

THE WHISTLE

FLORIDA HEALTHCARE ENGINEERING ASSOCIATION

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Lamar Bragg,
CHE, CHFM



Wow, Wow - How Time Flies By!

It has been over one year since I assumed the role of the FHEA State President, and my time in that office is winding down.

I am forever indebted to the FHEA group: our members, officers, board, and management team - they are the reason that FHEA will continue to be the premier organization in the State of Florida and the nation for that matter. We are the voice of Florida. Thank you!

2023 will be another great year for FHEA: Adam Mayle is taking over as the State President at the end of May. I have partnered with Adam for the past year and he is going to make an excellent president: the future of the FHEA is in great hands. Thank you, Adam.

As some of you have seen already, the Save the Date for the 2023 FHEA Trade Show & Annual Education Conference, May 22nd -24th, at the Renaissance Sea World in Orlando, has been sent out. It will be a great event featuring our FHEA Trade Show (which is already sold out), a cutting-edge educational program, and lots of opportunities to network with colleagues in the healthcare engineering industry. Don't miss it! "Seas The Day," Explore, and Discover the latest in Hospital Facility Management. Make plans now to attend. For complete information, visit <https://www.fhea.org/fhea-2023-annual-meeting>.

As I stand here thinking back, when I started my healthcare career in the basement 30 years ago, no where would I have ever envisioned that I would be posting my last article in "The Whistle" as the FHEA State President. Overall, it has been a great run and I would be remiss if I did not acknowledge my organization, Baptist Health Care Pensacola, for allowing me to fulfill this role - it is a direct reflection of who we are. Make the best of your days, enjoy your spring, and spend time with your family.

Thank you and I look forward to seeing you soon in Orlando, Lamar

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2023 FHEA ANNUAL MEETING

**"SEAS" THE DAY: EXPLORE AND DISCOVER THE LATEST IN HOSPITAL
FACILITY MANAGEMENT**

**RENAISSANCE SEA WORLD, ORLANDO
MAY 22 - 24**



VIEW BROCHURE

Join your FHEA colleagues in Orlando at the beautiful Renaissance Sea World Resort, May 22 – 24, 2023, for the FHEA Trade Show and Annual Educational Conference to explore, discuss, and discover the latest in hospital facility management and healthcare engineering.

Our featured speaker, Keni Thomas, will be one you do not want to miss. Keni is a decorated U.S. military veteran-turned-country musician. His story will captivate you as he explains lessons he learned in leadership that will help you as you serve in your facilities. (Think "Blackhawk Down") Other knowledgeable speakers will address construction and design; safety and code assessment; compliance and automation; emergency management and NFPA updates; and benchmarking hospital facility operating expenses, especially in improving budget justification and forecasting.

Continuing education credits will be offered for our educational sessions. Eleven hours have been approved for ASHE. CE is pending for Florida Professional Engineers, Florida Architects, and Florida Interior Designers.

Besides interactive educational sessions, you will have the opportunity to meet with our Supporting member exhibitors in the FHEA Trade Show to see the latest equipment and services to the healthcare engineering industry.

You also won't want to miss our networking events, such as the annual FHEA Golf Tournament or the after-hours Casino Party.

Make plans now to attend, May 22 – 24, in Orlando!

» REGISTER NOW

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

REGISTRATION FEES:

Full Active Member: \$140
CHE Member: \$120
Supporting Member: \$350
Non-member: \$400

Registration fees include educational sessions, receptions, after-hours Casino Party, Wednesday continental breakfast and luncheon, FHEA Trade Show, and networking breaks.

If attending educational sessions, the Tuesday continental breakfast and luncheon are also included with your registration.



RENAISSANCE SEA WORLD ORLANDO 6677 SEA HARBOR DRIVE ORLANDO, FL 32821

Special DISCOUNTED RATES FOR FHEA 2023 CONFERENCE ATTENDEES are available. Standard rooms are \$185/single or double, plus the current tax at 12.5%

Our special FHEA rate are offered three days prior and three days after the meeting, subject to room availability at the time of the reservation. Upgraded rooms will be available for additional fees.

To reserve your room, use the link below OR call 1-800-380-7917 (*Be sure to mention the FHEA in order to receive our special group rate*).

The deadline to book your room is Friday, April 28, 2023.

