



## Orlando Report

**I**t's been a very busy spring here in Québec at MHA News central. Despite rumors of a recession, your editor has been busier than ever taking care of the masonry end of his business. Half a dozen design jobs are floating to the bottom of the pile as newsletter material slowly swamps them. The 1991 dues are due, and we need to hold a mail ballot for the annual election of officers, since we did not have the required 66% quorum present at the annual meeting. More on that later.

Other than that, the 1991 meeting was very successful. Some new blood was in evidence, and several of the old regulars who couldn't make it were sorely missed.

We start this issue out with the meeting minutes - somewhat dry, perhaps, but it is important that you read them nevertheless. We include several reports from the seminar sessions which should give you some food for thought on several fronts.

A couple of important bylaw and organizational questions have arisen, and these require a poll of the membership as well. Since we are already well into '91, it is important that you send in the ballot as soon as this newsletter reaches you. The legislative front isn't letting us rest, and it is important for your organization to have the new executive in place as soon as possible. As a shortcut, I'm requesting that you enclose your 1991 dues cheque, payable to The Masonry Heater Association of N.A., directly with your ballot. This ensures that we automatically have a quorum for the vote. I'll forward the cheques to Lucille Frisch, the acting treasurer. Deadline for the vote is June 21, 1991. I have been fairly lenient so far in dropping names from the newsletter's mailing list, and your ballot/dues cheque for '91 will be the only way of remaining on the list.

In reading the updates on the legislative, emissions, and business issues, I'm sure you'll agree that it is more important than ever for each one of us to be represented by and participate in a strong organization dedicated to furthering the idea of masonry heating. - NS.

### Minutes

**A** regular meeting of the Masonry Heater Association of North America was held at 8:00 A.M. on April 3, 1990 in Orlando, Florida.

The meeting was called to order by vice-president **Tom Stroud**.

The minutes of last year's meeting in New Orleans were read by the secretary. A discussion ensued as to the keeping of the association books and on filing an income tax return.

A motion to accept the minutes was made by **Jerry Frisch** and passed by a voice vote.

### Financial Report

A financial report was presented by **Jerry Frisch**. Jerry stated that responsibility for the books had been transferred by treasurer **Mike Homchick** to **Lucille Frisch**, who prepared the statement shown on page 2.

Motion by **Pat Manley** to accept financial statement, passed.

**Tom Stroud** asked about preparing a proposed budget. **Tom** requested that MHA pay the cost of a motel room for one of the invited speakers, **Helmut Ziehe** - passed.

**Tom Stroud** gave an update on the status of the ASTM standard. The standard is ready for another

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vote at the sub-committee level. If passed, it would mean someone would have to be present at the next ASTM meeting in San Diego. Tom said that he would be willing to attend, but asked that MHA pay his travel expenses - passed.

It was proposed that we write a clarification to spell out the privileges associated with a voting membership, namely:

- The right to use the MHA logo in promotional material
- The right to buy and use MHA brochures

### Statement of Income and Expenses to 5/1/90

R.Steinbock	Brochures	1550.00
Association Lunch	New Orleans	--85.00
Masonry Stove Builders	Newsletter Expenses	-792.64
R. Eddy	MHA Tax preparation	-300.00
L. Senf	Xeroxing, New Orleans	--78.00
WEIW 90	Booth carpets&drapes	-105.00
K.B. Specialties	T shirts, hats, etc.	-366.00
B.I.A. printing	MHA stationery	1064.12
	Total Expenses	4340.76
4/4/90 Balance	4022.96	
8/27/90 Deposit (Dues)	1506.50	
	Total Balance	5529.46
	Expenses	4340.76
	5/1/90 Balance	1188.70

### Budget Update: 4/29/91:

New Dues deposits bring the current balance to 3356.04

Brent Gabby reported that he had applications for 9 new members, most of which were associates. He suggested a need for a corporate letter, to be prepared by the president of the association, to outline our goals and purposes to new members as well as others.

Brent Gabby raised the issue of full vs. associate membership. He stated that he had several new applications and wanted clarification as to who could and couldn't apply for associate membership. This led to a lengthy discussion. It was proposed that we accept associate memberships from anyone interested and then encourage the associates to upgrade to a voting membership. The bylaws were consulted and it was found that active builders and manufacturers could not be associates.

- Inclusion in the consultants list that Brent Gabby has prepared and uses for referrals
- Access to leads generated by the MHA marketing program that Stig Karlberg has developed

The suggestion was made that this whole question be checked for compatibility with existing bylaws. Copies of the bylaws to be sent out to any voting member who requests one.

Brent Gabby stated that he has only received 17 replies to his questionnaire to be on the consultants list. "You snooze, you lose."

It was suggested that members send in their FAX numbers for inclusion in the official membership list.

The number of voting members present at the meeting was 11, which did not constitute a



# NEWS

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Association of  
North America

### ELECTED OFFICERS - 1990

President - Gordon Jones, P. Eng  
Vice President - Tom Stroud  
Secretary - Norbert Senf  
Treasurer - Mike Homchick

Business Offices: The Masonry Heater Association of North America, 11490 Commerce Park Drive, Reston, Virginia, 22091, Tel.-703/620-0010

Editorial Office: c/o Masonry Stove Builders, RR 5, Shawville, Québec, J0X 2Y0, Tel. 613/230-6559  
FAX 230-7853

Membership is open to anyone with an interest in masonry heating and is subject to approval by the membership committee.

### Annual membership dues:

Voting - 200.00 (US)  
Associate - 50.00 (US)

quorum. This requires a mail ballot for elections and any other issues requiring a vote. Rod Zander suggested that this was unwieldy, particularly as the membership grows.

All voting members please note: it was suggested that for future meetings, all voting members who cannot attend assign their proxy vote to someone of their choice who will be attending.

Brent Gabby raised the question of where future MHA meetings should be held. He suggested Masonry Expo instead of WHA.

Secretary Norbert Senf reported that response to the newsletter from the membership has been very positive. He reported on his letters to CSA, which is drafting a Canadian

emissions standard. These were published in the newsletter.

**Stig Karlberg** gave a report on his marketing efforts. A press release was prepared with the help of **David Lyle** and sent out to 200 magazines. A press kit has been prepared and is ready to go. There have been some responses, and several articles will be published about masonry heaters as a result.

A proposal was made to establish a masonry heating library. Discussion ensued and **Douglas Hargreave** volunteered to create a database of where masonry heater information is located. This will only work with the co-operation of the membership. All members are requested to make a list of their masonry heating material and forward it to Douglas.

It was suggested that a set of applicable **BIA tech notes** be sent to the membership.

**Rod Zander** suggested a resource list for hardware information. Also that we have an annual buyer's guide and request input from the membership for it.

## New Business

A lengthy discussion ensued as to the WHA vs. Masonry Expo as a site for MHA meetings. Several points in favour of Masonry Expo were raised, including the fact that we might be able to attract more of the membership to come out for meetings if they were held at a masonry show. **Stig Karlberg** felt that the WHA connection was important, particularly on the political and emissions front. A decision needs to be made. More discussion ensued as to how to increase attendance at meetings. **Brent Gabby** volunteered to liaise with Masonry Expo.

## Marketing Report

**Stig Karlberg** raised the issue of getting leads from magazine articles out as quickly as possible. He reported that he has spent \$2000 of his company's money on his MHA marketing work. Indications are that a lot of leads will be generated from several upcoming magazine articles. So far, **Brent Gabby** has been handling leads, but his

capacity to do non-BIA work is becoming stretched. **Stig** stated that unless a way was found to get the leads, in volume, to interested parties quickly, Royal Crown's money will have been wasted. He suggested that a company such as Royal Crown or Tulikivi with expertise in this area be charged with using their in-house resources to process MHA leads on an honor system, ie., everyone gets the leads at the same time.

**Stig** suggested that an appropriate fee per lead be determined on a sliding scale. For example, it presently costs Royal Crown about \$5.00 to generate a lead from advertising, and Royal Crown would be more than happy to pay MHA \$1.00 per lead. A fee could be determined for interested heater builders serving their own territory, who would only be interested in a small portion of the lead list. Perhaps \$0.10 or \$0.05 per lead, for example.

After further discussion, **Stig** was charged with the responsibility for developing and administering a lead processing system for MHA.

## Brochures

**Brent Gabby** raised the issue of the MHA generic color brochure. Present supplies are almost exhausted, and there is a need to reprint the brochure. **Brent** has been unsuccessful so far in his efforts to contact **Richards Steinbock**, who produced the brochure and is in possession of the color plates. **Stig** offered his help if further efforts don't bear fruit.

**Brent** mentioned that the only objection raised about the brochure is the photograph on the front cover, which is of poor quality (*editor's note: the photo of the Heat-Kit unit on the cover was copied from a print, and not the original negative*). **Brent** suggested that the cover be changed to resemble the Biofire brochure, which shows four heaters. Someone else raised the issue of fairness, ie., a balanced representation that does not unduly favor one manufacturer, heater type, or material. (*editor's note: when Steinbock did the original brochure, he was provided with such a list of*

*criteria*). **Brent** agreed that his graphics art people would have to have their choice approved by the executive.

**Tom Stroud** stated that he had managed to line up **Helmut Ziehe**, who heads the **International Institute for Bau-Biologie & Ecology**, as a speaker, and requested approval to provide a hotel room. Unanimous agreement.

(See report elsewhere in this issue).

**Brent Gabby** suggested that the MHA President prepare an official letter to be sent to appropriate organizations in the masonry industry to raise their level of awareness of masonry heating and of the MHA.

This raised the subject of annual elections, which need to take place. The attendance of voting members at the meeting did not constitute a quorum, necessitating the holding of a mail ballot.

It was suggested that this will be an ongoing problem as our membership list expands. A solution would be for all voting members who are unable to attend the annual meeting to assign their proxy vote to another member of their choice who will be in attendance. The necessity for holding a mail ballot is not only cumbersome, but also prevents the making of significant decisions at the annual meeting. All voting members take note.

## Bylaws Questions

In addition, several questions regarding the bylaws were raised. Various copies of the bylaws are floating around. The official bylaws are kept with the official corporate books by the secretary. The secretary was unable to have these present at the meeting, due to other travel commitments that he had made in conjunction with his MHA trip.

Copies of the bylaws have been sent by the secretary to **Brent Gabby** and **Stig Karlberg** for review and recommendations.

Every interested voting member is hereby asked to request, in writing, a copy of the bylaws from the secretary (c/o Masonry Stove Builders, RR 5,



Shawville, Quebec, J0X 2Y0), to read them, and to submit his comments, if any, to the secretary. A vote will then be taken on any suggestions, objections, or requests for changes.

