

The Whistle

FHEA

VOLUME XXX, NUMBER 4

WINTER 2015



To all my FHEA colleagues:

This is my fourth and final letter to you as your State President. To say this year has been a whirlwind would be an understatement. Jim Hutchinson (two-time state president from district I) once told me that the time leading up to your year as president seems to take forever but the year you are president flies by, and boy, he was right! It has been the highlight of my career to serve you as president

of this great organization, and your support has been greatly appreciated.

Your Board of Directors for 2014 has been the best I have had the honor of working with. 2014 has been a very

them know how to take advantage of this opportunity.

- Financially the organization is very sound and we continue to have near record proceeds from the annual trade shows thanks to our executive director Alethea Vitray.
- Our Codes and Standards chairman John Willingham and Bobby Baird have done an outstanding job advocating for changes in the AHCA/CMS ruling on Relocateable Power Taps in patient care areas. A CMS categorical waiver is now available. You can find a link on the home page of FHEA.org.
- I just received the evaluations from the 52nd annual Trade Show and meeting and once again the comments indicated a very successful show! All the speakers scored quite high—with George Mills knocking it out of the park. Mark your calendars for the annual AHCA/FHEA joint conference & trade show October 12–14, 2015 when we return to the Rosen Shingle Creek Resort.

Our goal is to bring you the best program possible; if you have suggestions for speakers for either our spring or fall meetings, do let us know.

The President's Corner

SCOTT McCORMICK, CHE, CHFM, CHSP

successful year. Some of the highlights:

- We have seen an increase in Certified Healthcare Engineers (CHE) from 32 in 2012 to 46 for 2014 which is a very sizable increase. We would love to see that number continue to grow in the coming year!
- Our membership has increased by 21 active members this year thanks to the efforts of our state membership chair Lily Salkoff-Piner, and our membership committees within the districts.
- FHEA renewed its sponsorship of the Science Screen Report video series which focuses on STEM education and is offered to all of Florida's public middle and high schools. We are proud of our commitment to improving education for the next generation.
- We have implemented a new \$2500 scholarship on the state level for which any FHEA active member, member's family or individuals at their member facility is eligible. This scholarship is open to persons planning on entering the healthcare engineering field. The application is posted on FHEA.org under the "Forms" header. If you know someone who might be a candidate, please be sure to let

I am very excited about the upcoming 31st Spring Meeting which will be held May 14-15, 2015 at the Fort Lauderdale Marriott Coral Springs Hotel Golf Club & Convention Center. We have secured Leo Gehring to provide a seven hour CHFM prep course on Thursday, May 14th as part of the meeting. This workshop will be free to FHEA members; please keep in mind that in order to take the test and become certified, you must be an ASHE member. ASHE will make available a limited number of CHFM exam waivers on a first come basis to registrants—have your ASHE membership number ready to apply for this waiver. We will also have the golf outing on May 14th, and our educational session the following day, Friday, May 15th. I look forward to seeing you there.

Next year Norm Epps will be taking over the gavel as State President; he has proven to be a great leader this year, serving both as the District 4 President and State Vice President. He will do a great job as president and I look forward to his leadership. In closing I want to reiterate how much I have enjoyed the past year. I hope everyone has a Merry Christmas, and a safe New Year as we look forward to 2015. Cheers!

Meet Norman Epps, FHEA's 2015 President

FHEA's 53rd President is Norman Epps, CHE, CHEP. Originally from Georgia, Norm's early years include 20 years in the US Air Force, specializing in Electrical Power Generation, where his out of the box thinking allowed successful operations while deployed in 16 combat operational missions.

Following his military service, Norm transitioned into healthcare facility management. His previous positions include Manager, Plant Operations, Assistant Director of Plant Operations, Director of Plant Operations, and Program Director. His 10 years in facility management culminated in his current position of Director of Engineering for all Cleveland Clinic Florida facilities, over 850,000 square feet. He is also a consultant in EOC, EM and LS, and is currently enrolled in a Master's Degree program for Disaster and Emergency Management.

Outside of these professional commitments, Norm has managed to find time to combine his past life in the Air Force with his love of motorcycles in a way that also serves the veteran community. He does this through the Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association, a national non-profit organization for which he serves as Regional Representative for Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, South Carolina and Florida. He is also a Life Member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and the Air Force Sergeants Association.

Norm is married to Michelle Epps who also works in healthcare. Their blended family includes three daughters and two sons.

We are indeed grateful that Norm has accepted the additional responsibilities associated with the FHEA 2015 state presidency. He looks forward to



Norman C. Epps, CHE, CHEP

overseeing FHEA's two state meetings, and finding concrete ways to increase the association's educational offerings which he views as critical to increasing overall membership.

Welcome New Supporting Members

The following have joined our growing ranks since our last listing in the summer issue of the newsletter. These individuals, along with all the members who have joined or renewed in 2014 will be featured in the 2014-15 Supporting Member Directory which will be printed and distributed to all members in December.

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NEW
COMPANY

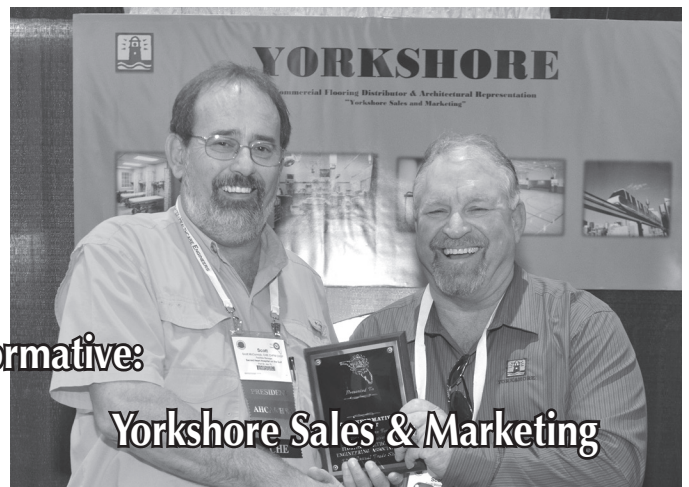


52nd Annual Meeting & Trade Show Candid





52nd Annual Meeting/Trade Show Winners!