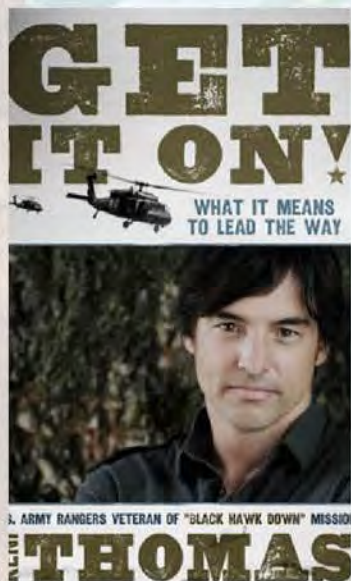
For guests staying in the hotel,

- INTERNET IN GUEST ROOMS AND HOTEL PUBLIC SPACE is complimentary for Marriott Bonvoy members, so if you are not a member, join now: <https://www.marriott.com/loyalty.mi>
- Self-parking is COMPLIMENTARY FOR OVERNIGHT HOTEL GUESTS who have booked their rooms through the FHEA block. (DAY GUESTS WILL BE AT THE 2023 DAILY PARKING RATE WITH IN AND OUT PRIVILEGES)
- Entrance to the Fitness Center is COMPLIMENTARY for OVERNIGHT GUESTS

» Hotel Reservations

KEYNOTE SPEAKER: KENI THOMAS

LEARN THE STORY BEHIND BLACK HAWK DOWN



Decorated U.S. military veteran-turned-country musician Keni Thomas will give a personal account of his heart-wrenching experiences in the chaotic 1993 Battle of Mogadishu to express a unique set of leadership lessons and inspired view of our greater purpose.

Keynote Sponsor:



McKIM & CREED
ENGINEERS SURVEYORS PLANNERS

"SEAS" THE DAY: EXPLORE AND DISCOVER THE LATEST IN HOSPITAL FACILITY MANAGEMENT**MONDAY, MAY 22, 2023**

- 7:30am
FHEA Golf Registration

- 8:00am
FHEA Golf Tournament - shotgun start at Celebration Golf Club

- 2:30 - 5:00pm
Board Meeting

- 5:00 - 6:30pm
"Meet n Greet" Reception

- 6:30pm
Dinner on your own

TUESDAY, MAY 23, 2023

- 7:00am
FHEA Trade Show - Exhibitor Set-up

- 7:45am
FHEA Registration and Breakfast for educational session attendees

- 8:30am
Welcome to the FHEA Trade Show & Educational Conference
Lamar Bragg, FHEA President
Call to order, minutes, Treasurer's report, bylaws

- 8:45 - 10:45am
FHEA Opening Keynote Speaker: Keni Thomas

- 10:45 - 11:00am
Gathering Break

- 11:00am - 12:00pm
"Design and Construction Issues After Hurricane Impact"
Paul Richard Crim, PE, LEED AP BD+C; GHP, Inc.

- 12:00 - 1:15pm
FHEA Luncheon for educational session attendees; presentation of Veterans' Scholarship; recognition of retiring Board members; vote and introduction of new Board members

- 1:15 - 2:15pm
"Designing Resiliency into Healthcare New Construction"
Roger Click, MS, MBA, CEM, FACHE; Jensen Hughes

- 2:15 - 2:30pm
Gathering Break



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"SEAS" THE DAY: EXPLORE AND DISCOVER THE LATEST IN HOSPITAL FACILITY MANAGEMENT**A
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- 2:30 - 3:30pm
"Building Healthcare Resiliency Through a Facilities & Emergency Management Partnership"
Roger Click, MS, MBA, CEM, FACHE; Jensen Hughes



- 3:30 - 4:30pm
"Flooring and Healthcare Outcomes: An Evidence Based Design Overview"
Paul McKinney, EDAC; Gerflor, USA

- 4:30 - 6:30pm
FHEA Trade Show & Welcome Reception

- 8:30 - 10:30pm
FHEA After Hours Casino Party

WEDNESDAY, MAY 24, 2023

- 7:30am
Continental Breakfast in FHEA Trade Show

- 7:30am - 2:30pm
FHEA Trade Show

- 9:00 - 10:00am
"Safety and Code Assessment for Fire Door Decommissioning and Documentation"
Brandon Clements; National Firestopping Solutions

- 10:00 - 11:00am
"Compliance and Automation"
Crystal Bryant; GTR Business Systems

- 11:00 - 11:30am
Morning Break in FHEA Trade Show

- 11:30am - 12:30pm
"Preparing for Your Next AHCA Life Safety Survey"
Eddie Alday and John Altherr; AHCA

- 12:30 - 2:30pm
Informal Networking Luncheon

- 2:30 - 3:30pm
"Emergency Management and NFPA Updates"
Paul Rumbos; Major Medical Hospital Services, Inc.

- 3:30 - 4:30pm
"Benchmarking Hospital Facility Operating Expenses: Improving Budget Justification and Forecasting"
Dr. Steven Call; Washington State University

THE FHEA RESERVES THE
RIGHT TO CHANGE
SPEAKERS, TOPICS, AND
OR SCHEDULING DUE TO
UNFORESEEN
CIRCUMSTANCES.

