



December, 2004

Membership Meeting – Union / Non-Union Contractors What is the Difference?

In early November the chapter sponsored a special membership meeting, opened to both the HVACR and Construction Programs to discuss the question of the difference between the union sector and non-union sector of the HVACR Industry.

Pictured L. to R. – Cliff McCourt, Day & Night Heating & Cooling and Chuck Gatecliff, CAG, Ltd.

Chuck Gatecliff, CAG, Ltd., formerly of Pipe Systems discussed his history as a representative of the organized (union) sector. Chuck started out as an apprentice with UA Local 636, became a foreman, supervisor, then went to work in the contractors office as a Project Manager and eventually purchased with his partner one of the State's most successful mechanical contracting firm, with offices in Ohio and Texas.

Cliff McCourt, Day & Night Heating & Cooling, whose son Ryan McCourt is currently a student at Ferris discussed his similar path, beginning at a young age working for an open shop contractor, becoming one of their best workers, and eventually purchasing the business. Day & Night Heating & Cooling is one of the only, if not the only non-union contractor in Michigan who has its own federally approved training program.

As opposed to a great deal of difference, both contractors had followed very similar paths, and both felt strongly about their personal divisions of the industry.



The discussions were supplemented by Chapter Sponsor Sandra Miller, and Chapter Advisor, Mike Feutz.

One of the most interesting portions of the program was the exchange with the students who had a number of questions. The discussion greatly enhanced the program and helped work through some of the confusion that had existed with the students.



CPR & First Aid Certification Program

The Ferris State University MSCA Chapter sponsored a CPR & First Aid certification program. The program was given by the Michigan Construction Trades Safety Institute, which offers First Aid and CPR training to union building trades members, signatory employers, and spouses at a variety of sites and dates across Michigan .

The program is available to our members, free of charge, through our parent organization, the Greater Michigan MSCA.

The eight-hour initial class was for those who did not have a current CPR & First Aid certification cards. Upon successful completion of this 8-hour course, participants will receive a Save-A-Life Club certification card and will be eligible to attend yearly refresher courses. By attending a refresher course each year, initial certification cards will be automatically renewed in the third year.

Ferris Chapter Hosts Science Teachers Program



Over thirty science teachers from throughout the Greater Michigan area participated in a workshop on internal and thermal energy, sponsored by the Greater Michigan Plumbing & Mechanical Contractors Association. The teachers observed and conducted dozens of demonstrations and student investigations they can use to enhance their instructional tool-box.

It also gave the industry the opportunity to showcase the Granger HVACR Building on the Campus of Ferris State University.



The most exciting demonstrations had teachers releasing the hidden heat found in all liquids, igniting cotton fibers with compressed air, and making a liquid rise from the heat of their hands. Written and video taped instructions for over 50 demonstrations and seven student laboratory investigations were provided

to teachers.



These curriculum areas include concepts pertaining to the structure of matter, kinetic molecular theory, temperature, thermal expansion, heat transfer methods and phase changes.

The program is designed for both Middle School and High School Presentations. Teachers gave the program excellent grades, and made it a point to express their appreciation for the program and the sponsorship of the PMC. At both venues the teachers were given a tour of the new facilities and had the opportunity to discuss with PMC President Sandra Miller the many opportunities for careers and career advancement in the plumbing and HVACR industry.

Pictured above, watching the video on the huge screen in the common center at the Granger – HVACR Building – Below – Teachers from the surrounding area at work

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 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.

Thanks to all the members who participated.

ctober, 2004

Ferris State University HEAT'S ON Project



Greater Michigan MSCA's Ferris State University Student Chapter held their fourth HEAT'S ON Project. The Chapter has participated in the program with Greater Michigan MSCA and UA Local 190 for the past six years. They 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 County Family Independence Agency. Then calls to have volunteers from MSCA contractors and chapters throughout the state participate.

Trucks came from Flint, Goyette Mechanical Company, and Grand Rapids, Hurst Industries. Chapter Advisors Sandra Miller and her Assistant Lily Calmeyn, from Greater Michigan MSCA, and Chapter Advisor Mike Feutz, FSU (*pictured right*) were also in attendance.



The appointments had been pre-set, reviewed and confirmed by MSCA. Chapter sponsor Sandra Miller reviewed the procedures for the service calls and discussed the forms and paperwork that



needed to be prepared during the visit. Each truck took carbon monoxide detectors and smoke detectors for each home, along with batteries to update and replace those in homes that already had them 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 tech's and students alike enjoyed the opportunity to

help those in need.



It was a terrific project, a beautiful day, and great stories when everyone came back to the hotel for the luncheon. We are already in the process of initial planning for next year.





