

The South Dakota

# PIPE CHATTER



January 2024

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The Official Publication of the South Dakota Association of Plumbing-Heating-Cooling Contractors

## **SOUTH DAKOTA**



**PLUMBING-HEATING-COOLING  
CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION**

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## The South Dakota

# Pipe Chatter

Official publication of the South Dakota Association  
of Plumbing-Heating-Cooling Contractors, Inc.



### SDAPHCC

707 E 41st St, #220 605-271-7255  
Sioux Falls, SD 57105 1-800-640-PHCC (7422)  
[www.sdphcc.org](http://www.sdphcc.org)  
Kristie Brunick, Executive Vice President  
[kristie.phcc@midco.net](mailto:kristie.phcc@midco.net)

### Association Officers

- President: Ryan Sheesley, Mitchell Plumbing & Heating - Mitchell
- 1st Vice President: Jeremy Seeman, Redlinger Bros Plumbing & Heating - Watertown
- 2nd Vice President: Brett Kaltvedt, Midwestern Mechanical, Inc - Rapid City
- Secretary: Dan Hartman, Wolff's Plumbing & Heating - Spearfish
- Treasurer: Ryan Brozik, Winner Plumbing - Winner

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- Frank Krohmer, Krohmer Plumbing & Heating - Mitchell
- Terry Campbell, Tessiers, Inc - Mitchell
- Brett Wheelhouse, Wheelhouse Plumbing - Pierre
- Adam Sundermann, Howe, Inc - Sioux Falls
- Dean Welch, Climate Systems, Inc - Sioux Falls (Sustaining Member)

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Wholesale, Inc.  
Winsupply Sioux Falls  
HVAC/Hydronics and  
Winsupply W Sioux Falls  
T & S Brass

## Upcoming Events

Medical Gas Class  
Rapid City, SD  
January 30-February 2, 2024

Annual State Convention  
Deadwood, SD  
February 21-23, 2024

*The South Dakota Pipe Chatter is published monthly and is the official publication of the South Dakota Association of Plumbing-Heating-Cooling Contractors, Inc only insofar as notices, bulletins, and reports are concerned. Editorial and personalized new stories reflect the opinion of the writers and not that of SDAPHCC. Neither SDAPHCC nor this magazine accepts responsibility for statements or claims made for their products by advertisers.*





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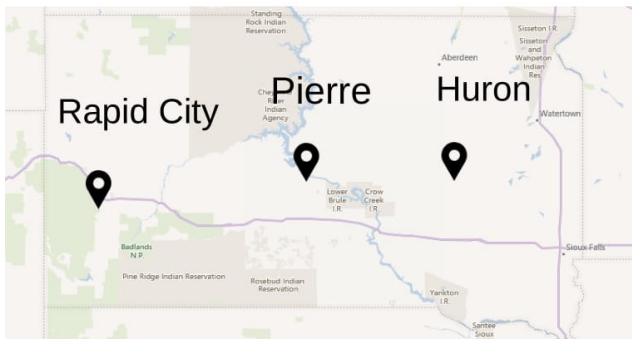
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# President's Message



I hope everyone had a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. We celebrated at home in Mitchell with family. It is sure nice to have all the daughters at home for a few weeks. I should have put in a coin operated washer and dryer set. It seems like I could have made enough to pay for them. I can tell that I am getting older as a couple of my daughters had their boyfriends over for Christmas.

At our office, we have been trying to get more people hired. We have had fair luck doing this. It seems like more and more people are filling out applications and coming in for interviews. Some of these people have experience and this is good. A few are even moving in from out of state.

I will leave you with the following little quote my daughter sent me. The author is unknown.

-Ryan Sheesley, SDAPHCC 2023 President

## Things I believe in

I believe most people are good.

I believe when most people are given a chance, most people will do the right thing.

I believe most Americans will do anything for their families.

I believe Americans love their country.

I BELIEVE IN GOD.

I believe that opportunity is usually disguised as hard work.

I believe the free enterprise system is designed by god.

I believe the ability to forgive and forget will set you free.

I believe the harder you work, the luckier you get.

I BELIEVE IN LIBERTY.

I believe in choosing to be happy.

I believe in accepting responsibilities for everything that happens to me.

I believe every obstacle is an opportunity to be a better person.

I believe life can be tough, but at the end of the day, life is what you make of it.

I BELIEVE IN FAMILY.

I believe evil exists, it just does.

I believe it is my responsibility to protect all that is good from all that is bad.

I believe in preparing for the worst while expecting the best.

I believe in natural born and the right to self-protect.

I believe that a man or woman who shirks their duty to defend and protect simply doesn't understand their true responsibility as a God-fearing and Freedom Loving American

I believe in myself



**January 10, 2024**

Free PHCC Legislative &  
Regulatory Webinar (see page 25)

**January 12, 2024**

Sustaining Member Convention Trade Show  
Registration & Sponsorship  
Deadline (see page 9)

**January 19, 2024**

Apprentice Written Contest

**January 30-February 2, 2024**

Medical Gas Certification  
Course in Rapid City

**January 19, 2024**

Convention Hotel Reservation  
Deadline (see page 7)

**January 24, 2024**

Contractor Convention  
Registration Deadline (see page 9)

**February 21-23, 2024**

Annual State Convention in Deadwood

**March 2024**

Sixteen In-Person Continuing  
Education Classes for Plumbers  
(see pages 13-15)

