



Wisconsin Healthcare Engineering Association

Newsletter

March 2023

Volume 33

1st Quarter

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Rick Helfrich
WHEA President

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Well, another quarter is gone, and spring is coming on us fast. There are a lot of things changing in our world, new items that we need to adapt to. The good part of that is we do this kind of thing every day within our facilities. Just as long as we know what we need to do, we can overcome. That is where the Code Committee comes into play. They keep us apprised of any changes that come along. Talk to your representative on the Codes & Standards Committee for updates. The

big one is ending of the COVID-19 emergencies on May 11th. This will be a change for some, and not much of a change for others.

I am also excited by all our education offerings this year. From the HCC to the Lunch and Learns. We strive to have quality education for all our WHEA members to take advantage of.

We will be having our annual conference this year in Green Bay, I cannot wait to see everyone there. Of course, the Education & Professional Development Committee is planning on more great education opportunities. Don't forget to thank everyone who works to get all our education set up throughout the year. This is done by a lot of volunteers who spend numerous hours putting these together. I would like to thank everyone who helps with everything. If anyone is interested in being a part of any of the committees, just let your Chapter President know, or look on the WHEA website, under the committee you want to be a part of where you can find the contact information of the chairs of those committees.

And don't forget to look out for your friends and other WHEA members, maybe someone needs a helping hand. You can be that someone. WHEA is a great organization, only because of the support we all receive.



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All scheduled events are subject to change. Be sure to check with your Chapter, Committee or the WHEA website for a possible schedule change.

W H E A C A L E N D A R

MAR 31, FRI / FINAL DAY for Tech Exhibit Registration Early Bird Registration

APR 6, THU / 11:30am - Chapter II Meeting, Mortenson|Cullen
@ UW Health Eastpark Medical Center

APR 7, FRI / 9am - 12pm - Conference Committee Meeting, Conference Call

APR 12, WED / Chapter VI Meeting

APR 13, THU / 4:30pm - 7pm / Chapter I Meeting, HGA, Milwaukee

APR 13, THU / 11:30am - 1pm / Lunch & Learn Series Webinar

APR 20, THU / Chapter V Meeting & Annual MECH Training
Mayo Clinic Health, Eau Claire

APR 28, FRI / Directory Mailing Deadline

MAY 2, TUE / Chapter VI Meeting

MAY 5, FRI / 9am - 12pm - Education & Professional Development Committee Meeting/
Glacier Canyon Conference Center

MAY 11, THU / 11:30am - 1pm / Lunch & Learn Series Webinar

MAY 11, THU / 4:30 - 7:15pm - Chapter I Meeting, Plunkett Raysich Architects, LL

MAY 11, THU / 4:30 - 8:00 pm - Chapter II Annual Banquet, Green Acres

MAY 15, MON / Chapter I Annual Clay Shoot, Waukesha Gun Club

MAY 18, THU / Chapter III Meeting

JUN 2, FRI / 9am - 12pm - Board Meeting, Glacier Canyon Conference Center

JUN 2, FRI / 1 - 4pm - Member Services Meeting, Glacier Canyon Conference Center

JUN 6, TUE / 12:30 - 5pm - Codes & Standards Committee Meeting,
Glacier Canyon Conference Center

JUN 8, THU / Chapter I Annual Banquet, Muskego Lakes Country Club

JUN 8, THU / 11:30am - 1pm - Lunch & Learn Series Webinar

JUN 8, THU / 10am - Chapter II Clay Shoot, Milford Hills

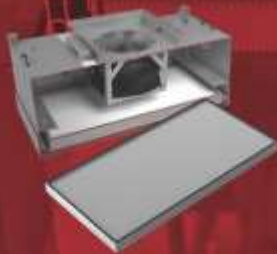
JUN 15, THU / Chapter V Meeting & Annual Golf Outing,
Princeton Valley Golf Course, Eau Claire

JUN 19, MON / Chapter VI Golf Outing

JUN 30, FRI / Newsletter Mailing Deadline

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Code Critical



Jeff Eckstein
Co-Chair



David Soens
Co-Chair

HHS Announces the end of Public Health Emergency for COVID-19 and 1135 Waivers

We learned on February 27, 2023, after 3 long and challenging years for the healthcare industry, HHS (United States Department of Health and Human Services) announced the Public Health Emergency for COVID-19 will end on May 11, 2023. Here's a link to that notice:

<https://www.cms.gov/newsroom/fact-sheets/cms-waivers-flexibilities-and-transition-forward-covid-19-public-health-emergency>

What does this mean for healthcare facilities? Facilities need to plan and then execute how they will convert permanently (DHS plan review) or close their Interim Provisions to meet Physical Environment (WI Commercial Building Code, Life Safety Code, and DHS 124 / DHS 132, etc.). Only exception is the Hospital at Home Program which will be extended to December 31, 2024.

