



AMOS

Alberta Mechanical Officials Society

Amos President: Stonewall Burk



A new year and a new executive - well some new members. I was personally humbled to be elected as the new president and will do my best to fulfill the duties of this position. I know the bar has been set quite high from my predecessor. Reg did a fantastic job during his time at the helm. I, as I know we all are, am very appreciative of his time and his efforts that he put in to organizing and coordinating the activities of AMOS. Reg was, and still is, a great ambassador for our organization. He always has the interests of the organization at heart. I am thankful that he is still on the executive and he is still willing to offer his guidance and insight on many issues.

I would also like to thank Dean Taylor and Perry Wager for their time and service on the executive. They made many contributions to the Executive and AMOS during their tenure. These are very busy times for us all, and being willing to volunteer your time to any organization is commendable. There are so many organizations that would not even exist if it were not for the time and dedication offered up by people willing to volunteer their time and help out.

I would like to welcome Murray Vine and Randy Croft into the fold. Both of these individuals bring a wealth of experience and new energy to the Executive Committee. It is critical for the life of any organization to keep passing along the torch and keep that new blood coming in. We are in an ever changing world and like every-

thing else, our organization needs to keep changing and evolving. Murray and Randy bring some new ideas and a fresh outlook to help us keep growing.

As for the 'old' members of the executive, we have Larry Robinson as vice president, Wayne Ducharme as 2nd Vice president and Newsletter Editor, Lyle Huculak as secretary, Doug Macdonald as treasurer, and Mike Turek as a director. Richard Burk has continued on as the Education Committee. It is wonderful to see the dedication that all of these individuals have. It is the continued participation of people like these that help keep AMOS strong. Thank you all.

On a final note, every member in our organization should be proud to be a part of this organization. The main purpose

of our group is to make Alberta as safe as possible, no matter what discipline you are talking about. Through our meetings we are able to discuss concerns and issues that affect the safe installation and construction of structures throughout the province. It is through the discussions at the meetings that we are able to effect changes when necessary. I encourage all of you to attend the conferences so we may address some of these concerns. At the very least, let's be careful out there! See you in Red Deer!



2007 Spring Conference...

There is still snow on the ground and you can't seem to get your coat to keep you warm enough. Your thoughts are wishing for warmer (and greener) days and that first round of golf! Along with that comes the AMOS Annual Spring Conference. Your executive has been working hard to put together another informative and enjoyable event!

Our spring theme is centered around one hot topic - **venting!** We will be having a presentation from the Z-Flex representative who will be discussing the installation of their product. IPEX will be talking about their new pipe - S636 Flue Gas Venting, and the Do's and Don'ts of installing it. Bernie Froese (NAIT) will be discussing the installation of venting for high efficiency furnaces (this will include a general overview of all requirements and specific installation requirements for all of the major manufacturers). Qualitec Distributors will be explaining the installation of their infrared heating products. We will also have presentations from Alberta Municipal Affairs on various topics.

We have also elected to change venues. The conference will be held at the Black Knight Inn in Red Deer for the spring conference. The executive is quite excited about this change and are looking forward to the new location!



ULC S636 Plastic Flue Gas Venting



Good day fellow A.M.O.S members, As one of the newest members of the A.M.O.S Committee, I was asked if I would like to write an article for the A.M.O.S. newsletter. I have never written an article before so I thought what the heck, let's give it a shot. The topic for this article is a little info on plastic venting for high efficient gas appliances and the ULC standard 636.

It has come to our attention that after 30 years, plastic vent piping for gas appliances does not meet the intent of the gas code CSA B-149.

So what are we to do now?

Don't panic, a remedy is in the works. Alberta Municipal Affairs has issued a Standata titled "G-06-02-B149.1 [rev 1]- Damage Due to Deterioration or Stress Conditions" and can be viewed online at the Safety Codes Council website www.safecodes.ab.ca, under Publications, then Standata, or at Standata G-06-02a-B149.1 which will be a supplement to

the B149.1-05 and should be adopted by July 1 2007.

So you ask, what are we as inspectors, architects, engineers, designers and installers etc., to do in the meantime?

