



# ISSUE 35



# NEWSLETTER SUMMER 2018

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# A LETTER FROM PRESIDENT SAMMY BLEDSOE



I heard a funny, (but true) joke the other day....**You Might Be an Engineer...If you've used coat hangers and duct tape for something other than hanging coats and taping ducts.** We have all been there. Making due with supplies and staff we have on hand, while completing a task in the most efficient and safe manner possible. This made me realize how lucky we are to be able to come together once a quarter to learn new industry standards, new technologies, and new products/services.

I was thrilled with the engineer turnout at the June meeting. We had 33 Engineers register! Victory Fire Doors did an outstanding job of teaching us the working components of fire and egress doors assemblies; how to properly assess and functionally test the condition of fire doors, and how to perform ongoing maintenance and code compliant repairs for non-compliant doors.

Sherwin Williams gave us new insight on coating technology for healthcare and how these coatings can help reduce the spread of bacteria, inhibit the growth of mold & mildew, reduce odors in the air and improve air quality.

I know both of these topics will aid our Engineers in the upcoming months, and that is priceless! I can't believe we have already had two meetings this year and the next one coming up will be in September. The topics for the September Meeting are listed under the "GASHE Gossip" section. I encourage you to invite one new engineer to attend this meeting with you. Our mission is to educate Healthcare Facility Engineers, and I'm sure someone you know could use some training. We are working on a new brochure for you to use to help another fellow engineer find a home within our group. See "GASHE Gossip"/GASHE website for details on incentives for bringing in a new member!

We received the ASHE Platinum Award at the ASHE Meeting in July. I will give you more details about that and what we learned at the ASHE Meeting at the September GASHE Meeting. The September Meeting is going to be full of information. I know you don't want to miss out! Let's bring the Fall in with great networking and exciting educational classes! You just might learn something, and after all, Education is learning what you didn't even know you didn't know. As always, if you have any questions or comments, I'm only a phone call away! See you in September!

Sammy



# ASHE Platinum Awards

On July 15th, Sammy Bledsoe, Doug Hall, Zack Holt and Bob Staples traveled to Seattle, Washington to represent GASHE at the 54th Annual ASHE Conference. This was a great opportunity to interact with Engineers from across the nation and learn new/exciting information to bring back to share with our GASHE members, as well as, our local facility teams. Our GASHE Team works hard each year to meet requirements set forth by ASHE and this year because of our efforts; we were honored with the ASHE Platinum Award. This is a prestigious award recognizing the dedication and commitment to ASHE by our entire organization. As Engineers, we work hard each and every day to make our facilities the best they can be to keep our staff and employees safe. We give our all. Sometimes we have the opportunity to give to our community as well, and as you can see below, Doug Hall took advantage of the ASHE Volunteer day at the conference in Seattle!



# ASHE DAY OF SERVICE

The ASHE/WSSHE 2018 Day of Service was held in Seattle, Washington on July 14, 2018. The Puget Sound Chapter's Charity Committee within the Washington State Society of Hospital Engineers and ASHE selected Ryther Center for Children and Youth after learning about their mission and seeing what a staple they are in the community for helping children and their families achieve a healthy life.

As a member of ASHE and representing GASHE, I was privileged to be a part of this activity along with 84 other volunteers. With great coordination and remarkable ease this small force of 85 people did what, according to Ryther staff members, seemed impossible.

Our team tackled projects which were scattered throughout Ryther's 10-acre campus. Projects included a new shed on the outdoor challenge course, repairing and staining the privacy fence, outdoor seating, and all picnic tables on campus. We also painted the classrooms in the school building and the exterior gym. Our team placed new nets on the basketball goals and weeded and removed ground cover in over 20 flower beds. A highlight was participating in a feature interactive art project with several of the children and staff.

As we said our goodbyes to the staff at Ryther, their Director of Facilities, with tears in his eyes, said: "Today you people made a difference in the lives of many you don't even know. But we know what you did and will never forget what you did and who you are."



While the ASHE meetings, training classes and keynote speaker were great and provided excellent learning opportunities, the greatest thing I learned and brought back was the joy we were able to bring in service to those in need.

Doug Hall



# TWIINS

## relocation

"Working together to make your  
move the most successful"

Have you ever needed to close off an area due to construction or renovation? Do you have equipment, furniture & computers that need to be relocated or stored? Are you in need of an area that needs to be decommissioned within your facility?

Let me take a moment to share with you the advantages of utilizing a professional moving company. Often times Facility Managers/Directors tend to utilize their Healthcare Engineers to do these things because they are readily available. By choosing to do this instead of out sourcing a professional moving company they run the risk of potentially filing worker compensation claims for their employees being injured on the job. They also take away valuable Engineers from handling their day to day duties throughout the facility. Furthermore it takes more time for a Healthcare Engineer that is not properly trained in the moving industry to move these items than it would be for a professional moving company.

There is a British saying, "penny wise, pound foolish." It means, "making decisions with small amounts of money (pennies) that end up making bad sense for affecting larger amounts of money. Don't let this be your downfall; instead let TWIINS Relocation take care of all these things for you, and we will save you money in the long run!