2014 Engineer of the Year: Don Stewart

Don Stewart, CHFM, was selected by his peers as the 2014 Engineer of the Year. A member since 2006, Don has taken an increasingly active role in the FHEA, most recently serving as State Secretary, and at the fall meeting was elected as 2015 State Vice President.



Supporting Member of the Year: Lily Salkoff-Piner Petroleum Recovery Services



Scott McCormick (l), Lily Salkoff-Piner (c), Norm Epps (r)

Few individuals could be more deserving of this award than Lily, who began serving last year as State Membership Chair for the association. Her goals have been to increase membership through outreach and improved retention rates, and to bring more professionalism to the district meetings through better communication, improved review of educational offerings, a more organized reply system, and use of name badges. Her generosity in terms of time and energy in this ambitious undertaking is much appreciated.



In the photo on right, Don accepts the Engineer of the Year plaque from Scott McCormick, State President, and Norm Epps, State Vice President.

Not surprisingly, Don is also very highly regarded within his facility, Florida Hospital East, and when administration learned he was the recipient of this award they immediately planned a surprise ceremony to acknowledge this honor and spread some of their own appreciation. Don is pictured in the photo on the left with Jillyan Shelton, Assistant Administrator and COO at Florida Hospital East.

DISTRICT NEWS

District II: 2nd Annual Pig Roast



Ray Christianson (l), Joe Berlesky (c), Dewayne Roark, (r)

Shooting clays, shucking oysters and shaking hands were the order of the day at the second annual Florida Healthcare Engineering Association's Clay Shoot and Pig Roast

sponsored by Batson-Cook Construction on Friday, November 7, at Bradford Sportsmen's Farm. More than 100 people attended the event, which began with an afternoon shoot that was followed by an oyster roast, a pig roast buffet, prizes and awards – and lots of merriment!

District II's "Engineer of the Year" was Larry Peterson, director of plant facilities and security at Baptist Medical Center South in Jacksonville. "Supporting Member of the Year" was the Jacksonville office of Momar, Inc., a specialty manufacturer of general maintenance and sanitation chemicals.

Ed Varnes, vice-president of business development/healthcare for Batson-Cook and active with FHEA, was moderator of the event.

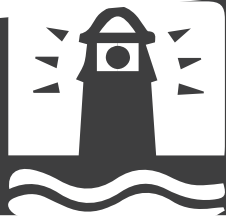
District IV: Casino Night



Norm Epps (l) and Joanna Carbone (r)

A great FHEA District IV membership turnout enjoyed the Lady Luck Casino Night held at the IGFA Museum in

Dania, FL on Friday night, November 14th. Drinks, food, music and laughter were enjoyed by all. The highlight of the evening was the casino games. While "real" money was not part of the activities, it was fun to play the games and not to go home short of cash! The best part however was the comraderie shared by all who attended. Maxine Lopez of Airstron and Joanna Carbone of Soprema, organizers of the event, promised the incoming Board of Directors that based upon attendance and interest, next year's event will be "bigger and better."



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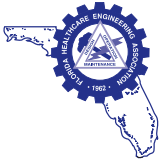
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MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THESE 2015 EVENTS!

1-Day CHFM Prep Course

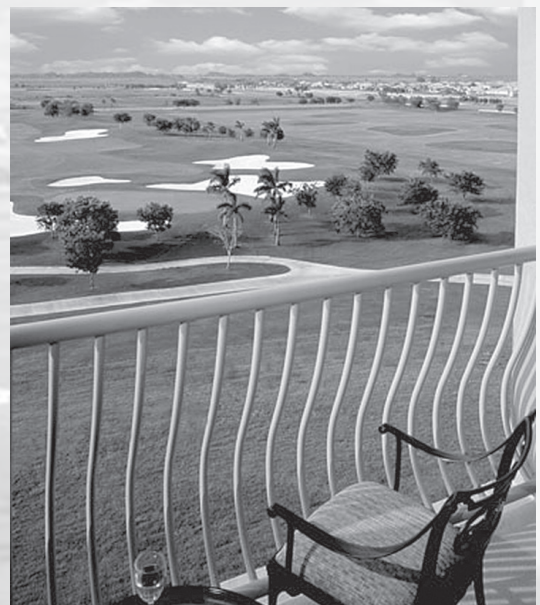
FHEA 31st SPRING MEETING*

**Ft. Lauderdale Marriott Coral Springs Hotel,
Golf Club & Convention Center
MAY 14-15, 2015
Coral Springs, Florida**

Thursday, May 14: **CHFM Prep Course**
Thursday, May 14: **Golf Outing**
Friday, May 15: **Educational Session/Meeting**

**We are very pleased to be offering the ASHE
CHFM Prep Course at no cost to current members.
Take advantage of this conveniently scheduled course,
and pursue this important professional certification.**

Email alethea@fhea.org for details.



**Look for brochures and online registration for both Meeting and CHFM Prep Course in March.*

JOINT CONFERENCE: FHEA 53RD ANNUAL MEETING & TRADE SHOW / AHCA 31ST ANNUAL SEMINAR

OCTOBER 12-14, 2015 – ROSEN SHINGLE CREEK RESORT, ORLANDO, FL