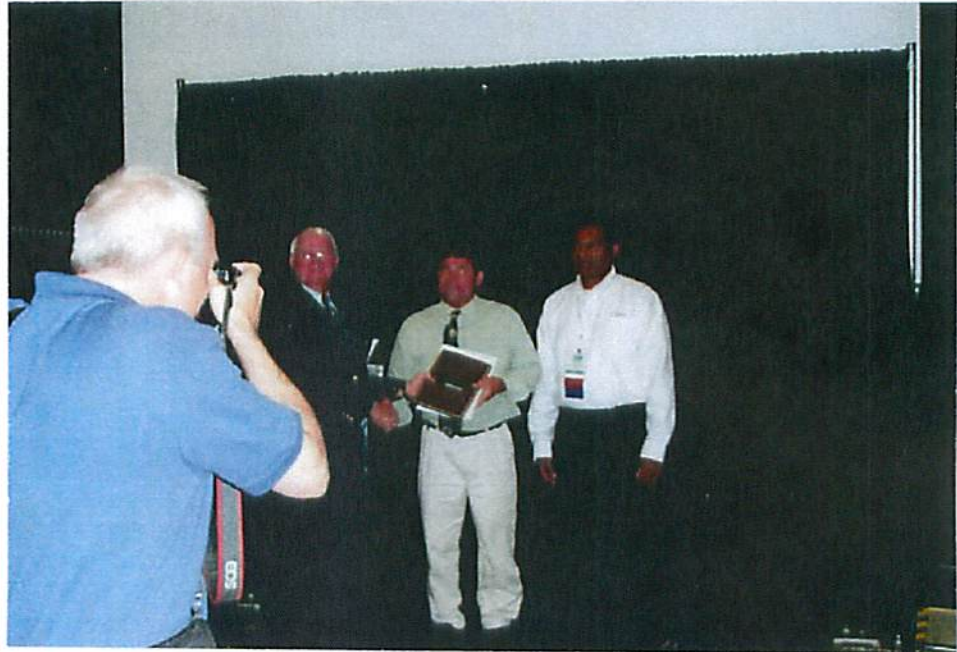




The KHEA website is at www.kheaks.com



ASHE 47th Annual Conference and Technical Exhibition July 11 – 14, 2010 in Tampa, Florida

Norbert Flax, President, accepts the 2010 Gold Chapter Award for KHEA
at the ASHE Annual Leadership Forum on Sunday

July 11, 2010 was the start of three and a half information-packed days for about 2400 attendees! For me, the ASHE national convention started early Sunday morning with the Leadership forum which brought together leaders of affiliated chapters, regional leaders and ASHE leaders to discuss ways that ASHE can help local chapters. They divided people up at different tables with others from across the nation. I had people from Oregon to New York, Texas to Wisconsin. We discussed how things are run in our own chapter and what we thought we were doing right. One of the things I came away with is that some of the issues we deal with here in Kansas is not unique to us; other chapters are having the same issues which is good to know.

I felt the general sessions were very good, full of information, wisdom and some humor to keep things lightened up. The educational sessions were excellent, just too many to choose from. Topics varied from security, hospital commissioning, energy management, codes and standards, and others. I had found that by the end, I was having a hard time retaining some of the information being presented. There is so much information given that one's mind almost goes into lockdown and I wish that was different. One of the biggest benefits from the convention is getting to know others from across the nation and realizing the wealth of knowledge that is out there in other chapters and at ASHE that is available to us; all we have to do is ask. That is also a big asset for KHEA. There are people that deal with the same issues we do that are always willing to help. All you need to do is ask. I want to thank the association for giving me the opportunity to attend the national convention this year and wish that each of you could also attend at some point in your career.

This is a quote from one of the educational sessions I attended that I think gives reason to why we do what we do and continue to do so on a hopefully high level. "A 'healing environment' is any environment that inspires the confidence of the patient that they are in the right place, at the right time, getting the right treatment by the right people"

Rod Wedel, Newton Medical Center

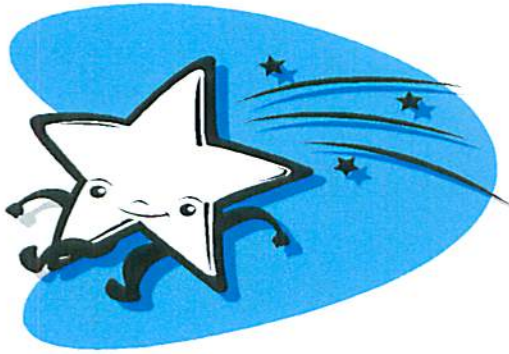


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*All Systems Designed Solutions
American Boiler & Mechanical
Becker Pumps
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Door Security Solutions
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*Midwest Sales
Modular Services Company
Nabholz Construction
Patton's Medical (HEBCO)
Peterson Predictive Maintenance
Primus Sterilizer
Ram Air
RJV Distributing Inc.
Simplex Grinnell
Specified Technologies Inc.
Square D Company/Schneider Electric
Western Extralite*

***HAPPY 30TH ANNIVERSARY TO
ALL VENDORS WHO CONTINUE
TO WORK WITH US MAKING
OUR ANNUAL VENDOR SHOW
A SUCCESS!!***

*We salute our 2010 Star Vendors
and we thank them for their
continued support and friendship!*

OUR 2010 STAR VENDORS!!!

