

**Andy Helgeson**  
**President**

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Everyone should thank the Education and Education House Committees, and separately, thank Julie. The Spring 2019 Education House and Training Seminar were, again, great! The “House” had a really good mix of problems that some may not commonly see. I really enjoyed the Saturday speaker line up too! The Electrical Grounding presentation by Steve Preins of Quality Education Group was the best I’ve ever seen on this subject and his primer on the *physics of electricity* was wonderful. I haven’t had college instructors teaching courses for electrical engineering explain this as well as he did.

While attendance was good, it would be great if more of our members, who often never show up, would attend. You don’t know what you’re missing! The Vendor Party on Friday evening is a great time to socialize but also gives you a chance to talk in depth with vendors who can really help your business. It’s great to be able to try things hands-on before you buy or have them give you an in-depth review of how their product or service can help you. On a side note, the food was also great!

Steve Preins travels around the country as a professional speaker and he commented to us that of all the places he speaks, WAHI is one of the best run seminars and is a favorite to attend! I always ask our vendors who also make the rounds to various home inspector conferences how WAHI events “stack up” – I hear similar praise from them. Make it a priority to attend the next seminar – you WILL NOT regret it.

It’s a shame that every member can’t get a chance to work closely with Julie, she is the heart and soul of WAHI. The praise regarding our seminars from the speakers and vendors is directly due to Julie’s efforts. I put high regard on the term Professional – and Julie is a true Professional. It’s not possible to be your President and do this job without her. The benefits of being President far outweigh the work required. You get to know your fellow members in a way you would never be able to otherwise, and WAHI is full of great people to get to know, along with Julie.

*(continued on pg. 4)*



**NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, April 17**

Social at 6:00 pm & Meeting/Dinner/Education at 6:30 pm

[Sconni's Alehouse & Eatery, 1239 Schofield Ave, Schofield, WI 54467](#)

**Education: Roundtable discussion of various findings in the field.**

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For speaker information, or to provide a suggestion/lead, please contact the Chapter Education Chair, Tyler Groshek at 715.212.7341



**NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, May 1**

Buffet Dinner at 5:30 pm & Meeting/Education at 6:00 pm

[Jade Garden Restaurant, 3620 Gateway Dr., Eau Claire](#)

**Education: Roundtable discussion to discuss the new WAHI Inspection Agreement, arbitration, LLCs and other legal issues.**

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For speaker information, or to provide a suggestion/lead, please contact Chapter Education Chair, David Welch at 715.382.6058



**NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, April 16**

Social at 5:30 pm & Roundtable/Meeting/Dinner/Education at 6:00 pm

[The Stone Toad, 1109 S. Oneida St., Menasha](#)

**Roundtable Discussion:** Specific topic yet to be determined. Bring pictures on your smart phone or jump drive to load onto the projector!

**Education: To be determined**

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For speaker information, or to provide a suggestion/lead, please contact Chapter Education Chair, Scott Hansen at 920.716.3025



**NEXT MEETING: Thursday, April 18**

Roundtable at 5:30 pm & Meeting/Dinner/Education at 6:00 pm

[Great Dane Pub and Brewing, 2980 Cahill Main, Fitchburg](#)

**Education: To be determined**

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Calling all Madison members! We need your help to find speakers for our future meetings - we accept a wide range of topics. Please contact Chapter Education Chair, Ron Miller at 608.235.9836



**NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, April 9**

Social time starts at 5:30 pm or later, Buffet Dinner available from 6:00 - 7:00 pm

Meeting/Education at 7:00 pm

[The Pallas Restaurant, 1657 S 108th St, Milwaukee](#)

**Education: Jeff Ratliff, Pure and Simple Solutions Pest Control**

Jeff will discuss how to identify pest issues and what to do about them!

