

Wisconsin Healthcare Engineering Association

lewsletter

December 2022

Volume 32

4th Quarter

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Happy Holidays, everyone! That seemed to be a quick 2 months. This season is a great time to look back at the year, with all the good things that have happened and look forward to another year. Remember to look around and see if someone is struggling, and if they are, reach out a hand to them and offer a little pick me up or just some kind words. It seems that with all the hustle and bustle going on we need to stop and reflect on the meaning behind this time of year. So, give yourself a break and help someone who might need it.

Rick Helfrich WHEA President

We have a lot of great things happening this year throughout WHEA that we can look forward to. Chapters are trying to get more in person events with great education opportunities. Don't forget to let your leadership know what things you are looking for in education topics, or if you thought of something that would benefit other members. We have great chapter leaders this year to help everyone get the most out of WHEA. By working together, we can make WHEA and all our member stronger. I am looking forward to having the annual meeting in Green Bay this year. The education committee has some great education opportunities this year with the lunch and learns, and the annual conference. Be sure to check out what is on the docket in 2023.

Also think about the mission of WHEA over the next year, and just a reminder of what that is, I have placed it here. "The Wisconsin Healthcare Engineering Association is a premier organization providing quality education, advocacy and outreach within our healthcare community. WHEA is recognized by local and national regulatory organizations as an essential partner in the codes and standards development and compliance process. The key to our success is a commitment to our members and the development of professional relationships." I know we have a great membership that helps with accomplishing this mission. So, a big thank you to everyone who help us keep WHEA strong.

If anyone has any questions or concerns, please reach out to me, or any other leadership member.

A Final Thank You to Our 2022 Sponsors!

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9:00 am - 12:00 pm - Conference Committee Meeting, Conference Call

WHEA Annual Directory Advertising Opportunities Available! 2023 DIRECTORY ADVERTISING RATES

All 2023 directory ad copy space must be reserved and paid for using our online order form found on www.whea.com by January 31st. Go to www.whea.com and follow the dropdowns under "Publications" to "Directory".

If you are a WHEA sponsor this year, do not use the online order form, please email Jane at <u>info@whea.com</u> for instructions on how to order your complimentary advertisement.



Advertising Copy Requirements

For reproduction of your ad copy in any of our publications, we can accept high quality jpeg files, pdf files, and tiff files. We can develop entirely new ad copy for you or rework your existing ad, if needed. Please contact Jane Bruvold at info@whea.com with any questions or for additional information on advertisement development.

Code Critical



Co-Chair

Jeff Eckstein Co-Chair

Hazardous Areas, Flex Duct, and Dampers

Written by members of the Codes & Standards Committee Jeff Eckstein, Dave Soens, and Rachel Rueckert

Fire rated walls are quite common in health care facilities. One (1) hour fire barrier rated walls for a hazardous room enclosure is the application of choice for this article. One (1) hour hazardous rooms can enclose combustible storage or heating equipment, to repair shops per NFPA 101 section 18.3.2.1 or IBC 509.

Ventilation is also commonly provided within health care facilities to provide comfort, asepsis, and odor control through air exchange, filtration, and pressurization per ASHRAE 170. Ventilation air is commonly distributed with duct work that at some point may penetrate a 1-hour fire barrier wall and connect to a diffuser to deliver air to or remove air from the space.

The diffuser to duct work connection is commonly installed with flexible duct to facilitate ease of installation, with a side benefit of sound attenuation. Flexible duct is generally not considered a rated material. *(continued on page 6)*



Code Critical (continued)

The 2015 International Building Code (IBC) and International Mechanical Code (IMC) both require a fire damper when a duct penetrates a 1 -hour fire barrier. However, there are noted exceptions when the HVAC system is constructed of not less than No. 26 gage thickness sheet steel (reference IBC 717.5.2 and IMC 607.5.2). This provision is quite extensive given it applies to the HVAC system, and fire dampers are unique regarding both installation and expense.

Relief opportunities to not install a fire damper at each 1-hour fire barrier are as follows:

Hard duct system continuous to ceiling diffuser

- Pro Removes fire dampers, including future maintenance of said dampers.
- Con Spaces have more system noise as any sound attenuation generally achieved from the use of flexible ductwork has been removed.

