Save the Date for Spring Seminar 2006

2006 NEHES Spring Seminar
Friday, March 24, 2006

Organizers:
Rhode Island Healthcare Engineers Society members

Location:
Four Points by Sheraton
Leominster Hotel, Leominster, MA

Program:
A member of the AIA Standards Update Task Force will give a presentation on the new AIA Guidelines for Design and Construction of Hospital and Healthcare Facilities Guidelines that will be published in March 2006. New material in the document includes sections on: small inpatient primary care hospitals, intermediate care units, gastrointestinal endoscopy facilities, psychiatric outpatient centers, renal dialysis centers, observation units, and in-hospital skilled nursing units. There is also new language on assisted living facilities, hospice facilities, adult day health care facilities, and green architecture.

Also planned is a presentation on fire stopping—Fire safety is a major concern for managers of healthcare facilities. The causes of fire are varied and unpredictable and often outside the control of the facility manager. What can be controlled are the fire containment methods used. Passive fire protection systems are designed into the structure of the building so, if a fire breaks out, it is contained within a fire compartment, surrounded by fire-resistant walls and floors. For walls and floors to maintain fire resistance, every opening, penetration, and joint must be sealed according to NFPA 101 Life Safety Code. Managing a facility according to the stringent standards enforced by government agencies, authorities having jurisdiction (AHJ), insurance underwriters, and JCAHO is significantly more difficult today than 20 years ago. Fortunately, firestop manufacturers have developed tools to help make fire stopping systems easier.

Conference Chairman:
Louis Pavao, Jr.
lpavaojr@lifespan.org

Vendor Partners:
There will be space for 12 vendor partners. Contact Mark English, CCE, SASHE, CHFM,
for more information: mcenglish@localnet.com

Speaker Biographies, Continuing Education Credits (CEUs) Application:
Dave Fontes
Dfontes@lifespan.org

Registration Brochure:
Jim Gilmore, SASHE, CHE, CHSP, CHFM
jgilmore@lifespan.org

How to Register:
Registration brochures will be mailed during the first week of February 2006. Credit cards may be used. Facility managers who would like to join NEHES may designate $25 of their registration fee for one year of Society dues.

Facility managers are encouraged to bring co-workers to the Seminar.

Further information will be available on the NEHES website, www.nehes.org, in the 1st quarter 2006 edition of The NEHES Newsletter, and in the upcoming registration brochures.

Continuing Education Credits (CEUs):
Rhode Island chapter members will be seeking ASHE approval to grant CEUs for attendance at Spring Seminar for those who need to fulfill the requirements for the Certified Healthcare Facility Manager process.

VT Facility Managers Put on Memorable Conference in Burlington

Members of the Vermont Healthcare Engineering Society took their turn October 3-5 hosting the NEHES Fall Conference with dual and single-track educational seminars and presentations by several experts, including ASHE President Thomas Schipper; a sold-out vendor partner show, golf tournament, Awards Banquet, scholarship presentations, and much more. VHESS members called the conference "Brilliance in Engineering" to coincide with Vermont's annual foliage display. Ron Vachon, NEHES President,
University of Vermont Students Receive NEHES Scholarships at Fall Conference

*Ron Vachon, the NEHES Engineer of the Year, was honored.
*John Crowley, SASHE, outgoing NEHES President, handed the gavel to Ron, incoming President
*NEHES Annual Meeting and Past President’s Gathering were held.
*See list of vendor partners in newsletter insert.

Scholarships Presentation Totaled $6,000
Tobey Clark, SASHE, the Director of Instrumentation & Technical Services and an Adjunct Lecturer, Electrical & Computer Engineering, at the University of Vermont, chaired the Scholarship Committee. Ray Forsell, UVM Technical Services, and Dawn LeBaron, CHFM, Fletcher Allen Health Care, assisted him.

Elizabeth Brosseau and Kyle Cram, both seniors at the University of Vermont in Burlington, received $3,000 college scholarships, presented by Tobey at the Awards Dinner and funded by the NEHES Scholarship Endowment Fund. Both students are candidates for a BS degree in Electrical Engineering, with a concentration in bio-medical engineering.

John Crowley, SASHE, the 2005 NEHES President, recently received a thank you letter from Kyle, who wrote, in part: “I believe NEHES promotes and stands for a great cause, and for that reason I could not be happier than to be associated in some way with your organization. At the conference you were all very approachable, friendly, and lighthearted. I apologize that I did not get a chance to meet more members of the Society.”

He is beginning a senior research project focused on the biomedical application of inductive heating as a means to treat benign prostatic hyperplasia.

