

# Wisconsin Healthcare Engineering Association

## Newsletter

October 2015

Volume 25, 3rd Quarter



### Inside this issue:

Presidents Message	1
Calendar of Events	2
Chapters II & III Reports	3
Pioneer Award	4
Founding Fathers Award	5
HVAC in Operating Room	6
Renovation Planning	7
ASHE Advocacy 2015	8
Annual Conference Recap	9
Members Only Access	10
2016 Sponsorship	11
2016 Directory Advertising	11
Education Committee	12
2016 Webinar Series	13
MECH Update	14
Chapters I & IV Reports	15
Employment Opportunities	16-20

## President's Message



*Marc Teubert*  
*WHEA President*

I would like start out by thanking the Conference Committee for a wonderful job in planning and putting together the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Annual Conference, it

was unforgettable. As your New President I am working at putting together our agenda for the first Board meeting which will be in December. At this meeting we will establish our 2016 goals based on the items addressed by the Task Force, approve the 2016 budget, reappoint the committee chairs and address any old and new business matters. I am looking forward to the upcoming year and meeting the challenges as they come up. What I have learned so far is that this

is a great and respected organization both in the state and nationally. It is filled with hard working individuals serving on all the various committees. I would like to remind everyone that if they have concerns or issues to contact their Chapter Presidents as they are your representatives on the board. Finally I would like to thank the membership for electing me as your president and hope that everyone has a Happy and Safe Thanksgiving.

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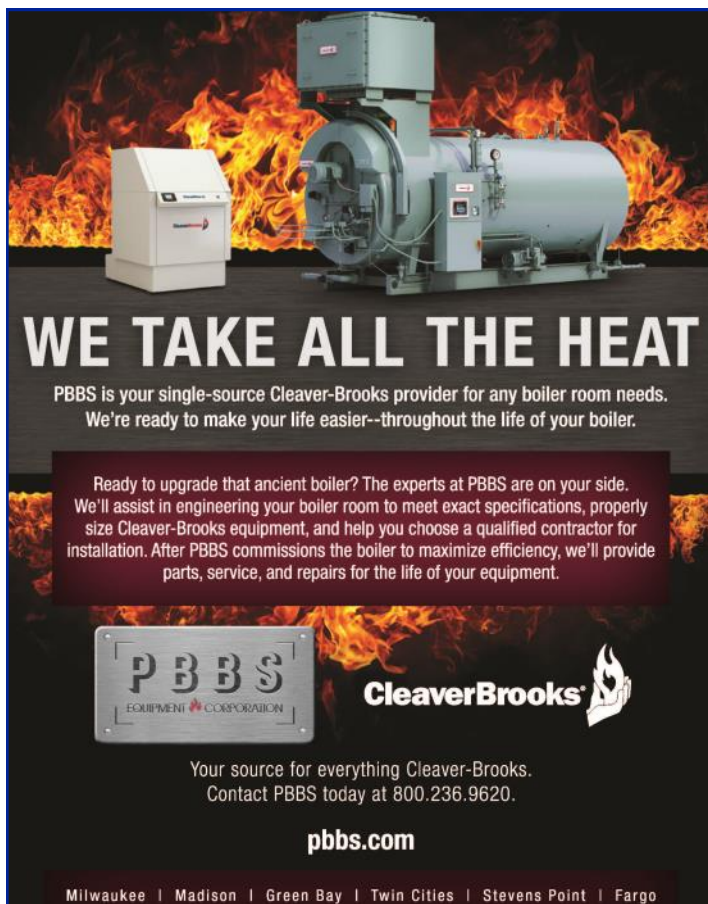
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## WHEA CALENDAR

- Thu - Nov 5, 2015** Chapter II Meeting - *Esquire Club - Presentation by Akita Box*
- Tue - Nov 10, 2015** Code Committee Meeting - *Glacier Canyon Conference Center, WI Dells*
- Thu - Nov 12, 2015** Lunch & Learn Series Webinar
- Thu - Dec 3, 2015** Chapter II Meeting - *Esquire Club - Presentation by JP Cullen*
- Fri - Dec 4, 2015** Newsletter Article Deadline
- Board Meeting (9:00 am) - *Glacier Canyon Conference Center, WI Dells*
- Member Services Committee Meeting (1:00 pm) - *Glacier Canyon Conference Center, WI Dells*
- Thu - Dec 10, 2015** Chapter IV Christmas Meeting - *Old Midway Motor Lodge*
- Lunch & Learn Series Webinar
- Fri - Dec 18, 2015** Newsletter Mailing Deadline



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## Chapter III Report



*Rob Chartier*  
Outgoing Chapter  
President

Since the last quarter we have had held our annual Chapter Golf outing at Fox Valley Golf Club.

Our last meeting was held in September at the WHEA Annual Conference in Green Bay.

Educational opportunities afforded our members were as follows; Jim Williams was awarded a chapter-sponsored WHEA Lunch and Learn Subscription, Michael Bergum was awarded a complimentary registration for WHEA HCC training, and Chapter III sponsored Full Conference Registration for ten (10) individual members.

Our newly elected Chapter Officers for the 2015-2016 term are as follows;

President  
Rick Helfrich

Vice President  
Greg Skaar

Secretary-  
Treasurer  
Amy Cote'

Officer at Large  
Chris Dahlbe

## Chapter II Report

Since the last newsletter, Chapter II has met twice: In August for our annual golf outing at Lake Windsor Golf Club and in September at the annual meeting in Green Bay. The golf outing was a success, as always, and we had beautiful weather to enhance the great company and golf. At the chapter meeting prior to the golf event, we drew the names of fifteen members and awarded each a free annual conference membership. We also voted in three new members that day.

Although not an official WHEA event, the Gary Rothenbuehler Memorial Golf Outing was held on September 17<sup>th</sup> at Pleasant View Golf Course. The outing is in honor and memory of a long-time WHEA member and great friend to many, Gary Rothenbuehler. Funds raised from the outing benefit a scholarship fund at UW Platteville in memory of Gary. In year one, the fundraiser funded \$6k in scholarship money, while last year \$8,000 was raised. From all accounts, this year was a success as well with 57 golfers in attendance.