Hard duct direct path between the AHU and room (AHJ dependent)

- Pro Removes some fire dampers, including future maintenance of said dampers.
- Con Spaces have more system noise as any sound attenuation generally achieved from the use of flexible ductwork has been removed.

Design a smoke removal system to **2015 IBC s. 717.5.2 Exception 2**. The smoke removal system could be simplified given the smoke is easily contained within the ductwork, could be triggered by a local smoke detector, and not engage the more complicated open space requirements of stack effect, temperature effect, and climate per IBC 909.

- Pro Removes some fire dampers, including future maintenance of said dampers.
- Con Some added cost for fan and



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Code Critical (continued)

controls, though potentially less than the cost of the dampers.

Petition for Variance to use the **2021 IBC s. 717.5.2 Exception #3** only for hazardous rooms of 1hour wall applications in lieu of the 2015 IBC. A fully ducted system as stated above with flexible duct allowed in the following locations: at the duct connection to the air handling unit located within the mechanical room in accordance with Section 603.9 of the IMC, or from an overhead metal duct to a ceiling diffuser within the same room in accordance with Section 603.6.2 of the IMC. Health care facilities can find the Petition instructions on form F-62537 available at:

https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/regulations/plan-review/forms.htm

- Pro Relief for 1-hour fire barrier applications (hazardous rooms, utility rooms, etc.).
- Con (clarification) Does not include Smoke Barriers, exit applications (exit stairs, exit passageways, etc.), atrium enclosures (both fire and smoke rated), occupancy separations (health care is typically 2 hour or greater), fire walls (typically 2 hour or greater for healthcare).

DSPS adopts the future **2021 IBC and IMC**.

Additional options may present themselves in the future; yet don't let flex duct dampen your spirits.



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Education and Professional Development Committee (EPDC)



Darrell Courtney Terry Phillips Committee Co-Chair Committee Co-Chair



With 2022 coming to an end, look back and think about all the people that you have influenced this year. 2022 has given us an opportunity to start to get back to the way we once were. While our worlds start to come back into the "normal" process, our in-person education and conference events will continue to grow. The EPDC is still striving to offer the best education for our members at the best prices available with limited required travel. Through the year, we have offered web-based and site-based programs and plan to continue

with this practice. We are always working to offer you the best possible training opportunities that we can provide for the most effective pricing. In 2023

we will continue those practices while keeping you, our member in the forefront of the programs.

Our Lunch and Learn program offers 12 programs to be viewed by you and your staff for a low fee of \$300 a year. We want everyone to be able to participate in this program, use your education vouchers to participate. The annual offering also allows you to go back and review all programs from the current year or just that last one that you may have missed. You can always assign your team members to review any topic that you feel necessary. For the 2023 year, we have a great list of programs directed to everyone in your facility.

In 2023, we will again be working with the Code Committee to offer the HCC(s) programs around the state. Our Advanced HCC has been a great success and we look forward to having it as long as the desire to have the program maintains. Once again, we will be working to hold an early HCC for our members. Thank you to the Code Committee for their continued efforts to keep our quality programs at a reasonable cost for our association. I would also like to extend our thanks to the Resource Committee for all their assistance during the scheduled on-site programs. Their help during the programs, again help keep our costs low.

We look forward continuing to provide great educational opportunities in 2023 to all of our WHEA members.

Now is the time to sign up for the 2023 Lunch and Learn webinar programs. As a subscriber, you will receive

January 12	Room Pressure Relationships in	July 13	Fire & Smoke Damper
zanoary zz	Healthcare Facilities	July 15	(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

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. You never have to miss a program since they are all recorded. 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.



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Education News (continued)



2023 Webinar Subscription Service

There is still time to register for the 2023 webinar subscription service before the first webinar scheduled on January 12th titled "Room Pressure Relationships in Healthcare Facilities". Go to www.whea.com under the Education tab for complete information and the registration form or follow this link:

https://www.whea.com/education/webinars/



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Presented real world applications along with the theory on why. This is a great way to share and educate!

