteran, and prior to this award, has been recognized with the US Army Commendation award and the US Army Good Conduct metal. When he isn't working, he enjoys fishing, his dogs, and most of all, his family.





### **B-Well** **Al Leonard** **Town of Fair Bluff**

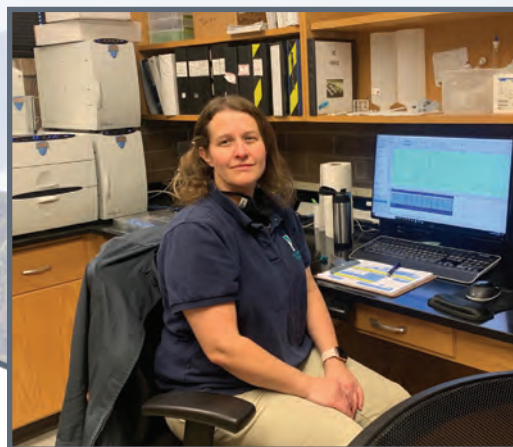
Al has been in the water industry for over thirty years. Most ORC's only manage one water system, he manages five systems. If that isn't enough, he is also a town manager. After Hurricane Matthew came through the state, Al worked

to obtain grants to repair and replace wells and pump stations. In addition to obtaining his B-Well certification, he has obtained B-Distribution, WWTP Operator II, and Collection System Operator II certifications. He believes that being both a town manager and a waterworks operator helps him to do both jobs. He states, "I am a better waterworks operator because I am a manager, and I am a better manager because I am a waterworks operator."

### **C-Well** **Lane Morgan** **City of Jacksonville**

Lane has only been in the industry for one year, but has already made a big impact. He was quickly promoted to Operator 1 at his plant and was recently evaluated as its top operator. He obtained his B-Well certification and plans to take the A-Well exam in February 2022.

Lane has already started helping other operators train for their certification exams. He takes great pride in his work, always striving to improve his water system, including managerial strategies, as well as operations. He always shows empathy for customers' problems and is loyal to his job, his water system, and his community. Lane's plant superintendent says, "In my 18+ years in water supply, I have never seen a C-Well operator as knowledgeable..."



### **Lab Analyst of the Year** **Cheryl Irwin** **Greenville Utilities Commission**

Cheryl has been in the water industry for 18 years, including her present position as Laboratory Technician II. She has obtained an A-Surface Operator's certification, as well as the Bacteriological Methods and Process Control Chemistry lab certifications. She has been very valuable at her plant and in the lab and has been a part of several special projects, including on site ATP and ion chromatography analyses. Additionally, Cheryl has contributed to building up the capabilities of her lab and its personnel, and she regularly volunteers to help with community events, as well as assisting with trouble calls from customers.

# Outstanding Operator of the Year

## Object of the Award

The object of the award is to annually recognize one waterworks operator for his/her outstanding ability and devotion to the water supply profession that best merits the title "Outstanding Operator of the Year."

## Basis for the Award

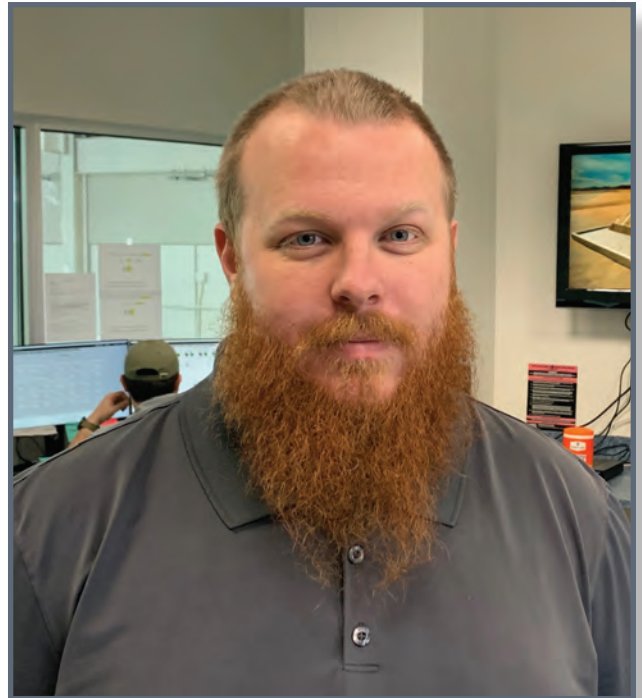
The award may be made by the Outstanding Operator of the Year Award Committee for any of the following reasons: outstanding proficiency in plant operations, records, and reports; exceptional organizational activities in the award winner's facility, demonstrated educational practices, or investigations leading to improvement of the profession; exceptional devotion to duty, and outstanding service to the Association.

