

# The Whistle

# FHEA

VOLUME XXXI, NUMBER 4

WINTER 2016



First, I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season! What a fantastic year! We, as a group, have had a very successful year. I wanted to share some of the highlights with all of you for reflection. Our Vice President (President Elect) worked diligently to put together the package for our ASHE Affiliation Award. This package included actions from each district as well as the state function. The FHEA earned the ASHE Platinum Award,

the highest level available! To make this achievement even more impressive, this was our seventh year in a row! ASHE has now added an additional level of "Elite" to each of the previous levels of affiliation. The Elite status is a bonus award honoring the chapter's participation in ASHE's Energy

## The President's Corner

NORMAN C. EPPS, CHE, CHEP

to Care program. Ben Fitzgerald, CHE, Director of Energy Management at Florida Hospital – Orlando, is leading this new category. 2016 is the first year this award has been offered. We have challenged ourselves to attain the highest level available. Please reach out to Ben if you would like to participate. Many hospitals are already doing their part to reduce energy. Please help us count your facility in our efforts.

Our 31st FHEA Spring Meeting was held at the Marriott Fort Lauderdale-Coral Springs this past May. During this event, the Certified Healthcare Facility Manager (CHFM) Prep Workshop was offered and instructed by Leo Gehring, CHFM, CHC, FASHE. This course had an attendance of 55. It is unclear how many of these students went on to take the test. The CHFM Workshop is a great opportunity to clarify the expectations of knowledge for the test. For those who did not seek the CHFM course, the 8th Annual Spring Golf Scramble offered another avenue to get to know one another. This event had a great turn out as well! The 32nd FHEA Spring Meeting will be held May 5-6, 2016 at the Hilton hotel in Clearwater Beach. We will offer the Certified Healthcare Safety Professional (CHSP) Workshop during this event. We are also working on the 9th Annual Spring Golf Scramble offering.

More information will follow on both of these opportunities.

The Joint Conference FHEA 53rd Annual Meeting & Trade Show / AHCA 31st Annual Seminar occurred on October 12-14 at the Rosen Shingle Creek Resort in Orlando. This event was by far the largest in FHEA history! Approximately 1200 people registered and attended the sessions! The Facilities Management track was well attended. We continue to look for the best possible ways to cover all of the various responsibilities of our industry. All trade show booths were filled with an enormous amount of information and opportunities to learn new techniques and technologies available in our industry. A special thank you goes out to all of the organizations offering gifts during the trade show raffles! The Joint Conference FHEA 54th Annual Meeting & Trade Show / AHCA 32nd Annual Seminar will be held October 17-19, 2016 at Disney's Coronado Springs Resort. This event will surely be a hit!

The Board of Directors had three goals for 2015. The first goal was to increase the number of healthcare facilities' active involvement in the organization. We added 20 facilities in 2015! A potential 5th district will allow for further expansion of

the FHEA to facilities that currently do not have reasonable access. The second goal was to provide educational programs to advance the general knowledge of our members. In 2015 the CHFM Workshop was offered. The CHSP class will be a new offering at the 2016 Spring Meeting. The third goal was to continue to increase the number of Certified Healthcare Engineer (CHE) designations. Eleven members became certified for the first time this year for a grand total of 40 CHE's!

In closing, The Board of Directors and I wish you all a prosperous 2016. Your participation is the key to our success. Let your district officers know how we can be of better service. What educational offerings should we be looking for? I look forward to seeing as many as possible at the Spring Meeting. I would also be remiss in not thanking each one of you for your continued dedication to the FHEA. The Board of Directors work extremely hard in continuing our growth and success. A special thank you goes to Lily Salkoff-Piner for her continued push for membership and Alethea Vitray for keeping us all on the right track. She is truly an inspiration to engagement in our organization. Until we meet again, CHEERS!

# Meet FHEA's 2016 President

One year ago at the 2014 Annual Meeting FHEA members recognized Donald A. Stewart's professional accomplishments and contributions to the healthcare engineering field within Florida by selecting him as the state Engineer of the Year. An even greater honor was bestowed on Don this year when he was named ASHE's Region 4 Emerging Leader, selected over other qualified candidates from Georgia, Alabama, and Mississippi. The Florida Healthcare Engineering Association is indeed fortunate to have Don lead us in 2016 as state president.

