



The Whistle

FHEA

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SPRING 2019



The President's Corner

THOMAS GIBSON, CHE, CHFM, CHSP, CHC

Welcome to another year of the Florida Healthcare Engineering Association (FHEA). I am honored to be the association president for 2019, and proud to represent this outstanding organization of healthcare professionals.

I would also like to welcome the 2019 board of directors. The FHEA board of directors is committed to continuing the mission of this organization and dedicated to supporting the growth and promotion of our members with educational opportunities through seminars, workshops, business meetings, trade shows, and training programs.

The FHEA would like to thank Kevin Daniel for his contributions as FHEA president in 2018. Kevin had a challenging year, as the northern part of Florida was struck by Hurricane Michael in October causing the FHEA to shorten the annual FHEA Annual Meeting and Trade Show™. Hurricane Michael caused over \$4.5 billion in damages in Florida and forced several healthcare organizations to interrupt services, and in some cases, evacuate.

As a result of this event, the FHEA immediately swung into action to support those in need. Members answered the call to help by opening their own homes and providing places to live for members and their families who were displaced. These selfless actions are a true testament to the strength of our organization, professionalism of our members, and demonstrates how we are ready to support each other in times of distress.

Our new vice president, Wayne Gibbs, is working hard to support the FHEA with maintaining our ASHE Platinum Chapter Award. Wayne brings much knowledge and experience to the organization and will make a fine president in 2020.

The FHEA, in 2019, will deliver excellence once again by seeking new opportunities for education and growth. The first program the FHEA is proud to announce is the "Hospital Sustainability Collaborative."

For the first time, the Florida Hospital Association (FHA) and the FHEA will be uniting forces to launch this intensified multi-year program across the state. The FHEA and FHA will be providing educational sessions, webinars, and direct support to members on different aspects of sustainability. The year-one focus will be on energy management, and the FHEA will be seeking participation from members.

The FHEA will also be offering members the opportunity to achieve a Certified Healthcare Emergency Power Professional (CHEPP) designation at an FHEA exclusive discounted rate offered by MGI Systems. This information will soon be available at www.FHEA.org.

The FHEA is an organization of giving. In 2018, our organization provided over \$27,000 in scholarships, sent care packages to our country's military troops in Afghanistan, and gave new coats to children in the Florida panhandle who had been affected by the hurricane disaster. In addition to state-level programs, the FHEA districts were also active in charitable events.

Please do not miss our upcoming events in 2019. On May 15-17, the FHEA will be hosting the 35th FHEA Spring Meeting which will held at Pier 66 Hotel Marina in Fort Lauderdale. The theme of this year's Spring event is "Charting the Course." In addition to the top educational sessions and networking, the FHEA will host a golf scramble, and the addition of a fishing tournament.

President's Message (Continued)

On October 6 – 9, please mark your calendars for the 35th Annual AHCA Seminar and FHEA Annual Meeting and Tradeshow™ held at the Orlando World Center Marriott. Once again, our annual event will deliver the best in education and Florida's largest healthcare facilities tradeshow.

In closing, I want to thank our members and supporting members. Without you, the FHEA would not be the success it is today. In 2019, we want to grow our membership and expand our efforts. Please take a moment to join our Florida Healthcare Engineering Association group on LinkedIn. The FHEA will be utilizing this social media group to promote real-time information.

Thank you for allowing me to serve the FHEA and its members. It is an honor to have this opportunity. Please feel free to contact me at president@fhea.org.

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REGISTRATION FEES

Registration fees include educational materials, receptions, continental breakfast, luncheon, and networking break.

FHEA Members (Active Healthcare Engineers)	\$65.00
FHEA Certified Engineers (CHE)	\$55.00
FHEA Supporting Members	\$125.00
Non-members	\$225.00

Optional Activities, such as the Fishing Tournament and Golf Scramble, are available at no cost for FHEA Active Healthcare Engineers. Supporting Members may register to participate in either event as a sponsor.

