



The WAHI Inspector

Editor: Nick Petrie



TM

From the President:

A NEW YEAR BRINGS NEW VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES



The new year brings about a sense of rejuvenation and recommitment to personal and professional goals. As you assess your aspirations for 2015, I would like to take time to talk to you again about volunteering for positions on WAHI's many committees. Two very important committees are Education and Arbitration, and both of these are in need of volunteers immediately. WAHI's goal is to have at least one member from each chapter on each committee. Unfortunately, we don't come close to having the people we need to do the work effectively.

Currently we need at least one Central and Madison member on the Education committee. This committee plans our two educational seminars, which provide the most substantial educational opportunity for our members, as well as the foundation of WAHI's annual budget. If you have seminar topics you'd like covered or other changes you'd like to see made - you would be a perfect volunteer! Finding speakers can be a challenging task, and WAHI needs your help!

The Arbitration Committee is also in dire need of more members in order to improve each chapter's list of arbitrators and contractors. We have had several recent cases where it appears that our members would have benefitted from more substantial choices for both arbitrators and contractors. More committee members would help expedite this task and help make arbitration the truly fair process it is designed to be.

In addition, the Membership Committee is working on adding home inspector members and affiliate members to our ranks, again this is a huge need for the association. Greater inspector membership improves overall quality of our state's inspectors, helping those without any local inspector contacts understand what a truly professional home inspection is all about.

(continued on page 4)

SAVE THE
DATES!

2015 WAHI
Spring Training
Seminar

MARCH
13 - 14

Baraboo, WI

More details
coming soon!

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OFFICEMAX DISCOUNT
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CHAPTER MEETING HIGHLIGHTS



NEXT MEETING:

Wednesday, January 21

Social at 6:00 p.m.

Dinner/Meeting at 6:30 p.m.

Palms Supper Club Steak House
5912 Business Hwy 51,
Schofield

Please visit our website,
wahigroup.com for upcoming
Central Chapter meeting
speakers and details.



Our December speakers were our attending affiliate members, describing their products and services, and fielding questions related to issues our inspector members encountered on the job.

NEXT MEETING:

Tuesday, January 20

Social at 6:00 p.m.

Meeting/Dinner at 6:30 p.m.

Stone Toad

1109 S. Oneida St., Menasha

Please visit our website, wahigroup.com for upcoming Fox Valley Chapter meeting speakers and details.



Pete Saltness filled in for our scheduled December speaker who could not attend the meeting. Pete conducted a review of the standards of practice, including a discussion form the members. The discussion was followed by a session of various in-the-field photos and further dialogue from members.

NEXT MEETING:

Wednesday, January 7

Buffet dinner at 5:30 p.m., Meeting at 6:00 p.m.

Jade Garden Restaurant

3620 Gateway Dr., Eau Claire

Speaker: Matt Schuebel from Brack Thermal Systems. (Rescheduled from December) Brack Thermal is an asbestos abatement contractor in Eau Claire. Matt will be giving a presentation on types of asbestos materials and conditions. We encourage all members to bring photos to present.

THE CHIPPEWA VALLEY CHAPTER WILL ALSO BE CELEBRATING THE HOLIDAYS! MARK YOUR CALENDARS...

HOLIDAY PARTY:

Friday, January 23

Happy Hour from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Dinner at 6:00 p.m.

Fanny Hill Supper Club

3919 Crescent Ave., Eau Claire

If members are planning on attending send a confirmation e-mail to Pete Saltness at pk saltness@charter.net.



The Madison Chapter meets in January, February, April, May, September and October.

NEXT MEETING:

Thursday, January 15, 2015

Roundtable at 6:00 p.m.

Meeting/Dinner at 6:30 p.m.

Rocky Rococo's Pizza

1753 Thierer Rd., Madison

Please visit our website, wahigroup.com for upcoming Madison Chapter meeting speakers and details.



NEXT MEETING:

Tuesday, January 13, 2015

Social at 6:00 p.m.,

Dinner at 6:30 p.m.

Meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Klemmer's Banquet Center

10401 W. Oklahoma Ave.,
West Allis

Please visit our website, wahigroup.com for upcoming Milwaukee Chapter meeting speakers and details.

WAHI WEBSITE & UPDATE MEMBER INFO.



Outgoing Emails Through the



WAHI Website

As you know, WAHI has a new website!

The new WAHI website has the capability to send out mass emails, (emails to a large number of recipients), and this is great because we can reach all of you at once!

However, some mass emails get rejected by email accounts because they believe them to be spam. In order to make sure you receive your WAHI emails in your inbox, and they don't return as undeliverable or filter to your junk/spam folders, **the WAHI Website Committee is asking all members to please add wahinews@wahigroup.com to their email address book or contact list.**

Taking time to do this one easy step, tells your email account to recognize any emails from WAHI as legitimate/safe. Thank you for your cooperation on this matter.

We want members to be able to contact you or provide a potential client your current and correct contact information.

We also send interesting, timely and important announcements from our website, using the email you provided. If it is incorrect, you may miss out!

Moving?

Get a new phone number?

Change your email address?

Please contact Julie to provide updates:
julie@wahigroup.com

KEEP IN TOUCH

LETTER FROM PRESIDENT - CONT'D

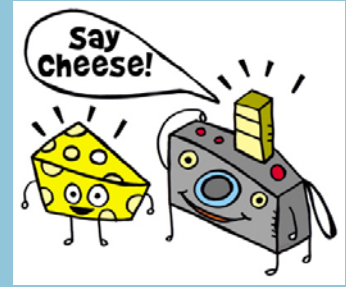
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Affiliate members help with education, both formally, by attending meeting and serving as speakers at chapters and seminars, and informally, by being part of our network when we see something we don't recognize. Both types of members provide funding for running WAHI's daily business, and help lower the cost of membership for all of us. If you know inspectors who are not WAHI member, or if you consult with contractors who would be a good fit for WAHI, please reach out. Most of our existing volunteers have working hard for WAHI without pay for a number of years, and some really would like a break. The amount of hours needed from you as a volunteer ranges from a few hours a year to a few hours a month. This is not a demanding task, even for those of you doing 400-500 inspections a year.

There are also some concrete benefits to volunteering for your organization. Volunteers receive bragging rights with clients and referral sources, name recognition to the general public on the website and in newsletters, and even free Continuing Education hours for helping out at the seminars and Education Houses. I am going to talk directly with the Chapter presidents about this need, so please step up and help. They will be bringing this up to you not only on the state level, but also in your own chapter. Elections are coming up this spring for state and chapters. We are only as strong as our membership involvement, so please help add your experience and professionalism to your own association.

I hope your Holiday Seasons were joyous and affordable. I did my best to support local businesses – because I run one myself. Best wishes for 2015!

~Kent Schwanke



Add a Photo to the WAHI Website and Link to Your Business Site

WAHI's website member database has a new and improved multi-choice search option.

