

2nd Quarter  
Volume 20  
June 2010



## President's Message



Wade Rudolph  
WHEA President

In my contemplation with a cool refreshing beverage in my wife's flower garden last evening I was reflecting on the organization of WHEA. As the bees are busy in the summer making honey to sustain themselves in the colder months, so also WHEA is busy making plans for the annual conference, growing the knowledge of the members and supporting healthcare beyond just the normal traditional role of the healthcare engineer. If you listen closely, there is a tremendous buzz within the organization at this time. It is exciting to be in the hive.

The efforts to support the State of Wisconsin DHS/DQA with the new code work groups established this spring clearly demonstrates that the members of WHEA are not afraid to step up to improve the environment in which healthcare is provided in Wisconsin. These dedicated 16 individuals exemplify members living the mission of WHEA. Our participation in a truly collaborative way with the state demonstrates our commitment to our organizations, to healthcare, and to our communities.

The efforts of the Conference Committee and the Education Committee continue to pollinate the membership and beyond with knowledge and understanding. The programs already held this year were excellent. I continue to be amazed and am thankful for the members of these committees who are always working behind the scenes to meet our core mission of education. I am looking forward to the annual conference in La Crosse (September 14-17). Bringing in Mr. Jake Poore will be a great opportunity to demonstrate that we as an organization provide education that not only serves the technical aspect of our position, but also develops our members to serve beyond the traditional duties in engineering.

The work completed by our treasurer still inspires me to do more for the organization. We cannot thank Tamarah Cox enough for all that she does for WHEA. We are on solid financial ground in these turbulent times.

The work of the WHEA Foundation is exciting. This program has now hatched and is starting to make a buzz all on its own. I am excited to see this new hive of its own starting to grow exponentially in organization, actions, and sweet production.

*(continued on page 4)*

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# 2010 CALENDAR

## J U L Y

9	Education Meeting - Conference Call	9 am - noon
11-14	ASHE Annual Conference / Tampa Bay, Florida	
22	Chapter IV Meeting	9 am - 3 pm
23	Conference Meeting - Radisson Hotel, La Crosse	9 am - noon

## A U G U S T

TBD	Chapter II Meeting (Annual Golf Outing)	
2-5	ASHE Annual Conference	
4	Chapter VI Meeting	Noon to 3 pm
5	Code Committee Meeting - Glacier Canyon, WI Dells	12:30 - 4:30 pm
6	Board Meeting - Glacier Canyon, WI Dells	9 am - noon
6	Member Services Meeting - Glacier Canyon, WI Dells	1 - 4 pm
13	Chapter II Golf Outing	
18	WEBINAR - "Trends in Healthcare" (Dale Woodin)	
19	Chapter V Meeting	
20	Education Meeting - Conference Call	9 am - noon
25	Boiler Maintenance Educational Program, Stevens Pt.	

## S E P T E M B E R

9	Chapter I Meeting	4:30 -6:30 pm
14-17	WHEA's 45th Annual Conference	La Crosse
14	Conference Meeting (at conference)	10:00 am
16	Annual Meeting (at conference)	
16	Chapter II Meeting (at conference)	
16	Chapter III Meeting (at conference)	
16	Chapter IV Meeting (at conference)	



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## 2010 Pioneer Award Deadline Extended !

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 state board members by comparing all nominations received against a criteria-based scoring grid, and subsequently determining a recipient by a simple majority vote.

The traditional deadline for submitting Pioneer Award nomination papers is June 30<sup>th</sup>, but this year the board has extended the deadline to July 31<sup>st</sup>! However, it is important that all nomination papers be received by Wade Rudolph by the deadline extension so the board has time to evaluate all the nominations at the August 6<sup>th</sup> board meeting. This meeting is the last chance the board will have for determining a Pioneer Award recipient prior to 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 is included as a separate document on [page 3](#) of this newsletter. Please consider placing the name of one of your peers in nomination for the Pioneer Award. There is no shortage of very worthy candidates within our ranks. Please address any questions about the award, the nomination process, or any other concerns you may have to WHEA President, Wade Rudolph, 715.717.4997 or [wru-dolph@shc.hshs.org](mailto:wru-dolph@shc.hshs.org).

# Wisconsin Healthcare Engineering Association

## HEALTHCARE ENGINEERING PIONEER AWARD

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

### **The AWARD:**

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

### **Qualifications:**

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

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

### **Achievements & Contributions:**

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

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

### **Selection Procedure:**

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

### *(Presidents Message continued)*

The bylaws work completed by Bill Best is all too often unrecognized. I have come to greatly appreciate his knowledge, history, and input in keeping the organization operating within the boundaries established by the membership. As the organization grows and changes, it is always good to know where we have come from.

The Member Services committee (hard working, busy as bees) did an outstanding job again this year with the directory. This is no small feat, and our members have come to expect a high quality reference document. The addition of this to the WHEA web site makes this information much more accessible for us as we all become more dependant on electronic formats for documents.

Our Sponsorship support is truly honey for the organization. Without the support of these great companies, the quality of the education provided by WHEA would be at risk. However, this year we reached another milestone and can be assured that the organization will be able to provide pertinent, timely and needed education for the members of WHEA.

These examples are just a few of the activities at the state level. At the chapter level there is a distinctive buzz as each chapter is different, but yet bonded by a common mission. The chapters are strong, growing, and meeting the mission of educating its members. It is support and collaboration of the members at the chapter level that was inspiring to me as a young engineer 20+ years ago. This grass root level of activity makes WHEA what it is today.