The September chapter meeting, held on the Thursday morning of the annual conference, was well attended. Topics of conversation included a recap of the annual conference (the keynote speaker was a hit), the pending life safety code adoption, and Focus on Energy rebate opportunities. At the meeting, we also voted to maintain our current annual membership fees of \$35 per person.

As we kick off a new year, we look forward to bolstering the diversity and attendance of monthly Chapter II meetings. We have several great programs lined up already, including presentations by Akita Box, JP Cullen at Epic, and JF Ahern. The Chapter II officers met in October to brainstorm how we can improve the value of these meetings for our membership. We will bring forth these ideas to membership at our next meeting on November 5 at the Esquire Club in Madison. Several of our ideas will surely dovetail off of concepts we heard from other chapters at the annual meeting. For example, a potential new 'social event' is on

the table for the end of the year...stay tuned for more to come from Chapter II.

Respectively Submitted,

Debbie Scherer,  
President

Derek Schnabel, Vice  
President



*Debbie Scherer*  
Chapter President



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## *Robert H. Botts Healthcare Engineering Pioneer Award Presented to Bob Dubiel*

During the 50<sup>th</sup> Annual WHEA Conference banquet on Wednesday night, September 23<sup>rd</sup>, Bob Dubiel, the Director of Construction for Mayo Clinic Health System, Eau Claire, was presented the Robert H. Botts Healthcare Engineering Pioneer Award for 2015 by WHEA President, Al Neitzel. During presentation of the award the narrative included comments from Past President Gordon Howie about Bob's continuous focus on the needs of the patient at his facility and his long-time mentoring of many colleagues in and outside of his health system.

Bob was recognized as having been an active member in WHEA activities at both the chapter and state level. He regularly steps up to take a leadership position within Chapter V whenever there was a need to develop education programs, promote membership and take any leadership position needed regardless of his status. He has assumed the presidency of Chapter V on numerous occasions, and has often been sought out to serve on the Codes and Standards Committee. He has most recently also been asked to serve on the state Strategic Planning task force. He continues to serve as a presenter for the HCC certification program, as a presenter for ASHE Region 6 conference code issues and has been working on the DHS-124 rewrite initiative.

All of this work has been contributed without any expectation of anything in return. Bob sincerely strives to support and work on behalf of WHEA, with the goal of improving healthcare engineering in Wisconsin.



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## Dennis Havlik Presented with 2015 Founding Fathers Award at Annual Conference

The founding father award is given by the president of WHEA to one volunteer member who has been a true inspiration or role model. This person has gone above the call of duty to contribute to the organization and help make it a leader in the healthcare industry. It is my privilege to tell you a little bit about the person who is being honored with this award. This individual has been in the healthcare field for over 30 years and a member of WHEA for 28 years. He started out at a hospital in west central Wisconsin, tracing out plumbing lines and eventually worked his way to project manager, running new and remodeling construction jobs. Needing a change, he left the healthcare field for a while to concentrate on more construction-type projects. During these early years, getting married and starting a family were a huge part of his life. This man eventually went back to the healthcare field, this time in a supervisor capacity. It is during this time that he became a member of WHEA, first serving on the board of the local chapter, then going on to serve his term on the state board. Thirteen years ago, the Sponsorship Committee was formed to help fund the programs that WHEA provides to its members, along with the annual conference. This person has been on the Sponsorship Committee from the start, also working on the Conference Committee and technical exhibit. Under this individual's guidance, the Sponsorship Committee has thrived and is having its biggest year yet. It is my honor and privilege to present this year's recipient.....Dennis Havlik.



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## *HVAC in the Operating Room - Joint Interim Guidance*

*Submitted by Wade Rudolph, WHEA Advocacy Liaison, Codes & Standards Committee*



### Background

Health care organizations are currently being challenged to meet a series of conflicting and sometimes unclear heating, ventilation, and air-conditioning (HVAC) standards and guidelines established by a variety of professional organizations. These organizations include the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE), the American Society for Healthcare Engineering (ASHE), the Association for the Advancement of Medical Instrumentation (AAMI), the Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology (APIC), the Association of periOperative Registered Nurses (AORN), and the Facility Guidelines Institute (FGI).

The biggest challenge for owners and designers of health care facilities is to understand the purpose and scope of the various requirements so patient and staff safety and comfort can be managed. While some standards are written to be applied during design and renovation of a facility, others are intended to be used as daily operational guidelines. When hospital and ambulatory care organizations are surveyed by state agencies, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), and other accrediting organizations, misunderstandings about the major difference between building and engineering design standards and clinical practice guidelines have led to a great deal of confusion and even conflict in the health care community.

### Operating Room and Sterile Processing Department Applications

For operating room (OR) and sterile processing department (SPD) HVAC system design and construction, the standard most often cited by surveyors is ANSI/ASHRAE/ASHE Standard 170-2013: Ventilation of Health Care Facilities, which establishes minimum HVAC design parameters. ASHRAE/ASHE 170-2013 was incorporated as part of the 2014 FGI Guidelines for Design and Construction of Hospitals and Outpatient Facilities. For maintaining temperature and humidity levels once a space has been occupied, the most often cited clinical practice guidelines are the AORN Guideline for a Safe Environment of Care, Part 2 and AAMI ST79: Comprehensive Guide to Steam Sterilization and Sterility Assurance in Health Care Facilities.

Design requirements are NOT the same as clinical practice recommendations. Each has a distinct purpose and intent. The ASHRAE/ASHE standards and FGI guidelines are intended to establish the minimum design requirements and criteria that must be met to construct an HVAC system that will support clinical functions during the life of a building. The AAMI and AORN guidelines are intended to guide the daily operation of the HVAC system and clinical practice once the health care facility is occupied.

