

# KHEA NEWSLETTER

## DATES TO REMEMBER:

- **Spring Conference**, will be held at Drury Plaza Broadview Hotel, 400 W. Douglas, Wichita KS – April 29-30
  - **Golf** will be held at Hidden Lakes Golf Course, 6020 S. Greenwich Rd., Derby KS – April 28
  - **Spring Board Meeting**, Drury Plaza Broadview Hotel
- **KHEA Summer Scholarship Golf Tournament**, will be held at GreatLIFE Golf Course, Salina KS – June 10
  - **Summer Board Meeting**, GreatLIFE Golf Course, Salina KS
- **Annual ASHE Conference**, in Chicago, IL – August 2-5
- **Fall Conference and Vendor Exhibition**, will be held at Hilton Garden Inn, Manhattan KS – September 16-17
  - **Golf** will be held at Colbert Hills Golf Course, Manhattan, KS – September 15
  - **Fall Board Meeting**, Hilton Garden Inn, Manhattan, KS
- **Winter Board Meeting** - TBD

## Message from the President

Hello KHEA members. As the newly elected KHEA President, I first want to say ‘thank you’ for electing me into this role. I am very proud and honored to hold this position and to represent our great organization. As the 20/20 president, I want to focus on the clear vision of our organization and how we move forward in the future.

Let me remind everyone that KHEA membership renewals are due now and are considered delinquent at the end of March.

First of all, I know I’m getting old when I Google “KHEA” and this comes up...



### The ‘Greying’ of Hospital Engineering and KHEA

Let’s face it; a lot of us have been doing this job for a long time. I remember being one of the youngsters in the room when I first joined KHEA back in the mid-90’s and many of the same faces are still around today, some 25 years later. It’s amazing to think of the total years of experience in the room when we all come together. But what is the future of our organization? How do we attract new individuals into the field of

hospital engineering? How do we provide the educational materials so that hospital administration sees the return on investment while their engineers are out of the building for two or three days. Our past president, Brian Rowan, had a great idea of allowing first time attendees a low or no cost option, but I’m not sure that idea ever got off the ground. This is a subject that we need to talk about and we need new folks to get involved in KHEA. I see the same people in our organization filling the same roles year after year. Next year, our president elect, Lance Smith will be filling the role of president for the second time. Luanne Kramer has been one of our past Presidents, the secretary and vendor liaison for over 20 years, and she is getting ready to retire. Rod Wedel has also been a past president, a district representative and our treasurer for nearly 10 years, and he too is getting ready to retire. We need to be thinking about these transitions and have members ready to step into these roles. I don’t think it’s any secret that Luanne does an incredible amount of work to keep this organization going and we need to come up with a plan to divide up her many responsibilities and reassign...probably to several individuals! We need to be

talking to some of the newer members to get them involved in many of the leadership roles in this organization; including district representatives, program committee members, vendor liaison, treasurer, etc. I would like to challenge each of us to look around the room at the Spring conference and start having these conversations. Holding office in this organization is a great learning opportunity for our younger members.

Speaking of education, I believe we have a great line up for our Spring Conference in April. The planning committee has spent countless hours on the phone trying to get good speakers set up to provide a very educational program. If you have any ideas on educational subjects that you would like to see presented in the future, please reach out to one of our board members.

In closing, I just wanted to take a few minutes to say ‘thank you’. I know that you, as a hospital engineer, don’t hear that near enough. You all have a very difficult job...and often times your efforts go unnoticed by the staff and those that enter the doors at your facility. You are expected to know, understand, comprehend and advise on many codes, standards and regulations. You perform hours of work behind the scenes that no one ever



sees or understands. You cover weekends, holidays and nights to keep your facility running. You flex your hours to work crazy shifts in order to minimize disruptions to your facility. I want to tell each and every one of you that you and your efforts are very much appreciated. Your jobs aren't easy, and yet you stay. You maintain equipment and the environment that allows the healthcare professionals to do their jobs. Your work keeps your facility and the people that are in it safe and you are often protecting the ones that cannot protect themselves. What you do is a noble profession and you should all be very proud. Thank you for your time, your efforts and your willingness to serve your facility and your community.

Brian Leabo  
2020 KHEA President



## Spring Conference in Wichita

### Tuesday April 28<sup>th</sup>

9:30am Golf at Hidden Lakes Golf Course

### Wednesday April 29<sup>th</sup>

7:30am Registration  
8:00am Welcome & Introductions  
8:15am Lois Ruhl Couch  
**"I am Not the enemy"**  
9:45am Jeff Horning  
**"Grainger Educational Opportunities"**  
11:00am Ed Haselwood  
**"Underground Storage Tanks in Healthcare"**  
1:00pm David McConnell  
**"OSHA Compliance in Healthcare"**  
2:15pm Dan Olbringer  
**"Leadership from the Ledge: 8 Life Lessons from a Hostage Negotiator"**



### Thursday April 30<sup>th</sup>

7:30am Norbert Flax  
**"Roundtable Discussion"**  
8:30am Mike Stallbaumer  
**"Chapter Advocacy & Updates"**  
8:45am Dave Degenais  
**"Preparing for Survey: Challenging Codes & Standards"**  
1:00pm Chuck Clanahan  
**"Active Shooter: Preparedness & Response"**



## SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY

What is a trait that a great leader possesses and how do they stand out from other leaders? Do they treat employees equal or fair? Explain the difference of equal and fair.

ONLY 1 page essay!

ALL KHEA members and family members may apply.



