

# Wisconsin Healthcare Engineering Association Newsletter

March 2014

Volume 24, 1st Quarter



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## Presidents Message

If you are a fan of winter, Wisconsin is definitely the place to be this year. It certainly will not go away without a fight. Perhaps we can use this extended time to plan our spring clean-ups, parking lot maintenance, and landscaping improvements.

While winter just seems to be dragging on, the WHEA calendar year is flying by. Even so, we have been able to get a few important things accomplished in the first

quarter of 2014. Highlights include approving a budget that reflects strong revenue as well as some significant expenses, Committees working diligently on programs and advocacy, and completion of our ASHE affiliation application (Platinum level). Affiliation with ASHE at a high level is important to our organization.

The past few months have also yielded areas that require focus. One



*Gordon Howie  
WHEA President*

important area is the process of applying for ASHE affiliation. I have made it a goal for 2014 to improve the application procedure so that it is easier to verify infor-

*(continued on page 2)*

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### *President's Message (continued)*

mation and start the process sooner. Another goal is to support the WHEA Task Force, led by Steve Vinopal, and their efforts to develop a strategic plan. I also plan to work with the Relationship Enhancement Committee to ensure its continued success.

Our first quarter Board meeting was held in March and we learned about great education and membership events happening at the Chapter level. It is always great to hear about the innovative things that the Chapters are doing and to share best practices.

As I stated earlier, this year is flying by and there is work that needs to get done. I am learning that WHEA is full of very talented and driven members, making the work manageable and enjoyable. I am confident this will be another successful year in WHEA's rich history.

## *Chapter III Report*

Chapter III met January 16th at Aurora Baycare in Green Bay. Our agenda started with a presentation on Building envelope and energy savings presented by Eric Larson of ECM Oshkosh. Eric presented on building envelope and its effects on energy costs and potential return on investment of repairs, he also discussed the processes to perform an envelope study from basic smoke test to building pressurization testing and the different processes for a building being constructed vs. existing buildings. Our second presentation was by Marge McFarland with an abbreviated presentation on infection control. Marge's presentation was based around infection control issues and the process of how to identify needs.

We approved 14 new associate members and 9 new full members; this is part of our goals to increase membership.

We passed a motion to sponsor 2 individuals for the MECH certification test. There was concern over the availability of testing, locations and proctors. Jim Teunas was going to check into this. The other part of the motion was approval of an individual to take the CHFM exam or any approved healthcare based credentialing certification or certificate.

We appointed Rob Chartier to be the Officer at Large for the remainder of the term; Tammi Hintz has resigned from this position previously. We checked into by-laws to make sure appointment was acceptable.

Our next meeting will be March 13<sup>th</sup>, at St. Vincent's Hospital in Green Bay with building pressurization as the educational portion and a tour of the facilities new chilled water plant.



*Tom Evers  
Chapter President*

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## WHEA CALENDAR

- Thu Apr 3, 2014** Chapter II Meeting  
Where: Fahrner Asphalt (Maint-George Polnow)
- Fri Apr 4, 2014** Member Services Meeting 9 am  
Where: Glacier Canyon, WI Dells  
  
Newsletter Mailing Deadline
- Thu Apr 10, 2014** Chapter I Meeting  
Where: Watertown Regional Medical Center  
  
WHEA Lunch & Learn Webinar  
11:30 am to 1:00 pm
- Fri Apr 11, 2014** Conference Committee Conference Call
- Wed Apr 23 -  
Fri Apr 25, 2014** Region 6 Conference, Mankato MN
- Thu Apr 24, 2014** Directory Mailing Deadline
- Thu May 1, 2014** Chapter II Meeting  
Where: Annual Banquet—Prime Quarter
- Thu May 8, 2014** Chapter I Meeting  
Where: Hunzinger Construction  
  