Don has been in facilities management for ten years with Florida Hospital in Orlando. He joined Florida Hospital after a 13 year career in consulting engineering as a director of healthcare design / electrical designer. Prior to this work,



*Donald A. Stewart, CHFM*

he was a journeyman electrician for 10 years, working in commercial, retail, hospitality, entertainment, restaurant,

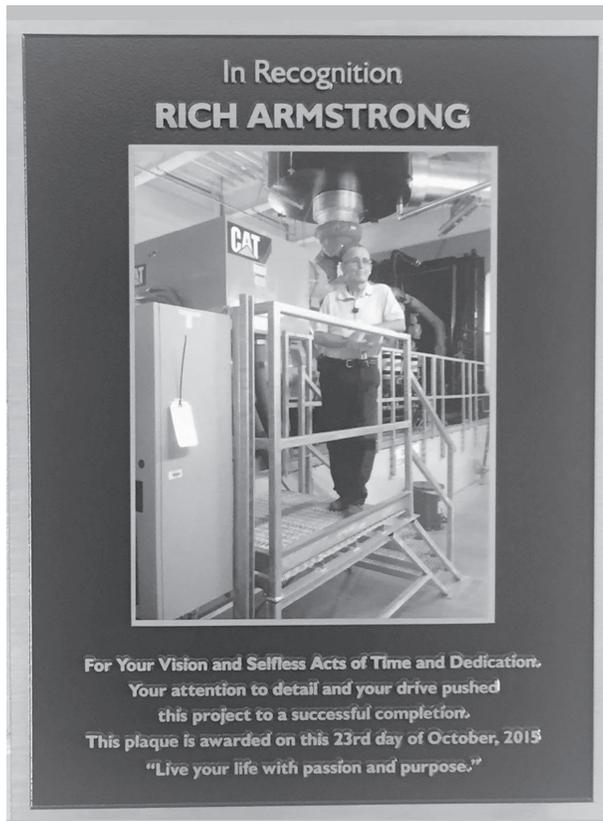
and healthcare construction.

Don and his wife Dawn have been married for 37 years, and have three children and six grandsons. They enjoy time with family, motorcycle riding, traveling, and the beach.

As president of the FHEA, Don's goals include bringing the majority of the hospitals in Florida into ASHE's Energy to Care (E2C) program, to increase the state's sustainability. He also looks forward to working with the board on their mission of offering enhanced educational opportunities.

Continuing the work begun in 2015 on possibly adding a fifth district to better serve members is also on his agenda. Don says, "The state of Florida's growth in all sectors has been phenomenal in the last three to four decades, so understanding how our districts serve our members is a priority for our board."

## St. Joseph's Hospital Honors Rich Armstrong



On October 23, 2015, St. Joseph's Hospital in Tampa dedicated their new Emergency Power Plant Building to Rich Armstrong for his vision, input and work on the building before his passing. Rich served as District III president in 2012. The plaque shown here is on display inside the building and a duplicate was presented to Rich's family during the ceremony that was attended by Rich's family, Sue Armstrong (Rich's widow), daughters Lori and Hilary, and son Whitney.

### St. Joseph's also wins the ASHE 2015 Excellence in Health Facility Management Award

The Excellence in Health Facility Management Award recognizes an individual or facility management department that has implemented new or innovative programs or processes to optimize the physical environment and improve patient care. The facility management team at St. Joseph's Hospital, part of BayCare Health System, set out to reduce falls in common areas of the hospital. After study and initiatives were put into place, the hospital recorded a 16 percent reduction in falls from the previous year.

Facility Systems Manager, William Holcomb, CHFM, wished to recognize David Miller, Facilities Manager, for his work on this project, stating, "David did an awesome job!"



