



The Fitting Connection

July 2009



New Plumbing Laws

The Texas State Board of Plumbing Examiners will meet on July 13, 2009 to consider and possibly approve the type of training needed to meet the New Training and Examination Requirements Passed during the 81st regular Legislative Session. Nancy Jones, Executive Director of PHCC Texas will attend this meeting. Nancy will be at the North Texas PHCC lunch meeting to talk about the new changes in the State Plumbing Laws and report on the decisions of the TSBPE.

These changes will go into effect on September 1, 2009.

Some of the Changes:

Tradesman Plumber—Limited Examination

Plumber's Apprentice must complete 24 hours classroom training prior to qualifying for examination, unless the individual is enrolled in good standing with a Plumber's Apprenticeship program approved by the US Dept. of Labor, Office of Apprenticeship.

Journeyman Plumber Examination

Plumber's Apprentice must complete 48 hours classroom training prior to qualifying for examination, unless the individual is enrolled in good standing with a Plumber's Apprenticeship program approved by the US Dept. of Labor, Office of Apprenticeship.

Master Plumbing Examination

Before qualifying for the Masters examination, individuals must hold a Journeyman Plumber license for four years, or one year if the individual has completed a training program approved by the United States Department of Labor, Office of Apprenticeship and the TSBPE Board.

Note 1. Applications for Tradesman Plumber-Limited, Journeyman Plumber and Master Plumber examinations received prior to the effective date, from fully qualified individuals who meet all current requirements, will be accepted under the current requirements.

Discussion Topic—Tankless Water Heaters Experiences (Pros and Cons)

Fax back form is page 12. Please send in your reservations for this very important meeting.

PHCC Lunch Meeting

July 21, 2009

Brookhaven Country Club

3333 Golfing Green Drive

Dallas, TX 75287

11:30—1:00 pm

PHCC North Texas

4340 Highlander Drive

Dallas, Texas 75287

972-818-1990

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www.phccnorthtexas.org



**PLUMBING-HEATING-COOLING
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New Push from OSHA

“OSHA is back in the enforcement business, Labor Secretary Hilda Solis told the 3,000 safety engineers attending the ASSE Safety 2009 Professional Development Conference’s general session. In her first official visit to Texas, she announced a Texas construction safety initiative. Beginning in July, OSHA will increase the number of inspectors in Texas for a concentrated effort to prevent injuries and fatalities at construction sites. The Texas Construction industry experiences too many fatalities,” she said. “There have been 145 fatalities since 2007,” she said , and Hispanic fatalities continue to rise, with a 125 percent increase 1992, “Texas has the dubious distinction of having more workers die than in any other state. We will increase protections for a greater number of workers.” “When these inspectors observe unsafe scaffolds, fall risks, trenches or other hazards, they are empowered to launch an immediate investigation,” said Solis, the daughter of immigrant union workers. “As I have said since my first day on the job, the U.S. Dept. of Labor is back in the enforcement business.” She will add 670 additional investigators and inspectors to improve compliance in low wage industries, focusing on reducing repeat violations.”

Jim Parker, Loss Control Service Director of K & S Group, Inc., attended a meeting with the Dallas Area Director of OSHA and he indicated that in support of the comments made by Labor Secretary Hilda Solis, compliance officers will be brought into Texas from throughout the United States to conduct widespread inspections. Cities to be targeted include Dallas, Houston, San Antonio, and Austin. OSHA will conduct the inspections based on drive-by observations as well as obtaining job site locations using the “Dodge Report.”

Welcome New Members

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Fitting Connection Ad Rates

If your company would like to have an ad in the newsletter, please call Barbara at (972) 818-1990. All ads must be in a jpeg format. and will be in color.

Prices for the 2009 Ads:

	1 x	6 months	1 year
Bus. Card	\$25	\$90	\$150
Half Page	\$50	\$100	\$300
Full Page	\$75	\$400	\$600

Note: If ads are changed monthly or periodically an administrative fee of \$20.00 will be added each time.

State Talk by Nancy - July 2009

PHCC TOP HONORS FOR 2008-2009 GO TO:

CONTRACTOR OF THE YEAR:

Ken Boen, Boen Plumbing – Waco

ASSOCIATE OF THE YEAR:

First Cardinal of Texas, Dallas

PHCC SPIRIT AWARD:

Stephen Cox, Cox Plumbing – Austin

PHCC BOARD OF DIRECTORS SERVICE AWARD:

Travis Blair, Alpha Mechanical – Crowley

PHCC CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP AWARD:

Gulf Coast PHCC Chapter

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This year's convention at Lakeway Resort in Austin was a great success! Mark your calendar for the 2010 PHCC State Convention – to be held at The Woodlands Waterway Marriott Hotel June 23-27! Don't miss it next year!

THE LEGISLATIVE SESSION IS OVER AND IT HAS BEEN A SUCCESSFUL LEGISLATIVE SESSION FOR THE PLUMBING INDUSTRY! PHCC TEXAS IS PROUD TO REPORT THE PASSAGE OF THE FOLLOWING MAJOR PLUMBING BILLS!

