



The WAHI Inspector

Vol. XVIII, No. 4

April 2014

Editor: Nicholas Petrie

Upcoming Meetings

Central Wisconsin Chapter

Wednesday, April 16

Social 6 p.m., dinner/meeting 6:30 p.m.

Palms Supper Club Steak House
5912 Bus. Hwy 51, Schofield

Speaker: City of Wausau plumbing inspector
Roger Musolf.

Chippewa Valley Chapter

Wednesday, April 2

Dinner 5:30 p.m., meeting 6 p.m.

Jade Garden Restaurant
3620 Gateway Dr., Eau Claire

Speaker: Dale Klabo of Horizon Home
Inspections on thermal imaging and related
building performance and condition.

Fox Valley Chapter

Tuesday, April 22 (a week later than usual)

Roundtable 6 p.m., meeting 6:30 p.m.

Stone Toad
1109 S. Oneida Street, Menasha
Speaker: Ask the Plumbing Expert with
Shawn Landstrom of Integrity Plumbing.

Madison Chapter

Thursday, May 15

Roundtable 6 p.m., dinner/meeting 6:30 p.m.,
speaker 7 p.m.

Rex's Inkeeper
301 N. Century Ave., Waunakee
Speaker: Genesis Exteriors on roofs, painting,
and windows.

Milwaukee Chapter

Tuesday, April 8

Social 6 p.m., dinner 6:30 p.m., meeting 7 p.m.

Klemmer's Banquet Center
10401 W. Oklahoma Ave., West Allis
Speaker: Affiliate member Bill Wandsnider
on landscape drainage issues that affect
foundations and yards.

Monthly Meeting Guidelines

*Submitted by outgoing President Mike von Gunten
as a result of seminar weekend discussion*

I've spoken with several members recently about new WAHI chapter procedures for tracking continuing education credits. These new procedures became necessary because of the poor results of last year's state CE audit, and the many members who hadn't maintained their own CE records.

We have some folks who seem inclined to complain about or undermine these requirements and our procedures for trying to make them work. At one recent meeting, some members, once they believed we had been there for 100 minutes, started calling for adjournment and heading for the door.

It is likely that there will be future state audits. There may even be on-site monitoring of how WAHI conducts training. It will require the cooperation of all members to make this work. Grumbling and resistance to a few simple procedures will make life much harder for our Executive Director and the volunteers who make WAHI work, and put at risk WAHI's ability to conduct our own training.

I know for us as inspectors this is a slight pain. Believe me, it is a far bigger pain for those volunteers who keep WAHI running. We will continue to try to simplify the procedures, but for now we all need to fill out the forms completely and correctly, and make sure they get collected at each meeting. Chapter leadership will not complete the forms for you. They will not chase you down to get them. You must put down the title of the training session exactly as it is announced by the speaker or presiding officer at the meeting or seminar.

The training consists of the organized program, and may include topics added to the agenda at the meeting, but not everything said at a meeting qualifies as training. Discussions of administrative topics do not qualify as training. Informal conversations at dining tables or the bar don't qualify either. Pushing the envelope on this stuff is not worth the trouble and headaches it can cause for WAHI. If we have a state-employed visitor some evening and we are counting all this stuff as training, we will not win that argument.

For the purposes of the state, the requirement for 2 CE credits is a minimum of 100 minutes. For the purposes of WAHI, the training will

Guidelines

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last until it is complete, which may be longer than 100 minutes. The presiding officer will watch the clock, keep the discussion moving, and announce when the meeting is over.

For the sake of order and courtesy to our presenters and your fellow inspectors, individual members are welcome to glance at their watches, but will not act as time-keepers. Hair-splitting discussions about which minutes count as education are not a productive use of chapter time. If we end up with a small cushion of minutes, that will help mitigate any issues that may arise with the state.

This is a good opportunity for us to be more disciplined about our meetings. As professionals, let us be prompt and efficient with our time and resist the temptation to monopolize the discussion. At the same time, don't be afraid to ask a question that you really need the answer to, and don't discourage other inspectors from asking questions either. We are

all trying to learn, and we are trying to make this a friendly environment for new inspectors. There has been some commentary about how the state should trust us more. But why should the state trust home inspectors after this recent audit? Under the previous honor system under which we were fortunate to operate, only one third of Wisconsin inspectors followed the rules completely.

But we and our clients want to live in a state where a license means something. Just as we want to feel certain that buying 20 gallons of gas at the pump means that we're getting 20 gallons in our tank, instead of 18 or 12, we should want our clients to feel that their licensed inspector has the required training.

We can all live with these changes. In fact, we have to, and it won't be difficult once we've got our systems in place.

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Chapter Meeting Highlights



Our March meeting was about heating problems and what to look for as far as unsafe conditions, improper ventilation, improper exterior chimneys, and what furnaces have had some heat exchanger problems and secondary heat exchanger problems. Our speaker was Lance Lyon, owner of France Sales and Service Heating Specialists.