Unfortunately, owners, designers, and surveyors often confuse the two types of guidance and use design standards to assess the daily operation in health care facilities. Not only are the design and operational methodologies different, but the temperature and humidity ranges indicated for each vary significantly. There is no single, simple solution that suits both design and operations, and there is very little evidence regarding optimal HVAC operating parameters within an OR or SPD. The effect of the HVAC system parameters falling out of range is variable. A small variance for a short period of time may not be of clinical concern, whereas a large variance for a longer period may have clinical significance. Many variables, with wide-ranging implications for patient and health care worker safety and comfort, have to be taken into account. Prudent, reasonable, achievable, safe, practical, evidence-based guidance that is in alignment across all the standards and guidelines is needed to help designers, owners, and surveyors appropriately regulate ventilation in health care spaces.

Health care associations and the medical device manufacturing community have formed a joint HVAC task force to address these issues. The task force, with representatives from ASHRAE, ASHE, FGI, AORN, the Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology (APIC), and AAMI, met in Annapolis, Maryland, on April 29, 2015, to begin to work toward the goal of harmonizing the HVAC guidance in the various standards and guidelines.

One of the first challenges is to agree on terminology. The documents published by ASHRAE/ASHE, FGI, AAMI, and AORN use different terms to describe similar spaces. The task force proposes the following common terms to describe the various spaces located in typical SPD, OR, and endoscopy areas:

- Decontamination room
- Clean workroom
- Sterilizer service access room
- Sterile storage room
- Satellite sterile processing room
- Environmental services room
- Endoscopy procedure room
- Endoscopy processing room

The second challenge is to harmonize design and operational requirements for room pressurization, total air changes per hour, relative humidity, and temperature in each of these spaces. The task force will develop a common set of proposals for consideration by each organization. The groups will return comments on these proposals to the task force, which will then finalize consensus recommendations for the groups to incorporate into their respective guidelines and standards.

*(continued on page 7)*

## Planning a Freestanding CBRF or Hospice Project?



Submitted by  
Jeff Eckstein, Codes  
& Standards  
Co-Chair

If you are planning a renovation or addition to an existing CBRF or Hospice, or constructing a new CBRF or Hospice, there are some important changes regarding the plan review process. As you may know, prior to this law change, building plan review for CBRF or Hospice facilities were conducted by both DHS and DSPS.

As of 7/12/15 for CBRFs and as of 1/1/2016 for Hospices, all Wisconsin Commercial Building Code plan reviews will be conducted by DHS exclusively. This long anticipated process change is designed to make future projects more streamlined and efficient specific to the regulatory process.

The Office of Plan Review and Inspection encourages initial contact meetings with all stakeholders early in the planning stages of projects. The initial contact meeting should engage the owner/provider, designer(s), builder(s), local building and fire officials and any other individuals involved in the proposed project.

If you have any questions regarding this new plan review procedure, please contact Henry Kosarzycki at DHS via email [Henry.Kosarzycki@dhs.wisconsin.gov](mailto:Henry.Kosarzycki@dhs.wisconsin.gov).

## *HVAC in the Operating Room (continued)*

### Interim Guidance

Achieving consensus among task force members, developing proposals, and getting each organization to accept the revisions will take time. In the meantime, the joint task force is extremely concerned about health care organizations being cited by surveyors for not maintaining appropriate temperature and humidity control in ORs and SPDs. Therefore, the task force is recommending that the following measures be taken:

#### For health care organizations

Every health care organization that provides surgical services should determine the HVAC operating parameters for ORs, the SPD, endoscope procedure rooms, and sterile storage rooms that meet their patient, personnel, and product storage needs. Pulling together a multidisciplinary team to review the current HVAC operating practice and perform a risk assessment of the affected area(s) is a good first step. The team should enter the values/parameters they will follow on a day-to-day basis into their organization's HVAC system policy, along with appropriate corrective measures to mitigate risk and restore the HVAC system to the desired parameters when conditions fall outside of those values. The team should identify medical products and devices that require tightly controlled storage conditions and move those products to a location where the humidity and temperature are maintained within the manufacturer-prescribed parameters (eg, a temperature and humidity controlled cabinet).

#### For medical device manufacturers

Some products and devices commonly used within the OR and SPD and other areas where sterilization is performed may be sensitive to variations in environmental conditions over extended periods of time. Manufacturers of biological and chemical indicators commonly recommend that these products be stored in locations (eg, a temperature and humidity controlled cabinet) where the relative humidity can routinely be maintained between 30% and 60%.

#### For accreditation surveyors

The joint task force will send correspondence to the CMS, The Joint Commission, the Accreditation Association of Ambulatory Health Care, DNV, the Healthcare Facilities Accreditation Program, and state licensing agencies explaining the conflicts in the standards and what is being done to resolve conflicts. The goal of this correspondence is to request that survey organizations work with health care organizations to set appropriate temperature and humidity control parameters and to establish a plan for resolving variances.



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## ADVOCACY 2015

## Accessing the codes and standards information you need

ASHE offers several resources to help members stay in compliance with various codes and standards regulating the health care physical environment. The resources listed below highlight some of the ways to access guidance and information available for members.

### Articles:

**Resource Library:** The ASHE Resource Library is a centralized spot to find ASHE resources, including magazine articles, advocacy alerts, issue briefs, monographs, tools, checklists, and other information. You can search by keyword or use filters to search for specific topics or types of resources.

Visit [www.ashe.org/resourcecelibrary](http://www.ashe.org/resourcecelibrary) to search or browse for information of interest to you.

*Example: Reducing HAI'S, Filtration Design for Air Systems in Hospitals*

### Topics:

**ASHE Management Monographs:** These monographs cover single topics in compliance, facility management, clinical and biomedical engineering, safety and security, emergency preparedness, infection prevention, and more. ASHE members can access the monographs and download a PDF copy for free. Print copies are also available.

Visit [www.ashe.org/resources/management\\_monographs](http://www.ashe.org/resources/management_monographs) or go to the Resource library to find monographs.