WHEA Lunch & Learn Webinar  
11:30 am to 1:00 pm
- Fri May 9, 2014** Education & Professional Development Committee Meeting 9 am  
Where: Glacier Canyon, WI Dells
- Thu May 22, 2014** Spring Code Conference  
Where: Glacier Canyon Conference Center, WI Dells
- Fri June 6, 2014** Newsletter Article Deadline  
  
Code & Standards Committee Meeting  
Where: Glacier Canyon, WI Dells
- Thu June 12, 2014** WHEA Lunch & Learn Webinar  
11:30 am to 1:00 pm
- Fri June 13, 2014** Board Meeting 9 am  
Where: Glacier Canyon, WI Dells  
  
Member Services Meeting 1 pm  
Where: Glacier Canyon, WI Dells
- Fri June 27, 2014** Annual Conference Early Bird Prize  
Drawing Deadline  
  
Newsletter Mailing Deadline



## Codes & Standards Committee Report



Jeff Eckstein  
Co-Chair

Since the 12/5/13 Board Meeting, the committee has met once – on 03/11/14. The next scheduled committee meeting is 6/10/14.

Membership: 33 Full and Associate members with at least 2 members from each Chapter.

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

Proving timely **Code Alerts** updates

Participating in **Advocacy** efforts

Conducting code and construction related **Education** programs

### Goals Update:

Continued support of WHEA through:  
**Code Alerts**  
**Education**  
**Advocacy**

Measurement of Success: Development of Code Alerts required informing the membership on codes and standards and successful completion of the following goals

Status: **In progress**

Support the Education committee as a resource for their education programs that align with WHEA's mission.

Spring Code Conference  
Annual Conference Program  
3 HCC Programs  
Web Based Code Update as needed

Measurement of Success: Successful completion of these educational programs by 12/31/14

Status: **In progress.**

Support WHEA members with active participation on advocacy efforts at the National and State level regarding development of new or revisions to existing healthcare code and standards.

National: FGI, ASHE Advocacy Liaison, NFPA, ASHRAE, DOE, ICC

State: DSPS (formerly COMM), DHS

Measurement of Success: Representation on the preceding groups

Status: **In progress**

(continued page 5)

## Chapter IV Report



Dennis Kwasny  
President

The March 13<sup>th</sup> meeting was held at Aspirus Wausau Hospital. After the meeting and lunch all members present toured the new Surgery Center suites and associated mechanical room and sterile cleaning areas.

17 members were in attendance. At the meeting we approved 16 new chapter members.

2014 officers have changed to the following:

Dennis Kwasny-President  
Dan Schrameyer-Vice President  
Chuck Kostka-Secretary/Treasurer  
Robert Whitney-Officer at Large.

May meeting will be held at the Wausau Skeet Club for our annual skeet shooting trophy.

August meeting will be held at St. Michael's Hospital to tour facility chiller room.



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## *Code Committee Report (continued)*

### **Code Alerts:**

The Committee is tracking the following issues for potential impact on the membership.

- CMS & IBC Occupancy Classifications i.e. changes in Surgery Centers & Clinics
- CMS Categorical Waivers for Hospitals and Nursing Homes and Implementation by DHS and The Joint Commission
- CMS Life Safety Code Component for ESRD-End Stage Renal Dialysis Centers & Waiver requirements for Construction and Operation Standards
- Wisconsin Department of Safety & Professional Services potential Adoption of FGI – Facility Guidelines Institutes Standards i.e. the 2014 edition.
- Wisconsin Department of Safety & Professional Services Electrical Plan Review & Inspection Changes
- Utility Load Curtailment & Generator Emissions during Peak Shaving
- ASHRAE 170 and New Energy Standards.
- CBRFs crosswalk – HFS 83
- Storage in Hospital and Ambulatory Surgery Operating Room Suites and Spaces.& OR's
- Fire Alarm Testing Changes
- OR's - Wet Locations and NFPA 70
- ASHRAE 188 Legionella Standards
- CSI Cabling
- NFPA 101 – 2012 edition
- NFPA 99 – 2012 edition
- DHS 124 update

### **Advocacy:**

#### ASHE Liaison Committee

The Code Committee will be represented by Wade Rudolph with Jon Cechvala and Jeff Eckstein as back up.