(continued on page 6)



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Code Critical (continued)

See the info from Wisconsin DHS notice below titled "Attn: All DQA Regulated Health and Residential Care Facilities" which outlines specific memorandums that afforded physical environment flexibility will end effective May 11, 2023. Additional resources and links are also outlined.

Attn: All DQA Regulated Health and Residential Care Facilities

HHS Announced the Public Health Emergency for COVID-19 Ends May 11, 2023

On February 9, the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) announced the Public Health Emergency (PHE) for COVID-19 will end on May, 11, 2023. COVID-19 remains a significant priority for the Biden-Harris Administration and over the next several months, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) will work to ensure a smooth transition. During the PHE, CMS has used a combination of emergency authority waivers, regulations, enforcement discretion, and sub-regulatory guidance to ensure easier access to care during the PHE for health care providers and their beneficiaries.

Some of the flexibilities that were created during the pandemic were recently expanded by the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023. Others, while critical during our initial responses to COVID-19, are no longer needed. CMS has made further updates to our CMS Emergencies Page with useful information for providers – specifically around major telehealth and individual waivers – that were initiated during the Public Health Emergency (PHE).

Please reference the following guidance in response to the PHE ending May 11, 2023:

- Provider-specific fact sheets about COVID-19 Public Health Emergency (PHE) waivers and flexibilities
- Department of Health & Human Services Fact Sheet

In the coming weeks, CMS will be hosting stakeholder calls and office hours to provide additional information. Please continue to visit the CMS Emergencies Page for continuous updates regarding PHE sunseting guidance as information becomes available to the public. *(continued on page 7)*



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*Code Critical (continued)***Division of Quality Assurance (DQA) Information**

The following DQA Memos creating flexibilities during the Public Health Emergency for COVID-19 will be obsoleted effective May 11, 2023.

20-001 State Licensure Application for Temporary Expansion Locations during Public Health Emergency related to COVID-19

20-002 CMS 1135 Waiver Provisions – Wisconsin Hospitals

20-005 Guidance for Ambulatory Surgical Centers Temporarily Enrolling as a Hospital During the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency

20-008 State Licensure Application for Temporary Nursing Facility Expansion Units and Transfer Options during the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency

CDC Guidance for COVID-19

Facilities are encouraged to continue to follow CDC COVID-19 guidance. Recommendations for providers can be found on the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website.

(continued on page 8)



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Code Critical (continued)

Questions

For questions regarding hospitals and Ambulatory Surgical Center, please contact Ann Hansen

For questions regarding nursing homes, please contact Ann Angell.

For questions regarding assisted living facilities, please contact Daniel Perron.

For questions regarding Physical Environment or Life Safety Code, please contact Fokruddin Khondaker.



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Chapter V Update



Kris Hahn
Chapter V President

We held our February meeting on February 16, 2023 at Marshfield Medical Center in Eau Claire. We had a great turnout of (31) attendees and enjoyed networking. Education for the meeting was an update on Focus on Energy for 2023. Following the meeting Marshfield Clinic provided a tour of the newer Hospital they built in Eau Claire. Meeting topics included a conversation on the new annual sponsor program to eliminate individual meeting dues, discussed adding a Chapter V member to the sustainability committee, voted in 1 new associate member, discussed 2023 meeting dates and times, and discussed education topics for upcoming 2023 meetings.

Our next meeting is scheduled for April 20, 2023 at Mayo Clinic Health System in Eau Claire and it will be our annual mech training meeting. We will have a short business meeting followed by a slate of mech training sessions including drywall and painting repairs, what to look for in daily rounds for Joint Commission reviews, and pressure relationships for various rooms and areas in hospitals.

Chapter V Officers for 2023

- President – Kris Hahn
- Vice President – Matt Preston
- Treasurer - Kelly Roshell
- Secretary – Ben Trachsel
- Officer at Large – Morgan Weiss
- Past President – Matt Malmin

2023 Annual Meeting / Event Sponsors

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Chapter V February 16th meeting had a great turnout with 31 attendees.

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Education and Professional Development Committee (EPDC)



Darrell Courtney
Committee Co-Chair



Terry Phillips
Committee Co-Chair

2023 Working For Our Members

Once again, in 2023, WHEA is committed to supplying excellent learning opportunities at a reasonable fee for our members. The first 2 Healthcare Construction Certificate (HCC) programs of the year have been a great success. Learn the necessary safety and infection control requirements to perform work in healthcare. This is a one day seminar that provides a certificate and a virtual reference binder. This is a must for any contractors, facility managers, and facility staff. The Advanced course will be held this year in November for our learners that are looking for more.

