



ISSUE 42

NEWSLETTER Spring 2020

INSIDE ISSUE:

- President Letter
- Engineer Spotlight
- Business Partner SpotLight (Emmett Yancey)
- Covid -19 Article
- GASHE Gossip
- GASHE at a Glance

A LETTER FROM PRESIDENT DOUG HALL



The 2020 GASHE Tradeshow and Conference will be one for the history books. We survived the Pandemic "Coronavirus". It's unfortunate that many of our registered engineers and some business partners were not able to make it due to travel limitations mandated by their hospitals and companies. We want to let them know they were truly missed and that we appreciate all the ones who were able to attend/support GASHE.

We had several "firsts" at this meeting. Our first keynote speaker, Mark Futrovsky the President of Rolyn Companies did a great job of kicking off the meeting. His knowledge and experience in the industry is incredible. We sometimes forget that we add such a value to the facilities we work in, and that what we do/how we do it does matter. It was great to hear that from an outside person. I was so honored that he agreed to join us at the meeting and remind us of our contributions to the safety of our patients. We also had our first outside classroom at the Cypress Grill on Thursday morning. It might have been a little loud, a little chilly, maybe a little dewy, but we made it work! That might just be the perfect setting to wake up the late nighters! We had several first time attendees, that is always exciting and my favorite first - chicken wings on Friday at lunch!

We had some great current topics for the engineers to take back new information to their teams. I want to thank John Hayes from Hayes Energy for his continued support in Energy to Care and helping us learn to save money for our facilities; Bill Roberts from STI Firestop for teaching us about Pre & Post Occupancy Fire Barrier Management; Mark Futrovsky & Aaron Main from Rolyn Companies discussing Coronavirus and HAI transmissions, and how we in our roles can help reduce them; Jim Crabb from Mazzetti who discussed Covid-19 and how we can stay prepared; and Ray Ramos always teaching us how to maintain Roof, Wall, Windows Maintenance and Asset Management.

All our sponsors are very important to our success as an organization. At our March meeting we had four Diamond Sponsors who helped with the success of the meeting. Yancey Power Systems provided the beverage cart at the golf tournament; they provided shuttle service and were the lunch on the lawn sponsor. ASCO/Schneider Electric was the Casino Night sponsor. This was a great event on Thursday night. Everyone loves gambling with someone else's money! Georgia Power sponsored Karaoke Night on Wednesday. This is always a fun event and I provided an unbelievable rendition of Like A Virgin! Brasfield Gorrie was the Lady Liberty New Member Reception sponsor. Lady Liberty didn't cooperate with us, but Beverly Morgan was as gracious of a host as ever and we appreciate her efforts and contributions to our organization.

The Board is very excited about the 2020 GASHE year. We have lots of ideas to increase membership knowledge and help our members get the most out of their memberships. One example is our next Webinar coming to you on May 13th. Rolyn Companies will be doing a presentation on Construction in Healthcare.

If you ever have any questions or comments, please feel free to reach out to me or any of the Board Members. Thank you for your support! See you in June!

Psychological well being of front line staff during a pandemic

While the whole world is up fighting against the threat of an extremely dangerous and rapidly spreading virus, the COVID-19 pandemic, our front line staff is at great risk of severe physical and psychological compromise. Therefore, ensuring their well being is an important component of public health response.

Crisis provides us with great opportunities of learning and improvement, team building and leadership development. The test of leadership and personal resilience is best displayed during challenging times. Keeping the current scenario in mind, decision making is based upon four domains: Care of severely ill patients, Allocation of resources, Aligning patient's needs with family, Balancing the physical and mental health of workers. In order to combat crisis, the leadership should be wise enough to devise a strategy before time, anticipating the challenges that will be confronted.

Challenges faced by the front-line staff:

Due to increased workload, the staff is pushed to their maximum limits, making them vulnerable to physical and mental illness in the form of panic, anxiety, depression, insomnia and PTSD. There are various contributing factors: fatigue and burnout due to prolonged and stressful working hours, lack of manpower, lack of proper food and rest, fear of falling sick/death secondary to exposure or witnessing a colleague going through the sickness, fear of infecting family members, caring for extremely sick patients, lack of training/understanding of changing protocols, lack of resources and personal protective equipment, moral injury (i.e. having to practice in ways which deviate from usual standards, choosing which patients will not receive life support if there are resource scarcities), disclosing news of death to the family of deceased, depression of going into quarantine after being exposed to the disease, post-quarantine reluctance to return to work and an overall feeling of helplessness and pessimism.