#### FGI – Facilities Guidelines Institute

Jon Cechvala, Wade Rudolph and David Soens par-

ticipated in the third session of the 2014 edition revision process in April in St Louis. Final Voting is this week.

### ICC

The International Code Council (ICC) is conducted final hearings October 24-28, 2012 in Portland OR to determine what will be included in the 2015 edition of the I-Codes. Jon Cechvala represented WHEA at the hearings.

### NFPA 99 - new proposed Standard for Healthcare Facilities

The committee providing input through Tom Spremo.

### ASHRAE 90.1 Energy Code

Jeff Boldt is a voting member and chairs the Healthcare Working Group

### ASHRAE 62.1

Jeff Boldt is a voting member

*(continued on page 6)*



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## *Codes and Standards (continued)*

### ASHRAE 170

Jeff Boldt is a voting member

### Advanced Energy Guide for Small Healthcare Facilities

Jeff Boldt was one of the authors

### Advanced Energy Guide for Large Healthcare Facilities

Jeff Boldt was one of the authors

### State of Wisconsin – Department of Professional Services Commerce

The committee is advocating at the state level by participating on:

Electrical advisory committee: Gordy Pierret and Tim O'Rorke

Plumbing advisory committee: Jeff Boldt and Wade Rudolph

Elevator code advisory committee: Greg Graunke and Joe Bena

### State of Wisconsin – DHS Relationship Enhancement Committee

The Jon Cechvala is representing the committee by participating on this committee.

### State of Wisconsin – DHS: Code Work Groups –Are now defunct

IMC: Jeff Boldt was a member of the advisory council

IECC: Jeff Boldt was a member of the advisory council.



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## Chapter V Report



*Bob Dubiel*  
*President*

Chapter V last meeting was cancelled due to weather.

Future meetings:

**April 17th**—MCHS-Eau Claire / MECH Training

**June 19**—Barron / Golf Outing

**August 21**—Spooner

**October 16**—Wild Emerald Ridge Game Farm



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## Chapter VI Report

September 10<sup>th</sup>: Education was an update on NFPA 99-Health Care Facilities Code 2012 Edition, 24 members in attendance. Officers for 2013-2014 were reviewed. We voted to approve the applications for membership for (2) new members.



*Kevin Feyen*  
*Past President*

President: Kevin Feyen  
Vice-President: Wade Rudolph  
Secretary: Jeneen Ablan  
Treasurer: Donella Sarauer  
Office-At-Large: Troy Torgerson

### Past Meetings:

January 7<sup>th</sup>: Tour of Gundersen Health Systems Bio-Mass Boiler, 23 members in attendance. We voted to approve the applications for membership for (2) new members.

March 4<sup>th</sup>: Mini Trade Show at Gundersen Health System, 34 members in attendance. We had 8 vendors in attendance to discuss their services.(Allegion, Boldt, Class 1 Air, Findorff, I&S Group, Kraus-Anderson, Market & Johnson, Steam Management) Another successful event. Both members and vendors appreciated the time and discussion. We will continue to provide this for our members. Discussion of officers for the 2014-2015 year took place with election to happen at our May meeting.

Our next meeting will be May 6<sup>th</sup> and the education piece to be determined. We will also have our social event on June 9<sup>th</sup> at Cedar Creek Golf Course.

## *2014 Robert H. Botts Healthcare Engineering Pioneer Award*

*Nominations Deadline is June 30, 2014*

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

WHEA members who wish to nominate someone for this award should submit nomination papers prior to June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2014 so the board can evaluate all the

nominations at the August board meeting and be able to present the award at the 2014 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 in the following 2 pages of this newsletter. Please consider placing the name of one of your peers in nomination for the Pioneer Award. There is no shortage of very worthy candidates within our ranks. Please address any questions about the award, the nomination process, or any other concerns you may have to the WHEA Members Services Committee chair, Roger Elliott, 715.717.7331, [roger.elliott@hshs.org](mailto:roger.elliott@hshs.org) or WHEA President, Gordon Howie, 715.838.3888, [howie.gordon@mayo.edu](mailto:howie.gordon@mayo.edu).