**Best in Show!  
Barton Malow**

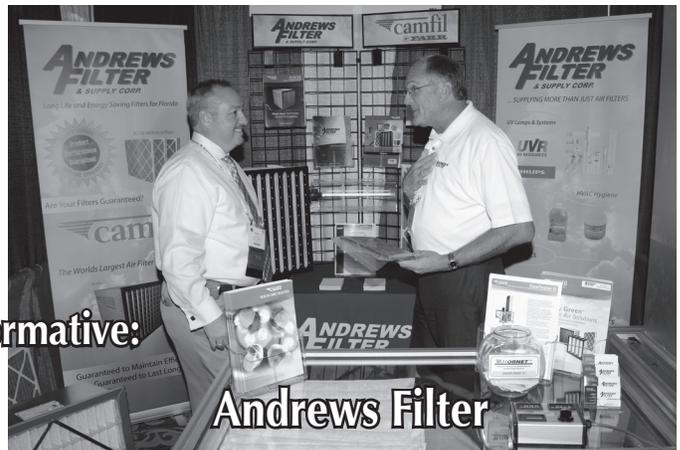


**Most Original:  
Mason Engineering**

**53rd Annual Meeting/Trade Show Winners!**



**Most Informative:  
Schneider Electric**



**Andrews Filter**

**Greg Hodgson, CHE, CHFM, named  
2015 Engineer of the Year**



*State President Norm Epps, center, honors Greg Hodgson, State Engineer of the Year, and Lily Salkoff-Piner, Supporting Member of the Year.*

Greg Hodgson, Construction Manager at All Children's Hospital in St. Petersburg, has a record that exemplifies service and dedication. Since 2007 when he first joined the FHEA board, he has served in many capacities, including state president in 2012 but it is for his willingness to take on additional roles on a state and district level that the association owes a debt of gratitude. He headed the committee to host the ASHE national conference in Florida, initiated and coordinated the spring meeting golf outing every year since 2008 as well as the district outing, took on the AHCA/FHEA golf event this past year, and proposed and produced detailed plans for a 5th district which is likely to move forward this year. This is the second time the association has awarded Greg the Engineer of the Year.

**Lily Salkoff-Piner receives Supporting Member honor for second year**

For a second year in a row, Lily Salkoff-Piner has been named Supporting Member of the Year for her enormous contribution to the FHEA as State Membership Chair. Her passion for the FHEA and its mission is unmistakable.



# 53rd Annual Meeting/Trade Show Candid



**Healthcare** construction is one of the most demanding types of construction in the industry. Mix in an aspect of renovation and the task becomes that much more difficult. With operational requirements, clinical requirements, jurisdictional requirements and some of the older buildings in the State, healthcare renovation is truly complex. There are, however, three important ‘boxes to check’ before undertaking a complex healthcare renovation.

# 3 boxes to check *BEFORE* you start a project

—Thomas Chapuis, RA, President, CDG Architecture, PA

## Identify the ‘Right Thing’

At the beginning of a renovation project we often times hear the phrase, “we want to do the right thing.” It is admirable – in the face of any situation thrown your way in the course of a project – to always take the high road and not cut corners or shoot for the lowest common denominator. However, many design and construction teams neglect to identify what the right thing actually is. This is understandable. The right thing is always a moving target and is dependent upon the person’s perspective. Ask clinical staff and they may talk about patient care and staff efficiency; both good ideas. Talk to facilities staff and they may talk about completing the work with the least amount of shut downs or working within the confines of what the existing infrastructure can provide. How can you argue with that? Finally, talk to administration and the discussion typically starts and stops with on-time and on-budget but we can’t forget that they ‘want to make the docs happy.’

So the real issue in identifying the right thing is being able to navigate the murky waters of competing interests. Keeping the docs happy may require the least amount of shut downs which could mean more phases which likely will make the staff unhappy with decreased efficiency. Or, to keep the project on-time, an entire wing may need to be shut down which may not make the docs happy. Bottom line is there needs

to be an understanding of the project priorities. Whose interest will rise to the top and whose will take a back seat...and to make matters more difficult the right thing changes every project.

## What you don’t know can and will hurt you

When developing a project it is critical to understand the project’s physical parameters. This goes far beyond emailing cadd files for the design team to use. It goes beyond a casual walk-through of the project area or even taking a deep dive into the hard copy / tattered plans archive to find original construction drawings. Below is

a short list of things which could derail a project before it starts:

- **Beware of the ‘thick walls’.** All the walls in plan are shown at 5” thick. Why is a particular wall shown at 12” thick? Could it contain a plumbing stack, rain leader, hidden duct run? Could it be worse, like hidden structure; wind brace or one-off column?
- **Don’t assume the structure.** Many Hospital buildings are a combination of several construction methods: steel frame, concrete frame, hybrid concrete and steel or post tension slab, etc, etc. Even more challenging is when a project spans several construction types.
- **What is the capacity of the roof top unit(s)?** A new program in an existing space poses challenges on many levels. With the latest requirements for CFM, many times the old equipment cannot be up-fitted with new motors or pulleys. They simply cannot manage the increased cooling and CFM loads.
- **Is this a critical program?** Beyond being able to put together a logical functional program for the State, knowing if the project is critical may also trigger many other changes. Emergency power requirements go up when the project is critical and roof top equipment may need to be screened if the project is critical.

