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SPRING MEETING FOCUSES ON THE AMERICAN DISABILITIES ACT

The NEHES Spring meeting to be held in conjunction with the New England Hospital Assembly will be held Tuesday, March 31, 1992 in Boston, MA. An important technical presentation will cover the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Doug Erikson of the American Hospital Association will be the featured speaker.

ADA guidelines published by the Architectural and Transportation Barriers Compliance Board take effect January 26, 1992. The American Hospital Association estimates there will be major expenditures to comply with this regulation with cost increases of 20% for new construction and as much as 60% for facility alterations. Given these changes, the NEHES seminar offers an excellent opportunity to better understand these stipulations. A mailing will be sent to all NEHES members. The program will be put on by the Boston engineers group headed by T. Ringer.

NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION FALL MEETING

The opening session of the Fall NFPA meeting contained the Chairman of the Board report that announced the resignation of Robert Grant as President of NFPA for mismanagement of funds. An investigation is still in progress. At the conclusion of this investigation the Board will issue a statement of its findings. Mr. Jackson continued to reassure the membership that the company is solvent, and the Board has taken action to trim personnel without jeopardizing quality or service to its many members. Anthony O'Neill, the acting operation manager continued to reinforce the Chairman of the Boards report by outlining the many accomplishments during 1991. After the acceptance of the reports, the Chief of the Vancouver Fire Department gave an excellent report of major changes that he and the Fire Marshal were able to adopt into their building code.

Statistics have shown that in the US and Canada the most dangerous dwelling for a fire to occur is the single family home. Even with these countries latest technology, we are still unable to substantially decrease the number of deaths and property loss from this type of fire. The most critical time to save lives in a fire is before flashover. With the majority of fire companies unable to reach the scene before flashover, and the most advanced technology available to fight fires unable to decrease loss of property and life in this setting, a major change in the mind set of how to effectively fight fires in this occupancy must occur. In Vancouver this change exhibits itself in the form (NFPA, continued on page 8)

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As 1991 comes to an end, lets review the past year.

We started out with six (6) goals:
1. Spring and Fall seminar Co-Chair person needed.
2. Attendance at Spring and Fall meetings.
3. Better membership from all the states.
4. To get the history of our organization up to date.
5. Improve the newsletter.
6. Improvement of awards per Jack Berger's suggestion for new plaques.

We made great progress on them all, thanks to hard work from the Board Members.

Some special thanks go to Terry Ringer, as being a most active State Representative, keeping members in Massachusetts very well informed and getting us many new members.

Jack Berger, for our new plaques, I am very proud to hang it on my wall.

Tobey Clark, for our new Newsletter, a real great job.

(MESSAGE, continued on next page)
(MESSAGE, continued from page 1)
Can not forget Ken Boyer, wish I could of been there. From the call I received, it was the best. (Editors note: George was unable to attend the seminar because of illness - he is nearing a full recovery now.)

I believe we have one of the most creative jobs in the world. It involves skill, organization, education intellect, judgement, energy, detection, insight, imagination and lets not forget crisis management, and other duties as required.

I appreciate the support of the Board during the past year and wish the best to Jack Berger and the new Board for 1991.

Sincerely,
George Hawley,
President NEHES 1991

Vice Presidents Report

NEHES is about to start on its 34th year with as much momentum and dedication as we've ever had in the past. Its just great to be an active member of such an outstanding professional organization and especially to be serving as the newly elected president. As the NEHES leader, I promise to keep the Society moving in a forward direction focusing on, both on the already established goals and on the few which I will add. They are;

1. Keep the membership strong

2. Get a greater number of our members to accept more active roles in the organization

Thank you for all that you have done in the past and lets have another good year.

Happy Holidays to everyone.

Respectfully submitted,
Jack Berger, Vice President

(Editors note: Jack will be our president in 1992.)

