



The MGPHO Minute

Presidents Message

The months just keep flying by and I can hardly believe that May is already here. Before we know it we will all be together in Tampa.

Recently I have been reflecting back to a recent trip with my daughter. We had the chance to go to Paris during her Spring Break and one of the things that we did was a “Nighttime Fat Tire Bike Tour” .

We arrived at the tour location near the Eiffel Tower at about 4:30, just in time for the afternoon rush. The guide laid out what the plan was as we would be riding in the very busy streets of Paris. Sometimes we would be single file, sometimes 2x2 and others we would just spread out and block the entire road. As we set out riding through traffic I found myself frequently in “dad mode” hanging back a little and “blocking” cars from getting near her. As this continued to happen I found myself more concerned with what she was doing and how to protect her (as if a car hitting me would not also hit her) and I started to think that maybe this wasn’t such a great idea after all. This was especially true when at one point we ended up at the back of the group in a section where we were to block traffic and there was a car literally inches away from my back tire.

So what does this have to do with MGPHO and medical gas? As I reflected back I decided you know what, if I don’t give her the experiences and give her the chance to learn, who will? Similar could be said for those in our organizations that may not have as much knowledge or experience. If any of us in a leadership position don’t let our people get out on their own bike so to say and learn and experience, then they may never get that chance. While it may be difficult or we may find ourselves going into “dad mode”, we need to be teaching, training and giving experience to those around us. It really will make it better for all.

Mathis Carlson- MGPHO President



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The Corky Bishop Scholarship Fund

The Corky Bishop Scholarship application is posted on the website or can be requested at

president@mghpo.org.

Anyone who would like to make a contribution to the scholarship fund can follow the link to contribute on the MGPPO Homepage.

Much to our disappointment there were no applicants for 2023.

The applications are open for the 2024 scholarship. The goal is to fund the conference registration and lodging cost of two first time attendees each year.

Leadership is unlocking people's potential to become better.

Bill Bradley

MGPPO Welcomes New Members

MGPPO would like to welcome the following new members:

Robert May

Kareem Elfawal

Eric Bowser

Follow MGPPO on LinkedIn!

www.linkedin.com/in/mgpho

23rd Annual MGPPO Educational Conference

The 23rd Annual MGPPO Educational Conference will be held in Tampa Florida.

The conference will be held October 8th-10th, 2024.

The conference will run from a Tuesday-Thursday. We are building the program to start mid-day on Tuesday and end mid-afternoon on Thursday allowing time to catch late afternoon flights out.

The 2024 CMGV new and renewal exams will be offered at the conference.

Often times the attendance is down the last day. The MGPPO BOD would like to encourage everyone to stay and attend the education sessions the last day. Our speakers have committed their time to present at our conference and attendance is the best way to show appreciation for what they do for us. It is also a great day to get more involved in the MGPPO organization.

Conference registration links and hotel reservation links are active on the MGPPO Website

Please remember that MGPPO is contracted to fill a set amount of hotel rooms. If we do not fill the rooms they are billed to the organization so it is very important to book through the link on the conference registration page



Proposed Bylaw Change

Over the course of the last year as a BOD we have been reviewing bylaws and policy manuals for anything that needs to be updated or changed for accuracy. During this review we found a section of the bylaws regarding quorums at meetings that could use some clarification.

The existing language reads:

4.11 Quorum: A quorum to do business shall consist of a minimum of 15% of the total number of voting members.

Following some research we concluded that this section could be interpreted to also include the BOD meetings. There is a section further in the bylaws that discusses BOD meetings, however we felt that after some research we could clean things up a little.

As I have been involved with the BOD for the last 10 years, all BOD meetings have been conducted in accordance with the new language. This really just adds some clarity in how the organization business must be conducted.

The proposed revised language is:

4.11 Quorum:

- A) For general membership meetings, a quorum to do business shall consist of a minimum of 15% of the total number of voting members of the organization.
- B) For Board of Directors Meetings, a quorum to do business shall consist of a majority of the officers that make up the Board of Directors.

