

2009-2010







MCAA's San Francisco Convention Huge Success





1,700 members were in attendance. They experienced the MCAA at its best as an exceptional line-up of accomplished speakers,

engaging educational sessions and fantastically entertaining social events.

MCAA President Lonnie Coleman was introduced with one of the most interesting and entertaining opening presentations. President Coleman then spoke of his year in office and the wonderful experiences he had encountered.

And, he's a pretty good actor!

Along with the Michigan MCA Contractor's, members of the Greater Michigan MSCA's Student Chapter were there. While attending the numerous educational programs, the Chapter had a booth at the Manufacturers' Council outlining the benefits of an education through Ferris State University.

Greater Michigan-Michigan Night



The Greater Michigan PMC scheduled the Association's Annual Michigan Get-Together at the MCAA Convention for the Wax Museum at Fisherman's Wharf. The Association rented the museum for the private party.

The Wax Museum is in the heart of San Francisco's Fisherman's Wharf and is home to over 250 internationally-known personalities. A millennium of history is represented in fabulous scenes from the birth of Christ through the most dramatic milestones in man's history.



In some instances, attendees inserted themselves into history.



PMC Chairman of the Board

Mike Brunett welcomed all in attendance and invited them to walk through the museum at their leisure.

Showing the past is what the Museum does, but PMC added a palm reader to read the future of those in attendance.

A great time was had by all.

BIM AND THE MECHANICAL CONTRACTOR

Our Chapter sponsored a highly successful BIM Seminar for all construction related programs at FSU. The seminar on Building



Information Modeling was conducted by Pete Mackenzie. He has 30+ years experience as a pipefitter foreman, nuclear inspector, field engi-



neer, apprentice instructor and currently 9 years as Mechanical, Inc.'s CAD Manager. Mechanical, Inc. has a

CAD/ BIM staff of 14

and have been 3D Modeling all of their large projects since 1999. Their staff represents a mix of journeypersons and trade school degreed CAD technicians. They utilize Autodesk AutoCAD, MEP and Navis Works as well as 3D Piping add-ons,



QuickPen PipeDesigner3D and TSI CAD Mech. They also utilize Trimble Ro-



botic Total Station to download CAD layouts directly to the field.

Pete currently sits on the Mechanical Contractors Association of America's (MCAA) subcommittee for BIM implementation, and attends numerous CAD and BIM forums annually. A member of the National Academy of Building Sciences Building Smart Alli-

ance, he regularly participates in monthly meetings of the Chicago area BIM group associated with the Building Smart Alliance. The BIM 101 - Course Outline enabled the students to have many of there questions answered: What is BIM, who are the stakeholders, and how does it impact current construction processes, how does BIM impact the Mechanical Contractor and what kind of low hanging fruit is out there waiting to be plucked, how can CAD and BIM be utilized as a tool of Project Management, how can BIM differentiate your company? (Both large and small), what are the drawbacks and risks? (You know there had to be some), what it takes to get into BIM and at what level? (A strategy that involves investment, support, training, time, people and/or outsourcing), the Future: Where's BIM going and what kind of role will the Mechanical Contractor play?

Electrical Box Building

Advisor Mike Feutz developed a new class during fall 2009, and asked for help building plywood boxes that house electrical components that students wire to learn about circuits and basic electrical principles. MSCA student volunteers including Dave Feutz, Tom Fath, Jamie Ambeau, Joe Bergquist, Trevor Chaffin, Mat Salvati, Kyle Walch and Ryley Wentworth spent two evenings working on the boxes, cutting plywood to specified dimensions and assembling the boxes

Clothing Donations

Our Chapter partnered with our sponsor Greater MI MSCA and UA Local 190 Plumbers/Pipefitters/Service Technicians and Gas Distribution union, the union they participate with to distribute clothing to the needy. The distribution took place in the area of



Ferris State University. UA 190 sent one of their trailers up to Big Rapids with 20 large totes of children's clothing.

First stop was the local hospital, where the mother of one of our members worked. There is always a need for gently used clothing when young patients are brought





in for emergencies. We then went to a used clothing store that provides clothing for children and adults in shelters for abused victims, particularly for children. Members, UA 190 Members and our sponsor all participated in the project, and ended the day with a great feeling of accomplishment.