As the bees all work together to sustain the hive, so also do the countless volunteer hours provided by the many members who make this organization healthy. Thank you for all you do for WHEA. We are all better because of you as members who support the organization.

**Wade Rudolph**  
**WHEA President**



## Chapter III Activities

*By Marc Teubert, Chapter President*

Chapter III has held two meetings since our last report. The

first was on March 18<sup>th</sup> at the Stone Toad Bar and Grill in Menasha. There were twenty-two members and three guests in attendance. A business meeting was conducted and included the review and approval of four new Associate members.

They are:

Sean McGlenn  
Class Air, Milwaukee

Shaun Neubauer  
JF Ahern, Fond du Lac

Jed Winkler  
Focus on Energy, Green Bay

Thomas Arnoldi  
Becker Boiler Co., Green Bay

At the conclusion of the business meeting and round table discussion a presentation was given on Universal Signage provided by O'Connor Sign Planning and Design and a presentation on Digital Signage provided by Cineviz Digital Signage Solutions.

The second meeting was held on May 19<sup>th</sup> at the Fox City Stadium in Appleton. There were twenty-two members and one guest in attendance. A business meeting was conducted and included the review and approval of three new Associate members. The new members are as follows:

Jim Fitzpatrick  
Madison Environmental  
Resources, Madison

Adam Wians  
Indoor Air Quality Diagnostics,  
Oak Creek

Kevin Smith  
Trane, Appleton

Chapter members agreed to again offer a CHFM scholarship to a Chapter III member. A drawing was held and the winner was Luanne O'Leary from Aurora Baycare in Green Bay.

It was also agreed to sponsor two Mechanics from chapter III for the MECH Certification. Any member can submit the names of Mechanics in their facility who is interested in taking the exam. A drawing was held from the names submitted and the winners were Ken Schmitz, Aurora Hospital, Oshkosh and Tom Lynch, Mercy Medical Center, Oshkosh. Congratulations to all the winners.

Due to the lack of nominees for Chapter Officers in the areas of Vice President and Officer at Large the election of officers was deferred to the September Meeting. At the conclusion of the business meeting the members in attendance enjoyed a Timber Rattler Game. The next meeting of Chapter III will be at 0730 on September 16, 2010 in conjunction with the annual conference in La Crosse.



## WHEA Attains ASHE Platinum Level Status

*By Gary Hempeck, ASHE Region 6 Director*

As your Region 6 Director and on the behalf of the ASHE Board of Directors, congratulations to the Wisconsin Chapter for excelling as a Platinum Level Chapter. We recognize your Chapter's contributions as a full pledge partner with the American Society for Healthcare Engineering (ASHE) in achieving its mission and goals.

There will be a special Awards Program on Sunday, July 11, 2010 in Tampa, FL in conjunction with the 47<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference and Technical Exhibition to acknowledge the Wisconsin Chapter's accomplishments. I will be in attendance and hope to personally congratulate you and members of your Chapter on your hard work during 2009 in helping to advance the field of health care engineering and facilities management. Again, congratulations on you and your colleagues' hard work!



## Chapter V News

*By Gary Gust, Chapter President*

Chapter V conducted a meeting on April 15th at Ayres Associates Eau Claire office. Tony Bennett presided. Ray Treffert from Gilman Care Center was elected as a new full member. Roger Elliott provided a preliminary draft of this year's directory. Wade Rudolph updated members on the state board's progress on the proposed new Executive Director position. Robb Paulson reported on some of the programs for the Annual Conference.

Our June meeting was held on June 24<sup>th</sup> at the Bridgewater restaurant in Chippewa Falls. A round-table discussion was held after our representatives to the various state committees provided their reports. Marge McFarland, Safety Coordinator at Sacred Heart Hospital in Eau Claire provided the educational component for this meeting -- a review of the Joint Commission 96-Hr Sustainability standard. Several members of the chapter also took in an Eau Claire Cavalier baseball game in Carson Park later in the day.

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## Education Committee Report

*By James Teunas, Committee Chair*

The Education Committee has held four educational opportunities in the second quarter.

There were three webinars. On April 8th, Dick Pearson from Pearson Engineering in Madison, WI presented the webinar *“Energy Management in New and Existing Buildings: A Sustainable Activity”*. It received very good reviews from the 42 registered attendees.

*“Legionella: Complying with Joint Commission Environment of Care Standard”*, a hot topic webinar, was presented by Tim Keane a consultant for the EICC (Environmental Infection Control Consultants) on April 29th. It had 47 registrants and also received high marks.

Bill Lauzon from the Department of Health Services presented a webinar on June 8th titled *“Top 10 Survey Deficiencies”* which had 57 people registered. It was a well received program with excellent feedback from the participants.

Our one site-based program *“Joint Commission 2010 - The Healthcare Environment”* was presented by Michael Chisholm from The Joint Commission on May 19th. This program also included a round table discussion with all attendees contributing their Joint Commission experiences. It was attended by 57 people and received excellent reviews.

Upcoming educational opportunities include:

August 18 - *“Trends in Healthcare”* Webinar presented by Dale Woodin from ASHE.

August 25 - *“Boiler Maintenance, Troubleshooting, and Problem Prevention”* at the Holiday Inn in Stevens Point.

October 28 - *“Healthcare Construction Certificate”* program at Saint Claire's in Weston.

