



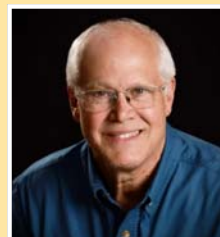
The WAHI Inspector

TM

From the President: STANDARD REPORTS AND RAISING WAHI AWARENESS

Hello fellow WAHI members!

Anyone interested in a free movie? The WAHI Education House/ Education Committees produced a great video for everyone during our Spring 2016 Education House. Many years ago I saw a demonstration of a chimney fire that made me realize that even small cracks in a chimney flue pose a significant hazard. If you haven't watched the video on the homepage of the WAHI website, treat yourself some night. You'll never look at masonry chimneys the same! Thank you to the committees for their work on this.



WAHI and the home inspection industry in Wisconsin have a big challenge ahead. There is an effort by the Wisconsin Realtors Association to have a State approved Standard Inspection Report and to redefine the word "defect" in their contracts. This issue has the potential to radically change our business, and not in a good way.

Your WAHI Board of Directors has formed a committee charged with handling this issue, but we all need to be working on this in our daily contacts. Standard reports will dramatically limit how we do business and provide no benefit to the people that matter in a real estate sale - our clients. Standard reports will likely put us into a small box and limit what we do. I encourage you to have discussions with Realtors to let them know our position whenever possible. Let them know that this would be like having multiple choice sales contracts or amendments - if their transaction doesn't fit into one of the limited choices, they'll have to make their transaction fit the form. If you have contacts and/or friendships with any legislators, educate them as well on the negative impact this will have.

Texas has gone the route of a standardized report form - I'm including a link to what home inspectors in Texas must use. www.trec.state.tx.us/formslawscontracts/forms/forms-propertyinspection.asp. This is a great example of how bad a Standard Report can be.

This issue puts more of a burden on us to be as professional and knowledgeable as possible. It is our duty to know what a "defect" is, to detect all defects, and accurately describe the defects. Vague descriptions and inconclusive language do not help anyone. One of the most common complaints from Realtors is on this issue. The more you attend Chapter meetings and Seminars, the more informed and professional you'll be. Don't sit back and wait for someone else to take care of this, this is a huge threat to all of us.

(continued on page 7)

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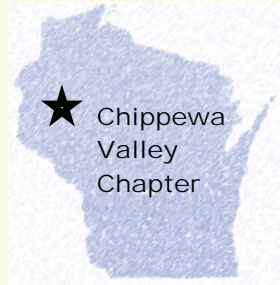


Central Chapter

Our May speaker was WAHI Home Inspector member, Mike Carson, from Inspect It Right Home Inspections. He discussed home performance issues about energy efficiency and how he uses the blower door system to analyze homes.

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, June 15
Social at 6:00 p.m. & Dinner/Meeting at 6:30 p.m.
Meeting and meal is \$30; meeting is only \$10.
Palms Supper Club Steak House, 5912 Business Hwy 51, Schofield
Speaker: Phil Borchart, City of Wausau Building Inspector
Phil will discuss the changes in coding for decks.

For speaker information, or to provide a suggestion/lead, please contact the Chapter President, Richard Duerkop at 715-241-8222.



Chippewa Valley Chapter

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, June 1
Buffet Dinner at 5:30 p.m. & Meeting at 6:00 p.m.
Jade Garden Restaurant, 3620 Gateway Dr., Eau Claire
Speaker: Dan Hanson, Regional Representative for Metro Roof Products
Dan will be giving a presentation on metal roofing - proper methods and procedures.
We encourage members to bring photos to present/discuss.

For speaker information, or to provide a suggestion/lead, please contact Chapter Education Chair, Pete Saltness at 715-829-7348.



Fox Valley Chapter

Our May speaker was Paul Pienkos, M.D. with Prevea Cardiology. Paul spoke about risk factors for cardiovascular disease and how to prevent a heart attack and stroke. The #1 lesson learned...when performing a home inspection, if an attendee has a cardiac event, before anything else - call 911 **first**, then perform CPR.

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, June 21
Social at 6:00 p.m. & Meeting/Dinner at 6:30 p.m.
Stone Toad, 1109 S. Oneida St., Menasha
Speaker: To be determined

For speaker information, or to provide a suggestion/lead, please contact Chapter Education Chair, Scott Hansen at 920-716-3025.

Please see page 5 of this newsletter for all of our May chapter meeting details.