## Jonathan Himsworth City of Jacksonville

Jonathan has only been in the water industry for 5 and a half years, but you wouldn't know it from his accomplishments. He entered the water industry with no prior experience, but quickly obtained many certifications, as well as an Associate's degree. He has obtained certifications including: A-Well, A-Distribution, Biological Wastewater I, Wastewater Collections II, NCRWA Utility Management Certification, and SEDA Membrane Operator Certification levels 1 and 2. He was promoted quickly and is only the second Plant Operator 3 to be hired, in the history of his plant. He now holds the position of Plant Superintendent.

His knowledge, experience, and training have allowed him to be very helpful with many things. He helps to solve various problems and make decisions, whether they involve operations, lab, or maintenance. He motivates others to obtain their certifications and strives to have the "most certified water plant in department history." He is courteous and helpful to everyone he comes in contact with and knows the importance of interdepartmental cooperation. He is known to be an excellent role model to those around him and proved his dedication, by turning down a much higher paying job, to stay with his current employer.

Jonathan is also very involved with safety at his plant. He has developed higher safety protocols and assists staff with PPE. He is also working on a proposed rule change to the WTFOCB, to provide opportunities to operators throughout the state. To sum it all up, Jonathan is a complete operator, who strives daily to provide his water system with the best water quality possible.





## 2021 Life Members

Life Membership is awarded to any active member who has maintained an uninterrupted membership in the Association for a period of 25 years, is in good standing with the Association, and may be elected by a two-thirds majority of the members present and voting.

**Melvin E. Albritton, Jr.**  
North Lenoir Water Corp.

**Glenn Bach**  
City of Newton

**Billy A. Benton**  
Brunswick County Utilities

**Brad E. Boris**  
City of Morganton

**Arthur R. Brown, III**

**Deanna H. Castellow**  
Greenville Utilities Comm.

**Scott Christiansen**  
City of Sanford

**Rodney C. Darr**  
City of High Point

**Ronnie E. Dickens**  
Carolina Water Service

**Gordon W. Elliott**  
Fayetteville PWC

**Marty E. Eure**  
Town of Harrellsville

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**Grady H. Lovette**  
City of Lumberton

**Julius L. Phillips, II**  
Greenville Utilities Comm.

**Brian M. Pregmon**  
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**Michael Prostinak**  
Town of Lake Waccamaw - retired

**David E. Robinson**  
Fayetteville PWC

**Cherie Shaw**  
Harnett County

**Terry L. Sheppard**  
City of Asheboro

**Shelby S. Smith**  
City of Graham

**Michael D. Suggs**  
City of High Point

**Gary W. Thompson**  
Fayetteville PWC

**Glenn M. Walker**  
Brunswick County Utilities

**Bobby J. Ward**  
National Spinning Co, Inc.

## 2021 Sectional Training Recap

### Western Section

March 30, 2021 - Virtual

May 20, 2021 - Virtual

August 17, 2021 - Mills River WTP

October 19, 2021 - Virtual

### North Piedmont Section

March 4, 2021 - Virtual

June 10, 2021 - Virtual

August 5, 2021 - City of Eden

October 6, 2021 - Virtual

### South Piedmont Section

March 25, 2021 - Virtual

June 17, 2021 - Virtual

August 26, 2021 - City of Salisbury

October 21, 2021 - Virtual

### Northeast Section

March 2, 2021 - Virtual

May 13, 2021 - Virtual

August 10, 2021 - Virtual

October 12, 2021 - Virtual

### Southeast Section

February 23, 2021 - Virtual

April 27, 2021 - Virtual

July 15, 2021 - Virtual

October 14, 2021 - Virtual

## 2021 Spotlight Recap April



### Michelle Clements - The East Group

Michelle grew up in Jones County and attended North Carolina State University where she obtained a bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering. She has been married to her husband Brian for 25

years and has two daughters, Emma and Sarah.

Michelle has worked as a Senior Civil Engineer for The East Group for 26 years now and enjoys the challenges of planning, designing and overseeing the construction of water and wastewater systems in the eastern part of North Carolina. Those that work with her know that she wants all the facts from operators as well as management input before she puts any plans on paper.