Voting on the proposed change will be conducted on October 10th at the annual meeting in Tampa.
Mathis Carlson– MGPHO President

NFPA 99 2027 Edition

Proposals are due June 4th for the 2027 edition of NFPA 99. If you have any proposals that you would like to make, but may want some assistance from MGPHO, be sure to get those over to us ASAP so that we can evaluate them

We are looking to discuss any proposals on the May roundtable call scheduled for May 10th.

We have also scheduled an extra roundtable call on May 15th for additional discussion.

Any proposals from MGPHO will be decided on and submitted by May 29th . While MGPHO will look at and make proposals, the BOD will have the final decision on what is submitted as MGPHO. Having any submissions complete by May 29th will allow the original proponent to submit anything that they would like to in the event MGPHO makes the decision not to submit their proposal.

MGPHO Membership Policy Update

One of the discussions we have had for some time as the BOD is how to expand and grow MGPHO in the overall Medical Gas Community. While the organization was founded largely by a group of verifiers, no where in our charge does it state that we are a verifiers organization. It does charge us with being an educational organization for the Medical Gas Community. With that end, the MGPHO BOD would like to announce that effective immediately we have revised the membership definitions.

Prior to this change to be a voting member you had to be a verifier or manager of a verifiers group. This change to the definition of an active (voting) member will hopefully expand our reach and encourage others in the medical gas community to get involved.

Additionally the new language will allow for associate members to also have a vote in the organization, but does not allow an associate member to hold an office in the organization.

We have spent the last several months as a BOD, as well as working with the Board of Governors on how to best finalize and set up the new membership categories. The new membership definitions are as follows:

Active Members

Active members may vote (if physically present, in good standing at least 30 days prior to the vote, and have no open, unresolved complaints on file with the Ethics Committee), hold office, chair, and participate on committees and have other rights and benefits of active membership. Active membership may be individual or corporate.

Active Members Definitions:

Individual - Any professional who holds a current ASSE 6000 credential and is actively engaged in any aspect of Medical Gas and Vacuum Systems in Healthcare Applications.

Special Expert - an individual who is a MGPHO associate member that demonstrates special and unique capabilities and/or skills that directly benefit MGPHO. They are asked to serve as advisors to the organization. Special expert category is by nomination only. This limited category has all the rights and benefits of active membership. It requires renewal every three years coinciding with the term of the President. See section E for details.

Corporate - A corporate membership is always in the name of a corporation. Corporate Membership is for one member and is transferable to other individuals within the same company. If the company member meets the qualifications of an individual active member, they will be considered an active member. Corporate membership includes attendance for two individuals at the annual educational conference.

Associate Members

Associate members may vote (if physically present, in good standing at least 30 days prior to the vote, and have no open, unresolved complaints on file with the Ethics Committee), and participate on committees and have other rights and benefits of associate membership. Associate membership may be individual or corporate.

Associate Members Definition

Individuals and corporations not meeting the requirements of Active Member. An Associate Member has all the rights and benefits of an Active Member, except to hold office, and serve as chair of a standing committee. An Associate Member may be any individual or corporation who is involved in the medical gas systems industry as an installer, designer, manufacturer, distributor, salesperson, inspector, medical practitioner, manager of those involved in the medical gas systems industry, or has any other interest in the medical gas industry.

As a BOD we wanted to get this change made and announced in advance of the annual meeting to encourage increased membership and increased attendance and involvement at the annual meeting.

Please feel free to reach out with any concerns or comments

Mathis Carlson– MGPHO President

MGPHO Annual Conference Sponsorships

For the 2024 Annual Conference MGPHO has the following sponsorships available:

Welcome Activity

Keynote Speaker

Tuesday Coffee/Break Station

Wednesday Coffee/Break Station

Thursday Coffee/Break Station

Thursday Lunch

Video production and playback

Sponsorship includes recognition at the conference and a sign showing the sponsorship.

Sponsored items are available for purchase on the MGPHO Website with the conference registration.

