The President’s Message

Hello to all GASHE members,

I hope you are enjoying the cooler weather and the changes all around us. GASHE is also excited to announce a BIG CHANGE. Lake Blackshear Resort & Golf Club in Cordele, GA, will be the new location for our upcoming meetings including our annual conference next year.

The board met with the staff at Lake Blackshear Resort and toured the venue in August and we feel the new venue will offer us the extra space and accommodations we need as a growing society.

Mark your calendar for the December GASHE Meeting to be held on December 10th & 11th and for the VERY FIRST TIME at Lake Blackshear Resort & Golf Club.

I am proud to announce that Rolyn has partnered with GASHE to facilitate a series of educational discussions that will take the form of intimate, hands on, small-group table top drills. Rolyn’s healthcare professionals will provide insight that only comes from real world experience - experience gained by working in over 400 healthcare facilities, including hospitals, health clinics, nursing homes, outpatient facilities, hospices, and ambulatory surgery centers. This is also a FIRST for GASHE and I know it will be a great learning experience for all who attend!

Please join us for the December meeting! We have many exciting things planned for the event. You don’t want to miss it!

Zack Holt
GASHE President
GASHE SEPTEMBER 10-11, 2015 Quarterly Meeting
Re-Cap

GASHE had yet another outstanding quarterly meeting on September 10 & 11th in McRae. We would like to thank all of the sponsors that make these quarterly meetings possible.

Our membership is increasing every month. At the September meeting, we are pleased to say that we welcomeed 9 new Business Partners & 4 new Engineers since our last quarterly meeting in June.

Thursday, September 10
Healthcare Engineer Cross Talk was held on Thursday evening. This is a time for healthcare engineers to share ideas about a hot topic. The topic covered during the September meeting was "LEAN in Healthcare."

Friday, September 11
- TREMCO, “Facility Asset Management” - A proactive management program will assist in eliminating minor imperfections before expensive issues arise.
- Garratt-Callahan Company, “ASHRAE Standard 188”
- TSIG Consulting, “NFPA 99 for Existing Healthcare Occupancies”
Zack Holt asked me to write this article on the early days of the society and how it has grown into what we have today.

I am Mike Adams, District Manager, with Garratt-Callahan Company for the State of Georgia. I started my career in Savannah and attended my first meeting in McRae during the spring of 1974 or 1975.

I tried to pin the year down with Billy Wise but he was not sure either. I distinctly remember the great food that Billy and Wendel prepared for us. The menu was fried quail and boiled shrimp. I think we only had about 10 attendees or less and we were the only vendor attending.

The next meeting was in the fall in Baxley. The local hospital had it at his home and we smoked some butts for this meeting. After these two meetings, we met in McRae and started having more people attend.

As we grew, the idea of a vendor show was thrown into the mix. I am not sure of the first year that this occurred and I am sorry that I cannot pinpoint the dates but I think it was in the middle of the 80s.

As the organization grew and matured, the meetings were like going to family reunions in that you looked forward to seeing old friends and other vendors that would attend regularly. We had the vendor show in the McRae Jaycee hut.

I must say that in my career of 40+ years with Garratt-Callahan Company, I have built some very strong relationships and made lifelong friendships with the engineers and vendors.

The organization (GASHE) has changed significantly in the education area and is more dynamic and technical. Our industry has changed and requires the engineers to be better informed in so many different areas. It is up to the vendors to be committed to inform our customers in these technical areas. I hope we vendors are stepping up to the plate to provide this service. McRae is still a great place to meet and we look forward to the next meeting to see our friends again!

Mike Adams
Garratt-Callahan Company
MEMBER SPOTLIGHT: Cherrie Carney, ROLYN Companies

Hey y’all! I’m Cherrie Carney with Rolyn Companies, your 2014 Business Partner of the Year! I live in Cumming, GA with my husband Randy. We’ve been married for 29 years and have a 22 year old son (Morgan) who recently graduated from Belmont University in Nashville.

I’ve worked as a Business Development Manager in the Restoration Industry for five years. I’m a member of the Atlanta Apartment Association, Ga Affordable Housing Coalition, Public Risk Management Association, Commercial Real Estate Women and have been a member of Gashe for 5 years. In my spare time, I volunteer for Toys for Tots, The GA MS Society, The Douglas County Chamber of Commerce, The Atlanta Food Bank, and have been a Mentor for the Forsyth County School System for the past 3 years.

As part of GASHE, I’ve been on the Task Force, worked on the Quarterly/Annual Meetings Team, helped with Tradeshow materials and always provided assistance whenever and wherever needed.

Being involved in the organization has allowed me the opportunity to get to know both the Engineers and the Vendors in our network and for that I am grateful. I’ve made many friends and mentors that I hope will be around for many more years to help support, guide and direct me in my professional career. It has been exciting to see the Society grow these past few years, and I know the growth is in part due to the welcoming atmosphere and wonderful people at GASHE, but also because of the quality educational classes that the Society provides to the members.

What GASHE Has Meant to Me
By: Charles Price

I am often asked “Why did I get involved in the Engineering Society?” And, “What has it meant to me over the years?”