**In 2010 our 3-year Healthcare Construction Certificate's will start to expire.** If you have attended a WHEA Healthcare Construction Certificate (HCC) program, you understand the importance of the information provided and the positive impact it has on healthcare facilities. By renewing your HCC, you demonstrate your continued dedication to understanding the needs of staff, patients and visitors when doing construction within healthcare facilities. Information and instructions for renewing your certificate can be found on [www.whea.com](http://www.whea.com) under Education and Training. You can renew your certificate by either attending a scheduled Healthcare Construction Certificate program again or by acquiring the requisite education contact hours and filling out the renewal form (also found on [www.whea.com](http://www.whea.com)) and following the remittal instructions. A great way to obtain the needed contact hours is by attending WHEA-offered educational programs. Also on our webpage is a listing of certificate holders and when each certificate is scheduled to expire. You can contact the WHEA Administrative Assistant if you have any questions.

*(continued on page 5)*



Michael Chisholm takes time for individual questions from attendees of the May 19th *“Joint Commission 2010 - The Healthcare Environment”* program held in Wisconsin Dells.

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(Education continued from page 4)

**The new and improved Speakers Bureau Database is up and running.** A major update has been made to the Speakers Bureau webpage at [www.whea.com](http://www.whea.com). It has a new user-friendly format that has a search feature that helps make searching for a speaker for your meeting or gathering much easier. This database change will improve speaker data entry, sorting and information access, and has become a shared resource for chapters and committees and a resource tool for educational support for our membership. If you or your company is interested in presenting a seminar/class to our members, please follow the link under Education & Training and Speakers Bureau to the "Speaker Faculty Input Form".



## Chapter II News

*By Doug Dunlap, Chapter President*

Chapter II has had two meetings since our last report.

On April 8th, a meeting was held at Meriter's Novation Building with a presentation on "Building Information Modeling" by Findorff. We had 37 members present. Two new members were voted in.

Minutes of the March 11<sup>th</sup> meeting were approved. Committee reports were provided and approved:

- John Pohlmann gave the treasurers report
- Jeff Boldt reported on Codes and Standards
- Dan Zank reported on the education committee
- John Pohlmann reported on the membership committee

May 6th our meeting and Annual Banquet was held at the Prime Quarter Steak House. We had 39 members and 11 guests present; six new members were voted in.

Minutes of the April 8th meeting were approved, and the following reports were provided and approved:

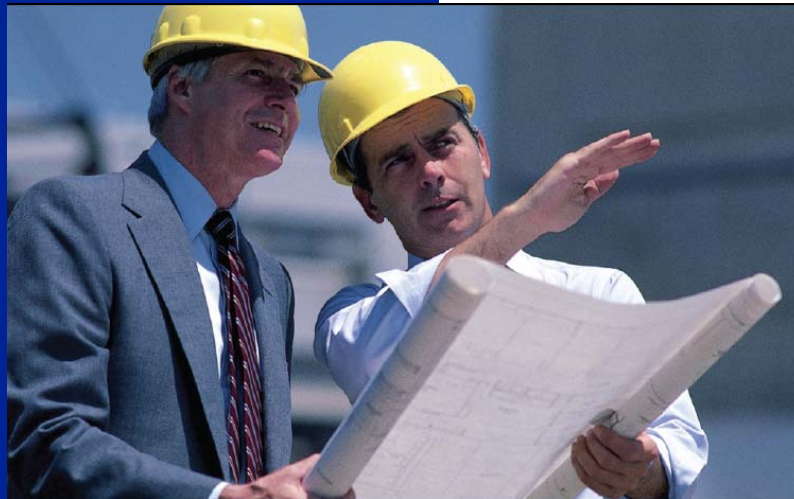
- John Pohlmann gave the treasurers report.
- Steve Vinopal and Jeff Boldt reported on Codes and Standards
- Steve Vinopal reported on By-laws
- Clarence Day and Dan Zank reported on the education committee

Our slate of officers for 2010/2011 were submitted and elected:

- Pete Goepfert-President
- James Moran-Vice President
- Derek Marshall-Secretary
- John Pohlmann-Treasurer
- Doug Dunlap-Past President

Chapter II rosters 65 full, 63 associate, 4 lifetime, 7 retired, 1 honorary member for a total of 140 members.

Our August 13<sup>th</sup> meeting will be a Golf Outing at the Bridges Golf Course Madison, Wisconsin and on September 16<sup>th</sup> we'll meet in La Crosse Wisconsin at the State Conference.



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## Chapter IV Activity

*By Randal Wegner, Chapter President*

### 2010 Goals for Chapter IV:

**Goal 1** is to increase membership by at least 5% over the membership roster status of October 1, 2009.

**Operational Plan:** Actively solicit memberships from Chapter IV institutions. Any current member sponsoring a new member that is accepted for membership will be eligible for a prize drawing conducted at the August Chapter IV meeting.

**Expected Outcome:** A 5% increase will be realized. **Status:** On target

**Goal 2** is to increase communication between the memberships via electronic media.

**Expected Outcome:** Electronic media communications deemed of interest to Chapter IV membership will be forwarded to the membership. At least one per month will be forwarded. **Status:** On target

**Goal 3** is to provide 1 educational session for the Chapter members hosted by St. Joseph's.

**Expected Outcome:** Chapter IV members will be invited to an educational program hosted by St. Joseph's that will contain pertinent and useful information.

