



NEWSLETTER

June 2007

Volume 17 • 2nd Quarter

President's Message *by Tom Laabs, CHFM • WHEA*

Summer is here and I hope that all of you take the time to enjoy our beautiful state and have a chance to enjoy the season here as much as I do.

I would like to welcome Bill Best back to the Board as Bylaws Committee Chair. His knowledge, expertise and experience will be needed as we work our way through the many changes that are on the horizon for the next year. The next time that you see Bill, as well as any of the other committee chairs, thank them for their tireless service to the organization. The committee chairs have been the cornerstone of the organization and they provide continuity and stability to the ever-changing WHEA

State Board.

The Board has approved moving forward with the application process for the formation of a WHEA Foundation. This is a long process and Wayne Johnson is hoping to have progressed far enough along by the Annual Conference that he can provide some details to the membership.

We will be offering the incoming Board members and 2008 Chapter Presidents a unique opportunity this year at the Annual Conference. We will be conducting the first annual Leadership Rally on Tuesday morning before the conference starts. During this Rally they will hear from past

and present Board members.

The intent is to give these new leaders the tools and knowledge to be successful at the board level and lead their respective chapters with confidence; knowing what is expected of their role within the organization.

Congratulations to Wade Rudolph for being recognized as the ASHE Region 6 Leadership Award winner. His work and dedication for WHEA within the state as Co-chair of the Codes and Standards Committee has been tremendous.

I'm sure that all of you have received the Annual Conference educational lineup along with your registration information.

This year is looking to be one of the best ever, and I encourage all of you to make plans early to attend. Spouses are always welcome with lots of activities planned each day just for them.

Again, have a great summer and God bless,

*Tom Laabs, CHFM
President, 2006*

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2007 WHEA Sponsors

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Wade Rudolph named 2007 ASHE Regional Leader!

"Wade has been recognized by ASHE for 'exemplary leadership skills and as [one who has] demonstrated a commitment to the field of healthcare facilities management...'"

ASHE has announced that Wade Rudolph is the 2007 recipient of the ASHE Regional Leader award for Region 6! WHEA members have been the beneficiaries of Wade's exemplary leadership of the Codes and Standards committee for several years and should be quite proud that another of our outstanding WHEA members has been recognized by our parent organization for his dedication, excellent leadership abilities and devotion to the improvement of codes and standards awareness and advocacy within Wisconsin, Region 6 and the nation. Wade has led the WHEA Codes and Standards committee to greater levels of achievement with each successive year that he's been involved.

Our WHEA Codes and Standards committee has grown to be much more than a provider of information -- alerting our members to changes in codes and providing compliance strategies. Under Wade's leadership several of the Code Committee members have been solicited to represent WHEA (and facility engineers in general) on state and national regulatory-writing committees. Wade and the members of his committee represent WHEA extremely well

and have contributed much to our growing reputation within the ASHE community.

When submitting a narrative in support of Wade's nomination, WHEA Treasurer, Tamarah Cox wrote: "...Wade has demonstrated ...the type of leadership abilities that have made all the projects he's been associated with so successful. He's...widely respected within the WHEA chapter of ASHE for his dedication and leadership." Jim Teunas, Education Committee chair remarked in his nomination narrative that: "[Wade has] led the [Codes and Standards Committee to play] a key advocacy role in the formulation and development of state and national codes."



As ASHE's 2007 Regional Leadership award winner, Wade has been recognized by ASHE for "exemplary leadership skills and as [one who has] demonstrated a commitment to the field of healthcare facilities management through [his] involvement with ASHE." As the 2007 Regional Leader for Region 6, Wade will receive complimentary registration to the 2007 ASHE annual conference, will receive a one-year complimentary membership in ASHE, will be invited to the annual Leadership Institute and will be formally recognized in ASHE publications for his achievement. Congratulations, Wade.

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

JUNE

- 1 - Board Meeting, 9:00 am
- 1 - Newsletter Article Deadline
- 7 - Code Committee Meeting, 1:30 pm
- 8 - Member Services Committee Meeting, 9:00 am
- 15 - Chapter V Meeting (Outdoor Family Event)
- 29 - Newsletter Mailing Deadline
- TBD - Chapter I Annual Dinner

JULY

- 8 - 11 - ASHE Conference (New Orleans Marriott)
- 11 - Chapter VI Meeting, Noon
- 13 - Education Committee Conf. Call, 9:00 am
- 20 - Conference Committee Mtg, 9:00 am (Stevens Point)

AUGUST

- 2 - Code Committee Meeting, 1:30 pm
- 3 - Newsletter Article Deadline
- 3 - Board Meeting / Boat Trip
- 10 - Member Services Committee Meeting, 9:00 am
- 16 - Chapter IV Meeting, 11:30 am Marshfield Clinic

- 16 - Chapter V Meeting (Golf Outing)

- 23 - Chapter II Golf Outing
- 31 - Newsletter Mailing Deadline

SEPTEMBER

- 13 - Chapter II Meeting, Noon
- 13 - Chapter I Meeting, 4:30 pm
- 18 - 21 WHEA Conference, Green Bay
- 18 - Conference Committee (at Conference)
- 19 - Chapter VI Meeting, Noon
- 20 - Chapter II Breakfast Meeting, 7:30 am
- 20 - Chapter III Breakfast Meeting, 7:30 am
- 20 - Chapter IV Breakfast Meeting, 7:30 am
- 21 - New Board Orientation Breakfast, 7:30 am

OCTOBER

- 11 - Chapter I Meeting, 4:30 pm
- 11 - Chapter II Meeting, Noon
- 12 - Education Committee, 9:00 am
- 17 - Chapter VI Meeting, Noon
- 18 - Chapter V Meeting, 9:00 am
- 19 - Conference Committee Meeting, 9:00 am



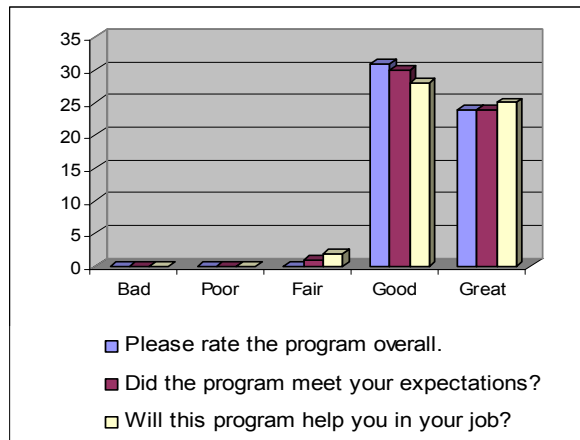
Medical Gas Systems Seminar Reviews NFPA Requirements

By Jim Teunas, Education Committee Chair & Jane Bruvold, WHEA Administrative Assistant



On Wednesday, May 23rd, the Education Committee held a "Medical Gas and Vacuum Systems" seminar at the Wintergreen Resort and Conference Center. There were 77 people in attendance. Presenting this program was Tom Spremo, Executive Director, Medical Gas Solutions. The comments about the program were extremely positive.

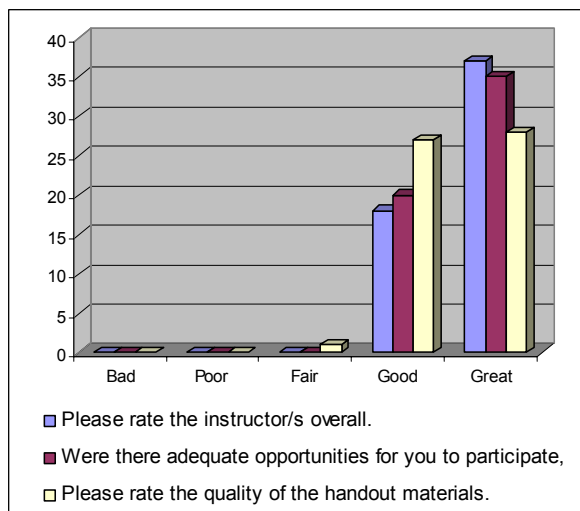
May 23, 2007 Medical Gas Seminar Evaluation Results



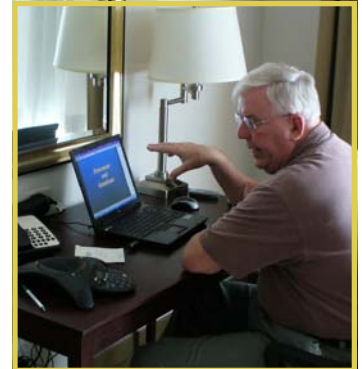
"This is the best WHEA program I've attended."