Our Lunch and Learn programs are back for the 10th year. They offer education on code, operation, energy, and safety issues related to the healthcare industry. Even though the first 3 webinars have already aired, you can still register and have the previous subject available to you through recordings. The programs are all recorded so that you can view at your leisure or as assigned to staff. This is a great opportunity to put on the program, have a meal, and then a discussion after the program.

We are once again putting together a Spring Conference scheduled for May 17th. While we are working to finalize the program, we have a couple topics in mind. The intent will be to provide a virtual conference.

(continued on page 11)

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Education News (continued)

Allowing you to attend from your office or workspace. Watch for your invitation and register early. The WHEA Code Committee and the EPDC are working to provide a wonderful program.

We look forward continuing to provide great educational opportunities, with the help of the Resource and Code Committees, in 2023.

You or your organization can still sign up for the 2023 Lunch and Learn webinar programs. As a subscriber, you will receive the recorded links to all the webinars; past ones to review or watch for the first time. These may be watched at any time that you wish. Go to the Education tab at the www.whea.com site, sign up, and start your learning today. You will receive the login information for the next scheduled webinar and the links to all previous recordings. You never have to miss a program again. The cost for the annual webinar series will again be \$300 for WHEA members and \$500 for non WHEA members. Join now: www.whea.com.

2023 WEBINAR TENTATIVE TOPICS	
January 12 Room Pressure Relationships in Healthcare Facilities	July 13 Fire & Smoke Damper (Code/Inspection/Documentation)
February 9 Humidification in Healthcare	August 10 Water Treatment
March 9 Joint Commission Updates	September 14 Fire Stopping
April 13 Security in Healthcare	October 12 Leadership Training
May 11 Fire Door Codes & Inspections	November 9 Emergency Management
June 8 Medical Gas	December 14 Life Safety



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Robert H. Botts Healthcare Engineering Pioneer Award Nominees Needed Nomination Deadline June 30, 2023

by Roger Elliott, Member Services Co-Chair

The WHEA Robert H. Botts Healthcare Engineering Pioneer Award is presented annually by the state board in order to provide additional recognition to WHEA members who demonstrate significant levels of achievement in, or make significant contributions to the various disciplines within the field of health care facilities management. This award is presented to a candidate who has been nominated by one or more of his/her peers, evaluated by the elected state board members by comparing all nominations received against a criteria-based scoring grid, and subsequently determining a recipient by a simple majority vote.

WHEA members who wish to nominate someone for this award should submit nomination papers prior to June 30th, 2023 so the board can evaluate all the nominations at the August board meeting and be

able to present the award at the 2023 Annual Banquet & Awards Program in Green Bay.

A more detailed description of the award concept, its purpose, the qualifications of candidates and an outline of the nomination and selection process is included in the following 2 pages of this newsletter. Please consider placing the name of one of your peers in nomination for the Pioneer Award. There is no shortage of very worthy candidates within our ranks. Please address any questions about the award, the nomination process, or any other concerns you may have to:

WHEA Members Services Committee co-chair:
Roger Elliott, 715.563.2069, rwelae@charter.net
or WHEA President, Rick Helfrich,
richard.helfrich@ssmhealth.com, 920.926.5604

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Robert H. Botts HEALTHCARE ENGINEERING PIONEER AWARD

The intent of this award is to annually recognize a member of WHEA who has made significant contributions through personal or professional initiatives to improve and promote health care facilities management or the health care industry, in keeping with the mission statement of the organization: "The Wisconsin healthcare Engineering Association serves the community by providing a safe and comfortable environment for health care through the application and practice of health care engineering developed through education, professional growth, and advocacy in codes and standards."

The AWARD:

Will be presented annually and consists of an engraved plaque displaying the WHEA logo, the recipients name and chapter, and the year awarded. Additionally, a letter recognizing the award with a brief synopsis of details of the recipient's accomplishments will be presented to both the recipient and his/her CEO/President.

Qualifications:

In order to be nominated for the WHEA Healthcare Engineering Pioneer award, the candidate must meet the following criteria:

- Must be a current member of the WHEA
- Must have held continuous membership for a minimum of three (3) years
- Must not be a current elected state board member or an elected board member during the previous calendar year.

Achievements & Contributions:

In order to be selected for the WHEA Healthcare Engineering Pioneer award, the successful candidate must have attained a significant level of achievement (as a professional working in the field of health care facilities management, or allied health care professions,) in one or more of the following areas:

- through achievement of significant operational efficiencies,
 - through implementation or design of cost containment strategies,
 - through significant innovation in facility design,
 - through innovative facilities management practices,
 - through innovative safety initiatives,
 - through innovative technology initiatives,
 - through innovations in construction management strategies,
 - through participation in citizen advisor boards or other advocacy projects where personal facilities management expertise or applied engineering excellence:
- significantly improved the overall quality of health care in the community(s) being served,
 - significantly improved accessibility to health care services,
 - significantly improved local, state, or national code compliance or code revisions, or
 - significantly improved levels of health care services to the community(s) served.