2023 ANNUAL MEETING SPONSOR OPPORTUNITIES

ANNUAL MEETING EVENT SPONSORSHIPS

Become an event sponsor and have a company presence at the FHEA Annual Meeting. We have sponsorships \$750 - \$2,300 and all sponsorships include one complimentary conference registration! For more information, visit the FHEA website at:

<https://www.fhea.org/2023-sponsorships>

**ANNUAL MEETING SPONSORS**

(As of 2-28-23)

KEY NOTE SPEAKER - PRESENTING SPONSOR

- McKim & Creed

CASINO GAME NIGHT SPONSORS

- C.L. Burks Construction - Commercial Roofing Contractors
- Gerflor

CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST SPONSORS

- PSI

**29TH FHEA ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT
MAY 22, 2023**

Celebration Golf Club at Champions Gate
701 Golfpark Drive, Celebration, FL



[Info and Registration](#)

FHEA ANNUAL MEETING TRADE SHOW EXHIBITOR LINE UP

*TRADE SHOW SPONSORS

Acoustiblok, Inc.
ADT Commercial
Advanced Plumbing Technology
Advanced Roofing, Inc.
Affiliated Steam & Hot Water
Airmax Service Corporation
Ajax Building Company
American Portable Air

*Andrews Filter & Supply Corp. - **SILVER**

AQUATOOLS

AQUIS

*Archer Western, part of the Walsh Group - **BRONZE**

Asahi/American, Inc.

*Ashberry Water Conditioning - **SILVER**

ASSA ABLOY Door Security Solutions of FL

ASSA ABLOY Entrance Systems

ATG, a JLL company

ATI Restoration

Automated Doorways Inc.

Avidcare AB

B&B Utility Services

BeaconMeades

*BELFOR Property Restoration - **SILVER**

Bell Performance, Inc.

Belzona Florida

Bender Inc.

Bernhard Communications, Inc.

*BMC CAT - **BRONZE**

Boiler Technologies Unlimited, LLC (BTU)

BRAND SERVICES

Brooks Building Solutions

C&S Companies

*C.A.R.E. LLC - **BRONZE**

Carolina IAQ

*Carrier Corporation - **SILVER**

CIC, Inc.

Clean Fuel & Tank

Clean Work Booth, Inc.

Colombo

*Commercial Products - **BRONZE**

Compliance Healthcare Technologies (CHT)

Comprehensive Energy Services

Daikin Applied

*Duct Dynasty Clean Air Corporation - **BRONZE**

DUZcart

Dyna Scan Technical Services

Engineered Energy Equipment, Inc.

Envinity, Building Energy Solutions

EQ2 CMMS

ETS-Lindgren, Inc.

Evcor USA LLC

*Evoqua Water Technologies - **PLATINUM**

FacilityConneX LLC

Filter Pure Systems, Inc.

*First Onsite - **GOLD**

FlexCart Company

Florida Detroit Diesel Allison

Florida Power & Light Company

Fluid System and Controls

Forbo Flooring Systems

Freyssinet, Inc.

FSI (Facilities Survey, LLC)

Garland

*Gerflor - **BRONZE**

*Geutebruck USA, Inc. - **BRONZE**

GF Piping Systems

GHP

Grainger, Inc.

Gray and Associates Inc.

*Green Air Environmental - **PLATINUM**

*GreenTeam - **BRONZE**

GTR Business Systems

Guardian Fueling Technologies

Harper Limbach

Health Care Compliance, Inc.

Herc Rentals

Hexmodal

IB Roof Systems

Idn Armstrongs

Industrial Engineering

*Inpro Corporation - **BRONZE**

Insight Partners

Integrated Cooling Solutions

Jantech Services Inc.

Jeron Electronic Systems, Inc.

Johnson-Laux Construction

*Krystal Klean - **SILVER**

Legrand

*Life Safety Enterprises Inc. (LSS) - **BRONZE**

Mason Engineering

Medical Technology Associates

*MediTrac by OmegaFlex - **BRONZE**

FHEA ANNUAL MEETING
TRADE SHOW EXHIBITOR LINE UP

Meyer Najem Construction
 *Miller Electric Company - **SILVER**
 *Mitchell & Lindsey - **BRONZE**
 Momar, Inc.
 *Nalco Water, an Ecolab Company - **SILVER**
 *Nash Plumbing and Mechanical, LLC - **BRONZE**
 *National Firestopping Solutions - **BRONZE**
 Nelson & Company
 *NetPlanner Systems, Inc. - **BRONZE**
 Nexxspan Healthcare, LLC
 Omni
 Original Solutions Company, Inc.
 Our Fresh Air, Inc.
 Paladin Healthcare LLC
 Pathway Technologies
 Patterson Pope, Inc.
 PDi Communications Systems, Inc.
 *Performance Roof Systems - **BRONZE**
 Petroleum Recovery Services
 Pevco
 *Phigenics - **GOLD**
 Phoenix Products
 Premier Medical, Inc.
 Premier Water & Energy Technology, Inc.
 Prime Power Services, Inc.
 PRS-Pipe Restoration Solutions
 Pureflow Inc.
 *Remedi8 - **SILVER**
 *Remediation Specialists - **SILVER**
 Ring Power Corporation
 *SaniGLAZE - **SILVER**
 Schaefer General Contracting Services, LLC
 Schneider Electric
 Sherwin-Williams
 Skanska USA Building Inc.
 Soleran
 *SOPREMA - **GOLD**
 *Specified Technologies Inc. - **SILVER**
 *SSR - **BRONZE**
 Stanley Convergent Security Solutions
 STARC Systems, Inc.
 *Stark Tech / MC2 - **SILVER**
 Sto Corp.
 STRUCTURAL
 Summit National Accounts
 Sutter Roofing
 Swisslog Healthcare