## Membership Applications

Again, an immediate question was raised by Brent Gabby: Brent is currently sitting on 60 membership requests from masons and other members of the masonry industry. Some have included dues for a voting membership, some for an affiliate, and most of them have requested more information. As stated earlier, there is some question as to what our criteria are for eligibility for voting and for associate membership.

Brent felt that associate memberships only be allowed for students, designers, and "special interest", and that working heater masons be required to purchase a full voting membership. In the past, we have allowed associate memberships for heater masons who occasionally could not come up with the full 200 dollars.

The membership is being polled on this question in the enclosed ballot for the annual election of officers of the association.

In the meantime, Brent has drafted a letter to fill the present policy void. He has sent it to members of the executive for comment and amendments. Following is the current, not necessarily the final, form of the letter. Please read it and attach your comments, if any, to ballot form.

## Membership Information Letter

The Masonry Heater Association of North America (MHA) is a trade association involved in the promotion of masonry heaters and efficient masonry fireplaces. Its membership consists of heater and fireplace masons, manufacturers, and other interested parties.

The association is actively seeking members who would like to participate in or share an

interest in its many activities, which include:

- writing national and international specifications and standards for masonry heaters and fireplaces
- helping national code authorities develop sound code treatment for masonry heaters and fireplaces
- promoting the environmental benefits of proper wood fuel use and lobbying government bodies and regulatory agencies for the fair treatment of masonry heaters and fireplaces on environmental issues. MHA efforts resulted in the recent development of a North American masonry heater and fireplace emission testing methodology and the blanket certification of masonry heaters in the state of Washington.
- sponsoring masonry heater and fireplace related research.
- developing and conducting educational seminars on the proper techniques used to construct masonry heaters and fireplaces.
- a marketing program that is resulting in the ongoing publication of articles in numerous magazines. This is resulting in the generation of thousands of leads from all areas of the continent, including yours.
- publication of MHA News, North America's only masonry heating periodical

Currently MHA offers two classes of membership: voting and affiliate.

**Voting Membership:** Voting membership is open to anyone who would like to be involved in the association and its activities and benefits. Annual dues for a voting membership are \$200 (US).

You get the following benefits:

- voting rights regarding the association's activities
- a subscription to *MHA News*. As a special inducement, you will also receive a set of back issues that will allow you to get up to speed on the current North American masonry heater scene.
- the right to use the MHA logo on your business stationery.
- timely access to MHA's database of leads.

- the right to purchase and use MHA's full color generic brochure for your own marketing activities
- your name placed on MHA's consultant's list if you are a masonry heater and fireplace builder or manufacturer. MHA's consultant's list is used, among others, by the Brick Institute of America.

### **Affiliate Membership:**

Affiliate membership is only open to designers, students and special interest. Annual dues are \$50 (US). Benefits include:

- a subscription to *MHA News*, the association newsletter
- the right to attend and participate in MHA meetings and attend the annual seminar day.
- the option to upgrade to a voting membership at any time by paying the pro-rated difference.

**This is an exciting time to be a part of the masonry heater scene. Don't miss out!**

## Elections:

The following list of candidates was nominated at the meeting by Jerry Frisch:

President - Tom Stroud  
Vice President - Norbert Senf  
Secretary - Brent Gabby

The following candidate was nominated by Norbert Senf:

Treasurer - Lucille Frisch

No other nominations were put forward.

In order to have a legal election, we need a 2/3 response. You may write in a candidate of your choice for any of the offices. Please note that you need to have your 1991 dues paid in order to be a voting member, and that the ballot form is also your dues invoice.

## 1991 Dues

As mentioned in the minutes, the 1991 dues are due. In order to save administrative hassle, we are asking that you include your dues cheque with your completed ballot. In other words, make your cheque payable to the Masonry Heater Association of North America, and mail it with your

ballot to the secretary (Norbert Senf at Masonry Stove Builders, RR 5, Shawville, Quebec J0X 2Y0). This will expedite the vote so that the new officers can commence their duties on MHA's behalf. The cheques will be forwarded to the acting treasurer, Lou Frisch. **Do not, repeat, DO NOT** send your cheques directly to Lou. This will slow down the election and gum up the works.

Remember, the **Masonry Heater Association is YOUR organization. Your dues are what allows the organization to function on your behalf.**

In addition to voting for the 1991 executive, the ballot also asks you to vote on the question of membership status. I.e., do you think that active heater masons should be allowed to join as associate members.

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## Get on the MHA electronic highway:

**M**ore and more MHA members now have fax machines, and the NEWS would like to add your FAX number to the official membership list. This will be an ideal way for important MHA info to get around fast.

There is a space to fill in your FAX number on the enclosed ballot.

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## WHA Masonry Caucus News

**T**ULIKIVI's Ted Corvey also works actively on behalf of MHA. As chairman of the WHA **Masonry Caucus**, he sends in the following report:

### Subject: Gov't Relations Report

May 2, 1991: Attached are minutes from the Gov't Relations

Committee Report and the Masonry Heater Caucus from the WHA meetings in Orlando. Also included is **John Crouch's report to the Association** which refers specifically to masonry heaters.

In reviewing the reports, it is important that each MHA member remember to stay in touch with the MHA officers on any legislative issue which may affect our category of fireplace products. John Crouch's quote of Benjamin Franklin is very pertinent and bears re-reading.

If you have any questions, please contact me.

### Masonry Heater Caucus

Sunday, April 7, 1991, Orlando Florida

**T**he meeting was called to order by chairman **Tom Stroud**. In addition to Mr. Stroud members present were **Gary Wilkening, Scott Winter, Jerry Frisch and Ted Corvey**.

Preliminary discussion focused on the fact that there is no standard to test a masonry fireplace. Efforts made to establish testing produced four testing groups: 1.) Woodstove, 2.) Masonry Heater, 3.) Fireplace (zero clearance) and 4.) Fireplace Masonry.

Before further testing is done it was suggested that perhaps it should be taken into the field and analyzed. Also discussed was how testing should be done: hot to hot or cold to cold. A concern mentioned was that the **general attitude to masons** needs to be changed to realize the importance of testing and analysis.

Regulation in Washington cannot be avoided so units need to be developed that burn clean and a method needs to be established for testing them. **If the masonry fireplace is to last it will have to have a pre-manufactured tested firebox.**

Mr. Corvey then reported on the Government Relations Committee Meeting. The meeting is being reorganized

around the membership caucus; that membership needs to take more responsibility for lobbying for their own cause. One function of the Government Relations Committee is to make sure one caucus doesn't step on another and as an association to provide a unified front around woodburning. The committee is now organized with chairs of each individual caucus and they in turn lobby the executive committee for funding - chair represents the opinions of the caucus to the committee and in turn reports the committee's stance to the caucus members. This is seen as a **positive step forward**.

It was agreed that **the major issue is not to let the masons be forgotten** and to keep them informed about and let them react to the basic issues.

### New Business

As Mr. Stroud is now a nominee for president of the Masonry Heater Association, Ted Corvey was nominated as the new chair of the Masonry Heater Caucus.

There being no further discussion the meeting was adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

## Regulatory Issues for Masonry Heaters

by **John Crouch**, WHA emissions regulation specialist

**M**asonry Heaters as a concept have existed for centuries in Europe. They are new and unique in American culture. This is both an advantage and a disadvantage. Specifically from the standpoint of government regulations, the uniqueness of Masonry Heaters has resulted in **regulations which are inadvertently negative**. The nature of these regulations is more one of neglect for Masonry Heaters than hostility to

them. There are two areas where these negative regulations have been most obvious: air quality and energy conservation.

### Air Quality

As you all know, Masonry Heaters are not woodstoves, by definition of the Federal Government. They were excluded from the New Source Performance Standard (NSPS) principally because they were too difficult to address and were not covered by the lawsuit which triggered the NSPS. Had they not been excluded from the NSPS, they would have been effectively banned. Unfortunately, what made sense at the federal level is not clear at the local level. Ordinances which permit the use of certified stoves only during periods of poor air quality may exclude these heaters along with other "non-affected facilities".

In one state, Washington, Masonry Heaters have been granted equivalency with certified stoves. This was accomplished at great cost in time and effort by a few of your members. Also, in the Tahoe Regional Planning Area (TRPA), other members of your group (*ed. note: TULIKIVI*) have secured recognition of your product type. There are, however, several dozen localities in the West where your products cannot be installed or which have restrictions on their use during inversions.

I suggest that you create a packet of information, including your very fine brochure, the ASTM definition as soon as it is ratified, and all the supporting documents from Washington state that you can pull together. This package can be used by all your members as well as by the WHA when presenting the issue of Masonry Heaters to air quality regulators.

### Energy Conservation

In several states, there is a growing movement to require

outside air, "tight fitting doors" and "tight fitting dampers" to all "fireplace type" products. I have only recently come to understand the threat these regulations pose to your product type. (I am indebted to Tom Stroud and Jerry Frisch for this education). (*Editor's note: see last two MHA News issues for info. on obtaining CMHC's (Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation's) \$250,000 study of outside air. Its free, and has some very surprising results that any serious fireplace mason should make his business to know.*)

This is one area where your ASTM definition will be extremely helpful. As soon as it is completed, I suggest you attempt to get it recognized by ICBO. To do this, you need a member of ICBO to advance this idea. Once you are recognized by ICBO, or even as that process is proceeding, you need to be making representations to Building Council officials in key states such as Washington and California. Another suggestion might be to prepare a "building officials package" similar to, but separate from, the "air quality officials package" suggested earlier.

I have two final recommendations. 1) Create an informal technical support team of people willing to spend some time on the phone with building officials. 2) Stick together. Even though you know that there are differences within your overall product category, the differences are much more important to you than they are to regulators. If Masonry Heaters seem to be too complicated to regulators, or if they are lobbied to approve one type, but they approve it so narrowly that they have excluded other types, they may decide the entire category is more trouble than it is worth.

As Benjamin Franklin said at the time of the signing of the Declaration of Independence, "Gentlemen, we must all hang together, or we will certainly all hang separately."

## Report from the WHA Government Relations Committee

Date: March 22, 19991

Chairman: Bob Ferguson

Staff: Carter Keithley/John Crouch

This has been an extremely busy year for our Government Relations efforts. The Association has been active at the Federal, State, and local level. We have advocated positions on products from woodstoves and fireplaces to fireplace gas logs, firestarters, and Firelogs, and we have covered issues from emissions to energy conservation.

WHA continued a major investment in the City of Fresno woodburning ordinance

### The Clean Air Act

The effort on the Clean Air Act amendments met with mixed success. Language was inserted in the amendments which endorses the woodstove NSPS as a control measure for woodsmoke. However, we were not successful in obtaining an explicit exemption for fireplaces from any regulation under the air toxics provisions of the Act.