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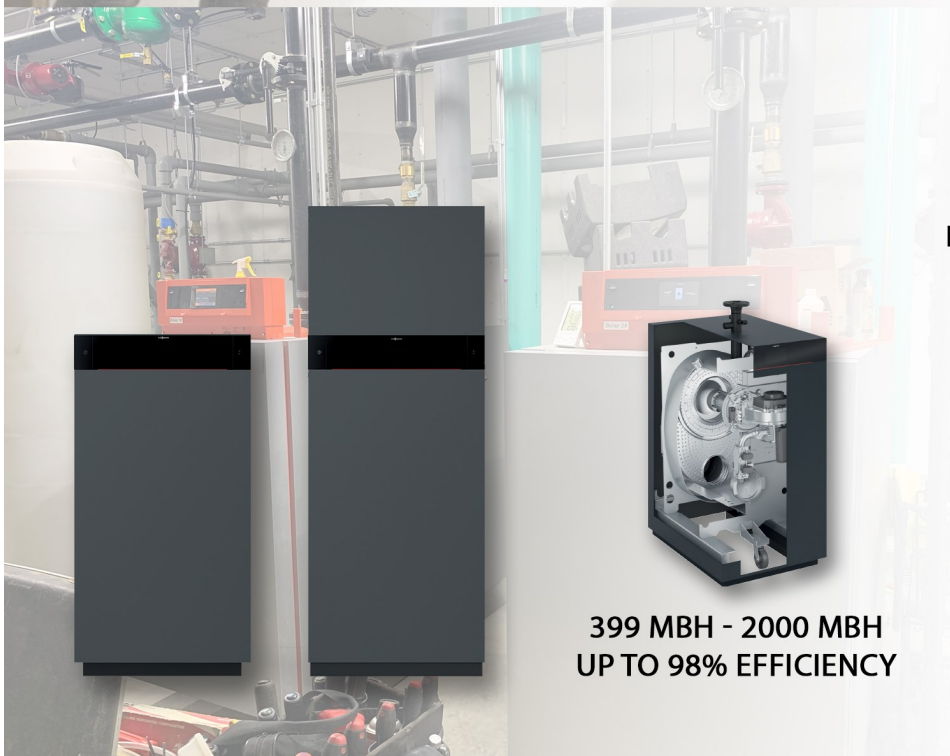
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## SDAPHCC 97th ANNUAL STATE CONVENTION

FEBRUARY 21-23, 2024

THE LODGE, DEADWOOD, SD

### NETWORKING

Share Ideas with other  
Industry Professionals

### EDUCATION

CE Credits plus  
Best Business Practices

### INDUSTRY INFO

See the Latest Projects  
& Technology

### FUN

Enjoy a Good Time with  
Old and New Friends!



### ROOM RESERVATIONS

Call 877-393-5634  
by January 19 to reserve  
your room.

Best sure to ask for  
the SDAPHCC room  
block and rate (\$89.00)

### CONVENTION SCHEDULE

#### WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 21

- 1:00pm-5:00pm Plumbing Continuing Education
- 1:00pm-5:00pm HVAC Continuing Education
- 5:30pm-6:30pm Welcome Reception

#### THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 22

- 7:00am-6:00pm Registration
- 7:00am-8:30am Breakfast
- 8:00am-5:00pm Plumbing & HVAC Hands-On Apprentice Contest
- 8:00am-8:45am Seminar: *Navigating Hiring and Firing: Essential Tips and Tricks for the Workplace*, Synova Nicolaisen, Alternative HR
- 9:00am-9:45am Seminar: *Mastering Effective Workplace Communications: Strategies for Success*, Synova Nicolaisen, Alternative HR
- 10:00am-10:45am Annual Meeting & Federated Insurance
- 11:00am-11:45am Seminar: *What's in Store with the Green Energy Movement?*, Chuck White, PHCC-National
- 12:00pm-1:30pm Lunch with Awards Presentation and Board Installation
- 1:45pm-4:00pm Spouse Event
- 1:45pm-5:15pm Vendor Set up
- 1:45pm-2:30pm Seminar: *Recognizing the Signs of a Mental Health Crisis and What To Do*, Bridget Marshall, Journey On
- 2:45pm-3:30pm Seminar: *Workplace Mental Health & Resiliency*, Bridget Marshall, Journey On
- 3:45pm-4:30pm Seminar: *Efficiency Changes are Coming for Products in the Market*, Chuck White, PHCC-National
- 5:00pm-5:30pm Buffet Dinner for Vendors
- 5:30pm-8:00pm Trade Show with Dinner
- 5:30pm-7:30pm Silent Auction

#### FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23

- 8:00am-9:00am Breakfast
- 8:00am-11:00am Tear Down

*\*times are subject to change*



## ABOUT OUR CONVENTION SPEAKERS



### **Charles White, Vice President Technical & Code Services, PHCC—National Association**

Chuck White, Vice President of Regulatory Affairs for the Plumbing-Heating-Cooling Contractors National Association (PHCC), has represented the association members and their interests related to actions of Federal Agencies for twelve years. Chuck grew up in a family plumbing and HVAC business, attended and graduated from Purdue University, and eventually owned and operated a service and repair p-h-c business with his son. His over 30 years' experience with plumbing and HVAC consumers brings practical perspective to his PHCC responsibilities.

