

Message From Your President



Exposing our goodness

For the first time, your affiliate has participated in a product show open to the public. We took the opportunity to be in the Green California Expo that took place in Sacramento April 19 & 20. We partnered with four manufacturers of clean and efficient burning products to better expose our units to (for the most part) an uneducated consumer. We showed a wood stove, pellet stove, gas and electric fireplaces.

The goal in doing this was not to sell specific product but to help those interested in green and clean products for their homes understand what our dealers can offer. We had informative exchanges with various CALGreen and air district staff who walked the show. There was nothing like us at the event which included companies like Toyota and GM with their electric cars, solar products of all sorts, carpeting, recycled paint, and lots of building products.

I know it's only one show, a start, but I felt like we put HPBA's product in a good light and put a place-holder for ourselves in other events like this. Huge thanks go to Travis, Kozy Heat, Lennox, and Modern Flame for contributing with personnel and financing, along with national and affiliate monies, to make this happen.

Amie Ryan
Ryan Brothers Chimney Sweeping
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Government Relations Update

Net Zero Update: HPBA and HPBA Pacific are working on an in-depth update with information about how we will be proceeding with the Net Zero Regulation. At first glance, it looks like we will be hiring a consultant who can "talk the talk" with the regulators up in Sacramento. As soon as we have this information put together, the affiliate will be mailing something out to members and other interested parties. The good news, we have 9 years until this regulation goes into effect, however, this will not be an easy task. More information to come...

Cal Green Update: As many of you know, Cal Green adopted a new rule on January 1, 2011 that basically banned b-vents in the state of California. After research done by John Crouch, we are learning that many cities in the state have not yet adopted this code. Follow this link to see what cities have not adopted the code.
http://www.documents.dgs.ca.gov/bsc/ordinances/2010/Local-Amendments-Master-Template_Webposting.doc

To find out if your city is going to adopt the code, talk with your city mechanical engineers.

Winter P.M. reports are out. Contact the affiliate office to obtain more information, kaity@hpbapacific.org or 626-237-1200

Government Affairs Academy

HPBA Pacific will be sending two people from our affiliate to the Government Affairs Academy in Washington D.C., May 16-19. Bill Harris (Masonry Fireplace Industries) and Tena Feb (F.I.R.E. Service) will take part in the 4-day training sessions that include media training, negotiation instruction and lobbying 101. If you are interested in taking part in this next year, please contact the affiliate office.

Save the Date!

Sunday, August 21

August 21st is going to be our annual summer event. This time we'll be holding it in San Marino in Southern California! That's right next door to Pasadena. Our luau will feature fire dancers and hula instruction for all who attend. We'll be cooking on a 26 ft. long outdoor kitchen. Make sure to mark your calendars!

Membership Update

To date, HPBA Pacific has 170 paid members. We are up from last year, but need to continue to grow this number! Do you know someone who hasn't paid their dues? With all the government regulations that will be impacting this industry in the future, it only makes sense to join.

Spotlight of the month: Tena Feb



How long have you been in the fireplace business and what was your first exposure to it?

I have been involved in the fireplace business through my husband since the mid 1980s and participated full time since 1999. Prior to my full time position, I worked for a major Insurance Carrier within the Underwriting Department and occasionally assisted my husband with his Inspection and Consulting business. I had originally left the Insurance Industry to be a stay at home mom. It was great; but I soon realized that I also enjoyed being a part of the work force. The timing was perfect when my husband added the education division to our company. The prospect of providing quality education to the hearth professionals within our industry was an exciting opportunity. I jumped right in and participated in the growth of our industry. It was also a great opportunity for me to put my research and administration skills to work. Now, I currently oversee all administration duties for both the consulting and education businesses and enjoy working with the Hearth, Home Inspection, Insurance and Fire Investigation Industries.

What's the most frustrating part of your job and the most rewarding?

The most frustrating part of my job is simple, not enough hours in the day. I would enjoy more time to research and volunteer my time. The most rewarding is a job well done and working with some really fantastic people and associations.

How has the last few years changed our businesses?

There has been a lot of change in our industry and these challenges must be addressed for our industry to survive. We need to work together to make this happen and become active in the regulation process. Even with all the challenges we face, I can't help but notice our industry working diligently to find ways to work through and prosper from these lessons. I give credit to those who fight to make this industry strong. Our business has adapted to the needs of these individuals and the challenges they face.

What are the opportunities?

Wow, the opportunities could be huge depending how we look at it. We are currently fighting to keep our industry alive and going. With that said, because of these challenges, we are working and looking at different ways to achieve this goal. Who knows what kind of new ideas and technology will derive from these challenges.

What your favorite hobby or time-off destination?

I always enjoy my family time. I have a great husband and two wonderful children, my daughter is finishing her first year in college, and my son is a freshman in high school. When time permits, I enjoy traveling, dirt bike riding, reading, spending time in the garden and working out.

Member HELP!

Do you know of a company who specializes in the repair of old Rampart, precast, Fireplaces? If so, contact the affiliate office. We have someone who is looking for this, or something similar. If you have any information, or even a suggestion, contact the affiliate office at kaity@hpbapacific.org or 626-237-1200

Free in April

The Hearth Education Foundation promised you one free LIVE online class every month. Your April selection is "Tools For OSHA Compliance." If an employee is not OSHA compliant who is held responsible? You, the business owner! Being OSHA compliant can be intimidating but we will bring things into perspective by helping you understand the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970, who it applies to and what to expect in the case of an inspection. Once we've covered the basics we'll talk about what to do when compliance is not black and white. Let us show you how implementing written safety plans, conducting hazard assessments and training your employees can show good faith and minimize your risk!

The class is taught by Hope Stevenson from Dave Pomeroy Signature Training. It will be held on Wednesday, April 6th, at 5:00pm Eastern Time. If you have a subscription, simply go to the catalog and select that class. If you don't have a subscription, go to <http://www.hpbef.org/online> Click on the "Live Class Schedule" and register today. Space is limited. This class also offers 1.5 SHL CEUs for those that are NFI Certified.

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