My immediate response is: “It was a matter of survival and it has meant everything to me.”

I first begin my career as an Engineering Director of a small rural hospital in Nashville, Ga. (Berrien County Hospital) in April of 1978. I had been a Communication Specialist in the US Army. I was trained in HVAC, and Residential, Commercial, and Industrial Electricity, Electronics and had developed plumbing skills along the way. However, there were no jobs available in the rural area for me to use those skills until I heard of an opening at Berrien Co. Hospital in Nashville, GA.

I had been working for a vending company prior to this at minimum wage. I applied for the job and was fortunate enough to get it. I started to work at $4.50 / hr. There was not much of an introduction as to what I was going to be doing. In fact I did not have the foggiest idea what would be involved.

The former Engineer had taken a job in Florida and would be leaving the same day I was given the job. He graciously walked me around the building and said something like: “…here is the Emergency Generator, the boilers are over here, the cooling tower is the and the Trane Chillers are over here.”

He showed me the Electronic Shop, the T.V.’s that needed to be repaired, Medical Equipment that needed repairing, the tools and the closet size office with lots of documentation and a Preventative Maintenance System that was done by hand. Then he walked out the door and bided me farewell.

So, what does the Hospital Engineering Society mean to me? It means everything. Without the help of the society I could not have performed my job and met the expectations of my employer.

WOW! I was suddenly overwhelmed.

continued...
Then I began getting all of this mail which talked about all of the State, Local, and Federal Requirements that I was going to have to comply with. Also, on day one I discovered that I did not have a maintenance crew. I was the Maintenance crew of ONE. I was to do all of the HVAC repairs, the electrical repairs, the electronic repairs, bio-medical repairs, etc. It was all on me.

After a few months of working there, I got an invitation to come to a meeting at the Hospital in Douglas, Ga. where I could meet some other Hospital Engineers and sit in on some training specific to hospitals. This was the opportunity that I had been waiting for.

Prior to this I felt as if I had been dumped on a small island in the Pacific with a bunch of wild animals and no way to defend myself. I would have to leap into the water and sink or swim. The Engineers that I met with were from the GHA affiliated society “The GA Society for Hospital Engineers, South District.”

I learned that there were tools that I could borrow to perform specific job functions such as “Current Leakage Meters”, Conductivity Meters, Operation Manuals, and Manuals on “Hospital Electrical Safety”. And did I forget to mention earlier that I had to also be the Safety Director for the Hospital?

I immediately joined the society and I continue to proudly display my membership certificate in my office as a Charter Member of the South District Society of the GA Society for Hospital Engineers.

So, what does the Hospital Engineering Society mean to me? It means everything. Without the help of the society I could not have performed my job and met the expectations of my employer. But because of the assistance that has been given me by my fellow Engineers both in problem solving and personal guidance and directions for meeting all of the regulatory requirements, and the loaning of their equipment to perform certain tasks I have been able to perform my duties, keep my job and provide a good living for my family.

In addition to the things mentioned above one of my greatest rewards has been in being able to provide the same support for our Engineering members as my phone has rang many times over the years with calls from those who are now facing problems and challenges that I may have already had to deal with.

And, I think this is true for most of us who have been in the field for a number of years. We are willing to share information from the lessons we have learned. There is no greater fulfillment than to be able to reach out to someone else and serve a need that is greater than that of your own. The members of our Society are good about doing just that. A great big Thanks to all of you for being there when I and others need you.

Some of you may feel overwhelmed at the task that is before you. I did too when I first started as a Hospital Engineer. I would like to tell you that it only happens when you first take the job, but I would by lying. I am still overwhelmed today at all that is required of us....but just remember we still have a job and we still have one another.

Reach out, swallow your pride and do like the rest of us...ask for help. Your friends are waiting for your call. God Bless!

Charles W. Price
Dir. Engineering & Safety
Washington Co. Regional Medical Center
Sandersville, Ga. 31082

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Healthcare Facilities Face a Unique Set of Challenges When It Comes to Systems Integration

Seamless integration of critical building controls is literally a matter of life and death for our healthcare clients. There is no room for error in the systems that provide medical facilities with emergency power, paging systems, security and life safety or network components such as the IP backbone. Onepath works with healthcare organizations to solve mission-critical challenges by providing services and software solutions that improve quality and efficiency, with the ultimate goal of improving the patient experience.

Healthcare organizations typically operate hundreds of disconnected IT systems, building management and IP-based medical devices and have a critical need to link a wide range of platform-specific applications. On top of all that, you must connect your multitude of systems with automated insurance processing platforms that comply with HIPAA regulations. Onepath Systems understands these challenges and is ready to help you meet them. We are able to assist all healthcare organizations with:

- Network integration solutions
- Guardian™ network monitoring and management
- IT consulting and managed professional services
- Audio-visual systems
- Alarm systems for fire, security and access control
- Structured network cabling
- Remote monitoring and network management
- Data backup, business continuity and disaster recovery
- Email discovery archiving and recovery

Visit our Website: [www.onepathsystems.com](http://www.onepathsystems.com)
Interested in joining GASHE?
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