**Status:** On target -- On July 22<sup>nd</sup> St. Joseph's Hospital in Marshfield will host an education offering to the Chapter IV membership which will feature Jon Cechvala from Eppstien Uhen. Jon is also co-chair for the WHEA Code Committee and an expert on codes and standards. Jon promises to have a very informative presentation. See you all there.

**Goal 4** is to provide financial support to WHEA Foundation.

**Expected Outcome:** Chapter IV will provide through member solicitation, monetary support to this endeavor of at least \$200.00 **Status:** In process: Support amount will be given to the WHEA Foundation at 2010 Annual Meeting.

On May 13<sup>th</sup> Chapter IV held a meeting at the Wausau Trap and Skeet Club for the Annual Chapter IV Trap Shoot. 12 members attended. The weather was extremely wet and windy but the shoot was held between squalls. Glen Arnold from Riverview Hospital, Wisconsin Rapids continued his dominance in the event and successfully defended his title from last year. Tom Boers from Antigo made a valiant effort but fell one bird short. The rest of the shooters were busy making excuses with the rain and wind being the primary cause. Congratulations Glen on another "schooling" of the group. Attendees had a short business meeting which included the drawing for the free annual conference voucher. Communication was given on the loss of Bob Botts, one of the founders of WHEA. Also communicated was that WHEA again attained Platinum Affiliation status. We can all certainly be proud of that distinction which reflects the hard work and active participation by all members of our organization. Very few state chapters attain this level of affiliation. We look forward to seeing you at Ministry Saint Joseph's Hospital in July for what will be a valuable educational program. Stay well.

## 2010 Directory Addenda & Errata

Although the Member Services Committee expended long hours of composition and proofreading to ensure that all information printed in the 2010 Annual Directory is current and accurate, it seems almost an impossible task to get it perfect every time. In an ongoing effort to improve the effectiveness of our Directory, the Member Services Committee provides corrections for the Addenda (omissions) and Errata (errors) that are discovered after we've gone to print. Fortunately, there has been very little brought to our attention so far. Here is what we have:

### Addenda:

The top photo on the front cover was identified on page 3 under the **WHEA Annual Directory** column within the **Photography** credits as: "**Top Photo** – Interior view of Wheaton Franciscan Healthcare in Franklin, WI, provided by HDR Architecture, Inc." It should have also included a photographers' credit – **Photo credit:** ©2008 **balloggphoto.com**.

If any of you find anything else in the 2010 directory that needs to come to our attention, please forward that information to Roger Elliott, 715.717.7331 or [roger.elliott@sjcf.hshs.org](mailto:roger.elliott@sjcf.hshs.org).





**Robert  
Harlow  
Botts**

## In Memoriam



Robert Harlow Botts, age 88, formerly of Madison, died Tuesday, May 4, 2010, in Apache Junction, Arizona of a rare bacterial infection. He was born February 24, 1922 in Industry, Illinois to Harold and Audrey Botts. He graduated from Industry High School in 1940, and entered the Marine Corps the same year. He served in the South Pacific for about three years.

He married Mary Y. Litchfield, August 27, 1945, and they had 54 wonderful years together. They had two sons, James R. and Randy J. Botts. He was an active member of Bethany United Methodist Church, WHEA, the VFW in Middleton, and the Madison Lapidary Club. He belonged to the Marine Corps League, the DAV, was a lifetime member of the NRA, the Purple Heart Organization and the VFW in Apache Junction. Bob was discharged from the Marine Corps in 1946, and moved to Macomb, Illinois, where he worked at Arnold Bros. and the McDonough County Hospital. He also worked at Admiral in Galesburg.

In 1959 the family moved to Madison, where he was superintendent of building and grounds at Madison General Hospital (Meriter) until he retired in 1982. Bob and Mary then wintered in Arizona, and spent the summers in Madison. They had many fun filled years traveling around the country. In December of 2007, he moved to Roadhaven Resort in Apache Junction, Arizona. During his time at the hospital he was a charter member and founding father of WHEA (Wisconsin Healthcare Engineers Association) established in 1965. He was to receive his 45 year award this September. He also belonged to ASHE (American Society of Healthcare Engineers) where he was the first member to achieve Fellow, their highest level.

Bob was on guard duty in San Diego, when Pearl Harbor was bombed and came home in August 1945. He loved to tell about his experiences. The eight island landings from New Georgia, the Solomon's, Guam, the Marianas, Okinawa, and Ryukyu, gave him lots to talk about. He was involved with setting up the tank units and was a tank commander for the duration of the war. He received a field commission to 2nd lieutenant just before coming home. The Silver Star, bronze star and Purple Heart were among a few of his awards. He is in the "Hall of Heroes" at the VA Hospital in Madison, and his pictures and papers were donated to the Wisconsin Veterans Museum.

Bob supplemented his income after retirement with a second career of making and repairing silver and turquoise jewelry and digging his own stones. He was very involved in the Lapidary and Mineral Club. Many people have his custom "R and M Crafts" jewelry. Hunting and fishing were a passion from childhood. He loved camping in the winter, while hunting deer, trout fishing on Lake Michigan, pheasant and grouse hunting and many other outdoor activities. Protecting the 2nd Amendment was one of his great concerns.