Madison Chapter

NEXT MEETING: Thursday, June 16
Roundtable at 6:00 p.m. & Meeting/Dinner at 6:30 p.m.
Rocky Rococo's Pizza, 1753 Thierer Rd., Madison
Speaker: To be determined

***The Madison Chapter meets only the following months: January, February, May, June, September and October.**

For speaker information, or to provide a suggestion/lead, please contact the Chapter President, Denny Kruger at 608-835-5395.



Milwaukee Chapter

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, June 14
Social at 6:00 p.m., Dinner at 6:30 p.m. and Meeting at 7:00 p.m.
Klemmer's Banquet Center 10401 W. Oklahoma Ave., West Allis
Speaker: Steve Knoebel, WAHI Home Inspector Member and Milwaukee Chapter Education Chair
Steve will address 'Unexpected Consequences.'

For speaker information, or to provide a suggestion/lead, please contact Chapter Education Chair, Steven Knoebel at 414-828-4217.

What's Happening in WAHI?

By Executive Director, Julie Arnstein

Here is the 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, 414.299.9766 or 877.399.WAHI



May 2016

- The Board of Directors met in Mauston, Tuesday May 3rd for the first meeting of the newly elected Board. President Andy Helgeson's agenda addressed WAHI here and now, as well as WAHI's future in this fast paced world we live in. The Board discussed short and long term goals. At this time the focus is on the WRA and their possible push for standardized home inspection report forms, community service to increase WAHI awareness and a marketing campaign to increase membership and seminar attendance.
- Arbitration Committee Chair Mark Thomas and I met with Mike Weinzierl of Resolute Systems (the company that administers our Arbitration Program) to discuss the current program and going forward. Mark stressed the fact that WAHI-trained home inspector and contractor arbitrators are the key to the success of the WAHI program. Mike Weinzierl agreed to explore a previous situation where a qualified contractor arbitrator was ruled out as a participant due to a very casual relationship with one of the parties involved in the case (i.e. fellow chapter member). Going forward Mike Weinzierl agreed to provide documentation to WAHI tracking inquiries, cases that go through to arbitration, and those that settle. This data may be useful in dealing with some insurance companies that dismiss our arbitration clause. Stay tuned!

June and Beyond...

- As you know membership renewal is around the corner! As a matter of fact, it is likely that by the time you read this newsletter you have already received your website-generated renewal notice - they were scheduled to go out late May/early June with a renewal date of July 1st. Multiple reminders go out to members who have not yet renewed as the due date approaches - one month before, 1 week before and one day before. There were a few glitches in the system last year - wrong date on the invoice and members who had already renewed received another notice which caused a bit of confusion and concern but I think we're in good shape this time - have gone over everything with a fine-tooth comb...none the less, fingers crossed! Be sure to **submit your renewal by July 1st to avoid a late fee of \$25.00.**
- Our Education Committee is already looking ahead to our WAHI Fall 2016 Education House and Training Seminar. We are scheduled for Friday November 4th and Saturday November 5th, at The Wilderness Resort in the WI Dells/Baraboo area. Save the date!
- Please continue to seek out new affiliate members to join your chapter. The Board has asked the Arbitration Committee to make early December 2016 a goal for an Arbitration Training event. This training would be for new candidates and possibly a refresher course for those who went through the training several years ago. There is **a lot of work to be done** prior to scheduling a training and that **falls on each and every member in WAHI.** All members **must** reach out to new affiliate members and suitable candidates to serve as participants in our Arbitration program. Arbitration Committee Chair, Mark Thomas, made numerous pleas to all Chapter - Elected Members at Large on the Board of Directors, as well as all attendees during his fall 2015 seminar presentation on Risk Management and again at our Spring 2016 Seminar in Milwaukee. In order for WAHI to have a successful Arbitration program we need more qualified affiliate members, at each chapter, who can then be trained to serve as a Contractor Arbitrator. A solid program needs to be in place should the need for arbitration arise. It is every WAHI member's responsibility to assist in this goal.

Board Meeting Minutes

The Board Meeting minutes from March 18th were approved at the May 3rd Board Meeting. You can access the minutes on the Members Only page of the WAHI website - scroll down toward the bottom of the page. Log-in as instructed on page 11 of this newsletter - Website 101.

- From the Home Page, go to the far right - "hover" your mouse on the 3 horizontal lines.
- As you "hover," 3 options will appear on the drop down menus - select Members Only.
- Scroll down to the bottom section of the page to view Board Meeting Minutes.
The March 18, 2016 minutes are posted at the very bottom of the first (left) column.

Members Only - Interactive Forum

It has come to our attention that many of you may be unaware that 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 page 11 in this newsletter 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.



