

KHEA

Kansas Healthcare
Engineers Association

June 2020

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“That it’s usually not when things are going right that we learn... we learn when things go wrong.”

Message from the President

Hello fellow KHEA members,
I hope this letter finds you all safe and well. Obviously the big item that has been going on in all of our lives is the coronavirus (COVID-19). As this virus spread across the United States and into our communities, we’ve all experienced some very odd requests and may have even learned some valuable lessons because of this virus. Here at Wesley Medical Center, we were asked by our Division leadership to provide information on all of our oxygen, medical air and medical vacuum pump systems, as well as pipe sizes for all of our zone valves in an effort to evaluate how many ventilators we could safely put into service without overloading our systems. This was an exercise that we would have never taken on under normal circumstances but because of the coronavirus, my group now has a much better understanding of our medical air and vacuum systems, and we even identified one medical air pump that was undersized. I guess the reason I tell you this is to point out that it’s usually not when things are going right that we learn... we learn when things go wrong. Remind your younger employees of this. Yes, we worked odd hours, we

From the President

we were asked to perform strange and unusual tasks and gather up information that we'd never done before, and maybe at the time it seemed ridiculous...but because of it, we're smarter. It's hard to see the forest for the trees when we're in the thick of it, but when things begin to slow down take some time to look back and reflect on what took place and what you've learned, and share that with your team and maybe even your administration. It's easy to miss a good lesson if we don't take the time to reflect.

“It's hard to see the forest for the trees when we're in the thick of it...”

Please remember that our Fall Conference is still set for September 15-17 and I look forward to seeing all of you there!

Your President,

Brian J. Leabo



How I'm Like a Pencil Message

By Steve Goodier

It occurs to me that I have a lot in common with a pencil. That's right – a simple and humble little pencil. Not the fancy mechanical kind. That's too high-maintenance for me. And I'm not as showy as a plume pen or as smooth as a ball point. I don't live in bold strokes like a heavy marker. But I'm a lot like a pencil. Here's how:

1. Like a pencil, I have a built-in eraser. I can correct my mistakes. No, I can't change the past, but I can make it right again. And if I can't erase history (after all, what's done is done) I can at least erase a great deal of guilt and anger with forgiveness.
2. Like a pencil, I do better if I'm sharpened in a while. My mind and skills grow dull without occasional honing. Even my spirit and attitudes need refining if I'm to be at my best. And there is something else, too. I find that the difficulties of life wear away at me, and they can either grind me down or shape me into a person who is more capable and creative. The sharpening I get from living through tough times is often painful, but I know it can make me a better person.
3. Pencils work best in a skilled hand. And like a pencil, I can do some pretty terrific things with a little guidance. Other people bring out the best in me, and with the help of others, I can do far more than I ever can alone.
4. Like a pencil, I should leave my mark whenever possible. I too often underestimate my influence on another. I have daily opportunities to leave something good behind. That is what it means to leave my mark. It may be in small ways, it may be in the lives of people I love, people I have touched or nurtured, or even in incidental conversations struck with strangers. But, I have a mark to leave and should use every opportunity to leave something good behind.



Are you like a Pencil?



5. Like a pencil, it is what is on the inside that matters. A pencil without lead is useless. And a yellow pencil will not do when a black or red pencil is called for. What is on the inside is all important. My outer appearance matters less than I probably think, while it's the stuff on the inside that folks notice about me. Whether it is understanding or intolerance, love or bitterness, peace or unrest, kindness or self-centeredness, hope or despair, courage or fear, what is on the inside matters most.

6. A pencil works best on paper or canvass. It will never leave its mark on water and will wear itself down against a mirror. I do best

knowing my strengths and limitations. I can't do everything well and that is okay. There is still plenty of good to be done by doing what I do best.

7. And finally, like a pencil, the biggest part of my purpose in this life can be summed up in three words: to be useful. When I'm too broken to hold it together, when everything is ground away or worn down, when I no longer have anything to contribute, I know my life is coming to an end. But until then, my job is to be useful.

Like I said, I have a lot in common with a pencil.

-- Steve Goodier
<http://www.LifeSupportSystem.com>



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.

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Essay
Due By
9-10-20

IMPORTANT DATES!!!
Sept. 15-17
Fall Conference @ Hilton
Inn Manhattan
Golf Sept. 15th
April 20-22
Spring Conference @ Hilton
Inn Salina
Golf April 20th

2020 Star Vendors

American Boiler & Mechanical
Apex Medical Gas Systems
Asa 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



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