He is survived by a son, James (Lora) Botts of Fitchburg, their daughters, Heather (Brian) Warlan and Emily Botts, all of San Diego, California; and three grandsons, Brendan Botts and great-grandchildren, Jordan and Noah of Georgetown, Louisiana, Eugene (Danica) Botts of Broussard, Louisiana, and Shawn Botts of Lafayette, Louisiana; two sisters, Pat (Jack) Waggoner of Macomb, Illinois, and Donna (Dick) Raffensparger of Tucson, Arizona; a brother, John (Barbara) Botts of Rushville, Illinois; the Litchfield sisters, Maxine Greuel of Industry, Illinois, Mildred Beans of Vermont, Illinois; the Litchfield brothers, Maurice (Georgia) Litchfield of Industry, Illinois, and Marshall (Joyce) Litchfield of Macomb, Illinois.

Bob was preceded in death by his wife, Mary; his son, Randy on January 15, 2010; and brothers, Roland and Max. Services were held Friday, June 18, 2010, at the Clugston-Tibbetts Funeral Home in Macomb, Illinois.

## Codes and Standards News

By Jeff Eckstein and Jon Cechvala, Co-Chairs

The Code Committee continues to serve WHEA members in 3 areas:

- Providing timely **Code Alerts** updates
- Participating in **Advocacy** efforts
- Conducting code & construction related **Education** programs



### Code Alerts and Code and Standards Reference:

In 2010, the committee is tracking the following issues for potential Code Alerts development:

- Revision to #25 – Med Gas System Maintenance Medical Gas cylinder storage requirements- New Code Alert is being prepared regarding securing of stored and in use cylinders
- The Code and Standards Reference will be upgraded by the Annual Conference

### Code Highlights:

**FGI Guidelines:** The State of Wisconsin currently adopts portions of the FGI/AIA 2001 Guidelines Edition through the Department of Commerce. The portions adopted are the Mechanical Sections which include medical gases and ventilation. The ventilation tables defines minimum air changes, minimum outside air changes, percentage of minimum humidity, temperature ranges and pressure relationships for infection control purposes. The State is considering adopting a newer edition. The 2010 FGI Guidelines was released for print earlier this year. The State is reviewing the 2010 as well as the 2006. The 2010 is the first edition to combine ASHRAE ventilation standards. The 2010 contains several new requirements. It increases the amount of air for operating rooms to a minimum of 20 air changes per hour. It also requires infectious isolation rooms to be maintained constantly negative. Both of these standards provide good better protection for containing infections but, require more energy usage. The Joint Commission references the 2001 FGI/AIA guidelines under EC.02.06.05. EP1.

**NFPA 99-Medical Gas Chaining:** The 1999 edition of NFPA 99 published two editions of a similar code. The reason for this has not been determined. One allows group chaining of medical gas cylinders and the second edition requires individual chaining or individual securement. Both DHS and the Joint Commission have adopted the 2<sup>nd</sup> edition as the official code. Surveyors have group chaining as a deficiency. What is further interesting is that later published editions of NFPA 99 i.e. the 2006 and beyond, again allow group chaining. We do not believe waivers will be granted. The Code Committee is currently working on a revised code alert #34 to reference to these requirements, as well as a revised code alert #25 for medical gas system maintenance.

**CMS Memorandum: Corridor Wall Mounted Technologies:** CMS has issued a revised memorandum originally dated August 12<sup>th</sup>, 2004; S&C-04-41. The new memorandum is dated May 14<sup>th</sup>, 2010; S&C-10-18-LSC. (See attached memo). The memo's intent is to clarify installed of computer wall mounted terminals in corridors of inpatient facilities. The however makes references to other wall equipment named: artwork, wreaths, sharps disposals, infection control supply cabinets, lighting devices, with the caveat that all devices extend no more than 6" from the corridor wall and do not conflict with other sections of the Life Safety Code 101. The confusing part of the memo is the specified distances referenced in the memorandum. Clarification as to how applied to multiple when installed units adjacent to each other. The Code Committee has contacted DHS and will monitor comments.

**WHEA Codes and Standards Reference:** The WHEA Code Committee has published a Codes and Standards Matrix spread sheet since the early 1990's. The Board has requested the Code Committee continue the reference guide. The Code Committee will have it available by the Annual Conference. KJWW will take the lead in the update. WHEA members with suggested changes should contact Jeff Boldt, PE at KJWW Engineering.

**DHS Engineering Consolidation:** DHS is restricting and merging the Nursing Home and Hospital engineering-architects staff into one section under an engineering-architect supervisor. This was how the engineers and architects were structured prior to 1993. The engineering-architectural staff was split for survey purposes. The new section will titled the Office of Plan Review and Inspection – Division of Quality Assurance. Bill Lauzon, PE will remain in the Bureau of Technology Licensing and Education – Division of Quality Assurance.

(continued on page 9)

## Code Committee (continued)

**The Joint Commission Survey Actions:** The Joint Commission has been surveying a number of Wisconsin Facilities. Reminder: the previous Environment of Care Standards for Physical Environment has been separated the EP Standards into three separate sections. The **Environment of Care – Life Safety – Emergency Preparedness**. The Joint Commission is increasing the emphasis on Life Safety and Emergency EP standards. There still remain cross-walk EP references however between the three sections. There is not any one special focus area be raised from recent surveys. Some of the key items include:

- Fire Drills including construction areas contractor workers
- Life Safety Assessment – coordination with BBI
- ILSM – Interim Life Safety Management
- ICRA- Infection Control Risk Assessment – focus on teamwork
- Generator testing and documentation
- Sprinkler and Fire Pump Testing (weekly-monthly-quarterly-annual testing documentation)
- Emergency preparedness focus areas and community involvement
- Maintaining corridors clear and unobstructed
- Maintaining exits and stairs clear