### Tena Mullis - City of Concord

Tena first worked in banking for Security Bank and Trust as an Operations Manager for almost 30 years after graduating from Mount Pleasant High School and working her way up the ladder with that bank. Unfortunately after all those years with Security Bank, the company decided to close its doors with Tena

finding herself without a job.

Knowing she did not wish to continue in banking, she set off to pursue new training in biological laboratory skills and found herself back in school. She had heard that a new biotech company was planning to be built in Rowan County and she took off down that path. While still in school, the cities of

Concord, Kannapolis and Salisbury were all looking to hire water treatment operator trainees with related job duties to include laboratory testing which fit her current interests.

She decided to apply and was hired by Danny Williamson to work at the Coddle Creek Water Treatment Plant in 2007 for the City of Concord.

## 2021 Spotlight Recap August

### The NC AWOP Program

The Area Wide Optimization Program (AWOP) is a national voluntary program for both public water systems and states agencies. The NC Department of Environmental Quality, Division of Water Resources, Public Water Supply Section (PWS Section) has participated in the EPA Region 4 AWOP since 2002. The program's goal is to provide North Carolina's water utilities with training and tools that can assist in optimizing water system operations to surpass regulatory requirements.

The NC AWOP program has taken great strides in improving drinking water in North Carolina through working with water systems to achieve the turbidity and DBP goals. Technical assistance from the NC AWOP team and consistent effort by water system staff are key components of the successful AWOP program in North Carolina.



### River Otter Mural Wins National Championship

A river otter mural on a water tank in Winston-Salem has won the 2021 Knope National Championship, a March Madness-style competition hosted online by Engaging Local



Government Leaders. Named after Leslie Knope, the fictional "Parks and Recreation" character, this year's challenge was focused on municipal water-related services.

The Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Utilities Sides Road Water Tank was one of 85 nominees. Buoyed by the Arts Council of Winston-Salem & Forsyth County, global otter protection groups and local media encouraging the public to vote, the tank won every weekly bracket. In the final round, the colorful critter beat a wastewater reclamation facility in Athens, Georgia with 3,036 votes to 2,615.

The project broke ground in November 2017 with Phillips and Jordan as the contractors for this large endeavor. Schnabel provided a Resident Engineer to oversee the daily activities and act as the Owners' Representative. Schnabel also provided an internal Project Manager to work with the contractor, Schnabel and the City of Asheville on work change directives, schedule, meetings and pay applications. Various other support staff were necessary from Schnabel and Water Production to make the project a success.

The project was substantially completed on December 12, 2020 with the final ribbon cutting held on a beautiful fall day, October 22, 2021.

The American Society of Dam Safety Officers awarded the project the National Rehabilitation Project for 2021!

## ***2021 Spotlight Recap December***



### **North Fork's Auxiliary Spillway and Embankment Improvement Project**

The North Fork Water Treatment Plant (NF) has had the privilege of serving the greater Asheville area since 1955. This is the year the dam and water plant were completed. Since that time the North Carolina legislature passed the Dam Safety Law and over the decades supplementary Administrative Codes have been put into place, therefore the NF Dam was required to pass and store the Probable Maximum Precipitation (PMP) storm event due to its classification as a "very large high hazard" dam. The PMP storm would produce 34 inches of rain in a 24-hour period. The original principal spillway was not able to meet the current regulation without the use of a Flood Operations Plan (FOP). The FOP was a temporary fix until a more permanent solution could be found.



# In Memoriam



## **William A Farlow**

Mr. William Allen Farlow, 84, resident of Trinity, died November 5, 2021 at his home.

He was born May 7, 1937 in Randolph County, a son to Allen and Millie Sink Farlow. As a resident of this area all his life, he attended High Point College and later

worked as a chemist for the City of High Point Water Treatment Plant. He also was a proud member of the United States Army National Guard having served ten years, and later, was a frequent volunteer at the North Carolina Aviation Museum in Asheboro where he helped restore World War II airplanes. William was a longtime member of First Wesleyan Church where he sang in the choir. Each Christmas he would sing in the Living Christmas Tree and also help with the construction of it. For many years he also participated in Handel's Messiah Musical in Winston-Salem. In addition to music, he also loved drawing and years ago created the original seal for the City of Archdale. His other hobby included collecting die cast cars and assembling aviation models. More than anything else, he loved his family and especially his great-grandsons.