### SIP Guidance Document

Crouch, Keithley and Menotti have met with EPA staff preparing "Guidance Documents" for use by the states in the preparation of plans to attain air quality compliance. WHA will be submitting language for a model ordinance which will emphasize the

advantages of changeout incentives.

### **Interlaboratory Precision**

The EPA is proposing to eliminate any inter-lab variability component from the audit test program which is scheduled to start this Fall. We have submitted strong objections to the proposal supported by analysis of the EPA's work by an expert in statistics. EPA has not responded favorably to our comments, but it has agreed to withhold publication of its proposal pending a meeting with the WHA Woodstove Technical Committee.

### **Arizona**

We have recently begun working with a chimney sweep from the Flagstaff area who is a freshman state legislator. He is attempting to move a bill to exempt certified stoves and pellet stoves from the state sales tax. We will be involved with the preparation of the SIP for Payson, one of the new PM-10 non-attainment areas, this summer.

### **California**

The WHA continued a major investment in the City of Fresno woodburning ordinance. Unfortunately, the ordinance ended up with emission limits for new woodburning fireplaces sold after 1/1/92. The requirements on woodstoves were not unusual, nor out of keeping with our position in other areas.

We convened, with the assistance of local members, an "Emission Summit Meeting" in Sacramento, in late July. This was an attempt to bring members of both parts of our industry together and to hear each other's concerns. It was only partially successful in that last regard.

We also worked an issue which was first identified by our technical director relating to inconsistencies between California Energy Commission's approach to gas logs and fireplaces. We ultimately assisted GAMA in the resolution of this problem and we will continue to monitor this commission.

The WHA was intimately involved with the preparation of the SIP for Mammoth Lakes and

anticipates being involved in several Air Plans in California this coming year.

We maintained contact with 10 of the 41 Air Pollution Control Districts (APCD) in the state and expect activity this coming year with at least the following: Bay Area Air Quality Management District, Yolo-Salono APCD, Northern Sierra APCD, San Luis Obispo APCD, the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD).

With regards to the SCAQMD we are trying to assist some of our members who are having difficulty with the new ruling on firestarters.

### **Colorado**

Our lobbyist, Dick Brown, worked with the local members of the WHA-Colorado in representing us on a woodburning task force of the Regional Air Quality Commission last fall. This group prepared a piece of legislation which Dick has been monitoring for us this Spring. The legislation recognizes the political realities of the Denver area and sets in motion a changeout program oriented around EPA Phase II stoves and gas logs.

### **Idaho**

We are assisting with the SIP for the Silver Valley area of Idaho and expect to be involved in the SIP for Sandpoint. There is also some possibility that the ordinance for Boise will be challenged this year.

### **Montana**

John Crouch visited Libby, which is trying to work out a Crested Butte style whole-town changeout of old stoves. We are currently advising the local members as they respond to a proposed change in that state's tax credit law.

### **Nevada**

We were unfortunately not alerted to the latest ordinance in Reno Washoe County until it was about to pass. John has assisted the lobbyist hired by WEI-California who is attempting to change that ordinance. In addition, this fall Las Vegas passed an ordinance,

although it did not challenge our basic positions.

### **Oregon**

We have supported, in conjunction with WEI-W, the funding and support of our industry lobbying group here. Van Natta and Associated represented the industry at a series of meetings last Summer and Fall to prepare a sweeping piece of legislation involving taxing all the sources of pollution in Oregon. They have been following our interests in the Legislature this winter, on this bill and two others. Our involvement in this taxing concept appears to be dead for this term, according to Fred Van Natta.

Staff also provided support to local members in La Grande, Bend, Klamath Falls, Medford-Jackson County, Grants Pass and Eugene.

### **South Dakota**

We assisted, via the phone and fax, the local dealers in the Rapid City area as they responded to that community's ordinance.

### **Texas**

We assisted local members in influencing the El Paso city ordinance and we anticipate more involvement in this state in the coming year.

### **Utah**

We have worked with the members of the local affiliate as they negotiated the provisions of their SIP with the state air quality regulator. We have also supported financially, their lobbyist who has been extremely important for them in this effort.

### **Washington**

This state continues to be an extremely virulent battleground. We worked with local members last summer to explore the possibility of intervention in a court suit brought by the Sierra Club against the U.S. Forest Service over firewood cutting.

The WHA has also supported the local affiliate, both financially, and with in-kind support, in their efforts to oppose an attempt to set a new state

emission program which would be different from that of the EPA. This effort has recently been extended to fireplaces and the WHA has, after consultation with the local lobbyist for WWEA, retained a separate lobbyist to advocate our concerns on fireplaces. We are making every effort not to expend more resources, either in time or money, on one part of our industry or the other. Both Carter and John have been in the state in the last 30 days, and both anticipate additional trips may be required.

## Wyoming

We have lobbied, by phone, the city of Jackson as they move towards a woodburning ordinance.

## Telling the Crested Butte Story

A major ongoing focus of our government relations effort this year has been to tell the good news from Crested Butte. From the Press Conference in November, which involved the Governor of Colorado and John Crouch for the WHA, to the present, the staff is constantly seeking opportunities to get this study "in the literature" throughout the nation. John Crouch presented a preliminary paper at the Pacific Northwest Section meeting of the Air & Waste Management Association (A&WMA) in Portland in November. In June he will represent the industry on a panel of Crested Butte Papers which will be presented at the National meeting of A&WMA in Vancouver, B.C. (*Ed. note: shouldn't that be the International meeting?*). He will be the keynote speaker at the National Chimney Sweep Guild meeting in Fort Worth next month, and will be chairing a session of Woodsmoke Policies at an EPA specialty conference next January.

In addition to the VNR which Kyla Thompson and Association distributed, Carter and Geoff created a six-minute tape which has already been shown to the technical support staff for woodsmoke issues at the EPA, the woodsmoke decision makers

## Canadian Update: The CSA B415 Standard

-NS.

**A** scheduled meeting of this CSA (Canadian Standards Association) committee was held on May 16. Due to other commitments, I was not able to attend. Information on this proposed emission testing standard and my submissions to the committee on behalf of the MHA were published in the Spring '91 issue of MHA News.

Prior to the meeting, copies of comments received were mailed out to committee members and interested parties (of which MHA is one).

Below are some comments regarding testing of fireplaces and masonry heaters.

It is important to keep in mind that CSA functions much more like ASTM in that the standards creation process is done by consensus. This is unlike UL for example, which is a private corporation whose internal processes are not open to the public. It is also unlike EPA, which is a government bureaucracy.

Like ASTM, if you are interested, you will be heard.

**Excerpt from letter from Ron Braaten, CCRL (Canadian Combustion and Carbonization Research Lab), dated 19 April 1991:**

Preface: There is no reason that factory built fireplaces cannot be tested using this standard. A representative example of a site

built fireplace could also be tested; such a course has been adopted in some parts of the US, (and in Canada?). To encourage regulatory bodies to permit testing of site built fireplaces, as an alternative to banning or restricting them, we should add as a second-last paragraph:

It is recommended that, where fireplaces or high-mass systems are to be regulated, site-built appliances be accepted as equivalent to listed appliances where they have been constructed according to plans approved by a certification agency which has tested and approved a sample appliance.

1.2 Remove the words "factory-built" before "fireplaces".

Add a new section as follows:

### 7.3 Fireplaces

7.3.1 An appliance meeting the following criteria may be designated by its manufacturer and tested as a fireplace:

1) The appliance is intended for fuelling using cordwood and is not automatically fuelled.

2) The appliance is intended primarily for aesthetic purposes, and incorporates provisions for viewing of the fire.

3) The minimum burn rate when tested using the fuel charge of 7.2 exceeds 5 kg/h.

12.3 Appliances tested under the provisions for fireplaces in this standard shall include the following additional wording on the label, and on all product literature referencing compliance to this standard:

"This appliance is intended for use primarily as a decorative fireplace, and not as a heating appliance."

at Region 10 of the EPA (Seattle) and used just two weeks ago in Phoenix, Arizona in support of legislation there. Several communities around the West are interested in creating ordinances which would force this type of "whole town changeout".

Clearly the issues of State Implementation Plans (SIPS) will continue this coming year, the

EPA is preparing to issue 15 more non-attainment designations this month, and most of them in the West. We will also see renewed activity this summer and fall in California and those areas grapple with the challenge presented by that state's Clean Air Act.



