



# Kansas Healthcare Engineers Association

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As most of you know ASHE Region 8 is made up of 5 chapters; Colorado Association of Healthcare Engineers & Directors (CAHED), Kansas Healthcare Engineers Association (KHEA), Kansas City Area Healthcare Engineers (KCAHE), Nebraska Society of Healthcare Engineers (NSHE), and Missouri Society for Healthcare Engineering (MOSHE). Representatives from each of the 5 Region 8 chapters joined forces to organize and coordinate the first ASHE Region 8 meeting on June 21 - 23, 2017 in Olathe KS.

The conference was patterned after annual ASHE meetings in that chapter member and vendors from all over the region were invited. The planning committee visualized it as being bigger than any of the 5 individual state conferences, but in no way was it intended to take away from or replace each individual state's conference events. In developing the program, committee members searched out national speakers and topics geared toward bringing valuable information to those who may not be able to attend the ASHE annual meetings.

The committee also wanted to keep the conference as centralized as possible so all 5 chapters' members could have easy access without spending a great deal of money. The Embassy Suites Kansas City/Olathe met the criteria to a tee. This new hotel is located on the western edge of the city on Highway 10. Our meeting room was spacious, and, while the vendors' area seemed a bit tight during the exhibition, overall the hotel met our expectations and more. Food was great, sleeping rooms were very nice and were reasonably priced and the hotel staff treated us well throughout our stay.

The opening reception at the hotel was a huge success; attendees were invited to check in for the conference and mingle with old friends while meeting new people from around the region. Our Thursday evening vendor reception turned out just as nice; the hotel really outdid itself on feeding us and keeping us happy.

Overall we were very pleased with the event. Approximately 174 people registered to attend the conference which happily exceeded our expectations as we had no prior events to refer to. The list of featured speakers and topics on the agenda would have rivaled other national conventions. Tracy Robinson from Southwest Medical Center in Liberal and ASHE Region 8 Director served as Master of Ceremonies. Faculty/Speakers included Kara Brooks, LLED AP BD+C from ASHE; Keynote Speaker Dr. Doug Jackson, PhD, JD, President & CEO of Project C.U.R.E.; Brad Taylor, MBA, CHFM, CHC, System Vice President of Construction and Project Management at Fairview Health Services in Minneapolis and ASHE President-Elect; Tobias Silk, MRSO, MRSE who is Chairman of the Board of the American Board of Magnetic Resonance Safety; Philip Niemer, MBA, MS, HEM, Director Operational Continuity and Emergency Management at Children's Hospital in Denver;

David Uhaze, RA, Vice-Chairman of the Health Guidelines Revision Committee of the Facilities Guidelines Institute; Jonathan Flannery, MHSA, CHFM, FASHE, FACHE, Senior Associate Director of Advocacy at ASHE; and George Mills, MBA, FASHE, CEM, CHFM, CHSP, Director Department of Engineering Division of Healthcare Improvement for the Joint Commission.

The vendor exhibition didn't quite hit the goal that was set in numbers but was still an overwhelming success. 62 fine companies from all specialties throughout Region 8 came in to exhibit. Capital Performance Management (CPM) and Fire Door Solutions were Platinum Sponsors hosting the opening night reception and the networking reception during the vendor show. HGA Architects, MMC Contractors, and Tremco Roofing & Building Maintenance were Gold Level Sponsors supplying lanyards, the conference tote bag and the conference program. Silver Level Sponsors included American Boiler & Mechanical, Building Controls & Services, Shield, STI Firestop, and U.S. Engineering sponsoring the opening session speaker, Thursday's noon luncheon, breakfast and snack breaks during day 1 and day 2 respectively, and audio/visual needs for the event.