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For speaker information, or to provide a suggestion/lead, please contact Chapter Education Chair, Ryan Eigenfeld at 414.795.9018

# WHAT'S HAPPENING IN WAHI?

This is a brief recap of activity in the past month and a preview of what lay ahead. If anyone would ever like further information on something mentioned in this piece, just let me know...[julie@wahigroup.com](mailto:julie@wahigroup.com) or 414.299.9766

## March 2019

- **Spring 2019 Education House and Training Seminar:** Another smashing success was planned by our Education House Chair Mike Carson and Education Co-Chairs Tom Kruse and John Moore. See page 6 in this newsletter for a full list of who also contributed to make it happen!
- **Board Meeting:** Thank you to Fox Valley member Dale Anderson for joining the Board as a guest of Fox Valley Chapter Elected Member at Large Dave Pribyl. Board members are asked to invite a member from their chapter who demonstrates leadership skills to a meeting. That invited guest sits at the Board table and is part of the discussion that takes place - it's a great opportunity to get a true "feel" for serving on the WAHI Board. Dale shared with me later that it was one of the best experiences he has had in WAHI. Let your chapter reps know if you have interest in attending a future meeting.
- **WAHI Facebook Page:** If you are not yet a "friend" of the WAHI Facebook page get your friend request in! This is a very valuable member-benefit. Unlike some Facebook pages which are filled with political jabs, vacation photos ("Wish you were here!") and where people are dining at the moment, the WAHI Facebook page is a great opportunity to ask questions, answer questions, share information and post pictures of the oddities you occasionally (or frequently!) see out there! Contact Public Relations Chair and Facebook Administrator Bob Turicik, if you need guidance - [homereview@wi.rr.com](mailto:homereview@wi.rr.com) or 920.946.0433.



**Julie Arnstein**  
**Executive Director**

## April 2019 and Beyond...

- **New Arbitration Program:** Training for the new program will be conducted by CDRS on April 11, 12 and 13 in Milwaukee. Changes to the existing WAHI Inspection Agreement will be made very soon after the training - watch your email for important announcements and updated documents.
- **Change in Leadership:** What a pleasure it has been for me, personally and professionally, to have worked with our outgoing President Andy Helgeson. Andy and I worked on a lot of projects together and spent a fair amount of time on the road as well. We had ample time to share and collaborate on things, discuss each other's point of view on something and share the ups and downs, past and present, in our own, non-WAHI lives. It's pretty safe to say we are solid members of a Mutual Admiration Society. 😊 With that said, I so look forward to working with Ric Thompson. Ric took time and gave serious thought before making his decision to run for President. My conversations with Ric have shown a sincere appreciation for what WAHI has done for him, in his relatively short membership in the association, and his desire to give back. Ric has enthusiasm, new ideas and a true interest in getting involved - in addition to serving as State President, he is now serving as the Fox Valley Chapters' Secretary and is a member of the Long Range Planning Committee. Welcome to the WAHI Board of Directors, Ric!
- **Fall 2019 Education House and Training Seminar:** Save the date...Friday, November 8<sup>th</sup> and Saturday, November 9<sup>th</sup> at Chula Vista in the WI Dells!
- **2020 Education House and Training Seminar:** The WAHI Board is looking at Eau Claire, La Crosse and Stevens Point for our spring event and the WI Dells again in fall - stay tuned!

You can **add your photo and/or a link to your website** to your WAHI profile!

Submit photo and/or company website info. to: [julie@wahigroup.com](mailto:julie@wahigroup.com)

## PRESIDENT (CONT'D)

WAHI has some great initiatives in the works for you. The Long Range Planning Committee had its initial meeting during the seminar weekend. The Committee has a great group with the skills and desire to dig in and get things going. Your new President, Ric Thompson, is part of the Committee and I can see already that he is the right man for the job.

I'm not much for good-byes, plus I'm not leaving WAHI, I'm just changing jobs. I'm also pretty secure in my own skin and don't generally blow my own horn – so I won't go on about the past. I enjoy being a part of WAHI and look forward to helping to make the inspection profession better and make WAHI better for our members.

I look forward to seeing you all at our future meetings and events.

Andy Helgeson

### BOARD MEETING

The Board is hittin' the road for the next Board meeting!  
We will be visiting the Chippewa Valley Chapter by holding the board meeting the same afternoon as their monthly chapter meeting – Wednesday May 1st.

All WAHI members are welcome but we especially encourage Chippewa Valley members to attend!

