

Spring 2014

Southeastern Governmental Fleet Managers Association



Post Office Box 7824
Columbia, SC 29202

FLEET STREET NEWS



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Greetings and welcome to our springtime edition of the SGFMA newsletter,

On behalf of all our board members I would like to thank all our members and vendors that make up this great organization. It takes all of us participating together to have an elite fleet management association that is one of the best in the nation. Networking together is one of the most valuable tools we have to learn from each other. Our conference is full of training sessions, networking, and vendor show as well as some fun times also. This year's conference we will be focusing on Investing in Your Fleet Personnel.

I urge you to plan to attend our 22nd annual conference September 14th – 17th at Kingston Plantation in Myrtle Beach. Your time will be well spent with other fleet professionals in our field. Conference and hotel rates are very reasonable for the value of the training you will receive from this opportunity.

As our membership continues to grow I want to thank all our new members and vendors for becoming part of SGFMA. I assure you won't be disappointed when you see what our conference is all about. Our board members are working very hard to put together the schedule of events that will be beneficial for training to fulfill your job in better ways.

On a sad note, I want you to remember the family of Mitch Corbitt. Mitch passed away back on January 4, 2014. He has been a dedicated and longtime member of SGFMA. Most of you have seen him at our conference putting out signs directing everyone to our many events.

Please be sure to regularly check our website www.sgfma.org to keep up with the training events and all the latest news going on within our organization. Rick Smith has done an excellent job keeping our website up to date.

Again I want to thank each of you for support in SGFMA. Please contact me or any board member if you have questions or ideas to make this a better organization to fulfill your needs. Also thank you to all the board members for all the hard work you put into making SGFMA grow and succeed. I look forward to seeing you at Myrtle Beach.

Sincerely,

Doug Ingle
City of Hickory
dingle@hickorync.gov
828-323-7575

VISIT US ON THE



<http://sgfma.org/>

We're only a click away!

Training Seminar Purchasing Vehicles & Equipment

JUNE 4th, 2014

9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.



City of Rock Hill
Operations Center Training Room (132)
757 S. Anderson Rd., Rock Hill, SC 29730
LUNCH WILL BE PROVIDED



This is a continuation of our last three purchasing seminars. It will be a roundtable discussion of Vendors, and Governmental employees involved in the purchasing or specification writing of vehicles and equipment.

If you missed the others don't worry these are open dialog sessions for everyone.

Dealers, manufactures and up fitters are invited to provide additional insight.

The morning discussion will cover cars and light trucks.

The afternoon discussion will cover heavy trucks and equipment.



This is a free training class, don't miss this opportunity!

To register, please contact Debbie Henson at:

dhenson@cityofrockhill.com

DRIVING DIRECTIONS:

From Charleston: I-77 N, take exit, EXIT 77, bear right, stay in the right lane, you will pass Waffle House and Hobby Stop, bear right at fork. First light, take a right, first building on the left.

From Charlotte: I-77 S, to Exit 77, turn right at the light, stay in the right lane, you will pass Waffle House and Hobby Stop, bear right at fork. First light, take a right, first building on the left.

From Asheville: I-85 N toward Charlotte, to EXIT 102, toward Blacksburg/Rock Hill. Follow SC-5 S, you will come to Main St, stay straight until you reach Dave Lyle Blvd., turn left. You will pass the Civitas Statues, bear to the right at the first ramp, turn right, pass York Technical College and we are located on the left. At the entrance light, the first building on the left.

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

HICKORY, N.C., INTEGRATES NEW FLEET TECHNOLOGIES AND GOOD ATTITUDES



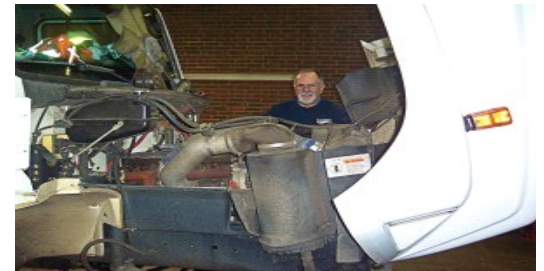
Hickory, N.C., was the first East Coast city to purchase a CNG street sweeper. On its CNG vehicles, the city completes what repairs it is able to and then must call in outside technicians to do the rest. (Photo provided)

New technologies and alternative fuels provide cost savings in certain scenarios, in addition to showing citizens their municipalities are environmentally minded. As fleets across the country integrate these technologies — whether they are natural gas, propane, biodiesel, or another alternative — they are facing challenges. Budgets often limit what managers can bring into the fleet. They are also in some instances undercutting municipalities' abilities to attract qualified technicians who can work on these cutting-edge technologies.

