

# FROM THE TRENCHES

**NUCA of Iowa Newsletter**

**June 2020**

## A Message From Your Chapter President

In keeping with full disclosure, our President Jay Gallery, asked me to write this month's Message from Your Chapter President...

advantage of Trench Safety Stand Down. I know that URTS had a full line-up of free online seminars.

Contractor Solutions was visiting job sites all over Iowa & Nebraska. Many thanks for all of the



As spring winds into summer, I hope everyone is staying busy and safe on their projects. I also want to remind everyone, to take some time off for your family, I realize that many of you have been home quarantined since mid-March, but for those of considered essential, the need for the family time off is real. Speaking of real, I hope many of you took

contractors who participated in TSSD. It was awesome to see the participation by so many contractors and the huge investment put out by Contractor Solutions and also from United Rentals. What a great representation of the state, its contractors. Once again without the support of our associate

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trenches

### 2020 Golf Outing

It is time to dust off your clubs, sharpen your spikes and practice your swings, the 2020 NUCA Iowa Golf Outing is happening !!

After being stuck at home with spouses and children, we all need a little golf time, but don't wait to sign up, the golf outing does sell out every year.

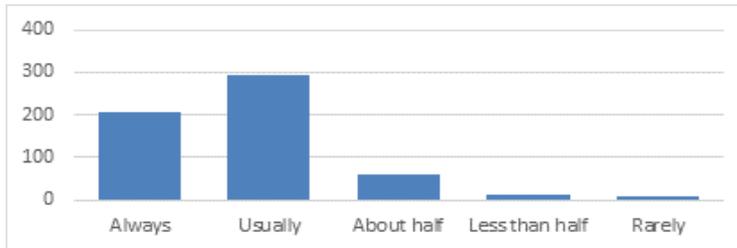
[Register Here](#)

**Have you purchased gun raffle tickets yet ??**

# Iowa One Call Survey Results

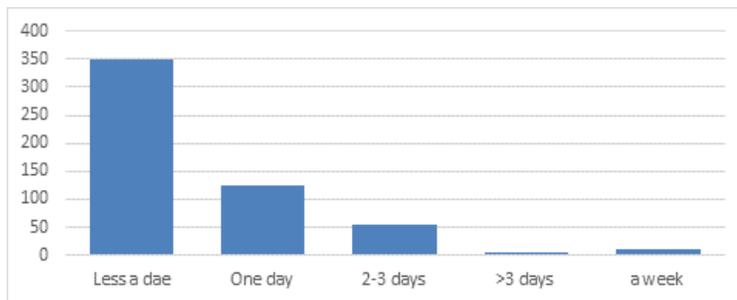
NUCA Iowa and Iowa One Call created a survey on locate requests, and it was sent out to over 4,000 people. We received close to 600 respondents. Here are the survey results.

**Q1: Locating timeliness:** Do you receive your locates within the required 48-hour timeline?



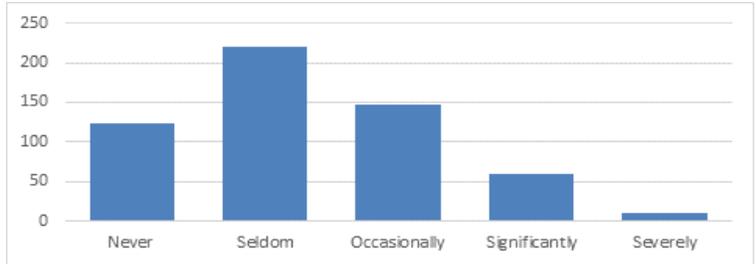
Always	205
Usually	293
Half the time	58
Less than half	12
Rarely	9

**Q2: Locating delays:** To what extent are you experiencing locating delays (how many days late)?



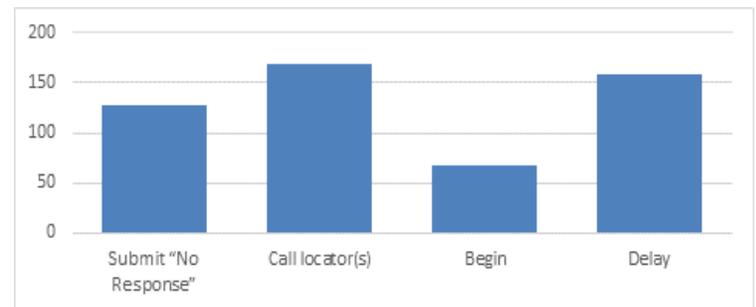
Less than a full day	349
One Day	125
2 to 3 days	54
More than 3 days	5
A week	11