An ounce of due diligence is worth a pound of construction. Knowing the detailed physical parameters of a proposed

project area is key to keeping construction ‘surprises’ to a minimum.

## Know what your building wants to be when it grows up

If you are lucky, you are working with [in] a building early in its life which has been planned for expansion and is able to handle some substantial growth. The CEP is oversized or able to be expanded modularly. The site allows for a new building footprint and parking can be accommodated. The roof was designed for future vertical expansion. These things are relevant. But what if your building is an assemblage of addition, after addition, after addition, etc.

and several decades old? What if each previous project only considered itself and not any future changes? Sound familiar?

It is not good enough to simply say, “you can do anything with enough money.” Early in pre-planning it is extremely important to say, “does this make sense” or “does the building really want to be altered that way?” It is a hard line to take; to be the dissenting opinion in a room full of people who are pushing a project agenda. However, when the costs per square foot come in astronomically high or the amount of disruptions and shut downs are so aggravating that people are looking for scapegoats, where might the fingers point?

Buildings – especially hospital buildings – are complex ‘things’. The structural systems, corridor systems and infrastructure systems are the skeletal bones of the hospital. If a proposed project seeks to so dramatically change the skeleton such that it is unrecognizable, maybe it is time to ask, “does the building really want to do this?”

Healthcare renovation will test the full range of skillsets of the design and construction team. Pre-planning is understanding where to look and what to look for and will greatly add to your team’s chances for a successful renovation project. The important points to consider noted above will give your team a solid foundation on which to base decisions going forward.

Thomas Chapuis, RA is a registered architect in the State of Florida and the design and technical leader for CDG Architecture, PA. He has been involved in hundreds of successful renovations projects at hospitals throughout the state. Tom enjoys the challenges posed by these types of projects, including complicated phasing and challenging schedules. Tom’s leadership style promotes a “total team” concept between owner, architect and construction manager, providing a seamless transition throughout design and construction phases.

# Welcome New Supporting Members

The following have joined our growing ranks since the publication of the last issue of the newsletter.

## MAUREEN POPKIN

Thea Reynolds + Associates  
Delray Beach, FL 248/470-9513  
maureenpopkin@yahoo.com

## CHERI L. CRAIG

NEW  
COMPANY

Director of Develop & Comm.  
ARC Marion  
Ocala, FL 352/368-2210x224  
ccraig@mcarc.com

## ANDY CROWLEY

Preventative Maint. Specialist  
Air Compressor Works, Inc.  
Riviera Beach, FL 561/844-4559  
acrowley@acwus.com

## JESSIE RUDD

Project Manager  
Southeast General Contractors  
Port St. Lucie, FL 772/446-4842  
jessie@sehealthcareservices.com

## JAMES LESTAGE

Specification Sales Manager  
HOLDRITE, www.holdrite.com  
Poway, CA 800/321-0316x100  
jlestage@holdrite.com

## GREG GOODIN

Paint Manager  
Commercial Construction Services  
Jacksonville, FL 904/551-3003  
greg@ccsjacksonville.com

## JOEL BRATKOVICH

Project Manager  
Integrated Construction, LLC  
Jacksonville, FL 904/356-6715  
jbratkovich@inteconst.com

## HANK ISRAEL

Account Executive  
Mohawk Group  
Fort Lauderdale, FL 954/873-4859  
hank\_israel@mohawkind.com

## KAREN MILLER

Regional Business Develop. Mgr.  
GHD Services, Inc.  
Fort Myers, FL 239/936-4003  
karen.miller@ghd.com

## MICHAEL HOLUB

Account Manager  
DebonAir Mechanical  
Lehigh Acres, FL 239/369-9585  
mhollub@debonairac.com