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## *Chapter Leaders*

*It's Time To Determine the Winner of your FREE 2014 ASHE Membership!*

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 next calendar year.

It is very important for chapter leaders to understand the purpose of the ASHE membership scholarships and who is eligible to receive them. These memberships should not be provided to anyone who is or has been an ASHE member in the past! The concept behind providing these memberships is to promote ASHE membership from within the ranks of those who for whatever reason have not been able to secure membership. For further clarification on the rules governing free membership scholarships from ASHE, please contact me at 715.717.7331, or [roger.elliott@hshs.org](mailto:roger.elliott@hshs.org).

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. Several chapters hold elections for officers in the spring, and we suggest that this is also an excellent time to select the ASHE free membership nominee, as well. So, whatever method your chapter chooses to determine your recipient, please make sure that he/she is identified prior ASAP, but no later than the 2nd week of September!

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## Chapter I Report



*Harley Herold  
President*

Chapter one has been working on bringing more members into its meetings. We welcome guests at our meetings to give them a chance to know what we do. Our meetings are held in interesting places to give our members a chance to get away, have some great education, relax, and socialize. By meeting this way we have members wanting come to our meetings. The social part of our meetings gives these members a chance to talk and share experiences and knowledge.

One reason our full membership is growing is due to the Mechanic members being informed of what is available to them through WHEA. Many of these Mechanic members did not know a lot about the WHEA organization. Once they find out what we do, some of these mechanic members have been becoming full members. With the consolidation of management and the reduced FTE's for healthcare work it is a good to see growth in this part of Chapter ones membership. Last year we had the opportunity to bring five Mechanical members to the conference. Chapter one would like to continue this opportunity.

WHEA Chapter One is looking at giving grants and scholarships for members to attend the WHEA education. We would like to continue giving Mechanical Members the opportunity to attend the annual conference. This focus is directly in line with WHEA and its mission. Our goal is to give members that do not have the opportunity to attend these education events a chance to go and improve there knowledge. Our effort is just in its beginning stage so we will have more to report as we move ahead in the coming months.

## Conference Committee Report

The Conference Committee continues to finalize details on this year's annual conference. The schedule will again include a guest speaker on Monday, WHEA Code Committee updates on Wednesday, and will include a Q & A program with DHS staff members and special speakers to finish out both Thursday and Friday.



*Mike Blackwood  
Conference Chair*

Conference registration will be open soon. Keep checking the website and watching your emails for information on the conference. The Technical Exhibition registrations are coming in strong and there is every indication that we will again have our booth space sold out this year. If you haven't registered yet, be sure go to [www.whea.com](http://www.whea.com) under the Annual Conference tab and reserve you booth space.

We hope to see everyone in Green Bay in September!

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## *Education and Professional Development Committee Report*



*Jim Teunas  
Co-Chair*



*Marc Teubert  
Co-Chair*

The first 3 webinars of the newly introduced “Lunch and Learn” webinar series have been broadcast with great reviews for both the webinars and the presenter, Bill Lauzon, with approximately 200 attendees listening in at each session. The first three have referred to life safety. The next webinar in the series is on April 10th and will be presented by Marge McFarlane on infection control. The May webinar will be on fire doors. The remaining webinars will continue with additional life safety topics. It is not too late to register for these webinars, once you register, you will receive recording links to the first 3 webinars that you can watch at any time. The cost for the full series is \$300 for WHEA members and \$500 for non members. To receive the member discount you must register on the WHEA members only site. If you do not have access to the site, contact Jane Bruvold at [Bruvold@sbcglobal.net](mailto:Bruvold@sbcglobal.net) and she will set you up.