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Left photo: Gene Cable (center) receives the NEHES Engineer of the Year award from Ron Vachon (left) and John Crowley.
Right photo: John Crowley, 2005 President, passes the gavel to incoming President Ron Vachon.

Left photo: Scholarship winners Kyle Cram and Elizabeth Brosseau receive their awards from Scholarship Chair Tobey Clark. Right photo: Past NEHES Presidents always gather at conferences: (L-R) Ron Vachon, Ralph Henry, George Hawley, Mark English, Joe Mona, John Crowley, Theron Manning, and Don Garrison.

Thanks to the following NEHES members for their photos from Fall Conference and the Board Planning Retreat: Don Garrison, Dawn LeBaron, Fred Leffingwell, and Ron Vachon. See more photos in the next issue of The NEHES Newsletter.
By Ron Vachon
Director of Facilities Management
St. Andrews Hospital and Healthcare
Boothbay Harbor, ME, ASHE Region 1 Director, NEHES President

Fellow Members,

Holiday greetings to all! It is our hope that all of our members and their circle of family and friends enjoy a safe, comfortable, and happy 2006! I am pleased to report that our chapter is healthy and speak for all Board members in appreciation for your continued support and trust. We pledge to do all that we can to provide educational programs, advocacy, and professional recognition. We believe this organization is a success by the continued spirit of commitment and, judging by the feedback from membership, I believe we are doing a good job. After the excitement of being selected as President-Elect sunk in, it seemed like there was plenty of time to prepare for the responsibility of the presidency. This year, 2005, has been a fast and learning year to say the least. Now 2006 is already upon us and there is much to do in the months ahead.

Thanks to John Crowley and Others
I would like to thank John Crowley for his leadership during the very successful 2005 Chapter year. John is an excellent leader with a good sense of humor and is always a significant contributor to NEHES. I also would like to thank all the Board members, including State and local representatives and alternates; Margaret Vip, our administrative support person; Don Garrison for renovation of the website, and all committee persons and past presidents. I would especially like to thank John Durans and the Massachusetts planning group for putting together the Board’s Annual Planning Retreat and the efforts by the planning committee for the 2006 Fall Conference. All of these folks have been so great in helping prepare for the year ahead.

Finally, I would like to express appreciation to the Vermont folks for putting on another successful fall program. With great speakers, pertinent topics, and convenient venue and format, we had an excellent turnout. I think we will also have a good response in new membership applications as well.

The foundation of NEHES’ success comes from strong collaborative efforts. We look for direction from the Board and from the members at large.

Annual Planning Retreat Highlights
Each year, the Board meets in the fall to prepare for the upcoming year in a Planning Retreat. Thanks to you, NEHES is one of the largest and most healthy ASHE Chapters in the country. We gain our strength by responding to you, our Active members, and partnership with many of you who are Supporting members. The fiscal health and success of all programs over the past years affords us the opportunity to give more back to the membership this coming year.

Highlights from discussions at this year’s retreat November 3-5 in Westport, MA and facilitated by Mark English, CCE, SASHE, CHFM, include:

- Promote attendance at regular Board meetings by inviting Active, Honorary and Past Officers - We need to solicit new ideas to continue the delivery of high quality affordable programs and to grow as an organization. We would like to encourage new as well as past active members to attend Board meetings. Please call or e-mail your chapter representative so that we may plan space and refreshments for the meeting that you wish to attend. See insert for names of Chapter representatives or look on www.nehes.org.
- The 2006 Board meeting schedule, with locations, is:
  - Friday, January 6, Andover, MA, 8:30 a.m.
  - Friday, February 3, Teleconference, 8:30 a.m. I will be coordinating arrangements for this with a web-based service.
  - Friday, March 10, Andover, MA, 8:30 a.m.
  - Thursday, March 23, Leominster, MA, 7:00 p.m.
  - Friday, May 5, Andover, MA, 8:30 a.m.
  - Friday, June 2, Andover, MA, 8:30 a.m.
  - Friday, September 15, Andover, MA, 8:30 a.m.
  - Wednesday, October 4, Westport, MA, 7:00 a.m. White’s Regional Conference and Hospitality Center
  - Thursday, October 5, Westport, MA, 3:30 p.m. Annual Meeting, White’s
  - Friday-Saturday, November 3-4, Location to be determined (Maine), Annual Planning Retreat
  - December: No meeting (Andover, MA: Wyndham Andover Hotel)
    (Leominster, MA: Sheraton Four Points Hotel)
- The 2006 Spring Seminar will be hosted by the Rhode Island Chapter and be held in Leominster on March 24, 2006. Fall Conference will be in Westport, MA October 3-6, 2006.