## DOUG HALL

Southeast Region Sales Manager  
Evoqua Water Technologies LLC  
Tampa, FL 863/287-7106  
douglas.p.hall@evoqua.com

## KIMBERLY V. HANSEN, PE

NEW  
COMPANY

Vice President - Senior Living  
Integrated Construction  
Jacksonville, FL 904/356-6715  
khansen@inteconst.com

## DANIEL C. DAVIS

Project Manager  
Integrated Construction  
Jacksonville, FL 904/356-6715  
ddavis@inteconst.com

## J. RYAN MCDANIEL

Sales Engineer  
Nelson & Company  
Winter Springs, FL 407/625-8436  
rmcdaniel@ncjax.com

## A. ROSS SHOEMAKER

Commercial Business Manager  
bosch Thermal Technology  
Fort Lauderdale, FL 954/513-3716  
ross.shoemaker@us.bosch.com

## CHRISTOPHER LONG

Territory Manager  
HSI Headwalls (Hospital Systems Inc.)  
Clearwater, FL 727/223-9518  
flmedsales@gmail.com

## HANS NELSON

CEO  
Synergy Consulting Engineers  
Belmont, MI 616/726-5025  
hansn@synergy-engineers.com

## JASON MOORE

Tremco Roofing &  
Building Maintenance  
Flemington, NJ 800/628-7501  
jamoore@tremcoinc.com

## CORRECTION TO 2015-16 DIRECTORY

The phone # for Lochinar's listing was incorrect. Please note correct number:

### DAVE BAKER

Lochinvar, LLC  
Ph: 407/362-8051  
email: dbaker@lochinvar.com

## BILL CZNADEL

Regional Sales Director  
Islandaire  
East Setauket, NY 631/471-2900  
bcznadel@islandaire.com

## DAVE BAKER

Southeastern Area Manager  
H-O-H Water Technology, Inc.  
Plant City, FL 813/704-6812  
areimink@hohwatertechnology.com

## DONALD HERRMANN

Building Scientist  
D. C. Herman & Associates  
Tampa, FL 813/957-6672  
don@dcherrmann.com

## BILL SELLON

Regional Director  
Vanderweil Engineers  
Miami, FL 646/599-4387  
wsellon@vanderweil.com

## MATTHEW BODE

Dir of FI Office/Healthcare Planning  
Bostwick Design Partnership  
Fort Lauderdale, FL 954/952-7586  
bodem@bostwickdesign.com

## KYLE Z. INGE

Mechanical Designer  
Peninsula Engineering, Inc.  
Orlando, FL 407/246-1688  
kinge@peifla.com

## KAY JEFFERSON

Vice President of Operations  
VoltAir Consulting Engineers  
Tampa, FL 813/867-4899  
kay.jefferson@voltageengineers.com

## LANCE J. MERRITT

President  
Merritt Contracting Corporation  
Orlando, FL 407/461-6466  
lance@merrittcc.com

## BILL SELLON

Regional Director  
Vanderweil Engineers  
Coral Springs, FL 646/599-4387  
wsellon@vanderweil.com

**ANGEL DIAZ**

*Regional Sales Manager*  
Pantera Technical Services  
Sanford, FL 407/276-4911  
angeldiaz@gmail.com

**DAVE SCHULTZ**

*Fibertite Roofing Solutions*  
New Smyrna Beach, FL  
386/847-2833  
dshultz@seamancorp.com

**KEVIN GOMBOTZ**

*VP Healthcare energy Services*  
Envinity, Inc  
Gainesville, FL 814/231-3927x7002  
kgombotz@envinity.com

**ANTHONY P. ATHENS**

*Account Engineer*  
Ecolab  
Miami, FL 305/322-4329  
anthony.athens@nalco.com

**JONATHAN CANTOR**

*Healthcare Market Leader*  
RS&H, Inc.  
Jacksonville, FL 904/521-6304  
jonathan.cantor@rsandh.com

**HIG RODRIGUEZ DILLINGER**

*President*  
CIRSCO  
Tampa, FL 813/655-8080  
higdillinger@cirSCO.com

**BRIANNA STRAIN**

*Event Manager*  
Applied Software  
Atlanta, GA 404/564-1847  
bstrain@asti.com

**DANIELLE O'HARA MURPHY**

*Business Development Manager*  
ECS Florida, LLC  
Orlando, FL 407/859-8378  
dmurphy@ecslimited.com