REGISTER NOW

For More Information, visit the FHEA website: <https://www.fhea.org/2019-spring-meeting>

**“Charting the Course”
FHEA 35th Spring Meeting
May 15 - 17, 2019
Pier Sixty-Six Marina & Hotel
Fort Lauderdale**



REGISTRATION IS OPEN!

**Hospital Sustainability Collaborative
May 16 at 2:30 pm**

The FHEA is joining the Florida Hospital Association (FHA) in launching the Hospital Sustainability Collaborative. Hospitals increasingly are looking for ways to improve efficiency and reduce overall costs while also improving the overall patient experience. One often overlooked opportunity is sustainability. Making an active commitment to sustainability and aggressively pursuing goals provides multiple strategic benefits that can help healthcare facilities thrive. The FHEA & FHA are committed to supporting members to launch or improve their sustainability programs.

Program Speakers:

**Alexa Stone, LEED AP, SFP, ENV SP, Mital Hall, and Kevin Dupree
with ecoPreserve**

Friday, May 17th Education

“An Emergency Calls for an Expert Response”

Chip Gruber, Eric Schmidt, and Mark Smith, GHP Environmental; Kevin Daniel, CHE, CHFM, Jackson Hospital; Scott McCormick, CHFM, CHSP, Medxcel Sacred Heart on the Gulf

“Emergency and Power Monitoring for Hospitals”

Jim Taufer, Schneider Electric

“Mobility and the Cloud: Keys to Achieving Compliance and Streamlining Emergency Responsiveness”

Todd Moore, ARC Technology Solutions

“Evaluating the Security Risks of the Modern Patient Experience”

Sean Mehner, Connecticut Information Security



Hotel Reservations Pier Sixty-Six Hotel & Marina

2301 S.E. 17th Street Causeway • Fort Lauderdale, FL 33316

To make hotel room reservations, call 866-254-8878. Be sure to mention the Florida Healthcare Engineering Conference in order to receive our group rate. Code: FHEA2019

A South Florida icon for over half a century, Pier Sixty-Six Hotel & Marina is the ultimate waterfront retreat. This landmark hotel is set on 22 tropically-landscaped acres and is located just minutes from Fort Lauderdale Beach. The hotel has a full-service marina and aquatic center; a variety of dining options; a trio of pools; a boutique spa, where you will receive a 20% discount for spa services, and a fitness center, with complimentary access; tennis; and with any room selection, you will enjoy a relaxing stay with thoughtful amenities and spectacular views.

WiFi is complimentary in sleeping rooms and public space. There is also a complimentary shuttle to the beach, and best of all, there are no resort fees.

Run-of-house Marina group room rates are \$169 for single/double plus current taxes of 12%. There is no additional charge for children under 17 staying in their parents' room.

Reservations should be made by Wednesday, April 24, 2019 in order to receive the FHEA group rate. If you are interested in upgrades to specific views or room types, let the reservationist know. Additional pricing will apply.

Based on hotel availability, the FHEA group room rates will apply three days before and three days after the official meeting dates. All reservations must be guaranteed by a valid major credit card and any guaranteed reservation not cancelled by seventy-two (72) hours prior to arrival will be subject to one night's room charge and taxes.

Hotel check-in time is 4:00 pm and checkout is 11:00 am. Guests who arrive prior to 4:00 pm will be accommodated as rooms become available.



FHEA 35th Spring Meeting Sponsors

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What's New in FHEA Education Opportunities?

Jeffrey Walters, CHE, CHFM, CHC, CHEPP; FHEA Education Chair

I hope this posting finds you well, taking on the new year, and ready to take on another summer. As your Education Chair, I believe the most important thing we can do as an organization is to provide valuable, current, and timely education to our membership. Your FHEA team works very hard to provide learning opportunities at our two conferences, which occur each spring and fall.

Post-conference evaluations feedback has helped us identify new education topics from your suggestions. Both speakers and presentations have scored very high for quality and content, and the evaluations have been positive. With that said, we know things change constantly, and we have to stay on top of the changes that come our way each day. If you have education needs, please be sure to pass them on to us at info@fhea.org. Our staff will forward your suggestions to our board and me. A wise man once told me, "you don't know, what you don't know" and that has changed how I look at education during my career.