Managing at the leadership level:

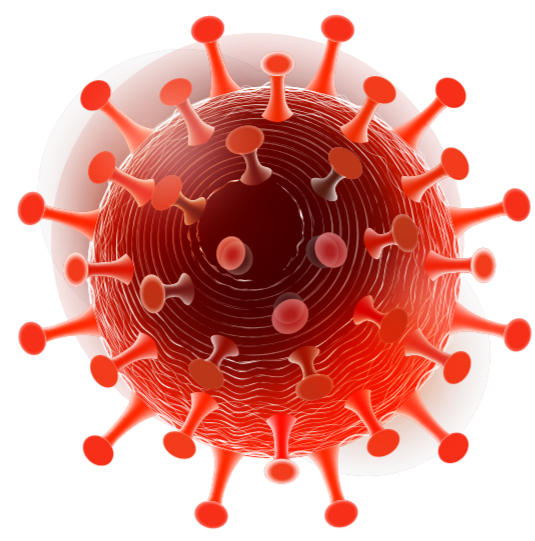
The leadership should take effective measures to support the well-being of their staff by early recognition and mitigation of perceived challenges. Their consistent on ground presence is a big moral support. Open communication, listening to the feedback and concerns, regular meetings and situational updates, assignment of roles and responsibilities of teams, managing staff strength and arranging rotas accordingly, ensuring staff safety by providing PPEs and removing high-risk staff (those with medical illness, pregnancy) from front-line, training on changing guidelines or protocols, provision of good diet, rest in the form of regular breaks, recreational activities, resolving accommodation and transport issues, special allowances for overtime, providing necessary support to staff for quarantine and post-quarantine periods, psychological support to team members in case one of the colleagues becomes sick/dies, motivating the staff and keeping their spirits high, addressing feelings of fear, anger and guilt by listening to the concerns and providing timely professional psychological support.

Managing at the individual level:

The individual staff can contribute to their own well being by taking good care of themselves, maintaining a healthy diet, taking assigned breaks, exercise/meditation, having a good sleep schedule, regularly contacting with family and friends, sharing both positive and negative feelings with colleagues and family members, staying updated with evolving guidelines, knowing whom to access for help in case of a challenging situation, protecting themselves from infected patients by observing the safety protocols and keeping themselves and other team members motivated by peer support.

Conclusion

Times of crisis such as the present pandemic can bring out, not just the negative but also the positive aspects. It can help build strong teams, strengthen individual characters and develop leadership skills. The impact of the pandemic and how leaders respond will shape the future relationship of teams and culture of organizations for years to come.



COVID-19 CORONAVIRUS

By: Ashley Daniel

In December 2019, the CDC, WHO, and state public health officials began closely monitoring a global outbreak of respiratory infections due to a novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV). The virus was first detected in Wuhan City, China and quickly spread to approximately 28 other countries including the United States. Chinese health authorities have confirmed thousands of infections with increasing deaths. To date, the United States has reported 12 confirmed cases with close to 400 suspected cases across 37 states.

Coronaviruses are a large family of viruses that are common in many different species of animals, including camels, cattle, cats, and bats. Rarely, animal coronaviruses can infect people and then spread between people such as with MERS, SARS, and now with 2019-nCoV. Spread of 2019-nCoV is now primarily driven by person-to-person transmission, mainly via droplets from coughing and sneezing. The CDC is currently unclear if this coronavirus can be spread by indirect contact.

Symptoms of the novel coronavirus include fever, cough, shortness of breath, or other lower respiratory symptoms. Clinical presentation can vary from asymptomatic to mild, severe, or even fatal illness.

Currently, travelers returning to the U.S. who have history of travel after February 3rd in Wuhan City or who have been in close contact with a confirmed nCoV case in the last 14 days are being quarantined upon arrival into the U.S. for 14 days post-exposure. Travelers returning from mainland China are being supervised at home for 14 days post-exposure. A level 4 travel advisory (do not travel) has been issued for China.

