



Charlotte Chapter

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF PLUMBING ENGINEERS

Local Chapters Are Not Authorized to Speak for the Society

Good-bye to Norman Parks



Norman Parks, second from right, with members of the Charlotte Chapter at the 2006 National Convention in Tampa.

More information on page 2.

President's Thoughts

Hello to all,

The economic crisis is still wreaking havoc on us all. Some of us, including yours truly, have been laid off, and some have had their hours and or salaries reduced. These situations impact the membership numbers of our chapter and of ASPE as a whole. Most of us have been fortunate enough to have our employers pick up the tab on our membership dues. I'm sure this luxury has vanished within some firms as an effort to save money. If this is the case in your firm and your annual membership dues are up for renewal please keep in mind that ASPE does have a dues waiver program for those facing economic issues. Please inquire

with me or any of the board members for further information.

We will be having our May technical session on May 26th, 2009 at the Charlotte Pipe and Foundry training facility at 11:30 AM.

Please note that our June technical session will be the last one for the 2008-2009 season. Our technical sessions will resume in September of 2009.

The Memorial Day weekend is fast approaching and I do wish everyone a fun and safe time. See you on the 26th.

Todd Arnett

President

Our Next Meeting Will Be on Tuesday

May 26th

11:00am Board Meeting
11:30 - 1:00pm General Membership
Lunch & Technical Session
at

Charlotte Pipe Training Center
632 W. Summit Ave
Charlotte, NC

COST: \$15

Topic will be Solvent Cast-Iron Single-Stack Waste and Vent systems.

Presenter: Hans Haas with Haas Sales

Tabletop: Jeff Hicks with Carotek, Inc.

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VP Technical - Scott Steindler

It is with a great deal of regret that I must inform our Membership of the passing of Mr. Norman Parks, VP Technical for the National Society. Norman passed on Sunday, May 10th, 2009. As many of you are aware Norman collapsed with a seizure at the 2008 Convention in Long Beach, CA, and was subsequently diagnosed with brain cancer. After a valiant battle that lasted nearly 8 months, Norman decided he was no longer willing to undergo treatments and resigned himself to let the illness run its course. Norman was a man of deep faith and was loved and respected by all who knew him. The depth of Norman's love for ASPE was evident at his memorial service. ASPE VP Affiliate, William Smith, delivered a eulogy on behalf of ASPE, and numerous other area members and National representatives were on hand to support the family and wish Norman farewell. I can assure you that Norman will be missed by a great many people.

I don't know about the rest of you but I for one have really felt that changes are in the air for Society and all of us as individuals. I know members of our Chapter are out of work and many people are struggling with personal issues as well. There is illness, employment, and financial struggles that many of us are going through at the current time. It saddens me to see my friends and professional associates struggling. Perhaps I am feeling a bit melancholy as I write this, but ASPE has come to represent much more than just a professional association for me. ASPE has brought me into contact with many people who I consider to be friends and has enabled my family to live the quality of life we currently enjoy. If you know someone who is struggling, please lift that person up and show him/her some support. We are more than just your acquaintances, we are your friends.

This month's meeting will be our last until we head into our summer hiatus. Now more than ever I am truly appreciating the great effort that our previous VP Tech, Todd Arnett, put into coordinating our meetings and locations. There is a lot that goes on behind the scenes that as a member you may not be aware of. I would ask that each of you please take a moment to thank the other Chapter officers for their efforts.

Did anyone read my last report? I am sure those of you who did are left scratching your head and were wondering what that was all about. Well, allow me to clarify things for you. I have taken it upon myself to introduce a non-conflict policy for ASPE consideration. It is unknown at this point as to whether or not the proposed non-conflict policy will be accepted as a revision to the Policy & Operation manual or as a Bylaw amendment. The purpose of this policy is to prevent ASPE employees and officers from being compensated henchmen for a particular manufacturer or technology. ASPE itself is a 501 c(6) organization that is allowed by law to lobby for the betterment of the industry it serves. I believe it is very important not to cross the lines between what is good for the industry and what is good for us as individuals. Many of you know that I am not always the most eloquent person with my words and can be a bit rough around the edges (shocking, but true!).



