

LETTER FROM AAHE PRESIDENT

Dear Members of the Arkansas Association of Healthcare Engineers,

I hope this message finds you well. As we embark on another promising year for our association, I am thrilled to highlight what lies ahead for our esteemed membership. Firstly, I am proud to announce that our chapter recently achieved a significant milestone by winning the 2024 Chapter Challenge in the Small Category at the AAHE Health Care Facilities Innovation Conference in Anaheim. Our chapter was once again awarded ASHE Platinum Status. ASHE Platinum Status for chapters refers to an honor bestowed by the American Society for Healthcare Engineering (ASHE) to recognize outstanding achievements and contributions by local chapters. Achieving ASHE Platinum Status signifies that a chapter has excelled in promoting the goals of ASHE at the local level and demonstrates leadership in advancing the healthcare engineering profession. It reflects a commitment to excellence and innovation in healthcare facility management and engineering practices. We are thrilled to receive such recognition and awards. George McFerron, our immediate past president, accepted this honor on behalf of our chapter, accompanied by our board vice president, Joe Calvert. This recognition underscores our commitment to excellence and innovation in healthcare engineering.

Looking forward, we have an exciting lineup of events and educational opportunities planned for the year ahead. Our calendar kicks off with the Fall Conference in Northwest Arkansas, at Embassy Suites Hotel & Convention Center October 10th-11th. This will include a social event at Top Golf on the evening of the 10th. Following this, the Winter Conference will be hosted by Joe Calvert at Arkansas Children's Little Rock from January 23rd to the 24th, with a social gathering scheduled at the Dust Bowl in downtown Little Rock on the 23rd of January. Finally, mark your calendars for the 58th Spring Conference and Trade Show at Oaklawn Casino and Resort, scheduled from April 23rd to the 25th. Please mark your calendars and we look forward to seeing you all there!

In addition to these conferences, our Scholarship Committee will be organizing a trap shoot tournament on November 1st at the Arkansas Game and Fish in Jacksonville, Arkansas, aiming to raise funds for educational scholarships. This event promises camaraderie and a chance to support our future healthcare engineers.

Looking ahead, one of our major focuses will be on sustainability and the journey towards carbon neutrality in healthcare facilities. As the importance of reducing our carbon footprint grows, we recognize the challenges this poses, especially considering the costs associated with decarbonization practices. It is imperative that we find ways to adapt and implement sustainable practices without compromising financial stability. This will require innovative approaches and collaborative efforts within our community.

I am honored to be working alongside the newly elected 2024-25 AAHE board members, and I am enthusiastic about the opportunities that lie ahead for our association. Together, we will navigate the challenges of healthcare engineering, from regulatory demands to workforce issues, ensuring we remain at the forefront of industry standards and best practices.

Thank you for your continued dedication to advancing our profession. We look forward to seeing you at our upcoming events and working together towards a sustainable future for healthcare engineering.

Warmest regards,

Mackenzie Coates
President, Arkansas Association of Healthcare Engineers

AAHE Presidential Award



Congratulations to James Miller for being honored with the Chapter's Presidential Award for his 42 years of dedicated service and contribution to health care environments in the State of Arkansas



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AAHE 57th Annual Meeting & Tradeshow Follow Up at Oaklawn April 24-26



FACILITY, SAFETY, CLINICAL EDUCATION

ASHE Energy to Care Small Category Chapter Challenge Award



Excited to announce that on behalf of AAHE, George McFerron, accepted the ASHE Energy to Care Small Category Chapter Challenge Award at last week's ASHE Health Care Facilities Innovation Conference! Big thanks to all AAHE members & their teams for contributing and making this award happen!

Upcoming AAHE Events

- AAHE Fall Conference
 - October 10th-11th-Embassy Suites & Convention Center-Rogers, AR
- AHA Annual Meeting
 - October 30-31
 - Little Rock Marriott
- AAHE Scholarship Trust Trap Shoot
 - November 1st at AGFC
 - Jacksonville Shooting Complex
- AAHE Winter Conference
 - January 23-24 at Arkansas Childrens Hospital, Little Rock

Have questions or want to register for an upcoming event?
Contact Cassandra Van Tassel at
cvantassal@arkhospitals.org or 501-224-7878

AAHE Winter Conference Follow Up at CHI St. Vincent Little Rock March 1



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Social Media Update

AAHE is excited to announce that the chapter is now LIVE on Facebook and LinkedIn. Be sure to like or follow each of the pages for chapter news, upcoming events, job opening



LinkedIn

To find the page on Facebook search
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Healthcare Engineering"

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