In 1963, he married the former Shirley Ann Wilcox who preceded him in death in 1981. He also was preceded in death by a brother, Donald Farlow (Peggy) and three sisters, Doris Lilly (Walter), Phyllis Lowdermilk (Roy) and Louise Wall (Lyn). Surviving is his daughter, Kaye Martin and husband Ronnie of Trinity; four grandchildren, Joseph Martin (Julia), Rebecca Dixon (Joe), Ben Martin (Crystal), and Sarah Ritner (John) and six great-grandchildren, Weston, Jude, Caden, Silas, Luke, and Jett.

He was a life member of NCWOA since 1981.



## **Richard Harleson**

Richard Gomelion Harleson, Jr., 80, of New London, passed away Friday, February 12, 2021 at Atrium Health Main in Charlotte.

Richard was born April 4, 1940 in Fort Bragg, North Carolina to the late Richard G. Harleson, Sr. and

the late Flora Belle Bureson Harleson.

He was also preceded in death by his brothers, Kenneth Harleson and Leroy Harleson, his sisters, Marie Daniels and Ruth Harleson.

Survivors include his wife of 44 years, Patsy K. Harleson of New London, NC; daughter, Amelia H. Morton, of New London, NC; brother, Terry (Brenda) Harleson; sisters, Ricardia (Robert) Wilson, Anne (Warren) Steri-etelmeier; many nieces, nephews, and cousins; and

his beloved dog Henry.

Richard loved animals, especially "his boy" Henry.

He was stationed at Pease Air Force Base and Okinawa, Japan during the war in Vietnam. He served in the United States Air Force from 1963-1967.

He had a kind heart, always wanted to help everybody, and especially enjoyed spoiling his only daughter, Amelia.

Richard retired from Alcoa after 27 years of service as a lab technician; in his retirement he enjoyed many hobbies while still working at the Denton Water Treatment Plant with his friend and co-worker Heather Marie.

He was a life member of NCWOA since 1995.



## **Jesse Harper**

Jesse Giles Harper, 57, of Kinston passed away on Monday, June 7, 2021, at UNC Lenoir Healthcare.

Jesse worked many years with the NC Forestry Service as a Regional Equipment Supervisor and retired in 2018. Then he started working with NRWASA in Kinston as an

Operator in 2019. Jesse loved his family, gardening, and being outside. Nothing made him happier than spending time with his grandchildren.

He is preceded in death by his parents, Ray and Josephine Harper and grandparents, Leo and Ruby Harper.

Left to cherish his memories is his wife, Jennifer Harper; son, Levi Johnson and wife Abigail; grandchildren, Isabelle, Eleanor and Lincoln; sister, Patsy Burrus and his beloved boxer, Lizzie.

He was a member of NCWOA since 2018.



## **Walter J. Hogan**

Walter James Hogan, 89, passed away on October 30, 2021, following a period of declining health. Everyone called him "Jim". He was born December 12, 1931 to his late parents, James Claywell Hogan and Joyce Lenoir Hogan. He was preceded in death by his wife

of 53 years, Marie Bach Hogan. He is survived by his sons, James and his wife, Janis, and John and his wife, Margaret. He is survived by four grandchildren, Clay, Parker, Paul, and Cameron. Jim was expecting his first great-grandchild in December.

From birth, Jim lived at the house in Lenoir built by his father in the 1920s. From 1945, he attended McCallie Military Academy in Chattanooga, Tennessee. He graduated from Davidson College in 1952, majoring in physics. While he was at McCallie, he and some



friends formed a bluegrass band, and called themselves The Cripple Creek Boys, which became later, The Dismembered Tennesseans. Most of the band's members also attended Davidson, and the band continued. Although Jim did not continue with the band after college, some of the band members did. Jim's love of bluegrass music continued throughout his life.

After Davidson, and during the Korean War, Jim joined the Army and was stationed stateside for two years. He served as a radio operator and was learning cryptography when the Korean War ended. After the army, Jim worked at the National Security Agency in Washington, D.C. for a few months. In July of 1954, Jim's father, James Claywell Hogan, passed away, and Jim moved back to Lenoir to run the family businesses that his father had started, which included Hickory Fibre Company, Appalachian Poster Advertising Company, and Joyceton Water Works.

Jim loved working. He was a licensed electrician and he worked hard. Although he was not trained as a businessman, he treated others as he wanted to be treated. He oversaw the growth of Appalachian Poster, which became Appalachian Outdoor Advertising Co., Inc., a billboard company in western North Carolina. In its heyday, Appalachian Outdoor employed more than 45 employees. He operated Joyceton Water Works, which was a water utility that provided water to numerous residential customers and some industrial customers in the Joyceton area.

He was a member of NCWOA since 2000.



