First, let me say I’m honored to have been elected to serve as President of the Northern Ohio Society for Healthcare Engineering (NOSHE). In my 35+ years in this profession, I have found my professional societies, both ASHE and local chapters, to be a great source of information, education, and vehicle for collaboration and information sharing among colleagues. I hope to give back some of what I have gained from my years of participation with these societies.

As anyone in healthcare can tell you, our profession has never been static; it is constantly changing and evolving. Most people do not like change, and in fact, hospital engineers like the work they do because they provide a degree of consistency in their organizations. They maintain operations and keep the hospital’s critical environment functioning in a safe and consistent manner. However, as the model for healthcare delivery changes, hospital engineers need to step up their game and be change leaders to remain successful personally, and help keep their organization successful.

Being actively involved with a professional organization is one way to help remain current professionally, as well as collaborate with knowledgeable colleagues. In recent years, NOSHE has demonstrated its member commitment, and is proud to be a 2013 Gold Level Chapter of ASHE, the largest professional organization dedicated to optimizing the healthcare physical environment. Membership in NOSHE, and ASHE, will link you to resources that are unmatched in our industry.

As a professional society committed to the development of healthcare professionals, NOSHE stands ready to provide technical resources, education, advocacy and fellowship for our members. The NOSHE Board is committed to providing our members relevant, timely information and education. It is our goal to provide at least 15 continuing education hours to our members annually. Our purpose is not only to keep our members technically up-to-date, but also to provide Certified Healthcare Facility Manager (CHFM) members with sufficient educational programs to keep their certifications current with timely, locally available, low cost programs.

If you have not yet achieved your CHFM, I would encourage you to do. By achieving, and maintaining your CHFM, one is recognized as a professional in healthcare engineering, not only by ASHE, but through, and as promoted by, the American Hospital Association. This is one way to be recognized, and to demonstrate to others, your knowledge and potential value to an organization.

Attending educational programs and reading articles are a necessary part of professional development, but many of us learn best by doing. I would encourage you to also consider participating on the NOSHE board, on one of NOSHE’s Committees, or as a presenter in one of our programs. I know you will find the fellowship rewarding, and will likely find greater benefit from your participation than you expect.

Best wishes in your professional endeavors, I know you will find useful information through NOSHE; I look forward to meeting you at one of our programs, or meetings.

Karen Dethloff, CHFM, FASHE
Chapter President
Dedicated to Our Membership

In 2014, your NOSHE Chapter has worked hard to increase the level of education opportunities. We provided these so that you may collect the CEUs necessary for you to maintain your various certifications.

We are currently on track to provide 26.5 CEUs by the end of 2014. This is a new level for us and will help us on the way to earning the Platinum Level for our chapter from ASHE. Pretty amazing when you consider how young our chapter is.

As part of our education levels, we have added webinars to our list of educational opportunities. We hope you have been able to participate in these sessions. If you have topics that you wish to learn about, that will help you in your professional development, please let us know and we will see about including the topic in a future presentation.

Holiday Message

As we come to the close of 2014, we are looking forward to that special quality time we spend with family and friends. With that thought, we share this wish for you:

Wishing you a Joyous Holiday Season and a New Year filled with Peace and Happiness.

Recent & Upcoming Events

Certified Healthcare Facilities Manager (CHFM) - Preparatory Class
November 21, 2014
NOSHE offered an opportunity to participate in a Certified Healthcare Facilities Management (CHFM) Preparatory Class at a discounted rate. The class earned 7.0 CEU’s.

Educational Event: Maintain & Restore Infection Control/Indoor Air Quality
December 4, 2014, 12:00 to 5:00 PM (Social Event to Follow)

NOSHE Roundtable Discussion
January 22, 2015, 7:30 to 10:00 AM

NOSHE Webinar
February 12, 2015, 12:00 to 1:00 PM

NOSHE Site Tour/Lecture & Happy Hour
March 5, 2015, 3:00 to 5:00 PM (Happy Hour to follow)

ASHE PDC Conference
March 15 through 18, 2015 — San Antonio, Texas

For more information on event and to register, visit www.NOSHE.org