# Official MHA Voting Membership List as of 05\30\91

NAME	COMPANY	ADDRESS	PHONE	FAX	1991 Dues Paid
Jerry Frisch	Lopez Quarries	111 Barbara Lane, Everett, WA, 98203	206-353-8963		
Mike Homchick	Masonry Construction Co	21943 21st Place S.W., Brier, WA, 98036	206-771-4175		
Tom Stroud	Dietmeyer Ward & Stroud	P.O. Box 323, Vashon, WA, 98070	206-463-3722	206-463-6333	
Jerry Haupt	Kent Valley Masonry	21633 99th S., Kent, WA 98031	206-854-4930		
Gordon Jones, P.Eng		Route 8 Box 161, Johnson City, TN, 37601	615-928-6288		
Fred Schukal Rox	Sleepy Hollow Chimney Sweep Supply	85 Emjay Blvd., Brentwood, NY, 11717	516-231-2333 800-553-5322		
Mark McKusick	Hearth Warmers	RR 1 Box 36B, Colrain, MA, 01340	413-624-3363		
Stig Karlberg	Royal Crown	333 E. State - Suite 206, Rockford, IL, 61104	815-968-2022		
J. Patrick Manley	Brick Stove Works	374 Nelson Ridge Rd., Washington, ME, 04574	207-845-2440		
Tom Trout	Vesta Masonry Stove Inc.	373 Old Seven Mile Ridge Rd., Burnsville, NC, 28714	704-675-5247		
Dale Hisler	Lightning Arrow Stove Works	Box 1245, Norwich, VT, 05055	802-649-8818		
David Lyle	Heating Research Co.,	Box 300, Acworth, NH, 03601	603-835-2318		
David Johnstone	Masonry & Design	P.O. Box 198, Errington, BC, V0R 1V0	604-248-6535		
Ernst Heuft	The Master Stove Setter	6504-134th St., Surrey, BC, V3W 4S2	604-596-2585		
Norbert Senf	Masonry Stove Builders	RR 5, Shawville, PQ, J0X 2Y0	613-230-6557(B) 819-647-5092 (H)	613 230-7853	X
Ted Corvey	TULIKIVI	30 Glen Road, West Lebanon, NH, 03784	1-800-THE-FIRE 603-298-8388(NH)		
Bob Gossett	Gossett Masonry Design	141 Sisotow Belle Lane, Yakima, WA, 98903	509-966-9683		
George Gough	Gough Masonry Ltd.	506 John St., Sault Ste. Marie, ON, P6C 3K3	705-253-4314		X
Ulli Baumhard	Canadian Ceramic Wood Heat	R.R. 1, Sutton West, ON., L0E 1R0	416-478-8843		
Fred Rick	Kachelofen Canada	49 Westlake Cresc., Toronto, ON, M4C 2X3	416-423-0960		
Heinz Flurer	Biofire	3220 Melbourne, Salt Lake City, UT, 84106	801-486-0266		
Steve Williams	Williams Masonry	P.O. Box 968, Dolores, CO, 81323	303-882-4913		
Steve Cohan	Hot Rock Masonry	Box 247, Floyd, VA, 24091	703-789-7148, 703-745-4856		
Douglas Hargreave	Inverness Masonry Heat	1434 Dairy Rd., Charlottesville, VA, 22903	804-979-7300, 804-979-4906		
Brent Gabby, P.Eng	Brick Institute of America	11490 Commerce Park Drive, Reston, VA, 22091	703-620-0010		
Rod and Aluna Zander	Artisan's Workshop	127 North Street, Goshen, CT, 06756	203-491-3091		
Dave McGee	European Heat & Design Inc.	1918 Bisbane Street, Silver Springs, MD, 20902	703-438-0777(B) 301-593-5055(H)		
Stan Homola	Mastercraft Masonry	P.O. Box 73, Brush Prairie, WA, 98603	206-892-4381		
Sash Stephens	Ceramic Stove Arts	1512 East Spruce Street, Seattle WA 98122	206-325-8964		
Rudi Schongassner	Alpenofen	P.O. Box 486, Vail CO 81658	303-949-6314		
Bill Derrick	Alternate Energy Systems	Rt.22B, Box 344, Peru, N.Y. 12972	518-643-9374		
Steve Busch	Maine Masonry Stove Co	Box 44, Buckfield, ME, 04220	207-336-2036		
Jonathan H. Walters	Kopp Clay Co.	P.O. Box 465, Malvern OH 44644	216-863-0111		
	General Shale Products	P.O. Box 3547 CRS, Johnson City, TN 37601	615-282-4661		
Patrick Solich	Bavarian Stove - Solich Masonry	Rd 2, Box 187, Seward, PA 15954	814-446-5328	same	
Steve Patzer	Patzer & Co. Masonry	3N 743, Rte 31, St. Charles, IL 60174	708-584-1081		
Ron Pihl	Cornerstone Masonry	Box 83, Pray, MT 59065	1-800-321-7010	406-353-9383	
Bill Kjollien	BIA Region 9	8601 Dunwoody Place, Suite 507, Atlanta, GA 30350	(B) 404-993-9714 (H) 404-760-9421		X
Peter Solac	Woodland Way, Inc.	1203 Washington Ave. So., Minneapolis, MN 55415	(B) 612-338-6606 (H) 339-1407		X
William Hinderliter	The Chimney Checker Inc.	P.O. Box 765, Cox Neck Rd., Mattituck, NY 11952	516-298-5943 or 9452		X
	General Shale Products	P.O. Box 3547 CRS, Johnson City, TN 37601			

# Official MHA Associate Membership List as of 05\30\91

NAME	COMPANY	ADDRESS	PHONE	1991 Dues Paid
Erik Nilsen		RFD 1, Box 589, Dalton, NH 03561		
Charlie Page	TESS Inc.	RR 1 Box 3 Beanville Rd, Randolph, VT, 05060	(802)728-4485	
Glen Luse	Chimney Works Inc.	1821 Liberty Drive, Williamsport, PA, 17701	(717)494-1050	
Walter Moberg	Walter Moberg Design	921 SW Morrison St. - Suite 440, Portland, OR, 97205	(503)227-0547	
Jay Hensley	SNEWS	P.O.Box 98, Wilmore, KY40390	(606)858-4043	X
Mike Breault	Crocket Mountain Chimney Service	P.O. Box 693, Wilton, ME, 04294		
Steve Bushway	Village Chimney Services	R.R. 1, Box 178-D, Cunnington, MA 01026	(413)458-9660	
Jim Nowik	All Seasons Mason Contractor	15 Nutmeg La., Rocky Hill, CT 06067		
Duncan MacKinnon	Duncan's Chimney & Woodstoves	32 Front St., San Rafael, CA, 94901	(415)453-4644	
	Colonial Associates Inc.	48 Radnor Ave, Croton on the Hudson, NY 10520		X
Hans Nicolaisen	Nick's Welding	3005 Wahington Road, Waldoboro, ME 04572		X
Sam Foote, P. Eng		Suite 210, 170 Yonge St. S., Aurora, ONT L4G 6H7	(416)727-6950	X
Carl Spadaro	Isokern U.S. Inc.	6196 Lake gray Blvd, Suite 110, Jacksonville FL 32244	(904)771-6000	X
Rob and Patty Thompson	Turlock Chimney Sweep	270 Miles Court, Turlock, CA 95380	(209)66-SWEEP	X
Chris and Marta Joseph	Stanislaus Stove and Flue	1641 Princeton Ave. #16, Modesto, CA 95350	(209)576-1203	X

## New Members:

We would like to extend a hearty welcome to the following new members:

### Voting:

**Peter Solac**  
Woodland Way, Inc.  
Stoves and Fireplaces  
1203 Washington Ave. So., Minneapolis MN 55415  
(O) 612/338-6606 (H) 339-1407

**William Hinderliter**  
The Chimney Checker Inc.  
P.O. Box 765, Cox Neck Road  
Mattituck, NY 11952  
(B)(516)298-5943 or 9452

**Gunther Bartsch**  
DBA Bartsch Masonry  
200 Pepi Drive  
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**Hans Nicolaisen**  
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3005 Washington Road  
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170 Yonge St. S.  
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**Carl Spadaro**  
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**Rob and Patty Thompson**  
Turlock Chimney Sweeps  
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Turlock, CA 95380  
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**Chris and Marta Joseph**  
Stanislaus Stove and Flue  
1641 Princeton Ave., No.16  
Modesto, CA 95350  
(209)576-1203

### Associate

**Colonial Associates Inc.**  
48 Radnor Ave.  
Croton on the Hudson  
NY 10520

## Orlando Report - Bau-biology Seminar

**F**or those of you who were unable for various reasons to make it to Orlando, here is the complete text of the Baubiologie talk given by Helmut Ziehe. You will also find reports on some of the other seminars in our reprint of the SNEWS coverage of the MHA meeting, elsewhere in this issue. -NS.

country, where we built a new town for 90,000 inhabitants in the middle of the desert. About two years after the Baubiologie course, certain things began to come together in my mind and there was a sort of click. The trigger was this job in the desert.

My job was to be the mediator between the government and the design company. I had to explain things about the development of the town and on the other hand collect information for the planners, who were back in Athens, Greece.

I saw a lot interesting things, including other new towns built from scratch and also a lot of new stuff in Tripoli. They were doing all of the things that we now realize are

even stable there. It cracks, the steel starts to pop out. It is not this perfect material that we were taught about in school

I tried to convince our guys back in Athens and the government in Libya to try to do something with traditional materials, using modern technology, to use the local material that was available. You can imagine what happened - I got laughed at, and that was it. It was greed - they said, we are not here to sell Baubiologie, we are here to make money. That is the point.

They other side, they needed to have modern buildings, like the rest of the civilized world, so how can you present the idea of using mud

## "The heating problem is only one aspect of our building surroundings."

**(Chairman Tom Stroud):** I'd like to introduce Helmut Ziehe from Baubiologie, which is based in Clearwater, Florida. I think we will all be very interested to hear what he has to say. Baubiologie in Germany is very committed to masonry heaters, and I know that they are also into a lot of other things that fit right in with what a lot of us are all about.

**(Helmut Ziehe):** Thank you very much. I'd like to thank you, Tom, for the opportunity to talk to you. It was very short notice, so we'll just have to do it "off the cuff" as you say here in America.

Let me start by telling you a little about myself. I'm an architect, and I was educated in Berlin. I finished my studies in 1964, while the Wall was up, and immediately disappeared from this enclosed space to Sweden. I managed to stay there for two and a half years and then spent time in a lot of other countries as well. I came in contact with Baubiologie in 1980 when I heard about a correspondence course in Germany.

It was actually put together by professor Schneider, who is one of the original Baubiologists. I took this course, which was very interesting, but didn't do anything with it. I then got a very interesting job with an American company and went to North Africa, to an Islamic

no good. These guys wanted everything to look like our modern civilization, but in the meantime we have found out that it isn't good to have it all done out of steel and concrete which we now know have problems. All they saw was the structure, the beauty of the building, and they want this. Concrete buildings in the middle of the desert.

They had to import everything except sand. It made me ask "what the hell are we doing here, selling this stuff to them?"

So I went to an oasis, and this oasis was wonderful, I had never been in one before. It had buildings that were 4,000 years old, made of clay. You all know clay, what sort of material that is. The buildings were still in good shape - it was working wonderfully. You went in there, they had some water trickling through the walkways inside, they had some light coming in from a courtyard, and so on. It was an excellent interior climate. It was around 50 degrees Centigrade outside, and inside it was just comfortable, you see, and then we guys were building this new extension to a city a couple of miles away, all in concrete, with air conditioning, electric lights, stoves, everything. They had to have air conditioning, you see, they needed it, because concrete is not a material that is good in the desert, for a number of reasons. It is not

buildings again, clay buildings? No chance. When the project stopped I had to make a choice - go back into traditional architecture, or change direction. I went back to Schneider and offered to translate his correspondence course into English, and he was delighted.

I started this whole thing in England, and as you can see by my presence here, it was not very successful there either. I sold my house and came here to America, four years ago. Here it started very slow.

People can't pronounce the word, Baubiologie. Anyway, Tom here tells me that some of you are familiar with the word. I'll define it for you. Bau is the German word for building - to build is "bauen". Biologie is the science of life.

So you have buildings and living - or the opposite, so you see you are immediately into a contradiction - how can buildings make people sick? You know of a lot of examples - EPA, who has the responsibility for setting threshold values, had to shut down its own headquarters, which I think is hilarious. They had to shut down a brand new hospital because of the glue used to put the carpets down. Or, if something got started in one part of the building, the air handling system spread it around and everyone got sick.

We have other examples - in Gainesville, the university department of veterinary medicine built a new eight million dollar building and everyone had to sit in there with a gas mask. The question that turns up here is: how crazy can you get?