### **Jerry Mabry**

With heavy hearts, we announce the death of Jerry Finis Mabry (Harrellsville, North Carolina), born in Gates, North Carolina, who passed away on March 18, 2020 at the age of 69.

He was predeceased by : his parents, Eugene Mabry and Sally Fowler Mabry; his brothers, Eugene Pat

Mabry, David Mabry and John Paul Mabry; and his stepson Kevin W. Higgins.

He is survived by : his wife Rachel; his son Eric Scott Mabry (Shannon) of Ayden, NC; his granddaughter Sarah Elizabeth Mabry of Ayden, NC; and his siblings, Lloyd Mabry (Debbie) of DeFuniak, FL, Thomas Mabry (Diane) of Ashe, NC and Diane M. Ricks (Bill).

He was a member since 2007.



### **Warren Mintz**

Warren Frederick Mintz, age 79 of Leland, NC passed away on Monday the eighth of June 2020 in the New Hanover Regional Medical Center, Wilmington, NC.

Mr. Mintz was affectionately known by several names through his 79 years, whether you knew him as "Freddie", "Cedrick"

or "Hunter" it always referred to a true gentleman and friend who could be relied upon no matter what. He was most proud to be called "Shug", Daddy, Granddaddy and Papa. He loved so big and had such a playful character. His smile was contagious.

Freddie was born in Brunswick County on the tenth of May 1941 to the late Colon Mintz, Sr. and Gertrude Benton Mintz. In addition to his parents he was preceded in death by a sister, Myrtle M. Meares and a brother, Colon Mintz, Jr. Freddie worked for Ideal Cement for 15 years and retired after 27 years as the purchasing agent for the Brunswick County Public Utilities. He was a longtime member of the New Hope Presbyterian Church where he was an Elder and was over Church Building and Grounds. Freddie was blessed with good health and was proud of his good "genes". He was very active and youthful. Freddie was an avid gardener and was so proud of the crops he grew with his own two hands. Most days you could find him in his garden tending his crops and riding on his bright red Massey Ferguson tractor. Freddie was an avid fisherman and also had a love for deer hunting and the comradery of the hunters who gave him the CB handle "Hunter" as he was known on both the Still Branch and Town Creek Hunting Clubs. He was past president of the Brunswick County CB Club. Freddie was a family man and enjoyed taking cruises with his loving family and camping on site #30 at Willow Tree RV Resort. He was also passionate when talking politics and the Duke Blue Devils, "Go Duke"!

Surviving is his high school sweetheart, to whom he was married for 57 years, Cheryl Rabon Mintz; a daughter, Ronda M. Willetts and husband Michael of Town Creek; a granddaughter, Amanda Brown and husband Daniel; great grandchildren, Megan, Braeden, Brantley, Serenity; a grandson, Jereme Willetts and wife Taylor; a great granddaughter, Connor. He was also survived by a son, Warren Eric "Pole" Mintz and wife Crystal of Town Creek; a granddaughter, Ayla H Faircloth and husband Zach; a great granddaughter, Ayzleigh; a grandson, Hunter Mintz; two sisters, Audrey Mae Mintz and Margie Rogers both of Leland and a brother Ronnie Mintz of Leland.

He was a life member of NCWOA since 1987.

### **Dennis Smith**

Kinston – Dennis "Dink" Smith passed away at his home on Friday, August 13, 2021.

Dennis was born February 18, 1954, here in Lenoir County to Leroy and Ramona Waller Smith. Following graduation from high school, "Dink" worked and retired from DuPont with 33 years of service. Not one to sit still, he went to work in 2008 with Neuse Regional WASA and was currently employed there. From his young age, it was evident that he loved hunting and fishing. This was passed on to him from his "Gramps", and he, in return, has passed it on to his children and grandchildren.

He is preceded in death by his parents. He is survived by his wife of 46 years, Janet Vinson Smith; son, Brian Lee Smith, and wife, Brittany, of Kinston; daughter, Holly Michelle Smith, of Garner; "Gramps" to his 3 special grandchildren, Maddox Lee, Evan Pierce and Presley

Eve Smith; a special great nephew, Carter Drake Becton; sister, Debra Smith Becton, and husband, Darrel, of Kinston; brother, Rex K. Smith, and wife, Vicky, of New Bern; aunt, Brenda Waller Kelly, of Goldsboro; brother-in-law, C. Russell Vinson, and wife, Brenda, of LaGrange, and numerous nieces and nephews.