*Example: Facility Management Topic*

### Shared Experiences:

**Conference Recordings:** ASHE members have access to selected recordings from previous conferences, including the ASHE Annual Conference and PDC Summit. Online recordings cover topics such as compliance strategies, fundamentals, leadership, and operational excellence. The conference recordings can be found in the Resource Library and they are also available at [www.ashe.org/resources/conference\\_recordings](http://www.ashe.org/resources/conference_recordings) *Example: Internal Training*

### Alerts:

**ASHE News:** ASHE members receive a weekly e-mail newsletter, the ASHE Insider, which includes a codes and standards section. Stories alert members of new code developments and often ask members to get involved with advocacy efforts. The newsletter is e-mailed directly to members and past stories are available at [www.ashe.org/ashenews](http://www.ashe.org/ashenews). ASHE's quarterly print magazine, Inside ASHE, often features articles on advocacy or code topics. The magazine is mailed directly to members, and past stories can be found in the ASHE Resources Library or at [www.ashe.org/resources/inside\\_ASHE](http://www.ashe.org/resources/inside_ASHE).

### Real Discussion Thread:

**ASHE LISTSERV:** The ASHE LISTSERV provides members a chance to communicate with other members via an e-mail LISTSERV. Members often discuss advocacy issues and ask each other questions about compliance information. To sign up for LISTSERV or learn more, visit [www.ashe.org/listserv](http://www.ashe.org/listserv). The LISTSERV is a members-only forum.

### Not an ASHE member?

Contact WHEA Advocacy Liaison

Wade Rudolph



## Conference Committee Report



*Mike Blackwood  
Committee Co-Chair*

We celebrated our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary at this year's conference, and what a celebration it was!

It seems that most 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations we all attend, whether for an organization, a company, or even a marriage, there is a great deal of looking back. Although we did have the opportunity to recognize some accomplishments for both WHEA and our individual members, most of the focus was on the future. After all, the theme was "Rocketing into the Next 50 Years!"

So, in keeping with that, I would like to first take a moment and look back at this year's annual conference 50th year celebration.

Budde with a miniature Blue Angel helmet for Carl's 50 years of service and contributions to WHEA.

Whenever something new and different is attempted, there is always a snag or two. The very first education session had to be presented remotely, albeit expertly by Mr. Keil. I also just got a call *yesterday*, from an attendee that just now got a beer from the banquet bar. And who would have thought the conference would make the news! Even if it was for waking people up with our fantastic fireworks! Certainly none of these things hampered our celebration. It helps that in attendance we had about 200 professionals, who every day are faced with problems and emergency situations that are simply handled and move forward.

Mike and I would again like to thank the men and women of the Conference Committee as well as everyone from our other committees that worked so hard and contributed so much to make our conference

one of the premier educational events. It truly is a team effort and your effort is greatly appreciated by all of our members.

We will return to the KI Center Green Bay for the upcoming conference September 20-23, 2016. We are already working on some new and exciting educational and professional development speakers and topics that we think will benefit all of our members. We will also return to our more traditional schedule of events. There is also some planning going into holding our banquet away from the KI Center. We will share more details with you as these ideas become more

The schedule deviated compared to years past, as the Conference Committee endeavored to be inclusive of all our membership and still fit everything in. The new KI addition was completed in time to host our celebration and we were their first major event. We had our highest attendee numbers as well as the most exhibitors we have ever had! We also offered a mobile phone app to access and connect to the conference in an exciting, new way. All of our education topics and speakers were very well received and continued the tradition of providing meaningful educational content for our members.

The keynote speaker, former Blue Angel Lead Solo Pilot John Foley was as dynamic, exciting, and inspirational as expected. It was a special moment for our membership to see Mr. Foley present our own Carl



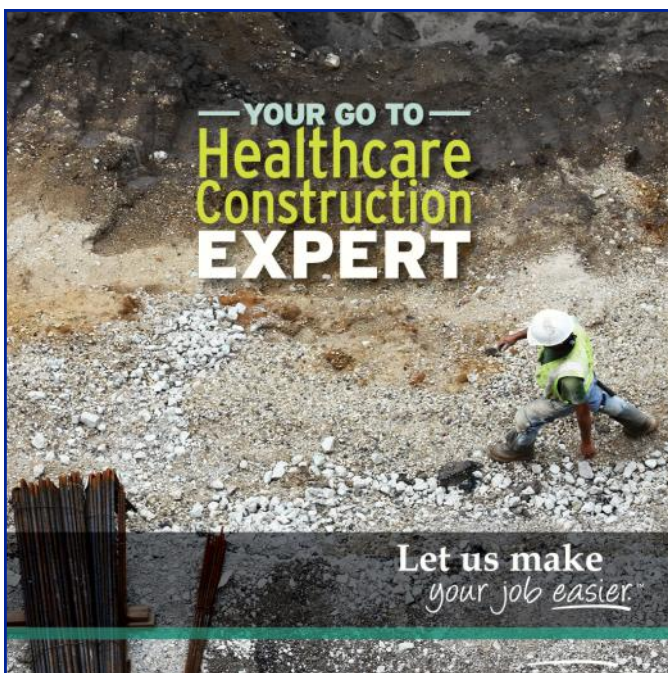
confirmed plans.

We look forward to 2016 and thank you to all of our members for your continued support and participation. Glad to be Here!

## Are You A New WHEA Member ? Or Current Member Without Members Only Website Access?

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## 2016 Sponsorship Opportunities Are Now Available



Dennis Havlik  
Committee Chair

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Please go to [www.whea.com](http://www.whea.com) and click on the Sponsorship tab for complete information on each level of sponsorship and the link to the sponsorship application. Applications are due by Friday, November 20, 2015.

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## Education and Professional Development Committee (EPDC) Report



Jim Teunas  
Co-Chair

The EPDC continues its monthly Lunch and Learn Series webinars. The past four webinar topics have been “Infectious and Hazardous Waste Awareness”, “NFPA 99 - Risk Assessment”, “ICRA/ILSM Risk & Mold Assessment”, and “Everything You Wanted to Know About Humidification”.

The final two webinars of the year will be held on November 12<sup>th</sup>, and December 10<sup>th</sup>.