When I came here four years ago, the awareness level was low, and that has changed over the years. I wouldn't say that was because of Baubiologie, but we have been

how they can actually improve their situation. What is that situation? It is a situation in which more and more people are getting sick.

We have allergies, which we've probably always had, but we've never had an annual rate of increase of 7%. That is a hell of a lot, you see, and that is partly due to the condition of the buildings in which we live, plus how we eat and how we dress ourselves.

put these lines through and get approval by the people, because the people are saying it is truly causing cancer, and we will not allow it in our neighbourhoods.

(Ziehe): Yes, O.K.

You cannot prove that it is causing cancer, right? That is what I say. The situation is that a lot of good research has been done on the subject and on subjects that relate. Much of it has been done on

In Gainesville, the university department of veterinary medicine built a new eight million dollar building and everyone had to sit there with a gas mask.

involved in it. There is a general attitude that makes people wonder what is going on. I don't know about you - what made you start to build masonry heaters, but since it is a device that is creating a good interior climate, you must have heard something about it and you must have been affected by that information. It is not just the beauty of these structures. You must be aware of a lot of the issues.

But, there is a reason why you are doing this. The heating problem is only one aspect of our building surroundings. Baubiologie covers a lot more. Not just hazardous materials. Baubiologie is reaching into a lot of other sciences. And when I say sciences, I have to be very careful here. Often, we cannot scientifically prove what we say, and this is one of our problems.

For instance, there is the chemical side of the problem, the toxicity of building materials. Then there is the electric side, which is not very well known. If I tell somebody, "Look, you should reduce the amount of electricity that you use in your home", they will say "can you prove it? Why would people get sick from electromagnetic radiation?"

I can tell them something, but I have no proof. I have contradiction. We have power companies, and they have scientists, researchers in the field who are responsible people. Not to mention the ones who are irresponsible. Then I am in a situation where I cannot really prove anything.

And that is not what we are trying to do in Baubiologie. All we want to do in Baubiologie is to tell people

And that is particularly important because that has changed over the last decades, dramatically. Since the beginning of the industrial age about a hundred years ago, a drastic change has taken place - we have replaced materials that have been used for dressing, for food and for building our homes and workplaces to such a degree - and it goes parallel in a way, if you look at it statistically, with the increase of bad health in people.

Now here you can play statistics, and that is also a very dicey problem. I don't want to bore you with all of this negative stuff here, because you can, you know, scare the shit out of people if you just keep on telling people how bad the situation is, rather than just telling them from the beginning how to make it nice. But, it has to be said in order to make people aware, otherwise you just keep on as usual.

(Tom Stroud): This whole thing about electricity, that you can't prove it, well they are proving it, they're proving it on a nationwide basis, as for example that three part series in the New Yorker.

(Ziehe): I know, you have wonderful books about it, but the thing is, there is not anything going to happen on this.

(Stroud): In Washington state, a group sued the state because they were going to put high voltage power lines through their backyards and by a school, based on the New Yorker articles.

(Ziehe): Paul Brodeur

(Stroud): They put it up for a vote, and the state lost, now they have to petition if they are going to

animals, and it wouldn't necessarily stand up in court. On the other hand, you have a sufficient number of scientists on the payroll of the power companies and the chemical companies, you see, and they are easily convinced to stand up and say just the opposite.

I can also tell you about how these "threshold" values come about - it is in the same area.

In general, I would just like to mention that the situation in which we are is not clear, not clear cut, and if we wait until we have sufficient evidence, we will get nowhere. Because we cannot wait. Because the situation in our society is so bad, that we have to do something about it. We have to do something now.

In Baubiologie, we are trying to come up with solutions for an ordinary case. I'll give you the example of my case. I bought a house, and I didn't have all of these instruments at the time. So I started to renovate, and I used all of these nontoxic paints, and whatever I could to improve the situation. And then, when I got an instrument like this (holds up an electromagnetic field meter), and I switched it on (meter beeps very fast), I found out it was clicking like hell. My bedroom, just sort of ticking away, and I found we had, and I'm the Baubiologist Institute, right? (laughs) and I have some 10 to 14 milligauss of electromagnetic radiation in my bedroom, in the whole house. So what do you do about it? What does a person, who doesn't even know how to spell electromagnetic radiation, do about it? Go to a power company and tell them, "Look, I want something

done, because there are some gauss, some milligauss of electromagnetic radiation", and they tell him "Look, it is not dangerous, at all."

So what does a person do? This is the sort of situation that we are in. What I'm trying to advocate here is to educate people. Because if a person does not know, because of the resistance, the inertia, they are

make millions, because you continue to go there and eat, and you know that it is no good.

So that is our problem, it is education, it is very much education. And that is my major task here in America, to get people educated, on very simple principles of life. For the time being, it is a very personal effort. I put all my time, all my

beach, to keep myself fit for an hour, and then I'm working through until midnight usually. And I'm happy with it, I like it, it's a great job. I try to convince other people to do something like that in their own area, in their own field. So, education is the point here. That means books that are coming on the market and that are out there

## What I am trying to advocate here is to educate people.

not going to change.

I'll give you a very personal example. If people smoke, and they know, although a lot of lawyers will tell you otherwise, that smoking is causing cancer, they will continue to smoke, right? And that is very evident, and that is also so for very many other things.

Look, in your bedroom, you shouldn't have any electric gear in there. No electric alarm clock, no clock radio, no electric bed, you know, that does all this stuff.

People won't change. They will not change. Unless you give them some evidence, and then they will change it.

Take another example - food. I have never seen so many obese people as here in America. And people know that it is the fast food. And yet Macdonalds is continuing to

money, everything, and I am going to continue doing this.

I am not only concerned about my own personal health, and that of my family, but I also know that if we continue going on they way we are going, we are not going to survive. And that is clear, it is very clear. We are doing ourselves in, that is the proper American expression.

So everyone who is interested in surviving, whether it is personally, or their family, and so on, they have to get their hands out of their pockets and they have to do something. And this doing has something to do with education. It is an extra effort, it costs extra money, but it has something to do with all of our survival.

This is why I'm working from 7 o'clock in the morning until midnight. 7 o'clock I am at the

already. Read those books. Take this correspondence course that we have translated. Help to support those people who are working in this area.

For me, this is so important. If we do not do it, we will disappear, here. People sometimes say, it's not the right time for me, I'm involved in something else right now.

I'm not selling you a car, a fur, I'm selling you your survival.

But I'm sure you've heard this before yourselves. Because if you are selling someone, a family, a Kachelofen they are usually quite aware. They probably also ask you some other questions, about healthy homes, and so on. It might be a good idea for you to be a little bit more informed about the other things that are dangerous in a house.

(Stroud): Let me read you this thing. It is by Anton Schneider. Its

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- **Receive MHA NEWS.** Be the first to learn about new developments in this exciting trade.
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  - a leading role in the recent development of a **Masonry Heater Emissions Testing Methodology** - the results allowed us to succeed in gaining a blanket certification for masonry heaters in the state of Washington.
  - development of an industry consensus draft **standard (through ASTM)** for masonry heater construction
  - production of a high quality generic **color brochure** for members to use in their businesses
  - Association membership **certificates, jackets, T-shirts and hats**
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- attend the next meeting - **April 1992, Phoenix, Arizona** - see the WHA trade show and meet with North America's leading heater masons, manufacturers, dealers and technical experts!

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called "Assessment of operational and physiological features of modern heating appliances". They compare a Grundofen, a Warmluftofen, an open fireplace, an iron stove, an electric storage heater, oil fired hot water floor heating, ceiling heating, radiators, and oil fired hot air heat. They list 20 criteria for comparison, including air quality, ionisation, humidity, general indoor climate, efficiency, environmental damage, etc.

what should I call them? they are more involved in the aesthetics and the money making probably, and they are building Kachelofen that look like Kachelofen but that in actual fact are forced air instruments.

(Stroud): Einsatzofen?

(Ziehe): Yes.

You can look at them and they pour out a lot of air. And they are pretending to be something that is not quite true. I just want to make you aware that you should go for the

You understand that this Baubiologie is a large area and I can definitely not cover it all. But what I'd like to do is give you a comparison between two major areas that are covered in Baubiologie. And that is the chemical side and the electrical side, which bother us a lot and make an impact on us.

For some time there have been people around warning us, saying we have all these modern building

## The masonry heater gets 66 out of 69 points and forced air gets 7 points

The masonry heater gets 66 out of a possible 69 points and oil fired forced air gets 7 points. Its from a Ken Kern book on how to build a masonry heater.

(Discussion about Ken Kern) He had a lot of good ideas, but did go off a little half baked at times. His masonry heater book was excellent, but his version of a heater was terrible. It had concrete, reinforcing rebar. What it was was a brick barrel stove.

(Ziehe): OK, what I'm trying to say here is that it is wonderful that you get all the knowledge that is necessary for the masonry heating system, you must be able to tell people why it is so much better and why it is justified to pay more for that system than for a forced air system.

Actually, you only need to push their nose into the duct of such a forced air system (laughter) and that should actually be better than all the words.

There is one thing that bothers me a little bit. With a Kachelofen, one of the main things is radiant heat. That's what we want to also promote in Baubiologie. And why is that the case?

Radiant heat is the same type of heat that comes from the sun, and that is healthy for the body, it is good for the skin which is met by this type of radiation, and it is cheaper than hot air or warm air being forced through spaces with all the dust particles and the distorted space charge - all the positive and negative ions. This radiant heat is what you want.

Now, there are some of your colleagues around that are not so much aware of all the physics of this, so they are more, I don't know,

radiant heat wherever you can. Hot air can be used for a quick warm up, or if your house is so large that you cannot reach every corner of it otherwise.

If you start to move air in a space in which people live and work then you have a problem, because then you distort the positive and negative ion balance. If you do that, then you have too many positive ions, and then you begin to feel very lousy, and on top of it, these positive ions will attract dust particles, they will attract bacteria and viruses and so on. And they will move that stuff through the air and in fact, it is, so to speak, suspended in the air because of this electric charge.

And the air conditioning system is not going to move this away. This is apart from the fact that the filters on the air conditioning system are the pits. They do not work, you might as well not have them.

(Stig Karlberg): We all know that if air passes by a very hot metal surface then you get this ionization.

(Ziehe): Yes.

(Karlberg) How hot does this surface have to be before it is a problem?

(Ziehe): I don't know. I cannot answer that question. But in masonry heating systems you never get this problem anyway, the surface is never so hot that you cannot touch it. I think that is the difference with a metal stove, which has a very hot surface. But you are probably much better informed on all these details of how to build a masonry stove, and so on, than I am.