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Madison's Chapter Meeting



Secretary David Ross of the Department of Safety and Professional Services (DSPS) was our May speaker - Secretary Ross never disappoints! He addressed the

Department's role in maintaining our licenses, how training credits are monitored and upcoming legislative proposals including standardized home inspection reports.

Chapter President Dennis Kruger spoke about the DSPS's process for handling complaints and how they resolve a complaint if one is filed against a home inspector. So far only two complaints have been filed against a home inspector for the entire State of Wisconsin this year. Home Inspectors have the lowest complaints when compared to any other trade.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Membership renewal is around the corner! Notices will go out late May/early June automatically via the website.

There were a few glitches in the system last year – wrong date on the invoice and members who had already renewed received another notice which caused a bit of confusion and concern, but we're in good shape this time.

Be sure to submit your renewal by July 1st to avoid a late fee of \$25.00.

Any Questions?

Contact Julie at julie@wahigroup.com

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For anyone looking to book more home inspections, be sure to download "*The Online Guide to Booking More Home Inspections.*" Within this guide you will learn how to leverage your website, and Google, to attract new customers and book more inspections. This 23-page guide is FREE to all WAHI members, compliments of Josh Fulfer of KVF Marketing, a Milwaukee Chapter Affiliate.



Click [HERE](#) to download "*The Online Guide to Booking More Inspections*" by Josh Fulfer.

Also, in conjunction with the recent WAHI conference, Josh is offering free website evaluations to all WAHI members. Email your website url to josh@kvfmarketing.com if you'd like a free, no-strings, evaluation of your website. See my ad on this page.

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

Stay in touch with WAHI's Facebook Page

Our WAHI Facebook page gives you the perfect opportunity to make chapter announcements, post minutes, post meeting changes or just see what your fellow members have been up to. If you have any questions, please contact:

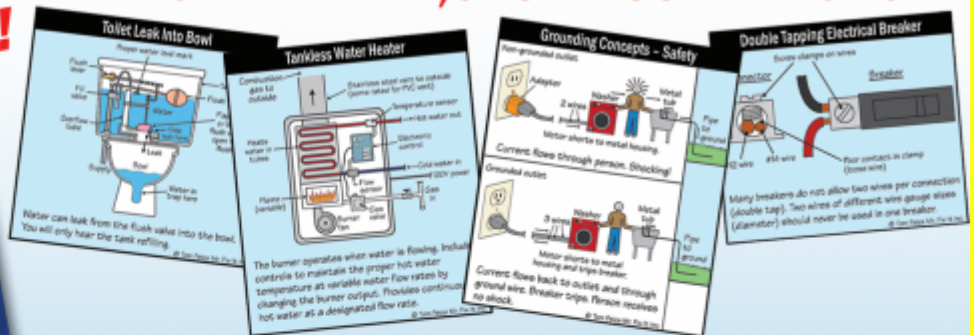
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(From the President continued from page 1)

On an entirely different subject, the Board of Directors has discussed ways to increase awareness of WAHI to nonmember inspectors and to the general public. The bigger our presence becomes the more positive influence we'll have when issues arise. We also hope greater WAHI awareness will lead the public to seek out WAHI members. We discussed a variety of public service opportunities - there are so many to consider! At our last board meeting, Mike von Gunten (Member at Large and a past President) gave us a great suggestion. Mike has been performing pro bono safety inspections for people living in substandard housing. This is a public service WAHI members are supremely qualified to do. We plan to investigate this further. I welcome feedback and suggestions from all of you on this.



Feel free to contact me, our Executive Director Julie Arnstein, any of the Board of Directors, your Chapter President or Chapter Member at Large with your thoughts on this opportunity as well as our efforts on a Standard Inspection Report.

Live well, have fun, and prosper in the things that matter -
Andy Helgeson, President



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Office Max has joined forces with Office Depot.

Office Max/Office Depot revised their online program - stay tuned, more details to come. Based on these changes, we would encourage members to shop in-store to take advantage of any discounts offered (see page 18).

