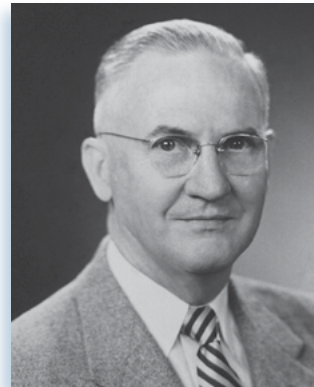


## Volunteering for Water

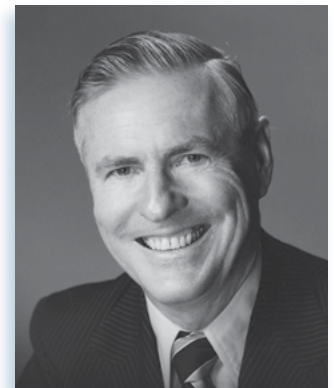
The waterworks industry is built on a strong foundation of volunteers past and present. Thousands of individuals have given their time and energy to various waterworks organizations because they believe in the universal necessity of water and the need to unite and equip water works professionals. One volunteer, George Warren Fuller, is remembered annually by the American Water Works Association (AWWA) through an award given in his honor. Mr. Fuller was born in Massachusetts on December 21, 1868, into a family devoted to civil servanthood. At MIT, George found his calling in the new science of public health. During his career, he consulted with over 150 cities and water providers on implementing their water and sewer systems.

However impressive Mr. Fuller's career was, it was his volunteer dedication to the water and sewer industry for which he is honored. At the 1920 AWWA convention in Montreal, he helped establish a committee dedicated to standardizing waterworks practices. Mr. Fuller's belief in the importance of a governing body for waterworks continues to inspire volunteers today.

Ford Meter Box is proud to partner with AWWA and other organizations to honor those who volunteer their time to such an important industry. Former Ford Meter Box employees who have been honored as Fuller Awardees include John L. Ford Sr. - 1950, John L. Ford Jr. - 1971, Ollie S. Goodlander - 1974, Gene Barker - 2003, and most recently, Charlie Chapman - 2019. Countless other individuals dedicate their time without recognition, but find satisfaction in helping the industry George Warren Fuller found so important. If you are not a member of a water works organization or would like to increase your participation, don't wait. You can have a positive impact on the future of the world's most important resource!



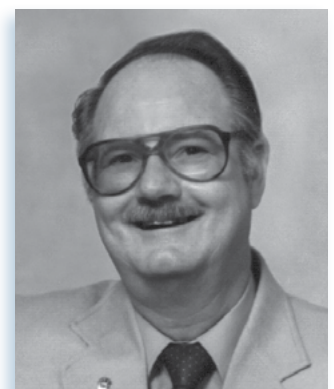
*John L. Ford, Sr.*  
1950



*John L. Ford, Jr.*  
1971



*Ollie S. Goodlander*  
1974



*Gene Barker*  
2003



*Charlie Chapman*  
2019





**Blue Ridge Mountain Lake**  
Acrylic on canvas by Margaret Gugel

## APRIL 2019

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT																																																																																				
	April Fool's Day 1	2	3	4	●	6																																																																																				
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Palm Sunday 14	15	16	17	18	○ Good Friday Passover	20																																																																																				
Easter Sunday 21	Easter Monday (Canada) 22	23	24	Anzac Day (Australia & New Zealand) 25	☾ 26	27																																																																																				
National Day of Mourning (Canada) 28	29	30		● New Moon ☾ First Quarter ○ Full Moon ☾ Last Quarter	<div> <div>MARCH 2019</div> <table> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td></tr> <tr><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td></tr> <tr><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td></tr> <tr><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td></tr> <tr><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td></tr> </table> </div> <div> <div>MAY 2019</div> <table> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td></tr> <tr><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td></tr> <tr><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td></tr> <tr><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td></tr> <tr><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td></tr> </table> </div>		S	M	T	W	T	F	S						1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	S	M	T	W	T	F	S					1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
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### THE FORD METER BOX COMPANY, INC.