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By Kevin Keating  
Director of General Services  
Shriners Burns Hospitals  
Boston, MA,  
NEHES President-Elect  

I'm really looking forward to fulfilling my responsibilities as President-Elect in 2006 and serving along side a great group of Officers and Board of Directors. I am also looking forward to serving the members of our Society that have been so supportive over the years. Spending the past seven years on the Board and serving as Treasurer the last two years has prepared me well for my new position. My main responsibility will be to provide support and assistance to our new President, Ron Vachon. During the November Board of Directors' Planning Retreat, Ron set the direction for the Board with several new initiatives in the areas of education, membership support, and vendor/sponsor support. I will do everything I can to assist Ron in making these initiatives successful.

Another one of my important responsibilities is to update and expound upon the Board of Directors Guidelines. I encourage members to send me their comments and ideas so that I can bring them to the Board.

In addition to my President-Elect duties I am also serving on the 2006 NEHES Fall Conference Planning Committee. This Committee, chaired by our new Treasurer, John Duraes, got an early start in the planning process and is well on its way to putting together an exciting Fall Conference. John also organized one of the best Board of Directors' Planning Retreats I have ever attended this past November. Earlier this year I was asked by the American Society for Healthcare Engineering to serve on their 2006 Annual Conference Planning Task Force.

I attended a meeting in Chicago this past September to work on putting together an education program for the ASHE Annual Conference which will be held in Boston in 2006. This was a good learning experience for me and I now have a better appreciation for all the work that goes in to planning a conference at the national level.

Finally, I want to thank our Past President, John Crowley, for his support and guidance this past year and for making the Board meetings worthwhile and entertaining. Our Society had a tremendous year in 2005 under John's leadership.

Contact Kevin, kkeating@shrinenet.org

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President's Message

(From Page 3)

- Continue to promote our society to CEO/ CFO/COO levels of management through increased communications. We need to look at different methods to communicate this message. Some CEOs see Chapter contributions and awards as more of a tribute to the Society, while I think the awards are a tribute to the entire facilities management profession. Those who participate in our Society's advocacy and education efforts have impacted our industry on a grand scale.

- We are in the process of providing a Fall Conference scholarship for one member of each local chapter of NEHES who has not been able to attend a Fall Conference. As training budgets continually get squeezed, we need to look for ways to help members get exposure to our programs, and we need to see some new faces at our conferences and seminars. A portion of the proceeds from our trade shows can provide scholarships that would pay for a new (meaning one that has not attended before) facility manager member's hotel costs and registration fee. Our intent would be to have these managers selected by their respective state/area chapter representatives.

- We are working on efforts to promote NEHES to attendees of the 2006 ASHE Annual Conference to be held in Boston July 9-12. We are looking for volunteers to assist John Crowley, who is coordinating these promotional efforts. Contact John, maint.jc@stmm.org, (978)934-8440. There will be a waiver of conference fees for some volunteers.

- We are discussing the need to revise the Chapter Bylaw that currently requires 15 percent of Board members to be present for votes taken at Annual Meetings. We have made a quorum by a very tight margin over the past few Annual Meetings.

- Conversations with many Supporting members indicate that they want to do more to help our Society. There appears to be a resource of folks that are willing to assist in more ways than they have in the past. John Crowley, Bob Lord, and Steve Jallowiec volunteered to chair/facilitate a task force for these Supporting members to begin working together. We hope to have a meeting early in 2006 where these Supporting members will be able to gather and share ideas.

- New Committee Chairs and Liaisons Committee and task force assignments for the coming year are as follows:
  - **Audit** – John Crowley, Ron Vachon, Kevin Keating, John Duraes
  - **Membership** – Robert Loranger, Joe Mona
  - **Spring Conference Committee Chair** – Louis Pavao, Jr.
  - **Nominating** – John Crowley, Mark English, Bob Okerholm, Ron Vachon
  - **Public Relations** – open
  - **Research** – open
  - **Engineer-of-the-Year** – Ron Vachon
  - **Scholarship** – Don Baptiste
  - **Steering and Bylaws** – John Crowley
  - **Newsletter Editor & Website** – Don Garrison
  - **Education & Development** – Jack Gosselin
  - **Fall Conference Chair** – John Duraes
  - **Archives & Parliamentarian** – Mark English
  - **Supporting Member Task Force** – John Crowley, Bob Lord, Steve Jallowiec


- **Liaisons:**
  - ASHE – Ron Vachon
  - ADVOCACY – Don Garrison
  - JCAHO – Bob Thompson
  - NFPA – Gene Cable
  - EPA/State Environmental Protection Agencies – open

- **State Chapter Representatives, Primary and Alternate:** see insert in this newsletter

If you have any interest in the above committees or assignments please contact the committee chair or me. We always look for input and new ideas and, with your efforts, we will continue to grow.