Please let Julie know if any of your frequently purchased items are not included in the program.

julie@wahigroup.com



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julie@wahigroup.com

SPECIAL SPACES FOR KIDS



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

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— Henry "Sonny" Toman



NEW WAHI MEMBERS

Ken Bowers (Fox Valley)
Associate/Student Member
920-585-0976
kenkenbowers@aol.com

Shane Eichmann
*Affiliate Member for home
inspection report forms,
checklists and software*
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866-892-4396
staff@homeinspectionform.com
www.homeinspectionform.com

Terry Kowalk (Madison)
Home Inspector Member
Kowalk Property Inspections, LLC.
608-697-8141
tkowalk1967@gmail.com

James Matthews (Milwaukee)
Home Inspector Member
Attic 2 Basement Home Inspection
262-971-1664
jmatthews5@wi.rr.com

John Remark
*Affiliate Member for Errors &
Omissions Insurance coverage*
First Indemnity Insurance
202-465-4306
john@homeinspectorliability.com
www.homeinspectorliability.com

Stacey Roth (Fox Valley)
Home Inspector Member
Realty Spec, LLC.
608-604-5600
sanbar13@yahoo.com

Gary Stuckey (Madison)
Home Inspector Member
Cabin to Castle
608-537-3300
sadies@mwt.net

INSTRUCTIONS TO UPDATE YOUR PROFILE IN 5 EASY STEPS:



1. Go to 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 multiple email addresses and are uncertain of your WAHI email address, contact Julie at julie@wahigroup.com - she can provide your WAHI address or update it for you.
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 changes/updates, **select "SAVE"** in the gray rectangular box at the bottom of the page.



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BEWARE OF UNSCRUPULOUS HOME SELLERS

We all have to deal with that occasional unethical seller. Every once in a while you come across one that gives the term "loser" a whole new name. It's people like them that remind us contractors and inspectors why we need to make sure that we are doing right by our customers/buyers.

My cautionary tale this month is this:

If you come across a two-story house that has a very steep roof and a very tall chimney that you know are not going to be able to get up close to, I hope you have a very strong pair of binoculars. The binoculars will enable you to call out any failure of brick that is covered with paint to look like the other brick on the chimney. We have all seen some brick faces covered with colored mortar/paint, but some people will go to great lengths to cover up brick failure that could end up costing the next homeowner(s) at least \$10,000 to fix correctly.

~ Happy Inspections!

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,
Mark Thomas
at (414) 486-2367 or
mark@thomasbuildingconsulting.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 Joy Douthwaite Bott at 414-395-0639 or email her at joy@thoroughinspectionservices.com

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

Charlie's House

A couple of our members attended ASHI Inspection World 2016. They were very impressed with an organization they discovered, Charlie's House, and felt the information would be valuable to you and your clients:

On November 1, 2007, Charlie Horn, a 2-year-old Kansas City boy, was killed when he attempted to climb a 30" dresser in his home. It was through this tragedy that Charlie's House was born.

What started as a memorial and an outpouring of public support has grown into a 501 (c)(3) not for profit organization with safety at its core - dedicated to keeping the community informed and engaged when it comes to preventing injuries to children in and around the home.

As part of this mission, Charlie's House participates in and sponsors community-wide events to provide home safety information. Plans are also underway to raise funds for a safety demonstration house that will provide adults with real-life demonstrations, examples and resources on children's safety.

For further information visit their website - <http://charlieshouse.org/>

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Treasurer Tom Kruse (608) 782-8831	Mike von Gunten (262) 945-2446
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Scott McLean (414) 228-6573	Dave Brading, Fox Valley (920) 889-2120
Ron Miller (608) 832-6630	Dennis Kruger, Madison (608) 575-0371
	James Smead, Milwaukee (262) 424-4839

WAHI COMMITTEES

Arbitration Mark Thomas, Chair Dave Brading • Ron Nohre Attorney Roy Wagner Kyle Zimmerman	Membership Joy Douthwaite Bott, Chair Roger Kautz Scot McLean Brian Opelt David Pribyl Kyle Zimmerman <i>Seeking Affiliate members</i>
Audit Tom Kruse, Chair James Davis • George Finch Danny Kruger • Nathan Peterson Dave Stoinski	Nominations/Elections Andy Helgeson, Chair Dave Brading • Rich Duerkop • Dennis Kruger Cassidy Kuchenbecker James Smead • Dave Welch
Education Tom Kruse, Co-Chair John Moore, Co-Chair Pete Saltness • James Smead Mike von Gunten	Public Relations Bob Turicik, Chair Troy Beasley • Bruce Low Nick Petrie Chuck Weber
Education House James Smead, Chair Christine Rhodes	Rules & Bylaws Andy Helgeson, Chair Tom Dempsey
Legal Support <i>Chair position is vacant</i> Ron Miller Attorney Roy Wagner <i>Seeking 3 more members</i>	Website Doug Hoerth, Chair Julie Arnstein <i>Seeking 1 more member</i>
Legislative David Strandberg, Chair	

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www.coverrainurance.com

Hanover Insurance

330 E. Kilbourn Avenue, #650, Milwaukee, WI 53202
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