**Q3. Impact:** To what extent do locating delays impact your productivity?



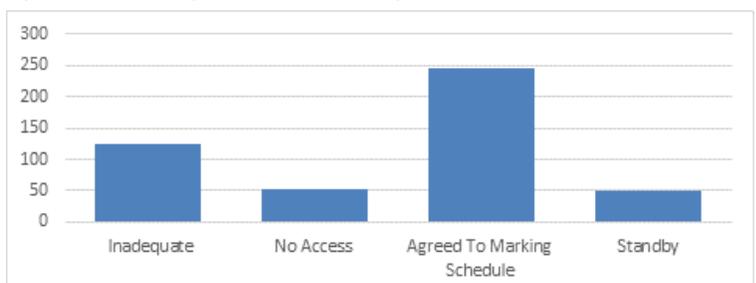
Never	123
Seldom	221
Occasionally	148
Significantly	59
Severely	11

**Q4.** If you experience locating delays (late locates) do you . . .



Submit a "No Response"	127
Call the locator(s) directly	168
Begin excavating	67
Delay your project	159

**Q5. Locating Status:** For locating delays, what status codes do you receive the most (provided by the locators)?



# Iowa One Call Survey Results, continued

Not Marked / Inadequate Information	124
Not Marked / No Access	53
Agreed To Marking Schedule	248
Standby Required / Not Marked	49

**6A:** When you receive the status code **Agreed To Marking Schedule**, are locators contacting you to coordinate arrangements?

Always	128
Usually	132
Occasionally	39
Seldom	28
Never	33

**6B:** When you receive the status code **Not Marked / Inadequate Info**, are locators contacting you to coordinate arrangements?

Always	17
Usually	27
Occasionally	40
Seldom	51
Never	30

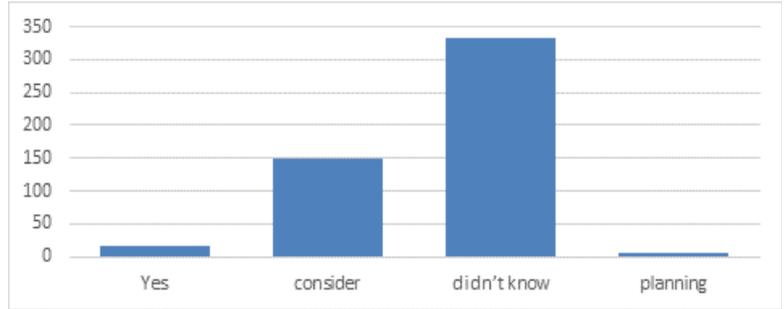
**6C:** When you receive the status code **Not marked / No Access**, are locators contacting you to coordinate arrangements?

Always	12
Usually	21
Occasionally	39
Seldom	35
Never	50

**6D:** When you receive the status code **Standby Required/Not Marked**, are locators contacting you to coordinate arrangements?

Always	47
Usually	68
Occasionally	32
Seldom	39
Never	51

**Q7.** Have you submitted a formal complaint to the Iowa Utilities Board or Attorney General's Office?



Yes	15
Will Consider It	150
Did Not Know I Could	333
Planning to do so	5

The results have been shared with CGI and Iowa One Call, and for those of you not interested in going through all the results, here is a little write-up.

So it is clear that locaters need to do a better job of communicating on requests regarding status and follow up (Q6 A, B,C & D).

More than half of the contractor do not know they can file a complaint with the Iowa AG (Q7).

It seems most locates are done on time (Q1), and if there is a delay it is usually not too bad (Q2). However, too many contractors are delaying projects when faced with a delayed locate (Q4)

# President's Message, continued

members, NUCA of Iowa would not be what it is today.

Our next big event is the annual golf outing being held at Amana Colonies Golf Course on Thursday, July 23, Work is continuing to prep for the golf outing. Get your registrations into Andy.

We have rescheduled the shooting tournament to October 8th, so mark your calendars and start getting your teams ready for when registration opens in August.

Last but not least, take the time to thank your employees for their continued dedication and hard work. Many of us have been in the field, but can also forget a times what it's like to work in the mud and the heat all day. Keep everyone safe, and push on. The leaves will fly sooner than we want.