Marc Teubert  
Co-Chair

There have been 2 site-based Healthcare Construction Certificate (HCC) programs. The June HCC was held in La Crosse and the final HCC for the year in October in Wisconsin Dells.

The Education and Professional Development Committee met on Friday, October 23 to decide the education topics for 2016. We will continue our Lunch & Learn webinar series and registration is now open at [www.whea.com](http://www.whea.com) under the Education tab.

Please see the flyer on the following page. This is a very popular series and has proven very valuable to its subscribers. 2016 webinar topics for the first portion of the series will be available on the website within the next couple of weeks.

We will also continue the three “Healthcare Construction Certificate” programs in 2016 and the “Spring Code Update” as well. All dates, times, and locations will be posted on the website as soon as they are determined. Watch the WHEA website for further information.

If you have any questions, or comments for the Education and Professional Development Committee, please feel free to contact us using the “Contact” button in the upper right corner on the [www.whea.com](http://www.whea.com) home page.

### **FREE WEBINAR**

So that everyone can see just how valuable our Lunch & Learn Webinar Subscription can be, the Education & Professional Development Committee will be offering a **FREE WEBINAR!**

Watch your email for the December 10th webinar flyer and the login link. No need to register, just login and see what you’ve been missing!



~ ~ ~  
**WANTED**  
~ ~ ~

### Education & Professional Development Committee (EPDC) Members!

Are there education topics that you wish were available to you?

Do you want WHEA’s educational topics to go beyond the basics?

...Then the EPDC needs you!

We are looking for additional members to volunteer for our committee. We need exceptional people who want to add their voice and guidance in determining what educational opportunities will be provided to the WHEA membership and beyond.

A time investment is required. We hold 5 meetings a year. 2 via conference call and 3 site based. Each meeting starts at 9 am.

Contact Jane Bruvold at [bruvold@sbcglobal.net](mailto:bruvold@sbcglobal.net) for more information.



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"These programs are excellent and should be continued. Our staff values these programs, they validate what we tell them and ask them to do."

"Keep these coming, they are all beneficial."

"Energy is a very big topic for our department, received some valuable information..."

"You guys are doing a great job providing information that is directly related to our daily work and Joint Commission compliance."

"Great program and very timely."

"Great program! Allowing me to learn new things without having to travel and waste time!"

# WHEA's 2016 Monthly "Lunch & Learn" Webinars Every 2nd Thursday of the month 11:30 am to 1:00 pm

Available by yearly subscription only.

WHEA's Educational and Professional Development Committee is offering 12 webinars for the 2016 calendar year for a one time, low price per computer connection.\*

**\* IMPORTANT NOTE:** The registration fee includes ONE login connection. You may have as many people sitting in that room watching the webinar as you wish, but you may not share your login information with any other person or facility. You must purchase additional connections if you want to broadcast it in a separate location.

**\$500** Regular Registration (\$42 per webinar)

**\$300** WHEA Member Discount (\$25 per webinar)

**NO LODGING ♦ NO OVERTIME ♦ ONE TIME PAYMENT**

## BONUS WEBINARS!

**If you sign up before the end of the year, you'll receive the login information for the remaining 2015 webinars!**

This is a cost effective, professional development series for facility staff, administrators and contractors. This is a fantastic opportunity to stay up to date on current issues without leaving your facility. You will receive complete session information approximately 2 weeks before each webinar. Each webinar offers 1.5 Contact Hours/.15 CEUs approved by ASHE.

**Registration is now open at [www.whea.com](http://www.whea.com) for this 2016 webinar series.**

Follow the drop downs under the Education tab to "Webinar Series Registration".

**To receive the members only discounted rate, you must log into the WHEA members only site and use the Members Only registration form.** If you don't have a members only login, email [bruvold@sbeglobal.com](mailto:bruvold@sbeglobal.com) and set up your members only access.

You may sign up anytime during the year but the cost will stay the same - there is no individual webinar pricing. All webinars will be recorded and you will receive a link to that recording after the webinar has been presented. Even if you are not able to attend, you can still have these important updates to watch at your convenience. The webinars will cover a variety of topics that focus on "hot-topic", code alerts and management level subjects throughout the year.



## 2016 WEBINAR TOPICS

*This list of scheduled topics is subject to change.*

1/14/16 - PlanGrid.com / Online Project Planning	7/14/16 - Joint Commission Basics
2/11/16 - Thermal Distribution	8/11/16 - Utility Risk Assessment
3/10/16 - You Are The Inspector	9/8/16 - Boiler Maintenance
4/14/16 - Legionella Risk Assessment	10/13/16 - Pressure Relationships
5/12/16 - ILSM / Barriers	11/10/16 - Testing of Smoke / Fire Doors
6/9/16 - Filter Requirements	12/8/16 - 2012 Life Safety Code



## MECH Update



Heather Werner  
MECH Coordinator

Can you read blueprints for plumbing? Can you replace v-belts and align pulleys? Can you operate and diagnose single and 3 phase motors? Can you measure static pressure? If so, you may be qualified for MECH Certification.

Mechanic Evaluation and Certification for Healthcare (MECH), as its name states, is a non-profit nationwide organization dedicated to the evaluation and certification of maintenance personnel in healthcare facilities for the purpose of

validating their knowledge and skill set. The MECH Certification is for individuals who have worked in a healthcare facility for a minimum of two years and have had experience in each of the seven test categories: Plumbing, Electrical, Carpentry, General Maintenance, Heating Systems, Power Plant/Boilers, and Safety/Support Service. Professionals who become MECH certified are well rounded and are able to step in and problem solve issues in any of the listed trades.

This is not a training course. Those applying for MECH Certification must have prior knowledge and on the job training in each of the categories as verified by a supervisor's signature.

Why become MECH certified?

Certified mechanics gain:

- Professional recognition as a Healthcare Mechanic.
- Documentation of increasing skills by advancing from Certified to Senior Certified.
- Credentials that can be placed on a resume when switching jobs or seeking promotion.
- Concrete goals for achieving a higher level of proficiency, both individually and within the trade.