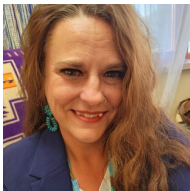


### **Synova Nicolaisen, Ed.S., PHR, Human Resources Consultant, Alternative HR**

Synova has several years of human resource management experience. Her experience in HR includes working for a manufacturing company and an ESOP company both of which were in MN. Before coming to Alternative HR, she was the Director of Human Resources for a school district which employed 2000 employees. Synova's initial career, however, was in the education field, where she served as a teacher, then as a principal in alternative education for 17 years. She then became a collegiate-level faculty member at Minnesota State University in Mankato where she taught in the College of Education and in the College of Business.

Synova's areas of expertise include employee relations, coaching and training, workplace investigations, and organizational leadership. With Alternative HR, Synova provides both remote and in-person human resource expertise to businesses, non-profits and public entities.

She resides in Summerset, SD with her husband. Together they have 10 children, and 4 grandchildren.



### **Bridget Marshall, Executive Director, Journey On**

Bridget moved to the Black Hills in her teenage years and has raised her four children in the Rapid City area. She attended college at Black Hills State University, studying journalism, graphic design, and sociology. Bridget started her work in credible messenger programs during her time working with the Front Porch Coalition, advocating for mental health awareness and suicide prevention and serving those who have lost a loved one to suicide. She believes in building strong relationships and is passionate about advocacy and serving vulnerable populations. In June of 2023, Bridget accepted the executive director position with the nonprofit Journey On and now oversees the Suicide Support Services & Local Outreach to Suicide Survivors (LOSS Team), Street Outreach, Safe Passage, and the STEPS programs.



## SPOUSE EVENT

Sip-n-Paint will host a fun paint party for spouses on Thursday. Participants will enjoy a relaxing afternoon creating an individualized painting they can keep and take home.

## GUN RAFFLE

Purchase a raffle ticket for your chance to win one of the 2 following guns:

- A 6.5 Creedmore Savage Axis 2cmp model with Weaver 3x9 scope
- Overunder Shotgun by ATI, laser engraved with the PHCC logo and year.

Raffle tickets are \$50 each and only 100 will be sold. Buy your ticket now or at the convention. The drawing will be held during the trade show and the winner need not be present.



# SDAPHCC Convention Registration Form for Contractors

2024 SDAPHCC Annual Convention - February 21-23, 2024  
The Lodge, Deadwood, SD

Company \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

- \$270 - Full Contractor Registration includes: all access to all seminars, meals, exhibits, & entertainment
- \$160 - Spouse Registration includes: access to all educational seminars, meals, exhibits, entertainment & spouse event
- \$190 - Thursday Only Registration includes: access to Thursday's seminars & meals, plus exhibits & entertainment
- \$40 - Trade Show Only Registration includes: access to Thursday's exhibits, dinner & entertainment
- \$95 - Wednesday Only Registration includes: access to Wednesday's continued education session and welcome reception

Name						Total
	Full Contractor \$270	Spouse \$160	Thursday Only \$190	Trade Show Only \$40	Wednesday Only \$95	
GRAND TOTAL						



To Register - Return completed form along with payment to:  
SDAPHCC, 707 E 41st St, # 220, Sioux Falls, SD 57105  
Make checks payable to: SDAPHCC

Cancellation Policy - Full refunds will be given to cancellations made by February 7, 2024. Refunds will not be given for no shows or cancellations received after February 7, 2024

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE - JANUARY 24, 2024**

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# SDAPHCC Convention Participation Form for Sustaining Members

2024 Annual Convention, February 21-23, 2024

The Lodge, Deadwood, SD

Company \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Table Top and Meal Reservation	Price	# needed	Total
Trade Show Display - Member - includes one 8 foot table	\$245 plus a silent auction item with \$50 minimum value		
Trade Show Display - Non Member - includes one 8 foot table	\$320 plus a silent auction item with a \$50 minimum value		
Full Registration - includes all meals & events	\$190		
Trade Show Meal Only	\$40		

Please check the box if you DO NOT want a trade show meal. ☐

\*Please list names of attendees if more than one person will be attending.

## Convention Event Sponsorship (check the item(s) you wish to sponsor)

____ Continuing Education - \$425	____ Thursday AM Break - \$225	SOLD Thursday Dinner - \$525
____ Wednesday PM Break - \$225	____ Thursday Seminar II - \$350	SOLD Friday Breakfast - \$425
____ Wednesday Social - \$425	SOLD Thursday Lunch - \$525	SOLD Apprentice Contest - \$450
SOLD Thursday Breakfast - \$425	____ Thursday Seminar III - \$350	____ Spouse Event - \$525
SOLD Thursday Seminar I - \$350	____ Thursday PM Break - \$225	

Subtotal

## Year Long Sponsorship Packages

See the sponsorship package flyer for full details.

\_\_\_\_ Gold Sponsor - \$7,400      \_\_\_\_ Silver Sponsor - \$5,300      \_\_\_\_ Bronze Sponsor - \$3,200

Subtotal



**PARTICIPATION TOTAL: \$**

Payment method: \_\_\_\_ Please invoice      \_\_\_\_ Check enclosed payable to SDAPHCC

Please return completed form by January 12, 2024 to:

SDAPHCC, 707 E 41st St, #220, Sioux Falls, SD 57105 Or Email: kristie.phcc@midco.net

Thank you for your support!

# SDAPHCC Sponsorship Packages



Take your SDAPHCC support to a new level.

Sponsorship Packages offer members a way to simplify their participation by bundling their activity. Package sponsors will not only receive convention & newsletter benefits, but will also receive recognition for their SDAPHCC support all year round.

