President Letter
GASHE Gossip
Engineer Spotlight
Patrick Allen
Green Air
GASHE at a Glance
GASHE is on FIRE and I don't mean from the 95+ degree temperatures in Georgia! We had an awesome September meeting at Lake Blackshear. Since our June Meeting we have had 19 new Engineers and 28 Business Partners join GASHE. People are really starting to see the value, education and great networking that being a GASHE member provides, and I’m honored to be a part of this incredible journey/adventure!

We started out meeting with our CrossTalk session. With Dorian barely missing the Georgia Coast, our topic for this meeting was Emergency Preparedness. Sammy Bledsoe and Terry Bowen lead the discussion and Belfor Restoration sponsored the session. Thank you to all 3 for helping with CrossTalk. While every situation is different, there were suggested things on how to prepare prior to the storm, and ideas of what needs to be done during and after. I loved to hear that during a hurricane, firemen and emergency personnel were sent to the hospital to eat meals. Our healthcare systems provide assistance to the hurt/sick/injured and hungry!

On Friday, our main theme for training was Energy to Care. If you are not familiar with Energy to Care, it is an ASHE Program that helps healthcare facilities track, manage and communicate energy savings. Ken Ozment is our Energy to Care Liaison and has been an advocate to help get GASHE members involved with the program. Comfort Systems, C.L. Burkes Construction and Georgia Power all discussed and reviewed ways to reduce energy costs and be more energy sufficient at our facilities. We currently have six hospitals participating in Energy to Care. If you are interested in learning more, please reach out to Ken directly. I know he’d like to hear from you!

I encourage you to use the services of the Business Partners who are active within GASHE and support our Organization because without their support we could not bring you these types of classes and continuing education. With that, I’d like to thank our September Meeting Sponsors: Georgia Power, F&S Mechanical, C.L. Burkes Construction, Johnson Controls, Hayes Energy and Green Air Environmental. Registration will open soon for the December meeting, so I want you to be on the lookout for it and go ahead and mark your calendar for December 12th & 13th. The December meeting is going to be a huge one! This is our annual Christmas celebration. We will have a gift exchange and please bring a toy to support Toys for Tots. The education will be ‘Advanced Construction at Healthcare Facilities’. ICRA Solutions, Terry Parrish and Kelly Protor will be conducting the training. The sessions will take place Thursday, December 12th from 1PM – 5PM and then Friday, December 13th from 8AM – 12PM. Please make a note of these times as you will be required to be present at both 4 hr training sessions to receive the training. There will be 75 seats available for this training. Engineers will have first option. This will be offered at no cost to engineers who are members of GASHE.

These are exciting times for GASHE! If you have any thoughts, comments or suggestions, please send me an email.
MARK your calendars! The December Meeting is going to packed!

ICRA Solutions will be performing their “Construction in Healthcare Facilities” workshop for GASHE targeted specifically for Healthcare Facility Managers. We will be having Terry Parish & Kelly Proctor teach this workshop. This course will be designed to cover the standards and guidelines for Facility Managers based on which governing agency’s protocols deem (be it Joint Commission or DNV), but it will also consist of experienced knowledge for those who are looking to obtain higher certifications in the healthcare facility management realm.

Job Posting: Director of Facilities Management

Job Description: Responsible for overall strategic direction, operational and budgetary performance for all the departments within Facilities Management as applicable across the Health System including: Maintenance & Plant Operations, Grounds & Landscaping, Environmental Services, Laundry & Linen Services, Clinical Engineering, Central Transportation (including Valet and Courier Services) and the Environment of Care. All team members of Southeast Georgia Health System will promote a culture of safety, follow established policies, and adhere to all state and federal regulatory requirements, Joint Commission requirements, and national patient safety standards.

For more information, please visit the “Job Openings” tab at www.gashe.org.

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Ken Ozment - Sustainability Liaison
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If you’d like a job posted, please send to gashesecretary@gmail.com. We think this is a great tool for our healthcare engineer members to utilize for job openings within their facilities.