Maintenance supervisors can use MECH to:

- Document current knowledge of your employees.

- Improve quality standards among your team.
- Identify training needs.
- Retain and reward valuable mechanics.
- Demonstrate value to your facility.

Healthcare facilities receive:

- Verification of employee skill for The Joint Commission accreditation.
- Improved quality of patient care, by equipping in-house staff with broad-based skills.
- Increased productivity and reductions in contracted service costs.
- A method for determining employment levels or pay incentives.
- A time saving hiring system, especially when evaluating mechanics who are new to healthcare using the MECH Structured Interview.

For more information on MECH visit their website at <http://mech-certification.org/index.html>

Or view their promotional video at <https://youtu.be/51P7PQtmZ8w>



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## Chapter I Report



*Martin Schutte  
Chapter President*

Chapter I met September 10<sup>th</sup> and October 8<sup>th</sup>. Both meetings had an emphasis on construction management successes with pre-fabrication results and planning techniques.

6 MECH members were sent by Chapter I to the WHEA Annual Conference in September. Sponsoring MECH members has proven hugely successful, well worth the investment of registration, lodging, and travel.

Tom Miller, in the Maintenance Department at AWAMC, is chairman of the Board of Directors for MECH. He has helped produce an introductory video for MECH Certification for healthcare maintenance professionals across the country. A copy of the video can be accessed through YouTube.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1D7qfnrABac&feature=youtu.be>

A survey will be sent out in October to all Chapter 1 members asking them to solicit ideas as to how the chapter can attract new members, retain its members and how to encourage existing and new members to become more active locally and statewide.

## Chapter IV Update



*Robert Whitney  
Chapter President*

We had two chapter meeting in fairly short order. One was graciously hosted by the Samuel Group at their impressive facility in Wausau, WI. We received a tour showcasing some very forward-thinking designs which will allow for substantial flexibility in how they configure work areas without the need for remodeling. Their facility is also used as a testing ground for innovative products and finishes, focusing on recycled and renewable materials. They also gave a presentation on electrical safety. In it, the presenter went frame by frame through security camera footage of

an actual arc flash incident to illustrate the danger and challenge us to revisit policies and attitudes toward working with and around electricity.

The second meeting was held in conjunction with the state convention. The topic that we have bandied about for some time is the shortage of skilled labor entering the trades. The shortage affects not only the facilities, but also the vendors that support the facilities.

We had hoped to be able to create a scholarship to help promote high school students in our district pursuing trade schools with an emphasis on healthcare engineering. While our laws and by-laws seem to exclude us from doing so autonomously, the WHEA Foundation appears to be perfectly suited to managing such an endeavor. Tamara Scholze will be updating us on the next meeting as to whether this indeed is the case, and if so, what procedures need to be followed to establish a scholarship.

If other districts have suggestions or comments in regards to generating local interest in healthcare engineering education, please feel free to contact me so I can share the info at our Christmas meeting.

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# Employment Opportunities

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

Check out the following pages for employment opportunities available for healthcare facilities professionals.

## Project Manager – Facility Planning & Development

Froedtert Health – Froedtert Hospital  
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

The flagship facility of Froedtert Health, Froedtert Hospital is seeking a **Project Manager - Facility Planning & Development** to provide a safe environment for staff, patients and visitors. Our Facilities department plays an integral role in Froedtert community patient care by providing Froedtert hospital projects, design, way finding, and access. We will rely on your expertise to coordinate facility projects in order to ensure timely and economical completion, customer satisfaction, quality standards and compliance with codes and regulations.

Project Manager – Facility Planning & Development Qualifications:

- Bachelor of Science (Mechanical, Electrical, Architect) degree or equivalent
- Experience involving renovation and/or remodeling projects which include, but is not limited to, blueprint reading, obtaining contractor proposals, and outside contractor coordination/supervision
- Auto CAD proficiency
- A background in construction is preferred

### About Froedtert Health

If you're eager to learn, committed to providing high-quality health care, culturally aware, and motivated by compassion and excellent customer service, you belong at Froedtert Health. We're an employer of choice for our more than 2,000 physicians and 9,000 staff members, and we are recognized as a top workplace nationally through independent surveys. We also value and understand the power of different perspectives and are among the Select 50 Diversity Employer of Choice.

We know the importance of total well-being. Not only do we want our patients to live their best lives, but we also want our staff to have the resources they need to thrive. When you work here, you can feel confident in knowing that you're making a difference in a place that supports you personally and professionally.

**Come see *What Is Possible* here.** To learn more about Froedtert Health and to apply, please visit [jobs.froedtert.com](http://jobs.froedtert.com) and reference Requisition #6395 in your job search.

We are proud to be an Equal Opportunity Employer. As a federal contractor/subcontractor, we take affirmative action in employment based on race, sex, disability and status as a protected veteran. We welcome protected veterans to share their priority consideration status with us at 414-777-1680. We maintain a drug-free workplace and perform pre-employment substance abuse testing.



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## *Employment Opportunities (continued)*

### **Maintenance Senior - or – II, Wausau, WI**

(Based on experience) Marshfield Clinic Wausau Center

Marshfield Clinic is proud of the talents of over 8,000 individuals in over 80 medical specialties and subspecialties, yet what we are truly impressed by is the continuous support that our employees give to each other, to our patients and to our success.

The Maintenance Senior or Maintenance II will perform maintenance and repair services necessary to keep the Clinic, Regional Centers, rental properties, buildings and grounds, and departments functioning safely and efficiently. Plan, prepare and complete special projects adding value to Clinic properties. Maintain accurate records required for compliance with all regulatory agencies. Duties may involve servicing various types of commercial HVAC equipment, pipe fitting, plumbing, insulating, welding; machining, carpentry, repairing electrical or mechanical equipment, installing, aligning, balancing new equipment, repairing buildings and perform life safety tests.

