



# The Fitting Connection

September 2008

## September Lunch Meeting



Art Torres with the City of Dallas Water Utilities will be our speaker at the September 16th lunch meeting at Brookhaven Country Club. He will be discussing Dallas' conservation efforts, rebate and incentive programs and collaborative effort.

PHCC Lunch Meeting

Tuesday

September 16, 2008

Brookhaven Country Club

3333 Golfing Green Drive

Dallas, TX

11:30am—1:00 pm

PHCC North Texas

4340 Highlander Drive

Dallas, Texas 75287

972-818-1990

972-818-2105-fax

[www.phccnorthtexas.org](http://www.phccnorthtexas.org)

For directions to Brookhaven Country Club go to the PHCC North Texas web site [www.phccnorth.org](http://www.phccnorth.org) Please let us know if you plan to attend.—Thanks! Call 972-818-1990/fax 972-818-2105. Fax Back Page is—15



PHCC Texas New Office Facilities



## State Talk from Nancy

### PHCC Texas Celebrates Grand Opening of New Training Facility

PHCC President Ken Boen hoisted the gigantic ribbon-cutting scissors and **“SNIP,”** the new PHCC Training and Office Facility was officially in business! Thanks to the Buda Chamber of Commerce, the ribbon-cutting celebration of the brand new building was the perfect Grand Opening on August 22. **“This is a dream come true,”** said Ken, **“something PHCC has always needed to build strong training programs in our industry.”**

## State Talk Continued

Over a hundred people came to tour the new building, observe the Apprentice Contest and enjoy Rudy's BBQ. **“Wow!”** was repeated over and over as contractors, families, suppliers, subcontractors, (who worked on the building), instructors and Buda townspeople visited the new facility.

The 5,000 square foot building includes two large classrooms (that can open up to a large room), six administrative offices, copy room, file room, kitchen, reception area and conference room. A large outbuilding is designed for hands-on training, including medical gas certification, backflow certification, basic plumbing classes, apprentice training, etc.



## State Talk Continued

### Apprentice Program

We are excited about our new Apprenticeship Training program which started with a Pilot Class last spring. The students from the Pilot class completed two quarters of their first year of apprenticeship certification, and are returning for their last two quarters this Fall. Our new Apprentice 1-A and 1-B dates are:

- 1-A October 6-9 (class is full)
- 1-A December 15-19 (we have openings in this class, but call soon!)
- 1-B December 8-11

## State Talk Continued

The classes are held for four straight ten-hour days at the Construction Education Foundation in the DFW Airport area. There are inexpensive hotel/shuttle facilities available for students coming in from outside the Dallas area. For details or to register, call (800) 831-9313 (ext.204) and speak with Nancy Jones.

The new PHCC Texas facility is located at 145 Trademark Dr., Buda, Texas 78610



## Second Annual Apprentice Contest

PHCC held its second annual Apprentice Contest in conjunction with the Grand Opening in Buda on August 22. First place winner was Jon Meadors (Sponsored by R.E.C. Industries, Bryan) and Second Place winner was Jason Lockett (sponsored by J.P. Co. in El Paso). PHCC Texas is sponsoring both these winners, in the National PHCC Apprentice Contest at the National Convention in Atlanta Sept. 30-Oct. 4.

The other four participants were Ernest Calderon (Sponsored by Guarantee Plumbing, San Antonio), Carlos Martinez (Sponsored by Primo Plumbing, San Antonio), Carlos Pena (Sponsored by Raven Mechanical, Houston), and Robert Ramirez (Sponsored by A-Plus Plumbing, Hondo).

Thanks to our great Co-Chairmen, Bill Jones (Raven Mechanical, Houston) and Rick Shelton (Shelton Plumbing, Waco) who organized and supervised the event for the second year. Thanks also to our judges, Sam Dowdy, Steve Albert and Gilbert Puga.

AND THANKS TO OUR WONDERFUL SPONSORS,  
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## Apprentice Contest Continues...

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Mark Your Calendar!!

2009 PHCC State Convention

Lakeway Resort, Austin

June 10-13, 2009

## News & Information

When Disaster Strikes—Will You Still be Open for Business?

Natural disasters have been grabbing headlines across the United States in epic proportion. **We're all at risk from their destruction no matter** our location. Some disasters-such as hurricanes or flooding-come with advanced warning and others-like tornadoes-strike in an instant with little time to get to safety.

Whether the event is a natural disaster or a fire, there are basic things every business needs to get operations back on track quickly. Consider the creation of a disaster recovery plan to be like CPR training for your business. Most small businesses lack the resources and expertise to create a plan to deal with a major business interruption. That's one reason why at least one-fourth of small businesses that close because of a disaster never re-open.

A tool that helps small businesses plan for and recover from disaster is now available to all PHCC members courtesy of Federated Mutual Insurance and its relationship with PHCC—National Association.

