

KHEA Newsletter

December 2021

Letter from the President

Wow, what a whirlwind life is these days. From an avalanche of retirements, 100 MPH windstorms, and 70 degree weather at Christmas time. It's hard to get back to normal when there seems to be no normal as we knew it.

We have had a tough year with presentations as well. We are planning 2022 to have our usual conferences and hope to see as many people participate as we can. Due to cancelling our fall conference this year, we began offering a Lunch and Learn series. I hope you were able to join and got some good information out of these. We are looking to offer more of these over the next year as well. Please send in topics that interest you.

This year we also have seen some of our board members and program committee members move on – some to other industries and others to retirement. This has left us with a struggle to fill positions on the board. A special thanks goes out to Shane Meier for accepting the President Elect position. Gregg Freelove, Nathan Sicard, and Harold Scott also accepted to renew their positions on the Board for another two-year term. Justin Cerre has accepted the position of South-Central Rep vacated by Shane. We are still looking for a Northwest Representative, Treasurer and Secretary. Please consider taking the opportunity to serve and grow our chapter in the coming years. New ideas are always welcome.

As we all struggle through this, I hope everyone finds time to spend with their families and friends at this time of year. Thanks for everyone's support and continued interest in KHEA. We will come out stronger and better prepared for the next challenge.

See you all soon! Lance Smith

Letter from the President-Elect

It's hard to believe 2021 is coming to a close. I hope all of you get a chance to get away from work and spend some quality time with family during the holidays.

I know everyone was hoping we would be able to meet in person this spring and fall, but unfortunately with COVID protocols, it couldn't happen. However, I am looking

forward to April 19-21, 2022! The program committee is working hard on content and scheduling presenters for the conference at the Drury Plaza Inn in Wichita. Drury has been a great host in the past with good food and a lot of space available so we can properly distance as required. It will be fun to meet in person again! It always feels affirming to talk and share both challenges & successes with others who do similar work. We learn from each other's experiences, creative ideas and solutions.

Please note, I received information that the Kansas State Fire Marshal's office will be hosting a monthly training session via zoom starting at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 11. The first session will address fire alarms and will last one hour. There will be time allowed for questions. This is a great resource to take advantage of.

Here's the link for access:

Fire Alarm System Presentation Zoom Meeting *******zoom.us/j/96573476275?pwd=bnNlakgwSWJXb3VTaUxtY01HbDVNdz09 Meeting ID: 965 7347 6275 Passcode: 1Bp7aV

In closing, it seems like everything we see and hear is related to the pandemic and how it has impacted our families and our workforce. I am sure we are all currently in the same boat dealing with the after Thanksgiving surge. With the Omicron variant hitting as we prepare for Christmas, unfortunately it will probably get worse before it gets better. I am hopeful that once we get through the post-Christmas spike we can focus on 2022, resume KHEA conferences, and adapt to the changed environment. Stay safe, enjoy your families, and keep your spirits up!

Happy Holidays! Shane Meier

Upcoming Events

Mark your calendars and plan to participate in the following 2022 KHEA activities. Additional information on each event will be sent as we get closer.

April 18-20, 2022 Spring Conference, Wichita, KS

June 8, 2022 Scholarship Golf Tournament, Salina, KS

September 20-22, 2022 Fall Conference, Manhattan, KS

Membership Renewals

It is time to renew your KHEA membership. Applications were recently sent and can also be downloaded from the website using the link below. Dues will stay the same for 2022: \$45 for regular memberships and \$60 for associate memberships.

https://www.kha-net.org/AlliedOrganizations/KHEA/KHEADocuments/d159549.aspx?type=view

Please return your membership application no later than March 31 to ensure you continue to get timely information.

Educational Scholarships

KHEA supports those furthering their education. Four \$500 scholarships for members and immediate family of members will be awarded in the Spring of 2022. Financial need, scholastic status, and degree major are NOT factors in the selection process. Applications will be available after the first of the year.

2021 Lunch and Learns

If you missed one of the lunch and learns offered in November and December of 2021, there are recordings available. Information is below. Thanks to all the speakers/sponsors that helped us with a new way to provide education to the membership.

Kansas State Fire Marshal Update

https://youtu.be/WoHM2CvsjOw

Healthcare Facility Life Safety Plans - Granger

https://youtu.be/mainreG0AP4

Indoor Air Quality - Trane

https://youtu.be/QwLg_SC2Kbo

Building Advisor - Schneider Electric

https://youtu.be/QhtkcUyGT4M

Automatic Entrance Systems - Stanley

https://youtu.be/oeNj9BBc7MQ

KHA Prepares for Upcoming Kansas Legislative Session

Advocacy efforts at the Kansas Hospital Association continue to elevate as we prepare for the 2022 Kansas legislative session. Throughout this fall, KHA hosted

numerous legislative events with our membership and elected officials. In addition, we had the opportunity to discuss many of our key legislative issues during several interim legislative committees, including the 340B Drug Program.

To facilitate advocacy opportunities for the KHA membership, we are excited to invite you to the KHA Advocacy Day on Wednesday, Jan. 19. This year's event will be at The Beacon, 420 SW 9th Ave. in Topeka, and is within easy access to the capitol. The <u>event</u> will provide time to network with each other and your legislators, hear from numerous Kansas elected and appointed leaders, and learn about the <u>2022</u> legislative priorities.

Advocacy is a team effort at KHA. We also encourage you to schedule one-on-one meetings with legislators whenever you are in Topeka. To find your state legislator, visit <u>https://openstates.org</u> and enter your hospital's address.

Thank you for all you do to help KHA be an effective advocacy organization. Your involvement is instrumental in our success. Additional information on state advocacy issues can be found at <u>https://www.kha-net.org/Advocacy/State/</u>.

Thank You 2021 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

For more information on vendor opportunities, contact Dani Parish at <u>dani.parish@wesleymc.com</u>.

Kansas Healthcare Engineers Association

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