FALL SEMINAR GETS HIGH MARKS FROM MEMBERS

I have had many opportunities to address the NEHES Board over the years when making reports at the regular monthly meetings and so it was nearly routine when I had to stand in for our President during his absence at our fall program. George has since recovered and is back doing his thing at the Hebrew Rehab. The Newport meeting was another one of those hard to top seminars that had everything we could ask for. Add Ken Boyer to the list of outstanding Fall Seminar Chairmen. All of the feedback I got from the members, their guests and the vendors was one hundred percent positive.

One of the highlights of the banquet was a teleconference hook-up over the P.A. system to the bedside of our convalescing George Hawley. I know it added the finishing touch and it made the day (night) for George. I added a few choice words (speech) to give it that official touch and those words are shown here for those who didn't hear them.

My first year with the New England Hospital Engineers Society was here in Newport, thirteen years ago.

The seminar program was put on by the faculty of the University of Rhode Island.

I was so impressed with the professionalism and camaraderie (the term networking hadn't been invented yet) that I accepted an active role on the Board helping with the Newsletter.

The more I worked for NEHES, the more I got out of it. Thirteen years of many hours and hard work and I'm still way ahead of the game. What I learned was that NEHES doesn't just develop hospital engineers, NEHES develops leaders.

Submitted by
Jack Berger, Vice President

Everyone attending this Fall Seminar in Newport was impressed with the professionalism of the entire program. Mr. Boyer and his team did an outstanding job. The high quality of the speakers and the importance of the topic - Code 101 Life Safety - was obvious. Congratulations to all the planners and the attendees. I am proud to be associated with an organization which is capable of such a fine program. Those of you who missed it should do some thinking about priorities of your time, keeping up with your work and, gaining critical information to make you a better engineer.

We had 76 engineer attendees, 47 wives and 55 different vendors, most of whom had several of their teams with them. The vendor show as you realize, is the means of holding down the cost of attending such a seminar. It does serve as an educational process in informing us of the products and processes associated with our work. We are able to use the excess funds from the fall seminars for further education in the spring seminar, our newsletters and the educational VCR tapes in our library at St. John's Hospital, Lowell, MA.

If any of our charter members had attended, they would have been just as impressed as I was with the entire program.

David Hathaway, Mount Auburn Hospital, Cambridge, MA.

I believe we have one of the most creative jobs in the world. It involves skill, organization, education intellect, judgement, energy, detection, insight, imagination and lets not forget crisis management, and other duties as required.

George Hawley, President
Connecticut Report

The Connecticut Hospital Engineers Society has concluded its twenty-seventh year of outstanding educational and informative programs.

The November, 1990 program held at Meriden-Wallingford Hospital included a presentation by Russo Association on CAD systems and Education Light and Power provided an update on their energy conservation programs. In January a joint meeting was held between C.H.E.S. and the New England Society of Clinical Engineering at Milford Hospital. This meeting covered medical gas testing, code review and methods and controls to minimize personal exposure to ETO. The March meeting was held at the hospital of Saint Raphael's with a program presented by John B. Pierce Laboratory on Sick Building Syndrome. The May meeting was held at the offices of the Connecticut Hospital Association in Wallingford.

Discussion on the services available from C.H.A. was followed by an informative talk by Power Tech Inc. on power conditioning. The Annual Meeting was held in October at Healthworks Inc., Wallingford. A motion to revise the societies by-laws was voted on and passed to extend the terms of elected officers to two years. A new slate of officers was also voted in at the meeting. The November, 1991 program held at the Waterbury Hospital included a presentation by Applied Thermodynamics on the replacement of underground storage tanks.

The agenda for the January, 1991 meeting will include a presentation on the impact of the American Disabilities Act, and a discussion of the J.C.A.H.O., as their inspection teams will be making the rounds in Connecticut during first three months of 1992.

The duties of the Connecticut representative to N.E.H.E.S. will be shared between myself and Mr. Chris Berney of Stamford Hospital and Vice President of C.H.E.S.