## GOLD SPONSOR

**\$7,400**

- ◆ Full Page Monthly PipeChatter Ad
- ◆ Membership Dues
- ◆ Recognition and Link on SDAPHCC Home Page & Sponsorship Web Page
- ◆ Recognition as Gold Convention Sponsor on event posters, in event program, on event website and during event announcements
- ◆ Two Full Convention Registrations
- ◆ One Trade Show Booth
- ◆ Full Page Convention Program Ad
- ◆ Recognition as Gold Golf Sponsor for both golf tournaments
- ◆ Large Logo on SDAPHCC Trailer
- ◆ Access to Membership List

## SILVER SPONSOR

**\$5,300**

- ◆ Full Page Monthly PipeChatter Ad
- ◆ Membership Dues
- ◆ Recognition & Link on SDAPHCC Sponsorship Web Page
- ◆ Recognition as Silver Convention Sponsor on event posters, in event program, on event website and during event announcements
- ◆ One Full Convention Registration
- ◆ One Trade Show Booth
- ◆ Half Page Convention Program Ad
- ◆ Recognition as Silver Golf Sponsor for both golf tournaments
- ◆ Small Logo on SDAPHCC Trailer

## BRONZE SPONSOR

**\$3,200**

- ◆ Half Page Monthly PipeChatter Ad
- ◆ Membership Dues
- ◆ Recognition & Link on SDAPHCC Sponsorship Web Page
- ◆ Recognition as Bronze Convention Sponsor on event posters, in event program, on event website and during event announcements
- ◆ One Full Convention Registration
- ◆ One Trade Show Booth
- ◆ Recognition as Bronze Golf Sponsor for both golf tournaments

For more information or to sign up as a sponsor, please contact the SDAPHCC Office at 605-271-7255 or email [kristie.phcc@midco.net](mailto:kristie.phcc@midco.net)

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# Continuing Education Classes Scheduled for March

SDAPHCC and IAPMO have partnered together to provide SD Continuing Education Classes for SD Plumbing Contractors and Journeymen. These classes have been approved by the South Dakota State Plumbing Commission to fulfill the required four hours of continuing education credit needed for annual license renewal.

## Important Class Information

- Classes are held from 6:00 pm to 9:45 pm with scheduled breaks.
- Pre-registration is strongly encouraged; walk-in registrants will be accepted only if space allows. Walk-in registrants should arrive no later than 5:30 pm.
- Attendees will be required to sign an attendance log.
- If inclement weather conditions prevent travel, a class may be postponed. Information will be posted at [www.sdphcc.org](http://www.sdphcc.org) and emails will also be sent to registrants. Please be sure to include a valid email address with your registration. Attendees should exercise their own discretion and judgement.
- Do not attend class if you are feeling ill or have knowingly been exposed to COVID. Please call IAPMO (708-995-3000) as soon as possible to cancel or transfer your registration.
- Registration Questions? Contact Customer Service at 708-995-3000



## What to Bring

- Pen or Pencil
- 2015 SD Plumbing Code Book
- Your SD Plumbing License Number

## Continuing Education Information

- This course has been approved by the SD State Plumbing Commission to fulfill the required four hours of continuing education credit needed for annual license renewal for journeymen, contractors, and third year licensed by examination apprentices. Other apprentices are invited to attend but are not required to acquire continuing education credit.
- This course is also approved for Iowa Continuing Education Credit. The course number will be announced at the class.
- Certificates of attendance can be downloaded from your [iapmolearn.org](http://iapmolearn.org) account within 45 days after your class completion.
- For those unable to attend an in-person class, a virtual class is scheduled in November and the online course will be available late summer; both can be accessed at [www.sdphcc.org](http://www.sdphcc.org).



# 2024 Plumbing Continuing Education Class Schedule

## **Aberdeen - March 21**

Holiday Inn Express - Gold Rush Rm  
3310 7th Ave SE

## **Brookings - March 6**

Brookings Inn - A, B, C, & D Rm  
2500 E 6th St

## **Huron - March 14**

Crossroads Hotel  
100 4th St SW

## **Mitchell - March 11**

Mitchell Technical College -  
Amphitheater  
1800 E Spruce St

## **Mobridge - March 20**

Wrangler Hotel - Conference Rm  
820 W Grand Crossing

## **North Sioux City - March 5**

North Sioux City Community Center  
205 Sodrac Dr

## **Pierre - March 19**

Ramkota Hotel - Amphitheater I  
920 W Sioux Ave

## **Rapid City - March 7 (Last name A-K)**

## **Rapid City - March 26 (Last name L-Z)**

Western Dakota Tech - Event Center  
800 Mickelson Dr

## **Sioux Falls - March 7 (Last name A-G)**

## **Sioux Falls - March 12 (Last name H-M)**

## **Sioux Falls - March 18 (Last name N-Z)**

Ramkota Hotel - Lincoln/Jefferson Rm  
3200 W Maple St

## **Spearfish - March 5**

Holiday Inn  
305 N 27th St

## **Watertown - March 19**

Watertown Events Center-  
Whitewood and Swan Rm  
1901 9th Ave SW

## **Winner - March 18**

Holiday Inn Express  
1360 E Hwy 44

## **Yankton - March 21**

Best Western Kelly Inn  
1607 E Hwy 50

## **Virtual Classes - April 4 & November 12**

### **Registration Information**

Three Ways to Register for In-person or Virtual Classes

1. Online - Visit [www.iapmo.org/SD](http://www.iapmo.org/SD) or [www.sdphcc.org](http://www.sdphcc.org)
2. Email - Complete the Registration Form and email it with credit card payment to [seminars@iapmo.org](mailto:seminars@iapmo.org)
3. Mail - Complete the Registration form and mail it with payment to IAPMO at the address on form

Class Fee: \$80 payable to IAPMO

Acceptable Payment Methods:

Visa, MC, American Express, Check, Money Order

Registration deadline:

2 days prior to selected class date

Rapid City & Sioux Falls Classes:

Please make every effort to attend the date that corresponds with the first letter of your last name. If you are unable to attend on your designated date, pre-registration for another classes is greatly appreciated.