### Thinking Skills: How to Solve a Problem

Most people regard problems as a problem in the belief that it is better to be on a calm sea in life than a stormy one. But calm seas don't take you far while stormy seas do. If we can change our attitude towards a "problem" from something to be feared and quickly sorted to something to be welcomed and enjoyed, we will not only fare better as problem-solvers but get somewhere better into the bargain.

#### 1. Dealing with Problems

It is a uniquely Western trait to see a difficulty as a threat, and consequently panic or become angry when a problem arises. In Eastern cultures, problems are equated with opportunities to move forward. In Chinese, the symbol for a crisis is the same symbol as that for "crossroads". Consider different ways you respond to problems:

- do you seek out problems or pretend none exist?
- do you stare a problem in the face or look for easy answers?
- do you relish dealing with problems or get frustrated and give up?

When we have a problem in our lives, it's like a signal that something better is possible. It's an opportunity to exchange the old for the new. It's our chance to do what we, as human beings, are good at: finding solutions, being creative, moving things forward. As Richard Bach said, "There is no such thing as a problem without a gift for you in its hand."

#### 2. The Problem with Problems

People usually respond to a problem in one of 3 ways:  
1. they get uncomfortable and wish it would go away

2. they feel they have to come up with an immediate, and correct, answer
3. they look for someone or something to blame.

Most of us find facing a problem a problem. We think something bad is going to happen. The goal of any problem-solving process is to make us competent to handle the conflict between a situation that is unsatisfactory and the change that we want to happen. So, the first stage in successful problem-solving is an attitude of confidence in your ability to resolve it.

"How you look at a situation is very important, for how you think about a problem may defeat you before you ever do anything about it. When you get discouraged or depressed, try changing your attitude from negative to positive and see how life can change for you. Remember, your attitude toward a situation can help you change it. You create the very atmosphere for defeat or victory." (Franco Harris)

#### 3. Take Your Time

Tim Hicks, founder of mediation business consultants Connexus, says that people are born problem-solvers but don't realise it. Our fear of conflict means we rush into solving problems when it is infinitely better to take our time. By being patient, we are willing to put the solution at the end of the process rather than at the beginning. It also means being willing to live with "life unresolved", not always a comfortable thing to do. Hicks says a problem is like a curve in the road where we can't see the straight road ahead. Take the bend too fast and you'll come a cropper. Slow down and you'll make it fine.

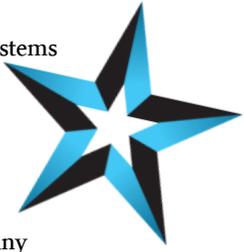
The next time you have a problem, don't panic. Don't feel you have to fix it at once. Don't feel bad that you have a problem in the first place. Don't fear that it will never be solved. Instead, be quietly pleased. Embrace both the present unsatisfactory situation and the change that you want. Then take your time and watch as the solution slowly unfolds.

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## 2020 KHEA STAR VENDORS



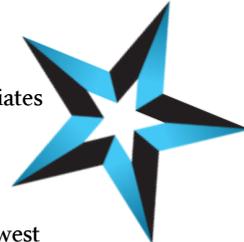
- ❖ American Boiler & Mechanical
- ❖ Apex Medical Gas Systems
- ❖ Assa Abloy
- ❖ Becker Pumps
- ❖ Central Mechanical Construction Company
- ❖ Commercial Laundry Sales & Service
- ❖ DCS Services
- ❖ DH Pace
- ❖ Edelman-Lyon Automatic Door



- ❖ Electronic Contracting Company
- ❖ Energy Solutions Professionals
- ❖ Glassman Corporation
- ❖ Hajoca
- ❖ Johnson Controls
- ❖ McConnell and Associates
- ❖ McCownGordon Construction
- ❖ Mechanical Sales Midwest Inc.
- ❖ Mid-Continental Restoration Company



- ❖ Nabholz
- ❖ P1 Group
- ❖ RamAir
- ❖ Roofmasters Roofing & Sheet Metal Company Inc.
- ❖ Schneider Electric
- ❖ Trane
- ❖ Tremco Roofing & Building Management
- ❖ Underground Vaults & Storage
- ❖ US Engineering



## Meet YOUR New Board Members!!

### President

Brian Leabo  
Tel: (316) 962-2770

### President Elect

Lance Smith  
Tel: (785) 623-1113

### Past President

Brian Rowan  
Tel: (620) 665-2181

### ASHE Liaison

Barry Koetkemeyer  
Tel: (785) 531-2574

### ASHE Advocacy/Sustainability Liaison

Mike Stallbaumer  
Tel: (785) 336-0487

### Vendor Liaison

Luanne Kramer  
Tel: (785) 650-2750

### Secretary

Jaci Gottschalk  
Tel: (785) 623-6516

### Treasurer

Rod Wedel  
Tel: (316) 804-6239

### KHA Liaison

Jennifer Findley  
Tel: (785) 233-7436

### Board Members

**Northeast:** Harold Scott  
Tel: (785) 364-9643

**Southeast:** Preston Whittley

Tel: (620) 325-2611

**North central:** Nathan Sicard

Tel: (785) 243-8460

**South central:** Mike Connell

Tel: (316) 962-2770

**Northwest:** Travis Rupp

Tel: (785) 623-5859

**Southwest:** Gregg Freelove

Tel: (620) 629-6345

### Committees

**Scholarship:** Jennifer Findley  
**Social Committee Chair:** Eric Gaschler

### Program:

Norbert Flax: nflax@grisell.org  
Steve Rippert: srippert@icloud.com  
Lance Smith: lance.smith@haysmed.com  
Tracy Robinson: robinson880@hotmail.com  
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