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2010 PLATINUM LEVEL

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The President's Message

For those of you that missed our last meeting in September; you really did miss an exceptional meeting. I believe we experienced the largest attendance for a quarterly meeting in the history of GaSHE; our educational sessions were phenomenal. We continue to increase membership participation at our quarterly meetings and you don't want to be one of those that has to learn about it from reading it in our newsletter... come and network with your peers, attend educational sessions and have a little fun provided by GaSHE.

As a Healthcare Engineer there is no cost for you to attend our meetings, so mark your calendar for **December 8th & 9th for our next meeting.** Because of the outstanding support from our business partners and continued relationship with Little Ocmulgee State Park, GaSHE continues to be a vital network for healthcare and hospital engineers around the state and you owe it to the facility you represent and your own professional development to become involved.

I am proud to share with you a commitment that our current board of directors voted on at our last meeting. GaSHE members provided a monetary gift to Little Ocmulgee State Park by giving back to the little ole' park that has served our group well for many, many years. In March we provided a donation to furnish a lodge room that has been empty for years while awaiting funds to furnish, also in September the membership agreed to refurbish the fire pit grill at the group shelter.

It makes me proud to be able to provide support to our state park and the wonderful staff that serves us at every meeting. Kudos to our members for identifying several opportunities to give back a little bit of our fortune because of the strong financial health our society enjoys; it is only because of the outstanding commitment of each member of Georgia Society for Healthcare Engineers. I am proud to be a member and to serve you as GaSHE president.

Yours to Count On,
Zack Holt, Piedmont Newnan Hospital
GaSHE President



December Quarterly Meeting

December 8th & 9th | Little Ocmulgee State Park



Little Ocmulgee State Park
80 Live Oak Trail
Helena, GA 31037

Engineer Registration Due: November 21st
Business Partner Registration Due: December 1st

Please fax/mail/email your registration forms to Kelly Wilson:
60 Lamp Post Court
Stockbridge, GA 30281
Fax: 678-272-2163 | Phone: 404-496-2582
Email: gashesecretary@gmail.com



Hotel Accommodations

For our business partners, if you plan to arrive on Thursday, December 8th, please reserve a room at the Lodge by calling (800) 864-7275 to make your reservation.

If you are an Engineer, please submit your registration form no later than November 21st. All Engineers rooms are covered by the Society and we will make the room arrangements for you. Please do not reserve your room if you are an Engineer. GaSHE will only cover the rooms that we have arranged on your behalf. This will greatly reduce any overlapping with reservations at the Lodge.



Hospitality Suite/Dinner

One of the cabins (Little Ocmulgee State Park) will serve as the Hospitality Suite for our December meeting.

Please join us on Thursday evening, December 8th, for the hospitality suite and then dinner immediately following. Please check with the desk at the lodge for the location of the cabin.



Meeting Information

For December's meeting we will be having our Christmas party! Please do not forget to bring your gift and participate in a gift exchanging game that is loaded with fun. The gift exchange will take place on Friday morning.



GaSHE will be sponsoring Toys for Tots again this year and we are asking that you bring a new, unwrapped toy with you to the December meeting. The Society will be contributing a \$100 monetary donation to the campaign and with a toy from each of you we can help Toys for Tots reach their goal of over 800,000 toys.

Registration Form Available
by clicking here or on our
website: www.gashe.org



We have established 2 additional ways for business partners to sponsor the quarterly meetings. If you are interested in hearing more about these opportunities then please let Kelly Wilson know (email: gashesecretary@gmail.com.)

GASHE MEMBERSHIP



Sammy Bledsoe

The GASHE is an organization that greatly benefits its members. Our objective is to give you the tools and information you need to enhance your career within your hospital.

I would like to encourage each member to become more involved with the Society. I would also like to challenge each member to invite just one new recruit to our next meeting, so that we may continue to grow. Our members are the key to the success of the Society. Your participation, your ideas, your presence is needed for this society to continue to be successful.

We have quarterly meeting's which are held at

the Little Ocmulgee State park in McCrae, Ga. These meetings are a great opportunity for you to network with our business partners and Hospital Engineers.

For more information on the upcoming meeting check out our website at www.gashe.org

I look forward to seeing you at the next meeting.

Sincerely,
Sammy Bledsoe
VP for Physical Plant & Environmental Services
Magnolia Manner



Tornado Lessons: Prepare & Respond

by: Steve Jordan, Director of Safety, Piedmont Hospital

The tornados that struck multiple states recently offer an opportunity for hospitals to check and if necessary update their preparation and response policies and procedures- not only for tornados but a wide variety of natural disasters. Don't fall into the trap of believing

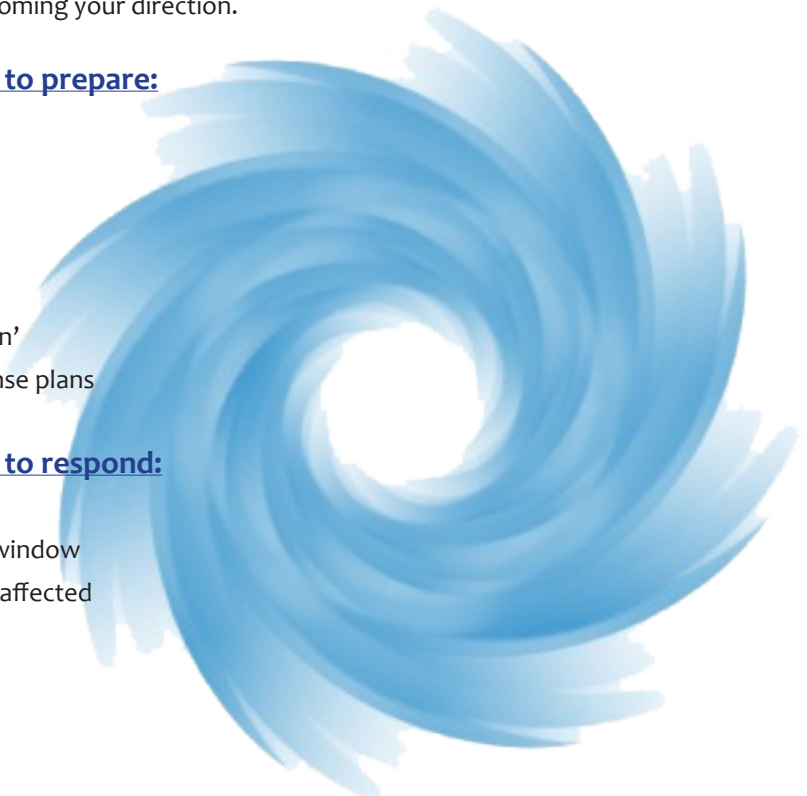
that if your hospital is located in an area without a history of tornado activity that such a review is not necessary. Make sure your emergency operations plan is an all-hazard plan, your hospital incident command center can respond to all hazards coming your direction.

The following are best practices hospitals use to prepare:

- Conduct a risk assessment (HVA)
- Participate in statewide tornado drills
- Place a weather radio at all sites
- Assign departmental responsibilities
- Establish relationships with local authorities
- Survey construction sites for anything not tied down'
- Encourage staff to develop at-home disaster response plans

The following are best practices hospitals use to respond:

- Evacuate patients based on risk
- Direct visitors and ambulatory patients away from window
- Perform damage assessments of hospital locations affected
- Prepare all staff that they may need to come in
- Consider mental health plan



Georgia Society for Healthcare Engineers

- a state wide organization
- provides and shares technical & managerial information regarding the operation & maintenance of hospital physical plants
- ensures safety, security & emergency management



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