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This year I had the privilege of attending the 2010 ASHE annual meeting in Tampa, Florida July 11 - 14. The overall experience far exceeded all my expectations.

Educational session topics were numerous with lots of topics to choose from. Fellow ASHE members I met in those very short days were always helpful and willing to assist in any way.

The session I enjoyed most and took the most from was the leadership forum on Sunday morning. All participants separated into different tables that held ASHE members from all corners of the country and some members from other countries as well. The commentator started with a topic and then each table would write down ideas as to what was working well in their chapters and what wasn't. This process continued throughout the morning; at the end, all of the district directors stood and gave a brief review of thoughts and ideas recorded at his table.

As a result of this interaction I took away a number of ideas not only for our board and how we can be more effective for our members, but also suggestions on how I can make our annual vendor show more valuable for our members and for our vendor partners.

Overall, the meeting was fantastic and I think it would be extremely beneficial to all our members to attend. In fact, when I got back I encouraged all my fellow HMC Associates who are members to attend a future meeting. They will definitely benefit from attending.

Thank you, KHEA, and especially thank you to the ASHE board members and staff for providing me this opportunity. I do greatly appreciate it!

Luanne Kramer, KHEA Secretary/Vendor Show Liaison

KHEA Bulletin Board
Opportunities
September – December 2010

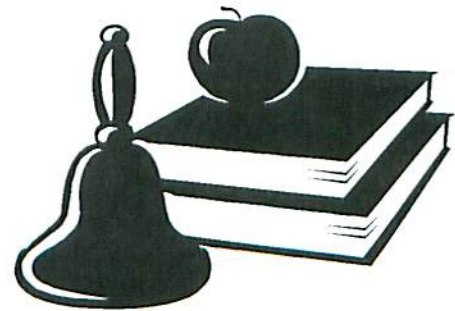
**DON'T FORGET TO
REGISTER FOR THE
KHEA FALL CONFERENCE
With VENDOR SHOW
at the
HIGHLAND HOTEL
GREAT BEND, KS
September 15 & 16, 2010**

**See enclosed agenda for information
and registration forms for both the
conference and the golf outing.**

**Golf starts at 10:00 a.m. September 14, 2010
At Lyons Town & Country Club**

Kansas Trane Learning Center Classes for 2010

**Register Online at kansastrane.com E-mail at
jpgoering@trane.com; by Phone 316-265-966 and
by mail at KTLC, P.O. Box 506, Wichita, KS 67201**



**Facility Decisions Conference & Expo
October 5 & 6, 2010
Las Vegas Convention Center
Register at
<https://www.showreg.net/FDCE1010S>**

**Healthcare Design 2010
November 13 through 16, 2010
MGM Grand Las Vegas
Google the Healthcare Design
Magazine for more information on
how to register**

Medical Gas Systems for Healthcare By Tracy Robinson

To dovetail and give more information on the Article sent in by Mike Connell for the June 2010 issue

HOUSE substitute for Senate Bill No. 449

What is a medical gas system? Who do you want working on this system? These are a couple of questions we need to ask ourselves. I will try to provide more information on a couple of things and might help answer a couple concerns I myself have. Let's start with what medical gas systems are!

NFPA 99 2005 edition

5.1.1.1

These requirements shall apply to healthcare facilities that require Level 1 systems as referred to in chapter 13 through 21.

5.1.1.2

Wherever the terms medical gas or vacuum occur, the provisions shall apply to all piped system for oxygen, nitrous oxide, medical air, carbon dioxide, helium, medical-surgical vacuum, waste anesthetic gas disposal and mixtures there of. Wherever the name of a specific gas or vacuum service occurs, the provision shall apply only to that gas.

5.1.1.3

Whenever the term medical-surgical vacuum occurs. The provision shall apply to the systems for piped medical surgical vacuum and piped waste anesthetic gas disposal (WAGD)

As you can see, this is just the start of a very long code that has numerous requirements to stay up with. For example with installation of a medical gas system there are a number of requirements such as using a certified welder, 3rd party certification and testing of medical gas system, storage/security of medical gases, labeling of medical gases etc. Some managers are very lucky and have the code books to refer back on, but unfortunately others do not.

Medical gas systems are very demanding and complex systems to work with and know about. Is this what we want our local plumbers to be working on? Do we know they are up to code with medical gases? Who will be certifying them, what is their knowledge base? *Education is a key element in how we handle this.*

1. Can our facilities afford to have people without the education service, install, test, or repair our systems?
2. Can we as an Organization allow this to happen?