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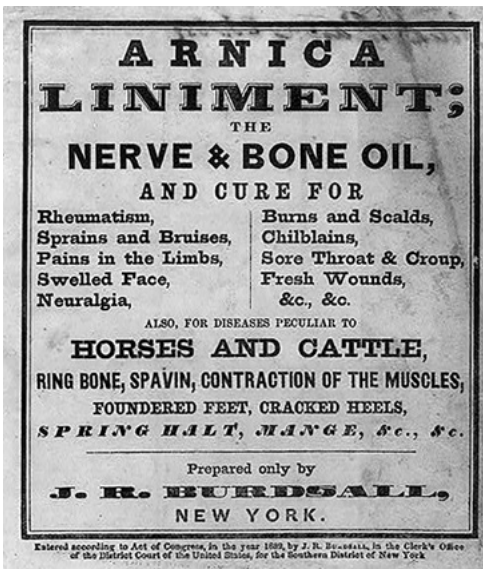




# Quackery's Golden Age

The Golden Age of Quackery existed throughout the nineteenth century and the first decade of the twentieth century when medical fraud was widespread in America. It was a time when phony medicines flourished and charlatans foisted off unproven and sometimes dangerous medical techniques on a gullible public.

Drug stores sold hundreds of patent medications, and shysters travelled the countryside in gaily colored horse-drawn wagons, selling syrups, powders and pills touted as panaceas. These medicine shows, with their fast-talking “doctors” and “professors” became a part of Americana.



Men, and a few women, with little or no training, passed themselves off as physicians and travelled from town to town, advertising that they could cure even the most baffling of illnesses. They announced their coming in advance with ads in local newspapers, and they usually set up shop in a downtown hotel room. Most didn't stay long, because there was always the possibility their patients would quickly see through the smoke and mirrors of illegitimate practices.

The great popularity of patent medicines came in part because of the rapidly expanding number of newspapers in America. Nearly all of the papers carried sensational advertisements for dozens upon dozens of concoctions which promised cures for nearly every ailment known to man.

For example, Munyon's Nerve Cure promised to heal all forms of nervousness and to “relieve all symptoms of nervous exhaustion, peevishness, failure of memory and noises in the ears.” Professor Munyon, who concocted

the medicine, promised in the ad to answer any letter addressed to him in Philadelphia and to provide free medical advice. He didn't.

Another ad touted the effectiveness of Park's Hair Balsam, which was said to restore color to the hair, cure any scalp disease and stop hair from falling out.

An advertisement for Simmon's Liver Regulator asked, “How's Your Liver?” The ad stated that the product “has been the means of restoring more people to health and happiness by giving them a healthy liver than any agency known on earth.”

A drug store in a small town in Indiana advertised a concoction known as Honey of Figs that was “the Queen of all tonics, syrups and pills.” The ad claimed that Honey of Figs cured consumption, colds, fevers and something described as “nervous aches.”

Now and then an advertisement for a patent medicine appeared in the middle of a news column, placed there to trap readers who might not pay attention to display ads. Such was the case of an ad for something called “King of the Headache.” The advertisement, loosely disguised as a news story, said, “King of the Headache is a recent discovery that has no bad effects. It never fails to cure sick, bilious or nervous headaches or headaches arising from worry or loss of sleep. It works in from five to thirty minutes.”

Quackery rolled on unabated for decades, but finally Samuel Hopkins Adams, a muckraking journalist, exposed the patent medicine business as fraud.

Adams said in his book, *The Great American Fraud*, “Americans will spend this year [1906]... millions of dollars in the purchase of patent medicines. In consideration of this sum it will swallow huge quantities of alcohol, an appalling amount of opiates and narcotics, a wide assortment of varied drugs ranging from powerful and dangerous heart depressants to insidious liver stimulants; and, in excess of all other ingredients, undiluted fraud.”

Adams's writings caught the eyes of federal legislators and President Theodore Roosevelt, and his exposés helped bring about the creation of the Food and Drug Act of 1906.

Soon after that, the Golden Age of Quackery was at an end.

by Pete Jones

Image courtesy of Library of Congress, Digital ID: [cph 3a51281 //hdl.loc.gov/loc.pnp/cph.3a51281](https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.pnp/cph.3a51281)

Please send questions or comments to Pete Jones at [peteinwabash@comcast.net](mailto:peteinwabash@comcast.net).