"All information provided was beneficial. I learned more today than I have learned in years of working around these systems.."

"More of our maintenance personnel will attend this next time it's presented."



The web conference "Managing Incidents and Projects with ICS" was presented on May 30th by Dennis Tomcyk, Director, Hospital Disaster Preparedness, Wisconsin Division of Public Health. It was well attended and the education committee looks forward to offering additional hot topics as web conferences in the future.



Dennis Tomcyk, WI Division of Public Health

Upcoming programs are "Boiler Maintenance" which will be held on November 28th, in Wisconsin Dells and another, always popular, "Healthcare Construction Certificate" program scheduled for December 5th in Madison. Keep checking the website (www.whea.com) for information on all upcoming educational programs.

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Chapter IV Report

By Dick Lange, Chapter President



Chapter IV has four goals to pursue in 2007. Our progress to date is as follows:

Our first goal is to reach out to facilities without members in the chapter and send a letter to the CEO promoting the benefits of membership. This goal is on hold until we get a WHEA promotional letter from the Member Services Committee. If no official item is forthcoming by June, 2007, I will send company letterhead out.

Our second goal is to increase communication to Chapter members on issues pertinent to daily operations. I have sent multiple articles as well as ASHE information on generator hazard assessment and ASPR information on emergency preparedness. The comments from members have been positive on this.

Goal number three is to increase membership from September 2006 levels by 10%. We have gained **37** members since December. The goal was 4. I am very happy with the progress we have made.

Our last goal was to work on increasing the attendance at chapter meetings. We have begun to offer door prizes at meetings in an effort to meet this goal. Meeting attendance has increased at the December 2006, the February 2007, and the May 2007 meetings. The May meeting involved shooting trap at Wausau Trap and Skeet and the awarding of the traveling trophy to Tom Boers of Langlade Memorial Hospital. Eighteen (18) members attended the meeting. The weather was perfect and the shoot was a huge success. Our members are looking forward to next years' shoot. Dennis Havlik, WHEA Vice President attended this event and his visit was well received by the members.

"Our first goal is to reach out to facilities without members in the chapter ... promoting the benefits of membership."

Chapters to Determine Winners of Free 2008 ASHE Memberships

By Roger Elliott, Member Services Committee Chair



Every year the WHEA Board of Directors provides a FREE ASHE MEMBERSHIP to each chapter. These free memberships are announced by the Member Services Committee during the annual meeting at the annual conference. Each chapter needs to determine who their individual FREE ASHE MEMBERSHIP winner will be for the 2007 calendar year. Because many chapters suspend meeting activities for the summer, it's easy to forget when you start up again in the fall that we need the name of the FREE ASHE MEMBERSHIP winner from each chapter prior to the annual conference. So, whatever method you choose to determine your recipient, please keep in mind that we need to hear from each chapter no later than the 2nd week of September! Please provide the name of your FREE ASHE

MEMBERSHIP winner to your Member Services Committee representative or directly to me at 715.726.3331, or relliot@sjcf.hshs.org.



Codes & Standards News

By Wade Rudolph and Jon Cechvala, Codes & Standards Committee Co-Chairs



The WHEA Codes and Standards Committee members met on April 6, 2007.

ASHRAE 170 Rajendra Shah provided an update on the ASHRAE 170 standard that has now completed its second public hearing process and now ASHRAE's response to the public comments will be open for public comments one more time this spring. There have been significant changes made to the draft document this second cycle. The efforts of the WHEA Code & Standards Committee have been recognized and the document has been improved as a result of participation in the development process.

ASHRAE 180 Roger Lautz indicated the ASHRAE 180 draft standard should be available soon for review and comment.

Note: In April and May the code committee provided correspondence and clarification to ASHRAE regarding both draft standards 170 and 180.

ASHRAE 29P Roger Lautz provided an update on the ASHRAE 29P standard. The comment session is now closed. In January of 2006, the WHEA did receive a response that its suggestion was rejected. After much discussion, Wade Rudolph was directed to work with ASHE regarding this matter. A motion was made, seconded and carried to appeal the decision ASHRAE made regarding the WHEA comments rejection. There is a cost of \$500 to formally appeal. WHEA Board approval will be requested to approve this expenditure pending input from ASHE on this issue.

2006 WHEA ANNUAL CONFERENCE Tom Stank provided feedback from the conference committee regarding the annual conference presentation. Overall the program was very well received by the attendees. The feedback was welcomed by the committee.

CONTRACTOR CERTIFICATE TRAINING Jon Cechvala led a discussion regarding the current contractor certificate training program and the changes as requested by the education committee. A subcommittee was established to

work on this project. Mitch Hagens, Rajendra Shah, James Fulkerson, Dan Dallich, Jon Cechvala, and Wade Rudolph will be the working subcommittee for this project. On April 11, the committee co-chairs presented at the Healthcare Contractors training program in Eau Claire working with the WHEA Education Committee and the contracted presenters for the program. Also during this time the Wisconsin version of the program was developed. The agenda is being finalized for the WHEA Code & Standards Committee review and approval at the June Meeting. This program once approved will be forwarded to ASHE for consideration as a re-certification program for its contractor training program. Preliminary discussions have led the committee to believe that ASHE will accept the program.

Pending DHFS asbestos rule changes do not appear to have moved forward, but Wade Rudolph will follow up on the situation of the current draft and its status for the June meeting.

Code alerts will be reviewed for changes needed. Assignments were made for review and reporting at the June meeting. When the State of Wisconsin Commerce Department adopts the 2006 IBC many of the code alerts will need to update. The adoption is anticipated in September or October of this year. The committee will monitor the progress of this effort.

CODE INTERPRETATION DISCREPANCY ISSUES Tom Laabs has requested that he be made aware of any code interpretation discrepancy issues by surveyors. He is meeting quarterly with the leadership of the OQA in an attempt to foster a more positive working relationship between the department and the healthcare industry. Feel free to pass your concerns along to Tom as he is the WHEA representative on this task force.

Commerce Department Electrical Permitting Process David Soens provided an update on the State Commerce Department initiative to more actively follow up on the electrical permitting process for new construction. 12 Occupancies are going to be the starting point with Commerce taking a more active role in the permitting and inspection process. This new initiative is already in the codes (and has been for some time) but due to staffing shortages in the department enforcement has been somewhat lax. Commerce is

(continued on page 6)

"CMS is moving forward on the requirement for all nursing homes to be fully sprinkler protected."

"WHEA can be proud to be a leader in the region in regards to communication and code work."



Codes & Standards News *(continued from page 5)*

looking to strengthen this program with additional resources in the future.

NURSING HOMES TO BE FULLY SPRINKLERED David Soens also reported that CMS is moving forward on the requirement for all nursing homes to be fully sprinkler protected. Accessibility standards will change with the adoption of the new 2006 IBC as larger bathrooms will be required under state code.

AIA Guidelines Revision Cycle to Address ZERO LIFT Jon Cechvala reported that the next revision cycle for the AIA Guidelines for Healthcare Construction has begun. This cycle representation from Wisconsin has doubled. David Soens, Roger Lautz, Jon Cechvala, and Wade Rudolph represent WHEA on this committee. The first all hands meeting was held in Washington DC April 17-20. There were discussions regarding zero lift philosophy as well as patient safety. These discussions will affect how healthcare in the future is designed. WHEA is positioned well to participate in the discussions. The April meeting agenda was circulated for review.