I have always believed the more education we can provide our team members in the hospital, the easier it makes our jobs as directors. With that process in mind, we will be looking for ways to provide education to your staff as well as our current members.

We are pleased to announce that the FHEA has partnered with Motor Generator Institute, MGI, to provide a 15% discount on the "Certified Healthcare Emergency Power Professional" certification program. I have completed this program personally to review for content and level of education to pass. This certification program is perfect for your staff that tests and operates your emergency power system and is a great tool for front line staff to understand all the standards, requirements, and best practices that come with testing the power systems that serve our patients. Most importantly, it validates their knowledge of the power systems as developed by Dan Chisholm, Sr. a power systems expert, and longtime supporter of the FHEA. If you have multiple team members who need the training, a multi-person discount is also provided by reaching out to MGI directly on their web site, and Danny Chisholm, Jr. will take care of providing a group rate. Watch for the link on our FHEA website to apply with the discount code.

In closing, I look forward to working with you, bringing more exciting new training opportunities, and seeing you at the 35th FHEA Spring Meeting at Pier 66 in Fort Lauderdale, May 15 – 17. For registration information, [visit fhea.org](http://visit.fhea.org)

Codes & Standards Update

Bobby Baird, SASHE, CHE, CHFM, CHSP; Codes & Standards Chair

As a facility operations manager, there are multiple codes and standards with which we must comply. Often, the most current code is not the edition we are held accountable to. The agency performing the survey will use the currently approved version for the agency that they represent. Given this predicament, assembled below are resources available online that provide the latest guidance to assist in making the right decision. The links and documents are also available on FHEA.ORG under the codes and standards section.

The first code reference is the tool ASHE developed which provides a crosswalk between NFPA, ICC, and the Joint Commission standards. This is a national tool that does NOT take into account state level regulations. This may be found at; <http://www.ashe.org/resources/member/downloads/ASHE-K-Tag-Crosswalk.pdf>.

The state of Florida approves codes for use by AHCA and facilities under AHCA's jurisdiction. The latest approved codes may be found at; <https://www.flrules.org/gateway/RuleNo.asp?id=69A-3.012> Click view rule in upper left corner. The state fire marshal updates the Florida rules every three years, with December 2020 being the next anticipated update. Worthy of note, AHCA and CMS are on different versions of NFPA 101, AHCA 2015, CMS 2012. AHCA requires all fires and explosions be reported within 15 days of the event. The Fire Incident Report may be found at; <http://ahca.myflorida.com/MCHQ/Plans/pdfs/Fire.pdf> Many of the Florida requirements can be found at; http://ahca.myflorida.com/MCHQ/Plans/Forms_Rules_Presentations.shtml

CMS publishes their Life Safety Code survey report online for hospitals. Locate this report at; <https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/CMS-Forms/CMS-Forms/Downloads/CMS2786R.pdf>

These tools will be kept current on the FHEA.ORG website, keep up the good battle while ensuring the building occupants safe.





FHEA 35th Spring Meeting Exhibitors

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Flow Control Technology Co LLC
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Green Building Innovations, Inc.

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LSS Life Safety Services
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NE Firestopping Solutions
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PBA Design Group
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Structural Technologies
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Voight Professional Services
Waco Filtration Group / Sterilaire
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Thank you to these Supporting Member
 Companies who partner with the FHEA to
 bring value to the Association.

Indoor Air Quality Solutions

By Robert Goodfellow, CAFS; Vice President of Marketing, Dynamic Air Solutions

The healthcare industry has made great progress in implementing strategies that lower risks, improve building efficiency, and reduce carbon footprints. Many measures are geared to reduce heating and cooling system energy consumption. Today, advances in air cleaning technologies are helping to take these strategies to the next level. MERV15+ systems such as the Dynamic V8 Air Cleaning System can clean the air of biologicals, ultra-fine particles, nuisance odors, and volatile organic compounds (VOCs) while substantially reducing energy consumption and operational costs.

