



The MGPHO Minute

Presidents Message

Where has the last month gone? It seems like I barely hit send and it is time to send out another newsletter. It feels like at times, the more that I try to slow down, the faster life goes.

Recently while traveling for business I had a rather long, late night drive back to the hotel to make an early morning flight. I started to think and reflect a little on how I ended up where I am now in my career. I was struggling a little bit as I had left a job site prior to the work being completed. There was really no reason that I needed to still be on site as my portion of the project was complete but something that was long instilled in me was to never leave until your task is complete.

So if there was no reason for me to remain on-site, why was there such angst for leaving? I settled on two things. First, the group of people that I left behind to finish are people that I consider colleagues, friends and teammates. I have worked with this group in various capacities for close to 20 years, which is probably why I felt like I had abandoned them. It's hard to call someone your teammate and feel like you didn't have their back. Secondly, I have had many peers and leaders in life that drove home the importance of completing your tasks and goals. For all of those mentors, I will be forever thankful for the path they heled to guide me on. Not being on the project to completion left me feeling incomplete because of the examples of such great mentors.

During this season of Thanksgiving, think back to those mentors that helped you get to where you are, give them a shout out or tell them thanks. You never know, a Thank You might be just what someone needs to make their day. Additionally, think about what you can do to mentor that next person in line or lead someone else to a spot where they can be successful.

Mathis Carlson- MGPHO President



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The Corky Bishop Scholarship Fund

The last day of the 2022 conference Mathis Carlson the newly elected MGPPO President made an exciting announcement. "I would not be where I am in the industry without the mentorship of Corky Bishop, so, I am pleased to announce the creation of the Corky Bishop Scholarship Fund."

The goal of the scholarship fund is to pay for the conference registration and hotel costs for four first time attendees at each annual conference who are also MGPPO Members.

Anyone who would like to make a contribution to the scholarship fund can contact Mathis Carlson or Cheryl Moon for specific details on how to send in the contribution.

Soon we will send out more details on how to nominate recipients or how potential recipients can apply.

We are very excited for the opportunity that this scholarship fund will provide.

"Talk to others in the industry. Learn from them and be prepared to continue your education for the duration of your career."

MGPPO Welcomes New Members

MGPPO would like to welcome the following new members:

Follow MGPPO on LinkedIn!

www.linkedin.com/in/mgppo

Exceptional Service Award– Jim Lucas

Prior to the 2022 Annual Conference, Jim Lucas was nominated to receive the MGPPO Exceptional Service Award recognizing individuals who have given exceptional service to the Medical Gas Verification Industry as demonstrated by commitment to his or her job, industry development and/or industry involvement above and beyond expectations. It recognizes outstanding efforts, personal dedication, passion, and commitment to the Organization, Industry, and our Mission.

Jim Lucas joined Tri-Tech Medical, Inc. on March 1, 1998 as Vice President of Sales and Marketing. Jim was very instrumental in helping Tri-Tech Medical grow through the years in sales and in product development where he is a co-inventor on several patents and also helped with product improvements for our industry.

Jim has been a MGPPO corporate member since 1998 and has also participated through numerous presentations at MGPPO Conferences sharing his knowledge with the industry.

Jim is also a Principal Member of the NFPA 99 Technical Committee on Piping Systems where he has spent many hours along with his committee members to help the industry reach higher levels.

Congratulations Jim and best of luck in your retirement!

Member Spotlight-Jennifer Darden with MGA

One of this month's member spotlights highlights Jennifer Darden with MGA.

1)What aspect of working within the medical gas industry is the most rewarding for you?

I'm not on the technical hands-on side of medical gas. But no one likes to take tests, so MGA tries to make that process as least stressful as possible. It's gratifying when we hear that we've provided that level of customer service.

2)Who has inspired you in your career?

My father, who has always gone above and beyond to help both clients and his employees.

3)What has been one of the greatest challenges of your career?

Navigating a new way of doing business post Covid-19 when our business transitioned to mostly virtual interactions. I feel like we have a system in place now that's more convenient for us and our clients.

4)What advice would you give someone who is interested in working in the medical gas industry?

Talk to others in the industry. Learn from them and be prepared to continue your education for the duration of your career.

5)What is your favorite part of the job?

Meeting (even virtually) people from not only all over the US, but also internationally. We've certified medical gas personnel in United Arab Emirates, China, Panama, Mexico, and other countries.

6)How do you like to spend your free time?

I have no natural artistic talent, but I take pottery classes that I really enjoy. And of course, I love good food and cocktails. I may be a little obsessed with my dogs.

7)What's one thing people would be surprised to know about you?

I love sad old country songs.

But also have an embarrassing recent addiction to Harry Styles music thanks to my daughter.



Jennifer Darden— MGA (Medical Gas Accreditation)

MGPHO Roundtable

Last month we started the new monthly MGPHO Roundtable and had a great first meeting. We had various discussions, and some of our members were able to gain some great perspectives on how to handle situations they are coming across in the field.

Bring all of your questions, frustrations, wall of shame items found in the field, whatever you want!

The important part is that you join us to talk about anything and everything medical gas.

Our next discussion is November 15th at 3:00 Eastern. If you missed the email you can find the link and other information on our LinkedIn page.