Three of the four committee members representing WHEA on the AIA Healthcare Revision Committee attended the first all hands meetings from April 16 to April 20. The representatives present were Dan Lautz, David Soens, and Co-Chair Jon Cechvala. The committees were established for the revision cycle. Roger Lautz is on the Acoustics subgroup, the Emergency Facilities subgroup, the IT subgroup, the Medical Oncology subgroup, the Planning and Design subgroup, and the Sustainable Design subgroup. David Soens, Jon Cechvala, and Wade Rudolph are on the Patient Lifts Subgroup. David Soens, Jon Cechvala, and Roger Lautz are on the Engineering subgroup. Wade Rudolph is on the Patient Safety subgroup and Jon Cechvala is co-chair. Wade Rudolph is secretary of the Psychiatric Facilities subgroup. These gentlemen represent Wisconsin well and WHEA can be proud of their efforts in this area.

The Joint Commission is now THE JOINT COMMISSION with a recent name change. Also in 2008, they will be sending engineering surveyors on all surveys with an expansion of time in larger facilities. Also the computerized PFI requirement has been delayed to September of 2007. (The BBI component was required

on January 1 of this year.)

INTERNATIONAL ENERGY CODE The states adoption of the 2006 International Energy Code will have a revision to require economizers on units much smaller than the IECC requires. **NFPA 99** Roger Lautz, chairman of the NFPA 99 Technical Correlating Committee, reported that the document is planned for publication in 2010. This document will have major changes. The most significant is that all of the chapters will be organized into three levels of risk, and not based on the type of building. This should make the document easier to understand apply more fairly to all building types. This document will also undertake to be a first stop, where AHJ's can reference this document for all healthcare, and it will reference the necessary supplemental codes. The document will be designed around evidenced based minimum standards and not best practices. The committee looks forward to working with Roger in this major undertaking.

MEDICAL GASES Tom Spremo provided a WHEA-sponsored Medical Gas System training program for installers, designers and operators of medical gas systems in Wisconsin Dells on May 23rd. Tom will be providing training in the future to the licensed system verification groups.

CODE ALERT FOR HOLIDAY DECORATIONS Steve Vinopal suggested a code alert be developed regarding holiday decorations in nursing homes. David Soens reiterated that a resident's personal preference cannot exceed life safety code requirements. Jon Cechvala and Steve Vinopal will work on this code alert.

ELEVATOR CODE COMMITTEE DID NOT MEET Wade Rudolph reported the Commerce rules committee for Wisconsin Act 456 regarding elevator code changes has not met.

OSHA Electrical Safety A new final rule was published in February, 2007

HFS 124 proposed rule changes have stalled at this time.

HFS 132 changes are still going forward. The proposed changes reduce duplication of federal rules and are seen as positive changes by the WHEA Codes and Standards committee members who have reviewed these changes.

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Chapter II

By Tom Stank, Chapter President



Chapter II held two of its regularly scheduled meetings during this report period.

The April 12, 2007 meeting was held at Epstein Uhen Architects, Madison WI. Jon Cechvala hosted and provided the program. A business meet-

ing was conducted with a program that followed addressing new technology for building drawings and codes update.

The business meeting was held and Chapter II voted and unanimously passed the following:

- Revisions to Chapter Bylaws to accept associate members into office.
- Clarence Day was voted into retired member status. He will remain active in WHEA.
- Committee reports were presented.
- Chapter goals were reviewed.
- Dick Pearson of Pearson Engineering presented information on Wisconsin Green Building Alliance SE² Leadership Program.
- Kenneth Smith and Gene Call were voted in as new associate members.
- Nominations for new officers were requested from members.

Epstein Uhen Architects provided lunch.

The May 17th meeting was the chapters' annual banquet held at the Prime Quarter in Madison, WI. All attendees enjoyed a social hour with dinner provided by the chapter. A brief business meeting was conducted. There were 25 members and 12 guests present. WHEA Vice President, Dennis Havlik was a guest.

The business meeting was held:

- Chapter II voted unanimously to accept the new slate of officers for 2007/2008:
 - Wayne Schroeder – President
 - Dan Zank – Vice President
 - Doug Dunlap – Secretary

- John Pohlmann – Treasurer
- Thomas Stank – Past President
- Lew Cole was presented with an award and plaque for 30 years of service in WHEA.
- Randy Knackert was acknowledged for ten years of service.
- Brent Sutherland, Ed Piet and Keith Lindstrom were acknowledged for five years of service.

Goals Report:

Goal: Develop standard protocol for monthly meetings.

Expected Outcome: Monthly meetings will be conducted using similar meeting agendas and protocol including actions according to Robert's Rules. Each meeting will be conducted with introductions of all attendees and written meeting agenda format. Additionally, minutes will be promptly distributed to all members within a one-week timeframe following each meeting. Minutes will be distributed electronically.

Status: Meetings for the year have successfully followed the new protocol. The current chapter Secretary has been struggling with time parameters for distribution of minutes. This will continue to be worked on.

Goal: Increase attendance at Chapter meetings.

Expected Outcome: Each chapter member will be asked for continued support, their specific chapter involvement and their personal commitment. The chapter meeting agenda and other pertinent information will be distributed electronically in a timely fashion prior to each respective meeting.

Status: Attendance has been good at each respective meeting. Six new members have been voted in for the current year to date.

Goal: Provide training/information programs.

Expected Outcome: We continue to provide training/information programs at each meeting. We have had water treatment, Legionella prevention, sound attenuation for buildings and others. We propose to continue to have such sessions for each monthly meeting.

(continued on page 8)

"Each chapter member will be asked for continued support ... and their personal commitment."



42nd Annual Conference Planning Update

By Mike Blackwood, Education Committee Chair



Our WHEA 2007 Annual Conference planning is well underway. The committee met last on Friday, April 13 in La Crosse to review progress to date. All educational programs are confirmed with topics including; NFPA Healthcare Issues (Doug Erickson), State Code and Nursing Home Updates (WHEA Code Committee, David Soens), CMMS, Emergency Preparedness Challenges, Proactive Risk Assessment (Ode Keil) and The Power of Transformational Leadership presented by former Hospital CEO, Jim Lussier from Bend, Oregon.

There are currently in excess of 100 vendors registered for the technical exhibition with hopes that all booths will soon be reserved. Reviews from last year's technical exhibits were very positive with 2007 promising to be another great show.

The spouse program is set with a relaxing Welcome Program on Tuesday cruising the Fox River and Green Bay aboard the Foxy Lady. On Wednesday the spouses can participate in the technical exhibition and Thursday they'll travel to Door County for a day of shopping, lunch and sight-seeing, and then return for the annual banquet.

This year the conference will revolve around a railroad theme with the possibility of special surprises throughout the week as well as the annual awards program and banquet moving across town to the National Railroad Museum making for an interesting and enjoyable evening.

The first mailing of the early bird flyer for the conference has gone out in the mail, the second mailing will go out toward the end of June.

Hope to see you in Green Bay on September 18-21.

Chapter II *(continued from page 7)*

Continued planning will take place for the remaining upcoming meetings.

Status: Each meeting has had an education program from knowledgeable presenters with good feedback from members.

Goal: Modify Chapter Bylaws – Definitions for Associate Members.

Expected Outcome: The existing chapter bylaws will be amended to allow associate members to hold office. Over the years Chapter II has benefited from involvement by associate members. With this involvement, the chapter will remain strong and benefits will be derived from the vast knowledge shared from the various trades, services and products these members represent. The chapter will also benefit through increased duties performed by the associate members.

Status: Bylaws have been successfully changed with a unanimous vote at last meeting.

Future Chapter II meetings:

- August 23, 2007
Chapter II Golf Outing –
Reedsburg Country Club,
Reedsburg, WI
- September 20, 2007
Chapter II Meeting @
WHEA Annual Conference
- October 11, 2007
(New Officers Take Office)
Program TBD
- November 8, 2007
Program TBD



2007 Sponsorship Committee Report

By Tamarah Cox, Sponsorship Committee Chair



Sponsor Numbers at Record Level! Our Sponsorship program continues to receive excellent response from our associate members and technical exhibitors. With the addition of HDR Architecture, Inc. as a Gold Level Sponsor within recent weeks we now have 29 sponsors for 2007!

