



# TRENCHLESS TIMES

**Volume 24 No. 4  
August 2009**

*Actively Advancing the  
Science and Practice of  
Trenchless Technology for the  
Benefit of the Public and  
Private Sectors, Industry  
and Government*

**An Affiliate of the  
International Society for  
Trenchless Technology**

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## **Do Your Part for NASTT**

By Chris Brahler, 2009 NASTT Chairman

Last weekend, I attended our very first planning meeting for NASTT's annual No-Dig Show, scheduled for May 2-7, 2010, in Chicago. Forty-plus members of the Program Committee reviewed a record-number of abstracts for consideration in the technical paper program. We have 140 papers in the lineup, packed with timely topics and relevant and useful information.

My personal thanks to the NASTT staff, the entire Program Committee and to 2010 Program Chair Mark Hallett for volunteering their time to review and choose such interesting topics and papers for the next year's No-Dig. Because of their tireless work and many hours, our papers will again be some of the very best ones in the industry at No-Dig 2010 in Chicago, where we will also be celebrating NASTT's 20th anniversary!

I am really pleased to see all of our volunteers hard at work. The future of our

industry involves each of us doing our part to educate people about the benefits and capabilities of the trenchless technology industry. How can you get involved with NASTT and the trenchless industry? There is no better example of volunteerism than involvement with your NASTT regional chapter at the local level.

The folks at the Western Chapter are planning its fifth annual Western Regional No-Dig Conference for Sept. 10-11, in Honolulu. During the two-day event, attendees can expect a quality educational program and exhibits, plus all the networking opportunities available to meet face-to-face with industry leaders. NASTT is sponsoring two of its good practices courses – pipe bursting and HDD – on Sept. 11. To get involved, contact Jennifer Glynn, Sam Ariaratnam or Kate Wallin, or visit the conference Web site at [www.nastt.org/west](http://www.nastt.org/west).

## **2009 Northwest Trenchless Project of the Year: Call for Applications**

The Northwest Chapter (NASTT-NW) is now accepting applications for the 2009 Northwest Trenchless Project of the Year. Projects submitted for consideration as project of the year must: be located within Alberta, Saskatchewan, or Manitoba; utilize at least one form of trenchless technology; and be in some form of activity in 2009 (i.e. commenced, in progress or completed this year). The application deadline is Aug. 31, 2009.

If you have an interesting project that meets these criteria and would like to submit an application for the project of the year award, please complete the online application available at [www.nastt-nw.com](http://www.nastt-nw.com). The successful applicant will be notified of the award in mid-September and will be required to provide a 20-minute slideshow presentation describing the project at the Northwest Trenchless Conference. The award will be officially presented at the conference on Nov. 25, 2009.

## **Ragula Honored with John B. McGowan Sr. Research Award**

George Ragula was selected by the American Gas Association (AGA) to receive the 2009 John B. McGowan Sr. Research Award in recognition of his valuable research to devise a gas safety valve retrofit in existing gas service lines without an excavation. Ragula was presented with this prestigious award at the 2009 AGA Operations



George Ragula

Conference and Biennial Exhibition, May 19-21, in Pittsburgh.

Ragula is the Vice Chairman of NASTT and serves on its Board of Directors. He is the Distribution Technology Manager for Public Service Electric & Gas Co.

## CHAIRMAN'S REPORT



By Chris Brahler



No-Dig Program Committee Members at the first planning meeting for the 2010 No-Dig Show.

The Northwest Chapter is presenting its 13th annual Northwest Trenchless Conference in Calgary, Canada, on Nov. 25. This conference includes technical presentations and a trade show with a pre-conference course on NASTT New Installation Methods Good Practices, Nov. 24. To participate, contact Duane Strayer or go to [www.nastt-nw.com](http://www.nastt-nw.com).

I have attended both of the Western and Northwestern Chapter events in past years, and I can attest to the high level of quality presentations and excellent networking opportunities available. I really encourage you all to participate! Whether it is speaking, sponsoring or exhibiting at NASTT events, you can demonstrate your commitment to the future of this growing industry. Do your part – volunteer for NASTT!

### NASTT to Celebrate 20-Year History at No-Dig 2010

Chicago has been chosen as the destination location for the 2010 No-Dig Show, May 2-7. 2010 is a very special year for NASTT, as it will be celebrating its 20th anniversary.

In 1990, five key people began to brainstorm on the possibility of establishing a new association just for trenchless technology. That organization became

known as NASTT and those five people became its founding members. Twenty years later, NASTT is a vibrant, growing organization of more than 1,200 members in the United States, Canada and Mexico.

It is very appropriate that we return to the birthplace where NASTT began — in Chicago — to celebrate this significant milestone. To showcase the 20-year history of NASTT, the society has planned a multi-media exhibit including interviews of past chairs, photographs and video, among other special events and awards. Send us your old NASTT, No-Dig and trenchless photos. E-mail with photo captions to: [aghoosh@nastt.org](mailto:aghoosh@nastt.org).



### Mark Your Calendars Upcoming NASTT Training, Conferences & Chapter Events

#### Aug. 11-12

Trenchless Technology, SSES & Buried Asset Management Seminar – Davenport, Iowa  
[www.mstt.org](http://www.mstt.org)

#### Sept. 10-11

Western Regional No-Dig Conference & Exhibition – Honolulu, Hawaii  
[www.nastt.org/west](http://www.nastt.org/west)

#### Sept. 11

HDD Good Practices Guidelines Course – Honolulu, Hawaii  
[www.nastt.org/west](http://www.nastt.org/west)

#### Nov. 24

NASTT New Installation Methods Good Practices – Calgary, Alberta  
[www.nastt-nw.com](http://www.nastt-nw.com)

#### Nov. 25

2009 NASTT Northwest Trenchless Conference – Calgary, Alberta  
[www.nastt-nw.com](http://www.nastt-nw.com)

#### May 2-7, 2010

NASTT's No-Dig Show – Chicago (Schaumburg), Illinois  
[www.nodigshow.com](http://www.nodigshow.com)