Hickory, N.C., with a population of approximately 40,093, is one city that has found a balance when it comes to integrating new technologies into the fleet.

"We've been in Compressed Natural gas since 2000," Fleet Manager Doug Ingle said. It has eight CNG pickup trucks and was the first East Coast city to purchase a natural gas street sweeper. The city also maintains a natural gas station, which it received grant money to install.

Beyond CNG technology, some of Hickory's fleet is running on B5 biodiesel. These alternatives have their benefits, according to Ingle, but they can provide challenges. He noted, "It's cheaper to run fuel itself but the drawback to CNG is when you have to replace parts. The parts are very expensive. Not a lot of people can work on them." Ingle added, "We have to call someone to work on them. We don't have a lot of the diagnostic. We do



"I think it will get better as more infrastructure comes into place," Ingle said, noting CNG is starting to take off in the garbage industry, which will drive down prices. But at the same time, it will create more demand for technicians.

The need for technicians knowledgeable on these new technologies is a common problem shared by many municipalities. Ingle is also the president of the Southeast Governmental Fleet Managers Association, and when Hickory has been able to the city has sent workers to training classes offered by Southeast Government Fleet Management Association and by APWA.



Hickory's garage has a low employee turnover rate Fleet Manager Doug Ingle said, noting once employees are hired in, they tend to stay. (Photo provided)

"Since 2008 — since things got tight — it's been hard to send people for a week," Ingle said, noting the city has needed everyone on board in the garage. Understanding these municipal needs, SGFMA and other organizations have begun to implement one-day courses rather than the week-long ones. Hickory takes advantage of such opportunities when they become available.

Beyond further training existing employees, finding qualified workers can be particularly challenging. "People are not going into this industry like they used to," he said. He noted small- to medium-sized cities tend to look for their employees more locally, making it hard to draw quality technicians. Tight budgets also play a major factor.

"You can't get experienced people for the amount of money municipalities can pay"

It is a trend when job hunting people look largely at the paycheck sizes, rather than the good benefits many municipalities often provide to their workers. Since 2008 Hickory has been in a holding pattern when it comes to hiring with all appointments being approved through the city council; however, the last three hired in have been exceptional, according to Ingle.

When seeking employees, Hickory looks for candidates with good attitudes and morals who are willing to work. (Photo provided)

"We look for good people willing to work and who have good morals and attitudes," Ingle said. If they have those, they can be trained to do what a city needs them to be trained to do. Occasionally, Hickory also looks at area colleges to see if there are good candidates.

"It's kind of worked for us," Ingle said. "We don't have a lot of turnover in the garage. One or two retire or one moves across the country. Other than that, they pretty much stay."

If you would like to see your Fleet Shop "In The Spotlight", tell us your story.!

Please e-mail me at mkostos@Charlestoncounty.org

Southeast Alternative Fuels Conference & Expo

October 22-24, 2014 | Raleigh Convention Center | Raleigh, NC

www.AltFuelsConference.org



Save the dates: October-22-24 for Southeast Alternative Fuels Conference and Expo at the Raleigh Convention Center. The three day event will provide an opportunity for fleet related personnel to learn, network and share their stories about clean transportation technologies and policies that can save fuel, save money and help the environment.

Presentations and breakout sessions will focus on alternative fuels and fleet efficiency options covering technical details, related programs as well as successful fleet implementation stories. With over two dozen breakout sessions and over 75 speakers the conference will be an exceptional education event!

Speakers wanted. share your story! Submit a speaker abstract to present your fleet's successes story at the conference! Visit <http://altfuelsconference.org/speakers.html> for more details.