Unfortunately, it's just come to our attention that some of the sponsors' logos are missing from the scrolling sponsor area on the website home page. We apologize to Gold Sponsors; HDR Architecture, Inc. (new), Ring & Du Chateau, Inc., The Selmer Company, Zimmerman Architectural Studios, Inc., and to Silver Sponsors; Durrant and Techline for this oversight. Our Administrative Assistant will be taking the necessary steps to correct this problem.

Committee Meeting

The Sponsorship Committee met on 3/23/07. Redesign of the program to look at

other benefit offerings for sponsors is to be investigated. A website to look at would be ASHRAE. Often times calls are received inquiring if vendors could sponsor a specific portion of our sessions, such as breaks, lunch, etc. We need to evaluate these options. Other ways to further sponsorship interest (if we continue to maintain the Platinum, Gold and Silver levels) would be to augment with a number of free attendees at sessions; allowing sponsorship registrations to educational sessions at member fee rates, etc.

Work of redesigning the program will occur throughout the summer with a potential revision recommendation by the August Board meeting.

Discussion on sponsorship dollar allocation was conducted. The expense amounts of the costs of the sponsorship program offerings are credited back to the appropriate committee, i.e.; education/conference instructor fees, tools, materials, technical exhibition booth space fees, directory color pages, etc. This allows for tracking purposes of the expense of the Sponsorship program and where the true expense lies. Discussion was held regarding the fee used for color page advertising offset. The fee allocated was the amount previously established. If the cost of color advertising increases, the Treasurer needs to be notified of what the page cost is to make the appropriate allocation. The directory publication expense is typically invoiced as a lump sum.

The 2008 budget worksheets contained both the committee expense figure as well as a separate column for what the sponsorship funds supported.

The Sponsorship Committee Goals for 2007 are:

- Work with the WHEA President, and an ad hoc committee in providing sponsorship policy review as a potential formation of the WHEA Foundation is pursued.
- Investigate the possible realignment of sponsorship levels to assist in exploring extended opportunities for 2008.
- Assist WHEA in maintaining its financial stability by recruiting sponsors for calendar year 2007 to achieve an income of \$45,000. (Current projected income is at \$66,000.)

"The Sponsorship Committee [will] ... work with the WHEA President, and an ad hoc committee in providing sponsorship policy review as [the] potential formation of the WHEA Foundation is pursued."





WHEA Receives ASHE PLATINUM Chapter Award for 2007!

By Roger Elliott, Member Services Committee Chair

"WHEA has been designated as one of only six (6) Platinum Level affiliated chapters for 2007."

"Achieving the designation of Platinum Level ... in 2007 required WHEA to have achieved Gold Level status for at least the prior five (5) consecutive years."

ASHE Chapters participating in the Levels of Affiliation Awards Program are recognized for efforts from the previous year by submitting documentation that meets the program document. These criteria are based on affiliation objectives ASHE would like to achieve to make its chapters stronger and more viable which in turn helps the field of health care engineering and facilities management.

ASHE has a vision of how they would like to see chapters support ASHE and improve their own

chapters at the same time. The level of achievement that an affiliated chapter can be recognized for is based on their success in achieving goals set forth in the ASHE Vision. The Vision elements for ASHE affiliate chapters include:

1. Providing an organized structure at the local or state level that affords opportunities for members of the society and others in the field of health care facilities management.
2. Enabling a forum for members to work together on common areas of interest and concern, such as advocacy.
3. Helping facility managers and engineers meet the challenges they face in health care, both for the present and the future.
4. Enhancing communication between ASHE and its members.
5. Enhancing the body of knowledge within the engineering and management disciplines associated with health care facilities engineering.

Promoting membership in ASHE

Chapters who successfully participate in the Levels of Affiliation Awards Program are designated as Platinum, Gold, Silver, or Bronze Chapters during the ASHE Annual Conference. This awards program acknowledges chapter accomplishments

and rewards chapters for being full-fledged partners with ASHE in achieving its mission and vision goals.

WHEA has been designated as one of only six (6) Platinum Level affiliated chapters for 2007. The other Platinum Chapters are from New Jersey, Arkansas, Michigan, the Delaware Valley and New England. In addition, ASHE designated seventeen (17) Gold Level affiliates, four (4) Silver and two (2) Bronze affiliates.

Achieving the designation of Platinum Level affiliation in 2007 required WHEA to have achieved Gold Level status for

at least the prior five (5) consecutive years. Among other requirements, WHEA also had to verify that our leaders were participating in chapter leadership forums and that we designated a chapter liaison with ASHE. We needed to have nominated a member for the Regional Leader or Crystal Eagle awards in 2006, and provided a minimum of 24 hrs of educational offerings within the year. The Platinum Level of achievement (as well as the Gold and Silver levels) also requires that an ASHE affiliate chapter host a website, and perhaps one of the more challenging accomplishments that must be verified for Platinum Level achievement, is the maintenance of joint membership in WHEA and ASHE by at least 50% of our full members.

Within WHEA, it is traditionally the responsibility of the state elected Officer-at-Large to prepare the documentation and submit the Levels of Affiliation application to ASHE prior to a designated deadline each spring. The rewards provided by ASHE for their Platinum Level affiliates are four (4) free ASHE memberships, free participation in the Fall Leadership Institute for the Chapter President, two (2) complimentary registrations to the ASHE annual conference, and various special recognition and publication offerings.

Congratulations, WHEA!





ASHE Region 6 Report

By Steve Vinopal, ASHE Region 6 Director, WHEA Liaison



"ASHE Annual Conference ...
New Orleans ...
July 8-11."

Here's the latest ASHE news from the ASHE Board and Region 6. After the last board meeting in San Antonio, from February 23-24, 2007, ASHE's 3-Year Strategic Plan was launched.

The 5 major goals are:

- Improving customer service
- Member loyalty & growth
- Engaging stakeholders to shape the health-care environment
- Increasing organizational capacity
- Enhancing external relationships

ASHE has a new educational manager. Jacqueline White's role will be the development of timely, relevant, and more easily accessible educational programs. Jacqueline has an extensive background in adult education and e-learning. Welcome aboard, Jacqueline!

The ASHE Region 6 Annual Meeting in Mankato was a great success. Attendance was 157, up from 103 last year. The WHEA/ ASHE half-day workshop on Wednesday had 22 attendees and great progress was made in establishing a code committee in North Dakota, South Dakota, Iowa, and Minnesota.

The ASHE President Elect candidates have been announced. They are:

- Troy Martin - Colorado Past Board Member
- Joseph Rawson - Current Board Member
- Edward McKenzie

Candidates for the Region 6 Director have also been announced. They are:

- Roger Friesen, MN
- George Pankiw, Ontario, Canada
- Steve Vinopal, WI

Don't forget the ASHE 44th Annual Conference in New Orleans, July 8-11, 2007 -- hope to see you there!

Chapter 1

By Gary Sankey, Chapter President



Goal #1: Increase attendance at Chapter meetings. So far this year our attendance is averaging 19 members per meeting. Down from 25 last year and 21 in 2004/2005. (We are working on having more interesting topics)

Goal #2: Review the Members sections of the BYLAWS for possible changes to the Associate Membership. Updates have not been submitted.

Goal #3: Review responsibilities for the Chapter officers. Goal for completion is the end of this term.

Meetings:

December 14th Meeting was held at Community Memorial Hospital - Normal business meeting - no presentation.

January 11th Meeting was held at Eppstein Uhen Architects - Topic of presentation was Building Information Modeling by Bret Tushaus and a code update by Jon Cechvala.

February 8th Johnson Controls hosted a meeting at the Historical Humphrey Scottish Rite Masonic Center in Milwaukee. This included a tour of the building with its unique architectural features along with an extensive art collection.

Chapters 1 Membership

Full - 54 • Associate - 39 • Life - 17 • Retired - 12 • In Memoriam - 3

Respectfully Submitted,
Gary Sankey
Chapter 1 President



Chapter III

By Helena Dukes, Chapter President



Two regularly scheduled meetings were held during this report period.