Left - L. to R. - Chapter President Teresea Bakke and Chapter Secretary Tia Maynen discuss the day's activities

- Right - The honor of the last team in goes to . . . Former Chapter member and officer Mike Sweeney (now with Hurst) with returning HVACR student Eric Fradette, previous Chapter member. But they did have a cracked heat exchanger to deal with !

October, 2004

Award winning students from Ferris State University attend MCAA Chapter Summit

On September 27th, 2004, Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning and Refrigeration students Tia Manyen of Big Rapids, MI, Gary Schrader of Cameron, MO, Teresa Bakke of Traverse City, MI, Construction Management students Dawn Marie VanderZeil of Lowell, Eric Harris of Tecumseh, MI, Eric Balkon of Grand Rapids, MI, Electronics student Peter Dezelski of Traverse City, and Advisor, Mike Feutz represented Ferris State University by attending the Mechanical Contractors Association of America Student Summit in La Crosse, WI.



Student Chapters from across the nation are cooperatively challenged to network and explore ways to build exciting, rewarding careers in HVACR. In addition, teams are formed to

solve a mechanical systems problem in a competitive sales presentation.

MCAA presented the Student Mini-Competition Awards. This honor recognizes student teams for outstanding achievement who successfully problem solve and sell innovative strategies to a panel of judges.

From bottom left to right; Tia Manyen, Teresa Bakke, Peter Dezelski Eric Harris, Eric Balkon , Gary Schrader, and Mike Feutz.

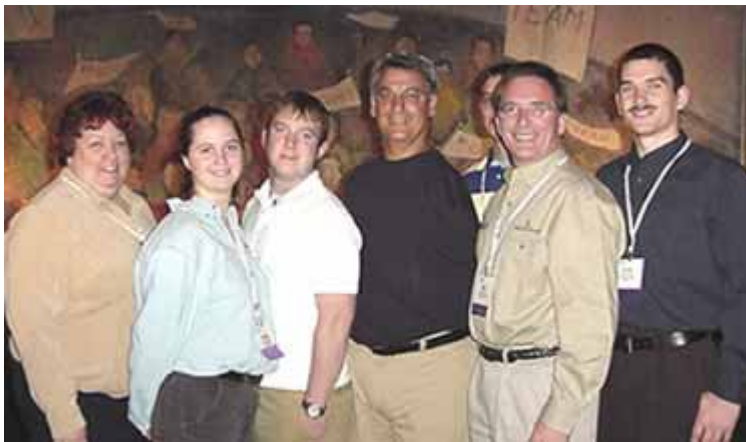
Said, first place winner Gary Schrader, "This summit is a unique opportunity for students to network with peers from different schools and programs, all relating to mechanical contracting. For example, HVACR and Construction students can tie their two fields together to broaden perspectives, thus, making better sales/project decisions."

Second Place Winners: Teresa Bakke, Ben Benoy, Mike Affeldt, Bill Jansen, Chris Avildsen, Justin Estperance , David Cerecerez and Director of Career Development, Ann Mattheis.



First Place Winners: Anne Barry, Erik Kandler, Jim Koob, Jeff Miller, Warren Rose, Clifford Hentz, Gary Schrader and Director of Career Development, Ann Mattheis .

Chapter Attends MSCA National Fall Conference



19TH ANNUAL EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE, THE BEST EVER! MSCA'S 19TH Annual Educational Conference at the Hyatt Regency Tamaya Resort in scenic Santa Ana Pueblo, N.M. (October 17-20) was one of MSCA's most memorable. Four members of the Ferris Student Chapter attended along with Chapter Advisors Mike Feutz and

MSCA Sponsor Sandra Miller.

The Opening Reception and Exhibitors Display gave attendees the chance to visit with old and new friends while meeting with industry suppliers and manufacturers. MCAA President Mike Gossman and MSCA Board of Managers Chairman Frank Norton addressed 300 attendees at

the Opening Session and welcomed explorer Jamie Clarke who recounted his 18-year quest to climb Mt. Everest and the life lessons he learned along the way. Excellent sessions were led by Dr. Kevin Freiberg, author of the Southwest Airlines story, on unconventional business practices; Susan Hershkowitz on communication skills; Steve Wiggins on retro commissioning; Craig Funke on managing the risks of full service contracts; Chuck Gatecliff on financial management; Charlie Campbell on motivating employees to work safely; and attorney Donna Dell on the legal issues of hiring and firing. During the Closing Session, Board of Directors member Mark Kerney of Hill York Services (Fort Lauderdale, FL) became the new chairman of the MSCA Board of Managers and UA General President Martin Maddaloni addressed the conference.

Baseball great Dave Dravecky, (***pictured above with students***) who lost his pitching arm to cancer, topped off the session and the conference with his inspiring story of courage and hope in the face of adversity. At the closing party, attendees took a nostalgic trip along the famous Route 66, complete with the cars, sights and sounds of 50 years ago. Next year, plan to attend the conference at the beautiful Fairmont Waterfront Hotel in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, September 18-21.