Attendees will also gain hands-on experience with the nation's leading technology providers at the Exposition and Ride-and-Drive events. The Exposition Hall will be the focal point for networking and one on one educational opportunities between exhibitors and attendees. In addition to the Expo a Ride-and-Drive will be held on October 23rd, giving attendees the chance to drive and view a range of alternative fueled vehicles.

Mark your calendars, early bird registration opens in May! Don't miss out; all attendees will be entered to win a FREE two year lease for an all-electric Nissan LEAF.

The NC Solar Center/NC State University is hosting the Southeast Alternative Fuels Conference and Expo in partnership with U.S. Department of Energy Clean Cities coalitions in Georgia, Kentucky, North and South Carolina, Tennessee and Virginia.

Visit www.altfuelsconference.com or contact Andrea Bachrach (andrea_bachrach@gmail.com or 919-515-5693) with any question regarding the conference.



Keep an eye out for SGFMA Alternative Fuels Training Class coming soon !

Look to the SGFMA web site and Our Facebook Page for all future training Classes

<http://www.sgfma.org/>

<https://www.facebook.com/sgfmahome>

2014 Annual Meeting & Equipment Show



Catch the wave as we move back to the beach for the 22nd Annual Meeting and Equipment Show, September 14-17, 2014. This year's event will be held oceanfront at the Kingston Plantation Embassy Suites, Myrtle Beach, SC.

In today's challenging times, you need to stay informed and on top of your game. The SGFMA Annual Meeting & Equipment Show will provide you with information and connect you with the people and programs that will help you achieve your fleet objectives.

Our Program Committee Chair -Garland Veasey has been hard at work lining up speakers and workshops that will benefit all facets of fleet services from the technicians , supervisors, fleet managers to purchasing managers.

Contributors for this newsletter:

Doug Ingle	Mark Kostos
Karen Hyatt	Judy Lucas
Garland Veasey	Marty Burr

Meeting registration is now open online at www.sgfma.org. We have a block of rooms reserved at the Myrtle Beach, Kingston Plantation Embassy Suites with a special group rate of \$99.00 per night. Click here to register for the Embassy Suites or call (800) 876-0010. Use special promo code SEG. Breakfast is included along with managers reception each day. A resort/parking fee of \$8.99 per day will be added to your hotel bill at check out.

If you have any questions regarding the conference, please feel free to contact :

Marty Burr at
Marty.Burr@cityofrockhill.com or
 Karen Hyatt at
khyatt@sumtercountysc.org.

We look forward to seeing you in

Check out the web site
Register at
www.SGFMA.org



2014 Annual Meeting Program

SGFMA Annual Conference 2014

Problem Analysis, Decision-Making and Fleet Professionalism

“Catch the Wave of Opportunity, By Investing in Your Fleet Personnel”

SGFMA Members and Vendors, Happy Holidays from the Program Committee!!! We would like to remind you to mark your calendars for the Annual Conference, which will be held September 14-17, 2014 at Kingston Plantation in Myrtle Beach,

As you can see from the title, much of this year's conference will focus on the professional development side of fleet management. In addition to hosting our vendor show and presentations from the auto makers, this year we will have professional development speakers to cover topics such as: supervisory training, motivation, conflict resolution, workplace harassment and diversity.

We will also be offering a special roundtable discussion on certifications and what is beneficial or needed/required to keep your personnel qualified and facilities compliant. We will have representatives from ASE and others to discuss topics related to certification of technicians, lift/ jack inspection, tire certification and more.

Make your plans early to attend and keep checking the SGFMA website for the most up-to-date information!

Garland Veasey, Program Committee Chair.

Networking

The most important tool in our tool box that we have is the ability to network with others in our profession. From Fleet Management personnel to Vehicle and equipment Technicians our collective expansive knowledge in this industry is awesome. From the day to day problem solving that we deal with to the solutions of past dilemmas and the future of the unknown. We are a profession that wears many hats, The business manager, the risk management & safety manager, the asset manager, the vehicle and equipment maintenance manager, the fuel systems manager, fleet information manager, professional development manager and the list goes on and on... So many hats, so many issues, so many questions. What better way to find the answers to the questions and help solve the problems with issues you may have than through the help of others in our profession. Networking is the fastest and most inexpensive way to accomplish that. The answer to the question can be a phone call or e-mail away.. Through the Southeastern Governmental Fleet Managers Association (SGFMA) you can find a large network of Government Fleet Professionals just like you that deal with the same day to day issues and wear the same hats as you do, along with a vast collection of industry vendors willing to lend you a helping hand in solving your problems. Start up your Networking information tool box or just add to it, with a trip to the SGFMA Vehicle and Equipment Show in Myrtle Beach September 14th thru the 17th.