The March 22, 2007 meeting was held at the Casa Di Luigi restaurant in Neenah, WI. Thirteen (13) members were present. Special Guest Dennis Havlik (WHEA Vice President)

provided an update on state activities.

The business meeting was held:

- Chapter III 2007 goals review
- Committee reports were presented
- Chapter III voted unanimously to accept two (2) new members: Tessa Gray, Aurora Medical, Oshkosh (full member) and Daniel Shea, Shea Electric and Comm., Oshkosh (associate member)
- Roundtable Discussion Nomination Committee – The committee includes Phil Schafer and Tim Klein

Lunch was served during the chapter business meeting followed by a presentation on Pharmaceutical Waste by Stericycle, Inc.

The May 24, 2007 meeting was held aboard the Sheboygan Shoreline Cruise liner. All guests gathered at 640 South Pier Dr., Sheboygan, WI; lunch was provided by Ella's Deli and served aboard after the business meeting. Twenty-two (22) members were present.

Special guest Brittany Sander was invited to this meeting. Brittany is a participant of the Career Clusters Program established between Sheboygan Falls High School and Aurora Sheboygan Memorial Medical Center. This is a multi-occupational program designed for students aspiring in careers in health care.

Brittany's area of interest has been the Plant Operations and the Clinical Engineering departments. Brittany offered

her assistance during the upcoming summer to help with the chapter's mailing campaign (see Chapter III's Goal #3 – *Develop and implement a program to increase membership, focusing on expanding full membership*).



Chapter III Vice President, Marti Isaacson (l) and Brittany Sander aboard the cruiseliner.

The business meeting was held:

- Committee reports were presented.
- Chapter III voted unanimously to accept two (2) new full members and four (4) associate members. Details will be provided in the September report.
- MECH Certification drawing was held. Russ Guptow and Dave Post are eligible to participate.
- The Nomination Committee recommended that the 2006 slate of officers run for 2007. No other nominations were submitted from the floor. The membership voted unanimously to retain the slate of officers as follows:

President - Helena Dukes

Vice-President - Marti Isaacson

Secretary/Treasurer - Daniel Loest

Officer at Large - Jay Jens

The remainder of the cruise was marked by fellowship and networking.

"... the Career Clusters Program ... is a multi-occupational program designed for students aspiring in careers in healthcare."





Get “User Names” And “Passwords” For Access To WHEA Members Only

“If you are a WHEA member and have never requested a password from us, you’ll need to contact our Administrative Assistant... to get you started.”

All WHEA members are eligible for access to the WHEA website “Members Only” pages. This is the area where the privileged information provided exclusively to our members is posted and maintained. Access to this area is restricted via use of unique user names and passwords that are set up for each member. If you are a WHEA member and have never requested a password from us, you’ll need to contact our Administrative Assistant, Jane Bruvold at bruvold@sbcglobal.net and she’ll be happy to get you started. Here’s the general process that we follow for all members requesting access to the Members Only pages of www.whea.com.

User names are always the members’ first initial of their first name and their last name, all in lower case -- no exceptions (example: Smokey T. Bear becomes sbear.).

Members get to pick their own password -- we don’t assign them. Our preference is that the passwords are setup to be 6-15 characters, any combination of letters or numbers, upper or lower case. We suggest that members use a favorite password that they typically

use for other purposes on a regular basis (makes it less likely you’ll forget it.) However, some folks like to use a password unique to this application, so we’ll accept pretty much anything they want to use. The only persons who will ever know what this password is (in addition to the member) are Tom Laabs, Website Coordinator; Jane Bruvold, Administrative Assistant; and Roger Elliott, Member Services Committee Chair. No one else will ever have access to the security system.

All these requests will be handled by Jane. Tom and Roger will be available for this function if Jane is unavailable.

Once the new member has submitted his/her choice of password to Jane, she will build it into the website security file, test it, and let the new member know that it’s set up. Thereafter, if the password is not changed but is forgotten, the member can click onto the “Forgot Password” link on the login page and the system will automatically mail the password to the members’ email address – just another reason why you need to keep all your demographic information current with your chapter Member Services representative. If you don’t, you miss a lot of important WHEA communications and will lose access to the Members Only site!

If you haven’t already taken advantage of this opportunity for access to the WHEA Members Only website, please contact Jane today!



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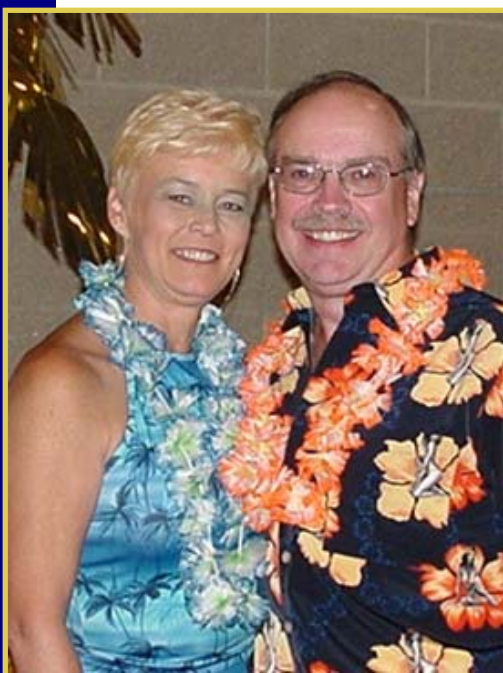
IN MEMORIAM

Marty Zieroth

"... Marty ... was one of the truly 'good guys.'"

Martin "Marty" Zieroth, age 57, of Rice Lake, WI died Thursday, May 24, 2007 at Regions Hospital in St. Paul, MN from complications due to brain aneurysms. Marty had been an employee of the Lakeview Medical Center in Rice Lake for 31 years as Director of Plant Operations. He joined WHEA and ASHE in 1982. Marty will be recognized later this year for having achieved the milestone of 25 years of membership in WHEA.

He was a very active member of Chapter V, serving as their President in 1988, and will be remembered by his Chapter V colleagues as "Captain Marty" for his annual pontoon boat rides at Chapter V social events. Marty also served as the "unofficial" photographer of Chapter V, tirelessly documenting meetings and social events throughout his years of membership. Marty and his wife, Bev (pictured here) have been attending WHEA annual conferences together for nearly as long as Marty has been a member. They served as custodians of the original WHEA 25th anniversary ice sculpture, bringing (whatever was left of) it back to subsequent annual conferences at 5 year intervals. He actively promoted the spirit of camaraderie that is the hallmark of Chapter V – whose members work together, socialize together, and represent their chapter at the annual conference with great enthusiasm.



Marty was born in 1949 in Rice Lake, graduated from the Rice Lake High School in 1968, and entered the Navy in 1969, serving as a Machinist Mate in nuclear submarines until 1977. He served in the National Guard for a few years after discharge. He married Beverly (Glaze) in 1971 in California at a Naval Chapel. He was an active member of First Lutheran Church in Rice Lake. He loved his family and was devoted to his grandchildren. He also loved photography, fishing, hunting, camping and computers as well as many other hobbies. Marty will forever be remembered by all who knew him as one of the truly "good guys."

Codes and Standards News *(continued from page 6)*

HFS 83 is being rewritten and will be available for public comment. The committee will monitor this development and comment if appropriate.

USP 797 and The VA The VA has adopted the proposed draft USP chapter 797 for its facilities. The USP has not finalized its draft into the final standard as of yet. The draft standard is significantly more demanding of facilities than the current published standard, and there has yet to be any evidence to require the additional requirements.

ASHE REGION 6 CONFERENCE WORKSHOP On April 18, Steve Vinopal and Wade Rudolph provided a Code Committee Special Presentation to ASHE Region 6 leaders to facilitate the development of other statewide code committees. This presentation was a part of the WHEA presentation overseen by Steve Vinopal that also included Tom Laabs and Roger Elliot. This presentation was well received by those ASHE members from other states. Again WHEA can be proud to be a leader in the region in regards to communication and code work.



