



ISSUE 57

NEWSLETTER Q4 2024

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A LETTER FROM PRESIDENT TERRY BOWEN



We made it to the end of 2024! What an exciting roller coaster ride this year has been!

Please mark your calendars for the Annual Conference and Tradeshow. The meeting will be held at the Monroe County Conference Center in Forsyth, GA on March 12-14, 2025. I know Terry Parish has already started working on the education for us. It will be a fun-filled packed couple of days! Business Partners, please keep checking our website and your email for registration/sponsorship opportunities.

The December meeting has become one of my favorite meetings. I love the camaraderie and how watching the parade in Americus brings us together. What a treat to see Elves Sammy and Myra riding in a 69 convertible Camaro waving at the parade crowds; and as always, we stepped up and supported Toys for Tots. This year we donated over 100 toys! Our gift exchange was very spirited this year! It was very entertaining to watch the gifts being stolen from each other. Seems like my selections were stolen more than others this year! As far as the Friday morning education, I want to thank Bobby George, Robert Setters, Terry Bowen, Chance Corbett, and Mallory Garret for their insightful presentations. I know how busy we all are in our daily routines, so preparing education for us and making sure we all walked away with a little more knowledge than we had before was greatly appreciated.

As we close out the year, I want you to know we are thankful for each of our members. We want this organization to grow and provide you with education and fellowship that we all need. 2025 is going to be a fantastic year and I can't wait to see what it holds for each of us.

From the entire GASHE Board, we would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! See you in March!

Sincerely,

Terry

Terry Bowen
GASHE President
Director of Facilities
Colquitt Medical

GASHE GOSSIP

MARK your calendars!

Join us for the **March Annual Conference** –
March 12-15, 2025 at the **Monroe County Convention Center** in **Forsyth, Georgia**.

Add or update your online business profile.
Go to this link:
<https://gashe.org/add-a-business-partner>

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

Description:

Director, Facilities - Piedmont Fayette – FT

Directs and coordinates planning, budgeting, and operational functions of facilities and support services. Oversees all assigned departments. Assures compliance with all federal, state, and local building codes; DNV; and hospital safety requirements.

Facilities Management Director – FT

Job Number: 2428081

United States-Georgia-Newnan
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.

Winter 2024

BOARD MEMBERS

Terry Bowen - President
tebow@colquittregional.com

Greg Wood - Treasurer
gregory.wood@tiftregional.com

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

Robert Setters - Board Member at Large

Jeff Sheffield - Secretary
Jeffrey.sheffield@coffeeregional.org

Terry Parish - President Elect
terry.parish@piedmont.org

Sammy Bledsoe - Honorary Past President
sambledsoe@magnoliamanor.com

Richie Sinclair - Board Member at Large

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

Engineer Spotlight

Caleb Kelley



Balancing Care and Passion: My Journey in Healthcare and Family Life

At 43 years old, I find myself reflecting on a fulfilling career and a life rich with family and passions. My name is Caleb Kelley, and I currently serve as the Director of Facilities Management at Piedmont Columbus Regional. With 25 years in the healthcare sector and 16 years in a leadership role, I've dedicated my career to ensuring that healthcare environments are safe, efficient, and supportive of the incredible work done by healthcare professionals.

My family is my greatest joy. I'm married to my wonderful wife, Heather, who keeps me grounded and inspired every day. Together, we've raised our son, Chandler, now 21, who is forging his own path in the music world, and our spirited daughter, Jolie, who is 9 and full of spunk and curiosity. Family time is precious to me, whether we're exploring the great outdoors or cheering on our favorite Auburn University teams.

Outside of work and family, I have a variety of hobbies that keep me energized. Hiking is a passion; there's nothing quite like the tranquility of nature to clear the mind. I also love to travel—experiencing new cultures and cuisines is invigorating. Cooking has become a creative outlet for me, where I can experiment and share meals with loved ones. My gardening efforts serve as a reminder of the beauty that comes with nurturing life.

Finally, I have a growing collection of bourbon, which reflects my appreciation for craftsmanship and history. Each bottle tells a story, much like my journey through life and healthcare. As I continue to navigate this rewarding field, I remain committed to fostering environments that promote healing and well-being—both in healthcare and at home.

Disinfectant Dispensers in Healthcare Facilities Often Fail to Deliver Safe Concentrations: Study

Study of 10 hospitals finds 90 percent have at least one dispenser delivering disinfectants at incorrect concentrations.

By Jeff Wardon, Jr., Assistant Editor

Environmental services departments often use automated systems to mix concentrated disinfectants with water, but these systems can malfunction .

A Cambridge University Press study of 10 hospitals found that 90 percent of systems tested had at least one dispenser delivering disinfectants at incorrect concentrations. Over one-quarter of the systems produced solutions that were too weak, and 14 percent dispensed no disinfectant at all , often due to human errors, such as not properly connecting or replacing concentrate containers.

Some systems dispensed disinfectants at higher-than-expected concentrations, which can pose risks to staff, according to the study. Regular monitoring of dispenser performance, such as checking pH or concentration levels, is crucial to ensure effectiveness. The study recommended improved oversight and periodic testing, especially when changing concentrate containers or if the product appears or smells unusual.

Always have a qualified employee mix the chemicals while adhering to the instructions and proper ratios. Make sure a dispenser is used when measuring the chemicals, which will help dispense the right amount without the requirement of additional measuring.

Using proper concentrations of cleaning chemicals comes also with its own benefits:

- Using correctly measured amounts conserves resources.
- Using proper concentrations can maximize labor value across the workforce.
- Environmental services staff will get the most out of their cleaning chemicals.
- Having proper concentrations helps ensure the safety of staff and patients.

GASHE on the GO



Interested In Becoming a Member?

Contact GASHE:
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