“Remember it's not always what you know, but who you know, and what they know!”

2014 SGFMA Nominating Committee Update

The Committee is currently seeking nominations for the upcoming elections. Elections will be held during the business meeting at our annual meeting and equipment show in September. Below is a listing of the positions we are seeking to fill:

- * Vice-President
- * Secretary
- * Treasurer
- * Region 1
- * Region 3
- * Region 5
- * Region 7
- * Director at Large 2
- * Director at Large 4
- * Director at Large 5

If you would like to make a nomination or volunteer to serve in any of these capacities, please contact Judy Lucas, SGFMA Nominating Committee Chairperson, @ (803) 896-8851 or @ jlucas@scfc.gov. Per the SGFMA Constitution, the listing of nominees will be provided to the membership at least 10 days prior to the annual meeting.

Written & Submitted By:
Judy Lucas,
SGFMA Nominating Committee Chairperson



Mark Your Calendar
SGFMAMeeting and Equipment Show, September 14-17, 2014.

Technicians, ASE Testing, go to My ASE
Registration Deadline - May 21, 2014- Testing Ends - May 31, 2014
Get Certified for your fleet

FREE - Purchasing Vehicles and Equipment Training Round Table
June 4th from 9 to 3 LUNCH WILL BE PROVIDED
Please register with Debbie Henson
dhenson@cityofrockhill.com
See page 2 for details

Keep Checking our web page for future FREE training opportunities

Free Training

Welcome New Members



Southeast Governmental Fleet Managers Association is rolling out the red carpet to welcome our newest members since the last newsletter. More and more organizations and vendors have come to appreciate the benefits of networking with other fleet professionals through the medium of this excellent organization. Please welcome our newest fleet members. If we miss someone, just let us know, and we will include you in a future newsletter.

ASC Construction Equipment

Eric Fatyol
Matt Marion
Christina Clark

Chrysler Group, LLC

Michelle Pugh
Brad Davis
Ken Castelloe

Whiting Systems

Casey Craft
Russ Whiting
Greg Jenkins

FORCE America

Mike Gavigan
Ryan Pobuda
Joe Ladowski

Myers Tire Supply

Larry Nester
Lee Bruenning
Jeff Kerns

SGFMA MEMBERSHIP DRIVE!

Your membership is what supports this great organization. We are planning a membership incentive program. Keep an eye open for details at the 2014 Annual Meeting & Equipment show.

We know that there are many other state, municipal and government fleet organizations in the Southeastern region that would benefit from this membership and SGFMA would like to get the word out. What better way to spread the word than through our membership network. Tell your fleet operation co-workers, tell your vehicle & equipment operators, tell your vendors that support you.

The larger SGFMA grows the more programs we can offer. Great technical training and professional development, powerful network connections, and an exchange of improved intergovernmental fleet professionalism. Help make your membership strong.....

Our members are the fuel that power our organization!



It is that time of year again for renewal of your SGFMA membership. Invoices were mailed out the first week of January 2014. If you didn't receive an invoice please let us know. If you would prefer your invoice to be emailed, contact Karen Hyatt at khyatt@sumtercountysc.org. Remember, dues may be paid by credit card online . [Click here for membership](#)

Southeast Governmental Fleet Managers Association 2014 Officers

	<u>OFFICERS</u>	<u>AGENCY</u>	<u>OFFICE PHONE</u>	<u>EMAIL</u>
President	Doug Ingle	City of Hickory	828.323.7575	dingle@hickorync.gov
Vice President	Garland Veasey	Clemson University	864.656.3477	gveasey@clemson.edu
Secretary	Judy Lucas	SC Forestry Commission	803.896.8851	jlucas@scfc.gov
Treasurer	Karen Hyatt	Sumter County	803.436.2242	khyatt@sumtercountysc.org