Come see how the Board functions to lead the association.

Contact Executive Director Julie Arnstein if you plan to attend to ensure sufficient seating and handouts - [julie@wahigroup.com](mailto:julie@wahigroup.com) or 414.299.9766.



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# STATE AND CHAPTER ELECTIONS

WAHI members are welcoming in a new State President, Ric Thompson, of our Fox Valley Chapter!  
Thank you, Ric, for your interest in leading WAHI for the next 2 years.

Thanks go out to our members as well, for participating in this year's election -  
we successfully met our quorum.

All of our WAHI Chapters have now held their local election - see results below.

Thank you to all of our 2019-21 chapter officers - some "staying on", some new to their position -  
for your willingness to serve the association and your chapter members.

We couldn't do it without you!

## Central

President Mike Carson  
Vice President Kyle Zimmermann  
Secretary Paul Zenker  
Treasurer Greg Harvey  
Education Chair Tyler Groshek  
Chapter-Elected Member at Large Mike Carson

## Madison

President Sean Martinson  
Vice President Jeff Loree  
Secretary Trent Stein  
Treasurer Misty Russell  
Education Chair Ron Miller  
Chapter-Elected Member at Large David Strandberg

## Chippewa Valley

President Terry Elliott  
Vice President Jon Hempel  
Secretary David Welch  
Treasurer James Davis  
Education Chair David Welch  
Chapter-Elected Member at Large Brian Opelt

## Milwaukee

Co-President Jim Oezer  
Co-President Jay Paulson  
Vice President Joe Chitko  
Secretary Brian Derewicz  
Treasurer Dave Corby  
Education Chair Ryan Eigenfeld  
Chapter-Elected Member at Large Brian Derewicz

## Fox Valley

President Dave Pribyl  
Vice President Ron Nohre  
Secretary Ric Thompson  
Treasurer Tom Beatty  
Education Chair Scott Hansen  
Chapter-Elected Member at Large Dave Pribyl

## SPRING AND FALL SEMINARS

**A BIG thank you to all of the members who contributed to making our spring event such a GREAT success!**

- \* Education House Committee Chair Mike Carson (Central) and Committee member (aka Right Hand Man) Mike von Gunten (Milwaukee)
- \* Education House Volunteers Denny Kruger, Bruce Low, Scot McLean, Ron Miller, Dave Pribyl, Mike Skauge, David Strandberg, Bob Turicik and Paul Zenker
- \* Education House Speakers Bingo Emmons/Creative Construction of WI, Scott LeMarr/Milwaukee Mold Inspector, Kurt Soens/Smoke Stacks and Chris Mancuso/Accurate Basement Repair - all Milwaukee Affiliate members. Accurate also lined up the house for our training this year!
- \* Education Committee Co-Chairs Tom Kruse (Chippewa Valley) and John Moore (Milwaukee)
- \* Saturday Speakers Mark Thomas, David Nason, Andy Helgeson and Jim Jendusa/Jendusa Design and Engineering - all from the Milwaukee Chapter
- \* Vendors - America's Call Center, ASHI, Burton Anderson, Creative Construction of WI, Environmental Initiatives (not to mention their fun LaBARatory in the WAHI hospitality room!), Focus on Energy, HomeGauge, How To Operate Your Home, Inspection Support Network, Inspector Pro, Inspector Services Group, Lifetime Radon Solutions, Milwaukee Mold Inspector and Smoke Stacks

**Save the Date...November 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>**

**WAHI Fall 2019 Education House and Training Seminar in the WI Dells!**



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**See page 10 for an informative article provided by InspectorPro**

## Human Interest...or rather, Fellow Member Interest!

Recently 2 members (well, one a former member) demonstrated the type of people we are so fortunate to have within the association and deserve to be recognized.


Madison Home Inspector member John Freiburger had signed up for the seminar on March 30<sup>th</sup>. Due to a death in his family, he was no longer able to attend. He asked that I offer his registration fee to a new member or an Associate (student) member rather than refund his money. I knew just who to offer it to! Thank you John, both in dollars and in your "sense" of generosity to a fellow member, it was much appreciated by the recipient.