System Tech Services Inc.
 TAW Power Systems, an IPS Company
 TECO Peoples Gas
 Tecta America Roofing
 Thornton Tomasetti
 THRESHOLD
 *TLC Engineering Solutions - **SILVER**
 *Tremco Roofing & Building Maintenance - **GOLD**
 Valcourt Building Services
 Victaulic
 Viega LLC
 Voight Professional Services, Inc.
 Waco Filtration Group
 Whitehall Manufacturing
 *William R. Nash, LLC - **BRONZE**
 *Wolf Gordon - **BRONZE**
 Yown's Boiler Services, Inc.

THE FHEA TRADE SHOW IS SOLD OUT!



[View Expo Floorplan](#)

CHECK OUT THIS GREAT EXHIBITOR LINE
 UP! MAKE PLANS TO VISIT THESE
 COMPANIES DURING THE TRADE SHOW
 FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THEIR
 PRODUCTS AND SERVICES!

TRADE SHOW HOURS

Tuesday, May 23
 4:30 - 6:30 PM

Wednesday, May 24
 7:30 AM - 2:30 PM



FHEA VETERAN'S MENTOR PROGRAM SCHOLARSHIP AWARDEE



**Mike Lichtenstein, MPA,
CHSP, CHFM**

Congratulations to Mike Lichtenstein, the first recipient of the FHEA Veterans' Mentor Program Scholarship. Mike is the Facilities Manager at St. Joseph's Hospital South in Riverview. He is a Navy veteran with 5 years of active duty service onboard the nuclear ballistic missile submarine, USS Maryland (SSBN-738). While serving in the Navy, Mike reached the rank of Petty Officer 2nd Class, Submarine qualified with a rate of Machinist Mate (auxiliary).

Mike believes there is much to be gained by attending FHEA educational conferences, especially the upcoming event in May. By attending our conference and coming to the FHEA Trade Show, he knows that he will continue receiving professional education on topics that he is most passionate about, such as regulatory readiness and continuous improvement, while also learning about the opportunity to grow in areas such as healthcare facilities financial management.

Per Mike, "Our healthcare engineering field presents many similarities with those that I had in the military, and I am thankful to be the recipient of this scholarship, particularly the chance to learn and network with many of the leaders in our industry at the upcoming conference."

Thank you to Mike for serving our country and congratulations!



ASHE NEWS

Larry Peterson, CHE, CHFM, CHSP; ASHE Region 4 Liaison

ASHE provides many resources and tools for you to use for profession growth as well as knowledge to help you maintain your facilities and stay code compliant. For professional growth and career advancement, there are exceptional educational opportunities available through ASHE.

First and foremost, I would recommend, if you do not already have a Certified Healthcare Facility Manager (CHFM) certification, that you seriously consider acquiring one. Did you know that most salary surveys report that those with a CHFM certification are paid more than their counterparts that do not have the certification? The percentage of increase varies by salary survey, but 10 to 20 percent for a CHFM is a good average. From personal experience, I can tell you that you have to earn the certificate.

The exam features questions organized into five broad domains: compliance; planning, design, and construction; maintenance and operations; finance; and administration. For questions regarding certification programs and applications, a CHFM Candidate Handbook is available from the American Hospital Association at: <https://www.aha.org> or at [ASHE.org/Certifications](https://www.ashe.org/Certifications).

In this month's edition of ASHE's Health Facilities Management Insider magazine, under the Codes and Standards heading, you will find that FGI has opened public proposals for the 2026 FGI Guidelines, and in News, there is information on updates to USP 797. Of particular interest to all FHEA members should be the lead article which is a lessons learned story from Lee Health on their experiences from Hurricane Ian that came ashore west of Fort Myers at just under a Category 5 Hurricane and is considered to be the strongest storm to ever hit Florida. No matter how prepared we think we and our facilities are, there is always more we can do to protect our patients, staff, and community from a worst-case natural disaster.

Here's hoping the 2023 hurricane season spares us all.



CODES AND STANDARDS

Phil Cardone, CHFM, CHC

Chair, Codes and Standards Committee



EC CHAPTER REVISIONS FOR CLARIFICATIONS TO PREVIOUS EP FOR FIRE DRILLS, UTILITY SYSTEM, NON-MEDICAL EQUIPMENT, AND OCCUPANT PROTECTIONS

Effective January 1, 2023, The Joint Commission has revised requirements for fire drills, other fire safety equipment and other building features, and other Physical Environment (PE) standards. These important changes are critical to identify and clarify confusion associated with previous Element of Performance (EP) for hospitals, critical access hospitals, and ambulatory surgical centers.