High efficiency air cleaners can remove dangerous, ultra-fine airborne particles such as particulates from combustion engine exhaust pulled into buildings from heliports, ambulance bays and covered loading/unloading zones. Issues with odors and/or VOCs will also impact the type of filtration. Medical facilities and assisted living facilities are common examples of applications where odor and VOC issues can be expected. Today, the most popular technologies that address these gas phase contaminants include polarized-media air cleaners, carbon filters, and photo-catalytic oxidation (PCO). High efficiency air cleaners can provide effective control of airborne organisms including viruses, bacteria, molds and mold spores. Systems that collect mold spores reduce the risk of potential mold problems by removing mold spores from the air stream, as well as sub-micron particles, which can provide a food source for mold and pathogen growth. Technologies that address biologicals (living airborne organisms) include polarized-media air cleaners, HEPA filters, and ultraviolet germicidal lamps. Some produce Ozone, and some do not.

Healthcare facilities can find significant operational savings in new air cleaning technologies through:

- Reduced fan horsepower from lower static pressure
- Reduced maintenance costs from longer service intervals
- Reduced disposal costs

Historically, increasing filter efficiency meant increasing energy and operating costs because it takes more fan horsepower to push air through denser filter media. Lower static pressure also corresponds directly to lower brake horsepower. Since brake horsepower drives fan energy, lower static pressure corresponds directly to energy savings.

In an amendment within ASHRAE Standard 90.1-2007, a standard has been set for allowable brake horse power for each type of system and space use. Section 6.5 of the 2007 version of ASHRAE 90.1 (HVAC Air System Design and Control) sets allowances for brake horsepower based upon system type and application. While these allowances can often be difficult to meet with traditional high-efficiency passive filtration, newer advanced air cleaners can help to meet them.

The third largest energy cost item in a healthcare setting is the energy needed to move air through the heating and cooling systems. Lowering static pressure is one of the most effective and measurable ways to immediately reduce the total energy used by the HVAC system. Newer active field electronic air cleaners offer relatively low resistance. In some cases, there can be mid-life pressure drop savings of up to 1.5" versus passive, mechanical filters. This allows fans to be designed and selected with lower break horse power requirements and potentially far less operational energy consumption. For example, in a hospital with 300 filters operating on an average of 0.5" lower in pressure drop during use equates to \$26,669 in annual energy savings (based on \$0.10 per kWh).

Polarized-media filters last longer than conventional passive filtration due to very high dust-holding capacity, often extending change-out intervals from several months to several years and lowering labor, ordering, handling, storage and disposal costs.

For instance, a 2" deep MERV 13, 24"x24" filter holds approximately 40 grams of dust before it reaches its dirty design static pressure of 1.4" w.g. Therefore, if the average building produces 130 grams of dust per cubic meter each month or 48 grams per 24"x24" filter, a 2" deep MERV 13 filter would have to be replaced every two weeks, a 4" deep MERV 13 filter every month, etc. to keep the static below 1.4" and maintain a mid-life static pressure of around 0.9", not including the impact from a pre-filter. By comparison, the Dynamic V8 Air Cleaning System can hold up to 2,600 grams of dust at the recommended change state of 0.6", or twice its initial static pressure. An air cleaner that holds 10 times the dust of cartridge and bag filters and up to 100 times the dust of shallow-bed passive filters will greatly impact maintenance intervals and other ongoing costs of filtration.

Additionally, regulations in effect in many areas of the country require air filters used in medical facilities to be bagged. Disposal costs alone for bagged waste can top \$480 per ton or more – 19 times the cost of ordinary solid waste.

When HEPA filters are required as point-of-use filtration, using the Dynamic V8 as a secondary filter can extend the life of the HEPA filter substantially (5-8 times). With HEPA filters costing between \$400-500 this can contribute to substantial savings.

