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President's Message

Good Day Readers;

One of the most difficult processes to have any recognizable effect on is change. Try to stand in one place, do very little and create a system to prevent change. Good luck with that. There are often opportunities in our lives where comfort plays a role and there are also opportunities in our lives where chaos plays a role. The brief time between chaos and comfort is often known as change, and this change can be as simple as I need to lose some weight, or the change can be as dramatic as the life change of the loss of a parent, sibling, or a child. It may be a change where we need to question what is worth doing, or who we are in the pathway that's been placed before us. I've found myself up at the precipice of change in 2009, and I am sure that I was not comfortable during it. I felt myself taking the same stance as I have before by trying to prevent change while knowing it was undeniable. The last message from the president was done from my computer in Lethbridge hoping that the spring would come, that the snow would leave, that the bike riding would begin. And

here I am writing from my computer and in Edmonton, still wondering if winter will leave and spring will arrive and seeing how much bike riding time has been lost.

That is enough about me but not enough about change such as the ongoing review of the *Safety Codes Act* and upcoming 2010 code changes. Municipalities are faced with the downturn that comes with the economic challenges, and although I don't know of a municipality that was over-staffed, the response to these kinds of times is often to cut back, downsize or at the very least limit growth. It's a challenge to be comfortable when you're looking behind you to see how your job is doing. The work we do is so important, and we need to have the support as regulators, the support as employees, and the support as educators for an industry that is safety-based. It is in these times when we need most to be diligent in both our approach towards safety in the province as well as to maintaining our integrity and ideals while completing our work.

The urgency that I feel inspectors are faced with in the

province sounds obvious. The work load has **not** decreased from all the time that we were stretched to meet boom time requirements. The last few bountiful years had a major impact on all Alberta municipalities, with the growth of budgets and staff along with the celebration that was the powerhouse known as Alberta's economy. Provincial, private and municipal agencies have struggled to accommodate the extra work load through growth, staff additions and training. Now policies are tightening budgets in a response to the downturn. The safety of Albertans, the liability to our municipalities, and AMOS itself is at risk due to the lack of understanding of others to the crucial importance of maintaining a solid and supported regulatory industry in Alberta.

We have all been part of the leadership role that makes Alberta one of the safest places in the world and it would do well for all of us to continue to support the efforts of maintaining that role. Good luck embracing the changes ahead.

Sidney Manning

What's Wrong in These Pictures?

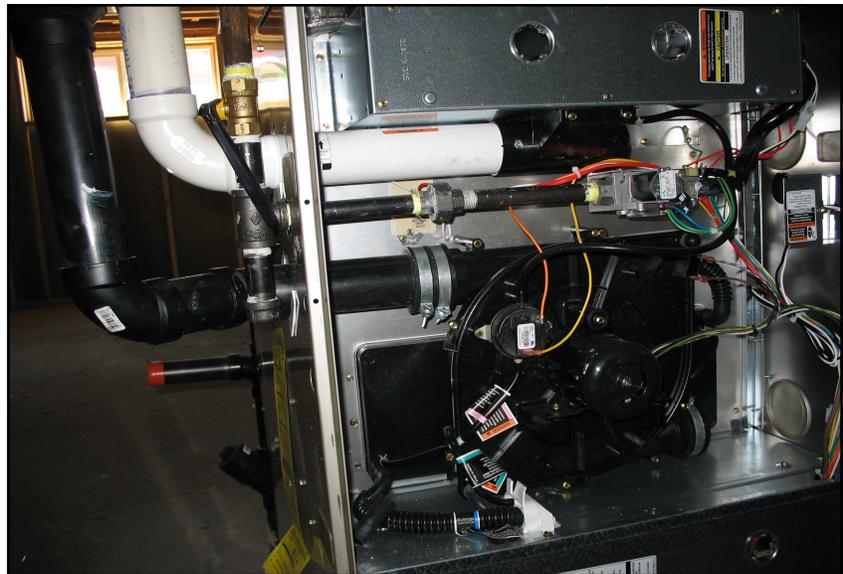


A New CSA Approved Garden Hose Bracket



Great Pipe Support - I like the snow, insulation, wood and pieces of scrap piping - As per Canadian Plumbing Code

See if You Can Find The Problem—(hint) "Check The Venting"
Wrong Piping used in the wrong outlets.



Education Update

- 1) The Safety Codes Council will not be running any more Alternative Solutions Courses due to the lack of response to register for the course.
To date there are 20 Plumbing SCO's that will lose their certification as of October 31, 2009.
- 2) The Code Update Training for the PSDS (Private Sewage Disposal System) Standard Of Practice is tentatively scheduled for Friday, October 30, 2009. Further details will be sent out to the membership when they become available.

Richard Burk- Education Director

From The Spade of an Ass

I say this because at times I tend to be, somewhat of an “ASS”, but as most of you know I also tend to call a shovel a spade.