I believe if we don't stand together and stay active selling ourselves and the organization, we don't stand a chance on making any changes. It is everyone's responsibility to educate themselves on issues around the State that will affect each and every one of us no matter the size of facility you represent. We all have a very important role to play.

I also believe there is nothing we can't change or make better for everyone!

Tracy Robinson
Director Plant Operations
Southwest Medical Center

This article reflects the thoughts and opinions of the author and does not include those of KHEA, KHA or ASHE

**TOPIC for the
Spring 2011 KHEA scholarship award:
"Who, if anyone, do you think are our
heroes today? How do they influence our
lives for better or for worse? Give reasons
and/or examples from your own
experiences, observations, and reading.**

GRAND KIDS

My young grandson called the other day to wish me Happy Birthday. He asked me how old I was, and I told him, 62. My grandson was quiet for a moment, and then he asked, "Did you start at 1?"

After putting her grandchildren to bed, a grandmother changed into old slacks and a droopy blouse and proceeded to wash her hair.. As she heard the children getting more and more rambunctious, her patience grew thin. Finally, she threw a towel around her head and stormed into their room, putting them back to bed with stern warnings. As she left the room, she heard the three-year-old say with a trembling voice, "Who was THAT?"

A grandmother was telling her little granddaughter what her own childhood was like: "We used to skate outside on a pond. I had a swing made from a tire, it hung from a tree in our front yard. We rode our pony. We picked wild raspberries in the woods." The little girl was wide-eyed, taking this all in. At last she said, "I sure wish I'd gotten to know you sooner!"

My grandson was visiting one day when he asked, "Grandma, do you know how you and God are alike?" I mentally polished my halo and I said, "No, how are we alike?" ... "You're both old," he replied.

Grandpa is the smartest man on earth! He teaches me good good things, but I don't get to see him enough to get as smart as him!

Children's Logic: "Give me a sentence about a public servant," said a teacher. The small boy wrote: "The fireman came down the ladder pregnant." The teacher took the lad aside to correct him. "Don't you know what pregnant means?" she asked. "Sure," said the young boy confidently. "It means carrying a child."



A little girl was diligently pounding away on her grandfather's word processor. She told him she was writing a story. "What's it about?" he asked. "I don't know," she replied. "I can't read."

I didn't know if my granddaughter had learned her colors yet, so I decided to test her. I would point out something and ask what color it was. She would tell me and was always correct. It was fun for me, so I continued. At last, she headed for the door, saying, "Grandma, I think you should try to figure out some of these, yourself!"

When my grandson Billy and I entered our vacation cabin, we kept the lights off until we were inside to keep from attracting pesky insects. Still, a few fireflies followed us in. Noticing them before I did, Billy whispered, "It's no use Grandpa. Now the mosquitoes are coming after us with flashlights."

When my grandson asked me how old I was, I teasingly replied, "I'm not sure..." "Look in your underwear, Grandpa," he advised, "mine says I'm 4 to 6."

A second grader came home from school and said to her grandmother, "Grandma, guess what? We learned how to make babies today." The grandmother, more than a little surprised, tried to keep her cool... "That's interesting," she said, "how do you make babies?" "It's simple," replied the girl. "You just change 'y' to 'i' and add 'es'."

A grandfather was delivering his grandchildren to their home one day when a fire truck zoomed past.

Sitting in the front seat of the fire truck was a Dalmatian dog. The children started discussing the dog's duties. "They use him to keep crowds back," said one child. "No," said another. "He's just for good luck."

A third child brought the argument to a close. "They use the dogs," she said firmly, "to find the fire hydrants."



Kansas HealthCare Engineers' Association

If undeliverable, please return to:

Luanne Kramer
Hays Medical Center
2220 Canterbury Dr.
Hays, KS 67601

If you have articles, advertisements, or special events coming up in your hospital or in your company that you'd like to share with KHEA's membership in the December 2010 newsletter, please contact Luanne Kramer at 785-650-2750, or by e-mail at luanne.kramer@haysmed.com no later than November 10, 2010

Kansas Healthcare Engineers Association

President – Norbert Flax of Ransom – nflax@grisell.org
 Immediate Past President – Tracy Robinson of Liberal – trobinson@swmedcenter.com
 President-Elect/Program Committee – Rod Wedel of Newton – rod.wedel@newmedctr.org
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 ASHE Liaison – Barry Koetkemeyer of Ellsworth – bkoetkemeyer@ewmed.hpmin.com
 KHA Liaison – Jennifer Findley of Topeka – jfindley@kha-net.org
 Northeast District Representative – Mike Stallbaumer of Seneca – mstallbaumer@nemvch.org
 Southeast District Representative – Dale Cation of Fort Scott – dale.cation@mercy.net
 North Central Representative – Francis Dreiling of Salina – fdreilin@srhc.com
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 Northwest Representative – Calvin Pfannenstiel of Wakeeney – cpfannenstiel@tclmh.org
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