- **Fire drills**

EC.02.03.03, EP 7- Fire drills in operating rooms and surgical suites- requires an organization to conduct an annual fire exit drill for operating rooms/surgical suites

Note 1: This drill involves applicable staff and licensed practitioners and focuses on prevention as well as simulated extinguishment and evacuation

Note 2: An announced annual fire exit drill cannot be used to meet one of the unannounced quarterly fire drills required by NFPA 101-2012: 18/19.7.1.6 [20/21.7.1.6 for AHC]

Other changes, effective January 1, 2023, include revisions to requirements for:

- Managing risk associated with utility systems
- Keeping furnishings and non-medical equipment safe and in good repair
- Protecting occupants during periods when the NFPA Life Safety Code®* is not met or during periods of construction

EDUCATION UPDATE

John Crouch, FHEA Education Chair



When creating opportunities for your next promotion, don't forget to develop your team!

In our own pursuit of happiness, we often look for opportunities to be promoted or get a raise. The easiest way to create this leverage is by earning certifications.

A good leader will also ensure the front-line staff are mentored along to grow tomorrow's leaders. I have propelled several technicians into management positions over the years, although often, they were hesitant to tackle those opportunities and challenges. Be a positive mentor and develop their confidence to take those initial steps forward to fill the vacuum left by us in our own career advancement.

Some resources for acquiring those valuable certifications are listed below. Please look at your team and see what you can do to propel them into a new leadership position!

- [Certified Healthcare Facility Manager \(CHFM\) | AHA](#)
- [Certification | ASHE](#)
- [Facilities Management Certification: CHFM, CFM & ProFM - FM College \(fm-college.com\)](#)
- [NFPA Certification - Choose your program](#)
- [Certified Healthcare Operations Professional Certifications \(dnv.us\)](#)

WHY?

Why is it important to be a member of the Florida Healthcare Engineering Association? Take time to think about our mission: to promote and develop the professional role of the healthcare engineer through effective communication, educational opportunities, and the establishment of professional standards.

As an autonomous chapter of the American Society for Healthcare Engineering, which is an affiliate of the American Hospital Association, it's extremely important to recognize our healthcare engineers throughout Florida. In so doing, The FHEA has established a network of effective communication among our members through District activities and education, and through the state association, publications such as The Whistle and FHEA Alerts, as well as providing an opportunity twice a year to attend and earn valuable continuing education credits at our state conferences.

The FHEA operates on integrity, structure, and relationships. As a member of our organization, if you are not yet involved in our District and state education and activities, now is the time – you will then be able to answer the question, “Why?”

FHEA MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

Felix Robinson, CHFM, CPMM, FHEA Membership Chair



[Renew Membership](#)

The FHEA Membership Development Committee met on 25 January 2023 via ZOOM.

The deadline for 2023 membership renewal was the end of January. As an FHEA member, you collaborate and build valuable relationships with colleagues and sponsors. You gain and share valuable knowledge from industry experts and fellow healthcare engineering professionals. If you haven't already renewed, please do so.

Here is the current membership data from 6 December 2022 to 10 February 2023.

Membership Level	Start	End	Diff #
Supporting	901	539	-362
Healthcare Engineer	320	203	-117
Life	28	28	0
Associate	28	27	-1
Education/Student	1	0	-1
Summary	1278	797	-481

- An active member survey was conducted 1 – 17 February 2023. Thank you for your participation.
- The committee is looking to add members from each district. If you would like to participate, please contact frobinson225@gmail.com. The committee meets six times per year via ZOOM.
- University career fairs were held on 10 February and 3 March 2023. FHEA attended to increase student/education exposure.
- FHEA members are encouraged to follow and post on LinkedIn and Facebook.
- Member feedback is always welcomed and greatly appreciated.

FHEA SUSTAINABILITY UPDATE

By: Edgard Niebles, MBA, CHC, FHEA Sustainability Chair



SUSTAINABILITY: IDENTIFYING AND ADDRESSING YOUR ENERGY USAGE

According to the US Energy Information Administration, the average yearly cost of power per square foot for hospitals in North America is approximately \$2.84 for electricity and \$0.94 for natural gas. For example, a typical 200,000-square-foot hospital with 50 beds in the US might spend around \$680,000 or \$13,611 per bed annually on electricity and natural gas with the rising cost in electricity, which is averaging 4%-8% per year in recent years, as provided by FLP. This is making energy management a key factor to sustainability and Money Saving.

Here is a good practice to identify and address your energy usage with this step-by-step guide.

Step 1: Benchmark, track, and measure the current energy used in your building

- The tool we recommend benchmarking your energy is Energy Star. With this tool, not only can you benchmark your data, but you also could share with your fellow engineers and vendors.