Dink was a loving husband, father and grandfather, and will be missed by all who knew him.

He was a member of NCWOA since 2008.



### *Terry Timmons*

Terry Walter Timmons, 69, passed away on Thursday, October 29, 2020 at Forsyth Medical Center. He was born on May 22, 1951 to Johnnie Sanford and Ruth Terry Timmons. Terry was truly one of a kind and lived his life devoted to his faith and helping others.

Left to cherish his memory are his loving wife, Donna Timmons; step-son, Derek Human; two step-daughters, Tina (Tobias) Gerber and Jayme Daulton; twelve grandchildren, Zachary Human, Nicholas Human, Joshua Human, Amber (Devlin Reed) Webster, Stephanie Webster, Katie Webster, Alissa Webster, Cole Gerber, Alex Daulton, Trey Gomez, and Tori Gomez; five great-grandchildren, Ariana, Nolan, Levi, Kaia, and Shelby-Jean; and a brother, Harold (Barbara) Timmons.

In addition to his parents, Terry was preceded in death by his sister, Joan Voss.

He was a life member of NCWOA since 1976.

### *William Trollinger*

Tony Trollinger, 61, went home to be with the Lord on Tuesday, January 12, 2021 at Alamance Regional Medical Center. He was born in Alamance County on July 18, 1959 to the late John William "J.W." Trollinger, Jr. and Mary Kathleen Phillips Trollinger who survives. He was the husband of 34 years to Linda Freeman Trollinger of the home.

Tony attended Crosslink Community Church. He was a dedicated employee for the City of Burlington, going several years with perfect attendance. He was a strong supporter of Eastern Alamance Athletics. He enjoyed the beach, playing golf, hunting and was an avid softball player. He enjoyed debating politics with Karen Trollinger. He loved his Aunt Donna's M&M cookies. He also loved Langston Cole Trollinger with all his heart.

Tony is survived by his wife, Linda; son, Caleb Trollinger and girlfriend Emily Greeson; mother, Mary Kathleen Trollinger; brother, Greg Trollinger (Karen); brother-in-law, Sammy Freeman (Arlene Ray); and his beloved grand-dog, "Shadow". He was preceded in death by his daughter, Jordan Cameron Trollinger; father, J.W. Trollinger and two of his late canine companions, "Jason" and "Brandon".

He was a member of NCWOA since 2010.

### *Charles Venters*

Charles Henry Venters, 69, began eternal rest from his labors on Monday, September 27, 2021. Charles was born in Pitt County to the late Spurgeon Carroll Venters and Dorothy Wilson Venters on October 28, 1951. In addition to his parents, Charles was preceded in death by his wife, Dawn Cauley Venters; and sister, Camille Heins.

Always taking interest and pride in his family, Charles looked for opportunities to interact with and care for them. He volunteered as a little league baseball coach for as long as his nephews were eligible to play. Saturdays were made for trips to Barnes Motor Parts and a stop at Edward's Pharmacy for a cheeseburger. Wanting to have it no other way, his daughter was right there in tow with him for these weekly excursions.

Hardworking and loyal, Charles hardly ever missed a day at his job with Dupont, and after retirement continued to work for Neuse Regional Water and Sewer Authority. He was equally dependable to his family and friends, maintaining many close relationships with the folks around Hussey's Crossroads. He had a humorous spirit and was known to always keep something stirred up. To get a chuckle from a friend was just part of Charles's daily routine.

There was no better place of peace and contentment for Charles than at his stables with the horses. Truly part of his family, the love and trust between the them was exceptional. If Charles couldn't be with his horses, he'd just as soon be golfing as anything else.

Charles had a sweet tooth that couldn't be satisfied. This started from an early age, where he'd often hide his mother's chocolate pie just so others would think it was all gone. Shortly thereafter, you'd often find him with a piece in his hand. Mountain Dew was his drink of choice, and nothing went better with a Mountain Dew than a bag of M & M's.

Having an eye for artistic beauty, Charles was very creative and used his talents well. He could draw anything, and his woodworking encompassed everything from furniture building to finish carpentry. As a hobby, Charles wrote beautiful poems that flowed naturally from his heart to his pen.

Charles is survived by his daughter, Melissa McLawhorn and husband, Jason; grandson, Cameron McLawhorn; siblings, Ronald Venters, Sr. and wife, Sue, Wilson Venters and wife, Katherine, and Bobby Venters and wife, Jody; brother-in-law, Richard Heins, Sr.; nieces and nephews, Ron Venters and wife, Julie, Amanda Abbott and husband, Robbie, Todd Venters and wife, Gwyn, Ashley Norville and husband, Bobby, Stephen Venters and wife, Katie, Richard Heins, II and wife, Jennifer, and Beverly Heins; along with many great-nieces, great-nephews, and countless friends.

