



AAHE

Quarterly Update

Facilities
Clinical Engineering
Safety



Arkansas Association of Healthcare Engineering

14 Years ASHE GOLD - 2 Years Platinum

Third Quarter 2009

From the President

Chet Howard
President - AAHE
Director of Maintenance
Arkansas Children's Hospital

2009 is quickly coming to a close. Despite the economic downturn, AAHE has had a very exciting year. We've had three very successful meetings, a Tandberg presentation, and a record setting scholarship golf tournament. At the October meeting in Rogers we introduced the new AHA/AAHE Liaison Anna Sroczynski, AHA educational Director Lyndsey Dumas, and Trane President and CEO Bill Harrison who is serving in the newly created board position of ASHRAE Liaison. Anna has been doing a great job with the administrative functions for AAHE and Lyndsey Dumas recently announced that the American Hospital Association has given us the ability to offer educational certificates for meeting attendees that can be used toward needed continuing education units. AAHE purchased an educational booth at the Arkansas Hospital Association annual meeting at the Peabody to sell the benefits of AAHE membership to the C level executives from hospitals across the state. We handed out hundreds of AAHE flyers and applications, talked with executives and vendors from all over Arkansas, and gave away an AAHE annual meeting and trade show registration certificate as a door prize.

Our membership roster is now over 300 and Terry Martin submitted 11 new names for membership at the board meeting. Our membership continues to grow because we continue to offer excellent educational opportunities and the next two meetings scheduled will be even better. Diane Hughes, AAHE Vice President, and the rest of the program team are working hard to bring nationally recognized educational speakers to Arkansas, so plan to attend the January quarterly meeting and the annual meeting and trade show in May.

Best wishes and happy holidays,
Chet Howard
President - Arkansas Association for Healthcare Engineering

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS AAHE MEMBERSHIP REPORT

By Terry Martin
Membership Chairman

On behalf of the Arkansas Association for Healthcare Engineering I would like to welcome the following new members to our organization.

WELCOME NEW MEMBER:

- Calvin Dixon—Accounts Executive Perioperative Care, Draeger Medical—Alexandria, Louisiana.
- Marlena Dodd—Safety and Voice Services Manager—St. Joseph's Mercy Health Center—Hot Springs, AR
- Brian Watson—Project Manager—Centimark Roofing—North Little Rock, AR.
- David Owens—Chemical Engineer & Territory manager—Garrat Callahan Company—Benton, AR.
- Mark Robertson-- UAMS Medical Center—Little Rock, AR.
- Denny Sivells—National Accounts Manager—Centimark Roofing—North Little Rock, AR.
- Gary Strack—Vice President/Project Manager—Nabholz Construction Corporation—Conway, AR.
- Keith Swagerty—Biomedical Engineering—Arkansas Heart Hospital--- Little Rock, AR.
- John Tooch—Occupational Safety Specialist---Arkansas Children's Hospital—Little Rock, AR.
- Brian Hines—Miller Electric Company—North Little Rock, AR.
- Jon Jacobsen—Global Accounts Manager—Centimark Roofing—Duluth, GA.
- Monty Lindsey—Supervisor—Mercy Medical Center—Rogers, AR.
- Roy Morris—Biomedical Engineering—UAMS—Little Rock, AR.

If the Officers of the AAHE can assist you in any way, please feel free to call:

President---Chet Howard: 501-364-4816
Vice President---Diane Hughes: 501-686-6786
Membership---Terry Martin: 870-864-3480

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2009-10**

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Dean Baribeau
UAMS Medical Center
501-686-7000

TREASURER
Boyd Hutchins
Arkansas Children's Hospital
501-364-1100

ASHE Membership

Not a member of The American Society of Healthcare Engineers (ASHE)? You probably have a good excuse right? Let's see now. Costs too much!

Did you know that for only \$10.42 a month you can be a member of ASHE? Most of us spend more than that each week on coffee, especially if you like Cappuccino or one of the other flavored brands. And what do you get? Your taste-buds tickled for a few minutes and then it's gone. Same if you are a soda-pop drinker.

As an ASHE member you have access to the collective knowledge of hundreds of members, all over the country, and some around the world. You have access to the ASHE List-Server, where at any given time, your counter-parts all over the country are seeking and providing information on such things as; fire damper inspections, PM procedures, and dozens of other data.