Respectfully Submitted
Edward Browne, CN Rep

Massachusetts Report

1991 Summary- Membership was one of my goals for 1991 and following is a summary of the membership status for Massachusetts.

As of January 1, 1991, we had 9 honorary and 113 active members. Presently there are 12 honorary and 140 active members. This is a 20% increase in membership enrollment. 3 applications were denied, and one is pending.

I attended meeting of 3 out of the 4 active clubs to promote N.E.H.E.S. and organized a joint meeting of the 3 clubs at Lahey Clinic on August 1, 1991. Attendance was small, but those attending thought it was worthwhile.

The annual Spring Seminar was held in Boston on March 26, 1991 with the topic being NFPA 99.

MILESTONES/TRANSITIONS

The following is the number of members reported to me this year who have:
- Deceased-2, Retired-1, Resigned-1, Promotions-4 & Transfers-4

Anthony Famigletti, honorary member, has had an aneurysm and is recovering.

In closing for this year, I was pleased with the cooperation I received by my fellow colleagues. Ernie and I look forward to serving the Massachusetts members in 1992.

THE SELF-EVALUATION QUESTIONNAIRE FOR THE 1991 FALL SEMINAR

As a guideline for future seminars, I sent out a questionnaire to the Massachusetts members who recently attended the Fall Seminar.

Out of 41 questionnaires, I received 23 back and the average (0-10) of their opinions are listed below.

Evaluate each of the following items by indicating on a scale of 1 - 10 with 10 being excellent.

HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS: 8.39
SEMINAR CONTENT: 9.07
SPEAKERS: 8.89
LADIES PROGRAM: 9.25
RESTAURANT: 8.83
TOUR: 9.25
ENTERTAINMENT PROGRAM: 8.52
BAND: 8.57
COMEDIAN: 5.59
FOOD: 8.91
ANNUAL MEETING: 8.72
DINNER BANQUET: 9.33
VENDOR DISPLAY: 9.09
COST OF PROGRAM: 9.39

For a summary, the results indicate that the members approve of the way this past seminar was conducted. (A tribute to Ken Boyer and his staff.)

Under suggestions for future seminars, the following is a list of their comments:

(Continued next page)
Maine Report

Our meeting was held in Waterville, Maine at the Weathervane Restaurant.

The meeting started at 12 noon with lunch followed by a presentation from the Maine Bio-Waste Associates. Maine Bio-Waste Associates are in the process of building a regional bio-waste incinerator for Maine hospitals. This facility would transport and burn pathological waste from each participating hospital, hopefully solving current and future problems for Maine hospitals with this problem.

The meeting was well attended, 16 members were present. After the presentation by Bio-Waste Associates, a business meeting was held. Nomination of officers for the upcoming year were held and during our next meeting, exactly who will hold each position will be decided.

Bob Lord talked about the upcoming NEHES fall seminar. There was informal discussions about waste incineration that involved which size box worked best, ash removal, which kind of red bags to use (apparently our hospital has had trouble with lead in their incinerator ash and it turned out to be from the red bags they were using). There was discussions concerning OSHA visits, JCAHO visits, etc.

Our next meeting will be held in November. October meeting will not be held because of the New England Hospital Engineers Conference.

Respectfully submitted,
Don Garrison, ME Rep

New Hampshire Report

The New Hampshire Society held its meeting on November 6, 1991 at Speare Memorial Hospital.

1. Two new members were accepted into the society both from St. Josephs Hospital making a total of seven new members in the past two months.

2. The education program for this meeting consisted of a presentation by Frederick Seal Inc. located in Bedford NH. The program was very well done and two new products to the market were shown to the members. Both of these scales require no lubrication.

3. Preparations for the 92 Fall seminar continue to go well. Both Hotel and seminar dates are set, additional floor space for the vendor show is being looked into. Lists are being updated constantly and a floor plan for booth layout is being prepared.

