



# NEWSLETTER

## *Chairman Speaks*



All articles are easy to write, it's just the beginning and end that are tough. A little bit about me personally. I have been married to my wonderful wife Jolene for 28 years (some things you have to get out of the way, right away, because you know she's going to read it.). I have two sons, Andy and Tyler, and one beautiful daughter Tess waiting for me in heaven. Both sons either have or are now attending the University of Kansas. I will leave a forwarding address at the conclusion of this article for donations. I'm a big lover of animals, gambling, or anything that has to do with the word FUN. Did you notice I didn't throw the word "work" in there? But now that I've brought it up I might as well move forward with it. I have been very blessed to be involved in "the wonderful world of plumbing". Not many people can say that they REALLY enjoy what they do for a living, but I'm one that can. I started plumbing 30 years ago. Bare with me as I allow my blood pressure to drop after rereading that last sentence. Probably the best thing about plumbing is even if you think so, you are never going to know it all. Not even close. Not even a small sliver of the pie. Don't let anyone ever tell you different. It's the challenge of it that I like. We are all involved in a profession that is so complex and the dynamics so constantly changing that you can't help but be excited. Plus we get the satisfaction of being able to help people. If you ever come across someone who has been without hot water for several days, they are more excited to see you than their own family. It's also about the relationships you are able to form between your customers, competitors, and yourself. I am also one that enjoys donating my time to a worthwhile cause. The PACK has been one that I have been involved with for a number of years. Sadly, this will be the last year for me to sit on the PACK board. Next year I'm assuming

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## **SPRING CODE CLASS**

The new year will be quickly upon us and now is the time to consider either your personal training or the training of your employees. Our code classes provide preparation to take the IPC plumbing and mechanical journeyman or master's exam. See our flyer in this mailing for more details. Registering by January 13th will get you a 10% discount whether you are a member or not, so don't miss out!

### **2009 Elected Officers**

President: Kelsey Leidy  
 V. President: Dale Cook  
 Secretary: Monty Cruse  
 Treasurer: Leon Breedlove

### **Board Members**

Mark Herndon  
 Steve Conduff  
 Nick Trujillo  
 Earl Carra  
 Shelby Wilcox  
 Dan Leidy—Exec. Director

### **General Membership Meeting**

**January 18th, 2010**

### **Next Board Meeting:**

**January 6th  
4:00PM**





## Successful Remodel—Special Thanks

If you haven't been by the office recently, there have been some big changes. The front offices have been completely remodeled and some much needed maintenance has been completed. I have to say that this secretary is really happy about having a new office and I would like to extend some well earned thanks to those who made it happen.



Thank you to Damien Cook who took on the front offices and did a bang up job in under a week. He stayed long nights to make sure it got done and we appreciate his whole family for letting us have him for a few days!

A HUGE thanks to Dale Cook for all of his efforts in putting this whole thing together and for lending us his best employee for several days.



I did some before and after pictures of Dale and I think we can all see that he's happy with the results.

Our Instructor Pat Richardson also volunteered a lot of his time to get all of the lighting in our building in working order!

Terry Irwin, Shelby Wilcox, Kelsey Leidy, Mike



◀ Before & After ▶

Jury, Clint Woodward, Mark Herndon, and Monty Cruse all came down to help get it all done. Thanks guys for your contribution . If I missed someone, I'm sorry, but still thankful. 2009 has been a great year at the PACK and I look forward to working with all of you in 2010. If you would like to know how you can become more involved, please see page 4 or give me a call. I'll find a place for you.

Michelle Wood  
PACK Office Secretary  
262-8860

[michelle@pack-ice.com](mailto:michelle@pack-ice.com)



## 2009 STAKE HOLDER'S MEETING

The PACK hosted this last Stake Holder's meeting Friday, November 20, 2009. We had a pretty good meeting. Several of those who RSVP'd for the meeting didn't show up, so we had more than enough food for everyone with some left over.

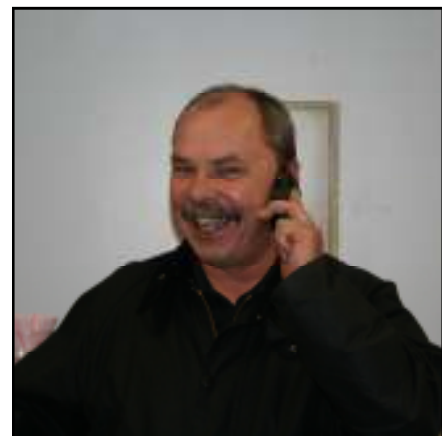
Here are some of the highlights of the meeting. The discussion concerning continuing education was as follows: 1. What would be considered as "trade related"? It was decided that each municipality would make that decision within their jurisdiction at the time of approval of the class to be given. 2. Does anyone have any problems which have come up since the renewal process started? It seemed that no one present had any problems at this time. Those jurisdictions present stated that they would put the expiration and fulfilled CE requirements on their certificates so other jurisdictions would honor it. They decided to leave things the way they are at present and see how everything works out for CE requirements. If need be, they can present changes to the state next year.

We had a long discussion over lead based paint and what is expected of Contractors. This will affect Plumbers, HVAC, Electricians and anyone else who may cut or drill holes in walls or partitions that contain lead based paint. These requirements will be strict and fines heavy. Wess Galyon spoke to us concerning these issues and it didn't look pretty. However, Wess said it was a Federal requirement and he didn't know any way around it. He said we were just going to have to comply or pay hefty fines.