20 exhibitors also participated in an "Exhibitor Passport" version of bingo which encourages attendees to stop by vendor booths to get their card stamped/initialed. By turning in a completed card before the end of the show, attendees were entered into a drawing to win some very nice prizes. Sponsors for the Passport included Capital Performance Management, Hilti Corporation, WSP, 360 Energy Engineers, Treanor HL, Farris Engineering, Kelly Construction Company, Wittrock Healthcare, JM O'Connor Company, Nalco Water, ENTECH, AVI Systems, McConnell & Associates, Tremco Roofing & Building Maintenance, Hoefer Wysocki, US Engineering Company, The Korte Company, Nabholz Construction, Glassman Corporation and International Chemtex Corporation.

It isn't surprising that I REALLY liked the Passport game since I was one of the lucky winners and took home a really NICE soft-sided YETI cooler! Of course claims of the game being rigged followed, but as I said then it's so much fun playing *Kramer Win* every once in awhile☺☺☺!

As the conference co-chair I'd like to thank Amber Meiske and the staff at CMP Management for all their help in making this first conference successful! Throughout the planning process Amber was expert in steering us in the right direction so that everything just fell into place. She and her people were key in making everything work as well as it did.

I'd also like to thank Committee Chair Lance Smith and planning committee members Martin Grabanski, James Feist, Jason Piper, Carol McCormick, Bob Black, James Quinn, Ryan Watzke, Peg Johnston, and Chad Kruse for their hard work and commitment to this project. We spent close to a year putting this conference together but each person or group took a task and didn't stop until it was locked in and ready to go. It took a great deal of time and effort to research members in our Region are interested in ASHE events close to home. Smaller hospitals throughout our states (and even some of larger hospitals) aren't always able to send people to national meetings because of cost and time constraints. A smaller regional conference in a central location may be more attractive to our hospitals and entice more people to attend.

Leaders from the 5 ASHE Region 8 Chapters are currently discussing whether this should become an annual event and we would greatly appreciate your input. If you joined us in June and liked what you saw and heard and want it to happen again next year, let us know. If you didn't get the chance to attend I hope this information convinces you that you can't miss the next one.

*Luanne Kramer*

*KHEA 2017 President-Elect/Vendor Liaison*

I am honored to have been selected as a recipient of the \$500 Scholarship. I have been attending ASHE annual conferences for 9 years now, most of them self-funded, because I believe that the educational and professional benefits of the conference are very important to the day to day maintenance needs of my healthcare facility. Your generosity enabled me to attend the 2017 conference in Indianapolis, where I attended multiple sessions

that provided education and information in regards to maintenance code updates and other requirements of my job. I was also able to attend various networking opportunities that helped me make strong professional connections that I can contact for suggestions and like-sized facility information. More engineers should be able to attend the ASHE convention to keep up to date on all codes and CMS requirements. It's very beneficial to

be able to listen to speakers especially on new regulations, such as the new Water Management Program for Legionella. They give a lot of useful information and are more than willing to answer questions that deal specifically with the hospital's situation and size. Thank you again for the scholarship. Indianapolis was a blast.

Sincerely,  
*Norbert Flax*

## ASHE Awards

This year ASHE held its largest annual conference to date in Indianapolis, Indiana. Sunday's leadership forum was a bit different this year. Instead of waiting until the end of the day ASHE leaders presented the chapter awards right after breakfast. Barry Koetkemeyer accepted the 2016 Platinum Chapter Elite award for KHEA and he also accepted the first annual Energy to Care Small Chapter Challenge "Energy Cup" award on behalf of 6 of our hospitals participating in the challenge in 2016.

Sunday's leadership forum was very well attended and focused on chapters and how we can grow our members. Mark McSweeney and Leslie Murphy presented a lot of great ideas and I came back with a ton of information I'd like to share with our board during my year as KHEA President in 2018.

As always, ASHE's array of speakers and topics throughout the conference were second to none. From early Monday morning through lunchtime on Wednesday, there was always something going on. The days were packed full of information; all you had to do was look for a topic and in most cases, it was there.