Andy Fox filling in for... Jay Gallery

Jay Gallery

NUCA of Iowa President

# NUCA IOWA CALENDAR of EVENTS

**2020 Trench Safety  
Stand Down**  
June 15—19

**NUCA Golf Outing**  
Amana Colonies GC  
Thus, July 23, 2020

**Washington Summit**  
Washington DC  
Sept 21-23

**Competition Shoot**  
Big Springs Range  
Thurs, Oct 8, 2020

**Fall Iowa DOT East**  
TBD

**Fall Iowa DOT West**  
TBD

**Annual Banquet**  
Prairie Meadows  
Friday Feb 5, 2021

# FROM MY DESK.....

## Monthly message from your Executive Director



Greetings to All,

As we get into summer, I hope that all of you are making some time for family and friends. Speaking of making time, the NUCA Iowa Golf Outing is scheduled for July 23. We anticipate perfect weather and a great day for everyone who attends. Please don't wait on sending in your registration, the golf outing has sold out for the past three years.

On a personal note, thank you to everyone who emailed, texted or mailed condolences, your thoughts were very much appreciated.

The NUCA of Iowa 2020 Calendar of Events is on the previous page, Please make a point to enter these events into your calendars.

**Competition Shoot:** The date of the competition shoot has been moved to October 8. We did not want to conflict with the NUCA DC Summit. Make sure you save that new date.

**Member Events:** If your company is having an event that you would like us to help promote, please let me know. I can promote events in Facebook through our group page, on our web page or on LinkedIn.

**Facebook:** If you are not part of our group page, you are missing out. Our Facebook group is another way to stay in touch with other NUCA members. Please

promote our group page to your employees.

### **Annual Banquet 2021:**

The annual banquet is again being held at Prairie Meadows Hotel and Casino, and the date is set for Friday, February 5, 2021. The Banquet Committee is looking to expand into a two day event and include many seminars and learning events. If anyone has suggestions, please let us know.

**Steven Corell Scholarship:** The scholarship is open to the all employees of NUCA members and their dependents. What child could not use an extra \$1,000 for their college education? The 2021 application for the scholarship is available [here](#).

As always...those of you who find yourselves on RT169 between Winterset and De Soto, you are more than welcome to turn off on 130th Street and visit me. I am always free for some iced tea or a cold beer to share with visitors. If you bring a bathing suit, we can cool off in the pool. For the rest of you, NUCA Iowa office has a new landline number 515-776-9971. Please feel free to reach out to me and let me know your thoughts, suggestions, etc.

Regards,

Andy

# member SPOTLIGHT



Occupational Safety Consultants, or OSC as it is known was founded by Jerry Edmondson in 1995. From a single owner shop OSC has grown into a partnership which employs over 30 safety professionals. OSC started as a regional enterprise, limiting its territory by the distance needed to drive for sales and training calls. Jerry's background as director of safety and education at the Iowa – ABC chapter had shown him the need for professional safety services.

Today OSC provides a full array of safety services and consulting that specialize in keeping their clients on the right side of OSHA. Its menu of services can include simply updating manuals and documentation annually or being a hands-on partner in fostering a world-class safety program. The latter involves regular inspections of facilities, leading training at specific jobs on a site or at a workplace and providing the documentation for both the training and the compliance.

"We are business consultants helping our clients to manage their safety. That starts with an evaluation," Marc McClure, OSC General manager explains, noting that clients have varying degrees of expectation about the depth of the evaluation. "That starts with what the law requires. Which OSHA regulations pertain to their operation? We help to develop the written programs for them. Along with that we develop company specific training programs that our trainers use on site. It's not just general training. It has to be job-specific, site-specific training. In a nutshell that's what we do: Make sure they have the written programs and documentation. Understand their recordkeeping requirements; understand their new hire requirements; their procedures for vendors, visitors and guests. Most of all we like to meet the client, understand their problem, and help them solve it.

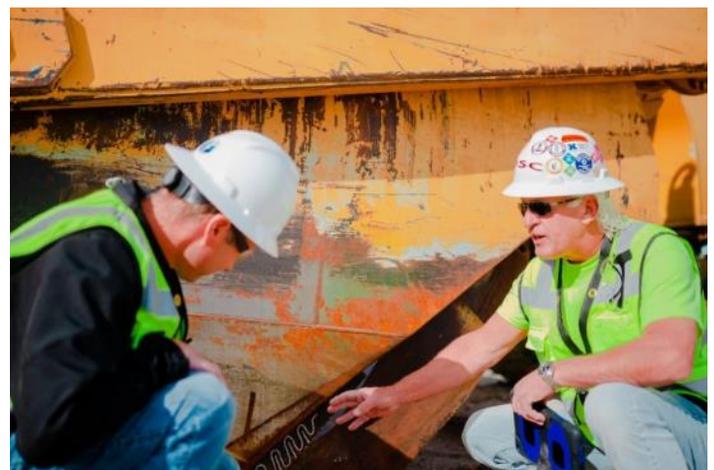
Over the years Jerry has been joined in partnership by Jack Linge and Tod Richardson. Each partner brings a specialty to the organization. Tod focuses on managing third party services and MSHA training/compliance. Jack, a retired attorney, assists in case and audit preparation. Today OSC provides service to clients nationally. OSC's business model is built on its extensive understanding of the voluminous OSHA regulations. Employing consultants who are continuously monitoring regulatory changes and court OSC offers a deep knowledge base to clients who are