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info@wahigroup.com

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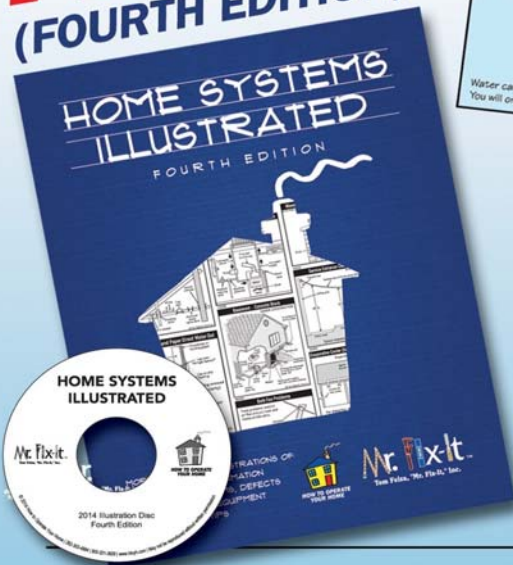
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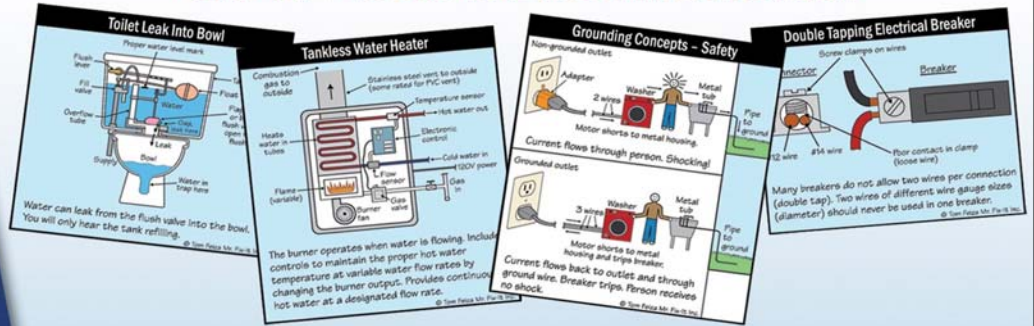
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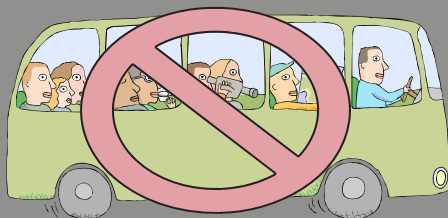
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WAHI Ride Along

The WAHI Board of Directors has decided to discontinue the Ride Along Program, effective immediately. This was, and remains, a valuable learning opportunity for new inspectors. However, concern has been raised regarding liability issues that come into play with a WAHI program of this nature. Members who wish to offer this to a fellow member on a personal level may certainly do so but it would not be WAHI sanctioned. Our thanks to all of the WAHI members who have offered their time and experience to a new member!



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MEMBER TIDBITS & ADVERTISERS

SPECIAL SPACES FOR SMALL PEOPLE

Longtime Milwaukee Chapter member and Embassy Homes architectural designer, Andrew Risch, is involved in the Special Spaces organization.

Special spaces, is a non-profit that creates dream bedrooms for children with life threatening illnesses.

The program is always looking for volunteers. If you would like to give of your time and talents, please contact Andrew at 262-841-8510 x111 or Andrew@embassyhomes.com

specialspacesmilwaukee.org



CHAPTER SECRETARIES

You are reminded to include upcoming speakers and topic information when you submit monthly meeting minutes to Julie Arnstein at julie@wahigroup.com.

The information will be included in the monthly newsletter and will also be posted on our website at: www.wahigroup.com.



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Our page gives you the perfect opportunity to make chapter announcements, post minutes or meeting changes or just see what your fellow members have been up to.

Please contact Bob Turicik with questions at:
920-892-7654 or



2014 - 2015 WAHI MEMBERSHIP ROSTER

By now you have heard about our new, very user-friendly, web-based Membership Management Program! This program exceeds all past WAHI website database systems!



As a result, the WAHI Board of Directors has decided to forgo posting a printable 2014-2015 membership roster at this time.



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NEW MEMBERS



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ProSpec Inspections
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Carol Lindsey (Central)
C.B. Lindsey Home Inspections, LLC.
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Happy New Year to all of you!

PHOTOS - YOU HAVE TO SEE IT TO BELIEVE IT



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www.thisoldhouse.com—Brodie Brown



MEMBER ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS & TIDBITS

WAHI Legal Support



Attorney Roy Wagner of von Briesen and Roper continues to offer risk-free initial counseling to members with legal concerns. If further legal assistance is requested, the cost of the initial consultation will be included in the bill.

Contact Roy at (414) 287-1250 or rwagner@vonbriesen.com.

COMMUNICATION

All member-to-member or member-to-association disputes must go through the Membership Committee. A member going public, with disputes of these types, risks disciplinary action.

The Membership Committee will implement this policy.

Contact Doug Hoerth at 920-375-0723 or email him at finallookinspectionsservices@yahoo.com.

WAHI Arbitration Program



Not every homeowner/inspector interaction goes smoothly.

Although all members are encouraged to make every effort to resolve disputes on their own, we know that is not always successful.