REGIONAL DIRECTORS

Region 1	Jimmy Lever	State Fleet Management Charleston County Fleet Operations	803.737.1502	jlever@gs.sc.gov
Region 2	Mark Kostos		843.202.7910	mkostos@charlestoncounty.org
Region 3	Johnny Reed	SC DHEC	803.898.3495	reedjim@dhec.sc.gov
Region 4	Charles Garren	City of West Columbia	803.739.4322	cgarren@westcolumbiasc.gov
Region 5	Trixie Harrington	Coastal Carolina	843.349.2172	pharring@coastal.edu
Region 6	Jerry Glass	City of N. Charleston	843.740.5898	jglass@northcharleston.org
Region 7	Juan Vega	Town of Cary	919.469.4098	juan.vega@townofcary.org

DIRECTORS AT LARGE

Jimmy Hunsinger	Renewable Water Resources	864.299.4050 ext. 342	jimmyh@re-wa.org
Ron Nickles	City of Thomson	706.595.3751	rnickels@thomson-mcduffie.net
Jimmy Brown	Greenwood County	864.942.8598	jbrown@greenwoodsc.gov
Sheila James	SC Dept. of Transportation	843.746.6740	jamessd@scdot.org
Rick Smith	Charlotte Mecklenburg Police Department	704.336.5691	rsmith1@cmpd.org

REGIONS INCLUDE:

Region 1: Calhoun, Clarendon, Fairfield, Kershaw, Lancaster, Lee, Lexington, Newberry, Richland, Sumter

Region 2: Bamberg, Beaufort, Berkeley, Charleston, Colleton, Dorchester, Hampton, Jasper, Orangeburg

Region 3: Abbeville, Aiken, Allendale, Barnwell, Edgefield, Greenwood, Laurens, McCormick, Saluda

Region 4: Anderson, Cherokee, Chester, Greenville, Oconee, Pickens, Spartanburg, Union, York

Region 5: Chesterfield, Darlington, Dillon, Florence, Georgetown, Horry, Marion, Marlboro, Williamsburg

Region 6: All counties in the states of Georgia and Florida

Region 7: All counties in the states of North Carolina, Virginia and Tennessee

SGFMA

Mission Statement

Our Mission Statement is:

- *To foster and promote the advancement of the fleet profession through membership, association, and assistance to fellow fleet managers.*
- *To provide an open forum for the exchange of ideas, experience, and information related to the fleet management profession.*
- *To develop and promote improved standards and methods for the good management of fleet operations and assets.*
- *To seek the improvement of laws and regulations pertaining to fleet administration.*
- *Provide the exchange of information on procurement, maintenance, operation, and disposition of fleet equipment.*
- *Promote the professional, social, and personal interaction between members of the fleet management profession.*
- *To promote improved intergovernmental profession.*

All our board members are actively working to achieve each of these goals to promote our profession as a top quality Fleet Manager Association. We are also working hard to keep our association dues, training, and conference expenses to the lowest possible cost to make it affordable for your education, training, and conference expenses to the lowest possible cost to make it affordable for your education and training needs.

Doug Ingle
President, SGFMA

2014 Committee Chairs

<u>COMMITTEE</u>	<u>CHAIR</u>	<u>EMAIL</u>
Executive Committee:	Doug Ingle	dingle@ci.hickory.nc.us
Program Committee:	Garland Veasey	gveasey@clemsun.edu
Membership Committee:	Sheila James	jamesd@scdot.org
Professional Development Committee:	Jimmy Brown	jimmyb@co.greenwood.sc.us
Information & Publicity Committee:	Mark Kostos	mkostos@charlestoncounty.org
Awards Committee:	Charles Garren	cgarren@westcolumbiasc.gov
Vendors Relation Committee:	Marty Burr	mburr@cityofrockhill.com
Nominating Committee:	Judy Lucas	jlucas@forestry.state.sc.us
Annual Conference Committee:	Karen Hyatt	khvatt@sumtercountysc.org
Audit Committee:	Jerry Glass	jglass@northcharleston.org
Website	Rick Smith	rsmith1@cmpd.org