Good content and great information.

I'm a fairly new employee and didn't know much about positive and negative rooms, I took a lot from this.

This [webinar] solves a question I have been fighting for months.

Excellent presentation. One worthy of re-watching.

WHEA's 2023 Monthly "Lunch & Learn" Webinars

Every 2nd Thursday of the month 11:30 am to 1:00 pm

Available by yearly subscription only.

WHEA's Educational and Professional Development Committee is offering 12 webinars for the 2023 calendar year for a one time, low price <u>per computer connection</u>.*

> **\$500** Regular Registration (\$42 per webinar) **\$300** WHEA Member Discount (\$25 per webinar)

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This is a cost effective, professional development series for facility staff, administrators and contractors. This is a fantastic opportunity to stay up to date on current issues without leaving your facility. You will receive complete session information approximately 2 weeks before each webinar. Each webinar offers 1.5 CECs approved by ASHE.

PLUS if you sign up now, you'll receive the login information for the last webinars of the 2022 series.

Registration is now open at *www.whea.com* for this 2023 webinar series. Follow the drop downs under the Education tab, click on "Education Programs".

To receive the members only discounted rate, <u>you must log into your WHEA</u> <u>membership account and use the Members Only registration form</u>. If you have forgotten your login, just use the "Forgot Login" feature to gain access.

You may sign up anytime during the year but the cost will stay the same - there is no individual webinar pricing. All webinars will be recorded and you will receive a link to that recording after the webinar has been presented. Even if you are not able to attend, you can still have these important updates to watch at your convenience.

The subscription is location specific. Each facility/company must purchase their own separate subscription, and if your facility or company has more than one location that you'd like to be able to watch the webinars, you must purchase a subscription for each location.

A specific list of tentative monthly webinar topics will be available on the website once we have the schedule set. Webinars will cover a variety of subjects that focus on current hot topics.

WHEA Photographer, Dylan Overhouse, Featured in La Crosse Tribune by Roger Elliott, Member Services Co-Chair

When WHEA's long-time volunteer photographer, Shirley Schutz retired in 2017 we searched around the La Crosse area for a commercial studio to document our annual conferences and we discovered Bob Good, who covered conferences for us in 2018 and 2019. There was not a conference in 2020 due to COVID, but between 2019 and the 2021 conference Bob moved to the east coast and could no longer work with us. We asked him to recommend a commercial photographer to replace him and he pointed us in the direction of Dylan Overhouse. WHEA contracted with Dylan for the 2021 conference and we used him again this year with phenomenally satisfactory results.

So we know Dylan is good at what he does and I got to know him pretty well while shepherding him around our conferences for a week at a time, but didn't know a lot of where he came from professionally and how he got to where he is now.

That void has been recently filled with the publication of an article about Dylan in the most recent weekend edition of the La Crosse Tribune. In their "Campus Connection" section they ran the article that follows and the paper has graciously permitted us to reprint it for you here. To see the article as originally included in the Sunday edition or for more La Crosse Tribune features you can access the paper with the following link.... <u>https://</u> <u>lacrossetribune.com</u>

Campus Connection: Western graduate creates creative buzz

La Crosse based commercial photographer Dylan Overhouse's photo of the Mississippi River and surrounding bluffs can be seen in the lobby of the La Crosse Center. Dylan Overhouse photo



If you have been in the remodeled La Crosse Center lobby, you've seen the beautiful windows, the modern, open concept architecture and the massive aerial photo gracefully dominating the dramatic space. The photographic capture of La Crosse's segment of the Mississippi is beautiful and stunning; you can thank photographer Dylan Overhouse for the artistic cherry on top.

Dylan is the owner of Dylan Overhouse Productions, a commercial photography and video production company based in La Crosse. The production

company has a creative reach far beyond the Driftless Region and has been humming along creatively since 2015. However, Dylan created quite a buzz for his company recently when he confronted his barely-short-of-debilitating fear of heights to rent a helicopter tour at Riverfest 2019 to take aerial photos.