MGPHO Monthly Roundtable

MGPHO Roundtable

In 2022 we started the new monthly MGPHO Roundtable and have had some great meetings and discussions. In those discussions some of our members were able to gain some great perspectives on how to handle situations that they are coming across in the field.

Bring all of your questions, frustrations, wall of shame items

found in the field, whatever you want!

The important part is that you join us to talk about anything and everything medical gas.

Feel free to invite others to the calls.

Our next discussion is May 10th at 11:00 AM Eastern. If you missed the email you can find the link and other information on our LinkedIn page.

NFPA Required Piping Purity Test

One of the proposals for the 2024 Edition of NFPA 99 was to look at the Piping Purity test and what chemicals are being looked for and what should be looked for. The piping committee acknowledged that this is something that maybe warrants attention, but without data to go by, there was not much that could be done.

To that end, in MGPHO BOD discussions we have decided to form an ad hoc MGPHO Committee to gather data and analysis regarding the piping purity test.

The work of this committee is underway but they are still looking for people who are interested in joining.

We expect the committee work to be finished by late May. Pending the results of the work MGPHO would make any NFPA 99 proposals prior to the public input closing date for the 2027 edition on June 4th.

If you are interested in participating in this committee please contact Mathis Carlson

president@mgpho.org

MGPHO Committees

One of the key ways to keep MGPHO Operating to the benefit of the MGPHO Members is for the BOD to receive input from all of the standing committees.

The following is a list of the committees that we have.

Please email president@mgpho.org if you would like to join any of the committees. There isn't a large time commitment as it usually entails 1-2 virtual meetings per year as well as a meeting at the annual conference of about 30 minutes.

Credentials

Legal/Legislative

Membership

Education

Finance/Promotional/
Website

Structure/Nominating

Long Rang Planning

Ad Hoc Committees:
RFA and Piping Purity

The RFA and the Required Permit to Work System

One of the new items in the 2021 code was the addition of the RFA (Responsible Facility Authority) and their requirement to create a permit to work system.

As a MGPHO BOD, we were discussing what additional values MGPHO can bring to both new and existing members. We have decided to move forward with creating an ad hoc committee to develop policies, procedures and forms that could be used for the permit to work system.

The work of this committee is underway but they are still seeing additional members and participation.

If you are interested in participating in this committee please contact Mathis Carlson

president@mgpho.org

2024 Board of Director Elections

At the 2024 conference we will have three BOD spots up for election. If you want to get involved and help lead MGPHO this is your chance, nominations will be accepted up until the morning of the election.

The positions open for election are:

VP-Structure: Currently held by Tony Stewart. **The VP Structure nominees must hold a current CMGV**

VP-Education: Currently held by Rocky Plotts

VP-Membership: Currently held by Jim Brusse

Current Nominees are:

VP-Structure: Dan Strickland

VP-Education: Rocky Plotts

VP-Membership: Jim Brusse

If you would like to nominate anyone to run for any positions please contact Tony Stewart– VP Structure. Nominations will be accepted until the morning of October 10th.

Tentative MGPFO Annual Education Conference Agenda

Rocky Plotts VP of education has been hard at work building our conference agenda and I am excited to share the initial draft .

Tuesday, October 8th

12:30pm – 1:30 pm - Anesthetic Gas Recovery Systems– Class 1/Beacon

1:30pm - 3:00pm - Committee Meetings (Get involved!)

3:00pm - 5:00pm -2024 NFPA 99 Code Updates and 2027 Revision Cycle —Mathis Carlson

6:00-8:00 *Tentative* Off site Welcome Event

Wednesday, October 9th

8:00am – 08:15am -Opening Comments: Mathis Carlson President MGPFO

8:15am – 9:15am - A discussion on different vacuum technologies– BUSCH

9:35am – 10:30am- TBD

10:30 - 12:00- **KEYNOTE** Ross Bernstein - “Wearing the C”

Lunch 12:00pm – 01:00pm (provided)

