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UPDATE

FROM THE PRESIDENT



It always feels like retailers are rushing the season when the Christmas merchandise hits the shelves in early October. Then again, who are we to talk?

Training in our industry seems to follow a similar pattern.

In order for the industry to be up-to-date for the next heating and cooling season, we need to offer heating seminars during the summer and air conditioning classes during the winter.

Michael Prokup was here in April to talk with us about A/C System Diagnostics and this Fall (September 23) he'll be back to teach about Gas Furnace Diagnostics.

Late this summer (August 26) we will offer a class on Heat Exchanger Safety

Inspections. Greg Hunsicker of Furnace Safety Consultants will be our presenter.

Between now and the programs this Fall, we are looking forward to another great golf outing. We'll be playing at Mendakota Country Club, a great location and a private course - challenging for experienced golfers but still a fun course for those who don't get out as often as we would like. We really appreciate all of the industry support - golfers and sponsors - that help us raise money for our scholarship fund. This is a great event for networking and for our Associate Members, a great way to reach potential customers.

As soon as the Minnesota Mechanical Codes are adopted we will offer a class on the new codes that will impact our industry. We learned recently that code enforcement should take place in 1Q of 2015. We will keep you up-to-date as we learn more.

What else do we have planned? How about a repeat of the sold-out Honeywell sessions we did earlier this year, a PLT class in December, and a hydronics program. MHCA will soon have a presence on social media sites like Facebook and LinkedIn. Be sure you and your staff follow us online to learn more about our programs and industry information.

Thank you to everyone who continues to support MHCA through your membership and participating in our training programs and events. We are constantly looking to increase the value of your membership and welcome your ideas. And to that end, don't forget that your participation in classes in 2014 can earn you credit toward your 2015 dues investment!

*Corey Hickmann, MHCA President
Comfort Matters | cell 612-275-0800*

Why Join MHCA?

- Reduced cost to attend:
- Educational Seminars
 - NATE Training
 - Power Limited Training

- Networking Opportunities
- NEW—Fuel Discount Programs
- NEW—Vehicle Wrap Discounts
- NEW— Internet Marketing Discounts

The MHCA Mission

The Minnesota Heating and Cooling Association (MHCA's) mission is to support the elevation of our industry standards to ensure the utmost quality and value for our consumer, our environment and our employees. We will accomplish this by supporting training and education efforts of all member business regardless of annual sales or number of employees. Training and education efforts will focus on technical advancements, design, accounting, leadership, management and business practices. Through these efforts, we will advance each business individually and our industry as a whole.

Upcoming Programs / Events

- July 14** - Annual Golf Outing, Mendakota Country Club
- August 26** - Heat Exchanger Safety Inspections, TBA
- September 23** - Gas Furnace Diagnostics, Golden Valley Country Club
- October TBA** - Boilers & Radiant Heat
- November 12** - Honeywell Gas Ignition, TBA
- December TBA** - PLT Training

Learn more at www.mhca.info



Bowling Event

Striking Up A Conversation

More than a dozen people attended the first -ever bowling event sponsored by MHCA held April 11 at The Park Tavern in St. Louis Park. Bowlers of all ability levels took part and the focus wasn't so much on strikes, as it was about striking up conversations. And while there was a bowler or two who recorded a turkey, the majority of the bowlers could claim nothing more than a chicken wing (or two) for their efforts. Thanks to everyone who came out for a fun afternoon.

2014 Bowling Event

MHCA Annual Golf Outing

Monday, July 14, 2014

11:30 a.m. - Registration/Lunch
 1:00 p.m. - Shotgun Start
 5:30 p.m. - Reception

Mendakota Country Club

2075 Mendakota Drive
 Mendota Heights, MN 55120

Join us on Monday, July 14 at the beautiful and private Mendakota Country Club for a day of golf, fun, and networking. This will be a scramble format and your registration includes golf, cart, range balls, a post-golf awards reception, and new for this year, lunch! The cost is \$525.00/foursome or \$150.00 per individual.

Golfers—Sign up your foursome today!

Online - www.mhca.info
 Phone - (888) 782-6815

Hole Sponsors are still available. For information, contact:

Laura Tofte
 Chair, MHCA Golf Committee
 Auer Steel
 (763) 286-1829
laura.tofte@auersteel.com



2014 Golf Outing

Golf For A Good Cause!

