ASSE NEWS

American Society of Sanitary Engineering
Illinois Chapter

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President’s Letter

Happy Spring,

Hope you had a change to read the article by Conrad Jahrling with the ASSE International on page 6 and 7 of ASSE “Working Pressure” January-March issue. Conrad Talks about the ASSE 1017 use in the Illinois plumbing code and the proposal of increasing the hot water temperer to 160-degree Fahrenheit in non-residential use. The water temper change is not the only proposed change to the Illinois Plumbing code – a few other notable proposed changes are the elimination the use of all lead and the elimination of galvanize pipe in potable water systems. There are several proposed changes to the State Plumbing Code, when a final version of all changes is available, we will let you know.

In the same issue, please read the 10 questions with Paul Baker on pages 28 and 29. Paul was our past Regional Director, he’s is the Training Coordinator/ Program Director at Plumbers local 98 training center in Detroit. This is a good article that should be read by anyone asking why they should join the Illinois ASSE Chapter.

Good news we have a general membership meeting on later this month at Test Gauge new facility 1051 E Main St #107, East Dundee, IL 60118. I would like to thank Rick Marvel for offering to host our meeting. Please bring a friend and tell a co-worker. Because it may be a drive for some, we are starting the meeting at 6 pm. (we will send out an email when the date is confirmed)

Please take a minute to read the member spotlight by Randy Olsen, our past President, who has been a great help to me. And also read this month’s sponsor spotlight from our host for the General Membership meeting. Test gauge. 1051 E Main St #107, East Dundee, IL 60118

Fraternally yours,
Denis Riordan ASSE Illinois Chapter President
April/May Member Spotlight – Randy Olson

My plumbing career started my junior year of high school. My mother worked in the plumbing industry and sent me down to Local 130 to get my metal trades card as a summer helper. I was a 17 year old making $10.00 an hour. Huge money for a first job!!! I spent the summer breaking concrete and helping out when the service department needed a helper. I was very fortunate to have a good group of guys take me under their wing, which made me want to come back. At summer’s end, I went back to school to start my senior year with a little money in my pocket and a thirst to earn more. That school year I delivered pizza on the weekends making less than half of what I was making that summer. As winter came, Plumbers Local 130 sent out a memo stating that they would be accepting apprentice applications for new recruits starting in the beginning of summer so I signed up. Spring came and I received a letter stating I had been accepted. Graduation came and went and before I knew it, I was in “hell week” at plumbing school while all my friends were taking it easy all summer. I would work all day, then run wild all night with all my buddies. I was a little jealous that they were all able to sleep in, while I had to be up for work at 5 am. But on the flip side, I was a young kid with a nice car and a pocket full of money to burn, and that I did!

I served my apprenticeship working for Fettes, Love, & Sieben which was a great place for a guy to learn the trade. Running around all over the city of Chicago as a young kid taught me a lot and I saw a lot of things I had never seen. One week I would be setting a catch basin in the street and the next week, I could be gas piping for a pizza oven installed on a rooftop for a luxury north side home. I made a lot of lifelong friends there that have really helped me out along the way. One piece of advice I could give a newbie is: don’t be scared to ask for help! To this day, I will still ring up an old veteran for a tough plumbing question. Just ask Griff Gherke! Also, do not be scared to tackle any task. I always say, when working with water it can only hurt you if it’s over your head. Experience is everything in this ever changing field!

Once the recession hit, work slowed on the north side and I went on to work for Professional Meters installing residential and commercial water meters for the City of Chicago. That was quite the experience going into multiple homes a day all over the city. The things you will see will blow your mind. It’s amazing how different the people and plumbing are in different parts of the city. Heck, north side and south side plumbers even have different names for the same tools and fittings. After years of installing meters, I can look at an address and pretty much tell you how it’s going to be plumbed. After a few years of working like a robot doing the same thing day after day, I started my career at Calumet City Plumbing where I’m currently employed. A whole new learning experience started here. I was out of Chicago which opened up a new experience. Instead of excavating water services, I was now direction drilling which I had never seen. They even have a hydro excavator which was something I had only seen driving down the road. Once again, I was surrounded by a bunch of good people that helped me learn and grow. Calumet City Plumbing pretty much does it all! And I will mention, when you call CCP they are like calling 911; whatever time it is, someone is coming to rescue you from your emergency no matter how big or small, from a major water break to a clogged toilet!

I signed up to be a member of the Illinois ASSE chapter when I was an apprentice and went on to eventually become president which was a great honor. This organization is full of members who are truly intruged to better the plumbing industry and protect our great nation. I am still active after all these years as picnic chairman which I really enjoy (my kids enjoy more) as it’s a great day to spend with family and friends! Not only is being a member a great tool for expanding your knowledge, it’s a great way to network and meet new friends.

