

The Board of Directors and I hope all of you had a wonderful holiday and have a happy new year. This is a special time of year and we hope you took time to celebrate with friends and family!

The joint conference of the 33rd Annual AHCA Seminar and the FHEA 55th Annual Meeting and Trade Show was held on October 15-18, 2017 at *Disney's*

Coronado Springs Resort; it was one of the largest in our history with over 1300 in attendance. Keynote speakers gave us new ideas and new opportunities to think about how we can humanize healthcare

FHEA membership, we wish Alethea all she could ask for in retirement.

With Alethea's retirement we now have an agreement with Meeting Management Group (MMG) to handle the day to day operations for the FHEA. Marty, Sarah and the rest of their team have been preparing behind the scenes and are ready to step into their new role. Please make them feel welcome. One of the first things that MMG has done is to update our FHEA.org website. Please take time to log in and check it out; it has a more modern appearance and is easy to navigate with new content being added regularly.

I would be remiss if I did not thank our supporting members for all they do for our organization and for us and our facilities. Without you we could not do

> what we do. For our active members, please never forget that you and your teams make a difference in the lives of your patients and your

communities every day; you

The President's Corner

LARRY PETERSON, CHE, CHFM, CHSP

environments. The breakaway sessions gave us many opportunities to hear and learn from leading industry experts and the agencies that regulate our industry. We hope you took advantage of these sessions and we welcome your suggestions for future programs.

The trade show was also very successful with over 290 vendor booths. The trade show gave us the opportunity to make new contacts for services and contractors plus see the latest products and technologies. The vendors and supporting members I spoke to were pleased with the turnout and opportunities for them to acquire new clients. Next year's event will be held on October 7-10, 2018 at Rosen Shingle Creek in Orlando.

As you should know by now our Executive Director Alethea Vitray is moving on to the next chapter in her life and is retiring. She did so many wonderful things for this organization that it would take the whole newsletter to list them all. On behalf of the entire

are all caregivers. Thanks for what you do for those whose lives have been interrupted by illness or injury.

It is hard for me to believe that a year has passed since my term as FHEA President began. I want to thank all of you for your support and encouragement during this time. I especially want to thank Alethea, Meeting Management Group, and the Board of Directors for all they have done over the past year to ensure all of our events, meetings, and activities happened seamlessly and to help me navigate the duties of president. It has truly been an honor and a privilege to serve such a dedicated and professional group of people. I am comfortable knowing that you will be in good hands as our current Vice President Kevin Daniel takes over as state President. He will be supported by our incoming Vice President Thomas Gibson and the Board of Directors.

Hope to see you all at our Spring Meeting at the Renaissance World Golf Village.

FHEA's 2018 president is Kevin Daniel FHEA aids FHA Hospital

Kevin Daniel is the current Director of Engineering at Jackson Hospital located in Marianna, Florida and is responsible for the engineering, maintenance, and construction needs of the main hospital and its outlying clinics and facilities. He has been in this position for 7-1/2 years.

Originally from Minnesota, Kevin served four years in the US Air Force, and went on to receive his Mechanical Engineering Degree from the University of Minnesota's Institute of Technology.

He is an 18-year resident of Marianna Florida and has been married to his wife, Angie, for 36 yrs. They have one daughter, one son, and one new granddaughter.

Prior to his current job in healthcare Kevin worked in a variety of manufacturing industries for over 25 years, primarily in Project Management and Product Development.

Kevin joined the FHEA in 2012; he has found the FHEA to be a tremendous



Kevin Daniel, CHE

help with resources and in networking opportunities with other engineers, providing invaluable information and experience in this field. Kevin looks forward to continuing to be very active and to try to help grow the Association in the coming year as FHEA State President.

Assistance Fund

At the end of this past September the FHEA Board of Directors issued a fund raising challenge to FHEA members to benefit the Florida Hospital Association's Employee Assistance Fund to aid hospital employees impacted by Hurricane Irma. The FHEA board made a commitment to the FHA to match up to \$60,000 in FHEA individual member contributions to the fund.

The fund drive ended on October 9, and Bruce Rueben of the FHA reported that the total amount raised was \$420,000, and the FHEA organization and FHEA members contributed a significant 15% of that amount.

Our sincere gratitude goes to all who stepped up to make a donation to this worthy cause aimed at taking care of our own team members.

Two term state president, Mike Barrow retiring

Our best wishes and gratitude for his years of service to Mike Barrow, CHE, CHFM, who retired at the end of 2017. Mike was made a FHEA Life Member on December 6 at his last district meeting.

2017 Engineer of the Year: Russ Schilling



Russ Schilling, left, is presented with the 2017 State Engineer of the Year Award by Larry Peterson, 2017 state president.

Russ Schilling, CHE, Facilities Director at Memorial Hospital Pembroke in Pembroke Pines, was selected by his peers as FHEA's Engineer of the Year during the recent FHEA state meeting in Orlando.

This honor is bestowed on one individual chosen first by his district and then selected from among the four district finalists on a state level based on criteria including professional, community service, and association contributions.

Russ has been a member of the FHEA since 1995, moving rapidly into district leadership and serving on the state board, culminating in his election as state president in 2003. He returned to state level involvement in 2012, serving again as district president, then accepting the position of state treasurer in 2013, a position he continues to hold. The association is grateful for his dedicated and able stewardship of the FHEA, and for his continued active participation.



Larry Peterson presents the 2017 Supporting Member of the Year award to Norma Lopez, Business Development Coordinator with Remediation Specialists in Winter Park.