I feel it is very important that ABS pipe and cellular core pipe should not be allowed as of immediately.

Why you say? I have spoken to a couple of pipe manufacturers and they are saying they won't push to have ABS certified to ULC standard 636 because ABS pipe just won't stand up. It becomes brittle and can shatter after prolonged exposure to flue gas temperatures (most notably in power vented water heaters) thus causing carbon monoxide leak concerns.

I have been informed by one pipe manufacturer (IPEX) that

they now have PVC schedule 40 (poly vinyl chloride) and CPVC (chlorinated poly vinyl chloride) pipe fittings and solvent cement certified to the ULC standard 636. The pipe and fittings will be distinct with new markings and labels showing the certifications and is currently available February 2007.

In the meantime, the authority having jurisdiction can accept CPVC or PVC pipe and fittings until certified pipe hits the market.

As a SCO we should be looking for the following when we do our inspections:

- Ensure the appliance has a label describing the classification of the venting system, the rated flue gas temperature and the rated vent pressure.
- Ensure hangers are at proper intervals and of

materials described in the appliance installation manual.

- Ensure installation is in accordance to manufacturers' installation manual.
- Ensure that the plastic piping conforms to ULC 636 and that the pipe, fittings and solvent are all compatible.

AMOS spring conference will be centered around this topic, and IPEX will be there to talk about the Do's and Don'ts of installing it. If you require further info on this topic you can check out the World Wide Web. Until next time, thanks for helping us keep Alberta a safe place to live.

Murray Vine



My opinion: *Pressure Regulator follow-up...ducharme*

This is where we're at::

We have a problem with Line Pressure Regulators as the CSA-6.22 Standard only addresses Regulators with inlet pressures of 2 psi, 5 psi and 10 psi for natural gas and 2 psi for propane systems. In addition, the temperature range is 32 F to 125 F, unless the manufacturer of the Regulator wishes something different. As a result, this is going to be an issue for pressures greater than 10 psi and Line Pressure Regulators installed outdoors.

The CSA - 6.18 covers regulators that are 1-1/4 inch and smaller with a pressure range

from 2 psi to 125 psi and can reduce the delivery pressure to between 5 - 9 inch water column. With a temperature range of -20 F to 150 F unless a lower temperature of -40 F is specified by the manufacturer.

There are six manufacturer's of the regulators that are certified to the CSA-6.22; however, none are manufacturing a regulator listed for 10 psi and only one has something rated for -40 F. They all have 2 psi regulators, but only two manufacturer a 5 psi regulator.

Therefore, if we have a pressure meter set operating at

pressures greater than 5 psi the only way to go is with a regulator certified to CSA-6.18 Standard. In addition, if a supply piping is greater than 1-1/4 inch we would have to accept a service regulator that would comply with Clause 6.2.12. Where these regulators are installed outdoors then we need something that has at least a -30 F rating like a lot of service regulators currently used by the natural gas suppliers.

At this time it appears that the other provinces are accepting *any regulator* that is certified to either standards and is of sufficient size to provide the

required flow of gas at the pressures/temperatures to which the regulator can be exposed. So we're in business based on equivalence and past performance.

I have accepted the B149.1-05 and the CSA -6.22 deficiencies on the basis of prevailing common sense and look forward to this issue being resolved by the next code cycle. My lips are buttoned! For now.



William "Carey" LaRose

(In Aussie language Billie Bong)

By R. Burk

Carey's fascination with Australia makes sense when you learn that he was born in the outback of Canada in Borden, Saskatchewan.

He learned the plumbing trade in an area north east of Lloydminster and completed his training at Saskatchewan Applied Arts and Sciences in Saskatoon after dabbling in truck driving and oil field work.

In 1977 he obtained his Alberta certification and snuck through the rat patrol in to Lethbridge where in 1978 Doug Snider hired him to do plumbing, gas, and mechanical inspections for that city.



In 1978, Carey was tired of breaking wind in Lethbridge and started with the Gas Protection Branch in Edmonton.

For those youngsters out there the Gas Protection Branch was formed in the mid 1950's when Alberta started a push to replace coal with natural gas and propane. In the early 1960's, a plumbing branch was formed taking the responsibility away for the Health department.