But definitely, theoretically, I would like to let you know that you should try to stick to radiant heating devices rather than involving air.

That's all I can say to that.

materials that are very often using industrial waste. So industrial waste has been turned into building material and used for building purposes. Now, that might be very positive from an economic point of view, but there is a health point of view and that is not positive at all anymore.

Let's take an example here. In America, most of the houses are built with drywall, and in drywall the basic substance is gypsum. Gypsum is basically a wonderful material. Nothing to say against it, as long as it is the natural gypsum. Biologically acceptable, no problem. Now, in certain chemical processes, gypsum is a byproduct and that is used to make drywall.

What's wrong with that? It is the case that this type of gypsum is highly radioactive. Now what's wrong with that? Its wrong to have too high levels of radioactivity, because as you know from Chernobyl when the radioactivity level is very high, people die of cancer.

What we are doing now is amassing new building materials without checking, besides other things, the level of radioactivity. So, we bring in from outside building materials, and we put in drywalling, we put in bricks, we put in tiles, all made of material that is possibly higher in radioactivity than natural stuff.

So what happens here is you increase your level of radioactivity to a point where it is no fun anymore and you come close to, maybe, Chernobyl levels.

Now, our problem in this situation is that we do not feel it, we have no organ that senses radioactivity and will warn us. If we have somebody playing the trumpet next door, we

have an organ that is warning us when it is getting too loud. You go over and you smash the trumpet, because you can't stand it anymore. With radioactivity, we have no organ to tell us that it is too much. Same thing with electricity, although some people, some dowsers and so on, can sense it. But we have no organ for radioactivity, at least that I know of.

So here we have a high level of radioactivity because we use industrial gypsum products. We use maybe natural products, like clay, which in itself is a wonderful building material, but it might come from the wrong spot. There are also in nature some building materials which are highly radioactive.

So that is something that you want to notice. If you use qbricks in your masonry heater, check it out

before, if that batch of bricks has a high level of radioactivity. Same with tiles, where the glaze can be highly radioactive because of the heavy metals that can be part of it. You probably have heard of examples from Mexico, from Italy and so on where they have heavy metals in it where they have a high level of radioactivity. I don't have an example, yet, but there is a guy in Germany, he is carrying around a little ashtray that has a glaze, and when he comes with a Geiger counter it sort of explodes.

And you have these things hanging around in your home and you don't know about it. Again, I'm coming back to that point, not knowing about it you might not think it is dangerous, yet you might use it all the time. So what you can do is you can check these batches

of products that you are using for a certain project.

(Question): Where do you get the equipment to check this?

(Ziehe): There are Geiger counters on the market. I have one from Germany that I use. Its no problem.

At this point, the tape in my machine ran out. You can get a list of publications by contacting the International Institute For Baubiologie & Ecology, Inc., Clearwater, Florida 34615, (813)461-4371, FAX (813)441-4373. They publish a journal. Royal Crown and Tulikivi advertise in it, with good results. - NS.

From: "Kachelgrundöfen - Ein Leitfaden für den Praktiker" :

Table 4

Kachelgrundöfen / Heavy Construction

Heat Output Capacity (DIN 4701) kcal/h	2000	2500	3000	3500	4000	4500
Recommended heating surface area sq m	3.4	4.2	5.0	5.8	6.7	7.5
Recommended firebox height cm	60	60	60-70	70	70	70
Gas slit size sq cm	11	13	15	18	20	23
Grate area *(1) Calculated sq cm	290	363	435	508	580	653
Selected size cm x cm *(2)	14x28	16x24	18x24	18x28	18x32	20x32
Selected area sq cm	280	384	432	504	576	640
Flue gas channels for coal firing -----						
Cross section of first run sq cm	187	256	288	336	384	426
last run sq cm	100	128	144	168	192	213
Flue gas channels wood firing *(3) -----						
Cross section of first run sq cm	apprx. 400	apprx. 500	apprx. 600	apprx. 700	apprx. 800	apprx. 900
last run sq cm	270	340	400	470	540	600

- 1) valid only for coal and coke firing
- 2) with weak chimney draft, choose next larger size
- 3) cross sectional area depends also on type of firewood, and is smaller, for example, with hardwoods

(translation  
by N. Sempf)

## Subscribe to SNEWS Magazine

**S**NEWS is a magazine aimed at chimney and solid fuel professionals, and each issue is packed with info that you won't find anywhere else (except maybe here). If you want to stay up to date on chimneys, chimney relining, fire codes and liability issues, business and tax tips, you need this magazine.

A lot of you subscribe to it already. For those of you who don't, here is a sampling from the latest issue with coverage of the Orlando WHA show and - guess what, coverage of the MHA meeting and seminars. Reprinted here are the seminars by John Crouch, WHA emission specialist, and Ted Corvey on marketing.

Subscriptions are \$68. USA and \$78 Canada (US dollars) available from: SNEWS, PO Box 98, Wilmore KY 40390, phone (606) 588-4043. Fax number is the same (phone first). --NS

## From SNEWS April 91:

### Masonry heater concept must be made clear to regulators, architects, WHA members, others

**Y**ou need to create a definition in the culture for masonry heaters," WHA emissions specialist **John Crouch** told MHA members when they reconvened Thursday morning.

"The challenge on masonry heaters is that they're so unique to this country that they are not even thought of or considered by the regulators. They are not really woodstoves by definition and they are excluded from the New Source

Performance Standard (The EPA-certified stove regulation)."

This means that they can be banned right along with the dirty old-generation woodstoves on no-burn days.

Masonry heaters have been granted equivalency with the EPA-certified woodburning stoves in Washington state. Nevertheless, there are several dozen areas across the west where they can't be used during inversions (high pollution days) just because the regulators don't really understand what they are.

### Information packets

John advised MHA to create a packet of information specifically for air quality purposes. The packet should include the ASTM standard as soon as it's ready, plus descriptions of all the different types of heaters - site-built, kits, contraflow design, etc. "It's a completely new and different category of heater. You don't want to be lumped in with the fireplaces!"

"You'll need another packet for builders, who are mostly focused on codes."

"You guys are so new that even those of us in the industry forget. You need to advocate masonry heaters with WHA as much as possible," he went on.

For example, when WHA prepares press packets, they ask for good pictures from manufacturers. Only about one out of 10 respond and those are the pictures that get used. So, send WHA some good masonry heater photos!

"You also need to function as a caucus within WHA and have some kind of a technical committee of manufacturers who can get used to responding to questions from various sources. WHA is going to organize more and more around manufacturers caucuses."

He explained that each caucus elects a representative to the government relations committee, headed by WHA vice-president **Jim Hermann** of Earth Stove Marketing in Tualatin, Oregon.

### Affecting legislation, regulations

WHA is trying to set up an early-warning network to go into action in time to affect proposed legislation. So you have to keep

reading every version of bills that may affect you.

- The Clean Air Act of Washington state, for example, is 100 pages long. "Everybody and their little sister is in that bill, and the elected people are just not tracking it - you can see their eyes rolling back into their heads."
- The Federal Clean Air Act still has parts that have to be okayed by the states.
- Carbon Monoxide (CO) is an issue beginning to surface in the East. Connecticut and all of the New England are doing a wood-use survey as part of upcoming CO legislation. It's a secondary fuel use survey to analyze area sources of CO and the term "masonry heater" does not appear on the form.
- In Missoula, Montana, when they restricted new woodstoves to certified models only, they effectively banned masonry heaters. So the Montana Bureau of Air Quality is one place to go with masonry heater information.
- When you get a municipality or county to recognize masonry heaters for what they are and allow them, you've established a precedent that you can use for the next meeting or confrontation with regulators.

"The term 'masonry heater' needs to start turning up here and there and the air quality people will have to know what they are," John said. "Building inspectors will have to be able to tell the difference between an ordinary fireplace and a masonry heater."

"That's why I lean towards an information packet that we can all hand out - 'This is a masonry heater. Here's what it does.' And include the stuff from Washington state."

Usually when you present them with the facts and demonstrate the reality, if possible - "Here, feel this heater, look at the chimney top!" - they'll back off and change the ordinance.

### ASTM standard

Talk shifted to the status of the ASTM standard. **Tom Stroud**, chairman of the committee charged with developing the standard, said, "We've met the challenges of all of our biggest opponents. We've met all of their complaints - ICBO, Warnock Hersey, UL. This has been six years so far in the process, and we're told we're lucky!"

John Crouch agreed: "This is kind of a fast track, I've been told. ICBO is one of the keys. It's big in the west, where you run into a lot of inadvertent negativism."

He had a piece of advice on dealing with the regulators: "Resists the natural tendency to write yourself in and everyone else out. Competitive comparisons are not okay here. The regulators should not make the market decision for us!"

## Where to test

"Who should I test with?" asked Stig Karlberg of Royal Crown.

"It would be good for all of you to be on the same sheet of music," John said. "Different labs might otherwise set up slightly different testing procedures without even realizing it."

Tom Stroud agreed. "So much work has been done on masonry heaters at VPI, we should stay with them and give that lab that much more data spread on the heaters."

## Earthquake problems

Discussion turned to regulations concerning masonry structures in earthquake zones. What if rebar reinforced masonry is required in the building of masonry heaters for preventing possible earthquake damage?

Tom said, "You can't reinforce it and still make it work. If there's reinforcement from the damper to the chimney top, its okay. What they're worried about is chimneys falling on people."

"In California, you can always go with a metal chimney," Jerry Frisch said. "I'd switch to a stainless steel chimney before I'd reinforce a masonry chimney attached to a masonry heater! Reinforced masonry is not compatible with heat."

*(Another point about reinforced chimneys: Ernst Heuft has stated that during the bombing in Germany during World War II, the unreinforced chimneys would collapse straight downward into a heap, whereas the reinforced chimneys would topple over as a single unit, creating a lot of damage - NS.)*

## Masonry heater media event?

John suggested MHA put together a technical presentation in Sacramento for building officials and make a media event of it.

That sounded good to Tulikivi's Ted Corvey, who said, "We get tons of requests for information from California."

At which point Tom Stroud asked for and got more MHA members to work for him on the technical committee.

## Marketing know-how

Is "marketing" just another word for "advertising?" Definitely not, according to Tulikivi's Ted Corvey. "It's a systematic approach towards satisfying customers' needs and wants in a profitable and economic way. And sales are the practical application of marketing."

Ted talked to fellow MHA members on the second day of their annual meeting in Orlando. "You have to decide what the message is, who should get it and how you are going to deliver it," Ted said.

"It's important to understand who your potential customers are - profile them as to their income, their education level, group identification, and whether they're buying, building, or remodeling."

