

NWWA Short Course

A Rousing Success

by Lesley J. Powell
NWWA Research Facility

Editor's Note: The successful December session of the first NWWA Short Course is described below. Meanwhile the NWWA has been gearing up for the second session of the Short Course to be offered in March. If you missed out on this first opportunity, you have a chance to join the second half of the NWWA Short Course which will be as varied and informative as the one recently concluded. The March session will cover four other aspects of Water Well technology: (1) Pump Installation and Maintenance, (2) Water Conditioning (3) Sanitary Aspects of Well Construction and (4) Business Economics. See details on the following page.

An air of anticipation pervaded the Coral Room at the Pick Fort Hayes Hotel in Columbus, Ohio, as the twenty students-to-be observed the bustle of preparation that signaled the beginning of the National Water Well Association Short Course on November 27. The students, equipped with notebooks, name tags, textbooks and writing utensils (and NWWA hard-hats for the field), were welcomed by Dr. J. H. Lehr and the Short Course was off to a good start.

The twenty men who attended the course had travelled from many parts of the country including Michigan, New Jersey, California, Montana, New Mexico, Louisiana, New Hampshire, Illinois and Kansas. There were even three international representatives from the Sudan. Besides the vast geographical representation, there was also a varied distribution of occupations, from well contractors and engineering representatives of the various Departments of Highways to the EPA, U.S. Geological Survey, and Department of the Interior representatives.

The Short Course, which was developed under the auspices of the NWWA Research Facility, was divided into a series of four topics. Within

each of these four areas, experts lectured in their own area of specialization.

Hydrogeology for Well Drillers was explored in the morning classes during the first week of the two-week session. This basic introduction to geology presented an overall view that was simplified enough so as not to be confusing and presented the basic principles as they relate to water well construction. Besides Dr. Jay Lehr, who officially opened the Short Course, Dr. D.L. Norling (Pentrol Industries, Columbus), Mr. M. D. Campbell (NWWA Director of Research), Mr. R. Minning (President, Keck Geophysical, Lansing, Michigan), Dr. W. Pettyjohn (Professor, Ohio State University), Mr. D. J. Smith (NWWA Research Associate) and Mr. T. W. Bennett (Pentron Industries) also gave lectures.

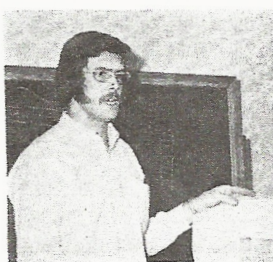
The second course, taught during the afternoon of the first week, concentrated on Well Construction, Development, and Maintenance. This course dealt with the basic methods of well construction including cable tool, rotary, reverse rotary, jetting, boring and augering. Mr. Tom Ahrens, retired from the Bureau of Reclamation, Denver, Colorado, was the principle



Field demonstration of well logging techniques.



Mr. Walter Stockert, NWWA President-elect gives one of his lectures on rotary drilling optimization.



Mr. Robert Minning of Keck Geophysical, explores the practical value of various borehole logging methods.

lecturer. He emphasized the development of wells for optimum water production and proper maintenance to insure continuity and longevity of the water supply.

With the start of the second week, there was a transfer from the classroom to the field for practical application of theories that had been studied during the first week.

Course three, Drilling Equipment; Operation and Maintenance, served as a period for explanation of the operation and maintenance of the fundamental tools and equipment utilized in the construction and development of a ground water supply. These morning classes led by Mr. Walter Stockert, (NWWA President-Elect), Mr. J. Brown (Cullum & Brown, Inc., Kansas City), and Mr. L. Galambos (Chicago Pneumatic, Inc., Evansville, Illinois), were supplemented by actual field experience in the afternoons.

Afternoon field trips concentrated on drill site selection, operational safety, machine set-up, and service. With the assistance of Mr. W. Stockert, Mr. B. McDannald (Plummer and McDannald, Columbus), Mr. J. Brown, and Mr. L. Galambos, students took turns handling a cable tool rig, an air rotary rig, and a Chicago Pneumatic combination rig as well as well logging equipment. Morning class lectures and field demonstrations were especially well co-ordinated during this second week of the Short Course.

In all, the men who attended the December Short Course went home with an expanded knowledge of the industry, as well as with ideas



Field demonstration of rotary rig set-up, drilling operations and safety considerations.

for practical application. Not only had they had an opportunity for making contacts with others in the field from various parts of the country, but they had learned a great deal about the problems and solutions that others had encountered. They gained practical experience in the field as well as being exposed to modern technological methods.

Photos by Douglas J. Lynch

A Second Chance

Because a number of prospective students were unable to attend a scheduled January session of NWWA's Short Course, it was cancelled and rescheduled for March 19 through 30. The course will again be held in Columbus.

This program is designed to provide qualified individuals to participate in the critical development and management of our nation's underground water resources. With surface water supplies being repeatedly depleted in quantity and quality, the use of our vast ground water reserves will double and perhaps triple during the coming decade. Trained specialists are needed in the fields of water well construction technology, well and pump maintenance and repair as well as municipal ground water systems operation.

The second course will cover four topic areas; Pump Theory and Maintenance, Water Conditioning Requirements and Systems, Sanitary Aspects of Water Well Technology, and Record Keeping and Business Economics. As in the first course, NWWA will bring specialists from all over the country to serve as instructors in each of the subjects. Each student attending the course is given many textbooks and handouts to carry home with him for future reference. An outline for each subject to be taught is listed on the next page.

Tuition for each of these two different two-week programs is \$200. Room and board must be handled separately by each student but arrangements can be made for students by NWWA Headquarters. A fifty dollar deposit by March 5 will reserve space at the short courses with payment in full required by March 15th.

If you would like to enroll yourself or one of your employees, write to Wayne McLaughlin at NWWA headquarters, 88 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215.

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