4. The December meeting is scheduled to be held at the Red Blazer restaurant and pub in Concord New Hampshire. New officers will be voted in at that meeting.

Respectfully Submitted
Stephen Shaw, NH Rep.

Rhode Island Report

The last meeting of the Rhode Island Hospital Engineers took place at Women & Infants Hospital, 101 Dudley Street, Providence, RI on Friday, November 22, 1991.

The guest speakers were David Esposito, Vice President of Sales and Marketing, MG Industries and David Smith, President, Damas Corporation. They reviewed the Federal EPA Test Procedure Regarding ETO Emissions and Clean Air Act Amendments.
One of our members, Tom Maglio-chetti of Roger Williams Hospital, had recently attended a conference in Boston dealing with a future Federal Requirement, The Safe Medical Device Act which will require hospitals to report that which is now voluntary. Each attending member was presented with a copy of the Medical Device Facility User Reporting Interim Guidance Book, dated November 1991.

At this meeting, I mentioned the very successful Fall Seminar held in Newport and noted the excellent turnout from Rhode Island. I extended additional thanks to those directly involved -- Ovid Bordeianu, Marie Slower, George Silva, and Tom Borden.

It was announced that Ovid Bordeianu was elected to serve on the Board. I, Ken Boyer, was re-elected as the Rhode Island Rep and Wally Brown as the Rhode Island alternate.

Letters of thanks and praise were mailed by me to Nancy Montenegro and Doug Erickson, The American Society for Hospital Engineering, for the excellent educational program and, in particular, both Bill Koffel and James Lathrop. Thanks to the Newport Marriott for the service, food, and use of their facility. It was beautiful. Thanks to the firm setting up and removing the fifty-six vendor booths. Thanks also to the hospitality firm responsible for the guest programs and luncheons, to the Colonial Navy for a classic show which was well done, to the vendors (Simplex Time Recorder Co., Johnson Controls and Landis and Gyr Powers Co.) for providing hospitality suites as an extra bonus. I still need to send personal thanks and a list of all attending engineers to the participating fifty-vendors who made it such a success. Also, I need to thank the weather man, the Board members for their constant guidance, and to all of the engineers who attended. Again, thank you!

Congratulations to the 1992 slate of officers and many thanks to the recent Past President, George Hawley. George became a closer friend of mine this year. I tried my best to make his outgoing event one of joy and laughter. I'm sorry that, due to ill health, you had to miss it; however, I know that success in the future is yours.

Respectfully submitted by
Ken Boyer, RI Rep.

Vermont Report

I regret that I am unable to attend this meeting of the NEHES Board, but pressing matters at my hospital demand my attention and preclude me from making the trip to Nashua this month. Tobey Clark has kindly agreed to convey the Vermont report in my absence. I also regret not being present to welcome our president back among the living and feel cheated that my ears will not hear his swan song address to the board. I wait in anxious anticipation for the minutes.

The next scheduled meeting of the Vermont Hospital Engineers Society will take place in Lake Placid, New York on December 11. This meeting will be held in conjunction with the Technical Services Programs (TSP) Fall Seminar. The educational topic for the seminar will be the Safe Medical Devices Act of 1990. As the federal government is now poised to begin implementation of this legislation, the timing of this seminar could not have been better.

Although the newly elected VHES officers have not met formally since our last get together at the NEHES fall seminar, we have been in contact with one another via telephone. Preliminary planning relevant to the societies 1991-92 goals and objectives has already begun. My aim is to formalize these intentions and to present them to the membership in Lake Placid.

One of our prime interests will be to maintain Vermont's strong ties to NEHES. We have already begun looking ahead to hosting the 1993 fall seminar. After a bit of chiding and arm twisting, Dana Swenson of the Medical Center has agreed to become seminar chairman. Ever the delegator, Dana managed to get the rest of the membership to promise to do all of the work before consenting. The high standards set by the overwhelming excellence of the program in Newport has given us a lofty goal to shoot for (kudos to Tom Boyer and the Rhode Island Engineers).