Many healthcare organizations with CSOs and/or sustainability directors are actively looking for new sustainable solutions. Air cleaning systems can help reduce carbon footprints and lower CO₂ emissions by reducing fan horsepower. And air cleaning systems like the *Dynamic V8* can help earn up to three LEED® points.

Comparing initial price to trade-offs in life cycle costs and operating costs becomes increasingly important as the need for high efficiency filtration increases. Fan horsepower and system static pressure greatly impact energy consumption. Filter replacement costs and length of maintenance intervals influence ongoing operational costs. All these costs should be reviewed to determine a system's return on investment (ROI). In some cases, high efficiency filtration systems can pay for themselves in less than two years.

Florida Fire Code: Existing Buildings Timetable

Florida Fire Prevention Code (NFPA 1) requires in-building coverage. Some building type have been granted an extension.

DISCUSSION:

Florida Fire Prevention Code provides that AHJ (Authority Having Jurisdiction) can require maintaining adequate fire department radio signal strength inside any building (new or existing). Florida Statute § 633.202 provides for compliance extensions for certain building types.

KEY DATES:

- **Existing hi-rise buildings** are required to comply by the Florida Fire Prevention Code beginning **January 1, 2022**
- By **December 31, 2019**, an existing building that is not in compliance with the requirements for minimum radio strength for fire department communications must apply for an appropriate permit and must demonstrate that the building will become compliant by January 1, 2022
- **Existing apartment buildings** are not required to comply until **January 1, 2025**. However, existing apartment buildings are required to apply for the appropriate permit for the required communications installation by **December 31, 2022**

NEXT STEPS:

1. Determine if sufficient fire department radio signal exists in your building. Qualified in-building wireless systems integrators (and others) can assist with this testing.
2. Contact your local Fire Code Official (AHJ, Authority Having Jurisdiction) to find out how this code is being enforced in your jurisdiction.
3. If coverage is insufficient and the AHJ is enforcing this requirement, prepare a plan (design, permits, etc.) by the deadline listed for your property type.
4. Visit Safer Buildings Coalition website www.saferbuildings.org to locate professionals who can assist and to stay up to date on fire codes pertaining to in-building radio communication enhancement systems.

CODE EXCERPTS

Florida Fire Prevention Code (NFPA 1)

11.10 Two-Way Radio Communication Enhancement Systems.

11.10.1 In all new and existing buildings, minimum radio signal strength for fire department communications shall be maintained at a level determined by the AHJ

11.10.2 Where required by the AHJ, two-way radio communication enhancement systems shall comply with NFPA 72.

§ 633.202 Florida Statute

18) The authority having jurisdiction shall determine the minimum radio signal strength for fire department communications in all new high-rise and existing high-rise buildings. Existing buildings are not required to comply with minimum radio strength for fire department communications and two-way radio system enhancement communications as required by the Florida Fire Prevention Code until January 1, 2022. However, by December 31, 2019, an existing building that is not in compliance with the requirements for minimum radio strength for fire department communications must apply for an appropriate permit for the required installation with the local government agency having jurisdiction and must demonstrate that the building will become compliant by January 1, 2022. Existing apartment buildings are not required to comply until January 1, 2025. However, existing apartment buildings are required to apply for the appropriate permit for the required communications installation by December 31, 2022.

§ 718.1085 (EXCERPT)

...the term "high-rise building" means a building that is greater than 75 feet in height where the building height is measured from the lowest level of fire department access to the floor of the highest occupiable level.

WELCOME NEW SUPPORTING MEMBERS (as of March 11, 2019)**RAYME ACEVEDO**

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District III Highlight

FHEA District III Clay Shoot



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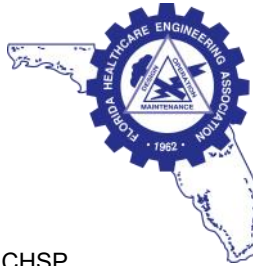
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[Visit the FHEA website for the Spring Meeting Schedule and more information about the Fishing and Golf Events on May 16th.](#)

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