**ESRD's – End Stage Renal Dialysis:** DHS and CMS have initiated some ESRD dialysis surveys. The new Federal mandate requires review with Ambulatory Life Safety Standards (Life Safety Code 101 – chapter 19 or 20), the same Code Sections as Ambulatory Surgery Centers. Previously dialysis units were surveyed under the ILHR 5—64 or the newer ICC's -IBC-IMC building code and chapter 38 of the Life Safety Code 101. Key new areas of focus:

- Distinct part separations of the dialysis unit if multiple occupancy
- Sprinkler protection
- Emergency electrical back-ups
- Hazardous area containment
- Maintenance of egress
- Emergency Lighting

**Advocacy:** At our June 3 Code Committee meeting, we again hosted a fellow ASHE Region 6 member. We were happy to have a member from Minnesota attend to observe, and ask questions of our committee in action. This will hopefully assist the Minnesota chapter in establishing their own Code Committee and we wish them well in their endeavors.


**Education:** The committee is planning the following education sessions:

- Healthcare Construction Certificate seminars for contractors and vendors providing services to healthcare facilities - New Date and Location: 10/28/10 in Weston
- WHEA Annual Conference 9/14 – 9/17/10. We will be adding a ½ day of code related topics to our usual 1 day program.


Topics may include: Code Alerts Updates, WHEA Codes and Reference Standards, NFPA 99 Updates- Medical Gases and Electrical, Electrical Licensing, Fuel Oil Tank Testing & Certification, Elevators Update, FGI Guidelines, ANSI Update, ASHRAE 90.1, Fire Alarms Update, Documentation Needed during DHS surveys, Code Monopoly, Top Ten Code Issues, ESRD's - End Stage Renal Dialysis, OSHA Update, Emergency Preparedness, and Wisconsin adoption of the 2009 International Codes.

**Webinar's:** In conjunction with UW College of Engineering

- 6/17/10 Electrical Systems
- 6/24/10 Medical Gas Systems
- Fire Stopping – date to be determined
- Energy Conservation – date to be determined



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## Chapter I Activities

*By Neil Jensen, Chapter President*

Since the last report presented in March, Chapter I continued to meet for our monthly business meetings. Meetings have been at some great facilities this year with some very informative presentations which generated a beneficial exchange of ideas. We were even afforded the opportunities to have a meeting in April at the Mequon Nature Preserve with a presentation on Arc Flash and the May meeting at the Humphrey Scottish Rite Masonic Center with a presentation on Energy efficiency and renewable energy along with an educational tour of the facility and organization with some amazing American history.

Meeting attendance continued to improve (2010 goal of 10% improvement.) Additional Bylaw amendments were approved at the May Chapter I meeting and will be presented to the State for final approval and signatures. The Membership renewal process has been completed with a total of 235 members now listed in the Chapter I.

Officers elected for the next years' term are:

President:	Ron Heimann
Vice President:	Jeff Eckstein
Secretary:	Harley Herold
Treasurer:	Sheila Semrou
Officer at Large:	Roy Funk
Past President:	Neil Jensen

Our final meeting on June 4<sup>th</sup> is once again our annual banquet which was held at the Potawatomi Casino and banquet hall in the Tribal room. As we do every year, Chapter I will then enjoy a short summer vacation with no meetings scheduled until we get together again in September. Planning of the fall golf outing is underway and will be communicated as soon as details are finalized.

In closing, no chapter President could have a successful year without the countless, behind the scenes, efforts of his fellow officers and members. My heartfelt thanks goes out to all for affording me the opportunity to serve as the Chapter I President this year. Together we continue have the opportunity to provide the best healthcare facilities and services possible. Keep up the good work.

## WHEA 2010 Directory Now Available Online at [www.whea.com](http://www.whea.com)

*By Roger Elliott, Committee Chair*



The Member Services Committee is pleased to announce that we have a new service available to all WHEA members with a user name and password – you can now access an electronic version of the 2010 Directory (and all future Directories) on-line!

Hopefully, this will be a valuable tool for you when travelling, for reference in everything from board meetings to chapter meetings, for our members attending ASHE sessions and of course, regular daily use. So you no longer have to carry the directory around with you if you don't want to and you can recruit from your desktop or laptop, using the on-line directory as a reference.

There is a catch, of course.....

You must be a WHEA member.

You must have a user name and password (this is only posted on the MEMBERS ONLY section under the Directory Archive tab).

One last thing – this does not mean we are no longer going to print hard-copies of directories – directories in future years will still be printed for all members, but we will most likely reduce the number of "extra" directories that we print as spares for the chapters, etc.



## WHEA-ASHE Liaison

By Dean Pufahl, CHFM,  
ASHE Liaison

As your WHEA – ASHE Liaison, I will be working with Gary Hempeck, the ASHE Region 6 Representative and ASHE Staff to keep you informed of ASHE activities. I will be sharing information through monthly emails, WHEA Newsletter articles and forward the ASHE Region 6 Newsletter to all WHEA members.

It has become increasingly important to stay in-tune with national issues as many of those issues will impact us at the state or local level. The ASHE Advocacy Activities Update is your link to staying informed of these important issues. Periodically, ASHE will request your assistance in addressing Advocacy concerns either through direct feedback to a regulatory source (TJC, CMS or NFPA) or to ASHE Staff to support a unified position on a specific issue.