MGPHO Annual Conference Sponsorships

For the 2023 Annual Conference MGPHO has the following sponsorships available:

Keynote Speaker

Tuesday Coffee Station

Tuesday Lunch

Wednesday Coffee Station

Wednesday Breakfast

Wednesday Lunch

Vendor Reception Hors d'oeuvres

Vendor Reception Bar

Thursday Coffee Station

Thursday Breakfast

Thursday Lunch

Sponsorship includes recognition at the conference and a sign showing the sponsorship.

Please contact Rocky Plotts or Mathis Carlson if you would like to be a sponsor.

Member Spotlight– Patrick Michniewicz with ENMET

One of this month's member spotlights highlights Patrick Michniewicz with ENMET.

Patrick Michniewicz, ENMET Regional Sales Manager-West Region, has worked at ENMET for 46 years, helping ENMET to grow and support the medical industry. Throughout his career, he has been involved in educating customers on the monitoring/testing solutions that ENMET offers to meet NFPA 99 and other medical air system requirements. He is considered the lead in technical sales for the Matrix Medical Gas Verifier and other instruments used in the healthcare field, and has helped to educate medical verifiers, along with ENMET sales and service staff on the operation of the unit. Patrick worked closely with Dr. Verne Brown on designing and developing the Matrix Medical Gas Verifier used by verifiers for over 15 years, and continues to train customers on operating the Matrix Medical Gas Verifier for med-

ical gas piping. In addition to being a technical sales representative, Patrick was the ENMET Service Manager for over 20 years, helping customers triage and fix instrument issues. Patrick continues to do on-site service and training for customers around the country. One of Patrick's favorite hobbies is to head to Silver Lake State Park on the west side of Michigan and ride his dune buggy on the dunes. You probably will find him there on many summer weekends.



Patrick Michniewicz-ENMET

The importance of your input in code revisions

One of the things that MGPHO and our members would like to do is become more involved in the development of codes and standards. As many of you already know this is a very slow and forward looking process.

The main code that we deal with is the NFPA 99 and the final drafts of the 2024 NFPA 99 are near completion. Based on previous publication dates we can reasonably expect to see the 2024 edition late in 2023.

It is frequent to hear comments asking why something is still in the code or how something made it into the code. Well, all of the code revisions and changes have to start with a public comment submission by the general public and interested parties. For the first time MGPHO submitted several comments for the 2024 edition of NFPA 99. This was started with some of the discussions on the MGPHO Forum.

Based on previous timelines, comments for the 2027 edition of NFPA 99 are likely to open in early 2024. Please start thinking about those things you want to change and improve now so that we can start to formulate those comments. Additionally, don't just limit this to NFPA 99, we want to become more involved in other standards such as NFPA 55, CGA M-1, UPC and any other codes that impact medical gas.

Check out the MGPHO Forum in the next editions sections and add your ideas.

Call for Abstracts 2023 Annual Conference

Have an idea or topic that you would like to learn more about at the conference?

Have a great presentation that you think the group could benefit from?

Please send any presentations, topic ideas or speaker ideas to Rocky Plotts VP of Education to be considered for the next conference. (education@mgpho.org)

The best way for us to build a program that benefits the members the most is by getting the ideas from the members.

We want to get the program set early for the next conference for our members to better plan their attendance.



You could be the next great presenter at the MGPHO Annual Conference!

MGPHO Update

The Board of Directors has been busy as we are planning for the next 12 months.

We have set tentative dates of October 10-12, 2023 for our next annual meeting. We are planning to hold the conference in Phoenix Arizona and are planning a very busy schedule. We are planning on increasing our educational offerings on the first and last day of the conference from what we have done in the past in order to give more value to the conference.

Final details, dates and locations will be confirmed soon!

Additionally, as a way to streamline communication between members and the organization we have now set up official email address for each member of the board.

President -Mathis Carlson
president @mgpho.org
VP Structure– Tony Stewart
structure@mgpho.org
VP Legal-Ross Williams
legal@mgpho.org
VP Membership– Jim Brusse
membership@mgpho.org
VP Finance– AL Moon
finance@mgpho.org
VP Credentials- Cary Darden
credentials@mgpho.org
VP Education– Rocky Plotts
education@mgpho.org
Secretary to the board– Jonathan Willard
secretary@mgpho.org



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Are you a MGPHO Corporate member and want your ad included here next month?

Be sure to email it to president@mgpho.org

MGPHO

The Medical Gas Professional Healthcare Organization (MGPHO) was founded in 1998 as an organization that is dedicated to advancing the safe design, manufacture, installation, maintenance and inspection/verification of medical gas and vacuum systems through education. The organization is actively involved in identifying, understanding, and maintaining state and federal standards as well as improving the techniques used in testing and verification.

Upcoming MGPHO BOD Meetings

The MGPHO BOD has scheduled regular board meetings. The dates through the next annual conference are as follows:

December 2nd-Teams

January 6th-Teams

February 10th-Teams

March 3rd-Chicago

April 6- Teams

May 5th-Teams

June 2nd- Teams

July 7th- Teams

August 11th- Teams

September 8th- Teams

October 3rd- Teams

October 10th- Annual Conference

*Dates may be rescheduled

*If there is no business that needs to be conducted, meetings may be postponed or canceled.

Not a MGPHO member?

Join us here:

[Medical Gas Professional Healthcare Organization - Join MGPHO](#)

MGPHO

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