Think about joining today. We need you as much as you need us.

We need your thoughts, comments and editorials for the AAHE Newsletter. You may submit your information to the editor in a number of ways;
E-mail: Danny.Draper@baptist-health.org
Fax: 501-202-3005
Electronic submission preferred.

Newsletter Changes

As everyone is well aware, we are all facing difficult economic times. In an effort to conserve trees and reduce mailing costs, there will be some changes with the Third Quarter AAHE Update.

We will no longer be mailing out the newsletter. AAHE Update will be available on the AAHEARK.Net website in PDF format. We will also send the newsletter out via mass e-mailing.

Your understanding in this matter is greatly appreciated.

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Bryant, Ark 72089

Aspiring Writers Needed

See your name in print. Submit an article to the AAHE Newsletter editor.

It's really quite simple and once you set your mind to it, it can be accomplished in just a few minutes.

And article of only 350 words works very well.

Boldon Electronics Engineering Services James "Buddy" Boldon

Email: boldon@tds.net

Moile: 870-329-1318

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870-325-7618

Rison, AR 71665

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dwatson@arcomsys.com

AAHE Quarterly Meeting

Certificates of Attendance

Lyndsey Dumas

AHA Director of Educational Operations

At the AAHE board meeting prior to the Quarterly Meeting last week, the board expressed an interest in CHFM continuing education hours for the AAHE meetings. After speaking with the American Hospital Association's Credentialing Center, we now have the procedures in which to follow to provide AAHE meeting attendees with contact hours towards CHFM certification.

Certificates of attendance will be given to AAHE meeting attendees who sign in at the registration desk for all meetings. There will be a stapled sign-in sheet which will have each attendee's name listed. You must sign next to your name in order to receive a certificate of attendance that lists the contact hours awarded at the meeting. It is the responsibility of the participant to keep up with the certificate and the agenda of the program in order to turn in to the American Hospital Association's Credentialing Center. The Arkansas Hospital Association will not keep a copy of individual certificates.

If you have any questions concerning the certificate, hours, or the process for obtaining certificates at future meetings, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Phone: 501-224-7878

Fax: 501-224-0519

Ldumas@Arkhhospitals.org



Remember When? This Hombre was the life of the party.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

After due consideration of State survey agency findings and conclusions of the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), we are issuing a categorical waiver pursuant to 42 CFR 482.41(b)(2) to permit a testing interval of 6 years rather than 4 years for the maintenance testing of fire and smoke dampers in hospital heating and ventilating systems, so long as the hospital's testing system conforms to the requirements under *2007 edition of NFPA 80: Standard for Fire Doors and Other Opening Protectives and the 2007 edition of NFPA 105: Standard for the Installation of Smoke Door Assemblies*. The 6-year testing interval shall commence on the date of the last documented damper test. While the 1999 edition of *NFPA 80: Standard for the Installation of Air-Conditioning and Ventilating Systems* specified a 4-year testing cycle, the NFPA more recently determined that an increase to a 6-year interval did not lower the fire protection of hospitals but could instead lower the incidence of infections that may be spread when the ventilation system was shut down and restarted at shorter time intervals. There is also some indication of cost savings to institutions when maintaining these dampers on a longer time interval. Under this categorical waiver, a hospital that conforms to the above requirements will not need to apply in advance for a waiver nor will it need to wait until being cited for a deficiency in order to apply for a waiver. At the time of a CMS onsite life-safety code survey, the hospital must notify the survey team that it has elected to operate under this categorical waiver and is in conformance with the testing requirements of the above-cited 2007 NFPA edition. The survey team will note this attestation in its records and apply the 2007 testing cycle requirements in the course of its survey.

Memorandum Summary

• **Option for Damper Testing Interval:** This memorandum permits hospitals to apply the NFPA 6-year testing interval for fire and smoke dampers in hospital heating and ventilating systems, so long as the hospital's testing system conforms to the testing requirements under the *2007 edition of NFPA 80 and NFPA 105*.

- ◆ **Categorical Waiver:** Hospitals may operate under the damper testing cycle of the NFPA 2007 edition without special application to CMS.
- ◆ If you have any questions concerning this memorandum, please contact James Merrill at

James.Merrill@cms.hhs.gov

Effective Date: The information contained in this memorandum is current policy and is in effect for all hospital facilities. The State Agency should disseminate this information within 30 days of the date of this memorandum.