Open for Business is an Internet-based disaster recovery and risk assessment tool-valued at \$2,000/user-that was developed by the Institute for Business & Home Safety (IBHS).

**You don't need to have a background in natural disaster mitigation or recovery to use this system.** By following easy-to-understand instructions and answering the questions-**which come with "more information" links to help determine correct answers**-you can create a customized checklist of property protection recommendations.

## News & Information continued

The Open for Business recovery plan is composed of a variety of forms which, when completed, are customized to help you recover essential business functions and to inform your employees about their responsibilities. **Once the property protection and recovery plans are developed, they're** stored confidentially at the Open for Business site. You can update your plans as often as you like and have the option to save them on your hard drive, a CD, an external drive and print them for hard copy storage.

To take advantage of this important new tool, visit **F e d e r a t e d ' s   W e b   s i t e** ([www.federatedinsurance.com](http://www.federatedinsurance.com)) and click Open for Business to begin the registration process and receive your access code.

**New Member Benefit— Online Business Management Sessions**

Save time and money and learn without leaving **your office with PHCC's newest member program**, an online business management training series. Each month will focus on a specific topic that will immediately improve your business operations and create value for your company!

Only an hour in length each month, this program allows you to learn cutting -edge business strategies from the comfort of you own office—so you **don't lose precious time running your business.** Visit the **Meetings & Events Section of PHCC's** web site, [www.phccweb.org](http://www.phccweb.org), for a list of upcoming topics.

## Associate of the Month

### The Blue Book's Project communication Network— Working to Help Build Dallas!

Since 1913, The Blue Book of Building and Construction has been connecting industry buyers and sellers with printed regional directories and more recently online at thebluebook.com (including editions in Dallas/Fort Worth, Houston and San Antonio/Austin).

In an effort to continue to provide the industry with the tools necessary to ease project communication, **BB-Bid, The Blue Book's FREE bid management service**, is fast becoming the leading network for finding, qualifying, managing and messaging vendors. Over 8,000 general contractors nationwide (200 in the local Dallas area alone) are using this free service to send invitations to bid to subcontractors and suppliers in the regions they have projects. Over 400,000 project messages are being sent weekly through this system and 1,248 local projects were built using BB-Bid within the past 52 weeks!

BB-Bid offers you a quick and easy way to find project leads and the free BB-Bid Private Online Plan Room enables you to view, download and take-off/markup plans and specs. If you are not already part of the BB-Bid network, talk to your local Blue Book Account Manager; call our product support specialists at 888-303-2243 or log on to thebluebook.com and register today!

## Contractor Profile

A three generation plumbing company, Howard F. Kane Plumbing Company, Inc. was established in 1955. The late Howard F. Kane was the son of John D. Kane, a master plumber, the chief plumbing inspector for the City of Fort Worth from the 50's into the 70's, and enforcer of the city's original plumbing code. As a young man, Howard apprenticed with the local plumbers union and received his journeyman license after a three-year tour duty with the US Navy. The former Seabee started his own business, Howard F. Kane Plumbing Company in 1955.

**Grady learned the trade by his father Howard's side, as a youthful helper and later as an apprentice. He earned his journeyman's license one year after graduating high school and later became a master plumber. Today, Howard F. Kane Plumbing Company, Inc's customers include developers, general contractors, property owners/managers, and individuals ninety percent which are repeat clients.**



Grady Kane and George Jagoda





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August Lunch Meeting: Speaker and Author Michael McCoy with Nicole & Rob Vest (PrePaid Legal)

## PHCC North Texas Associate Members for 2008

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<b>Downtown Ft. Worth</b> <b>817.336.0451</b>	<b>Waxahachie Utilities</b> <b>972.923.9800</b>	<b>Dallas A/C</b> <b>972.243.8346</b>
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Dates: *(Please circle date of your choice)*  
March 29-30, 2008      April 26-27, 2008  
May 17-18, 2008      June 21-22, 2008  
July 19-20, 2008      August 23-24, 2008  
September 20-21, 2008      October 18-19, 2008  
November 15-16, 2008      No Class

Location: Alpha Plumbing & Leak Locators  
10931 Dennis Road (N. on Dennis from Royal Lane)  
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Instructor: Howard Scarborough (Lunch is not Included)  
Time: 8:00 - 5:00 pm      Each Day  
Cost: \$295.00—Member  
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PHCC North Texas Lunch Meeting

September 16, 2008 11:30—1:00 pm

Brookhaven Country Club  
3333 Golfing Green Drive  
Dallas, TX

Topic: City of Dallas Water Utilities Programs

Speaker: Art Torres

No I will not be there \_\_\_\_\_

Yes I will be there \_\_\_\_\_

Names \_\_\_\_\_

Company: \_\_\_\_\_

Thank you for helping us with this.

Barbara & Aggie

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