Managing Risks in the Environment of Care

By Ode Keil, Senior Editor, Facility Care and President, The Ode Keil Consulting Group



"Using ... incidents appropriately can allow managers to take action proactively or preemptively to address potential failures or ineffectively managed risks before a serious event occurs."

The Joint Commission environment of care standards have included a requirement that "incidents" be reported as part of the ongoing measurement and evaluation process. The "incidents" are an important source of information for management decision making.

They are more likely to provide information about staff knowledge, the condition of the environment, the condition of medical equipment, the condition of utility systems, etc. than any ongoing measure of performance. The incidents are a picture of what goes wrong with the management of the environment of care. Diligent recording and analysis of the events can be a rich source of knowledge for making decisions about the environment of care programs.

The term "incident" often carries a negative connotation in healthcare. Traditionally incidents require completion of a great deal of paperwork. If incidents, sometimes called variances, are studied over time without too much attention to the details of each event it is possible to identify patterns or trends that assist in making management decisions. This approach to identifying and studying incidents does not replace the capture of information about serious events. It supplements it by not ignoring events that may have no immediate effect. Using the incidents appropriately can allow managers to take action proactively or preemptively to address potential failures or ineffectively managed risks before a serious event occurs.

One type of "incident" that can be studied is the list of deficiencies that are recorded as part of the required environmental surveys. The deficiencies are failures of the physical environment or failures of staff knowledge or behavior. For

example, the Joint Commission requires the effectiveness of fire safety training. This is required in addition to measurement of staff knowledge during fire drills. A low percentage of staff retaining a useful knowledge of fire safety training would be a clear risk to patient and staff safety. This same approach can be applied to any risk present in the environment of care. Evaluating staff retention of orientation and ongoing education information is one of the key measures of a successful EC program as the orientation and ongoing education processes are used to develop the knowledge and skills required to manage risks in the environment. Poor performance can be used to evaluate orientation and ongoing education content, frequency of presentation, or reinforcement methods.

A second type of incident that can be studied is utility system glitches. A building automation system can provide a great deal of information about the performance and condition of a number of utility systems. For example, the performance of HVAC systems can be evaluated using "incidents" such as control point alarms. The alarms can be generally designed to alert operators to a need to adjust system performance. Over time the alarms can provide a picture of HVAC system performance that may indicate a need for reprogramming of the building automation system or for evaluation of the overall system to determine if there is a need to upgrade or replace the system. A system that alarms frequently may be operating at a level beyond its design. It may also be experiencing an equipment problem that requires replacement of worn out components. Using such knowledge can assist a facility manager with the development of a long range plan for capital dollars to replace or upgrade aging or overworked systems. It may also help tailor equipment calibration,

(continued on page 16)



MECH Certification Program Report

By Jim Hildebrand, MECH Program Manager



In 2007 we have sold thirty-three (33) preparation manuals and thirty (30) test applications for Mechanic Certification, grossing YTD \$4,115.00.

In 2006 we sold thirty-five (35) study guides and twenty-eight (28) test applications, with total sales of \$5,357.30.

To date we have 274 certified mechanics in Wisconsin, 80 certified, 189 senior certified, and 5 mechanics passing both tests.

Congratulations to three new senior certified mechanics from Children's Hospital, Wauwatosa, WI.

- Dennis Dartsch
- Brian Fischer
- Brian Mowry

Remember, each chapter is able to setup their own test site and proctor for one or more mechanics. Please contact me if you have any mechanics wishing to be tested, need preparation manuals, or if you have any questions on the Mechanic Certification Program.

James L. Hildebrand
MECH Program Manager
414.464.3880 ext 509
jhildebrand@luthermanor.org

"... Each chapter or facility is able to setup their own test site and proctor [a certification test.]"



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Managing Risks in the Environment of Care

(continued from page 15)

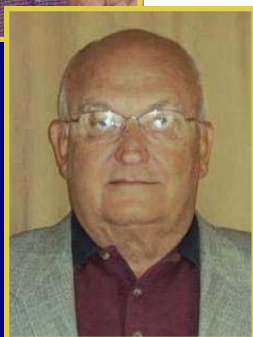
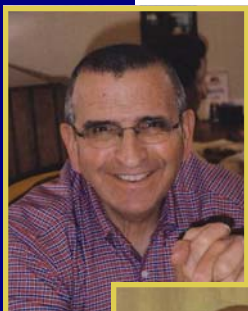
inspection, and maintenance routines to the changing condition of equipment. These types of incidents have been largely ignored by the Joint Commission in past years. Surveyor questions during recent environment of care tracers indicate that this may no longer be true. Whether the Joint Commission has changed the emphasis on this requirement or not, the use of ones or incidents to determine if there are patterns or trends in performance of equipment or staff is a management opportunity that should not be overlooked.

This article originally appeared in FacilityCare magazine, March/April 2007 and is reprinted here by permission of Ode Keil, Senior Editor and President of the Ode Keil Consulting Group [RWE.]



Resource Committee

By Carl Budde, Darwin Clausen, Resource Committee Co-Chairs



As reported in the first quarter newsletter this year, President Tom Laabs has officially appointed a new standing committee to the board. The new committee is known as the Resource Committee. The initial meeting of the WHEA Resource Committee was held at Reedsburg Hospital in May. Present for the meeting were Joe Plonka, Darwin Clausen and Carl Budde.

The committee members agreed that the mission and purpose of the committee is to:

- recruit retired WHEA members to serve as volunteers in support of the WHEA board, staff, committees and programs.
- manage all archival information/documentation including hard copy, electronic files, photos and other memorabilia.
- manage the operation of the WHEA storage facility, and
- manage and promote WHEA promotional logo-ware

The committee recommended to the board that any and all requests for volunteer support be directed to the resource committee and the resource committee only. The committee agreed that any expense associated with a request be budgeted by the requesting committee/program. With that understanding the committee developed a proposed budget for 2008.

The committee reviewed the archives that George Thomas (deceased) had been custodian of during his tenure as chair of the History and Archives Committee. As a result of discussions related to archive documentation, the committee made the following request/recommendations to

the board:

- each past president submit to the committee any files that they retained during their presidential year,
- each chapter appoint a historian to manage their chapter archives, while the chapter archives could be stored at the central storage facility, it will be the responsibility of each chapter to manage their files.
- further discussion is needed on how and what to archive from the thousands of electronic files that Joe Plonka has stored over the past 25+ years.
- the committee will sort and bind the hard files that Joe has in a file cabinet.
- the committee has requested that Shirley Schutz provide a cost and timeline to convert pictures that she has taken over the past 20+ years to CD files.

The general contents of the archives inventoried and a list of those contents were presented to the board at their June 1st meeting.

Initially the committee will recruit only retired members that have held "full" membership status and have served in an "active" capacity on behalf of the WHEA. The state reimbursement policy will be in effect for all volunteers who serve the committee under this new program.

The committee will work on behalf of the Member Services Committee at the annual conference this year in setting up the WHEA table top displays and staffing the first-time attendee booth. Because Dennis Havlik is the emcee for the 2007 annual conference and President-Elect for 2008, the Resource Committee has recruited Roger Haines to assist Robb Paulson at both the 2007 and 2008 annual conferences with those technical exhibition duties usually performed by Dennis.

"[The new Resource Committee will] recruit retired WHEA members to serve as volunteers [and to] manage all archival information ..."



Maintenance and Plant Operations Recognition Week Buttons, Banners, and Posters

By Kelly Roshell, Coordinator, Maintenance and Plant Operations Recognition Week



"You can order buttons [right now] by email, fax, mail or by calling [Kelly Roshell] with your order."

In an effort to unify the WHEA Maintenance and Plant Operations Employee Recognition Week and the annual ASHE Healthcare Engineering celebration week, the Member Services Committee and Board of Directors are pleased to announce that these events will coincide this year during the week of **October 21-27, 2007**.

Scheduling the WHEA recognition week to coincide with the ASHE celebration, provides us with an opportunity to celebrate with our 7,000 ASHE peers for an entire week, helps to align our focus with that of our national organization, and provides some opportunities for members to purchase gifts and commemorative items through ASHE that are not otherwise available for use in recognizing our healthcare engineering colleagues within Wisconsin.