Mike Roberts, Building Official of Salina, has been our moderator, spoke person, and organizer for several years. However, we are sad to say that Mike is leaving his position in Salina. At this time he does not know where he will be going, so he resigned his position and requested someone step up to the plate and replace him. With that, I am proud to announce that Tom Kerschen graciously accepted the position. Tom is Chief Electrical Inspector with the City of Wichita. I've known Tom for a long time and I promise you he will do a good job. When you see or talk to Tom, thank him for stepping up. Also, send an email to Mike Roberts thanking him for his service and dedication to our trades.

While the Stake Holder's meetings were started mostly due to continuing education, we actually sort of started when the Propane Gas issue came up and we defeated that. Continuing Education is better since most jurisdictions are working together and sharing views and thoughts. Those of us who attend these meetings feel they should expand past continuing education and take up any issue which may come through the State that might affect all of us. Next meeting will probably be sometime around May. Time and place will be announced. The PACK was honored to host this last meeting and has opened the doors to future meetings. Just in case anyone was wondering, the issue of State Licensing came up. If you have any concern with this issue, pro or con, let your Association (PACK, PHCC, KCCA, LOCAL 441) know or contact Tom Kerschen. It would be nice to have some input before the next meeting.

Dan Leidy  
PACK Executive Director





## Words From Our Instructor.....

BE THANKFUL for Difficulties!!!! Noooo, I haven't lost it... (Well, OK, not ENTIRELY... YET). I can't say I am enamored with difficulties either. One thing I have learned over the years is that if I struggle with a topic or project, I am likely not the only one in that boat. An attorney friend of mine once told me that "You are only a failure when you lay down and quit." I also, however, am reminded of the famous movie quote by Clint Eastwood, "A man should know his limitations". If you are questioning my sanity from writing this article—LOL—welcome to my world!!! My point in writing this tidbit is that it seems that too many people in this world only want an easy out nowadays. Yes, I dooo include myself in this observation. I can't help but remember a framing contractor who told me that I could NOT build a set of stairs without a complete understanding of framing tables listed on the framing square. I attempted to explain to him that with a simple trigonometric calculator (YES, YES, trig tables would work also), a good quality tape measure, and any convenient sized 90 degree corner, I would build him all the stairs, rafters, or structures he

wanted. He was not convinced and told me I would still have to have the tables. At this point, I simply asked him "How do you think those tables got on the square to begin with?" He seemed genuinely puzzled at my inquiry, muttered something about my percentage, and huffed off.

In actual fact, my fellow framer's method was certainly valid to achieve results, but was not the ONLY method available to get results. OHHHH—allow me to introduce myself. My name is Pat Richardson and I have been given the privilege and honor of teaching students the 2009 IPC and 2009 IMC codes at our local association, The PACK. I genuinely enjoy teaching and have for the better part of 20 years. If there is any single thing I have learned to do over the years, it is to keep my mind open to learning new methods to accomplish results in all endeavors I seek to engage in.

I am 55 and have lived in Wichita for most of my adult life. I graduated from East High School, was a chemistry, mathematics and physics major at Wichita State University and Oklahoma University at Norman. In later years I attended President's

College School of Law where I collected 66 hours in furtherance of a Juris Doctorate of Law. I currently am a local licensed master Plumber, master HVAC mechanic, master Electrician, and Class A Category General Contractor. I also hold a master Plumbing license in the state of Oklahoma and the state of Texas. I am a certified instructor for USD 259 as well.

I would encourage all of you to join us here at The PACK. Please consider taking classes from us and we will do everything in our power to get you the educational opportunities that are sought.

Patrick Richardson  
PACK Instructor



## Chairman Speaks.....continued from the front page.

the title of president for the Goddard Chamber of Commerce. Some people just never learn when to say no. But honestly, it is a great bunch of people and I am really looking forward to the opportunity. I have really enjoyed my time serving with the PACK. We have accomplished many things with many more good things to come in the future. I want to send a big special thanks to Michelle for all the hard work she has contributed. Everyone should take the time

to call and let her know how appreciated she is. But the PACK and Michelle need your help too. So when you call to thank her, don't forget to ask how you can help in this upcoming year. In closing, I know this last year has been a very trying year for all of us. This is not a political statement, but I firmly believe that the government is not what is going to turn this thing around. You and I and everyone else helping each other is what will turn this around. The more

we depend on each other and the less we depend on others, this will be our saving grace.

Sincerely,  
Mark Herndon  
Royal Flush Plumbing

You'll be missed Mark.  
We too appreciate all the hard work you have put into the PACK.



# THE P.A.C.K.

## Get Involved

If you would like to be more involved in your trade community, please contact the P.A.C.K. office and let us know where you would like to serve.

1. Become a Board Member
2. Maintenance Committee
3. Special Events Committee
4. Continuing Education Committee
5. Anything else you can think of \_\_\_\_\_.

Contact: Michelle  
262-8860 or [michelle@pack-ice.com](mailto:michelle@pack-ice.com)

## Need Feedback

We want to hear back from our members on what you want to see in the future here at The PACK. Let us know about what events, holiday or otherwise that would best interest you. Or let us know what you would like to see at our membership meetings or continuing education classes that you would like to take.

EMAIL: [michelle@pack-ice.com](mailto:michelle@pack-ice.com)

**Please read all flyers carefully! We have several events coming that you don't want to miss out on! Christmas Party, membership, and a discount on code class when you sign up early!**

## Classified

**William Scott**  
Experienced Plumber  
Over 30 years exp.

**Maggie Dunne**  
Seeking Apprenticeship  
In Plumbing

Call for resume: 262-8860

**Place your Help Wanted Add  
In our Classifieds**

**FREE**

**Seeking Employment?  
We'll post your name  
FREE**

**And Keep a resume on file**

## Appliance Doctor

In need of helpers and licensed  
Journeyman HVAC workers  
Starting mid-late January

Contact: Steve Conway  
263-0005