Registration Questions? Contact Customer Service at 708-995-3000



# Registration Form

## 2024 South Dakota Continuing Education for Plumbing Contractors, Journeymen & Apprentices



Approved by the SD State Plumbing Commission to fulfill the requirements needed for license renewal

**ONLINE PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED. FAST, EASY AND AUTOMATIC CONFIRMATION.**

To secure your seat, register online any time at [www.iapmo.org/SD](http://www.iapmo.org/SD)

Online registration payment options available: Electronic-check or credit card

Registration Deadline: 2 days prior to the selected class date

Each attendee must complete a registration – photo copy this form as needed.

**Please PRINT clearly**

Class Location: \_\_\_\_\_ Class Date: \_\_\_\_\_

First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ Middle Initial \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

\*Phone \_\_\_\_\_ \*Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

\*South Dakota Plumbing License Number \_\_\_\_\_

Iowa Plumbing License Number (if you hold an Iowa License) \_\_\_\_\_

*\*Required: Phone & email information is needed to contact you with questions regarding your registration or class notifications.*

### METHOD OF PAYMENT

Register online at [www.iapmo.org/SD](http://www.iapmo.org/SD) • Registration Fee: \$80.00 • Class Time: 6:00pm to 9:45pm

☐ MasterCard ☐ Visa ☐ American Express

☐ Money Order/Check

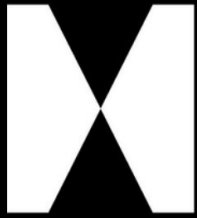
Email Form and payment to:  
[seminars@iapmo.org](mailto:seminars@iapmo.org)

Mail money order/check payable to IAPMO to:  
IAPMO, 18927 Hickory Creek Dr, Suite 220, Mokena, IL 60448

Credit Card Number \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_ CVV \_\_\_\_\_

Name on Credit Card \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Billing address for credit card \_\_\_\_\_



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# Regulatory Report & Alert from PHCC-National

## Important Refrigerant Reminder

PHCC-National reminds all its HVAC and refrigeration contractors that the EPA will be implementing the next step in the phase down of HFC refrigerants on Jan. 1, 2024.

After the first of the year, the allocation of HFC's will go down another 30% for a total reduction of 40% against the baseline production quantity. Contractors should be engaging with their vendors to plan for future supplies of these refrigerants in order to ensure a smooth continuation of operations.

In conjunction with this transition, it is becoming increasingly important to recover and reclaim refrigerants at the end of existing equipment life. Recovered HFC refrigerants are in demand and may be a source of revenue for contractors as the markets transition to new refrigerant products. Communication with your trusted industry partners and suppliers is key to future success.

In case you missed it, PHCC members can view a recording of November's webinar covering these refrigerant changes. Please view this recording by signing in at <https://naphcc.myabsorb.com/#/login>. Email [education@naphcc.org](mailto:education@naphcc.org) if you have not set up your account.



## DOE Issues Final Furnace Rule

*By Chuck White, VP of Regulatory Affairs*

On Dec. 18, 2023, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) issued a Final Rule for non-weatherized residential gas furnaces and mobile home gas furnaces. The rule, as issued, will eliminate all non-condensing gas furnaces from the marketplace as it implements a minimum efficiency level of 95% for these indoor products.

PHCC has been watching this rule as it has progressed through the federal rulemaking process for several years. This Association has filed comments on multiple occasions opposing DOE's proposals and has suggested that the elimination of traditional venting methods for non-condensing furnace products will present significant challenges in some installations. PHCC informed the Department that there will be excessive costs for new venting systems for numerous consumers, particularly those consumers facing economic conditions. Implementation of the increased efficiency standard will result in listed products to be in compliance sometime in 2028.

## Gas Industry Files Suit Against DOE

*By Chuck White, VP of Regulatory Affairs*

On Dec. 18, 2023, gas utility associations and a gas furnace manufacturer filed suit in the D.C. Circuit Court challenging three rulemakings from the U.S. Department of Energy. The American Gas Association (AGA), the American Public Gas Association (APGA), the National Propane Gas Association (NPGA), and Thermo Products, LLC, petitioned the court for review of the following rules:

1. Energy Conservation Program for Appliance Standards: Energy Conservation Standards for Residential Furnaces and Commercial Water Heaters, Notification of Final Interpretive Rule ("Interpretive Rule");

## Report continued

2. Energy Conservation Program: Energy Conservation Standards for Commercial Water Heating Equipment ("Commercial Water Heater Rule");
3. Energy Conservation Program: Energy Conservation Standards for Consumer Furnaces ("Consumer Furnace Rule").

The Interpretive Rule, which determined venting methods were not a factor (or considered a consumer feature), forms a key basis for both the Consumer Furnace and Commercial Water Heater Rules. Plaintiffs seek to consolidate the challenge to the three rules as they are inextricably linked together.

There is a 60-day window for legal challenges after the publication of this rule; once that time period concludes, more details on the basis of the challenges will be released.