He had the idea for a while — the weather was perfect; he gave it a go. Dylan made the deliberative effort to trust the professional pilots in much the same thoughtful way he expects trust in his artistic vision. He managed to take impressive photos amid an adrenaline rush. As you've correctly deduced, one of them is on display in the La Crosse Center and is the focal point of a mural on campus.

"Take risks, do what makes you happy and trust the process," says Dylan.

(continued on page 9)

WHEA Photographer (continued)

The authenticity of his life philosophy rings true whenever Dylan is talking about art in its many forms. Whether it's music, photography, cooking, writing, storytelling and movie making, his passion for creating and documenting is his driving force.

Displaying beauty, both natural and human-made, through his bold approach elevates his purpose and presence in the world. Dylan appreciates and is inspired by the natural beauty of western Wisconsin in all its unglaciated glory — often the star of his photography. His awe of natural beauty is captured and shared in incredible detail with visual drama, light and shadow.

Dylan is a 2016 graduate of Western Technical College; his program of choice: Visual Communications, now known as Digital Media Production. He chose Western because he knew he would get a solid education but, at the same time, wasn't sure about his path. Western is a great place to explore, try things and find what interests you.

An immensely insightful advisor helped him realize what he enjoyed, what he was talented at, what he wanted to do: unique and innovative storytelling.

"I don't think I would be where I am if it wasn't for the guidance counselor helping me find my path," Dylan said. "The individual attention I received from my teachers was inspiring and incredibly helpful."

Dylan focused and worked hard to turn his interests into a fulfilling career. Within six months he had work in his field. And now, he's able to focus completely on his production business, which he is currently expanding.

Western's hands-on philosophy of learning helped Dylan put it all together — the technical skills behind the camera and recording equipment, and how to use them to bring his creative vision to life. It's a necessary marriage of two opposite skill sets that complement and elevate the process, fully illustrating that the sum is often greater than the parts. He credits Western for teaching him the soft skills that smoothed his transition into the real-world industry. An important part of his education was making valuable connections throughout his time here that led to job opportunities and collaborators. He plans to work on professional film sets and continue to make a living doing what he loves: creative storytelling through film and photography.

Dylan finds inspiration all around him — from music and nature to movies and food to family and friends. A true appreciator of the natural world, his penchant for detail and ubiquitous inspiration is his secret sauce. *(continued on page 10)*

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WHEA Photographer (continued)

Growing up, Dylan's family moved often. He's attended different schools while residing in small towns and large cities alike; he effortlessly makes social and cultural adjustments to appreciate people in all their beautiful uniqueness. He's constantly pushing himself to do, innovate, and learn more with an open mind and a discerning eye. Art is never just for art's sake; art makes lives and communities better: shared beauty with great purpose. Dylan is making art while promoting and celebrating the art of others — wonderful and necessary gifts to our community. --END OF ARTICLE--



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Conference Committee News



We would like to welcome Kevin Feyen to the conference committee team as a co-chair along with Ed Cosner. They will be working together to create amazing and memorable conferences that will both educate and entertain the WHEA membership.

Ed Cosner Co-Chair



Kevin Feyen Co-Chair

The Technical Exhibition will be held in conjunction with the Annual Conference on Wednesday, September 20th from 9:30 am to 1:30 pm. Complete information and the registration form will be available on the website under the Con-

ference tab the first week of January.

CONFERENCE SPEAKERS NEEDED

We are in need of speakers for the annual conference that can present on hot topics that are of interest to heathcare maintenance engineering personnel. A speaker abstract form is available on *www.whea.com* under the Conference tab. Interested speakers need to download the form as a pdf, fill it out, then hit the submit button at the bottom of the form to send it in. It will be reviewed by our Conference Committee and you will be notified if your topic is chosen for review. Please send in your abstract asap to be considered for the 2023 Annual Conference.

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

2023 Conference Sneak Preview Aloha from Green Bay!

We will be roasting a pig and drinking from our coconut shells while we enjoy each other's company at next year's Annual Banquet. Bring your best Hawaiian shirt or even your grass skirt when we gather for the 2023 Annual Conference in Green Bay.



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Apply for 2023 WHEA Sponsorship Today!