Your encouragement and support throughout the past year have been terrific. Thanks again for the trust and support you have placed in the Board.

I direct you to the NEHES website, www.nehes.org, for contact information and continually updated Society news. Call, e-mail, and find you state representative with suggestions and ideas. Attend meetings and volunteer for committees.

Please e-mail me with any thoughts, ideas, and questions:
RonV@standrewshealthcare.org

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Welcome to New NEHES Members

From Connecticut
Keith Giannone
Director, Engineering and Plant Operations
St. Vincent's Medical Center
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giannone@svhs-ct.org

Edward M. Grafe
Senior Engineer
Van Zelm, Heywood & Shadford, Inc.
29 South Main St.
West Hartford, CT 06107
(860)521-4329
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Areas of Responsibility: Engineering, Consultation

Mark Guzior
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Encorp, Inc.
5 Juniper Court
Woodbury, CT 06797
(203)263-8902
mark.guzior@encorp.com
Areas of Responsibility: Sales Management, EPSS Power Monitoring

Thomas B. Lazzaro
Director of Facilities Management
Greenwich Hospital
5 Perryridge Road
Greenwich, CT 06830
(203)863-3128
thomasl@greenhosp.org
Areas of Responsibility: Engineering, Facilities Management, Safety, Maintenance, Bio-Medical

Jonathan Winikur
Principal
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880 Boston Post Road
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jwinikur@go-sbs.com
Areas of Responsibility: Project Management

From Massachusetts
Thomas A. Bergquist
Utilities Manager
Sturdy Memorial Hospital, Inc.
211 Park St., PO Box 2963
Attleboro, MA 02703
(508)236-5885
Areas of Responsibility: Engineering, Facilities Management

Thomas Birmingham
President
Bay State Anesthesia

Lowell, MA 01850
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sec.rkl@stmc.org
Areas of Responsibility: Safety, Security

George Koshy
President
Indus Systems
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gkoshy@indus-systems.com
Areas of Responsibility: Facilities Management

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Environmental Engineer
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Areas of Responsibility: Environmental Compliance Consulting

Corey McNulty
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Areas of Responsibility: Engineering, Facilities Management, Maintenance, Project Management, Construction

Terrie O'Brien
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Areas of Responsibility: HVAC-Controls Sales

Kurt A. Rockstroh, AIA
President/CEO
Steffan Bradley Architects
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kurt@steffan.com
Areas of Responsibility: Architecture

Anastasia Vassos
Associate
SEI Companies
88 Back Falcon Ave.
Boston, MA 02210
(617)210-1840
avassos@seicompanies.com
Areas of Responsibility: Marketing, Business Development

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New Members

(From Page 5)

Norman Welch, CHFM
Director of Facilities
Cooley Dickinson Hospital
30 Locust St.
Northampton, MA 01061
(413)582-2312
norm_welch@cooley-dickinson.org
Areas of Responsibility: Maintenance, Bio-Medical, Construction

Blair M. Wentworth
Director of Engineering and Maintenance
Quincy Medical Center
114 Whitwell St.
Quincy, MA 02169-1899
(617)376-4092
bwentworth@quincymc.org
Areas of Responsibility: Engineering, Facilities Management, Safety, Maintenance, Project Management, Construction

Thomas West
Director of Facilities/Project Manager
Center Communities of Brookline (Hebrew Senior Life)
100 Centre St.
Brookline, MA 02446
(617)232-0512
twest@main.bhca.harvard.edu
Areas of Responsibility: Facility and Project Management

From New Hampshire:

Barry Brengsinger
CEO
Lavalle/Brengsinger Architects
155 Dow St., Suite 400
Manchester, NH 03101
(603)622-5450
barry.brengsinger@lbpa.com
Areas of Responsibility: Programming, Planning, Architecture

Douglas J. Butler
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Gilbane
900 Elm St., Suite 603
Manchester, NH 03101
(603)669-0076
dbutler@gilbaneco.com
Areas of Responsibility: Construction, Construction Management

Albert P. Chouinard
Senior Project Manager
Gilbane Building Company
77 River Road
Epsom, NH 03234
(603)230-7295
achouinard@gilbane.com
Areas of Responsibility: Construction, Project Management

Gail A. Dahlstrom
Vice President, Facilities Management
Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center
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Lebanon, NH 03756
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gail.dahlstrom@hitchcock.org

