



Wisconsin Geothermal Association

Spring 2010 Issue

2010 WGA Conference An Incredible Success

I am happy to report that the 2010 Annual WGA Conference was a huge success. We had 23 exhibitors showcasing their products and services, 16 great breakout sessions with excellent geothermal information, and over 90 attendees that came to learn more about the geothermal heat pump industry in Wisconsin.

Part of the conference included the annual meeting of the association. During this meeting elections were



WGA Board Member Bruce Walker (center) and President Brian Urlaub (front right).

held for the board of directors. Normally there would be three director positions open however, this year, Galen Betz decided to give up his board position so there were four positions open. Three people were re-elected to the board: Mike Stevens, Dave Mitchell and Manus McDevitt. A new

person was also elected to the board, Mark Flock. (See page 3 for more information on Mark and the rest of the board.)

We had many positive comments from the attendees and exhibitors, and everyone that I spoke to personally indicated that it was well worth the time and money spent to attend. There were inquires regarding the 2011 WGA conference dates, so it seems that the conference was very successful. The conference brought great training to our members as well as

allowing them to see the latest products and services available on the market today.

I would like to thank everyone that attended as well as all the speakers, exhibitors, and sponsors of the event. Without everyone's participation it would not have been a success. The hard work of the WGA board members was crucial to the smooth running of the event, so thanks to them as well.

We are looking forward to an even bigger event next year which will be held at the same venue. Keep an eye on the WGA website www.wisgeo.org and this publication for the dates of the 2011 event. We will also be posting a "presenter" section on the website so if you would like to be a speaker/presenter at next year's event you will be able to submit your presentation topics to the WGA.

Have a great summer,
Brian Urlaub
President



Conference attendees walk through vendor exhibits.



The 5th Annual GEO Ride is Set - Come Ride With Us



We survived another winter and spring is in the air! The fragrance of the grass, birds singing and the best sound of spring-motorcycle engines! So that brings us to the Wisconsin Geothermal Association's most important event of the year, the annual GEO Ride. It will be held again on the first Friday of June, which is June 4, 2010.

This year, for your convenience, we will have two meeting locations. At 8:30 a.m. we will meet at the usual spot, Al Muth Harley Davidson in Black River Falls. We will leave there at 9:00 a.m. and ride south on Hwy 27 for about one hour to Westby, Wisconsin. At approximately 10:00 a.m. we will arrive at our second meeting location, Vernon Electric Cooperative. The new cooperative facility is located just north of Westby on Hwy 27. This building is about one year old and has a 72-ton horizontal geothermal system. We will have the opportunity for a quick tour with cooperative personnel and the design engineer, Todd Armstrong, who should be riding with us.

By 10:30 a.m. we will begin the ride with the full group. This portion of the ride will be led by our newest WGA board member, Mark Flock

of Flock's Heating & Cooling in Cashton, just north of Westby. Mark is a longtime biker and this ride is in his "backyard" so it should be great. We will be touring the area of Wild Cat Mountain and the Kickapoo River valley. We will have lunch at a popular biker stop and may also work in a stop at S & S Cycle in Viola, WI.

Don't spend your summer living in regret that you missed the GEO Ride, put it on your calendar now. And remember it's a "ride" that includes 2 wheels or 4 wheels, roofs or no roofs, jeeps, muscle cars, whatever! Don't miss it, I can't wait!

Dan Green, Ride Coordinator

PS - The long range forecast looks like good weather, so Brian Urlab shouldn't get soaked riding home this year.





Get out your tie-dye.
**Time Again for the Midwest
Renewable Energy Fair**

June 18, 19 & 20 will mark a return of the WGA to the Midwest Renewable Energy Association Fair & Conference. The event is held 6 miles east of Stevens Point at the MREA properties on Deer Road in Custer, Wisconsin. Over 20,000 people interested in renewable energy will attend the event during the three days. The weather on the summer solstice for the past 12 years has been very cooperative and this outdoor event beats any free yardstick, indoor Home Show by a mile - - that's over 12 tons of loop!

The WGA will be in booth X97 and your association can use your help. The past years' WGA booth volunteers always remark on how well informed

the crowd is who stop by the booth to talk. There is no time to get bored and lots of time to tell people why geo is the best form of renewable energy there is.

Please volunteer for at least one half day shift on either Friday, Saturday, or Sunday of the event and you will be surprised to find out how many people from your home-base area are in attendance so - bring your business cards and be shameless in capturing some leads.

For information and details on how you can help out, contact WGA secretary Leo Udee at 920-322-6606 or at leoudee@alliantenergy.com.

While you are at the renewable energy fair, be sure to take the time to cruise around the fairgrounds and see what's happening in the rest of renewable energy world. For more information on the fair, go to www.the-mrea.org.



The Education Tent - Attendees wait for the next session to begin.