In the past few weeks I have forward to you the April and May updates on advocacy activities concerning issues on: *FDA Recall on power cords, Patient Lift Legislation, Indoor Air Contaminants and CMS Corridor Width Rule*. If you would like to know more about these issues, check out the details at the new [www.ashe.org](http://www.ashe.org) website. If you have not received these emails from me please make sure your chapter has your correct email address posted to the database roster on WHEAnet.



## Chapter VI Report

By Paul Harris, Chapter President

Chapter VI met on June 14, 2010 at the Cedar Creek Country Club. The Code Committee reported that they met on June 3<sup>rd</sup>. Pat Korish noted that underground fuel storage tanks will need to be tested. New electrical work will need to be done by a journeyman electrician under a master licensed electrician starting April 2013. Electrical maintenance of an existing item can be done by the plant electrician. Bill Lauzon is looking for mechanical contractors to sit on the HVAC committee that he has formed.

The Education Committee conducted a survey for on-line training to partner with MGI but companies could work with them directly at the same cost as partnering so the committee has decided to let each organization work with them on their own. This may be prohibitive for small organizations, so Roger Haines will take this information back to the committee. Education for the year

has remained the same. The chapter is looking for someone to join the Education Committee as Roger can't represent our chapter interests anymore as he has been retired for four years. Pat Flood stated that he would like to be on this committee.

The Member Services committee indicated that the new directory can be seen on the website and if you haven't received your copy or if you need additional copies of the directory please contact Paul. The Conference Committee met in April and reports the program has been set. Registration for the conference should be out soon. The Resource Committee reported that a storage facility has been acquired for use to store items for the conference and is located on Highway 16. If you need access to it contact Roger, Pat or Darwin as they have the keys to the facility.

All committee reports were approved as submitted. There was no old business.

Under new business, a nomination committee was formed to identify candidates for 2011 chapter officers.

Voting will be at the August meeting – Dennis Havlik, Al Neitzel, and Pat Flood are the nominating committee. It was also noted that the chapter is looking for a member to become the State Officer-at-Large. This would be a five year commitment.

It was also reported that the WHEA state board is considering creating a Executive Director position – Creating this position is being worked on and a proposal will be brought forward. They would be in charge of the Administrative Assistants and take care of the day to day activities. They would also take care of items to be handled between board meetings. This position would help relieve duties from the President who may have time constraints from their facility. It could also be a big help with committees.

Free ASHE membership – Looking for a full member to receive this membership. We need to submit this to the state board so we will need this done at the August meeting.

(continued on page 14)



## (Chapter VI Report continued)

Robert Pootz was approved as a full member.

A round table discussion took place concerned training for mechanics -- Certifications for mechanics may be required soon. It could be the MECH program or some other certification. Dean Pufahl is making this part of their job requirements. If they are current employees and they don't have the certification the company will pay but new hires this will be in their job descriptions and they will have to pay. For information of this contact Jim Hildebrand who does the MECH training or Jim Teunas.



The Conference Committee last met via conference call on Friday, April 9. All phases of the upcoming conference were reviewed with results showing plans coming together well. The education team has been working on a

## Conference Committee Update

By Mike Blackwood, Chair

great educational schedule. This year we will open the program with an exceptional nationally recognized speaker in Jake Poore. Jake's program, *"The Leader's Role in Creating and Sustaining an Exceptional Patient Experience"* will inspire you for the remainder of the conference. His skills were developed over his 18 year career with the Walt Disney Company as well as time with the Franklin-Covey organization. Feel free to pass information on this program to other managers in your organizations. While some programs are still being fine-tuned, the Wednesday program and a portion of Thursday will include WHEA Code Committee presentations. On Friday we'll close with Ode Keil, a program you won't want to miss.

The spouse program on Tuesday will be a relaxing cruise on a Mississippi River excursion boat. Thursday the group will stay in the La Crosse area for some shopping, lunch and a stop at Bauers Apples and Garden Center. Other events will include the Tuesday evening open house and Wednesday's technical exhibition and lunch. With La Crosse as the location for 2010, our conference will revolve around an Oktoberfest

theme. More details will be provided as planning progresses.

The early bird drawing cutoff date has been changed from July 2nd to July 16th. Be sure to register early!

Here are your Conference Committee goals for 2010:

- Produce a quality conference equal to or exceeding past conferences. (Measurement to document attendance, quality and net revenue for 2010 conference.)
- Explore options for a potential full day dual track education program. (Measurement to document educational programs for track and document conference evaluation results.)
- Define and coordinate educational programs provided by the WHEA conference, ASHE Region 6 educational programs and the WHEA management programs. (Measurement to document programs provided through each group and indicate method of collaboration in complementing programs.)

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knowledge of OUR  
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*-David Crouch,  
Chief Learning Officer,  
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## DQA Organizational Re-Structuring Announced

*By Otis Woods, Administrator, Division of Quality Assurance*

In June 2009 and again in January 2010, the Division of Quality Assurance (DQA) issued informational notices regarding timely response to the review of construction/remodeling plans and their subsequent construction inspections. The purpose of this memo is to provide information on the actions DQA has taken to address engineering workload and to provide a brief update.

We have implemented workload changes which have reduced the backlog by nearly 70 percent. DQA has taken a number of steps to address its engineering responsibilities. The vacant Civil Engineer-Advance position was filled and the new employee has been oriented on various engineering responsibilities including plan review. All DQA Civil Engineer-Advanced positions are now filled.

We are working diligently to eliminate the remaining backlog by mid to late June. It is a priority for this Department to explore and implement options that will improve the services we deliver and further reduce the time needed to complete these reviews.