We have had one site program so far this year, the first of our 3 Healthcare Construction Certificate programs. As usual, it was a well-attended success. A huge thanks to the WHEA Code Committee for

their hard work and dedication to this important safety program. There are 2 more of these programs scheduled, one on June 25th in La Crosse and the last on October 15th in Appleton. Registrations for both those programs will be open approximately a month before the program date.

Our next scheduled site-based program is the Thursday, May 22nd “Spring Code Update” presented by the WHEA Code Committee. Registration will open on April 22nd at [www.whea.com](http://www.whea.com) under the Education tab.

The Educational and Professional Development Committee continues to strive toward providing the best educational opportunities for the WHEA membership and beyond. If you have any questions or suggestions, feel free to contact Jane Bruvold, Jim Teunas or Marc Teubert.



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# Employment Opportunities

Are you looking for a change -- an opportunity to advance your career?

Check out pages 11-14 for employment opportunities available for healthcare facilities professionals.

## Maintenance Mechanic / St. Agnes Hospital, Fond du Lac

**Description:** St. Agnes Hospital, an entity of Agnesian HealthCare located in Fond du Lac, WI, is currently seeking a Maintenance Mechanic. This position is a 1.0 FTE position (40 hours per week). Work hours are Monday through Friday 7:30am-3:30pm and subject to "on call." This position is responsible for Performing maintenance and repair work on various types of mechanical equipment in Agnesian HealthCare owned and operated buildings.

**Requirements:** Technical college training in Boiler Operation/HVAC Systems, Refrigeration, Hydraulics, Pneumatics is preferred. Valid State of WI driver's license. Requires 5 years related experience or an equivalent combination of education and experience.

**Apply by visiting our website:** <http://www.agnesian.com/careers>

**About us:** Agnesian HealthCare is a sponsored ministry of the Congregation of the Sister's of St. Agnes and is comprised of Consultant's Laboratory, Fond du Lac Regional Clinic, St. Agnes Hospital, St. Francis Home, Waupun Memorial Hospital, Ripon Medical Center, and Agnesian HealthCare Enterprises all under One Name: Agnesian HealthCare. All under One Mission: We at Agnesian HealthCare provide compassionate care that brings Hope, Health & Wholeness to those we serve by honoring the sacredness and dignity of all persons at every stage of life. Our mission guides everything we do as an organization and will guide you as an employee of Agnesian HealthCare. We are intent on providing you a superior employment experience. You will have the opportunity to join a team that has been honored in the past with patient safety and quality improvement honors, including achieving the Mastery level with the Wisconsin Forward Award. You will be working for a faith-based ministry that was founded over 100 years ago and has been voted Best Employer by citizens reporting to the Fond du Lac Reporter. As the needs of our employees

change, we respond by providing opportunities for you to share your suggestions and work toward your goals. Our entities are intimately tied to the communities that surround them. Employees are neighbors. Patients are friends. We live in tightly knit, family-oriented communities, which are reflected in our family-like work environment. The unrivaled collaboration all members of our Health Care team will inspire you to take extreme pride in your work. And our friends and neighbors are in better health because of this commitment. With six different entities and a large variety of primary and specialty care services, Agnesian HealthCare has a profession that is right for you! We want to welcome you as part of our Simply the Best Team!

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## *Employment Opportunities Continued*

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Candidates must have a high school diploma. An Associate's Degree in industrial technology related fields is preferred, and equivalent work experience is required. 5 years of facilities maintenance experience in a healthcare facility is preferred.

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## *Employment Opportunities Continued*

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Requires a minimum 8 years of specialized work experience within an HVACR discipline. Experience with low-pressure refrigeration systems required - specifically centrifugal chillers and air cooled scroll and reciprocating compressors and systems. Ability to interpret blueprints, electronics, pneumatic and various schematics. Experience with computer software relating to building automation controls, AutoCad and Microsoft Office helpful.

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