Pipe Storage Rack

Advisor Mike Feutz asked for volunteers to help cut and thread black iron pipe. MSCA students Tom Fath, Jamie Ambeau and Dave Feutz stepped forward and spent several hours on Feburary 4, 2010, cutting and threading ³/₄" pipe to specifications. The pipe was used to construct a storage rack, which was donated to Disability Advocates of Kent County. The rack is used to hang walkers, which DAKC accepts as donations and then holds until a person with a disability and limited funding is found with a need for a walker. The rack organized DAKC's rental storage unit by getting the walkers off the floor and increasing floor space for other items, such as wheel chairs. The pipe storage rack was assembled and



installed by advisor Mike Feutz and MSCA president Dave Feutz two days later. Father and son worked on site at DAKC's rental storage unit in Grand Rapids.

Big Event



The Big Event is an annual community service event held each spring. Ferris students come together and give back to the community by performing household chores. These chores include washing windows, raking leaves, trimming bushes, sweeping, weeding, small paint jobs, and much more (no power tool projects). Labor and supplies are provided completely free of charge. More that 200 houses were served in 2010, and several MSCA members were among the 764 Ferris student volunteers.

FSU / Greater MI MSCA—8th HEAT'S ON Project

Greater Michigan MSCA's Ferris State University Student Chapter proudly held their eighth annual HEAT'S ON Project, on October 2nd.

The Chapter has participated in the program with Greater Michigan MSCA and UA Local 190 for the past eight years. The Chapter enjoyed their participation, but felt they wanted to do more for the Mecosta County where Ferris State



University is located.

The Chapter took on the monumental task of scheduling a project for their hometown, working with the Mecosta/ Osceola County Family Independ-

ence Agency. Calls were made to have volunteers participate from MSCA contractors and chapters throughout the state. Trucks came from Ann Arbor, Hutzel Plumbing



& Heating, Johnson Controls, Goyette Mechanical Company, Flint, Hurst Industries, and Lansing, T. H. Eifert, Inc. Chapter Advisors Sandra Miller, from Greater Michigan MSCA, and Chapter Advisor Mike Feutz, FSU were also in attendance. Each truck took carbon monoxide detectors and smoke detectors for each home, along with batteries to update and replace those in homes where they were already installed.

After a quick breakfast, students were partnered with the service tech's who had donated their time and were off for the days work. A number of volunteers stayed behind to serve as "runners" to take parts out to the various service calls when necessary. Everyone, service techs and students alike enjoyed the opportunity to help those in need.

Green Trailer on Campus for Energy Conference

The 3rd annual Michigan Energy Conference, held at Ferris State University, featured the Green

Trailer, sponsored in part by MSCA. The trailer was open to conference attendees for guided tours and energy demonstrations.

This is the second time the trailer has graced the campus at Ferris, and shows the strong relationship between the university and the organized sector of the piping trades. HVACR faculty presented at the conference, and several MSCA student members were in attendance and assisted a UA volunteer with the trailer.



Student Chapter Summit



The Student Chapter Annual Conference for and about the future professionals of the mechanical contracting, mechanical service, and plumbing industry was at the Wyndham Hotel in the center of downtown Chicago. Times remain challenging for



our industry, so this program gets back to business basics. The planned sessions were about : what factors figure into the financial side of companies, how to calculate labor rates, what goes into an income statement and balance sheet, what projects should be listed in a backlog when preparing a bid and how a project's size and scope should be assessed financially for a bid. Also talked about

Integrated Project Delivery, an approach to project management that brings together the people, systems, business structures and practices to reduce waste and make the most efficient use of those resources through all phases of design, fabrication and construction.



There were plenty to see and tour, and on the list was the ITT Residential & Commercial Water Manufacturing Facility and the Little Red Schoolhouse This facility



home to Bell & Gossett's industry-acclaimed Little Red Schoolhouse which offered training in water-based heating and cooling system designs since 1954.

Student Chapter Competition- The student chapter competition was announced, the project is a 12, 200 square foot, 2 story pre-fab office building. It has to be as GREEN as possible.

The session conducted by Kathleen McCauley, P.E., LEED AP, taught us how to put together a solid financial profile for a company—labor costs and billing rates, financial statement rations, defining total project vs. mechanical costs, typical square footage mechanical costs, geographical area and market expertise, and listing of LEED projects, and backlog calculation— that puts your company in front of its competition.

Looking Back and Ahead (Part 1) Was the opportunity to share our chapter's amazing accomplishments, setbacks, and the lessons we learned.