Minimizing the spread of disease is critical in the healthcare environment. Recommendations for Clinicians, provided by the CDC and the Georgia DPH, are as follows:

IDENTIFY – Obtain a detailed travel history for any patient being evaluated with fever and acute respiratory illness.

ISOLATE – Any patient that has a positive travel history to China within 14 days and is symptomatic or a symptomatic patient with close contact with a lab confirmed 2019-nCoV patient within 14 days, should be asked to wear a mask and placed in a private room with the door closed (ideally an AIIR). HCP should use standard, contact, and airborne precautions with eye protection.

INFORM – Once PPE is in place, immediately notify both infection control personnel at your facility and DPH at 1-866-PUB-HLTH (1-866-782-4584)

For more information

- Georgia DPH 2019-nCoV guidance and other useful documents (Home Isolation and Monitoring, Caregiver Guidance, Close Contact guidance, etc): <https://dph.georgia.gov/novelcoronavirus>
- CDC's guidance for healthcare professionals:
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/guidance-hcp.html>

Sponsorship Exposure

GASHE would like to thank all the 2020 Sponsors! Your continued support of our organization is truly appreciated.



As a fully focused manufacturer, STI is committed to providing complete solutions to your Firestop needs. We understand the challenges you face in the healthcare physical environment and we can be your strategic partner in providing cost effective, sustainable solutions. At STI, products are but one component of our value package. We invest the time to understand the unique needs of the Healthcare-specific construction segments and then develop products, systems, and programs tailored to meet these needs. The results are industry-changing, innovative, patented technologies such as EZ Path® Fire Rated Pathway and Triple S® two-stage intumescent sealant, or programs and services like our Barrier Management Program (BMP) for healthcare. As a stable, growing, privately held company we control our future. We do what is right for the long term, not a quarterly earnings report. We remain committed to these values, our client partnerships, our firestop products and the Healthcare industry.



CIC, Inc. (CIC Floors) has been solving industrial, commercial, health care, and kitchen flooring challenges for more than 30 years. We are a specialty flooring contractor based in Brunswick, Georgia and serve throughout the entire Southeast. C I C, Inc. works with you to find cost effective, long term solutions for your facility. Our seamless flooring systems reduce safety hazards, minimize dust and dirt accumulation, and lower costs. The result is an eco-friendly, safer, more hygienic, and attractive work environment. We have worked diligently to build strong relationships with our clients, as well as a very elite group of product manufacturers that work as hard as we do to make sure that our clients always receive the right product and installation. Ask about our seamless wall systems as well. Please call us at (912) 261-1414 to set up an on-site visit.

STEAMCO

Quality • Service • Results

Steam-Co, LLC is a water treatment and service company based in Southeast Georgia that conducts business throughout the Southeastern United States. As a member of GASHE, Steam-Co has formed numerous partnerships with healthcare engineers throughout the State. Services provided include installation and maintenance of: Water Softeners, Reverse Osmosis Units, Boiler and Condenser Controllers, Flow Meters, Coupon Racks with Coupons Analysis, Chemical Treatment Pumps, Pot Feeders for Loop Systems, and PVC and Stainless Steel Injection Quills for Treatment Delivery. Steam-Co also assists in the development of Water Management Plans (WMP) for healthcare facilities. We have developed numerous Legionella/WMP programs for various hospitals throughout the South. Training and documentation is provided for each facility to implement the WMP program. A CDC Elite accredited lab analyzes all Legionella samples. Steam-Co is committed to a level of service that is unmatched in our industry. We stress quality service with timely reliability and quality products.

ASCO®

ASCO Power Technologies is the world leader in transfer switches (ATS), paralleling switchgear, load banks, surge suppressors and controls for critical power applications. We are backed by an in-house team of engineers and field service technicians- and our manufacturing is done locally in North Carolina. Whether you are looking for new equipment, modifications/modernizations, we are available and would love to help!