At which point Tom Stroud said that too rigid an idea of who your target audience is "can be a real pitfall. The non-typical guy comes along, you don't recognize him, and you lose him!"

Ted agreed that you do have to stay flexible and open-minded.

Here are some of the marketing truths and strategies from Ted's talk and the discussion he stimulated.

- **There's no magic word** or special promotion that suddenly works. You have to establish the fundamentals, understand the market, work a test plan, test it, try different things, look at your timing.
- **Determine who the decision maker is.** The more expensive the item, the more likely it is that the woman of the house will make the buying decision.
- **Good follow-ups** after your first contact with a potential customer include a questionnaire to further qualify them, an invitation to an open house, a new brochure or piece of literature, a newspaper or magazine article on heaters, a new model you'd like to show them, etc.
- **It takes some people a few years** before they're actually ready for a heater, so you have to keep active contact with them.
- **We compete with open fireplaces** or inserts more than we do with free-standing stoves. We can put in a masonry heater for about the same money as a fireplace and insert, and the heater will be more efficient.
- **Norbert Senf** said he had a customer who wanted three fireplaces. He talked her into substituting a masonry heater for one fireplace. She now uses the masonry heater every day, lights the living room fireplace at Christmas, and doesn't ever use the bedroom fireplace.
- **Sell the fire viewing aspect,** because this is an essential element for many people. Make sure they realize they can burn their heater as an open fireplace. If they don't, they can still see the fire at least once or twice a day.
- **Educating people is the key element.** We're offering an option they didn't know was out there. We need to introduce people to masonry heaters in general, not just our own.
- **Become the area expert.** Constantly target local newspapers and cultivate an air of professionalism. Tom Stroud always identifies himself as from the company of Dietmeyer, Ward & Stroud, then says, "I'm one of the owners."
- **You'll reap a lot of viewer response from a TV talk show.** It takes time to develop the concept.
- **Talk to someone on the newspaper into writing articles.** Right after an article or talk show is the time when a follow-up ad may pay off.
- **Encourage a happy customer to call the newspaper** and get an article written about his/her heater.
- **January is the best month for advertising woodburning products.** But don't expect instant results. Tulikivi advertised for a year in the Chicago area before stirring up any interest.

## SNEWS Sampler

- **Don't rely on print alone.** Use print to invite people to a show, or to a meeting, or to write or call in for some kind of a free offer or free brochure.
- **Develop a business portfolio to show people.** Include photographs of your work, a brief history of your company, products you offer, etc. This can be very impressive - you're not "just a bricklayer" or "just a craft person" anymore.
- **Talk to the homeowners and their architects** when the house or remodelling job is still in the blueprint stage.
- **Network with builders and give them a commission if they bring you a sale.** Add 10 percent to the homeowner's price on the heater to take care of the builder's commission.
- **Put builders and architects on the mailing list** for newsletters, brochures and selected information packet.
- **Give a trade presentation on masonry heaters** to all the "influencers" in the area - architects, builders, fire department personnel, etc. It helps establish you as the expert on subject.  
Doug Hargreave commented, Builders and architects talk people out of masonry heaters! You lose most of your sales at that point. If you get into the blueprint; you've got it!"
- **Once a builder puts a masonry heater in his own home,** he'll be one of your best advocates.
- **Advertising was the last thing** on Ted Corevey's list, "just one of the elements."
- **Radio can be a good advertising medium.** Tom Stroud said his company had hundreds and hundreds of calls right after an ad they did on the radio. As a rule, however, his company does no advertising. They do one home show a year on Vashon Island (Washington state), where Tom says there is an incredible variety of masonry heaters available. There's one 350-unit condo complex with a masonry heater in every unit on the drawing boards for California.
- **A series of newspaper ads** can work pretty well. If there's just one ad, they're likely to just read it and forget it.

- **"Welcome objections,"** Ted said, "because if they're objecting, they're interested, but something's bothering them. This gives you an opportunity to understand your client better and to educate him/her."

...  
(Jay Hensley, publisher of SNEWS):

I stayed at the cosy Courtyard by Marriott, where most of the MHA gang had reservations, too. After spending the day at the association's meetings, and often eating breakfast and lunch together, too, they still seemed insatiable for each other's company. They would gravitate to the Courtyard's "happy-hour" around 6:30 each evening.

I'm an MHA member, too, so I joined them. I sipped my orange

juice, filled up on free egg rolls, and listened to the conversations flowing - all about masonry heaters, of course. They compared techniques, they described unusual jobs, they talked with excitement about juggling their schedules so they could work on certain heater projects together.

Later, they'd go out to dinner together. "Aren't you coming, Jay?" I mostly replied, "No, thanks, I'm full!"

One night I did trek a mile with them to a Chinese restaurant. There were 12 of us seated around one big round table. The delicious food, the setting, the great company and the outrageous bill made it a memorable evening. It was the only dinner I bought all week. --Jh

## The Mailbox

### FAX from Ernst Heuft:

6. March 1991

Hi Norbert

Jerry made me a copy of the MHA NEWS special edition Feb. 91

First of all Norbert, I am pleased

commercially or otherwise. About the perforation of the walls for combustion air, well, I like to caution you on that for the time being. My problem with that is:

a) leakage: look at the sketch on page 4 and note the Kachelwand "without" vorschub. I don't feel good about this in lieu of the

## Please...do not undermine the doctrine of dry, seasoned firewood

with your editorship and the contents of the Newsletter. I hope and wish that the MHA will benefit from your sincere and knowledgeable work for a long time to come.

Now some comments: you've known my opinion on the air intake question and Dr. Rath's (new) findings are nothing new to me really. My comment which you mentioned on page 7 about the air 1/3 under and 2/3 over is only in regards to a grate. The firebox design in Dr. Hofer's article is very clever and I hope you noted the special shape of the bottom row. This configuration with the sloping-in wall is nothing new either since I've been taught that from my father and we've built hundreds of fireboxes in that shape

workmanship and knowledge of the stove builder.

b) backflow, or recoil into the air intake system, (so much feared and addressed in the building code). And this in lieu of the American habit of dampering down the combustion process.

The firebox height formula is a good and simple tool to do it right. You might also remember New Orleans and when I talked about that. That this Bio Firebox works is no question since it is ideal in shape, layout and arrangement. There is one sentence on page one paragraph 4 in the NEWS I don't like at all. It is the remark "relatively insensitive to wood moisture". Please Norbert, do not undermine the doctrine of dry, seasoned wood even with an



innocent little remark like that. Some greedy owners will certainly pick this up and use (not so dry) firewood.

Your crash course in combustion chemistry is excellent, well put together and published at the right time. Please initial your articles after the title so we know who put it together.

I am making final preparations to go to the Frankfurter Messe and am planning to see a lot of things and people. Please let me know if you can think of something I could take care of when I am there. I'll be leaving March 17.

I spent time and money to go to Houston, Texas to find 8 people attending the seminar (*Masonry Expo -ed.*) which was somewhat disappointing. I learned a lot doing it though. My transparencies were well received. I'd like to hear Brent's comments on it.

Visiting the Seattle Home Show yesterday, I found Jerry Frisch in a very busy booth with eleven heaters to show. It seems to me that the stove movement is picking up speed and the whole country will be the better for it.

### Letter from Sam Foote

**S**am is a professional Engineer (retired) and has the distinction of having bought the first Tulikivi sold in Canada. We welcome him back to the MHA after a few years' absence.

Dear Norbert:

Thanks very much for remembering me and sending the three latest issues of MHA News.

As I told you the farm has been sold along with our prized Tulikivi. We are living in apartment now which means I have a little more time for books and problems both real and imagined.

However, my son Keith has bought a small farm near Orillia and is in the market for a masonry heater. Naturally we hope to buy something that is built to the latest technology so your Heat-Kit material was very timely and has set me thinking.

Besides a cheque for an associate membership, I have enclosed nine pages of material I wrote way back in 1987. If you would like to run it

in the newsletter you are welcome to do so provided that you accompany it with a note saying that almost all of it has been copied from sources too numerous to mention. (*Sam sent a very useful summary of wood heating principles and calculations. Look for it in the next issue -ed.*)

### They picked the other guy

Dear Sir:

Last year we got a brick masonry stove built by a mason who didn't really know what a masonry stove is and neither did we at the time. As you can see by the design (from the enclosed drawing) it is very inefficient, has no secondary combustion chamber, and the smoke travels much too fast out the chimney so loses little of its heat to the masonry. What can we do to modify it to make it more efficient? There is easy access by pulling out the steel oven. We have contacted Ernst Heuft, master stove builder, of Surrey, B.C. who suggested ripping out the whole stove from floor to ceiling. Is it possible to modify it by just ripping out the bake oven section & baffle system? How can we make this stove work with not too disastrous destruction?

Yours truly .....

(*Anybody want a job? -ed.*)

### VPI Rosin Tests Flop

**T**he results from the VPI tests on three different models and manufacturers of Rosin fireplaces are in and the results were a

disappointment to many. They also again pointed out that, from a cost/benefit viewpoint, this type of testing is next to useless for early "ballpark" type of product development work, and perhaps for all product development work. On the plus side, any testing at VPI

adds to the very sparse database in this field. Now that the results are in, it is easy to be a Monday morning quarterback, of course. What is somewhat surprising, however, is that no one has ever hooked up a simple combustion analyzer to one of these units. Part of the problem with this is that the gases are so diluted by the tremendous amount of excess air that it is hard to measure. According to **Dennis Jaasma**, an open fireplace will typically run at around 1 or 2 percent CO<sub>2</sub>, compared to 14 percent or so for a closed appliance. Since the CO is maybe even a hundred times less than that, you can see the problem.

One manufacturer, **Sleepy Hollow**, paid for two tests, to the tune of \$6,000 and has asked BIA for a refund of their money. Also tested were a **Heat-Force** and a **Firecrest**. BIA itself has invested \$30,000, a sizeable chunk of its annual R&D budget. MHA, you will recall, contributed \$2,500.

Many "experts", this writer included, were betting that the Rosin design was significantly superior to, say, a Rumford from an emission standpoint. **The bottom line?** An open fireplace is basically not much different from an open fire.

In the VPI tests, the Rosins were actually dirtier than your typical tract house masonry quickie. In the eyes of many people, this brings the

### Many "experts"...were betting that the Rosin design was significantly superior

validity of the whole VPI-developed testing methodology into question. Anyone who has any experience in this area agrees on the obvious superiority of the Rosin in actual field use, although how this translates into PM numbers is unclear as yet.

On another front, **OMNI environmental** is proceeding with the **Western Clay Products ASS'N** sponsored field testing of two Rosin

units on the West Coast. One unit, a Firecrest, was retrofitted into an existing fireplace and the before and after tests indicate that emissions were cut in half. In fact, the emissions were below the new Fresno requirements. The downside was that the baseline numbers on the "before" unit were atrocious. Agreement with VPI is spurious at best - We've got the proverbial dog's breakfast here.