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# SDAPHCC Medical Gas Certification Class

What: Medical Gas Installers Training

When: January 30-February 2, 2024

Time: 8:00am - 5:00pm each day

Where: Rapid City, SD

Tuition: \$1,475 per person (PHCC Member)  
\$1,675 per person (non-member)

The class will consist of training in all facets of medical gas pipeline equipment installation for hospitals, office-based occupancies, nursing homes and other health care facilities. A portion of the class will be devoted to learning proper brazing techniques and requirements for working with medical gas equipment and piping.



**TO REGISTER:** Complete the following form and send with tuition payment to:  
SDAPHCC, 707 E 41st St, #220, Sioux Falls, SD 57105  
Make checks payable to: SDAPHCC. Registration Deadline: 12/22/23

## Registration Form for Medical Gas Training Seminar

*Please fill out a separate form for each student.*

*Please print or type – this information will be used for your permanent records.*

Name of Student \_\_\_\_\_ (nickname if any) \_\_\_\_\_

Address of Student \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # Work ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Home ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Last 4 Numbers of Social Security No. XXX-XX- \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

Master Plumber \_\_\_\_\_ Journeyman \_\_\_\_\_ Apprentice \_\_\_\_\_ Yrs experience \_\_\_\_\_

Field Supervisor \_\_\_\_\_ Inspector \_\_\_\_\_ Estimator \_\_\_\_\_ Other job title \_\_\_\_\_

In-house hospital personnel (please specify position) \_\_\_\_\_

Current license No's. (if any) \_\_\_\_\_ States: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you currently work on medical gas pipelines? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Are you familiar with NFPA 99? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Employer \_\_\_\_\_

Address of Company \_\_\_\_\_

Company Phone # ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Fax # ( ) \_\_\_\_\_



## ABOUT THE MED GAS COURSE

A Medical gas installation and brazing class will be held at Midwestern Mechanical in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, February 1-4, 2022. Classes will run from 8:00 am to about 5:00 pm. Students will need to bring paper and pencils for note taking and highlighters.

Contractor employees need to be journeyman level, or active in an apprentice program for at least four years. Estimators, construction company officials and hospital employees who will not be installing medical gas systems, and building officials/inspectors, are welcome into the class with the four year requirement waived.

As many of you are aware, NFPA has mandated brazing qualifications since 1993. NFPA 99 now mandates that all installers meet the requirements of the A.S.S.E. series 6010, 32-hour course. In addition, many major design firms now mandate compliance with the ANSI/A.S.S.E. 6000 series in their specifications. As of July 2016 the federal government has mandated compliance with the 2012 edition of NFPA 99.

Class will consist of training in all facets of medical gas pipeline equipment installation for hospitals, office-based occupancies, nursing homes and other health care facilities. A portion of the class will be devoted to learning proper brazing techniques and requirements for working with medical gas equipment and piping. The textbook for the class will be the 2018 edition of NFPA 99 and will be provided, as well as other learning aids.

Students will also be required to successfully complete a written examination as well as a brazing practical in which you be required to braze vertical and horizontal full-penetration joints on 1-½" tubing and the brazing coupons will be tested by a Certified Welding Inspector at an independent laboratory.

Class fees will include the use of turbo torches and acetylene. Each student will need to bring 4' of 1-½" L tubing (not cleaned) and 6 to 8 1-½" wrought couplings with stops, as well as 1 lb of silver solder.

Class space is limited.

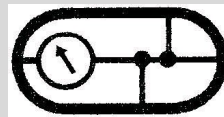
## ABOUT THE INSTRUCTOR



Bill McCormick has more than 27 years experience in design, testing, verification, troubleshooting and repair of all

components in medical gas systems, including air compressors and vacuum pumps. He is a ASSE 6050 credentialed medical gas instructor and has been teaching classes for more than 10 years.

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# We're Environmentalists by Trade



*By Joe Cornetta, PHCC-National Association President*

As plumbing and HVAC contractors, we are typically blue collar, self-employed, hard-working, and patriotic tradesmen and tradeswomen carrying the weight of the U.S. economy through essential services that Americans literally cannot live without.

Plumbers and HVAC contractors have a constitutional right, like any citizen, to petition their government for a redress of grievances, a right enshrined in the U.S. Constitution.

We have a duty to our industry and our customers to advocate on their behalf; however, we must also run our businesses. Fortunately, when we are tied up, we have a common association – PHCC – to advocate on our behalf before legislators at all levels of government.

## **The Latest Attack on Our Industry**

Like any industry, we are regularly targeted by policymakers at all levels of government seeking more tax revenue, more regulations, and more concessions that are costly for business owners like us. The latest attack on our industry is a variant historically unfamiliar to us in that it targets one of our critical skillsets for elimination by banning the use of natural gas. We recognize the need to reduce carbon emissions for the sake of our environment. However, the urgency to decarbonize the country – especially through the elimination of natural gas and propane as an energy supplement – will permanently affect our livelihood.

Licensed plumbers and HVAC technicians are environmentalists by trade. We protect the health and safety of the American people through modern technology that provides clean potable water and indoor air. We are in the best position to serve as subject matter experts on the best method of clean dependable fuels to heat homes and water for homeowners, commercial building owners, and their tenants.

This wildfire of an all-electric nation started on our west coast. The Santa Ana winds swept it to my backyard almost overnight. State by state, citizens are finding out – after the fact – that for any major renovation, or any new home they want to build, they will not have the choice to connect to a natural gas utility.