He was a member of NCWOA since 2008.



# 2020 NC Area Wide Optimization Award Recipients

Given by the NC Division of Water Resources Public Water Supply section. These awards are part of the NC Area Wide Optimization Program, which is an effort to enhance the performance of existing surface water treatment facilities.

- Appalachian State University
- Asheville – Mills River
- Asheville – North Fork
- Asheville – William DeBruhl
- Blowing Rock – Thomas G. McRary
- Boone
- Brevard
- Broad River Water Authority
- Burlington – Ed Thomas
- Burnsville
- Cape Fear Public Utility Authority – Wilmington-Sweeney
- Carthage
- Cary/Apex
- Cherryville
- Concord – Coddle Creek
- Davie County – Sparks Rd
- Dobson
- Eden – Robert A. Harris
- Elkin
- Fayetteville PWC – Hoffer
- Fontana Dam
- Franklin
- Greenville Utilities Commission – Charles Horne
- Harnett County
- Harris Nuclear Plant
- Henderson-Kerr Lake Regional Water System
- Hendersonville
- High Point
- Johnston County – East
- Johnston County – West
- Kannapolis
- King
- Lenoir
- Lincoln County
- Lincolnton
- Madison
- Maggie Valley Sanitary District
- Marion
- Martin County
- Mayodan
- Mocksville
- Mooresville
- Morganton – Catawba
- Mount Airy – F.G. Doggett
- Mount Airy – S.L. Spencer
- Newton
- Norwood
- Orange Water and Sewer Authority
- Piedmont Triad Regional Water Authority – John F. Kime
- Pittsboro
- Raleigh – D.E. Benton
- Raleigh – E.M. Johnson
- Robbinsville – Rock Creek
- Rockingham
- Salisbury-Rowan
- Sanford
- Smithfield
- Southern Pines
- Statesville
- Thomasville
- Waynesville – Allens Creek
- Weaverville – Ivy River
- Western Carolina University
- Wilkesboro

**\*\*\*“Gold Star” Honor - systems that have received the NC AWOP Award for 10 consecutive years**

# 2021 Virtual School Students

## A-Surface

James J. Amaral	Chai Hue	John K. McConihay	Nathan A. Smith
Jesse S. Barnes	Jeffrey M. Huneycutt	Billie J. McNeely	Matthew T. Sumner
James C. Barringer	Dalton B. Johnson	Josiah L. McNeely	Christopher L. Taylor
Andrew Clark	Justin B. Jonas	John H. Mills	Tristan J. Walker
Greyson T. Cox	Colleen E. Jordan	Danny R. Monkus	Corey J. Walters
John R. Culberson	Jason C. Jordan	Billy R. Patrick	David A. White
Caleb T. Curlee	Brian J. Kalin	Kyle J. Pocquette	Marlen B. Whitney
Richard L. Driver	Martin E. Lance	James S. Poe	James D. Williamson
John C. Dunlap	Jared T. Lindsey	Joalex A. Rios	John C. Womble
Blake S. Foster	Paul P. Lothakoun	Michael V. Schwarz	
Daryl G. Harris	William Z. Lowe	Taylor V. Sigmon	

## B-Surface

Stormi S. Amendt	Jessy A. Dodson	Daniel P. Medlin	Pedro J. Ruiz
Samuel D. Baker	Taylor M. Easter	James D. Mejorado	Benjamin S. Rush
Ryan S. Baker	Adam N. Farmer	Randall W. Miller	Denzel J. Russell
Zachary D. Barnes	Nathan M. Fulbright	Christopher A. Nanney	James E. Thornton
Joseph T. Baskin	John B. Gordon	Wesley Neal	Chen Vang
Austin M. Blackmon	Daniel E. Gryder	Brooke S. Norton	Scotty A. Wallace
Cas C. Bowen	Dustin L. Harrison	James P. Nutt	Joseph L. Walters
Emily C. Brown	Anthony B. Hawkins	Garry Oliver	Ronald C. Ward
Briony J. Brundidge	Douglas L. Holland	Adam L. Plyler	Jared G. Warren
Oliver E. Burns	Chai Hue	Nathan E. Pounds	Carla B. Waycaster
Julian Carlisle	Thomas R. Hunt	Willie A. Pruitt	Nicholas C. Wolford
Mary L. Carpenter	Thomas C. Inscore	Christopher J. Read	
Morrison W. Corbitt	Jacob M. Lamm	Matthew Rogers	
Tiffany A. Crook	Isaiah S. Long	Jerrold C. Rosser	