VP Technical - Continued

(shocking, but true!). The one thing that does not waiver is my sense of right and wrong. I will protect the reputation of ASPE as best I can, and I truly believe that a stringent non-conflict policy is one way of doing so. ASPE simply cannot afford to alienate our lifeblood, the affiliates, in pursuit of personal financial or other self-serving gains. I am not accusing anyone of such behavior at this point, but I can see a slippery path ahead if we are not diligent.

Education Committee is working on several new products for the membership.

On the National front the Education Committee has been working hard to provide the membership with new products. We are still in the process of developing a 16 week education program, rewriting the CPD manual, developing CEU credit questions for the presentations at the Convention, and developing numerous PowerPoint's. This is slow going as we all have other obligations in addition to our volunteer work. But rest assured, Dianne Wingard, the current VP Ed for Society, is pushing us hard for completion. If you are not involved with ASPE this is a great way to do so. Anyone interested in serving on this committee may contact me at ssteindler@vanzelm.com to volunteer. All levels of experience and technical expertise are welcome.

I have started to compile a list of potential speakers and tabletop presenters for our recommencement in fall. If any of you are interested in doing either of these presentations please let me know so that I may get you on Calendar. ASPE is a volunteer organization and as such we depend on you, our affiliates, to keep us informed of changes or technologies serving the Industry.

Our May speaker will be Hans Haas with Haas Sales. Hans will be speaking on Sovent Cast-Iron Single-Stack Waste and Vent systems. Our tabletop will be presented by Jeff Hicks with Carotek. I look forward to seeing you all there.

VP Membership - Laura Pelchat

I would like to thank everyone for renewing their membership. We are up to 97 members! We need to continue growing and stay strong. The National Convention will be in Charlotte before you know it. We will need a lot of man power to host it. I think Norman Parks had a strong influence on getting the convention to our city, we will need to make him proud.

This will be our last meeting, let me know if there is a social activity you'd like for the group over the summer. Baseball game, picnic, any ideas? Let me know - lpelchat@smithandstevenson.com



MAY 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

Dates to Remember

- May 26 - Charlotte ASPE Tech Session
- June 3 - ASPE Webinar - Greywater Systems
- October 23-25 - 2009 Technical Symposium, Dearborn, Michigan



Congrats to our Members!

Anniversaries


- William Waddington - 28 years
- John Schasny - 26 years
- Bill Batten - 21 years
- Richard Bodenheimer - 18 years
- Mark Alexander - 10 years
- Dick McCracken - 5 years
- Alan Culp - 2 years
- Daniel Turner - 1 year
- Wesley Settle - 1 year

Birthdays

- James Tribble - 1st
- Willis Horton - 9th
- Ralph Ferrell, Jr - 11th
- Trey Brower - 17th
- Michael Talbot - 19th
- Frederik Huetting, Jr. - 22nd
- Hal Clark & George Payne Jr. - 24th
- Mark Simpson - 29th
- Jody Byrd & David Rosdol - 31st



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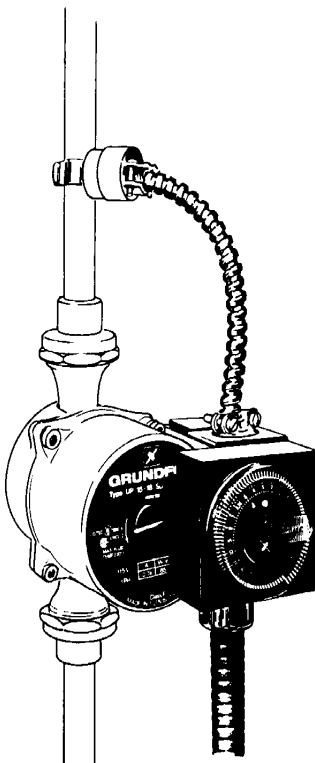
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Charlotte Chapter

American Society of Plumbing Engineers

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