Former Home Inspector member Barb Basaj (Milwaukee) changed careers a few years ago and while doing some spring cleaning came upon some reference materials she thought may be of use to our members. Barb took the time to deliver the books to the Four Points by Sheraton this past weekend, knowing I would be there. WAHI is still sorting out the best use of the materials from Barb - stay tuned.



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## NEW MEMBERS

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*Home Inspector Member*

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414.525.9703

cooper7220@gmail.com

**Ryan Creapeau (Chippewa Valley)**

*Home Inspector Member*

RC Home Inspections, LLC

715.492.1010

ryan@rchomeinspectionsllc.com

**Robert Darnell (Madison)**

*Home Inspector Member*

Informed Decision Home Inspections

608.844.0558

informed.decision@yahoo.com

**Kevin Richardt (Milwaukee)**

*Home Inspector Member*

262.744.1608

partsforpros@yahoo.com

**Scott Scherer (Madison)**

*Home Inspector Member*

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# FROM CURTAINS TO CRAWLSPACES: HOW ONE WOMAN JOINED THE HOME INSPECTION INDUSTRY

By [InspectorPro Insurance](#)

*In our Inspector Spotlight series, we take a closer look at individual inspectors making an impact on the inspection industry.*

Most home inspectors agree that women are underrepresented in the inspection industry. However, just how few female home inspectors there are is difficult to pinpoint.

According to the United States [Bureau of Labor Statistics](#), women made up [14 percent](#) of the nation's 108,000 construction and building inspectors in 2018. However, home inspectors comprise just a sliver of the construction and building inspectors category, so it's difficult to say if 14 percent accurately represents the female footprint on the property inspection industry.



In its 2011 Home Inspections Business Operations Survey, the American Society of Home Inspectors ([ASHI](#)) made a concerted effort to gather and publish data regarding the percentage of female and male home inspectors. According to its data, only 1.6 percent of inspectors surveyed were female. However, with the data nearly a decade old, it's unlikely that the survey results remain true today.

Whether women make up 1.6 or 14 percent of home inspectors, their contributions play a pivotal role in how the inspection industry evolves. In this article, we explore how Maryland native Welmoed (pronounced VEL-moot) Sisson entered into and thrives in the inspection field.

## STARTING SMALL

When her husband started [Inspections by Bob, LLC](#) in 2003, Sisson was designing and developing custom window treatments and accessories as the owner of Bellwoods Interiors. While purchasing and inhabiting three "challenged" homes had given the couple great practice diagnosing defects, Sisson perceived property inspections as her husband's dream—not her own.

"I am not going to go crawling around crawlspaces and attics" Sisson told her husband. "But, when I'm not working, I'll help you by answering the phone, scheduling appointments, and doing some marketing materials. But that's the limit, because I have my own business."

So, in between sewing projects, Sisson supported her husband's business by completing clerical tasks. Every night, her husband Bob gave the family informal inspection classes by presenting slide shows of that day's inspection findings.

[READ MORE](#)

To learn more about InspectorPro Insurance, please see our ad on page 6 of this newsletter.

## Members Only - Interactive Forum

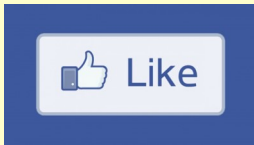
It has come to our attention that many of you may be unaware the WAHI website hosts an interactive forum on the Members Only page. We encourage all members to check it out!

This is a very useful tool for communicating directly with fellow members and with our large membership, chances are very good that you will find someone who has a shared experience similar to yours or an answer to your question!

To access the forum section of the website you need to log-in to the website.

See below for step-by-step instructions to log-in to your profile and make use of this additional "tool" and benefit WAHI offers to their members.

## Stay in touch with the WAHI Facebook page!



Our WAHI Facebook community provides the perfect opportunity to post minutes, make chapter announcements, post meeting changes, start a dialog/ask questions of other inspectors or just see what your fellow WAHI members have been up to.

