



ISSUE 55

NEWSLETTER Q2 2024

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A LETTER FROM PRESIDENT TERRY BOWEN



I want to thank all the business partners and engineers who attended our 2024 Annual Conference and tradeshow in March. As with any new venue/set up, we had a few growing pains, but I believe as a whole it was an extremely successful and educational meeting.

I'd also like to acknowledge all the presenters who shared their knowledge and expertise with us. Jerry Morris, Tanner Health System; John Brace and Jon Gardner McKenney's, Inc.; Jennifer Sosebee, Piedmont Augusta; Craig Landolt CFCO, State Fire Marshall; Richard Knittel Prime Power; and Latoya Beard, ASHE Region 4 Advisory Board. We continue to strive to provide valuable information to you, and Terry Parish did an excellent job getting this caliber of presenters this year.

As you know, our Business Partners are the only reason we are able to host our meetings and are a vital part of GASHE. We had great participation in our tradeshow, and I hope you were able to make some new contacts for future needs. You have their contact information from the attendee list that Kelly Wilson provided. I encourage you to reach out and give someone that you haven't used before a shot at your business. They have invested in us. Let's support them as well.

Let's continue to grow our organization. If you know an engineer who has never attended GASHE, I urge you to invite them to join. The \$50 annual membership is minimal when investing in ones own education and growth. The first meeting of the year is now behind us. Let's look ahead and make sure you have the June meeting on your calendar. It is going to be held at the Monroe Conference June 13 & 14 . More details to follow soon. I can't wait to see you all again soon! If you would like to reach out to me directly, please know I'm always here to talk or receive feedback.

Sincerely,

Terry

Terry Bowen
GASHE President
Director of Facilities
Colquitt Medical

GASHE GOSSIP

MARK your calendars!

Join us for the **June Meeting – June 13 & 14 , 2024 at the Monroe Conference Center, Forsyth, GA.**

Patrick Allen moved to Zurix Roofing February, 2024

Cherrie Carney is moving to Knight Commercial effective June 3, 2024!

Kelly Wilson's father passed away April 8, 2024

Job Posting: Maintenance Tech-FT

Job Number: 1097977

United States-Georgia-Athens

Shift/Schedule: Full-time

Supv Maintenance/Engineering – FT

Job Number: 1090652

United States-Georgia-Athens

Shift/Schedule: Full-time

Maintenance Tech Electrician-FT

Job Number: 1095801

United States-Georgia-Athens

Shift/Schedule: Full-time

Maintenance Tech-HVAC – FT

Job Number: 1095099

United States-Georgia-Athens

Shift/Schedule: Full-time

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

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.

Spring 2023

BOARD MEMBERS

Terry Bowen - President
tebow@colquittregional.com

Greg Wood - Treasurer
gregory.wood@tiftregional.com

Doug Hall - Past President
Douglas.Hall@piedmont.org

Jeff Sheffield - Secretary
Jeffrey.sheffield@coffeeregional.org

Terry Parish - Board Member at Large
terry.parish@piedmont.org

Sammy Bledsoe - Honorary Board Member
sambledsoe@magnoliamanor.com

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

Engineer Spotlight

Wolf



Meet Wolf, a dedicated Senior Facilities Management Director at Encompass Health, with a passion for sustainability. Wolf is from Haiti. He came to the states in 2000 at the age of 15. He is a passionate leader who is dedicated to empowering his team and creating a safe, equitable environment where they can be their best selves. Wolf's motto is "we should maintain the highest standards in our hospital such that we would be proud to have our own family members as patients. He has always been a dedicated and hard worker. When he's not working, he loves spending time with his beautiful wife of 20 years and his two lovely daughters. He comes from a big family, so family is everything to him. He loves spending time with his aging parents. He is an active member of his church and has a passion for giving back to others, especially the less fortunate. He believes we are all part of an ecosystem that we are required to enhance every day of our lives.