Once again, a portion of the proceeds of the event will be used to support the future of our industry and our HVAC scholarship fund!

Sponsors To Date

Ace Supply Co., Inc.
 Auer Steel
 CenterPoint Energy
 Comfort Matters Heating & Cooling, Inc.
 Federated Insurance
 Goodin Co.
 Heating & Cooling Two Inc.
 Honeywell
 Lennox
 Minnesota Air
 Reclamation Technologies, Inc.

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Giving Back To the Industry

Once again, the MHCA will be making a donation to the scholarship fund at the Dunwoody College of Technology. At least one additional scholarship will be offered to a student attending one of the other trade/technical programs in the area.

In addition, the MHCA agreed to provide a contribution to the Joseph Groh Foundation. The Foundation is named after Joseph Groh, who for more than 35 years served in various capacities in the HVAC industry. Joe was paralyzed in a biking accident and his Foundation provides support for those with spinal cord injuries, to support the hiring of the disabled, and to assist families in the industry who have suffered a life-altering injury.

Winter & Spring Seminars Receive High Marks

On February 12, MHCA presented the Honeywell 2.0 Program at Auer Steel in Plymouth. The program was presented to two sold-out classes, one in the morning and one in the afternoon. Participants learned about sequence of operation, troubleshooting techniques, diagnosing problems, and applying universal replacement controls. The session was approved for NATE credit.

Feedback from the program was very positive, with 3/4 participants rating the program as "Excellent" and the others rating it as "Good." Comments included: "Good mix of training styles," and "Time well spent."

Many thanks to Auer Steel for sponsoring the training facility and lunch.

On April 29, MHCA presented Air Conditioning Service Diagnostics at Gustave A. Larson in Plymouth. The instructor of the program was Michael Prokup, from La Salle, Illinois. Feedback from this program was also very positive, with one participant saying, "This is the best training program I've been to." Prokup will return September 23rd for a Gas Furnace System Diagnostics Program at the Golden Valley Country Club.



NATE Changes Certification Program

In an effort to improve services to the industry, NATE sought out the input of technicians and industry stakeholders and, based on that feedback, made changes to the certification period, continuing education hours (CEH) requirements, and costs.

The following changes are in effect now:

- Certification will be on a two-year cycle instead of a five-year cycle.
- Renewal will require 8 continuing education hours each year (16 over the 2-year cycle).
- Renewal will cost \$25 for the two-year cycle (plus \$5 for each additional certification).
- The grace period to document continuing education hours will be 120 days from expiration.

NATE is expected to provide additional information and will announce additional benefits to add value to its certification program, including updated exams, updates to the NATE and HVACRAAdvice.com websites, and a new Career Center.

More information is available at <http://www.natex.org/site/414/Technicians/Certification-Basics/101/2014-NATE-Certification-Changes>.

Regional Standards Settlement Approved by Court

The US District Court of Appeals approved a settlement in the long-running Regional Efficiency Standards lawsuit. The settlement follows more than two years of litigation. As part of the settlement:

DOE will now begin the process for developing an enforcement scheme for the regional standard via a negotiated rulemaking process as well as conducting an evaluation to the regulatory process which led to the lawsuit, both terms of the settlement.

A question that has been regularly asked in regards to the settlement is the status of the nationwide heat pump standard. The national heat pump efficiency standard will move to 14 SEER and 8.2 HSPF for split-system heat pumps; 14 SEER and 8.0 HSPF for single-package heat pumps on January 1, 2015. However, because heat pumps have a single national standard, the sell-through period will not be limited to 18-months, as it is for central and single-package air conditioners.

Welcome New Members!

AAA Wicks, St. Paul
Air-It Indoor Comfort, Brooklyn Park
Johnstone Supply, Bloomington
Voss Plumbing & Heating of Paynesville, Paynesville

MHCA Social Media Plans

In the coming months, MHCA will soon have a presence on Facebook and LinkedIn. Be sure you and your staff follow us on these sites to learn about upcoming MHCA training opportunities. You will also learn about industry news and information that you can use in your business.

**Want to find out more
about MHCA?**

Contact Us!

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