We will be consolidating engineering functions to improve monitoring, cross-training, and create efficiencies. DQA will be centralizing engineering functions. The DQA Civil Engineer- Advanced positions will be moved from the oversight of the Bureaus of Nursing Home Resident Care and Health Services to the Office of Plan Review and Inspection (OPRI), which will be led by an Architect/Engineer manager. We believe that this structure will provide additional flexibility in assigning survey and plan review work load and will enable DQA to maximize its available engineer work time. In addition, the OPRI manager will possess the technical expertise and credential (Professional Engineer or Registered Architect) that will enable him or her to assist with workload as well as provide appropriate technical oversight to the ten engineers.

DQA plans to move forward with hiring the Architect/Engineer Manager and establishing OPRI in the near future.

DQA is cognizant of the importance of timely reviews of construction plans and recognizes provider's needs to meet construction deadlines and schedules.

Until the new Office of Plan Review and Inspection is up and running, please contact one of the following Bureau Directors for any assistance that may be needed:

- For Non-Long Term Care (Hospitals, ASCs, ESRDs)-Cremear Mims (414) 227- 4556 or (608) 264-9887
- For Nursing Homes-Paul Peshek (608) 267-0351
- For Assisted Living Facilities-Kevin Coughlin (920) 983-3189 or (608) 266-8598

Thank you for your cooperation and patience as we move forward with establishing the new Office of Plan Review and Inspection.

## MECH Certification Program Update

*By Jim Hildebrand, MECH Program Manager*

**MECH Recertification** – As we head toward January 2011, many previously certified mechanics at both the Certified and Senior Certified levels will be asked to recertify. Since, September of 2007, all mechanics have been notified of the recertification requirement. Certified Healthcare Mechanics (CHM) and Senior Certified Healthcare Mechanics (SCHM) will be required to recertify every five years. MECH recertification is not as complicated as other national certifications, but requires the same commitment to maintaining and upgrading technical skills.

Recertification basically involves documenting and verifying that each certificate holder has received a minimum of 6 hours of classroom instruction for each of the 5 years after certifying. Six hours of classroom time per year accumulates to the minimum required number of hours for recertification – 30 hours. It must be restated that each year, there must be a minimum of 6 classroom hours of instruction. Classroom instruction means time spent in training that requires the mechanic to leave his/her regular duties and to spend time focusing on learning something about a process, product, or system.

A recertification fee of \$60 to process the paperwork and reissue a certificate is being charged at this time. Both the documentation and the fee must be received by the MECH National Office before the certificate holder's recertification deadline. The recertification anniversary (or certificate expiration date) is printed on the official certification document. The recertification must occur during the month in which the certification expires. Persons not recertifying by the deadline date will need to take the certification test to retain certification. Those holding Certified Healthcare Mechanic (CHM) status may want to try for the Senior Certified Healthcare Mechanic (SCHM) level; the highest level of certification. This level requires a minimum of 4 years of experience on the job, in a healthcare facility and an affidavit verifying that experience. At the end of 5 years, a CHM would have acquired the experience and would now qualify to take the next level of certification test. This is the only way to attain the next level of certification – a certificate holder cannot recertify to the next level! Certificate holders that have been certified before September 2007 were asked to register for recertification. All of those who are registered will also be recertifying starting in January of 2011. MECH is happy to have satisfied several needs with the recertification requirement. Some of those needs were for certificate holders; some were institutional; and some were national. A few of them are listed below:

- The mechanics need to show continual improvement within his/her profession.
- The mechanics need to have a national certification that required recertification to qualify for pay bonuses.
- A third-party certification that is recognized as having what all national certification programs require.
- An instructionally recognized requirement for training and retraining initiatives.
- The documentation of training requirement for the mechanic, healthcare institution, and national certification service.
- A nationally recognized continual improvement requirement for all certificate holders.

## MECH Seeks Candidates for Board Membership

*By Jim Hildebrand*

The selection of board members to constitute the new MECH (Mechanic Evaluation and Certification for Healthcare) Board is under way. WHEA, as a Member Organization of the board (MO) is requested to nominate six members to serve on the membership board. It has been suggested that one Facilities manager and one Senior Certified Mechanic for each of three healthcare institutions sizes (large, medium, and small) be nominated.

Ultimately, two candidates for board membership will be selected from the six nominees, based on categories, functions, and responsibilities related to MECH Certification programs. The term of office will be 3 years from the date of installation with the chair selected each year from board members who have previously served a minimum of one year on the MECH Board. Terms shall be staggered, whenever possible, in an effort to maintain a continuing board membership representation where 2/3 of the board has served at least one year and no more than 1/3 of the board is new members at any time. Serving members may be asked to remain on the board to maintain this ratio of existing and new members.

WHEA members interested in serving on the MECH board or who have others in mind that they'd like to nominate should contact the WHEA President, Wade Rudolph, 715.833.4997 or [wru-dolph@shc.hshs.org](mailto:wru-dolph@shc.hshs.org).



## Get your User Name and Password to access the "Members Only" pages of [www.whea.com](http://www.whea.com)

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 new WHEA member or have not yet requested a password from us, you'll need to contact our Administrative Assistant, Jane Bruvold at [bruvold@sbcglobal.net](mailto:bruvold@sbcglobal.net) and she'll be happy to get you started. There is a great deal of important information available to you inside the "Members Only" area, but only if you have a user name and password!



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