The Wisconsin Healthcare Engineering Association (WHEA) is in the process of acquiring applications for sponsorship for 2023. Depending on which level of sponsorship you choose, there may be opportunities for free advertisements in the directory and newsletters, technical booth registrations and other ways to promote your company within the WHEA membership.

Dennis Havlik Committee Chair

Once you apply for sponsorship using the online registration form, your sponsorship application

will be processed. You will be informed by email before the first of the year if your sponsorship request has been accepted and will be contacted regarding your sponsorship level opportunities. Please ao to www.whea.com and click on the Sponsorship tab for complete information on each level of sponsorship and the link to the sponsorship application, or follow this link:

https://www.whea.com/sponsorships/become-asponsor/





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Technology Committee Update



Jim Benedict Committee Chair

I have been asked this question a few times since becoming the Chair back in August... "What exactly does the Technology Committee do?" The first few things to know... we do NOT write codes, create apps or provide IT services if you are having computer related issues. (Yes, I have been asked those questions also.) The two main purposes of the Technology Committee are:

- The committee shall review and consider implementation of additional technology platforms that would benefit WHEA.
- Establish and maintain content on social media platform(s) that represent and promote WHEA objectives, activities, education, and membership with the goals of acknowledging existing members / followers and drawing in new ones.
- The Committee is responsible for the uploading of information and maintenance of the "Whova" app that has been used at the annual conference the past two years and will be used once again at the annual conference in Green Bay in September. We have received great feedback regarding this app on the ease of use for WHEA members.

We continue to look at LinkedIn and Facebook as opportunities for WHEA to grow on social media platforms. Both of these platforms are great tools for us to get information out not only to our members, but to those that are following us and possibly interested in becoming members. If you have any information or pictures you would like to have posted on these sites, please feel free to contact the Technology Committee via https://www.whea.com/committees/technology-committee/ or email one of the committee members listed below.

<u>ksmith@hga.com</u> <u>jljordan@ecslimited.com</u> jbenedict@milwaukeecatholichome.org



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Chapter II Update



Steven Mumm Chapter II President

Chapter II is finally back to inperson meetings and has already met three times this fall, including the meeting held at the annual conference.

We've had educational sessions on Elevator Energy Efficiency by Jeff Boldt – IMEG; Hospital Cost Reduction & Sustainability by Jim Fitzpatrick - F Enterprise Group and Bill Mansfield - On Track Technology Solutions Communications, Inc; and Are VFD's Part of our Sustainability Program by Jeff Miller - JMB & Associates. A big thank you to our presenters and





Affiliated Engineers hosted Chapter II's December meeting, with lunch sponsored by JMB & Associates. There were presentations by both F Enterprise Group and JMB Associates.

special thanks to our meeting hosts and lunch sponsors: C.G. Schmidt, JMB & Associates, and Affiliated Engineers.

Our upcoming meetings in 2023 include our February Happy Hour meeting at Findorff with Code Committee Updates & seeing Who Wants to be an AHJ. In March we will be touring the Meriter Emergency Power Upgrades at UnityPoint Health – Meriter and in April we will be touring UW Health Eastpark Medical Center hosted by Mortenson|Cullen.

Looking ahead to warmer weather, we then have our annual banquet coming up in May and are working through final details on two fundraising events this year – one being our annual golf outing and the second being our new event, a clay shoot. We wish you all a Happy New Year and look forward to seeing all of our members at our upcoming programming for 2023!

Chapter I News



Jim Benedict Chapter I President

We continue to hold monthly meetings in person with great vendors hosting and providing the education. This last quarter had Faith Technologies (Electrical Shutdowns: Best Practices & Lessons Learned), Trane (Decarbonization in the HVAC industry) and

Miron (Lean Construction in Healthcare) open their doors to Chapter I members and host. Our annual golf outing in September was again a great success, with 288 golfers participating along with countless volunteers and hole sponsors in attendance. We have voted in (33) new Chapter I WHEA members since September 1st Every year in January we hold



Chapter 1 meeting Thursday, December 8th at Miron Construction,

ber 1st. Every year in January, we hold our annual holiday party for all Chapter I members. On January 12th 2023, the holiday party will be held at the Harley Davidson Museum in Milwaukee.







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