Training: This information should be shared with all appropriate survey and certification staff, surveyors, their managers and state fire authorities and their staff.

Thomas E. Hamilton
Director, Survey and Certification Group

Ethics is Not an Option

Lori Howard
Director Facilities Design and Planning
UAMS

In today's marketplace, many deals have gone belly-up, companies which were once deemed standard and "old-reliable" have been bought out by other companies with seemingly little market experience, and healthcare services have taken a beating in the press. All of this is indicative of our current economy, and while blame is placed wherever it most suits the speaker, this is not the time to let ethics go by the wayside.

As a facility or biomedical technician or manager, you may not feel that ethics is something that you deal with on a large, regular basis. You may feel that those decisions are made at a much higher level (the "C" level to use a now frequently-used term), but in fact, decisions you make every day impact the ethical well-being of your hospital, business, or organization. Choosing to do or not to do something can put you and your staff on the right path or the wrong path. Be mindful of your own behavior as your facility depends on you, your staff, and your business principles to make everything run smoothly.

Some ways in which you might find ethical challenges involve counseling employees, ensuring your tasks are done properly and not "fudged," learning to live in a leaner environment where the perks are your employment and no extras that you "borrow" from your company, and maintaining patient and client confidentiality at all times. These are just a few; there are so many ways to fall off the path – don't give in to those temptations! Keep your team on the right path! Know your strengths, your weaknesses, and your abilities. Don't promise more than you can viably offer, for if you do, you may find yourself being tempted to shortcut the process. Be honest – always. Be a "good seed" in word and deed. If you see someone acting in an unethical manner, take action. Don't wait to be thrown into the unethical pile with them simply because you were "part of the group."

What your parents told you still holds true in business today – don't lie, cheat, or steal. Those who do may get somewhere, but do you really think they are able to look themselves in the mirror every day and be proud of who they are? They may smile and think, "Wow. I've done so well for myself." At the expense of others, well-being is not a good thing. Your duty is to make your hospital or organization the best it can be. If you are not the best you can be in your own deeds, how can you accomplish this for a large group?

TRAINING ON A BUDGET

Brian Cotten PE, CHFM, FASHE
Director Design and Construction
UAMS

As the economic times get harder, many facilities are experiencing cut-backs on travel and training. However, our local AAHE meetings are probably one of the most economical ways to get current training in the healthcare engineering field. The annual meeting this year will have at least three speakers that make regular presentations at the American Society for Healthcare Engineering (ASHE) meetings. Make sure that the C-level management at your facilities are aware of this great training value. Also, let them know that the training is a requirement!

In the current Arkansas Department of Health Rules and Regulations for Hospitals and Related Institutions, section 46 for Physical Environment, it states that the physical plant and equipment maintenance programs shall be under the direction of a person qualified by training and/or experience and licensed where required. Under the Equipment Management Program, Utilities Management Program, and Life Safety Management Program the regulations state that each program shall be administered by individuals qualified through training and/or experience or by procuring a contractual agreement. Then it goes on to state that individuals shall be trained to operate and maintain physical plant equipment and/or building systems, and **this training shall be documented.**

Attending an AAHE quarterly or annual meeting is a great way to document this requirement. The American Hospital Association's Credentialing Center has given the Arkansas Hospital Association (AHA) an avenue to issue contact hours certificates from our AAHE meetings to be used for credentialing. Thanks to the AHA team for helping resolve this issue.

Quarterly Meeting Dates 2010

Our Winter meeting will be at St. Vincent's in Little Rock, AR on January 22, 2010

Our Annual Meeting will be May 13th and 14th of 2010 at the Double Tree in Little Rock, AR

The Last Ride

One of the things that makes life interesting is that we never know what is just around the corner, or over the next hill. Whoever coined the phrase that "change is good", certainly knew what they were talking about.

My hospital system has present me with an opportunity to take an early retirement. Although sometimes this can be a negative thing, in this case it is positive.

I was planning on retiring in about four years, and had stated as much to the AAHE Board. However, life does take some twists and turns that we don't expect. I've been riding in this rodeo for almost thirty-years and I'm ready to let go of the cinch rope and step off this bull.