Step 2: Set an energy goal

- As technology improves and costs continue to decline, more promising energy reduction strategies are available and accessible to health care institutions. Setting clear goals to improve energy efficiency and shifting to renewable energy will help drive impact, identify key partners, and hold your team accountable.

For additional reading, visit:

- [Department of Energy Better Buildings Solution Center](#)
- [EPA's ENERGY STAR Guidelines for Energy Management](#)
- [EPA's Green Power Partnership](#)

Step 3: Implement clean energy practices

Energy reduction practices fall into two major categories:

- Energy efficiency: The cheapest and cleanest energy is the one you don't use. By utilizing tactics such as retro and continuous commissioning, lighting modifications, load reduction for HVAC systems, "rightsizing" air distribution systems, beneficial electrification, and heating and cooling upgrades, you will reduce your need for energy.

SUSTAINABILITY: IDENTIFYING AND ADDRESSING YOUR ENERGY USAGE (CONTINUED)

- Renewable energy: Replacing conventional energy with clean, renewable energy technologies such as solar, and other renewable sources can reduce reliance on fossil fuel for energy, save your hospital money, and reduce negative health impacts of pollution in the communities you serve.

Step 4: Continuous reporting and analyzing

Develop a Strategic Energy Master Plan just to help mitigate annual price increases by identifying a reduction goal, increasing efficiency, and a host of other measures, including implementing renewable energy. These approaches can help overcome barriers, like finances or limited infrastructure, and enable a hospital facility to procure onsite or offsite renewable energy generation.

In conclusion, there is not a specific way or a perfect way to energy management and cost savings when it comes to energy consumption. It is always good to follow the steps above, but most importantly, to speak to your leaders in your workplace and educate them on energy management. Share the possible benefits of energy management, such as improved AC controls, reduction in your bill, better lighting with less downtime, and more.

References:

How saving energy helps the environment | SaveOnEnergy.com. (n.d.).

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Analysts, P. C. (2021, November 5). Average Hospital Electric Bill: How to Uncover Savings. P3 Cost Analysts. <https://www.costanalysts.com/average-hospital-electric-bill/#:~:text=Average%20Hospital%20Electricity%20Costs&text=For%20example%2C%20a%20typical%20200%2C000>

Energy | Practice Greenhealth. (2019). [Practicegreenhealth.org](https://practicegreenhealth.org/topics/energy/energy).

<https://practicegreenhealth.org/topics/energy/energy>

THE JOINT COMMISSION CORNER



THE JOINT COMMISSION REDUCES STANDARDS

The Joint Commission (TJC) announced it is eliminating 168 standards and revising 14 other standards across its accreditation programs to streamline requirements and make them as efficient and impactful on patient safety, quality, and equity as possible. Additionally, TJC is not raising its accreditation fees for domestic hospitals in 2023, in recognition of the many financial challenges hospitals and health systems continue to face. The first tranche of standards deletions and revisions by program are effective as of Jan.1. The standards reduction is the result of TJC's comprehensive review that was announced in September by 2022. TJC reviewed all "above-and-beyond" requirements that go beyond requirements of the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services Conditions of Participation.



THE JOINT COMMISSION REVISES TWO CHAPTERS

The Joint Commission has issued revisions to the Environment of Care (EC) and Life Safety (LS) chapters of the Comprehensive Accreditation Manuals for Hospitals and Critical Access Hospitals. These revisions took effect Jan. 1, 2023. The revisions include three changes to EC elements of performance, two of which are clarifications. The third, however, is a new requirement that hospitals must conduct an annual drill in their operating rooms/surgical suites. This drill is in addition to quarterly drills already required. The changes in the LS chapter include clarifying changes as well as changes to the LS.05 standards that are applicable to business occupancies. The changes were made to better align the LS chapter with requirements of the 2012 edition of the National Fire Protection Association's NFPA 101®, Life Safety Code®.

MORE ONLINE

FOR LINKS TO THESE REPORTS, LOG ON TO [HFMMAGAZINE.COM/CHECKLIST](https://www.hfmmagazine.com/checklist)

DISTRICT HIGHLIGHTS

FHEA DISTRICTS

Become more involved in the FHEA by taking part in District activities. To learn more, visit the District pages on www.fhea.org. You will see the Florida counties included in each, as well as District leadership and meetings.