State Talk Continued

HSB 1410/HB2697: Responsible Master Plumber clarification bill: This bill clarifies the difference between a Responsible Master Plumber and a Master Plumber. It does not amend the plumbing license law itself. Two amendments were attached to the bill late in the session. The first amendment is a plumbing endorsement to install residential fire sprinklers (training to be decided.) The second amendment was attached by the builders because their bill had no chance of passage. This amendment would prohibit local jurisdictions from requiring residential fire sprinkler installations. We are not happy with the builders amendment, but will deal with it before next session. This bill has been signed by the Governor.

SB802/HB1758: This bill allows an apprentice who has completed a Department of Labor Office of Apprenticeship Program or a Texas State Board of Plumbing Examiners Board-approved program to apply up to 500 classroom training hours toward his Journeyman or Tradesman license exam requirements. It also allows an apprentice who has completed an associate of applied science degree in a plumbing technology program to apply those hours toward a Journeyman or Tradesman license. Note: An apprentice applying for a Tradesman License must have 24 hours of training approved by the Plumbing Board or a program approved by the Department of Labor. An apprentice applying for a Journeyman License must have 48 hours of training. This bill has been signed by the Governor.

SB2192/HB3129: This bill amends Chapter 39 of the Business & Commerce Code to exempt licensed plumbing, air conditioning and electrical services from the "Third Day Right of Refusal." This law was designed to protect consumers from door to door sales transactions, but could be interpreted to include installation services. This bill has been signed by the Governor.

SB1354: This omnibus amends several provisions of the Plumbing License Law, including a provision that an appliance dealer must be licensed as a plumber to install or do service work on water heaters. Another provision requires a TSBPE field representative to hold a plumbing license. It also requires persons renewing a certificate of registration as a drain cleaner, drain cleaner-restricted registrant or residential utilities installer to annually complete at least six hours of approved training approved by the plumbing board. This bill also requires a Journeyman to work for four years before applying for a Master's License or to have a year of an approved Apprenticeship Program. This bill has been signed by the Governor.

YOU MAY READ THE TEXT AND HISTORY OF EACH BILL BY GOING TO www.capitol.state.tx.us



Robert Summers Retires from City of Dallas

Sonny Friedman (PHCC Past President), Lonnie Erwin (Chief Plumbing Official City of Dallas), Mark Daniels (City of Dallas), Robert Summers (Plumbing Inspector City of Dallas), Tony Reeder (Past President), and Lee McFarland (President PHCC North Texas)



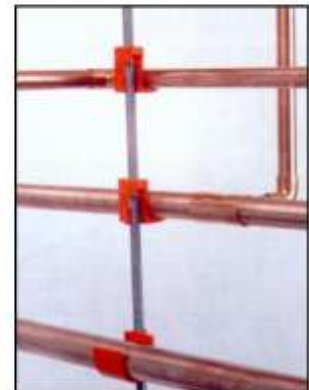
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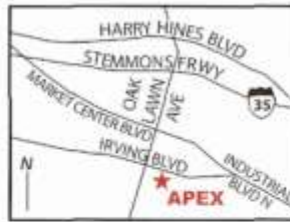
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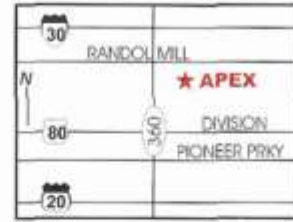
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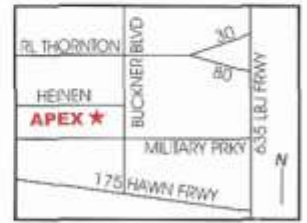
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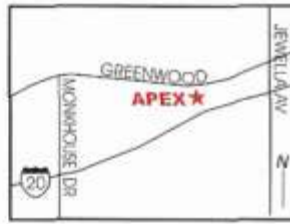
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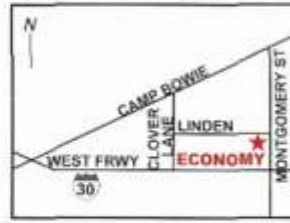


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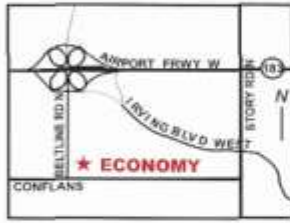
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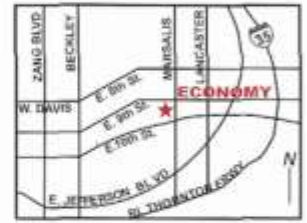
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PHCC North Texas Lunch Meeting

July 21, 2009

11:30—1:00 pm

Location:

Brookhaven Country Club

3333 Golfing Green Drive

Dallas, TX

Program: New Plumbing Law that go into affect
September 1st

Discussion Topic—Tankless Water Heaters:
Pros and Cons

No I will not be there ____

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Thank you for helping us with this.

Barbara & Aggie

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