on the continuum of safety between responding to a compliance violation at one end and maintaining a top safety program at the other end. OSC is still based in Des Moines and offers training, auditing, and site inspection services to a number of central Iowa based clients. In addition, OSC helps clients with third party services designed to relieve day to day management of safety. "We provide a number of clients safety

professionals who provide site safety services" explains McClure, "and now we are moving to providing a highly responsive, cost-effective alternative to traditional, project-based environmental health and safety (EHS) consulting. We partner with our clients to manage risk and regulatory compliance for about a third of the cost of an in-house EHS manager. We met the need of our customer first and

foremost.

Over the years, we've seen too many workers unnecessarily hurt and killed on the job. We've heard family members testify about the losses they suffered. We saw vulnerable people injured because they were not aware that there is a strong national law - the Occupational Safety and Health Act (OSHA) - in place to protect them. We dedicated OSC to improving workplace safety. Our company was formed to reach as



many employers as possible - to spread the word that workplace safety is a good thing, not just because it is required or that it increases long-term profits, but because it protects their most valuable assets - their workers.

# New NUCA Iowa Members

NUCA Iowa is pleased to report that the family is growing, we have added two new associate members, a new contractor and a new specialty contractor... Let's meet them.



Highway Signing, Inc. in Council Bluffs/Omaha areas has been committed to providing safe, quality service since 1987. Our experience includes a long-standing relationship with the Nebraska Department of Roads, Iowa Department of Transportation and Kansas Department of Transportation. We have also completed hundreds of projects for the municipal and private sectors. Today, HSI is one of the leading providers for traffic control and pavement markings.

Zach Mowinkel / [zach@highwaysigning.com](mailto:zach@highwaysigning.com) / (402) 670-0785



Great Western Bank (NYSE:GWB) is a regional financial services company focused on business and agribusiness banking. Headquartered in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, our banking model seeks to balance the best of being a "big enough & small enough" bank, providing capabilities typical of a much larger bank, with a customer-focused culture usually associated with smaller banks..

Adam Phillips / [adam.phillips@greatwesternbank.com](mailto:adam.phillips@greatwesternbank.com) / (515) 440-8440



Williams Contracting LLC from Manning, Iowa . Specializing in GPS grading, Site Development and Excavation , Utility work. Servicing West Central Iowa and Western Iowa. Celebrating our 10th year in business in 2021.

Rob Williams / [bigiron7694@yahoo.com](mailto:bigiron7694@yahoo.com) / (712) 830-7676



Eslinger Contracting based out of Runnels, IA is a full service concrete and structure specialty contractor. They specialize in projects for new sub divisions and rehab of city storm sewer.

Scott Eslinger / [Scott@eslingercontracting.com](mailto:Scott@eslingercontracting.com) / 515-202-3605

# Trench Safety DVD's Available to Borrow

As a reminder, NUCA Iowa has purchased the set of DVD's on the experiences of Eric Giguere. Eric was a victim of a trench collapse, and his experiences provide a stark reminder for trench workers on why we preach safety. These DVD's are available to borrow for NUCA Iowa members. They will be mailed to you, and requested that the DVD's be expressed mail back after use.

There are two DVD's, one focuses on the experiences of Eric and the other related to the experience of his co-workers as they struggled to free and cope with his recuperation. Each video runs about 35 minutes.

For more information call NUCA Iowa or [email](#).

## EXECUTIVE BOARD

Jay Gallery, President  
Dave Schmitt Construction

Jamie Crubaugh, Sec / Tres  
Vanderpool Construction

Brandon Christiansen, Vice President  
Forterra Pipe & Precast

Scott Ritchie, Past President  
McCarthy Improvement Co.

## Contact Us

Give us a call for more information about our services and events.

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