Roger Francoeur
Principal
RPF Associates, Inc.
320 1st NH Turnpike
Northwood, NH 03261
(603)942-5432
rogerfe@airpf.com
Areas of Responsibility: Customer Relations, Management

Jude Gates
Director of Facilities, Planning, and IT
Rockingham County Complex
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Jgates@co.rockingham.nh.us

From Rhode Island:

Jeanette Jones
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Kinetic Biomedical Services, Inc.
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Areas of Responsibility: Bio-Medical Engineering, Medical Asset Management

From Vermont:

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Central Vermont Medical Center
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Areas of Responsibility: Plant Facilities, EoC

Linden E. Withrell, P.E., M.P.H., J.D.
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Areas of Responsibility: Engineering, Facilities Management, Construction, Consultation, Infection Control, Risk Management

New CHFM is from Vermont
Louis Dinneen, the Director of Facility Management at Fletcher Allen Health Care, Burlington VT, has recently earned the designation of Certified Healthcare Facility Manager. He is a member of NEHES, VHES, and ASHE.
Member Responds to the Great Commission in "Retirement"

Based on information submitted by
Robert J. Thompson, PE, CSHM, FPE
NEHES Liaison for JCAHO,
The Thompson Group
Fire and Life Safety Consulting
Boxford, MA

Editor’s note: Bob Thompson is like many other NEHES members who do mission work while they are still working or after retirement. Bob retired from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs and, after a career of 44 years in Fire Protection Engineering, is working as a self-employed consultant. He also has continued his valuable service as NEHES Liaison for JCAHO and is taking mission trips around the world.

Bob Thompson's days in "retirement" are busy. He owns a part-time consulting business, he’s renovating his home, and he’s usually planning his next mission trip with Global Missions Fellowship, based in Dallas, TX.

"People seek, and find, all sorts of opportunities in which to spend their retirement. One exciting activity -- even before retirement -- is to participate in short-term missions," said Bob, who recently returned from his seventh such trip, this time with 53 other volunteer missionaries, to Colombia. Bob has also taken four mission trips to Brazil and two to Romania, and he plans to return to these three countries next year.

He first heard about GMF when one of its Church Planters, who begins to prepare for each mission trip a year in advance, visited his church.

Generally, there are 12 to 25 other participants on GMF’s mission trips. The volunteers use bi-lingual scriptures and literature in each country they visit. Volunteers work with local churches and their representatives and make door-to-door visits at people’s homes and schools.

Bob said his trips have been rewarding despite his landing in the hospital for one night last year in Brazil. Nurses and doctors, who suspected a serious medical problem, conducted extensive tests and fortunately found no problem.

Bob's trips, he reports, are the most exciting experiences of his life. His only regret is that he didn't recognize this opportunity for service much earlier in life. "The greatest deterrent to that," Bob said, "was my failure to realize that the outcome of our visits does not depend on me. The 'missionary' is just a 'catalyst' in a wonderful 'reaction' designed by the creator of everything. That is a huge relief! All we need to do is 'GO.'"

Abbreviations Often Used in The NEHES Newsletter

AHA: American Hospital Association
AIA: American Institute of Architects
ANSI: American National Standards Institute
ASHE: American Society for Healthcare Engineering
CCE: Certified Clinical Engineer
CEU: Continuing Education Unit
CHA: Connecticut Hospital Association
CHE: Certified Healthcare Executive/Diplomate
CHES: Connecticut Healthcare Engineers Society
CHFM: Certified Healthcare Facility Manager
CHSP: Certified Healthcare Safety Professional
CMS: Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
CPE: Certified Plant Engineer
CPSM: Certified Professional Services Marketer
CSHM: Certified Safety and Health Manager
EC, EOC: Environment of Care
EPA: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
FASHE: Fellow of ASHE
FPE: Fire Protection Engineer
JCAHO: Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Facilities
MHES: Maine Healthcare Engineers Society
NHSHES: New Hampshire Society of Healthcare Engineers
NFPA: National Fire Protection Association
OSHA: Occupational Safety & Health Administration
P.E.: Professional Engineer
RIHES: Rhode Island Healthcare Engineers Society
SASHE: Senior of ASHE
SOC: Statement of Conditions
USP: United States Pharmacopeia
VHES: Vermont Healthcare Engineering Society
WMTS: Wireless Telemetry

Chapter Reports

Connecticut Healthcare Engineers Society (CHES)

The Connecticut hospital engineers met as part of the Connecticut Hospital Association Executive Engineers Meeting Group on June 22, primarily to discuss the status of CHES. Elections were held at that meeting with the following slate of officers elected: Fred Leffingwell, President; Steve Jalowiec, Vice-President; Ron Hussey, Treasurer and Paul Toburen, Secretary. The officers are working to re-vitalize the society and spent the summer doing preliminary planning for the NEHES Fall Seminar that Connecticut will sponsor in 2008.