1:00pm – 2:30pm - Cryogenic Fluid Central Supply Systems/NFPA 55– Bob Sutter

2:30pm - 3:30pm The Good and Bad of VFD’s—Mark Allen and/or Beacon

3:45pm – 5:00pm / MGPFO Open Forum / MGPFO

5:00pm – 8:00pm / MGPFO VENDOR SHOW

Thursday, October 10th

8:00am – 10:00am - Opening Comments and Business Meeting

Mathis Carlson President MGPFO

10:15am – 11:30am—Medical Gas Compliance from the perspective of the RFA-

Keith Ligi-Advocate Atrium/Mark Allen

Lunch 11:30pm – 012:30pm (provided)

12:30pm – 1:00pm –Election results & Closing Comments Mathis Carlson President MGPFO

1:15-3:15 CMGV Renewal Exam

*All times, speakers, titles, and order subject to change

Call for Abstracts 2024 Annual Conference

We are still looking for speakers for this years conference in Tampa. Please get with Rocky Plotts VP Education if you have any ideas, speakers or would like to present something.

Please send any presentations, topic ideas or speaker ideas to Rocky Plotts VP of Education to be considered for the next conference. (education@mgpho.org)

The best way for us to build a program that benefits the members the most is by getting the ideas from the members.

We want to get the program set early for the next conference for our members to better plan their attendance.

We would like to have our agenda finalized ASAP, so the time is now.



Action is the foundational key to all success.
Pablo Picasso

MGPHO Update

At the 2024 conference, the VP of Structure, VP of Membership and VP of Education are up for election.

Please let Tony Stewart-VP of Structure know if you would like to nominate anyone for these three positions. VP of Structure must hold a current CMGV.

Invoices for 2024 dues have been sent out. Individual dues are \$300 and Corporate Dues are \$1300.

If you have not renewed your membership you will not be displayed as a member on the website directory until you are current. If you have a CMGV and have not renewed, your CMGV has now lapsed.

We are happy to announce that our 2025 Annual education conference will be held October 7-9, 2025 in New Orleans, LA.

Additionally, as a way to streamline communication between members and the organization we have now set up official email address for each member of the board.

President -Mathis Carlson president@mgpho.org
VP Structure– Tony Stewart structure@mgpho.org
VP Legal-Ross Williams legal@mgpho.org
VP Membership– Jim Brusse membership@mgpho.org
VP Finance– AL Moon finance@mgpho.org
VP Credentials- Cary Darden credentials@mgpho.org
VP Education– Rocky Plotts education@mgpho.org
Secretary to the board– Jonathan Willard secretary@mgpho.org

Member Spotlights



MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Get to know MGPHO Members in our Member Spotlights

Don't forget to follow the MGPHO forums online!

Want email notifications when there is a new post?

Click the subscribe button in the top right corner of each forum topic.

We want to spotlight our members to get to know each other. Please submit your spotlights to:

president@mgpho.org

Have something you want to include in the newsletter?

Send it to:

president@mgpho.org



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MGPHO Corporate members— Is your previous ad missing? Renew now to have it placed again.

Are you a MGPHO Corporate member and want your ad included here next month? Be sure to email it to president@mgpho.org

MGPHO

The Medical Gas Professional Healthcare Organization (MGPHO) was founded in 1998 as an organization that is dedicated to advancing the safe design, manufacture, installation, maintenance and inspection/verification of medical gas and vacuum systems through education. The organization is actively involved in identifying, understanding, and maintaining state and federal standards as well as improving the techniques used in testing and verification.

Upcoming MGPHO BOD Meetings

The MGPHO BOD has scheduled regular board meetings. The dates are as follows:

May 10, 2024– Teams

June 7, 2024– Teams

July 26, 2024– Teams

August 23, 2024– Teams

September 20, 2024– Teams

October 1, 2024– Teams

October 8, 2024– Tampa, FL

*Dates may be rescheduled

*If there is no business that needs to be conducted, meetings may be postponed or canceled.

Not a MGPHO member?

Join us here:

[Medical Gas Professional Healthcare Organization - Join MGPHO](#)

MGPHO

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