Wisconsin Geothermal Association

Summer 2009 Issue

A Message From the President

As of the Annual Meeting the Wisconsin Geothermal Association has a new president, Brian Urlaub. Brian is a Regional Manager for Enertech, Inc. His territory for Enertech includes Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa and Colorado. He has been with the company for over seven years and has been involved in the geothermal industry for ten years. A five-year member of WGA, Brian is pleased to take over as president of the association.

Members, now is the best time in the history of the WGA to be a member. The association has raised the level of benefits to its members drastically over the past year.

First the website is new and improved. It includes a members’ list so consumers can find out who the professional geothermal contractor/driller is in the area. If you haven’t visited the new website, check it out at www.wisgeo.org.

There will also be an advertising opportunity for any member who wants to place an ad on the website (see additional info on page 4).

A “code of ethics” and requirement of membership is another section that will soon be added to the website and will further enhance the professionalism of our industry. WGA members should be the most experienced and well trained group of geothermal contractors/drillers in the state and the website will hopefully get that across to the consumer.

Another new benefit includes a geothermal training event being sponsored by the Association. This three-day event is an IGSHPA Installer Workshop and is being held on August 11-13th in Green Bay. There is more information on page 3 or go to the WGA website. With the training you also get a 3-year IGSHPA membership and will be listed on their website as an installer for consumers to find.

Finally, the Association was also at the Midwest Renewable Energy Fair in Custer, WI in June. Volunteers were busy all weekend getting the geo word out, which is another great benefit to all members. There are a lot of consumers that go to the fair. Many stopped by the booth, picked up information and talked with one of the experts working the booth.

As you can see, the WGA is offering more benefits to its members than it ever has, and will continue to add to and improve those benefits. With the increasingly strong interest in geothermal today, consumers will be researching the internet for information, and will be looking to make an informed decision about the purchase of a system. The WGA website is a great source for that information.

Thank you for continuing your support of the Wisconsin Geothermal Association and I wish you all a very geothermal prosperous summer.

Brian Urlaub
President
Wisconsin Geothermal Association
June 19th through the 21st were the dates of the 20th Annual Midwest Renewable Energy Conference and Fair. Your Association attended once again this year, utilizing a new, booth-style display and the summer solstice was good to us.

The renewable aspects of Geo systems captured the minds of many in the crowd with green interests. WGA members who participated were engaged in steady conversations throughout the 3-day event while talking to a record crowd once again. The word on the event grounds was that Friday and Saturday attendance alone was over 20,000 people, about equal to the entire 2008 conference attendance.

Friday and Sunday kept three to four of us busy all day discussing, explaining and promoting Geo systems while Saturday required 5 to 6 of our helpful WGA member volunteers all day. This should certainly provide a boost to this year’s sales for our volunteers. They deserve it! (A count of the business cards that were handed out might be interesting.)

Your WGA volunteer members, Leo Udee, Dan Green, Dave Mitchell, Scott Niesen, Brian Hetzel, Mike Stevens, Manus McDevitt, Ken Von Bank, and Jan Stranz deserve a WGA track hoe full of thanks to each for their participation to once again make this event and the WGA’s promotional effort a great success.

June 18, 19 & 20 of 2010 are the dates for next year’s event. Put it on your calendar!
Wisconsin Geothermal Association
Summer 2009 Newsletter

International Ground Source Heat Pump Association
Accredited Installer Workshop

Wisconsin Geothermal Association is proud to sponsor our first Geo Installer Workshop. Dates of the conference are August 11-13, 2009. It is being held at Rock Garden/Comfort Inn 1951 Bond Street, Green Bay WI.

The International Ground Source Heat Pump Association (IGSHPA) accredited installer workshop is a 3-day comprehensive training that will give you the tools to properly design and install a ground source heat pump. This training will cover all aspects of a closed loop geothermal installation including proper system sizing, earth loop design, soil classifications, economics of the systems, pipe joining methods, and heat pump start up/check out.

Workshop Trainer Information

Brian Urlaub – Accredited Installer since 1998, Certified Geothermal Designer 2007, Train-the-Trainer 2008, over 10 years and 500 installations of geothermal experience. Brian is also the current president of WGA.

Registration Information

The cost to register is $695 per person for WGA members and $795 per person for non-WGA members. The fee includes a 3-year IGSHPA membership and manuals for the course. Registration deadline is August 1, 2009.

Register online at https://www.seeuthere.com/register/m1312d64-57L908QAX0O21. If you have questions, contact Brian Urlaub @ 612.269.9768 or WGA @ 866.GEO.7757.

Calendar of Events

July 30  WGA Quarterly Board Meeting 10 AM - 2 PM
Oakdale Electric Cooperative, Oakdale, WI

Aug 11-13  Iowa Geothermal Heat Pump Association
Accredited Geo Installer Workshop
Location: Rock Garden/Comfort Inn, Green Bay WI  See article in the le registration information.


This course will further your understanding of open-loop and closed-loop systems; using ground water, earth or ponds as sources; practical aspects of system application.
Advertise on www.wisgeo.org

The Wisconsin Geothermal Association is now placing advertising space for members on its website. The advertising will consist of two parts: 1) a small ad on the margin of the front page (rotating with other ads), and 2) a larger ¼ page ad on a separate ‘sponsor’ page. The additional advertising will be a great way to promote your business, and support the WGA beyond the membership level. The ads will link directly from the WGA homepage to the website of your choice.

Payment

To sign up for advertising, please mail a check (sorry, no credit cards) with this form, to the WGA, 455 Science Drive, Suite 200, Madison, WI 53711. The annual cost is $250 contractors/loopers/designers and $500 for manufacturers/distributors. Renewal of advertising will occur when you renew your membership.

Name: ________________________________________________________________________________
Organization name: __________________________________________________________________
Date: _____________________________ Months until membership renewal: ________________________
Web address (to link from ad): ____________________________________________________________
(if different than that provided at membership)

If your membership renewal is less than 10 months away, please pro-rate the amount of your check for the number of months left until renewal (example: 7 months away – cost = $250 x 7/12 = $146). Email info@wisgeo.org to inquire about your next renewal date.

Ad Images

Images should be emailed to info@wisgeo.org in .JPG format.

Front page image:
Maximum display size: 2” wide by 2” high
Images larger than the maximum display size will be re-sized accordingly.

Sponsor page ad:
Maximum display size: roughly 4” x 4.5”
400 x 450 pixels