On August 23rd the CHES Officers toured and met at the OMNI Hotel in New Haven, CT as a possible venue for the NEHES Fall 2008 Conference. The officers met with hotel and New Haven Chamber of Commerce staff. This appears to be an excellent venue for a NEHES Conference, able to support both the educational and entertainment portions of our conference. Fred Leffingwell and Steve Jalowiec will make a recommendation to the NEHES Board at the September Board of Directors Meeting so preliminary planning and contract negotiations can continue.

Submitted by Steve Jalowiec, PE, CHES Representative to NEHES, sjalowiec@wbyhosp.org

Maine Healthcare Engineers Society (MHES)

The Maine group met at Northern Maine Medical Center in Fort Kent for the regular monthly meeting in June. The meeting was well attended considering the 4-hour plus drive for most members.

Following the business meeting, many members proceeded to a campsite along the Allagash Wilderness Waterway. Saturday morning guides drove us 16 miles inland to drop canoes off and we paddled back down to the campsite arriving late afternoon. The trip, company and food were outstanding. Hopefully, the black flies

(To Page 2 Codes)
NEHES Fall Conference 2006 Set for October 3-6 in Westport, MA

The educational seminar offerings aren’t firmed up yet, but the Massachusetts chapters of NEHES want to be sure members and prospective vendor partners put October 3-6, 2006 on their calendars now. The NEHES Fall Conference moves to the Westport, MA Hampton Inn, part of White’s Regional Conference and Hospitality Center with a golf tournament October 3 at the Fall River Country Club in Fall River.

Organizers of the Fall Conference represent several NEHES Massachusetts chapters. They include:

**Chairman:**
John Duraes, duraesj@southcoast.org

**Hotel & Meals:**
John Duraes

**Education Program:**
Don Baptiste
dbaptiste@sturdymemorial.org
Kevin Keating, kkeating@shrinenett.org
Joe Mona, jmona@LawrenceGeneral.org

**Golf Tournament**
Paul Pezone, ppezone@cchcs.org
John Duraes

**Guest Program**
John Duraes

**Vendor Partner Solicitation**
John Crowley, SASHE maint.jc@smmc.org
Joe Mona, jmona@LawrenceGeneral.org
Bob Loranger, P.E., CHFM rloranger@tufts-nemc.org

**Registration Program & Gifts**
Bob Crepeau
crepeaub@southcoast.org

**Brochure Development**
John Duraes

**Scholarship**
Don Baptiste & John Duraes

**For More Information**
Watch the NEHES website, www.nehes.org, and The NEHES Newsletter, 1st Quarter Edition, for more information. Registration brochures will also be mailed to members in 2006.

**The Westport Area**
Westport is approximately 26 miles from Providence, RI and about 54 miles from Bos-

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**NEHES Website**
**Welcomes**
**News from Chapters**

Attention, all NEHES chapters: many of you are meeting for valuable programs and generating interesting ideas in your discussions that all NEHES members would enjoy learning about.

Why not share your news by having it posted to the NEHES website?

All you have to do is send your Chapter’s meeting minutes in Word format to Don Garrison, dgarrison@fchn.org and the minutes will be posted.

This will help get your state’s news out to all NEHES members.

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**Important NEHES and ASHE Dates**

**2006 DATES**
February 26-March 1, 2006

**International Conference and Exhibition on Health Facility Planning, Design and Construction**
San Diego, CA

March 24, 2006
**2006 NEHES Spring Seminar**
Organizers: RIHES
Four Points by Sheraton Leominster Hotel
Leominster, MA

July 9-12, 2006
**43rd ASHE Annual Conference & Technical Exhibition**

**NEHES members will promote their Society during the exhibition.**
Boston, MA

October 3-6, 2006
**2006 NEHES Fall Conference**
(Golf tournament October 3)
Organizers: Massachusetts groups
White’s Regional Conference and Hospitality Center
Westport, MA

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Facility Manager Has Won Over $1 Million in Energy Incentives

Energy Conservation Incentive Provides $233,400 of Waterbury Hospital’s Cost of New Chiller

It’s not every day that hospitals can recoup almost 50 percent of the cost of new equipment in less than a year, but Waterbury Hospital, Waterbury, CT, has accomplished the almost unbelievable. Its $500,000 cooling unit with all the associated pumps, pipes, and controls—installed last summer to serve the surgery center’s eight operating rooms—recently qualified for an energy incentive of $233,400 from Connecticut Light and Power Company (CL&P).