How Integrated Project Delivery Builds Better Buildings conducted by Brian Antonsen, CPFC, LEED AP Is a process that is important for mechanical contractors to bring in projects on time, on budget, with maximum efficiency and productivity, and with minimal disruptions. In the session "Fear the Interview," was eye opening insights on what works and what doesn't when you face a prospective employer,



MSCA Scholarships

This year, as in the past, a number of scholarships were presented from Greater MSCA affiliated organizations, including the national MSCA. There were 7 scholarships handed out for a total of \$16,000.00.



Bell Ringing for Salvation Army – Blood Donations for the Red Cross

Members of the Chapter volunteered to help the Salvation Army with their Annual Christmas Fundraising Drive by bell-ringing at the local stores. This is the fifth year that the Chapter has participated with the bell-ringing and collections for the Salvation Army.

Members also participated in a number of local blood drives. There is no greater time of need for blood than during the holiday seasons.





help set up, cook hot dogs and host the HVAC tent. We also provide people to help out the night before homecoming to get everything organized. Trip points are given to all that help. This is one of the many ways that members of the Chapter earn credit with involvement to help them be able to attend

national functions such as the MSCA Conference, MCAA Student Summit, and the MCAA Convention.

Walk & Roll

Student members Jamie Ambeau, Dave Feutz, Tom Fath, Nick Barscewski, Sam Ringelberg, Matt Salvati and Andy Weirs participated in a fundraiser for Disability Advocates called Walk & Roll. The event is designed to raise not only funds, but also awareness for persons with disabilities.

Students and advisor Mike Feutz competed against other teams in events including a wheelchair relay race, a blindfolded wheelchair relay race, a wheelchair obstacle course, and a wheelchair basketball shoot. This fun event enabled the students (and the advisor) to appreciate the difficulties that face those with disabilities. Maneuvering a wheelchair up and ramp and through a door is not so easy!



GM Tour with T. H. Eifert Company

T. H. Eifert Mechanical Contractors has worked with General Motors, and scheduled a tour of the GM Delta Township Assembly



Plant.

We toured the first *LEED Gold Certified* manufacturing plant of

its size in the world. From there we toured the Central Utility Complex owned and operated by Duke Energy which is the HVAC and

plumbing systems that service the assembly line, paint shop and the entire facility.

Chapter Members began with a mandatory safety briefing including a video. With our Members studying HVAC, we know they were impressed with this state-of-the-art facility. GM is in the process of adding the Chevy Traverse to this assembly line.

With so many groups and individuals requesting the opportunity to tour the facility, we were extremely fortunate to be given this chance. Tom Eifert and Jean Morgan of T.H. Eifert put a tremendous amount of work into this tour, and we were extremely appreciative of their efforts.

River tubing

As a social event, MSCA student officers invited students at large to join them for a trip down the Muskegon River. The river is still warm when school starts in August, and this is a popular pastime when the students return to school. The officers hosted this event as a way to help new students get to know other students in a laid back atmosphere.

Meetings . . .

Bay Area Meeting - Advisor Mike Feutz, president Jamie Ambeau and secretary Dave Feutz traveled to Clare, Michigan in early September to meet with the board of the Bay Area Association. Though Greater Michigan sponsors the Ferris student chapter, the Bay Area expressed interest in helping the students engage in the industry, and the purpose of the trip was to discuss opportunities for the students to interact with Bay Area members.

Russ Borst—Russ, who is a graduate of Ferris and served as the 2008 chairman of the Mechanical Service Contractors of America, visited the MSCA student chapter in December to talk about his experiences in the industry and as a graduate. Russ spoke of opportunities in the industry and answered questions about Hurst Industries, where he serves as vice president of service, and about the state of the economy and the impact it has had on business.







20th Year HEAT'S ON Project

Through the combined efforts of both the Greater MI MSCA and UA Local 190 Plumbers/Pipefitters/Service Technicians, the local HEAT'S ON Project completed it's 20th year, in our local area, and our 8th year with our Ferris Chapter.

These homes, thanks to the efforts of MSCA and UA 190, will be safe and warm this winter.



The program continues to install smoke detectors and carbon



monoxide detectors for those who don't have them. If they do, we change their batteries and make sure they are in good working order.

This year we had to shut down five furnaces,



and had them repaired and working in no time.

The program has a number of return cclients. When the service personnel walk in usually the recipients have snacks ready for the workers.