Call TWIINS Relocation today 404-496-2582

Kelly Wilson



**Rolyn Companies will be providing OSHA 10 Training at our December 13 & 14 meeting.** We will have extended training times as it is a 10 Hr class. **The class will only accommodate 40 Engineers, so be on the lookout for the registration link coming soon and register early!**

The 2018 Georgia tornado season began with a powerful weather system that included three confirmed tornadoes! There were over 174 severe weather reports of large hail, damaging winds, and tornadoes. The storm swept through Northern Georgia sending trees into roads, damaging homes and businesses, and knocking out power to thousands of buildings. Rolyn is strategically located in Atlanta and Savannah to respond quickly to help clients stabilize their properties quickly to mitigate additional damage.

On The Georgia Coast there is the potential for hurricanes and inland the potential for torrential rain. On July 2, 2018, experts released their new forecast for the 2018 hurricane season. "We have decreased our forecast and now believe that 2018 will have below-average activity. The tropical and subtropical Atlantic is currently much colder than normal, and the odds of a weak El Niño developing in the next several months have increased. With the decrease in our forecast, the probability for major hurricanes making landfall along the United States coastline and in the Caribbean has decreased as well." Mother Nature is never totally predictable, so always be prepared with a reliable partner to be there to help when you need it. Rolyn has worked with healthcare providers for over 25 years. We've assisted hospitals, nursing homes and other healthcare facilities from major storms, to a live Ebola case, to containment for renovations and everything in between. Your team, staff and patients are in good hands when you put your trust in Rolyn.

Below are a few tips to help you & your facilities stay prepared for whatever weather events occur!

- Have disaster plan and evacuation plan in place. Have periodic meetings with staff/team members to familiarize them with disaster plan and practice evacuation plan
- Test secondary forms of communication
- Run generators to ensure mechanical reliability
- Address any roof leaks or maintenance issues on regular basis
- Keep all trees and shrubs well-trimmed to make them more wind-resistant
- Partner with an expert restoration company that specializes in healthcare to help get you up and operational quickly after a disaster. **Call Rolyn 800-808-1553.**

# GASHE GOSSIP

**Bob Staples has been nominated for ASHE Region 4 Board of Directors!**

If elected Bob will embrace and support ASHE's mission, vision and values; Serve as a communications conduit connecting the interests and initiatives of ASHE to members and chapters within the region; Serve as a technical resource for society education programs, publications, advocacy and product development; Promote membership and chapter affiliation and provide leadership for committees and task forces. Please show your support for Bob and follow the link below to vote online. You are eligible to vote if you are an active, dues-paying Professional, Associate, Positional (e.g., VA), Lifetime, or Retired member.



**Voting closes at 11:59PM on Tues, August 7, 2018 [CLICK HERE TO VOTE](#)**



**MEMBERSHIP  
DRIVE**

If you are a Vendor visiting hospitals & nursing homes, or if you are an Engineer talking with friends or colleagues, tell them about GASHE. We will be having prize drawings & recognition for people & companies who help GASHE grow.

More Info: **ENGINEERS / BUSINESS PARTNERS**

## SEPTEMBER MEETING TOPICS

- Yancey - will be reviewing the upcoming Georgia EPD regulation changes for Underground Storage Tanks used for Emergency Power System as well as the negative effects of biodiesel blending for long term storage fuels.
- WTI Services - will teach you how to eliminate small problems such as leaks and minor imperfections before they become expensive issues that require major repair or replacement. They will also be discussing what is covered or not covered in a roof warranty, and provide methods on how to specify a roof with long-term reliability.
- Ken Gregory Consulting - "What's New in NFPA 25 and 72" - An update of what testing criteria is new related the 2011 version of NFPA 25, Standard for Water Based Suppression Systems, and the 2010 version of NFPA 70, Standard for Fire Alarm Systems

**It's never too early to mark calendars for 2019 Annual Conference March 6th, 7th & 8th!**

**Georgia Society for Healthcare Engineers  
Summer 2018 | [www.gashe.org](http://www.gashe.org)**

August 2018 Term

## BOARD MEMBERS

**Sammy Bledsoe - President**  
[sambledsoe@magnoliamanor.com](mailto:sambledsoe@magnoliamanor.com)

**Doug Hall- President Elect**  
[Douglas.Hall@piedmont.org](mailto:Douglas.Hall@piedmont.org)

**Secretary - OPEN**

**Shawn Crosby - Treasurer**  
[SCrosby@sghs.org](mailto:SCrosby@sghs.org)

**Zack Holt - Education Director**  
[zack.holt@piedmont.org](mailto:zack.holt@piedmont.org)

## Board Members At Large

August 2018 Term

**Ken Ozment**  
Floyd Medical Center

**Tim Sizemore**  
Colquitt Regional

**Terry Bowen (Nominee)**  
Tift Regional

**Mark Henry (Nominee)**  
Magnolia Manor

**We are now accepting new nominations for the GASHE Board. Please send nominees to Sammy Bledsoe.**



## Interested In Becoming a Member?



Contact GASHE:

10 Andrew Drive, Suite 800  
Stockbridge, GA 30281

Fax: 770-506-7510 | Phone: 770-506-7509

Email: [gasheselector@gmail.com](mailto:gasheselector@gmail.com) [www.gashe.org](http://www.gashe.org)



**If you'd like a job posted, please send to [gasheselector@gmail.com](mailto:gasheselector@gmail.com). We think this a great tool for our healthcare engineer members to utilize for job openings within their facilities.**