New Student Welcome

The Chapter held its annual New Student Welcome in September. The welcome gave the Chapter the opportunity to tell the new students about the advantages of joining the Chapter.

Displays were set up around the room for potential members to have the opportunity to view, first hand, the numerous activities of the chapter, from educational meetings to conference attendance and student competitions. Also discussed was the various community service projects such as HEAT'S ON, and adopting families that the chapter becomes involved in.



July, 2004

Contractor Summit

The Ferris State Student Chapter held their Annual Contractor Summit as the last activity of the school year.



Contractors and representatives came from Ann Arbor, Detroit, Flint and the Grand Rapids area to discuss job possibilities with the students. Student members were currently looking at Internships for the upcoming summer and full-time employment for the graduating Seniors. This also was an opportunity for the contractors to have a tour of the new HVACR facilities.



Pictured above -L. to R. - Left - 2003-2004 Officers - Teresa Bakke, John Lindman, Jamie Dorland and Andrew Lemanczyk - Right - Newly Elected Officers for 2004-2005 -Tia Manyen, Mike Kennedy, Teresa Bakke, with Andrew Lemanczyk - Past Chapter President



Chapter Past Presidents Megan Ruehmeier and Ed Belanger, pictured left were also in attendance

May, 2004

Ferris State Chapter Members Settle Into Their New Surroundings

The Ferris State Chapter of the Greater Michigan MSCA continues to thrive at the University. Now that the new Construction and HVACR Building has been finished, the students have a state of the art facility in which to learn. Combined with the state of the art training and education they receive,



Michigan's Ferris graduates will have no equal in the industry.

The new building included a room for the Student Chapter to utilize for an office, showing the importance the University places on these types of activities.

Greater Michigan MSCA Chapter Sponsor and Advisor Sandra Miller was in attendance at the April membership meeting where the Chapter held their nominations for their upcoming elections for 2004-2005 Officers and Directors. Also reviewed and decided were a number of final programs from the current school year. The class also discussed new programs for the 2004-2005 school year, including a date for the 2004 HEAT's ON Program.



March, 2004

MCAA 2004 OPENING SESSION SOARS WITH WELCOME FROM PRESIDENT WILLIAMS, ADDRESS BY RUDY GIULIANI, FLIGHT OF CHALLENGER (THE EAGLE):

Following a fun-filled Sunday evening Opening party that was marked by a stunning laser show and fabulous music, MCAA President Thomas L.

Williams opened the association's 115th annual convention to thundering applause from more than 1800 appreciative attendees. President Williams began this morning's program by sharing his insights and perceptions about meeting and overcoming the challenges of modern life – i.e. the frustrations we all face with “device creep” – that keep us connected, but complicate our



personal and professional lives. He also reminded MCAA members that the association can help their business's development with exceptional educational programs that provide strategic, leadership and operational tools.

Former New York Mayor Rudy Giuliani,

internationally renowned for his extraordinary leadership capabilities, both delighted and riveted the audience with stories of how he helped restore economic stability and vibrancy to the Big Apple, and then, how he helped bring calm, comfort, security, and order to a shocked and shaken New York

following the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001. And then, members watched in stunned, amazed silence as Challenger the eagle, a founding American bald eagle raised by his rescuers, spread his magnificent wings and took flight. Following the Opening Session was Ret. General Barry McCaffrey-National security and terrorist analyst for NBC news, former national drug czar, and military commander in Desert Storm-who explained how he planned and executed various military and anti-crime campaigns during his distinguished career. Other fascinating speakers were Scott Milligan of the Disney Institute who explained how the Disney culture motivates employees to new levels of excellence in service to customers of the Walt Disney World Resort®. FMI's Hugh Rice provided his industry forecast for the coming months, and Sarah Whitney and Chris FitzGerald explained how Six Sigma can be applied in any business environment to improve productivity and profitability. MCAA members will glimpse the future as they watch finalists in the 2003 Student Chapter Competition face off this afternoon for cash and glory. Organized around the theme, Experience the Experience, the remainder of the convention presents an extraordinary array of major sessions, nationally renowned speakers and special interest workshops that offer members new perspectives, insights and ideas to enrich their personal and professional

development. Featured speakers, drawn from many facets of American life and culture, include U.S. Senator Robert Dole, White House historian Michael Beschloss, NBC Special Correspondent Dr. Bob Arnot, and Closing Session featured speaker Frank Abignale, whose life inspired the hit movie Catch Me If You Can. On Wednesday



evening, attendees will gather for the Sensational Finale, a delicious dinner, unique entertainment and Illuminations: Reflections of Earth that will light up the sky and the senses. MCAA 2004 ends on Thursday morning with the closing session.