I look forward to seeing you all at the next meeting of the board. Until then take care and have a good holiday.

Respectfully submitted
Mark Cappello, VT Rep.

DANA SWENSON AUTHORS TWO ARTICLES FOR HEALTH FACILITIES MANAGEMENT

Dana Swenson, Director of Facilities Management at the Medical Center Hospital of Vermont, authored articles in recent issues of Health Facilities Management, a national publication for healthcare facility managers. In the October issue, a standardized method for documenting facility-specific standards and procedures is covered in Manual Standardizes Project Documents. This paper projects the need for (1) standardization among documents, drawings and specifications, (2) getting consistent information required and (3) developing a system for more efficient future use of this information.

In a second article in the November Health Facilities Management, Generator Logs: Ensuring JCAHO Compliance reviews survey requirements for appropriate documentation of generator inspections and training for inspectors.

These articles show the continuing quality contributions of NEHES members.
Bill Koffel of Koffel Associates presents the Life Safety Code, NFPA 101 to attendees. Mr. Koffel and Jim Lathrop presented a detailed description of all changes to this document. The most significant addition to this code was the requirement for supervised sprinklers in health care facilities.

Between sessions, Bill Koffel dines with NEHES members. This was an opportunity for engineers to get their individual questions answered regarding NFPA codes by Bill and interact with other health care facilities managers on a variety of issues.
... And time for fun. The Theme Dinner featured Sailor's nite in Newport. A good time was had by all!

(Left)
Jack and Eunice Berger share a smile during the festivities. Jack's officers uniform is appropriate given he will be NEHES president in 1992.

(Right)
Ken Boyer and his wife Marion share a rare quiet moment. Ken was the Fall Seminar chairman who was responsible for this excellent program. After more than a year of preparation all went off without a hitch. He is to be congratulated!

(Left)
Bob LaBlanc and his wife Mary share a pose with Jack Gosselin, NEHES president in 1990, and his wife Stephanie. This Vermont contingent had the opportunity to visit the oceanside community of Newport - something not available in landlocked Vermont. In 1993, the Fall Seminar will be coming to Vermont during foliage season. We hope to see all of you there!
of changes to the building code that mandates sprinklers in all new construction. Although not new, this means of suppression can save lives and property by suppressing or extinguishing fires before flashover.

The average cost for installation in a new home is $1.54 a square foot. With some training provided by the building inspectors department, it is expected that the cost will soon be as low as $100 a head. Aside from the advantages of fire suppression, it is estimated that these code changes will save the Vancouver tax payers a minimum of 100 million dollars over the next 20 years in fire fighting cost alone. Also, property owners can expect a 50% reduction in the cost of the fire portion of their homeowners insurance with the installation of sprinklers.

The Health Care Section Codes and Standards Review Committee reviewed the following documents that were voted at this meeting: NFPA 25: Inspection, Testing & Maintenance of Water Based Extinguishing Systems, NFPA 69: Explosion Prevention Systems, NFPA 91: Blowers and Exhaust Systems, NFPA 101M: Alternate Approaches to Life Safety, NFPA 220: Types of Building Construction and NFPA 1961: Fire Hose. The largest discussion revolved around a new document NFPA 25. This document combines seven different sections of existing code that were recommended practices. When approved, 25 will be a standard not a recommended practice. The chairman of the committee spoke to the Health Care section and asked that we support floor changes to the document that will delete the requirement for 150 pound static pressure testing on stand pipes and sprinkler systems at 15 years and every 10 years thereafter, and to carefully review the wording of inspection for pipes, hanger and heads in non-accessible spaces. The following codes, NFPA 1, 12, 12a, 54, 70, 75, 78, 80 and 265 were assigned for review by the Health Care Section Standards Committee before 1992.
Membership Committee has proposed this type of participation in several different health care related organizations to the NFPA marketing department, as a means of increasing section and organization membership. This and other promotional ideas will be reviewed by the legal department and reported to HCS by the next meeting. It has been a pleasure to serve this board as your representative at these meetings.