**2007 Recognition Week Button Design
by Brent Skiba
Froedert Hospital, Milwaukee**

The annual commemorative button design contest for this special event was held and the WHEA Board of Directors made the winning selection at their June 1st board meeting. A big thank you to the talented contestants... and a big congratulations to the winner--**Brent Skiba, Froedert Hospital, Milwaukee!** The buttons will soon be going into production, along with the banners and posters (which are not dated and are designed to be used year after year.) We are currently accepting orders from WHEA members for delivery at the Annual Conference in Green Bay (preferred) or for mail order to your facility. There is a button order form in your annual directory on page 27. You may also order your buttons, banners and posters on the WHEA website or contact:

Kelly Roshell
Coordinator, Maintenance and Plant Operations Recognition Week
Owner/Designer
706 Lynn Street
Chippewa Falls, WI 54729
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715.726.0188 (FAX)
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WHEA Foundation Progress Report

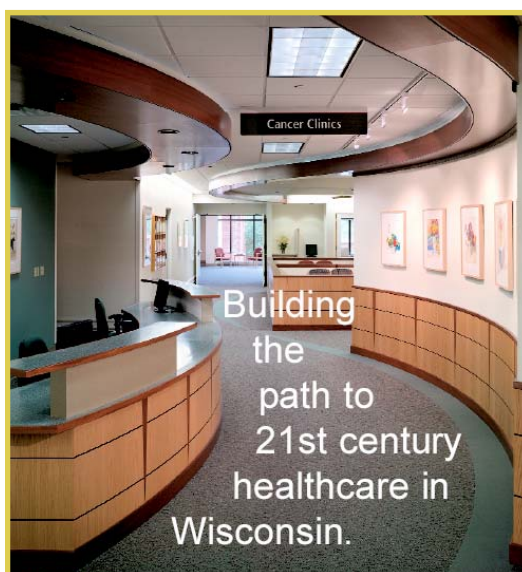
By Wayne Johnson, Foundation Committee Chair



"...the ad hoc Foundation Committee ... [is beginning] to pull together worksheet documents, ...Articles of Incorporation, [and] Bylaws and [starting] to develop a shortlist of potential board members ..."

On behalf of the ad hoc Foundation Committee I am pleased to provide the following information regarding the status of the Foundation development project. A name for the new foundation has not been finalized but for the time being, we'll continue to pursue setting up the entity as a "charity" for tax purposes, but have already

learned from our legal council, Mr. Bob Roth and his associate Mr. Andy Neibler, that there will not be a problem using the term "foundation" in the name (there are significant tax advantages for creating a charity vs. a foundation). It is my hope that we will be able to meet within the next month to finalize our documents and begin assembling the Foundation board. The Foundation ad hoc committee members are: Wayne Johnson (Chair,) Tamarah Cox, Tom Laabs, Roger Elliott, Darwin Clausen and Mike Blackwood.



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Here's a status update on our current action plan:

1. Prepare a 3-year budget (draft has been distributed). This has been submitted to legal counsel, pending further review with the WHEA Treasurer, Tamarah Cox.
2. Prepare handout for chapter representatives. This will be completed after papers have been finalized and filed.
3. Prepare newsletter article. Reports to the board are being used to prepare newsletter articles.
4. Explore what to name new charity. Legal council has informed us at the March 9th meeting that we may use the term "Foundation". I believe this is the preferred terminology. Based on this I will refer to the Charity as the WHEA FOUNDATION INC. unless otherwise directed by the board.
5. Begin to pull together worksheet documents. Articles of Incorporation, bylaws and a packet of documents provided by the Rotary Club of Madison's Foundation have been received and distributed to the committee for review. They will be useful in developing our own documents.
6. Articles of Incorporation. The draft was received from legal counsel on May 16th, pending review by the ad hoc committee members.
7. Bylaws. The draft was received from legal counsel on May 16th, pending review by the ad hoc committee members.
8. Start to develop a shortlist of potential board members and begin making those contacts. The ad hoc committee members were polled and several names were suggested for consideration.

I would also suggest that any or all of the current committee members be considered for membership for continuity moving forward. The committee will need to work on job descriptions and membership criteria.



Chapter V

By Pat DeLong, Chapter President



Chapter V held its regularly scheduled meeting on April 26th at the Bloomer Medical Center. Twenty-four (24) members and one (1) guest were in attendance. Dennis Havlik, current WHEA Vice President provided some information about state board issues. The business meeting included committee reports and a review of the chapter goals.

Chapter V voted in four (4) new full members and two (2) associate members. Plans were discussed for the June 15th meeting scheduled to incorporate our annual outdoor camping event. Lunch was provided compliments of the Bloomer Medical Center.

After lunch, Roger Elliott provided a PowerPoint presentation on managing the Environment of Care. This presentation was specifically targeted at non-facilities personnel in healthcare settings and was shared with the membership of Chapter V for their use at their own institutions to help non-facility staff understand Joint Commission EC compliance issues.

2007 Goals Status Report:

Accomplish a membership recruiting effort by utilizing associate members, vendors and brochures to reach potential new members.

Goal – 3 new full members.

Status – This goal has already been met.

Increase attendance at 3 of the 5 Chapter meetings by providing quality programs.

Goal – Minimum of 25 members in attendance.

Status – The February and April meetings achieved this goal.

Be sure our Chapter is represented at all Committee Meetings.

Goal – The President will contact our Chapter Representatives to ensure their commitment.

Status – Chapter Representatives are demonstrating this commitment.

Work with the State Board and Education Committee to get the mechanic programs in the Eau Claire/Chippewa Falls area.

Goal – Provide free room/financial supplement by State or from Chapter funds to enable this goal.

Status – Education Committee has provided a contractors' certificate program in April in Eau Claire.

Chapter V Membership Roster consists of:

44 Full Members

24 Associate Members

7 Retired Members

4 Life Members

"...a PowerPoint presentation on managing the Environment of Care ... was shared with the membership ... to help non-facility staff understand Joint Commission EC compliance issues."



Health Care Relationship Enhancement Team Update – Improving the Healthcare Construction Delivery System in Wisconsin

By Roger Elliott, with Tom Laabs



As reported in the 4th quarter newsletter of 2006, several work groups from within the health care facility management field, design/engineering professionals, contractors, consultants and representatives of the state Department of Health and Family Services (DHFS) Office of Quality Assurance (OQA) and the Department of Commerce (DOC) Safety and Buildings Division (S&B) have come together to collectively address some regulatory compliance issues and the speed at which plan approvals in the State of Wisconsin are processed. This

group is interested in looking at ways to improve the process by which construction of healthcare facilities are initially designed, move through the plan approval process and ultimately are constructed and inspected. It has come to be known, for the time being, as the "Relationship Enhancement Team." WHEA is officially represented within this group by WHEA President, Tom Laabs.

"[The Relationship Enhancement Team] has come together to collectively address some regulatory compliance issues and the speed at which plan approvals ... are processed."

ISSUES & DISCUSSION SUMMARY FROM RELATIONSHIP ENHANCEMENT MEETING of May 10, 2007:

Old Business:

- There is no second fee for withheld plans.
- Milwaukee will not be a plan check-in point at this time. Division of Quality Assurance (DQA) is exploring ways to accomplish this; however, at this point we do not have the staff.
- Courtesy reviews have resumed.

Key Points discussed under the small vs. large projects issues:

- Facilities are suggesting 2 tracks be in place for review. The difficulty again is

one of cost.

- Can the review timeframe exceed 45 days for larger projects?
- There's a need to differentiate between \$50 million and \$50,000.
- David [Soens] indicated that it's impossible to review projects continuously; therefore, small projects are reviewed in between the bigger ones.
- Small projects that are attached to a MOB come to DQA. Consider using cities that are willing to provide a conditional approval to begin the project and keep DQA in the loop. David will contact Commerce regarding allowing local inspectors to conduct some type of plan reviews.

Recommendation to the group regarding small projects: First contact the assigned engineer to review a small project, if no success contacts Bureau Director (Cremear Mims).