In the early 1980's, the two

branches amalgamated to Plumbing and Gas Safety Services. By then Carey was already renowned for his expertise in the gas industry especially in propane vehicle conversions.

Carey has survived many Department shuffles, name changes, and voluntary retirement programs. In 1995 he became the Technical Administrator of Plumbing and Gas for Municipal Affairs Safety Services or in other words the top "authority" in the province in these disciplines.

In this role he has tried to keep Alberta as a leader in code development and technology changes to assist industry product development while still providing safety for the public and hopefully preventing future nuisances.

Since Carey's tenure in this position the Province has seen a surge of activity providing opportunities for many new safety codes officers in various municipalities and agencies.

Carey always takes the time to provide these people with coaching and mentoring, drawing on his experiences.

His keen observation skills and thought processes provide a different perspective on a problem that may lead to a solution that is missed by many in the industry.

Carey is an active member of the Inter-provincial Gas Advi-

sory Council, Provincial Territorial Subcommittee on Plumbing Codes, Canadian Advisory Council on Plumbing, CSA Strategic Steering Committee on Plumbing Equipment and Materials and the CSA B149 Gas Code Committee and three Subcommittees.

He is a Member of the Fire Investigation Association of Alberta and has been since 1993. This association is affiliated with the International Association of Arson Investigators. Since 1977, he has assisted in sixty-five (65) investigations of fires and explosions to ascertain causes and in some cases to eliminate propane or natural gas as the originating factor.

Because of experience in this area and involvement in investigations, he has been called to court as an expert witness to testify and offer his opinion on events.

Carey would advise that all gas safety codes officers take the C-7 Fire Investigation, Cause and Determination Course and the Recording the Fire Scene course.

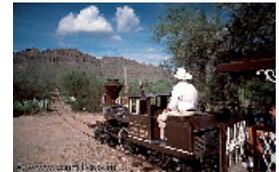
Carey joined AMOS in 1978 and has been a director and recording secretary/treasurer and has only missed six meetings in that time frame.

You can always tell where Carey is in a room as he is surrounded by people trying to get a query answered or hear the last joke obtained on his trav-

els.

To Joanne LaRose, who waits patiently for us to leave their hotel room so she can go to bed, we are not big partiers and boozers; we just want to hear one more story before we exit. Unfortunately, the last guy to sneak out of the room usually ends up with the "Red Eye" award, of which Carey has been a proud recipient.

Now, with almost 40 years of plumbing and gas industry activity and 30 of that in inspections and installation reviews, Carey has advanced from discussing lead and oakum and caulking irons to air admittance valves and plastic gas vent pipes. A career that is closer to the end than the beginning, we hope you continue to tell your stories and share your experiences with us.



Carey, when you decide to take that train ride across Canada into the sunset, you can look out the window as you cross Alberta, and proudly say "I did make a difference and it is for the better".



The Alberta Onsite Wastewater Management Association is considering dropping the special Private Sewage Installer Courses for Safety Codes Officers due to lack of interest in registration.

All Safety Codes Officers that have not completed this training by January 1, 2008 will

forfeit their Level 2 certification.

Those Safety Codes Officers interested in maintaining their certification should register with Leslie at the Alberta Onsite Wastewater Management Association at 1-780-489-7471 immediately.

Municipal Affairs and the Alberta Onsite Wastewater Management Association will be accepting comments on the draft of the new Alberta Standard of Practice until April 20, 2007.

Please review the document and have your comments in by that date. The draft is available on the AOWMA website for viewing or at www.safetycodes.ab.ca.





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AMOS Annual Spring Conference will be held on Friday April 27 and Saturday
April 28, 2007

Black Knight Inn 2929 - 50 Avenue
Red Deer, Alberta, Canada T4R 1H1
Phone: 1 (403) 343-6666 Toll Free : 1 (800) 661-8793



This years 2007 Spring Conference is going to be about venting.

Vendors contributing to this years conference include the following for Saturday April 28/07

Qualitec Distributators -for Infrared Heaters
Z-Flex Chimney & Venting Solutions
Ipex on the 636 venting materials for high efficient venting
NAIT