Steve Jalowiec, P.E., the hospital’s Director of Engineering, and his management are happy about receiving the large check, but this didn’t happen by chance. “I have been doing this long enough to regularly discuss possible energy saving projects with CL&P. I call it the ‘if you don’t ask, you don’t get’ philosophy,” Steve said. “Roger Plourde, our representative from CL&P, has been excellent, and we constantly float ideas back and forth. I have worked with him for over 10 years in Waterbury at two different hospitals.”

Steve and his Chief Financial Officer accepted the check on behalf of Waterbury Hospital November 15 at a special presentation arranged by representatives of the Connecticut Energy Efficiency Fund (CEEF) and CL&P. The Connecticut legislature created the CEEF to promote efficient energy use and economic development, help residents and businesses save on their electric bills, reduce electric demand, and help reduce air pollution.

CL&P administers the CEEF through conservation programs that serve residential, business, and municipal customers. Connecticut’s energy-efficiency programs are funded by the conservation charge on customer electric bills.

Waterbury Hospital’s new chiller is expected to save more than 233,000 kilowatt-hours per year, or nearly 4.2 million kWh over 18 years, the unit’s expected lifetime. The new cooling unit was installed because it uses less energy than two existing chilled-water cooling units require, Steve said. These units, located in the hospital’s power plant, will continue to dehumidify and provide air conditioning to the rest of the hospital.

The most recent energy incentive, Steve said, was not the first one that he has obtained for Waterbury Hospital, which is licensed for 367 beds and is affiliated with the Yale School of Medicine, the University of Connecticut Health Center, and the Connecticut Children’s Medical Center.

Other incentives have included:
- $84,000 for a replacement and upgrade of part (Phase 1) of the hospital’s old energy management system.
- $7,242 for energy efficient construction and renovation in the Gastroenterology Procedure Suite, mostly HVAC improvements.
- $11,300 for a new high efficiency air compressor for process air (thermostats, laundry equipment, etc.) and the centralizing of this system, replacing seven individual units.

Future plans call for:
- Phase 2 energy management system upgrade, with an incentive of approximately $100,000.
- Central Plant chiller replacement with high efficiency variable speed chiller, a $100,000 incentive.

“In addition, a comprehensive energy audit was just completed and we are working with Siemens on a possible performance contract for implementation of a number of energy improvements,” Steve said. “Based on my past experience, energy budget review, and own inspections when I started here at Waterbury Hospital, I believed there was quite a bit of room for improvement. I used the national Energy Star Program to benchmark the energy performance of the hospital. The score we received was low, which confirmed my findings that energy performance at this hospital had a great potential for improvement. Over the years at previous positions I have probably tapped the CL&P funds for over $1,000,000.”

Attending the check presentation event were (left to right) Colleen Scott, Chief Financial Officer, Waterbury Hospital; Steve Jalowiec, P.E., the hospital’s Director of Plant Engineering; Jeffrey R. Gaudiosi, Esq., Vice President-Regulatory Affairs of the Manufacturing Alliance of Connecticut, representing the Connecticut Clean Energy Fund; Theresa Hopkins-Staten, Director, Conservation and Load Management and Community Programs, CL&P, and Roger Plourde, Account Executive, CL&P.

Additional information on Connecticut’s energy-efficiency programs can be found at www.CTSavesEnergy.org or www.cl-p.com.

Share Stories from Your Facility

NEHES members: do you have a story about your facility that other healthcare engineers would like to hear, or has your facility been in the headlines lately? Contact Don Garrison, SASHE, dgarrison@fchn.org, tell him your news, and we’ll write the story for you.
Newsworthy Items for Busy Facility Managers

Poor Manufacturing Prompts Seizure of Baxter Infusion Pumps
At the FDA's request, U.S. marshals have seized more than 4,000 infusion pumps marketed by Baxter Healthcare Corp. after the company continually failed to follow requirements for manufacturing medical devices. The seizure covered three pump models: SYNEBO PCA Syringe Pump, Collegue Volumetric Infusion Pump, and Collegue CX Volumetric Infusion Pump. For more information go to: http://www.fda.gov/bbs/topics/news/2005/new01242.html

ASHE is Your Best Source for Codes and Standards Answers
ASHE has introduced Ask ASHE, a source of information on healthcare code compliance issues. ASHE members participate in committees, task forces, and advisory groups on a wide variety of code and guidance setting bodies including NFPA, JCAHO, AIA, CDC, OSHA, and others. With those contacts and close ties, where better to get the straight answer to the hard questions?
Note: NEHES is particularly active in supporting the ASHE advocacy role in standards development.