Our next meeting will be Wednesday, April 16th at Palms Supper Club Steak House, 5912 Bus. Hwy 51 in Schofield. Social hour begins at 6 p.m. and dinner at 6:30 p.m. The cost to attend a monthly chapter meeting is \$25 with dinner or \$10 without the meal. Contact Rich Duerkop with any questions at 715-241-8222 or e-mail americansentry1@charter.net. Our speaker will be City of Wausau plumbing inspector Roger Musolf.



Our March speaker was Rick Thompson from Thompsons Drywall. Rick gave a presentation on EIFS material type, installation, versions of the product, waterproofing, and conditions. Following Ricks' presentation we had a photo session from members and discussion.

Our next meeting will be Wednesday, April 2nd at Jade Garden Restaurant, 3620 Gateway Dr., Eau Claire. The buffet supper starts at 5:30 p.m., followed by our meeting at 6 p.m. The cost of supper and meeting is \$20 (tip extra). Our speaker will be Dale Klabo of Horizon Home Inspections. Dale will be giving a presentation on thermal imaging and related building performance and condition. We encourage members to bring any photos to present.

The chapter normally meets on the first Wednesday of each month. Due to production dates, members may not receive a newsletter issue until very close to our meeting date, or even after. To avoid missing a meeting, please mark your calendar in advance.



Our March meeting speaker was Robert "Robb" Vandenberg, owner of Dryer Vent Wizard of Northeast Wisconsin and WAHI Affiliate Member. Robb gave a presentation about dryer and bathroom vent installation, standards, maintenance, and cleaning.

Important Note: Due to a scheduling conflict, our April meeting is postponed one week!

The next meeting will be Tuesday, April 22nd at the Stone Toad, 1109 S. Oneida Street in Menasha. Cocktails and roundtable discussion start at 6 p.m.; meeting is called to order at 6:30 p.m. The meeting will include "Ask the Plumbing Expert," a Q&A session specifically directed to questions and concerns of a home inspector. Our expert plumber will be Shawn Landstrom of Integrity Plumbing in Appleton. Please submit your plumbing questions and concerns to Education Chair Paul Birchbach at binspector@frontier.com.

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The Madison chapter meets six times per year on the 3rd Thursday in January, February, May, June, September and October. Our next meeting will be on Thursday, May 15th at Rex's Inkeeper, 301 N. Century Ave., Waunakee. Roundtable begins at 6 p.m., dinner/meeting at 6:30 p.m. and speaker at 7 p.m. Genesis Exteriors is tentatively scheduled and they plan to bring a team of experts on roofs, painting, and windows.



Our next meeting will be Tuesday, April 8th at Klemmer's Banquet Center, 104th & Oklahoma Ave. in West Allis. Social at 6 p.m., dinner at 6:30 p.m., meeting at 7 p.m. Cost is \$25, which includes dinner and the continuing education. The speaker will be affiliate member Bill Wandsnider, on landscape drainage issues that affect foundations and yards. A multitude of sins exist in the landscape that, when joined with the vicissitudes of Mother Nature, gradually attack a home's foundation and structural elements in the landscape. Registered landscape architect Bill Wandsnider has been working with the engineering principles of proper site development and landscaping for nearly 40 years and can almost spot a problem from a mile high. He will enhance your knowledge and help you learn where to look for clues.

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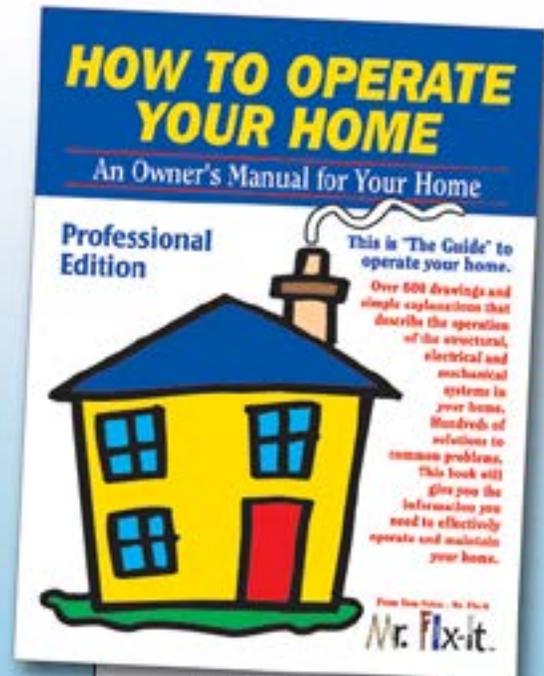
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WAHI has a Facebook Page



WAHI invites you to join us on Facebook. The WAHI Facebook page is a wonderful venue to make chapter announcements (meeting changes, speakers, location updates, meeting reminders, etc.), board announcements, post State Board meeting minutes, etc.

Please see below for instructions on creating a Facebook account if you do not have one yet, and how to find the WAHI page

How do I sign up for Facebook Account?

To create an account, go to www.facebook.com. Enter your name, birthday, gender and email address. Then create a password. After you

complete the registration form, Facebook will send you an email. Just click the confirmation link to complete the sign up process.

How do I find the WAHI page?