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MEET YOUR WGA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

This handsome group is your Wisconsin Geothermal Association board of directors. They work hard to promote geothermal in Wisconsin and to provide educational opportunities to dealers and installers of geo systems.

From left to right they are: Bruce Walker of Wisconsin Water Well Systems, Brian Urlaub of Eneritech, Leo Udee of Alliant Energy, Dave Mitchell of Mitchell's Heating & Cooling Company, Jan Stranz of Oconto Electric Cooperative, Dan Green of Water Source Heating & Cooling, Mark Flock of Flock's Heating & Air Conditioning, Mike Stevens of Air Quality Specialists and inset Manus McDevitt of Sustainable Engineering Group.



MARK FLOCK IS WGA'S NEWEST DIRECTOR

Mark Flock is the newest member of the WGA board. He was elected during the Wisconsin Conference in March. Mark talks a little about his background:

"I grew up on a dairy farm on St Mary's Ridge near Cashton Wisconsin with 10 brothers and sisters. I started my HVAC career in the trenches in 1977 working for Bagniefski Sheet Metal in LaCrosse. In 1985 I bought Flock's Sheet Metal near Cashton, along with my brother Tony, and later our brother Bill also joined us as an owner. The business has since been renamed Flock's Heating & Air Conditioning. In 2001



I completed my first geothermal training course with IGSHPA. I have since completed numerous training courses both in geothermal and in other courses pertaining to HVAC and operating a business. In 2009 Flock's Heating & Air Conditioning received the Award for Excellence from a prominent geothermal manufacturer. My wife, Pat, and I have been married for 32 wonderful years and we have three children Dan, Chris and Matt, and one granddaughter, Georgia. In my off time I enjoy motorcycling and woodworking. I look forward to serving on the WGA board and I encourage members to contact me to discuss any issues that they feel are pertinent."



Vermeer-Wisconsin Holds Drill School

Vermeer-Wisconsin held their annual Drill School for customers at their newly remodeled dealership in Butler, Wisconsin. Four classes were held to train over 100 attendees on the following topics: Navigator/HHD, Locators/Mud/TriHawk, Geothermal and the new AXIS Guided Boring System.

The most popular and well-received class was Geothermal, showcasing techniques and drilling tips. Special speakers from Earth Energy Services offered attendees a direct approach to geothermal installations. The new D20X22FX Series II Flex Drill was on site for attendees to get a hands-on feel of the machine.

Designed for water and sewer installations, the AXIS Guided Boring System is a pit-launched trenchless installation method designed to achieve pinpoint, on-grade accuracy while eliminating some of the difficult steps associated with other installation techniques.

Contractors now have a new tool to replace and expand crumbling infrastructure.

Representatives from Vermeer Corporation and Vermeer-Wisconsin's sales staff, technicians and owners were on hand to answer the many attendee questions.

Kevin Severson, drill operator from Schneider Heating & Air Conditioning in Onalaska came to learn more about the geothermal side of drilling. Schneider Heating purchased a D16X20 Series II in 2008 to take advantage of the growing interest in residential

geothermal installations. "The Geothermal class covered everything from installation to tax breaks. The biggest advantage was seeing the Flex Drill," said Kevin.

Vermeer-Wisconsin is a WGA member and can be reached at their Butler facility at 1-800-964-6462.



The new D20X22FX Series II Flex Drill from Vermeer is capable of entry points from 18 to 90 degrees, doing the work of two machines.



Joel Clary of Earth Energy Service conducts the geothermal class.

DRILLING SOLUTIONS

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D20X22FX Series II Flex Drill



Inspired by the voice of drillers and fueled by the Vermeer passion for innovative solutions, the Vermeer® D20X22FX Series II Navigator® flex-angle drill is the industry's first drill capable of entry points from 18 to 90 degrees - and everywhere in between.

GM30 Grout Mixer

For use in residential and commercial geothermal loop installations, Vermeer offers the GM30 grout mixer. Powered by a 26-hp (19.4 kW) diesel engine with electric start, the GM30 is available with two pump options to meet your specific needs.



See us at our June Demo Days Event! Call 800-964-6462 ext. 2121 for more details.



West Salem
800-759-6897

Butler
800-964-6462

Little Chute
800-859-9220

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Wisconsin Geothermal Association
455 Science Drive, Suite 200
Madison WI 53711

Calendar of Events

May 6, 2010 - 10 a.m.

**WGA board meeting
Hotel Mead, Wisconsin Rapids
(All WGA members welcome)**

June 4, 2010 8:30 a.m.

**5th Annual Geo Ride
Meet at Al Muth Harley Davidson
Black River Falls (See page 2)**

June 18-20, 2010

**Midwest Renewable Energy Fair
Volunteers needed (See page 4)**

October 4-7, 2010

**Design of Geothermal Systems
UW-Madison
Harold Olsen - Program Director
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