A recent question for Ask ASHE was: During a recent mock JCAHO survey, we were told that the eyewash stations we have attached directly to existing gooseneck faucets were not acceptable. They told us to leave the cold water on and turn off the hot water supply. The same faucets are used for hand washing also, and need to have tempered water available.

Response: The OSHA standard for medical services and first aid (29 CFR 1910.151(c)) requires that emergency eyewash and body drench facilities must be provided whenever workers have exposure to injurious corrosive materials. Although this is one of the more commonly cited OSHA violations, the standard itself provides few details on compliance. OSHA generally requires these devices to meet the performance specifications of ANSI standard Z358.1. The 2004 version of this ANSI standard states that the water temperature delivered by these devices shall be "tepid" (moderately warm or lukewarm). Appendix B6 defines tepid water as 60°F for the lower limit and 100°F as the upper limit. Therefore, a blending valve is required to mix the hot and cold water to the desired temperature.

ASHE: Front Page News at AHA
On the front page of a past edition of AHA News, AHA recognized ASHE's work with NFPA to safely manage the use of alcohol skin prep in the OR. AHA News is received by the administrator of every AHA member healthcare facility. This is a great opportunity for facility managers to discuss with their administrator the value of ASHE membership in their professional growth, the facility's day to day operations, and on large patient safety advocacy issues such as this.

FDA Issues Alert on Renal Replacement System Device
The Food and Drug Administration has alerted renal dialysis caregivers to safety concerns associated with a device used for Continuous Renal Replacement Therapy in critically ill patients. FDA said serious injuries and deaths have occurred when users of the Gambro Prisma Continuous Renal Replacement System did not respond appropriately to one or more of the alarms that alert users of the device when a potential fluid imbalance has occurred during the course of CRRT. FDA said users should never override the so-called "incorrect weight change detected" alarms without first identifying and removing the cause of the alarm, noting that an excessive amount of fluid can be removed from or administered to the patient if the alarms are ignored. The alert includes instructions for users of the device and for reporting experiences with the device to FDA.

(All items courtesy ASHE*E*Flash, a weekly e-newsletter published by ASHE and distributed free to ASHE members. Items compiled by Robert Thompson, PE, CSHM, The Thompson Group, Fire, Life Safety, and Safety Consulting, NEHES Liaison for JCAHO)

Chapter Reports
(From Page 7)
as happy with their meal!
Maine will have their first meeting following the summer break at Inland Hospital in Waterville on September 23. The program will be on energy efficiency.
Submitted by Milt Dudley, CPE, CHFM, Maine Representative to NEHES, mduddley@emh.org

New Hampshire Society of Healthcare Engineers
The New Hampshire Engineers continue to meet monthly. The majority of meetings are held at the New Hampshire Hospital Association Building in Concord, NH.
Membership: We have approximately 28 paid members at this time. The EPA compliance series has brought in 3 new members but at this moment some long time members have not paid the 2005 dues. A brochure was developed and distributed to healthcare facilities throughout the state but at this time we have seen no response to the brochures.
Education: The EPA Compliance Series for Healthcare Facilities has had good attendance and feedback has been very positive.
Submitted by Steve Shaw, New Hampshire Representative to NEHES, stephen.shaw@snhmc.org

South Shore Healthcare Engineering Society
SSHES met September 16. Antonio Pacheco, Director of Facilities at Tobey Hospital in Wareham, MA, sponsored the meeting. Kevin Kiely, the Safety Officer for Cape Cod Healthcare, spoke about his experiences during an OSHA inspection at his facility that lasted 21 days.
SSHES membership has not changed and continues to be in the low 20s. We continue to have some difficulty in getting members to attend the meetings. New officers are: Robert Crepeau, President; Debra Harlow, Treasurer; Blair Wentworth, Secretary. We congratulate them and support them in efforts to continue to promote and improve the organization. Bob Crepeau will be the Primary Representative to the NEHES Board of Directors and I have agreed to be the Alternate.

NEHES Members Serve on ASHE Committees
ASHE will have the volunteer services of six NEHES members in 2006 on various committees:
John Crowley, SASHE
Facilities Management, Advocacy Management
Steve Cutter, CHFM
Education, Emerging Trends & Technologies
Don Garrison, SASHE
2006 Annual Conference Planning Task Force
Jack Gosselin, FASHE, CHFM
Facilities Management, Recognition
Dawn LeBaron, CHFM
Education, Facilities Management
Ron Vachon
Education: ASHE Board Liaison
2006 Annual Conference Planning Task Force: ASHE Board Liaison
Healthcare Construction Certificate Program Task Force: ASHE Board Liaison
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