After you have created your Facebook page, type Wisconsin Association of Home Inspectors in the search box. Request to be "liked." You will get a response when WAHI accepts the request. The WAHI Facebook page is a closed group – only WAHI members can view and participate on the page.

Any questions? Contact Bob Turicik at homereview@wi.rr.com or 920-892-7654.



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Tips and Tidbits

State Election 2014 Results

Newly elected President Kent Schwanke and re-elected Vice President Doug Hoerth will assume their positions on the board starting May 1, 2014. Bruce Low was appointed to fill Kent Schwanke's vacated position as member-at-large – Bruce will complete Kent's term which runs through March 2015.

WAHI Legal Support (WLS)

Attorney Roy Wagner, of von Briesen and Roper, continues 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. Note: The WLS program is completely independent of the WAHI Arbitration System.

2013-2014 WAHI Membership Roster

The 2013-2014 membership roster is now on the website and available for viewing and/or printing. All members are encouraged to check their listing. It reflects the information that WAHI has on file for you. Please submit updates/corrections to Julie Arnstein at juliewahi@gmail.com or info@wahigroup.com

Ride Along Program

The WAHI Ride Along Program assists new members as they embark on their business. Experienced members interested in sharing their knowledge and experience with a fellow member by allowing them to accompany you on an inspection are asked to contact Julie Arnstein. Julie will add their name to a list given to a member looking for guidance of this type. Contact Julie at 414-299-9766 or 877-399-WAHI or juliewahi@gmail.com.

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Tips and Tidbits

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WAHI Arbitration Program

All members are encouraged to make every effort to resolve homeowner/inspector disputes without outside help. When that is not successful, know that the WAHI Dispute Resolution Program is there for you. The process begins when the complainant (homeowner) contacts Resolute Systems, the program administrator, via mail at 1550 N. Prospect Ave., Milwaukee 53202, e-mail at info@ResoluteSystems.com or their Web site at www.resolutesystems.com.

For information contact Arbitration Committee Chair Dave Strandberg at 608-255-3966 or dstrand8@tds.net.

Office Max Discount

The Office Max corporate discount is available to all members of WAHI. Purchase online at www.OfficeMaxSolutions.com. The user name

is wahi and the password is member1. In-store purchases require use of a WAHI Retail Connect Card. See the November 2012 issue (page 16) of the newsletter at www.wahigroup.com for a printable card. Office Max will laminate the card when you visit the store.

New Email Address for WAHI Executive Director

Please update your email address book for Julie Arnstein. Effective immediately her new address is juliewahi@gmail.com.

We Need Your Current Email Address!

Via our website, WAHI sends mass emails containing important announcements and interesting articles/information. Having your correct email address is vital in terms of WAHI communication. Take a look at your listing in the member database on the website and let us know if your info is not up-to-date.

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Tips and Tidbits

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Member News

Share your news, joys, recognitions, temporary setbacks (illness or injury), etc. Privacy should be recognized, and information provided must be okayed by the person involved. Send submissions to Julie at juliewahi@wi.rr.com. Deadline is the 20th of the month before the newsletter (ie. March 20th for the April issue).

Updating Your Contact Info

Please visit www.wahigroup.com and find your listing under the members tab on the home page. If you have recently moved or if your information is not correct/complete, please contact Julie at juliewahi@gmail.com, 877-399-WAHI or fax at 262-785-6765. Updates are listed every month in the WAHI Inspector.

Special Spaces

Andrew Risch, longtime Milwaukee Chapter member and architectural designer for Embassy Homes, is involved with a valuable program. Special Spaces is a non-profit organization that creates dream bedrooms for children with life threatening illnesses. To make this program a success they are seeking volunteers. For information, contact Andrew at 262-241-8510, x111 or Andrew@emabassyhomes.com. You may also be interested in visiting www.specialspacesmilwaukee.org.

Chapter Secretaries

Chapter Secretaries are reminded to include upcoming speaker and topic information when submitting monthly meeting minutes to Julie Arnstein. The information will be included in the newsletter and will also be posted on our Web site at www.wahigroup.com.

Add a Photo to the WAHI Web Site & Link to Your Site

WAHI's Web site is up and running – as well as the new member database with a new and improved multi-choice search option. Submit photo and/or company web addresses to info@wahigroup.com.

Communication

All member-to-member or member-to-association disputes must go through the Membership Committee. A member going public with a member or association dispute will be grounds for disciplinary action. The Membership Committee will implement this policy. Contact Committee co-chairs Doug Hoerth (920-375-0723 or finallookinspectionsservices@yahoo.com) or Glenn Schmidt (920-923-0440 or gcschmidt1@att.net).



Board of Directors

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Statewide WAHI Committees

Affiliates <i>See Membership Committee</i>	Membership Doug Hoerth, Co-Chair Glenn Schmidt, Co-Chair Paul Birschbach • Roger Kautz Jerry Schneider
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Open Invitation

If any WAHI member would like to spend a few hours with me on a day when I go out to give estimates to potential customers, please let me know. I would love to spend the time going over what I see, and answering any questions you might have. We would typically evaluate 5-8 different chimneys at homes in the metro Milwaukee area.

Please call or e-mail me if you are interested.