## **A Threat to Consumer Choice**

Currently, Americans have a choice (as they should) – they can opt to connect or maintain a natural gas connection to help them keep energy bills down, or they can disconnect from gas and invest the tens of thousands of dollars necessary to upgrade their electrical panel and appliances. Natural gas bans will force Americans to choose the latter, which isn't much of a choice at all. It's a situation the PHCC Legislative Affairs department has taken seriously.

Here in New York, contractors are spreading awareness and shouting from the rooftops that giving up your gas stoves, hot water heaters, and clothes dryers is not the way to make America "greener!" The reaction to the new mandates from the vast majority of the customers with whom we speak is a mix of disbelief and anger.

This past summer New York Governor Kathy Hochul, with the blessing of an environmental study, signed a state budget to ban natural gas connections for all new construction in the state. New York City's former mayor had already signed the city's gas ban into law with little fanfare, days before his final term was set to expire.

Many in our industry think this is the first bite from the apple. The next ban will be gas replacement boilers or water heaters. PHCC—National alerts us that the Department of Energy is again looking to abolish commercial gas water heaters and non-condensing furnaces.

# We're Environmentalists by Trade continued

So what's next? How do we amass our voices in peaceful protest? How do we notify the public as to what's happening?

In New York, we take the governor and her decision to court. Last fall, PHCC of New York, PHCC of Long Island, PCA of Long Island, and other New York stakeholders from the building trades joined a lawsuit to reverse the state's decision. PHCC of Long Island and New York state are supporting the same law firm that was successful in Berkeley, California. The lawyers and a public relations firm are desperately trying to alert homeowners and business owners of this law.



If our efforts here are successful, and New York survives a stay of execution, then our strategy will be used as a model for other states under attack.

Please join us by voicing your opposition to this movement.

*PHCC—National Association President Joe Cornetta is co-owner of Cornetta Bros., Inc., a third-generation plumbing and heating business in Elmont, New York.*

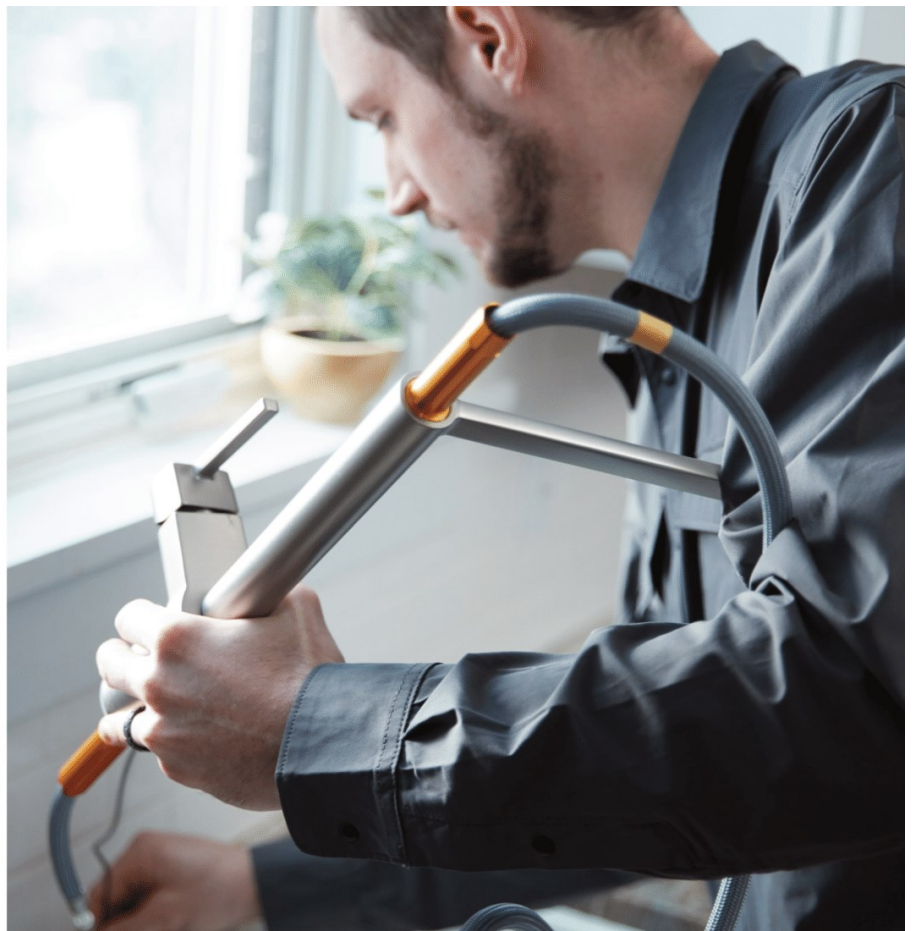
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# Let's Skate to Where the Puck Is Going to Be



By Cindy Sheridan

It's a given – societal clout shifts from those who are older to those who are younger. Tomorrow inevitably belongs to the young ... in terms of purchase power, cultural change, and business success.

Ever since PHCC was founded 140 years ago, we have witnessed the beauty of that shift ... the next generation learning from the one before it, business owners getting their children involved in the family business and in PHCC, member contractors volunteering to guide young apprentices, PHCC zones collaborating with each other to create fun activities that engage the future of the industry ... the list goes on.

At some point, the older generation retires and leaves that future in the hands of the young, and they bring new ideas, new energy, and new points of view. The cycle continues, while progress is made.

## Securing the Future

And so, for PHCC, the challenge isn't merely to find new members; it's to attract and engage younger members, the ones with all those new ideas. It's the younger members who will help PHCC embrace the future in ways that ensure our continued success and, most importantly, *growth*.