WAHI's Dispute Resolution Program is here for you during those difficult times.

The process begins when the complainant (homeowner) contacts the Program Administrator at Resolute Systems by one of the following ways:

Mail: 1550 N. Prospect Ave., Milwaukee, WI 53020

Email: info@ResoluteSystems.com

Website: www.resolutesystems.com

For more information, please contact Arbitration Committee Chair, **Dave Strandberg** at (608) 255-3966 or dstrand8@tds.net.

2015 WAHI STATE ELECTION

From Nominations and Election Chair,
Andy Helgeson:

CHOOSE

Happy New Year! Want to start the New Year right? Consider serving in a position of leadership in the coming year, be it at a chapter or state level.

If you've attended a WAHI seminar or Chapter meetings, you will remember past pleas for your involvement. WAHI benefits greatly with increased participation from the members. Many State and Chapter officers have reported an advancement in their inspection business and professionalism as a result of serving in a leadership position.

The membership will be electing 4 Member-at-Large positions. Each position is a 2-year term. The election will be held in early March and the results will be announced at the Annual Meeting in Baraboo on March 14, 2015.

Nominations and Elections Chair, Andy Helgeson will begin accepting nominations in January 2015. Please contact Andy if you are interested in a position or would like to submit a nomination - 414-315-0266 or ajhelgeson@wi.rr.com .

You may also contact Julie Arnstein at 877-399-WAHI or current President, Kent Schwanke at 800-585-4708 with any questions.

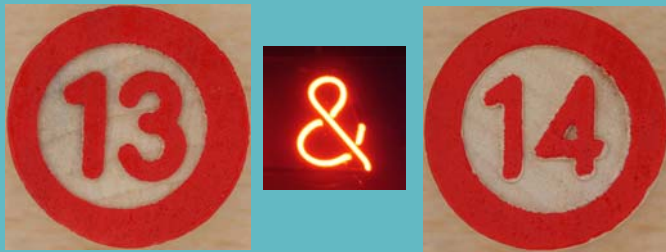
WAHI Spring Seminar

Mark your calendars for our next training event:

March 13- 14, 2015
Baraboo, WI

Watch for further details soon.

MARCH



NEW!



Effective immediately! Executive Director, Julie Arnstein has a new email address:

julie@wahigroup.com

Please update your address book and/or contact list; however, emails sent to juliewahi@gmail.com will still be received for several months.

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If you have any further questions, please contact

Julie at juile@wahigroup.com



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Treasurer , Tom Greenwaldt (262) 547-3678	Central WI Chapter Rich Duerkop, President (715) 241-8222
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Ron Miller (608) 832-6630	
Brian Opelt (715) 937-2002	

WAHI COMMITTEES

Arbitration David Strandberg, Chair Roy Wagner <i>Seeking at least 2 more members</i>	Membership Doug Hoerth, Chair Troy Beasley Paul Birschbach Roger Kautz • Brian Opelt David Pribyl David Strandberg Kyle Zimmerman Seeking Affiliate Members
Audit Tom Greenwaldt, Chair James Davis • George Finch Danny Kruger • Nathan Peterson Dave Stoinski	Nominations/Elections Andy Helgeson, Chair Rich Duerkop • Dennis Kruger • Cassidy Kuchenbecker • Scott McLean • Kent Schwanke Dave Waraxa
Education Tom Kruse, Co-Chair Kent Schwanke, Co-Chair John Moore • Pete Saltness James Smead <i>Seeking Members from Madison And Central Chapters</i>	Public Relations Bob Turicik, Chair Troy Beasley • Bruce Low Nick Petrie • Chuck Weber
Education House Kent Schwanke, Chair <i>Seeking 2 more members</i>	Rules & Bylaws Andy Helgeson, Chair Erick Beck • Tom Dempsey Tom Greenwaldt
Legal Support <i>Chair position is vacant</i> Ron Miller Attorney, Roy Wagner <i>Seeking 3 more members</i>	Website Doug Hoerth, Chair Keith Vanevenhoven
Legislative Ron Miller, Chair	

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