Washington state has passed an energy conservation bill that requires all new fireplaces to have doors. Therefore, in Washington state, the open fireplace is dead. Coming soon to a theatre near you. -NS

## Testing methods in question

You'll recall from the last issue on the new Austrian firebox system that, in view of how the Europeans choose to measure combustion, that I was questioning the whole gram per hour/dilution tunnel approach. At the Orlando show, I put this question to the experts at several informal meetings that Jerry Frisch helped to set up.

One morning we had breakfast with Dennis Jaasma and Curtis Stern, and at the show Jerry arranged for Dan Henry from Quadrafire and Ben Myren from EEMC (Environmental and Energy Measuring Corporation) to stop by the MHA booth for some tête-a-têtes. (By the way, I recently did a job for Bill Derrick in the Adirondacks and spent the night. Bill has a Quadrafire hooked up in his fireplace, and it was a real education to watch it burn in slow mode. The boundary between combustion and non-combustion is right there in front of your eyes, in slow motion. I would highly recommend a trip to your nearest Quadrafire to any stovebuilder interested in furthering his education on combustion.)

Back to g/hr numbers: First of all, one distinction needs to be

made. Namely, that we are stuck with EPA and there's no way they will bend, much less lower themselves to even consider European methodology. Given this, the dilution tunnel/ gram per hour method (EPA 5G) is the name of the game. From a scientist's point of view, it is actually a lot simpler method than the even more esoteric alternatives.

An expensive trip to the lab would only be to confirm your CO results

Now for the fireplace mason's point of view: O.K., standards are fine, we need them, we'll even put our wallets on the line if we have to. On the other hand, if you want to learn how to build a cleaner fireplace or heater, you're not going to learn it from VPI. Even Dennis Jaasma agreed that, if you were doing R&D on a system, an accurate CO/CO<sub>2</sub> curve would be a good indicator of what was going on. An expensive trip to the lab would only be to confirm your CO results against EPA's g/hr requirements.

I showed the CO/CO<sub>2</sub> curves in the last newsletter to Ben Myron, and his insights were very welcomed. He recognized the 2 spikes as "organics peaks" that are characteristic of burning firewood. He agreed that these curves are the only way to realistically develop a unit, and was quite free with his knowledge on instrumentation specifics and pitfalls. Ben has worked on lowering emissions in many models of metal stoves. He says that you basically sit there for many hundreds of hours staring into fires, changing things bit by bit, and looking at your instruments. (Certainly sounds like six-pack time to me -ed.)

Interestingly, it took a little while to get across the main concept in masonry heating, namely that you have rapid combustion only (plus, of course, storage). While it may seem obvious to those of us versed in the field, it is always good to remember that this idea is unknown in most of the residential wood combustion industry, and

needs constant repetition on our part. -NS.

## Taking the bull by the horns

One of the more interesting of all of the Orlando emissions discussions was a proposal by Brent Gabby that MHA itself research and purchase some gas analyzers thereby putting the capacity to do emissions testing directly into the members' hands.

This idea is not new, and was put forward five years ago when a lot of us were just becoming acquainted with the issues.

After a lot more informal discussions the following proposal emerged:

Jerry Frisch stated that he had some money already earmarked for more VPI tests, but that he would be willing to put it into equipment instead. In addition, Jerry has decided to aggressively move forward with the Firecrest since it will be required to have glass doors in any case. Also, Western Clay Products Association is interested in distributing it. Now, Jerry has a very nice and very large shop near Everett. In addition, he manufactures the Heat-Kit, one of the VPI test heaters, and deals as well in Biofire, Royal Crown, TuliKivi, and his own modular Russian firebox. Dietmeyer Ward

## Changes and Corrections:

Dietmeyer, Ward & Stroud have a new FAX number: (206)463-6335

### Change of Address

Pat Solich  
Rd 2 Box 187  
Seward PA 15954  
814/446-5328 (inc Fax)

David Johnstone:

New Business Name: David Johnstone Masonry & Design

MASONRY STOVE BLD'G  
HAS A NEW  
BUSINESS #: 613-230-6554  
FAX #: 230-7863

& Stroud, who built the other VPI heater, are just around the corner from Jerry.

In addition, Ernst Heuft is only about an hour away. To top it all off, Quadrafire and EEMC are in Jerry's backyard as well, and OMNI is just across the border in Portland.

O.K., here's the plan: We earmark some MHA funds for test

equipment and design a series of tests that will give us as much information as possible about some basic, "first things first" questions - such as the best combustion air configuration for different heater types, effects of softwood vs hardwood, moisture, etc. We schedule a **one-week intensive workshop** session, during the slower winter season, at Jerry's site, open to MHA members at no

charge. And, of course, we invite the experts and promise to show them a good time.

As always, your support is needed to make it happen. Please use the comment section of the ballot in this issue to indicate your feelings, whatever they may be. Let's try to **make it happen** in Seattle next winter. -NS.

## Reno Report

Just before press time Jerry Frisch Faxed in the following report:

May 19, 1991 at 10 A.M.

An informal MHA meeting was held at Reno. Those present were:

Walter Moberg (Firespace)

Gary & Don Wilkening (Wilkening Fireplaces)

Paul Tiegs (principal in Omni

He indicated in the past these seminars cost each person \$300.00, which is reasonable in my opinion. I see this as a great opportunity for all of us interested in further development of any type of clean burning appliance. (An absolute must for all serious heater builders).

We picked up three (3) new members at the Reno '91 Trade Show (WEI-W) & lots of interest in the Masonry Heater concept. Anderson Masonry in Kalispell,

All these items can be ordered from Jerry Frisch at  
Lopez Quarries Masonry Heaters  
111 Barbara Lane  
Everett, WA 98203  
or (206) 353-8963

The current Blacksburg Testing is complete, but due to inconsistencies I don't believe the results will be published. The fuel protocol needs more considerations to achieve better results and more

## The Portland tests done by Omni have proven to very reliable and repeatable, with the Rosin design cutting emissions by 50%

Environmental)

Chris Joseph (CA sweep)

Jay Hensley (SNEWS)

Jerry and Lou Frisch

We discussed the pros and cons of testing and the different fuel protocol. Paul Tiegs suggested we develop the best option for our particular products before we go to the Lab., which I think we've already decided is a must.

He offered Omni's services in the way of a two (2) day seminar to help us understand the procedures and what type of test equipment we need and where it may be purchased. I asked him how soon we could start, and he said not until late June or early July.

This would leave enough time to make travel arrangements, etc.

July 12 & 13, a Friday & Saturday would be our best time frame. Doing a Fri. & Sat. those who fly could leave here on Sunday and get the best air fares,

Mont. is interested in "kit" systems to get their local masons up to speed on heaters.

Brent Gabby informed me he has received the original artwork from Richards Steinbock for the brochures. He has found a printer who will do 2000 copies for \$1700.00 or 4000 for \$1850.00 which would put the cost at less than \$.50 each. They could sell for 75 cents each to cover postage and handling.

Tom Trout sent us half of the pins so they could be sold, and promised to send the other half soon. He said we should sell them for \$1.50 each. We also have caps, shirts and can get more jackets. Shirts and caps are left over from Orlando. Price of these items is as follows:

Pins \$1.50 ea

Winter or Summer caps \$4.50 ea.

T-shirts \$7.00 ea.

Jackets \$35.00 ea.

accurate real-world results. The Portland Tests sponsored by the Western States Clay Products Association and conducted by Omni Environmental Labs (Skip Barnett and Paul Tiegs) have proven to be very reliable and repeatable, with the Rosin design cutting emissions by 50%.

These were field tests using cord wood in several different residences.

A special "THANKS" to Rick Crooks, our Mutual Materials Engineer at Bellevue (Seattle) who has helped to make all of this a very positive program with more to follow as funding becomes available.

I guess that's it for now.

-Jerry Frisch

# Membership Poll and Ballot for Election of 1991 Executive

The bottom half of this page is your official 1991 ballort and poll of substantive issues that came out of the 1991 meeting. It was recommended at the meeting that in future, if you are unable to attend the annual meeting that you assign your proxy vote to a member of your choice who will be attending. Otherwise, we may have the same problem in reaching a 66% quorum as we did this year. As our membership grows, it will be harder and harder to get everyone out to meetings.

## Questionnaire: (to be completed by all members):

Your Name:

Is the information shown about you on the official MHA memberhsip list in this issue correct? YES NO (Circle One)

If not, what is the correct information:

If you have a FAX, what is your number?

I am interested in attending a Winter combustion workshop in Seattle. YES NO (Circle One)

I am interested in attending a July '91 2day OMNI combustion and emissions workshop in Portland Oregon (\$300).  
YES NO

Comments: (feel free to attach a separate page)

This is a secret ballot. Cut Ballot along this line and then fold in two and staple.

## Voting Membership Poll:

## 1991 MHA Official Ballot - Election of Executive Officers

Check here if your 1991 dues are already paid: \_\_\_\_\_

1) I agree/disagree (circle one) that associate memberships should not be open to active heater masons or manufacturers, but only to students, special interest parties, and designers.

Comments: \_

2) I agree/disagree (circle one) that association funds should be used to purchase combustion testing equipment.

Comments:

3) I will/will not (circle one) assign my proxy vote next year if I am unable to attend the spring meeting in Phoenix.

Comments:

4) General Comments:

**Instructions:** The candidates that were nominated at the 1991 Annual Meeting in Orlando, Florida, are shown. Below the name of each candidate is a space for you to write in your own choice if y ou so desire. **Only paid up 1991 voting members are eligible to vote.** Unless you have already paid your 1991 dues, a cheque for \$200.00 (US) payable to the Masonry Heater Association of North America must accompany this ballot. The deadline for voting is **June 21, 1991**, and your reply must be postmarked by this date. **This is a secret ballot.** In order to allow this, please cut off the ballot portion of this page, fold it along the middle line, and close it with a small piece of tape or a staple before you put it in an envelope. Address the envelope to: Norbert Senf, secretary, MHA, RR 5, Shawville, Québec, J0X 2Y0. **Don't forget your cheque!**

President - Tom Stroud ☐  
(WRITE IN): \_\_\_\_\_ ☐

Vice President - Norbert Senf ☐  
(WRITE IN): \_\_\_\_\_ ☐

Secretary - Brent Gabby ☐  
(WRITE IN): \_\_\_\_\_ ☐

Treasurer - Lucille Frisch ☐  
(WRITE IN): \_\_\_\_\_ ☐