Selection Procedure:

1. Candidates must be nominated by another member of the WHEA, in writing, including:
 - A written narrative of not less than 250 words, describing the actions that you feel qualifies your nominee for the Healthcare Engineering Pioneer award.
 - Include one (1) additional letter of support if so desired (not required)
 - Attach other supporting documentation as needed to validate the accomplishments of the nominee.
2. Nomination papers must be submitted to the current state WHEA President for the previous calendar year, prior to June 30th of the current year.
3. The WHEA elected state board members will evaluate all submitted nomination papers, with the aid of a criteria-based scoring grid.
4. The selected recipient will be determined by a simple majority vote of the elected state board members.
5. The award will be presented to the selected recipient by the President of WHEA at the Annual Banquet or other appropriate event or venue prior to the end of the calendar year.

Wisconsin Healthcare Engineering Association

Robert H. Botts HEALTHCARE ENGINEERING PIONEER AWARD

Nomination Form

I nominate the following individual for the _____ WHEA Robert H. Botts
Healthcare Engineering Pioneer Award. Year

NAME: _____

TITLE: _____

ORGANIZATION: _____

FACILITY: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: () _____ EMAIL: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

MANAGER/CEO/PRESIDENT: _____

PHONE: () _____ EMAIL: _____

NOMINATED BY:

NAME: _____

TITLE: _____

ORGANIZATION: _____

FACILITY: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: () _____ EMAIL: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

ATTACHMENTS/INCLUSIONS: (Check all that apply.)

____ Nomination Narrative

____ One additional letter of support (Optional) Limit, one (1)

____ Support documentation: Published articles, Financial documentation, and other documents as needed to validate the accomplishments of the nominee.

Conference Committee News



Ed Cosner
Co-Chair



Kevin Feyen
Co-Chair

The Conference Committee is excited to have the annual conference back in Green Bay for 2023. The agenda is complete and the education topics are sure to impress. We are very excited to have Charlie Berens, comedian and Wisconsin native as our very special keynote speaker this year. Registration for the conference will open in approximately mid-April. The 2023 Annual Conference dates this year are September 19 - 22. Be sure to mark your calendars and check back on the website for registration information.

The Technical Exhibition will be held in conjunction with the Annual Conference on Wednesday, September 20th from 9:30 am to 1:30 pm. This year's technical exhibition is almost filled up. There are only a few booths left. If you still want to exhibit, complete information and the registration form can be found on the website under the Conference tab. Be sure to register today!

(continued on page 16)



CHARLIE BERENS is a comedian, New York Times Best Selling Author, Emmy-winning journalist, musician and creator of the *Manitowoc Minute*. The Wisconsin native has been featured on Comedy Central, Fox, CBS, Funny or Die, TBS, Variety, MTV News and more. He creates weekly content for his various social platforms and has amassed over **7.5 million followers**.

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- Capacities up to 4500 MBH and 300 PSIG
- Vertical piping connections
- Standard and high pressure systems
- Precise temperature control under diversified loads

Optimize efficiency and savings with remote monitoring via onAER and Edge mobile app.

Conquest Water Heater

- Advanced fuel-saving design with extended product life
- 80-91% high efficiency
- Seamless modulation reduces cycling and improves efficiency
- Superior reliability with AquaFLEX duplex stainless steel
- 15-year heat exchanger warranty

3-5x the warranty vs competition

Element Q

All-in-one smart DHW solution that provides high efficiency water heating, multi-barrier pathogen mitigation, water quality treatment and remote monitoring.

Visit us at the 2023 WHEA Technical Exhibition

Over 65 Years of Trusted Service

3605 N. 124th Street
BROOKFIELD, WI 53005
1.800.842.5269
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Conference Committee News (continued)

The 2023 Conference Committee consists of the following individuals:

- Co-Chair & Resource Committee Liaison: Ed Cosner
- Co-Chair: Kevin Feyen
- Conference Coordinator/Spouse Program: Jane Bruvold
- Special Events/Education Committee Liaison: Darrell Courtney
- Technical Exhibit Coordinator/Resource Committee Liaison: Dennis Havlik
- Technical Exhibit Coordinator: Robb Paulson
- Technical Exhibit/Conference Assistant: Donella Sarauer
- Education Development/Code Committee Liaison: Tom Stank
- Member Services Liaison: Kelly Roshell
- Technology Committee Liaison: Katie Smith
- WHEA President: Rick Helfrich
- WHEA Vice-President: Jeff Weber
- WHEA Secretary: Matt Malmin
- WHEA Treasurer: Dan Loest