ASHE's annual vendor show is always a big hit with attendees. There are companies from all over the country displaying products and services in hopes of meeting new customers. Many of the company representatives are there year after year and some have become good friends. It was great to see so many familiar faces and spend time catching up on what's been happening since last year.

On Tuesday morning ASHE formally presented the Chapter Awards in the grand ballroom. Once again Barry accepted the Platinum Chapter Elite award on behalf of KHEA, and I joined Dave Lockhart from Kaiser Permanente in California in accepting congratulations on winning the chapter challenge competitions this year. California won the large chapter category and KHEA won in the small chapter category.

ASHE is extremely happy so many chapters are interested in the Chapter Elite program and in the chapter challenges. In 2017 the number of participants has grown substantially and ASHE wants to acknowledge those who are actively participating.

Before leaving Indianapolis I visited with Kara Brooks of ASHE to see if they still plan to attend individual chapter meetings to formally present the awards to winning chapters. I invited Kara to attend our fall meeting next month in Manhattan and am happy to report she is planning to attend.

Even more exciting is that ASHE President Russ Harbaugh is also making plans to attend our KHEA conference and will be on hand when the award is presented. To my knowledge we've never had a sitting ASHE President at any of our meetings and it's something you don't want to miss! ASHE puts a great deal of importance on sustainability efforts and KHEA should be very proud of our achievements in that respect.

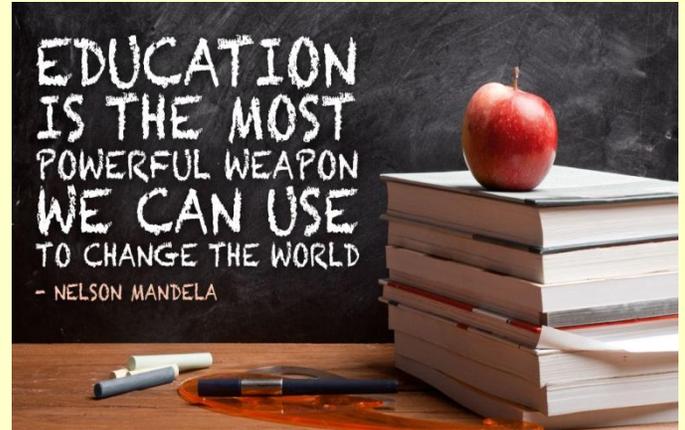
I'd like to thank KHEA for providing me with the opportunity to attend ASHE again this year and I'm looking forward to seeing everybody in September at our fall conference!

*Luanne Kramer, KHEA 2017 President-Elect/Vendor Liaison*



Details can be found at [www.knippservices.com](http://www.knippservices.com).

- September 19 – Manhattan – A/C Systems & Service
- September 21 – Manhattan – IMC
- October 17 – Hays – Medium/High Efficiency Gas Furnaces
- October 18 – Hays – HVAC Svstems



**Sept 19** Golf at Rolling Meadows Golf  
 8:30AM Golf Registration  
 9:30AM Tee Time



**Sept 20**  
 8:00AM KHEA Annual Board Meeting  
 8:30AM Tracy Robinson-ASHE Crosswalk/Ktags  
 9:30AM Mike Stallbaumer Energy to Care  
 10:00AM Lynelle Ladd KDHE/EPA Air  
 11:00AM Ron Marshall CMS Rule Healthcare  
 Noon Lunch break  
 1:00PM Nelson Warthan Boiler Maintenance

**Sept 21**  
 7:30AM Norbert Flax Roundtable  
 8:30AM Mark Sylvester Boiler Water Treatment  
 9:40AM Dominick Tuzzo Legionella in Healthcare  
 11:00AM Jim Beavers UV Indoor Air Quality  
 Noon Lunch Break  
 1:00PM Jim Felth & Eric Kella Compliance on Construction  
 2:00PM Greg Truitt Compliance Management

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