We are now accepting new nominations for the GASHE Board. Please send nominees to Doug Hall.
Engineer Spotlight:  
TIM SIZEMORE & KEN OZMENT

Tim Sizemore and Ken Ozment recently attended ASHE Advocacy and Sustainability Liaison Training. In case you didn’t know, ASHE’s Advocacy Highway is a two-way street of communication on advocacy issues between ASHE and local ASHE-affiliated chapters. ASHE provides help to chapter leaders looking to improve codes and standards in their states and regions, and advocacy liaisons within local chapter inform ASHE about policy and legislation affecting the health care physical environment. Tim’s role as GASHE’s Advocacy Liaison will be to work with the ASHE advocacy team to monitor and unify the many overlapping codes and standards regulating the health care physical environment. Revamping codes - and reducing code conflicts - allows health care facilities to optimize their physical environment and focus more of their valuable resource on patient care.

Ken is the Energy to Care Sustainability Liaison and came back from training with these important tips.

Why is Sustainability important?
1. Hospitals are the second most energy consuming building type. Food services are first.
2. One dollar of energy cost savings (bottom line) is equivalent to approximately 20 times one dollar of top line revenue.
3. Energy costs are approximately half of a healthcare facilities budget.
4. National annual inflation rate is less than 2% while utilities cost escalation is closer to 4%.
5. There are 3600 facilities participating in Energy to Care. (Not all are hospitals.)
6. Since 2010, hospitals and healthcare facilities participating in ASHE’s Energy to Care program have put more than $430 million in energy savings back into patient care.

- ASHE provides many tools to help get started. Visit ASHE’s Energy to Care website at https://www.energytocare.org
- One easy tool is the Energy to Care Benefits Calculator which quickly calculates the benefits that would come from participating in the Energy to Care Program.
- Hospitals can’t afford to waste money on energy costs. We all have to be determined to save as much energy as possible. Get started now!

We want to thank Tim and Ken for representing GASHE at this event and encourage you to reach out to them to learn more about this program and how you can get involved! While attending this event, Tim and Ken had the opportunity to spend time with Jeff Henne ASHE’s President Elect and the Corporate Safety & Emergency Management Specialist at Penn Medical in Philadelphia, PA.
Business Partner Spotlight:  
PATRICK ALLEN

My name is Patrick Allen and I live in Jefferson, GA with my wife, Jessica, my son, Taylor, and my daughter, Presley. I attended Valdosta State University on a football scholarship and played on the team for three years. I am an avid hunter. I especially like to hunt deer and water fowl. I also like to play golf, workout, and watch the Georgia Bulldogs play on Saturdays.

I have been in the roofing industry for 6 years, and at CL Burks Construction- Commercial Roofing Contractors, LLC for the last 2 and a half years. CL Burks has over 30 years of roofing experience and is one of the leading service providers for the healthcare industry in the state. We specialize in re-roofing for healthcare facilities throughout the state of Georgia. I am an Account Manager at CL Burks, in charge of manager strategic accounts. I have been an active member of GASHE for the last 2 years.
How do you know if the coils in your Air Handler Units or HVAC equipment are clean?

Two measurements to determine this are differential pressure and water side Delta T. Water side Delta T is the difference between the water entering and leaving the chill water coil. You can’t look at a coil and determine if it’s clean or dirty. You can look at the surface, but in many cases your AHU coils are 12”-16” in depth.

What happens when your coils are not clean? Doctors may leave. (Poor Humidity Control in OR’s) Air inspections may fail. (Microbial and Bacterial Growth in AHU’s) Your energy usage WILL be higher. (Motors working too hard to get air through coils) Equipment will be replaced quicker. (Impacted Coils)

Green Air Environmental is a specialized firm that sustainably cleans Air Handler Units and HVAC Coils in Hospitals. HVAC equipment in hospitals are different from other commercial spaces. Hospital Air Handler Units have dense, thick cooling and heating coils, that need to be cleaned on an annual basis. (ASHRAE/ASHE Standard 170-2013 & ASHRAE Standard 62.1-2016) The steam cleaning process that Green Air has developed penetrates the thick HVAC coils found in hospital AHU’s. This steam greatly improves airflow, which increases air exchanges. Heat transfer is also improved by the steam removing particulates from the interior surfaces of the coils. Heat transfer improvements are very important for hospitals as this will help with humidity control. Would you like to see what that looks like? (https://greenairenv.com/#single/0)

Measure the differential pressure and water side Delta T in each AHU. In many cases, a coil that is close to being impacted can be reversed and saved if caught in time. Any readings over 0.75” W.C. and 12 degrees or less on water side Delta T readings will need attention sooner rather than later.