Requires a minimum of a high school diploma or equivalent; Technical school degree in building trade or mechanical discipline or a completed apprenticeship relating to a building trade or mechanical discipline highly desired. Valid Wisconsin Drivers License required; Wisconsin Healthcare Engineering Association's (WHEA) Maintenance Senior Certification or Journeyman trade license preferred. Four or more years of progressively responsible experience required; experience working in a healthcare related service or maintenance environment in the areas of HVAC, mechanical, plumbing & electrical preferred. Ability to interpret blueprints, electrical, pneumatic and various schematics. Experience with computer software relating to building automation controls, AutoCad, Microsoft office products helpful.

Wausau, Wisconsin, has a community of 39,106 (2010) and is proud of the family-friendly environment. Located in the middle of the state with easy access to a network of interstate, U.S. and State highways, the area hosts museums, theater, the International Canoe and Kayak Whitewater Races, the Badger State Winter Games, the Festival of Trees, and much more. For more information, visit: <http://www.visitwausau.com> or <http://www.ci.wausau.wi.us>

Marshfield Clinic's goal is to attract you, the very best, and we're committed to offering you the kind of opportunities and benefits you deserve.

- Competitive Wages
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- Comprehensive Benefits Package
- Generous Paid Time Off
- 401(k) Plan

Apply online at <https://www.marshfieldclinic.org/careers>

Maintenance Senior, Reference Job Number MC150045

Maintenance II, Reference Job Number MC151205

You may apply directly through:

Maintenance Senior:

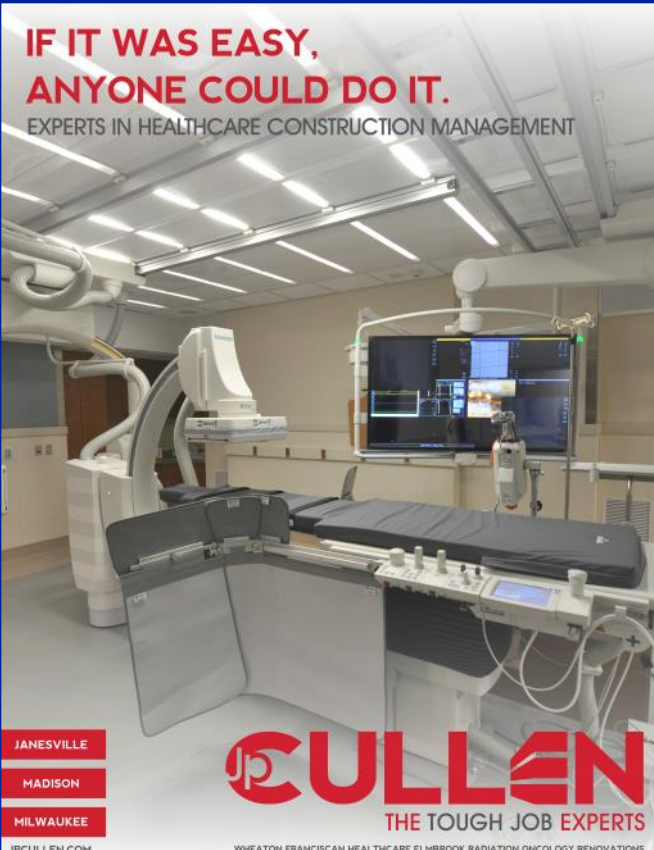
[https://marshfieldcliniccss.igreentree.com/CSS\\_External/CSS\\_Page\\_Referred.ASP?Req=MC150045](https://marshfieldcliniccss.igreentree.com/CSS_External/CSS_Page_Referred.ASP?Req=MC150045)

Maintenance II:

[https://marshfieldcliniccss.igreentree.com/CSS\\_External/CSS\\_Page\\_Referred.ASP?Req=MC151205](https://marshfieldcliniccss.igreentree.com/CSS_External/CSS_Page_Referred.ASP?Req=MC151205)

Marshfield Clinic, 2727 Plaza Drive, Wausau, WI 54401

Marshfield Clinic is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action employer. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, race, color, religion, national origin, disability, protected veteran status, age, or any other characteristic protected by law.



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## *Employment Opportunities (continued)*

### **Maintenance Senior - or – II, Marshfield, WI**

(Based on experience) Marshfield Clinic Marshfield Center

Marshfield Clinic is proud of the talents of over 8,000 individuals in over 80 medical specialties and subspecialties, yet what we are truly impressed by is the continuous support that our employees give to each other, to our patients and to our success.

The Maintenance Senior or Maintenance II will perform maintenance and repair services necessary to keep the Clinic, Regional Centers, rental properties, buildings and grounds, and departments functioning safely and efficiently. Plan, prepare and complete special projects adding value to Clinic properties. Maintain accurate records required for compliance with all regulatory agencies. Duties may involve servicing various types of commercial HVAC equipment, pipe fitting, plumbing, insulating, welding; machining, carpentry, repairing electrical or mechanical equipment, installing, aligning, balancing new equipment, repairing buildings and perform life safety tests.

Requires a minimum of a high school diploma or equivalent; Technical school degree in building trade or mechanical discipline or a completed apprenticeship relating to a building trade or mechanical discipline highly desired. Valid Wisconsin Drivers License required; Wisconsin Healthcare Engineering Association's (WHEA) Maintenance Senior Certification or Journeyman trade license preferred. Four or more years of progressively responsible experience required; experience working in a healthcare related service or maintenance environment in the areas of HVAC, mechanical, plumbing & electrical preferred. Ability to interpret blueprints, electrical, pneumatic and various schematics. Experience with computer software relating to building automation controls, AutoCad, Microsoft office products helpful.

Marshfield, Wisconsin has a community of 19,500 and is proud of our family-friendly environment. The Cities of Marshfield & Wisconsin Rapids of Wood County were ranked 14th in America, 3rd in the Midwest and 1st in Wisconsin as best cities to live in. Marshfield is also ranked as the 8th best "Dream City" in America offering excellent health care, schools, vitality, connection to cultural mainstream, and a low cost of living all wrapped up in a small-town feel. We are located in the middle of the state with easy access to a network of interstate, U.S. and State highways. For more information, visit <http://ci.marshfield.wi.us/>

Marshfield Clinic's goal is to attract you, the very best, and we're committed to offering you the kind of opportunities and benefits you deserve.