Business Partner Highlight



Michelle Young has been in the metro Atlanta area since 2000. She has been with Zurix Roofing Systems for a little over 3 years as their Director of Business Development. In her free time, she enjoys mountain biking and kayaking. She is an active volunteer assisting with the American Red Cross with their community-based blood drives. Michelle enjoys the outdoors and spends time building, educating and sustaining mountain biking trails throughout the metro Atlanta area. One of her favorite annual volunteer events is Bikes for Kids at Christmas time where she and several volunteers fix up hundreds of gently used bicycles and assemble new bicycles to get them “Santa Ready” to be given to the local charity. Michelle enjoyed her past hang-gliding experience and so rooftops and their views put a smile on her face.



Patrick has been with Zurix almost 3 months! He is 33 years old. He and his beautiful wife Jessica have to amazing children. His son Taylor is 10 years old, and his daughter Presley is 6 years old. They have a farm in Pendergrass, GA that has cows, horses and chicken houses. They grow a lot of their own vegetables. Patrick is a huge outdoorsman. He coaches both his son's baseball team and his daughter's soft ball team. He loves meeting new people and creating relationships to help team any way he can.



Preparing Healthcare Facilities for Severe Thunderstorms

Hardening plans and collaboration with local stakeholders can aid in prep for severe weather.

**By Jeff Wardon, Jr., Assistant Editor
Healthcare Facilities Today**

Healthcare facilities provide vital services to their respective communities, even during times of inclement weather. However, said weather can impact their operations and even knock out their power. Case in point: severe thunderstorms, which are very common during the spring and summer seasons. Healthcare Facilities Today recently spoke to Chuck Miccolis, managing director of commercial lines at IBHS about how healthcare facilities can prepare themselves for storms.

HFT: What strategies can healthcare facility managers implement to maintain essential services during severe thunderstorms?

Miccolis: When it comes to hardening a facility, you want to make sure you are addressing that because it will help the buildings stay open and those services be delivered. So many healthcare facilities are built in phases, and some buildings are much older than others, so it is important to understand the resilience of each building.

To have a hardening plan, you want to think about the most vulnerable components of the building, which would be the roofs, the windows, the walls, the doors and rooftop equipment. Then with backup power, you want to ensure that there is availability of power in case it is lost in the surrounding area. Now we know hospitals are often the first type of facility that would get the power restored from the power company, but there still could be a delay in that. Depending on the storm that comes through, that would play into when they will be restored. Some of the other facilities that I have mentioned may not be on the same power grid as a hospital, so they may not get the power restored as quickly.

You also want to look at what the cost will be, what the time frames would be and if you can strategically place out or create a hardening plan. You also want to move expensive equipment away from harm's way. You do not want vulnerable MRI units, CAT scans and ultrasounds next to windows, you want them away. You do not want to have them in buildings that have old wood roofs that have had a history of leaks.

You also want to work with local contractors before any storms happen. This is so you can have roof contractors come out, look at the roof and the other parts of the buildings. Then you can have a service agreement with vendors in the event of a severe storm that comes through to help expedite the recovery.

Also, be aware of the potable water issues and the sewer lines. If you are in a flood zone, you do not want any floodwaters to back up into the building. So, one thing you can do is make sure that the sewer lines have backflow preventers, so the sewage only goes one way and that would be out of the building. Those are really some of the key aspects of what facility managers can do.

HFT: How do healthcare facility managers collaborate with local emergency management agencies, community partners, and suppliers to enhance preparedness and response efforts for severe thunderstorms?

Miccolis: It is important for the healthcare facility managers to work with these local agencies and have partners and suppliers to ensure they are going to remain functional. These types of facilities have to remain open, and they must be operational to support the community, so it is really key to coordinate with these local folks.

Local emergency management agencies should be very familiar with the local healthcare facility's needs. They need to understand if these facilities are resilient and if they have vulnerabilities. They need to understand what services these facilities may or may not need and what services they may be able to offer the community if they are going to be open. If they are, then great, they will be there for the community. If they are not, then they will need to be evacuated if they are expecting severe damage.

Having these issues coordinated and discussed ahead of a storm would really be advantageous for the healthcare facilities themselves as well as the community. The same thing goes with suppliers. If you have suppliers that you are expecting deliveries to the facility from, you want to collaborate with them. This is because you want to make sure that those suppliers are going to be able to deliver the supplies if you are going to be open.

These are all important aspects of having open communication with the community stakeholders in advance so the recovery will be as quick and as painless as possible.

GASHE on the GO



Interested In Becoming a Member?

Contact GASHE:

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