The plumbing industry has been pretty good to me. It’s helped make a great life for me, my wife Suzy and my two kids Alex and Jacob. A good honest living that allows us to live in a home in a nice neighborhood, take vacations, and live a comfortable life. I want to give a big thank you to Plumbers Local 130 and everyone who has helped me along the way!
Test Gauge, Inc. is one of the Nation’s fastest growing suppliers of backflow products, repair kits, backflow repair kits, and Calibration Services. Test Gauge, Inc. has over 35 years of experience in the backflow industry.

The Test Gauge Team prides themselves on providing excellent customer service, as well as technical assistance to the backflow technician. Our superior customer service is unmatched in the industry. We not only listen to our customers but when our customer asks for a product we do not say “we can’t get it” ... we find a way to get it. Whether it’s a repair or installation questions, we can help you get the job done right the first time. Local experts, National Service ... that’s Test Gauge.

As a way to provide expert knowledge and service, Test Gauge, Inc. works with the American Backflow Prevention Association, Illinois PHCC, ISAWWA, Illinois Plumbing Inspectors Association, Plumbing Local 130 and ASSE. With the help of these great associations, we get a better understanding of what our customers need to keep our water and communities safe from contamination.

In 2018, Test Gauge, Inc. developed a state-of-the-art Backflow Training Facility. This facility has helped lead the state of Illinois with code review pertaining to Backflow Prevention and offered training to Plumbing Inspectors, Water Operators and Backflow Technicians. Our 4-Hour CEU Course for Licensed Plumbers features hands-on testing experience in our training facility. Attendees get the chance to ask questions and troubleshoot common problems that they encounter in the field.

Test Gauge Inc. is also an authorized calibration center for backflow test kits (www.backflowtestkits.com), there are many reasons to use an authorized calibration center, one being warranty claims. The low-cost competitor is not an authorized service center for Midwest Backflow Test Kits, any use of a non-approved service center will void your warranty.

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50% off new Active member dues!

As a member of ASSE International, you will belong to an organization represented by all disciplines of the plumbing and mechanical industries, forming a platform to receive, understand and solve industry problems relating to standards, codes, contracting, engineering and business. We encourage you to attend local chapter meetings, as well as our national Annual Meetings, get involved in chapter activities and apply for national committee work.

Whether it’s through planning or participating in local chapter activities and meetings, submitting articles to our publications, or volunteering on a committee, your involvement is essential to ASSE International’s success. Now is the time to immerse yourself in your organization.

Please read carefully, fill in all applicable sections and indicate the membership classification for which you are applying. Government applicants must provide proof of employment to be eligible. Please see reverse side for membership classification descriptions, chapters and dues rates. You may also join online at www.assewebstore.com/membership.

CLASSIFICATION:  □ ACTIVE  □ STUDENT  □ GOVERNMENT  □ SUSTAINING

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Title:_________________________
Company:_____________________
Address:_______________________
City:__________________________
State:__________________________ Zip:____________________
Country:_______________________
□ Residential  □ Business
Phone:_________________________
Email:_________________________
Chapter:_______________________
Applicants will be assigned to the nearest chapter, unless specified above.

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I, the undersigned, certify that the above statements are correct and agree that if admitted to ASSE International, I will conform to the Bylaws and Policies of ASSE International for the duration of my membership.

Signature of Candidate __________________ Date ____________

Return to ASSE International
Membership Department, 4755 E. Philadelphia St, Ontario, CA 91761
general.info@asse-plumbing.org
MEMBERSHIP CLASSIFICATION DESCRIPTIONS

Active:
Individuals who are active in a plumbing, mechanical or engineering related field.

* Half price new membership only applies to those who are not current or past members of ASSE International. *

Student:
- Registered apprentices in an apprenticeship program duly recognized by state, federal or local laws governing apprenticeship.
- Full time students enrolled in a school, university or college course in either plumbing, plumbing design or engineering.

**There is a maximum time limit of five years for membership as a student.**

Government:
Individuals employed by local, county, state or federal agencies involved in regulating the plumbing and mechanical field. Government employees may join ASSE International with the same privileges of an Active member. To qualify, members may be required to submit written documentation confirming that they are actively employed by a government entity (i.e.: letter from government entity on letterhead, copy of government identification/license, etc.)

Sustaining
Manufacturers of plumbing products and appliances, or others who are affiliated with the plumbing and mechanical field and desire to support the work of the organization. One member or representative of such membership will have privileges of an Active member.

ASSE INTERNATIONAL CHAPTERS AND DUES
Pricing below represents first-year member pricing (50% off new Active member dues). Full rates apply after first year of membership.

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- Wall & Floor Mounted, Condensing Gas Water Heaters
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- Thermometers & Gauges

The Plumbing Contractors Association (PCA) Midwest and the Plumbing Council Midwest represent and promote UA Local 130 signatory plumbing contractors in Northern Illinois (17 counties) with top quality service, education, advocacy, safety, peer to peer networking and much more.

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