- Competitive Wages
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Apply online at <https://www.marshfieldclinic.org/careers>

Maintenance Senior, Reference Job Number MC151115

Maintenance II, Reference Job Number MC151114

You may apply directly through:

Maintenance Senior:

<https://marshfieldcliniccss.igreentree.com/CSS>

[\\_External/CSSPage\\_Referred.ASP?Req=MC151115](https://marshfieldcliniccss.igreentree.com/CSS_External/CSSPage_Referred.ASP?Req=MC151115)

Maintenance II:

[https://marshfieldcliniccss.igreentree.com/CSS\\_External/CSSPage\\_Referred.ASP?Req=MC151114](https://marshfieldcliniccss.igreentree.com/CSS_External/CSSPage_Referred.ASP?Req=MC151114)

Marshfield Clinic, 1000 North Oak Avenue, Marshfield, WI 54449

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## *Employment Opportunities (continued)*

### **Maintenance Senior, Eau Claire, WI Marshfield Clinic Eau Claire Center**

Marshfield Clinic is proud of the talents of over 8,000 individuals in over 80 medical specialties and subspecialties, yet what we are truly impressed by is the continuous support that our employees give to each other, to our patients and to our success.

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Requires a minimum of a high school diploma or equivalent; Technical school degree in building trade or mechanical discipline or a completed apprenticeship relating to a building trade or mechanical discipline highly desired. Valid Wisconsin Drivers License required; Wisconsin Healthcare Engineering Association's (WHEA) Maintenance Senior Certification or Journeyman trade license preferred. Four or more years of progressively responsible experience required; experience working in a healthcare related service or maintenance environment in the areas of HVAC, mechanical, plumbing & electrical preferred. Ability to interpret blueprints, electrical, pneumatic and various schematics. Experience with computer software relating to building automation controls, AutoCad, Microsoft office products helpful.

Eau Claire, Wisconsin is the largest city in the northwestern Wisconsin area with a population of over 65,000. The area was named one of the Best Communities for Young People in 2007 by America's Promise, and hosts UW-Eau Claire, Chippewa Valley Technical College, Immanuel Lutheran College & Global University/Minnesota School of Business, as well as many other public and private grade and high schools. There are a variety of outdoor and indoor festivals, recreational activities, performances and more.

Marshfield Clinic's goal is to attract you, the very best, and we're committed to offering you the kind of opportunities and benefits you deserve.

- Competitive Wages
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- Comprehensive Benefits Package
- Generous Paid Time Off
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<https://www.marshfieldclinic.org/careers>

Reference Job Number MC151041

You may apply directly through:

[https://marshfieldcliniccss.igreentree.com/CSS\\_External/CSSPage\\_Referred.ASP?Req=MC151041](https://marshfieldcliniccss.igreentree.com/CSS_External/CSSPage_Referred.ASP?Req=MC151041)

Marshfield Clinic  
1002 W. Clairemont Avenue, Eau Claire, WI 54701

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## *Employment Opportunities (continued)*

### ***MEDICAL EXPERIENCED Superintendent / Project Manager / Estimator / Expeditor***

Construction Company

Location: Menomonee Falls, WI

#### **Job Description:**

Beeler Construction since 1986...serving the construction industry since 1959...completing projects in the Retail, Medical, Industrial, Religious, Educational, Manufacturing industries along with Commercial projects ranging from small maintenance, interior build outs and renovations to \$10million ground up projects...We treat our employees the same as our sub-contractors and customers to result in a win-win situation for all team members involved...resulting in a long standing, repeat customer base and very low employee turnover.

We invite you to join our "team"...we are looking for a MEDICAL EXPERIENCED Superintendent / Project Manager / Estimator / Expeditor for the Greater Milwaukee Area working with our valued Medical Facility Customer, in the field and in our office.

Experience: Minimum of 5 years Superintendent / Project Management / Smaller Project Estimating experience specifically in Commercial Construction (MEDICAL ENVIRONMENT REQUIRED) thru construction close out / punch list completion. Knowledge of Sage Contractor (or other Construction PM Software beneficial), AutoCAD, Microsoft Excel, Word, Project preferred. Knowledge of using technology (Ipads, Smartphones, Computer Automated Software Applications) is favorable.

Responsibilities: Requirements include, but not limited to:

- Good Communication Skills for Customer, Subcontractor, Fellow Employee Relations
- Generating Estimates for potential projects, coordinating Materials, Manpower and Subcontractors
- Developing Cost Models for smaller projects on site needing quick turn around
- Understanding Construction Methods including Management of Materials, ManPower and Sub-Contractors, Familiarity with Medical/Hospital Standards and Codes, AutoCAD proficient
- Maintaining relationships/work flow with Sub-Contractors and Material Suppliers
- Value Engineering Analysis
- Good Problem Solving Skills
- Organizing all Documentation from Bid to Completion Phases
- Proficient in using Microsoft Project (or similar), Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, Outlook, Powerpoint), Bluebeam (or similar blueprint pdf editing software/application) and Soonr (like Dropbox to upload files remotely)
- Disciplined Work Ethic
- Flexibility in assisting others beyond Estimating/Project Management responsibilities
- Member or willing to become a member of WHEA and/or ASHE
- Ability / Familiar with completing construction in highly sensitive Medical Environment / Occupied Patient Care Areas

Education: Successful candidate having sufficient work related experience in Construction Management. A BS or MS in Construction Management or Equivalent favorable.

Excellent Compensation Package: Family Health Insurance (Medical, Dental and Eye), Profit Sharing Plan (after meeting eligibility), 401k plan, Continuous Training (we pay for Class and Materials, Employee donates time) or Standard Union Benefits.

Please send inquiries to Kim Peterson, [kpeterson@beelerconstruction.com](mailto:kpeterson@beelerconstruction.com).