District I

District II

District III

District IV

FHEA CALENDAR

For more information, visit: <https://www.fhea.org/fhea-master-calendar>

MARCH

- 10th - D-4 Meeting
- 12-15th - PDC Summit; Phoenix
- 14th - D-2 Meeting, UF Health Facilities, Gainesville
- 15th - Steam Seminar #5

APRIL

- 5th - D-1 Meeting
- 9th - Last day for written notice of District elections
- 14th - D-3 Meeting
- 19th - Steam Seminar #6

MAY

- 9th - Last day for District elections
- 12th - D-4 Meeting, Baptist Health S, Coral Gables
- 17th - Steam Seminar #7
- 22nd-24th -
- FHEA Board Mtg, FHEA Annual Business Mtg
- FHEA Trade Show & Annual

JUNE

- 7th - D-1 FPL Appreciation Event
- 9th - D-3 Meeting, Bayfront Health, St. Pete
- 21st - Steam Seminar #8
- 23rd - Whistle articles due

JULY

- 11th - D-2 Meeting
- 14th - D-4 Meeting; D-3 PNO
- 19th - Steam Seminar #9
- 21st - Whistle published

DISTRICT HIGHLIGHTS

**District II Update****President Paul Hamilton, CHC, CHFM**

As I sat down and started to write the Whistle article, my thoughts began to gravitate towards today's demand for new and comfortable settings in which our customers are expecting in today's healthcare environment. As I began to type, I thought of a paper that I wrote so many years while in college. Please keep in mind, this was written many years ago by a young maintenance guy that had a passion for facilities management in the healthcare world. Please do not judge, just read, and think about how things have changed within healthcare. Some things have changed, but maybe, just maybe, the reason things have changed has not.

Enjoy an Old Read....

Within a hospital setting, just as anywhere else, the decor, the furniture and the technology became outdated. When this happens, the area must be renovated. When we speak of renovation, we are saying, to take an area that seems old or outdated and make it look new. There are several reasons to renovate. I will touch on the main three reasons we renovate in the Hospital.

Reason number one, Decor. Simply put ...The way an area looks. Reason number two, Space Planning. Getting the most out of every square foot and using it efficiently. Reason number three is the advancement of Technology.

With new and innovative machines, there is a larger demand on space, electrical needs, HVAC demands and service areas for the machines.

To address the decor of an area, we are speaking of paint, carpet, furniture, art, and lighting/plumbing fixtures. If a space is not appealing to people, then those people are less likely to come back. Something as simple as paint color does affect one's attitude. People do associate the looks of an office with the competency of the people who work in that office. People of today want to be comfortable no matter where they are. If we build an environment that is appealing and comfortable, people will want to be there to do business. Another view of an appealing area is from the staff point of view. If a work environment is not appealing, then the staff will not perform to their best.

Simply put. If you do not like your work environment, then you will not feel good about doing your job. If you do not feel good about doing your job, then you certainly will not want to do it good. In Health Care, if the employee does not do their job to the best of their abilities, then they are compromising the quality of patient care.

(Continued next page)

DISTRICT HIGHLIGHTS

District II Update (Continued)

Once again, if the quality of care is not what the person thinks it should be, they may not come back to do business again. So, we must keep decorating as new and fresh as budgetary possible to keep people comfortable and happy. Healthcare is a business, and if we do not keep customers happy and comfortable, they will choose another provider for their healthcare needs.

To address the subject of renovations due to space planning: In a hospital setting, we may find that patient flow works better a different way than it does now. Case and point, you need CT Scanners in the Imaging Department, but we have discovered that minutes, even seconds can make a difference in a person living or dying. So, it was decided to put a scanner close to the Emergency Department. A space was chosen and renovated to house the CT Scanner. The department that was in that space previously, had to have a new space. Unless you build new buildings, some areas have to be downsized to accommodate new departments, therefore the renovations never cease.

To address renovations due to technology: Everyday new technology is invented and what was new technology becomes old, as in the case with operating rooms. Today, there are robots performing operations. To install these robots, the ORs need to be renovated to accommodate the Robots of today. New medical equipment needs newer, larger, or smaller areas to accommodate their actions with the involvement of patient care.

All these renovations usually take place while a facility is still doing business. This makes the renovations very complex. The temporary relocation of employees while the renovations are ongoing and the traffic flow of patients are difficult, but must happen, so that business can continue. Renovation is a continuous and necessary part of the Healthcare Industry.

SAVE THE DATE!

DISTRICT HIGHLIGHTS

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President Jordan Smith, CHFM, CHC, CHE

District III Photo Highlights

District III Recent educational session with the President of DNV, Mr. Kelly Proctor CHFM, CHSP, CHOP



**District III Clay Shoot
Jan. 20th
Tampa Bay Sporting Clays**



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NFPA 70B - CHANGES ARE COMING

A change is coming for NFPA 70B, Recommended Practice for Electrical Equipment Maintenance, according to leaders at ASHE. If this change is approved by the NFPA Standards Council next summer, and the NFPA membership, it will acquire its new status as a standard at the end of next year.

While this change may not become applicable immediately, it is important to be ready for it. Although there is no indication it will be directly adopted by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, NFPA 70B will likely be referenced in future editions of NFPA 70®, National Electrical Code® (NEC). States may directly adopt the change as they adopt current editions of the NEC. Once adopted by an authority having jurisdiction, it becomes an enforceable standard.

RESILIENCY AND PREPARATION

As our FHEA members at Lee Health in southwest Florida learned during Hurricane Ian, there's no preparing for the unexpected, but investing in proactive maintenance and having multiple backup plans in place can make weathering natural disasters significantly easier.