We need younger members to step up ... to volunteer to be chapter leaders or zone directors, to participate in career fairs, to engage with PHCC on social media, to serve on a committee, and to lobby on policies that are important to the industry and consumers.



Fortunately, we are seeing younger faces at PHCC events – individuals who have a lot of potential to lead the organization in the future – but we've got to tap into their strengths and encourage them to get more involved. At the same time, we need to be on the lookout for others who can make an impact on the organization.

Our veteran members often share how volunteering benefits their business exponentially more than what they give. "I hope others step up, because the more you do, the better off you are," said our new PHCC—National President Joe Cornetta, a testament to his more than 23 years of experiences on both the giving and receiving end of PHCC.

So how do we get the next generation involved so they, too, can realize the benefits of active membership as well as the responsibility they have to secure the future of this essential industry?

## My Challenge to You

Steve Jobs always said that the guiding vision of Apple was based on something hockey great Wayne Gretsky once said: "Skate to where the puck is going to be, not where it has been." As we all know, Jobs was visionary in the sense of "programming the future." And there are some lessons we at PHCC can take from that.

As was discussed among the PHCC Board of Directors recently, we have to realize that the leaders of tomorrow – some of whom are young children right now – have or will have a different paradigm, a different view of the world. Overall, the Board concluded that the needs and time constraints of younger contractors have changed, and – accordingly – PHCC's membership value proposition needs to change.



# Let's Skate to Where the Puck Is Going to Be continued

So my challenge to all of you is:

- What are some top-level ideas, strategies, and approaches that will enable PHCC to reach, recruit, and engage younger contractors?
- What can we do that we are not doing now that will help us capture the attention and attract the next generation of our industry?

I want to hear from you! Please email me at [executiveoffice@naphcc.org](mailto:executiveoffice@naphcc.org) with your thoughts on forward-thinking approaches. Just like Jobs' Apple products, we need our people – and their ideas and efforts – to represent the future.

*Cindy Sheridan, CAE is Chief Executive Officer of PHCC—National Association. With decades of association management experience – most recently as the Chief Operating Officer of the PHCC Educational Foundation – Sheridan and her team work to ensure that PHCC contractors are the best choice for professionalism, reliable products, and knowledgeable service.*



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Mandy Nielsen, Executive Director

Carol Ames, Secretary

Next Meeting: January 25, 2024, 10:00am



Take advantage of free webinars provided by PHCC National.  
To register, visit [www.phccweb.org](http://www.phccweb.org). Under the "Events" Tab, select "Upcoming Webinars".  
Scroll down and click on the event. Follow the links to register.

**Chuck and Mark Present: 2023 Legislative & Regulatory Wrap Up and 2024 Update**  
**Wednesday, January 10, 2024**  
**1pm CST / 12pm MST**

**Overview**

What would January be without Chuck and Mark? Join PHCC's Chuck White and Mark Valentini for a wrap up of 2023 legislative and regulatory activities and the effects on small business. The webinar will include:

- updates on Inflation Reduction Act implementation and other regulatory activities
- state-level activities with a national impact
- independent political analysis on the upcoming 2024 election cycle and what potential outcomes might mean for the p-h-c industry
- a live Q&A session

Registration is free for members, so secure your spot today...

**Presenters**

**Mark Valentini** is a veteran government relations professional with more than 20 years of experience in the United States Senate and with several national trade associations, Valentini applies his expertise in public policy, workforce and training, and insurance and tax matters to advocate on behalf of all PHCC members.

Valentini leads PHCC's advocacy efforts on behalf of the plumbing, heating, and cooling industry. He holds a BA in Government and International Affairs and a master's degree in public policy from George Mason University.

**Charles "Chuck" White** serves as Vice President of Regulatory Affairs for PHCC—National Association. White works closely with government regulatory bodies, such as the DOE, and serves on a number of councils and coalitions including NSPC, PERC, ABPA and IAPMO as a representative of PHCC's contractors.

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# From the Executive's Desk



*By Kristie Brunick*

Happy New Year!

I hope you all had a wonderful holiday season. I was able spend lots of fun time with family and friends.

## **A Few Spots Open for Med Gas Class**

Although we have passed the registration deadline for the Med Gas Class, we still have a few spots available. So if you know of anyone needing this certification, please let me know as soon as possible and we will try to squeeze them in. The class will be held on January 30-February 2, 2024 in Rapid City. For more information and registration form, please see pages 19 & 20.

## **2024 SD Annual State Convention**

It's hard to believe we are less than 2 months away from our annual state convention. Registration is open for both Contractors and Sustaining members. If you are planning to spend the night at the Lodge, please remember the deadline for room reservations is January 19.

We are looking forward to a great event full of information and fun. Check out pages 7-11 for more information and make plans to attend.

## **Apprentice Competition Update**

I'm happy to report that we have several apprentices signed up for the Apprentice Competition. There are seven apprentices registered for the HVAC competition and fifteen apprentices registered for the Plumbing division. These individuals will take the written test on January 19 and the top three from each division will compete in the hands-on competition at convention.

## **Plumbing Continuing Education 2024**

Registration is now open for our annual plumbing continuing education classes. See pages 13-15 for the class information, schedule, and registration form. The mailing to all license holders will be sent later in January.

## **New Sponsorship Opportunity**

There is still time to sponsor our continuing education classes. If you are interested in helping provide fun prizes to attendees, please contact me and we can visit about promotional opportunities.





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South Dakota Association of Plumbing-Heating-Cooling Contractors

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