## A-Well

Travis W. Brickman	Jeffrey T. Coward	Deitra D. Moore	Eric J. Smith
Jordan K. Brown	Andrew J. Martinez	Reginald L. Morgan	Xavier R. Turcotte
Lee T. Brown	Dixon L. Medlin	Joshua Piegols	

## B-Well

Christopher C. Abee	Catherine Hadidon	Mike Lewis	Seth Titley
Thomas W. Blaylock	Nichole Hernandez	Joel Martinez	Robert W. Wernock
Larry D. Bridges	Benjamin Kirby	Pom Hwi Park	
Dee Brooks	John Larch	Daniel Taylor	
Terry R. Foster	Emily Lester	Kenneth C. Thompson	



## e-Surface

James C. Alexander	Ryan T. Dula	Cheatham J. Lunsford	James P. Salaway
Jeremy E. Batten	Corey Edwards	Ian M. Manning	Nick C. Sharrer
Debbie O. Beasley	Brandon W. Fesperman	Brooke E. McGregor	Esther A. Shelton
Tammie M. Blankenship	John W. Greco	Joseph A. Milem	Kevin D. Shore
Stephen Bolden	Mark D. Guess	Keith Misenheimer	Donnie W. Smith
Gavin O. Bostian	Kyle T. Halford	Nathanael L. Moore	Brian R. Smith
Michael V. Braxton	Ahmad I. Hassan	Christian T. Murray	Jason C. Tedder
Korah L. Bumgarner	Neel Helton	Melvin G. Murray	Anthony S. Teets
Timothy W. Cain	Katelyn M. Hensley	Kelly R. Owens	Bryson J. Thaxton
Matt J. Canarelli	Ronaldo Hernandez	James D. Parker	Derek J. Tucker
Chase A. Carpenter	Jacy P. Hill	Charquille D. Parks	Zackery M. Watson
Alberto Ceballos	Danny Johnson	Ryan T. Parra	Kevin P. Wood
Hunter C. Cline	Samson A. Jones	Loryn O. Rader	Ross A. Wood
Tanner L. Davis	Anthony S. Kohler	Scott A. Randall	Clifford Wormington
Russell E. Diede	Christian R. Locklear	Nathan Rawls	Josh Yates
James M. Dodson	Justin D. Long	Christopher H. Rouse	

## e-Well

Allen Armentrout	Michael J. Garland	Daniel A. Klaers	Victoria M. Pulido
Walter J. Beckwith	Daniel Gatewood	Cody J. Lancaster	Nicholas Raynor
Timothy M. Bert	Ronald V. Gore	William A. Leach	Jonah L. Reese
Barbara D. Brantley	Scotty T. Gray	Reid D. Lehman	James T. Robinson
Daryl B. Brown	Joseph C. Gray	Greg J. Marana	Kim Scott
Elisha B. Burge	Calder B. Grayson	Timothy L. Mathis	Farzad Sefiddashti
Brandon D. Burleson	Amanda Grenier	Kevin R. McIntosh	Monica M. Simpson
Anthony Carollo	Michael J. Hall	David Melvin	Carlos E. Williams
Lee A. Coates	Terry L. Hamilton	William V. Nelson	Christian J. Wilson
Gary Corbell	Matthew R. Hanusik	John P. Nixon	
Ashley W. Courtney	Robert C. Herbert	Christopher H. Nobles	
Natalie Y. Curry	Christopher G. Hicks	Brooks T. Nobles	
Christopher Edwards	Jesse Horne	Dakota T. Norris	
Andrew C. Farrow	Mark A. Jones	David W. Phillips	
Christopher J. Gallo	Taylor Joyner	Max J. Pintze	



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## NCWOA 2021 - By The Numbers

82 years

2,551 Total Members

NE Section = 504, SE Section = 567, SP Section = 385, NP Section = 561,  
Western Section = 487

3,546 + hours of credit issued for sectional and virtual training

### Students at Virtual School

A-Well = 11, B-Well = 17, C Well = 54, A-Surface = 42, B-Surface = 53, C-Surface = 63,  
Advanced Day Session 1 (spring & fall)= 139  
Advanced Day Session 2 (spring & fall) = 141

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