Respectfully submitted
Norm Welsh, NFPA Rep.

CHAPTER COMMUNICATION

ASHE Advocacy Issues

ASHE is presently involved in several important advocacy issues and has established programs to assist the membership in addressing these issues:

Complying with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)

This program was born out of the Federal Regulation number 144, volume 56, of July 26, 1991. The purpose of the program is to alert health care employers and facilities managers to the provisions of this law from a practical and economic standpoint, and to assist them in complying with the Act. The two-day seminar is being offered six times during the last quarter of 1991 in Dallas, Arlington, VA, San Francisco, Chicago, Orlando FL, and Philadelphia. Plans to repeat the program in 1992 have not yet been made.

The National Conference on Medical Technology Management

This program held in Dallas, November 14-16 addressed compliance with the Safe Medical Devices Act of 1990, continuous quality improvement, JCAHO compliance, and technology acquisition and management information.

The Incinerator Operating Training for Solid Waste Combustors

This program was prepared to assist in implementing state regulations being imposed by the November 1990 Clean Air Act. This four-day program has received approval from the State of Washington and has been scheduled at four separate sites during the last quarter of 1991.

MEMBER-RECRUIT-A MEMBER

Chapter members are invited to participate. If an individual in the chapter sponsors ten New (not former) members, that person will win a round-trip airline ticket anywhere Delta Airlines flies. One suggestion the ticket could be used in a chapter-sponsored raffle with the proceeds providing a new source of revenue for chapter use.

RECOGNITION AWARDS EXPANDED

The ASHE Membership and Recognition committee has introduced three additional chapter recognition awards for 1992. They are: the Quarterly Newsletter Award, The Advocacy Award, and the Special Achievement Award for chapters assisting small and rural hospitals. These are to be added to the three current awards which recognize, (1) membership growth, (2) APEX levels of membership, and (3) education. In addition to the new awards, the ASHE Board voted to institute three new patches to recognize overall chapter achievement. All the patches will be presented at the 1992 annual conference in Nashville, TN, June 22-26. The overall awards that chapters can attain include:

Patch Criteria

Gold - Chapters achieving recognition in 5 out of 6 categories (membership/education/APEX levels of membership/quarterly newsletter advocacy/special achievement/ (chapters assisting small and rural hospitals)

Silver - Chapters achieving recognition in 4 out of 6 categories

Bronze - Chapters achieving recognition in 3 out of 6 categories

Chapters will be listed in the 1993 yearbook according to their level of achievement. During the month of February ASHE will provide the affiliated chapters with a complete list of protocol and criteria for all chapter awards.

LENDING LIBRARY

The Washington State Society for Hospital Engineering (WSSH) started a lending library in 1989. The idea of a lending library originated with Jim Hamilton in 1989 while he was president of the chapter.

They secured a course of technical self-teaching programs imprinted with the WSSH logo, and addressing specific areas. They have also acquired numerous publications, technical documents and papers. When attending seminars, chapter members look for publications to improve and upgrade the WSSH library. The publications have been organized and a list was provided to area hospitals. Members can call the WSSH head librarian, Pete Peterson at 206/522-5906 and request a publication. There is no charge for this service. In returning materials members are asked to insure items for the purchase price. If a member requests a paper that can be copied, WSSH will copy and mail it at no cost.

The Washington State Society for Hospital Engineering is actively marketing this service and hopes to increase accessibility.

If your chapter does not have a lending library, you may want to consider pooling your resources and starting one!

Respectfully submitted,
John Crowley, ASHE Rep.
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