Yep, I'll miss the Joint Commission and State Health Surveys, (NOT) but that's just how it is!

I have had the privilege of working with some of the finest people in Healthcare Engineering. I have formed friendships that will last a lifetime and I am going to miss you all.

So in the words of that great American Philosopher, Willie Nelson, "Turn out the Lights, the Party's Over".

You just never know where I will show up next.

Danny Draper
AAHE Update Editor/Webmaster



Chet Howard. The early years.

AAHE
Quarterly Business Meeting Oct. 16, 2009
Mercy Medical Center, Rogers AR

Chet Howard called the meeting to order at 11:48 am. Chet introduced George McFerron (Host) Director of Facilities, Mercy Medical Center, Bill Harrison (ASHRAE Liaison), Anna Sroczyński and Lyndsey Dumas (AHA Liaisons) Dean Baribeau read the minutes from the June 11th 2009 long range business meeting. James Wear made motion to accept the minutes as read, Terry Martin seconded the motion. A vote was taken, motion carried.

Boyd Hutchins presented the treasurers report showing a balance of \$64,946.45 in the scholarship trust fund and a balance of \$43,311.66 in the association's general account. Dean Baribeau made motion to approve the report. Danny draper seconded. A vote was taken, motion carried.

Chet Howard discussed that he and Diane Hughes set up an AAHE booth at the AHA annual trade show and gave away an award of a fully paid registration fee to an AAHE event. Barbara Francis from Johnson Regional Medical Center in Clarksville AR was the recipient.

Mark Kenneday presented ASHE report. Topics discussed were;

- Dual membership with ASHE and local chapters, how to approach. Budgets tighter and hospitals less willing to pay for membership dues.

- Relationship with Association of General Contractors and ASHE being struck up. Mark attended AGC conference in Washington DC and made presentation

- Free ASHE webinar Oct 27th 2-3pm on Energy Management. Clark Reed, Skip Smith and Dale Wooten presenters.

- Chet Howard to attend ASHE Institute. Institute created 7 years ago to create training and education network for emerging leaders. Past attendees from Region 7 include Terry Scott, John Flannery, Mark Kenneday and Terry Martin

- Brian Cotten on planning committee for ASHE Annual meeting.

Bill Harrison discussed ASRAE and how ASHRAE is working to take energy use out of buildings while protecting patients and staff. He would like to bring in a speaker to the AAHE annual meeting.

Diane Hughes reported that AAHE had approximately 40 registrations for the Oct 16th programs.

Next AAHE meeting is Jan 15 or 16th at St. Vincent hospital in Little Rock. George McFerron will present program on "Going Green". For the AAHE annual meeting in May, Diane has confirmation of the following people to make presentations, George Mills, Gordon Burrell, Mike Kukemeister. Mike Jones is to be Keynote speaker. Powers of Arkansas and Siemens have agreed to sponsor fish fry at annual meeting at the River Market.

Continued Next Page

MINUTES

Continued

Terry Martin told the meeting that there are currently 306 current members and he presented 14 new members.

Chet Howard filled in for Dewane Funderburg who has resigned as Chair for Nominations/Elections. Chet asked for nominations of Board Members, Kirk Belin award and the Scholarship committee.

Paul Acre discussed issue of contractors not fully understanding NFPA electrical testing. He will submit letter to ASHE requesting advocacy.

John Ryals has yearbook loaded and ready to be updated. John asked for reports for yearbook.

Danny Draper needs articles for the Nov 6th newsletter. The newsletter will be emailed to members and will also be posted to the AAHE website.

Jesse Hall presented the new AAHE website homepage. He needs more pictures of hospitals to incorporate into the website.

Dr. Wear asked for applications for scholarships. Deadline is Dec 31st. Golf tournament raised approximately \$17,000 for scholarships.

Terry Martin discussed Tandberg in November for next Small Hospital meeting which will focus on Contractor training.

Chet Howard announced Mike Long resigned as chair of Bylaws effective Dec 31st, and that John Ryals will be filling the position.

Discussion held on issuing CEU's. AHA will issue CEU's and show hours on certificate.

Danny Draper motioned that meeting be adjourned, Dr. Wear seconded, vote taken, motion carried.