Message from our new executive director

I am excited and honored to join FHEA as the new Executive Director. I want to thank retiring Executive Director, Alethea Vitray and the board for their support and assistance in helping me transition into this position. Following in Alethea's shoes will not be easy, but with your input, participation, and support, we can be assured that the Florida Healthcare Engineering Association has a bright future.

Moving forward, we will to continue to learn about the organization and we intend to invest the necessary time and attention to get to know you and understand the FHEA culture, policies, and procedures. Our staff stands with the FHEA board in its commitment to promote the professional role of the healthcare engineer and advance the development of healthcare engineering through effective communication, edu-

cational opportunities, and establishment of professional standards..

Lastly, we have a great staff team here at the FHEA. Marty Streeper will serve as the FHEA Meeting Planner. Michael Streeper will work with the FHEA treasurer to maintain our financial records. Susan Coone has built an amazing new website (hopefully, you have seen it) and will be working on communications and membership. Amber Fly is our receptionist and will be answering your phone calls. We are all focused on providing great customized service. Feel free to reach out to any of us at any time, we will be happy to hear from you.

Best regards, Sarah Jeffcoat

The MMG Team: L-R: Amber Fly, Sarah Jeffcoat, Mary Nell O'Dowd, Susan Coone, Mike Streeper, and Marty Streeper.



Certified Healthcare Engineer (CHE) Update

Requirements for FHEA's certification (CHE) program were reviewed and updated by the FHEA board of directors in 2017. The initial aim of this review was to make the form easier for both applicants and CHE committee members to use. The form that was approved hopefully meets this goal; in addition to added clarity, the most important changes you may note pertain to eliminating the two year option for certification, and to increasing the district meeting attendance requirement from one-third to one-half of one's district meetings held within the calendar year.

If you have a question regarding your CHE status for 2018, please email the FHEA office at sarah@fhea.org. Applications for recertification will be reviewed at the winter board meeting in February.

FHEA CHE'S A record 40 individuals were CHE's in 2017.

Thomas Aulisio Jack Kennington Kevin Daniel Louie "Don" Russell **Bobby Baird** Scott McCormick Steve Dean Joe Schreiner Michael Barrow Tim Moreira Anthony Echazabal Robert Simpson Steve Bloomgren Ben Fitzgerald Don Nasko Clarence (Sammy) Sims Tim Bradham Dino Gavazza John O'Connell Ed Sobolewski Eddie Brooks Thomas Gibson Charlie Papa Don Stewart Anthony Caruso Don Paschal Joseph Gyorko David Strange Ray Christianson Frank Holmes Larry Peterson **Craig Tompkins** Michael Cronan Tony Holmes John Prusaczyk Jeff Walters Ron Crowell James Hurst Luis Rodriguez John Willingham





55th Annual Meeting Trade Show Candids









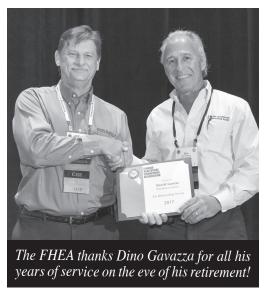














2017 Trade Show Awards

Each year some of our exhibitors go above and beyond in their efforts to impress us. The four awards below were presented at the 55th Annual Meeting and Trade Show, October 16-18, 2017. Congratulations to these companies!









Welcome New Supporting Members

The following have joined our growing ranks since our last newsletter.

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The 2018 membership renewal period has begun. Please remember that all memberships are based on the calendar year and are due for renewal by January 31, 2018. Please do not delay in returning your renewal forms, or for online renewal, visit the Membership section of FHEA.org

New Supporting Members — continued

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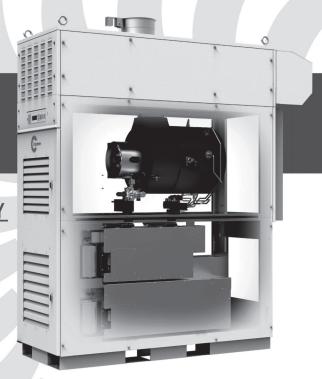


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2018 Call for Session Abstracts and Articles

If you are interested in speaking at either of our upcoming state meetings or at one of the district meetings in 2018, please download the 2018 Call for Presentations from from the Resources / Forms section of the newly revamped website, FHEA.org. The deadline for spring meeting submissions is February 15, and May 7 for the fall meeting. Abstracts for district meetings will be accepted on a continual basis.

FHEA is also seeking articles on topics of interest to healthcare facility professionals for inclusion in *The Whistle* publication. Please email sarah@fhea.org for details on specs, and also for information on sponsoring an issue of the newsletter.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR 2018!

FHEA 34th SPRING MEETING

May 17-18, 2018

Renaissance World Golf Resort • St. Augustine, Florida CHFM Exam Review Course & Exam Continuing Education Session

JOINT CONFERENCE OF FHEA 56th ANNUAL MEETING & TRADE SHOW & AHCA 34th ANNUAL SEMINAR

OCTOBER 7-10, 2018
Rosen Shingle Creek Resort • Orlando, Florida

ASHE PDC Summit 2018

March 25-28, 2018 • Nashville, Tennessee

55th ASHE Annual Conference & Technical Exhibition
July 15-18, 2018 • Seattle, Washington

FHEA BOD MEETINGS

February 23 - Hilton Ocala • Ocala, FL May 17 - Renaissance World Golf Resort • St. Augustine, FL Summer Board Meeting - date and location TBD October 8 - Rosen Shingle Creek Resort • Orlando, FL

THE WHISTLE WINTER 2018