- **Electronic Tracking:** DQA staff is working on developing reports that will capture each step of the plan intake process.
- **Face to Face preliminary review:** The concern is the required HFS 124.29 (1) preliminary plans are not being submitted; review of the preliminary plans would identify problems up front and decrease the need for a final face-face.
 - Percentages of preliminary plans not received according to poll of non-long term care engineers. 90%, 70%, 50%, & 75%.
 - Group questioned if engineers could allocate time on site visits to clarify other construction issues. DQA will follow up.

Recommendation: submit preliminary plans in stages. Problems will be identified in progression instead of numerous problems at the end of the project that would be difficult to change.

(continued on page 22)



Health Care Relationship Enhancement Team Update – Improving the Health-care Construction Delivery System in Wisconsin *(continued from page 21)*

“This group is interested in looking at ways to improve the process by which construction of healthcare facilities are initially designed, ... constructed and inspected.”

HFS 124 code error: A new construction reference in HFS 124 and clarification documentation was provided. It was suggested to put the proposed rule change in an official memo and put the memo on the web.

The concerns brought forward were:

- The method of dissemination information.
- The State is citing without a code reference.
- What recourse is available if the response from the engineer is unsatisfactory?

What is the process of resolving concerns that are brought forth?

Response: Designers and providers should contact Acute Care Compliance Section (ACCS) Section Chiefs, Jan Heimbruch (Northern Team) Mark Andrews (Southern Team) or Cremear Mims (Bureau Director, Bureau of Health Services).

New Business:

- Question -- Why are engineers questioning R.A.C.E. procedures?
- Problems with engineers requiring staff to be quizzed before allowing occupancy. Is there a policy requiring this as part of the final inspection? Does staff know the policy, where exits are? David cited a LSC code 18.7 regarding questions about operating features & procedures as part of a construction inspection.
- There are concerns about engineers requiring evacuation route maps. David indicated the Department cannot require a posted evacuation map under the 2000 LSC. Historically, under the 1985 LSC the Health Care Finance Administration did imply this

was a requirement under K48 of form HCFA-2786. Note: HCFA-2786 is outdated and has been replaced by CMS-2786. However, other regulatory agencies may require a posted evacuation plan, or due to a complex exiting route (s) a facility may need a posted evacuation map for clarity. Once an evacuation map is posted, then it can become a LSC issue if it is not updated and maintained accurately.

How will the International Electrical Building Code (IEBC) be adopted? David stated DHFS would have to follow Commerce rules and Commerce can only issue the code interpretation. David will follow up with additional info.

Action Plan for Addressing the Issues:

- Commerce will be contacted regarding the possibility of Municipal Agent inspections.
- Commerce will be contacted regarding IEBC adoption issues.
- Electronic tracking processes will be investigated.
- Allotting time for other construction clarification with Engineers while they on site will be investigated.
- Placing interpretation memos on a web link will be investigated.
- A process for dealing with concerns will be investigated.
- Changing provider policies will be discussed with the field engineers by Cremear and David.

Engineers requiring non-code items will be followed-up on.

The group will meet again on August 9, 2007.



FOCUS on ENERGY Helps Healthcare Facilities Manage Energy Use

Provided by Holly Jensky, Hoffman York

"... health care facilities almost double the amount of energy [consumed] per square foot compared to the average use for commercial buildings."

"Focus on Energy realizes that energy costs account for a large percentage of operating costs within the healthcare industry ..."

With sharply rising costs and eroding profit margins, few would argue that the health care industry is a volatile one. In the face of these challenges, facility managers and shareholders are seeking cost saving solutions.

One area that health care facilities can address to save costs is energy. The industry ranks second, behind food service, on energy use per square foot, and health care facilities almost double the amount of energy per square foot compared to the average use for commercial buildings. "Hospitals, clinics, nursing homes and other health care facilities are some of the most intense energy users in the country," said Eric Wall, energy advisor for the Focus on Energy Business Programs' Commercial Sector. "However, these facilities can realistically cut their energy use, and costs, by as much as 30 percent."

Five Steps to Energy Efficiency

Improving a facility's energy efficiency is a complex undertaking, and facility managers don't have to do it alone. To make the process more manageable, Focus on Energy has summarized it in five steps facility managers can follow.

Step 1: Consult Energy Experts

Facility managers should be aware there is help available. Focus on Energy experts can help facilities implement energy and cost saving strategies to meet their specific needs.

Step 2: Manage Energy Using Systems Carefully

From lighting to heating and air conditioning, many energy using systems do not need to run at full capacity all the time, yet many do. Investing in technologies such as variable frequency drives (VFDs), occupancy sensors and setback thermostats can cut down on unnecessary energy output. One hospital in the Milwaukee area is saving approximately \$36,000 per year in energy costs after retrofitting VFDs into their heating, ventilating and air conditioning system (HVAC).

Step 3: Upgrade the Lighting

New high efficiency light fixtures and lamps (bulbs), such as T8 lamps with electronic ballasts, produce more light using less electricity, operate cooler and produce less noise com-

pared to the common T12 lamps. Another way to cut lighting costs is by using light emitting diode (LED) exit signs, which use less than five watts of electricity and offer virtually no maintenance or lamp replacement cost.

Step 4: Examine Mechanical Systems

Many mechanical systems, especially HVAC and water heating units, are oversized, which wastes money and energy. Facility managers should consider addressing this problem by downsizing the systems or redesigning them so their capacity matches the size and design of the building.

Step 5: Revisit Energy Efficiency Strategies

It is important for facility managers to realize that energy efficiency is an ongoing process that is never finished. As technology improves and facilities' need change, it is important to keep re-evaluating energy use and looking for ways to reduce costs.

"Focus on Energy realizes that energy costs account for a large percentage of operating costs within the healthcare industry. Therefore, the program has identified many solutions to help control those costs," said Wall. "Little changes can add up to big savings and big savings strengthen profit margins." In addition, businesses that purchase and install qualifying energy efficiency equipment can qualify for financial incentives from Focus on Energy. To learn more about controlling energy costs, facility managers can attend Focus on Energy's training classes.

About Focus on Energy

Focus on Energy works with eligible Wisconsin residents and businesses to install cost effective energy efficiency and renewable energy projects. Focus information, resources and financial incentives help to implement projects that otherwise would not get completed, or to complete projects sooner than scheduled. Its efforts help Wisconsin residents and businesses manage rising energy costs, promote in-state economic development, protect our environment and control the state's growing demand for electricity and natural gas.

For more information about how improve your business's bottom line with energy efficient measures or to find out about financial incentives, contact Focus on Energy at (800) 762-7077 or visit focusonenergy.com.



Healthcare Engineering Pioneer Award Nominations Due June 30th

By Roger Elliott, Member Services Committee Chair



"WHEA members who wish to nominate someone for [the Pioneer] award should submit nomination papers prior to June 30th so the board can evaluate all the nominations at the August board meeting."

The WHEA 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 stated 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 so the board can evaluate all the nominations at the August board meeting and be able to present the award at the annual banquet.

A more detailed description of the award concept, its purpose, the qualifications of candidates and an outline of the nomination and selection process included as a separate document within 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 President, Tom Laabs 920.236.1919 or tlaabs@affinityhealth.org.

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HEALTHCARE ENGINEERING PIONEER AWARD

Wisconsin Healthcare Engineering Association

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 is the 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."

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:

Candidates must be nominated by another member of the WHEA organization, 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.
- One (1) additional letter of support if so desired (not required)
- Other supporting documentation as needed to validate the accomplishments of the nominee.

Nomination papers must be submitted to the current state WHEA President for the previous calendar year, prior to June 30th of the current year.

The WHEA elected state board members will evaluate all submitted nomination papers, with the aid of a criteria-based scoring grid.

The selected recipient will be determined by a simple majority vote of the elected state board members.

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.

HEALTHCARE ENGINEERING PIONEER AWARD

Wisconsin Healthcare Engineering Association Nomination Form

I nominate the following individual for the _____ WHEA 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)
- ____ Supporting documentation: Published articles, Financial documentation, and other documents as needed to validate the accomplishments of the nominee.