2009 Newsletter Schedule

I know that I know, that I know, that we have more members who can write an article for the newsletter. You haven't tried to do so because you don't think you have anything that might be of interest to the membership. We are a diversified group. Clinical Engineering, Facility Managers, Safety, Haz-Mat, you name it we have members involved. I need articles for the next newsletter. Go ahead, give it a shot. I need 450-500 words maximum for an article.

AAHE Scholarships for 2010

It is now time to make applications for the Arch Gilchrist, Curt Belin and Past Presidents AAHE Scholarships. The deadline for applications is December 31, 2009. The applications can be downloaded from the Arkansas Association for Healthcare Engineering (AAHE) website at www.aaheark.net. These scholarships are given to individuals that are graduating from high school or are already attending college. The applications for each are slightly different and both are on the web site.

Scholarships can be given to full-time or part-time students. If the application is by a part-time student, they must indicate how many hours they plan to take during the year. A part-time student will be given a partial scholarship. Students may attend a two year or four year school or graduate school.

Highest priority is given to individuals who are pursuing a program in the healthcare engineering field. The purpose of the scholarships is to encourage students to follow in the foot steps of Arch Gilchrist, Curt Belin and the AAHE past presidents.

Priority is also given to individuals pursuing other healthcare fields and children and grandchildren of AAHE members. The recommendations of the AAHE Scholarship committee shall be made in consideration of the applicant's field of study, academic background, extracurricular activities, the honors and awards which he or she has received from educational and other institutions, the probability of his or her successful completion of college work, his or her general moral character, his or her qualities of leadership and his or her apparent ambitions.

Successful applicants are selected early in 2010 and the awardees are invited to attend the annual AAHE banquet May 13, 2010 in Little Rock with their family as guests of AAHE.

Applications and reference letters are to be sent to Anna Sroczyński, AAHE Liaison, Arkansas Hospital Association, 419 Natural Resources Drive, Little Rock, AR 72205. Questions are to be directed to Dr. James O. Wear at email: james.wear@gmail.com or 501-753-5662.

The Arch Gilchrist Scholarship has been given since 1979. It was named in his honor when he died. He was a very active member and an ASHE president. The Curt Belin Scholarship has been given since 1996 in his honor when he died. Curt was a founding member of AAHE and an ASHE board member. The Past Presidents' Scholarship has been given since 2001 when the Golf Tournament was started and additional funds were raised.

Next Column

Scholarships

The 2009 Arch Gilchrist Scholarship was given to Kayla Christine Knight, who is the daughter of Joe Knight. She is a sophomore nursing student at UALR. She wants to become a neonatal nurse and work at Arkansas Children's Hospital.

The 2009 Curt Belin Scholarship was given to Brooke Erin McDowell, who is the granddaughter of James McDowell. She is attending Harvard College to fulfill pre-medical requirements and is currently pursuing a joint major in history and science. Her goal is to become a surgeon and to work in developing countries. She received the Arch Gilchrist Scholarship in 2008.

The 2009 Past Presidents' Scholarship was given to De' Andria Monique Simpson, who is the daughter of Aaronda C. McNair. She graduated from Bryant High School where she had a 3.5 grade point out of 4.0. She was active in several clubs in high school. She is attending Oral Roberts University with her goal to enter pastoral ministries, business management and theatre arts.

If you have any employees in your departments that are going to school part-time to earn a two or four year degree in a healthcare engineering program, encourage them to apply. Also if any of our members have children or grandchildren interested in healthcare engineering programs, have them apply. We would really like to award some of these scholarships for individuals pursuing degrees in a healthcare engineering program.

Joint Commission

You may not be aware of this but the Pre-publication issue of the 2010 Joint Commission Standards are not available for review and download on the TJC website.

There are several changes, particularly in the area of Emergency Management under Environment of Care of which you need to be aware.

EM 01.01.01-Now requires that your Emergency Plan must be reviewed and signed off by outside agencies such as OES, Police Department, and Fire Department.

EM 03.01.03- Table top exercises are no longer acceptable as substitutes for drills.

EP #13 now requires that Evaluation of drills must include LIPs.

There are a number of changes in other areas that will affect how you respond and what documentation must be provided to TJC surveyor. You will be well advised to review all the new standards.