**VALERI MARKS**

*President & CEO*  
Medical Technology Associates  
Seminole, FL 727/548-8600  
valm@mtausa.com

**ALAN THOMAS**

*Environmental Noise*  
Acoustiblok, Inc.  
Tampa, FL 813/980-1400x204  
athomas@acoustiblok.com

**ACE Mentor Program Team from Florida Places 3rd in Country in National Design Competition**

*Winning team repeats their presentation at District II meeting where FHEA's sponsorship of the program is described*

On September 9, 2015, ACE Mentor Program of Northeast Florida students presented their winning design to a group of about 65 at the FHEA District II meeting held at Florida Hospital Flagler. These students were finalists for the Ninth Annual Construction Industry Round Table (CIRT), ACE Mentor Program of America National Design Competition. The team of aspiring architects, engineers and construction managers was selected out of a record 46 entries from across the country. They placed first in their category and third overall.

Founded during the 2006-2007 school year with significant support from the Associated Builders and Contractors (ABC) and Haskell, the ACE Mentor Program of Northeast Florida, helps high school students explore potential careers in architecture, construction and engineering (ACE). Scholarships are given each year through the continued support of corporate and personal donors, including the FHEA.

To learn more about this program, see the ACE NE Florida website at [www.acementor.org/599](http://www.acementor.org/599).



*Team from Orange Park High School along with team mentor, Joe DeMarco at Florida Hospital Flagler for the District II meeting.*

**FHEA CHE'S**

*The following individuals were CHE's in 2015.*

- |                   |                  |                     |
|-------------------|------------------|---------------------|
| Thomas Aulisio    | Norman Epps      | Don Nasko           |
| Bobby Baird       | Ben Fitzgerald   | Charlie Papa        |
| Brandon Bardowsky | Hugo Garza       | Larry Peterson      |
| Michael Barrow    | Dino Gavazza     | Luis Rodriguez      |
| Joseph Berlesky   | Greg Hodgson     | Louie "Don" Russell |
| Steve Bloomgren   | Frank Holmes     | Russ Schilling      |
| Tim Bradham       | Ray Hopkins      | Thomas Schleusner   |
| Eddie Brooks      | James Hurst      | Joe Schreiner       |
| Ray Christianson  | Frederick Kiesel | Robert Simpson      |
| Michael Cronan    | David Kovacs     | Ed Sobolewski       |
| Kevin Daniel      | Roger Kreuger    | Craig Tompkins      |
| Steve Dean        | Johnny Lopez     | John Willingham     |
| Bruce Dolan       | Scott McCormick  |                     |
| Anthony Echazabal | Tim Moreira      |                     |



**FLORIDA HEALTHCARE ENGINEERING ASSOCIATION**  
P.O. Box 150755  
Altamonte Springs, FL 32715-0755

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US POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
ORLANDO, FL  
PERMIT 1183

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## **MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THESE 2016 EVENTS!**

### **FHEA 32<sup>nd</sup> SPRING MEETING**

**MAY 5-6, 2016**

**Hilton Clearwater Beach**

Thursday, May 5: **CHSP Concepts Review Session**  
**Golf Outing**

Friday, May 6: **Educational Session/Meeting**  
**CHSP Exam (following the meeting)**

**The CHSP Review Course which is \$400 per person,  
will be offered at NO COST to current members.**

**Certification/Board Fees/Exam are \$300**

**and will be the responsibility of the individual.**

**Take advantage of this conveniently scheduled course and exam,  
and pursue this important professional certification.**

**Email [alethea@fhea.org](mailto:alethea@fhea.org) for details.**

**Look for brochures and online registration in March.**

**JOINT CONFERENCE: FHEA 54<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL MEETING & TRADE SHOW / AHCA 32<sup>ND</sup> ANNUAL SEMINAR  
OCTOBER 17-19, 2016 - DISNEY'S CORONADO SPRINGS RESORT, ORLANDO, FL**

**ASHE - PDC SUMMIT 2016: MARCH 20-23 - SAN DIEGO • 53<sup>RD</sup> ASHE ANNUAL: JULY 10-13 - DENVER**