F&S Mechanical and Plumbing Services, Inc recently joined forces with Huff Mechanical and Medical Equipment Technology to form the most comprehensive healthcare and medical gas solutions company in the Southeast. With over 25 years of experience in plumbing, medical gas installation, inspection and verification, F&S Mechanical has proven its trustworthy and full service capabilities. F&S offers design/build, installation, verification, commissioning, service, maintenance and repairs. Our healthcare team consists of experienced plumbers and pipefitters with specialized medical gas experience, education, and all of the required certifications. Also on the team are ASSE Certified Installers, Inspectors, Verifiers, Medical Maintenance personnel, Instructors, as well as an NFPA Technical code writing committee member. F&S has an Excellent EMR Insurance safety rating, solid bonding capacity and is 100% litigation free. We are truly your one service solution for all of your medical gas system needs and healthcare plumbing solutions.



ATG, a JLL company, combines 30+ years of consulting expertise with innovative technologies to address planning, compliance and other facility management objectives for healthcare organizations.

Our team consists of experienced architects, designers, engineers, surveyors and application developers—all collaborating with facility professionals, executives and regulatory agencies to address operational functions in key areas such as:

- Architectural and space utilization
- Life safety management and master planning
- AHJ compliance
- Document management

ATG provides facility personnel with a highly collaborative, consistent system:

- On-demand 24/7 access to reliable data through a convenient, intuitive interface
- Powerful analytics that empower users to make more informed decisions
- Interactive as-built drawings for managing information in an efficient visual context
- Mobile apps that make field data collection and inspections far more productive

Whether for risk mitigation, resource optimization, patient satisfaction, or other facility management essentials, ATG delivers solutions that help keep healthcare operations running at the highest level.



Batson-Cook Construction is a Georgia-based firm that has been in business for 104 years under the same name. Batson-Cook's expertise as a relationship-driven general contractor, construction manager, and design-build contractor spans almost every major industry throughout the Southeast, including the healthcare, education, hospitality, office, retail, multi-family residential, industrial, and religious building sectors.



KEN GREGORY CONSULTING

ASCO Power Technologies is the world leader in transfer switches (ATS), paralleling switchgear, load banks, surge suppressors and controls for critical power applications. We are backed by an in-house team of engineers and field service technicians- and our manufacturing is done locally in North Carolina. Whether you are looking for new equipment, modifications/modernizations, we are available and would love to help!



F&S Mechanical and Plumbing Services, Inc recently joined forces with Huff Mechanical and Medical Equipment Technology to form the most comprehensive healthcare and medical gas solutions company in the Southeast. With over 25 years of experience in plumbing, medical gas installation, inspection and verification, F&S Mechanical has proven its trustworthy and full service capabilities. F&S offers design/build, installation, verification, commissioning, service, maintenance and repairs. Our healthcare team consists of experienced plumbers and pipefitters with specialized medical gas experience, education, and all of the required certifications. Also on the team are ASSE Certified Installers, Inspectors, Verifiers, Medical Maintenance personnel, Instructors, as well as an NFPA Technical code writing committee member. F&S has an Excellent EMR Insurance safety rating, solid bonding capacity and is 100% litigation free. We are truly your one service solution for all of your medical gas system needs and healthcare plumbing solutions.



Empowering The Life Of Your Business

We welcome you to explore Prime Power Services and discover for yourself why the leading facility managers of hospitals, data centers, professional sports teams, and Class A facilities choose Prime Power Services for all their emergency power system needs. The difference is simple: trust. The more the world relies on technology the more the world demands electric power. We understand that our family of clients trusts Prime Power to provide the fastest response time and the highest level of experience to their mission-critical power applications. Power failure is not an option.

Trust is earned - never given. Prime Power takes great pride in earning and keeping the trust of our family of clients over 30 years of providing unparalleled support in the power generation industry. And over those 30 years, we have developed a systemic approach that will allow us to continue to deliver quality time and again.

Visit primepower.com



At Trane, we believe a more efficient world is a more prosperous world. We help create it every day by sharing our knowledge and expertise of energy intelligence. We deliver exceptionally efficient indoor comfort systems and energy solutions. One building and one customer relationship at a time, we're reducing the energy intensity of the world.



All of us at the Yancey Brothers Caterpillar dealership would like to thank all of the hospital engineers and hospital facility staff members in Georgia for the important work you are doing at this trying time. While much deserved credit goes to healthcare providers, we appreciate the long hours you have spent readying and maintaining the facilities that are saving lives in Georgia. You are on the front line of this fight with our healthcare providers and we thank you. We are profoundly grateful for the work you are doing and are here to support you if you need us.