If you have any questions, please contact:

**Bob Turicik at 920.892.7654 or [homeview@wi.rr.com](mailto:homeview@wi.rr.com)**



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## WAHI 101: INSTRUCTIONS TO UPDATE YOUR PROFILE IN 5 EASY STEPS

1. Go to [www.wahigroup.com](http://www.wahigroup.com).
2. From the Home Page - upper right corner, **select "LOGIN."** **ENTER your email address** on file with WAHI and **password.**  
\*If you have questions, contact Julie at [julie@wahigroup.com](mailto:julie@wahigroup.com).
3. Once logged in, the upper right corner shows your name, "Change Password" and "Log Out."  
**CLICK on your name.**
4. You should now be on the "My Profile" page. **Select "EDIT PROFILE"** in the gray rectangular box.
5. After making your updates, **select "SAVE"** in the gray rectangular box at the bottom of the page.

## 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.

For information, please contact: Executive Director Julie Arnstein at 414.299.9766 or [julie@wahigroup.com](mailto:julie@wahigroup.com)

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## OFFICE DEPOT

Office Max and Office Depot merged some time ago. The Office Max discount program offered to WAHI members no longer exists – the savings became spotty as the merger was coming together and then finalized.

**Office Depot has come to WAHI with a new, improved program.**

See page 15 for information on their in-store program and page 16 for a program overview and the contact person to establish an online account.

**From one of our Central Chapter members. "I needed 2,000 copies made – they quoted me \$160.00. After I presented my WAHI card, the cost dropped to \$50.00! What an AWESOME savings!"**

# WAHI Legal Support

Attorneys Roy Wagner and Lauren Triebenbach, of von Briesen and Roper, continue 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 us at 414.287.1250

[rwagner@vonbriesen.com](mailto:rwagner@vonbriesen.com) or [ltrieben@vonbriesen.com](mailto:ltrieben@vonbriesen.com)

## DISPUTE PROCESS

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.

**For more information on this process, contact Membership Committee Chair: Ron Miller at 608.235.9836 or [ronmiller547@gmail.com](mailto:ronmiller547@gmail.com)**



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# WAHI WELCOME COMMITTEE

Our Welcome Committee is intended to do just that....*welcome* our new members into WAHI. As a new member, expect a call from a member from your chapter. If you are a "newer" member – maybe you joined a while ago but haven't yet attended a meeting - feel free to reach out to a committee member from your chapter and make arrangements to meet at the next or an upcoming meeting.

We want our new members to feel "welcome", feel a connection with the group... and the members listed below are the right people to do that!

## CENTRAL

Mike Carson - 715.212.4051 or carsonhomeinspector@gmail.com

Kyle Zimmerman - 715.387.1815 or kyle@royaltinspections.com

## CHIPPEWA VALLEY

Jon Hempel - 715.210.3217 or jhempel@newageinspection.com

Joel Markeson - 715.225.0385 or jpmarkuson@gmail.com

## FOX VALLEY

Dave Brading - 920.889.2120 or dave.brading@yahoo.com

Bob Turicik - 920.946.0433 or homereview@wi.rr.com

## MADISON

Sean Martinsen - 608.206.1108 or sktailhook@yahoo.com

Rich Reinart - 608.535.9206 or thehomeinspectorllcwi@gmail.com

## MILWAUKEE

Brian Derewicz - 262.343.1614 or briandthehomeinspector@gmail.com

Nick Hammetter - 414.412.2637 or humblehomeinspector@gmail.com

Andy Helgeson - 414.315.0266 or helge4674@outlook.com

Scott LeMarr - 262.424.5587 or scott@honesthomeinspections.com

Brittany Thomas - 414.486.2367 or thomasradontesting@gmail.com

Mike von Gunten - 262.945.2446 or mike@lahigroup.com

Thank you all for stepping up to serve on one of the **most important** committees within the WAHI organization!

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## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### President

Andrew Helgeson  
262.377.0751

Ron Miller  
608.235.9836

### Co-Vice Presidents

Terry Elliott  
715.577.4211

Brian Opelt  
715.937.2002

Tom Greenwaldt  
262.271.0124

Dave Pribyl  
920.660.3000

### Secretary & Executive Director

Julie Arnstein  
414.299.9766

David Strandburg  
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### Welcome

See page 14 in this newsletter

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