"Just because a hospital is fully compliant with the standards doesn't necessarily mean they're bulletproof," says FHEA Supporting Member Dan Chisholm Sr., CHEPP, President of MGI Consulting Inc., a provider of emergency power system design, construction, and training. "The secret to a hospital going through a disaster without any problems is preparedness. You can have the best equipment and the best facility designs, but if you haven't worked up a Plan B, and a Plan C in case B tanks on you, you're out of luck."

Not every Florida hospital was as fortunate as Lee Health's HealthPark Medical Center. "I was on a call with a health system, also in southwest Florida, that lost a hospital because their generators didn't start," says Adam Dutka, Vice President of sales for healthcare and life sciences at PowerSecure Inc. "I told them we'd get our service technicians in there to take a look, see why they didn't start, then figure out a plan to get them up to the same level as their peers in the area."

Dutka says that these issues are often about preventive maintenance. For systems impacted by Hurricane Ian, that maintenance cycle begins again post-storm with oil and cooling samples to make sure there isn't anything wrong with generators coming off of 80 hours of operation. "Implementing the lessons learned is the biggest thing," Dutka adds.

Acting rapidly on lessons learned post-storm is a critical step in building up resiliency against future disasters. Chisholm says, "The longer the time after a catastrophic event, the shorter memories become, and the less attention is given to increasing budgets for improvements. If you don't get into the boardroom with a plan early after the storm, you can just about forget it," he says.

“SWATTING” IS A GROWING SECURITY CONCERN FOR US HOSPITALS

By: Larry Beresford

Swatting, the dangerous prank of falsely reporting to the police a major crisis that isn't really happening, typically involves hardcore video gamers or school settings, but it has also been used to target hospitals.

The name refers to police SWAT, or special weapons and tactics teams, which the prankster hopes to lure via a false report to the targeted site with guns drawn in anticipation of a dangerous situation like a bomb threat, active shooter, or hostage crisis. For a hospital, these incidents can trigger lockdowns, diversion, evacuations, or other major disruptions in the hospital's business.

In April 2022, after a falsely reported hostage situation at Northwestern Memorial Hospital, one of the largest hospitals in the Chicago area, a police SWAT team rushed to the hospital, triggering a several-hour lockdown of the facility, according to the news reports. No threat was found, and police later labeled the situation a hoax.

Bomb threats called in by telephone have been around for a long time, says Bryan Warren, MBA, CHPA, CPO-I, president of the security consulting firm WarSec Security of Gastonia, N.C. But new communication technology and social media platforms have made such incidents more prevalent and rapidly disseminated on the internet, with potential to inspire copycats.

“That's part of the complexity of dealing with swatting,” he says. “You can get famous very quickly. And now, you even have people swatting for profit, with others paying them to do it.”



Warren, who has held a variety of positions in healthcare security for 34 years and is also a Past President of the International Association for Healthcare Security and Safety, says he is not aware of databases tracking the number of swatting incidents involving healthcare facilities. This, he says, is in part because hospitals are not eager to publicize that they have been a target of one, and because the seriousness of the threats varies so widely. But it happens often enough across the country, with varying levels of legitimacy, that hospitals should institute policies, procedures, and training drills to be ready for one.

Figuring out when a phone call merits a serious response or intervention is a balancing act that hospitals need to navigate. Warren recommends developing a formal facility threat assessment protocol as a guide for staff. These protocols can be built on the hospital's existing workplace violence prevention programs.

Those who most often answer phone calls from the public, such as switchboard operators, could benefit from training in the hospital's protocol. “I'm not saying this is easy, but these are some of the things that need to be discussed in training the folks who might take these calls,” Warren says. “Because we're seeing this kind of crime evolve, we have to evolve with it.”

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ATTACKS ON ELECTRICAL GRIDS REINFORCE THE NEED FOR POWER RESILIENCY

By: Danny Chisolm

Recent news reports of gunfire attacks on power substations in Moore County, N.C., as well as other attacks in Washington and Oregon, underscore the need for hospitals to ensure reliability of their emergency power supply system (EPSS).

The attacks in Moore County caused extensive damage, leaving tens of thousands without power for days and even forced local clinics, urgent care centers, and primary care offices to shut down temporarily. Moore Regional Hospital, however, remained open and ready to serve a surge of patients thanks to its EPSS.

Ensuring the EPSS kicks in within seconds to keep lights on and medical equipment functioning, protects patients' lives and is also a matter of regulatory compliance, leaving zero room to fail. Unfortunately, the recent flurry of attacks on local electrical grids is just one of the many threats impacting local utilities, which have also been impacted by an increase in natural disasters.

Before waiting for an event — whether weather-related or man-made — to test the health of an EPSS, it's vital that healthcare facilities invest in a process to ensure their system is always reliable.

MGI recommends hospitals conduct a six-step all hazards risk assessment to eliminate any single points of failure. Read more at <https://www.mgiepss.com/fhea>.

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