We are approaching the 40th AMOS Anniversary of what is a very productive and informative Conference, put in place by people who had excellent ideas, to try to keep the Safety Codes Officers of Alberta current with the problems arising from our day to day findings. These people care about AMOS and work hard for AMOS.

This year there will be a very limited 40th Anniversary celebration. This is attributed to the poor response, commitment, and interest shown by the membership.

At the Spring Conference there was lots of “SHOVEL” work happening, but when it came time to dig in the “SPADE”, there seemed to be no consistency to the soil, what so ever.

There is only one thing that will keep this Society together and that is a strong membership, so if you are looking for something different from your appointed committee, add some consistent soil (namely—suggestions) for the spade to work with.

Glenn Costello

“ This is because of the poor response, commitment and interest from the membership”.

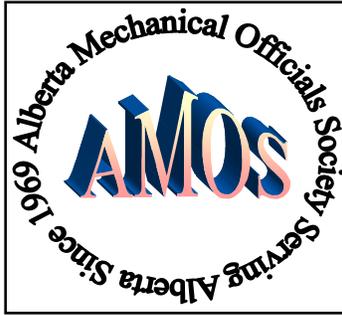
Just My Thought

Being given the ropes as editor for the AMOS newsletter, I find it hard at times not to use the publication as a springboard for my personal views and/or opinions. But after all the chaos that occurred throughout Alberta over the August long weekend I thought I would take this time to reflect on our role as SCO's and how quickly a life can be taken. I was personally in Camrose at the Big Valley Jamboree when the stage collapsed and took the life of an unsuspecting mother of two watching the live show. The same day a three year old girl was killed and her father seriously injured as they walked with family members in downtown Calgary. The child and her father were hit by a piece of deck material that flew off a tower under construction in the same block. Why at those moments did these two tragedies happen? Mother nature has a very strange way of letting us know that she's the boss.

As SCO's in Alberta, we are just one small step in the greater picture that make this province and country as safe as possible for all its citizens and visitors. If someone contravenes the code, it is our duty as SCO's to pursue all necessary avenues ensuring compliance of these codes are attained. Don't be complacent as an SCO. Remember—hindsight is 20/20.

In closing, I think I speak on behalf of all Plumbing and Gas SCO's in extending our thoughts and prayers to the families who suffered a loss during this past August long weekend. May it never happen to one of our own family members. Just My Thought.

Mike Turek



2009 Fall Conference Fees
Mail Payment by cheque or money
order to:
AMOS C/O :
Doug MacDonald
143 Parkside Place S.E. Calgary,
Alberta T2J 4K2

Fall Conference Fees \$95.00
Membership Dues \$20.00
(if outstanding)

A block of rooms have been set aside at the Black Knight Inn for a corporate rate.
For information or queries on the rooms please contact the Black Knight Inn directly
Mention Alberta Mechanical Officials Society in full when booking your room.

REMEMBER: Red Deer is usually booked up on

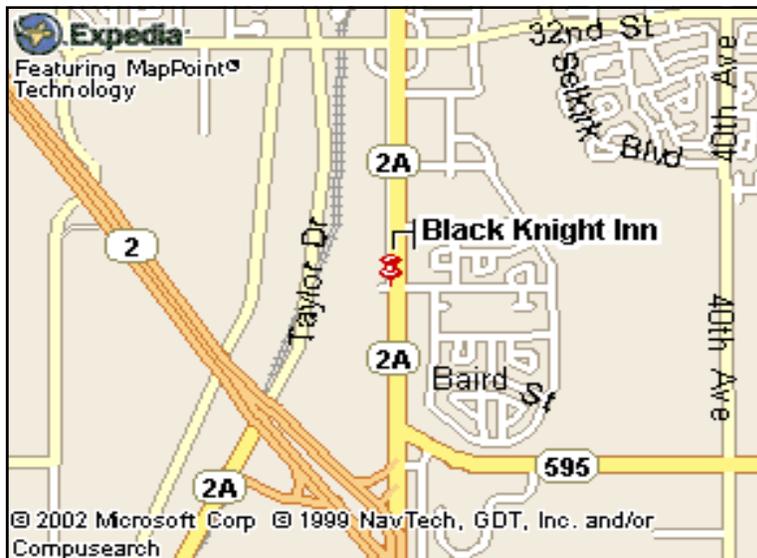
AMOS EXECUTIVE:

- Sid Manning - President**
- Ray Velhoen -1st Vice President**
- Larry Robinson - 2nd Vice President**
- Stonewall Burk - Past President**
- Randy Croft - Secretary**
- Doug McDonald - Treasurer**
- Mike Turek - Director / Editor**
- Glenn Costello - Director**
- Murray Vine - Director**
- Richard Burk - Education Director**

AMOS Annual Fall Conference will be held on Friday, October 30th and Saturday, October 31st, 2009.

Black Knight Inn
2929—50th Avenue
Red Deer, Alberta.
Canada, T4R 1H1

Phone: 1(403)343-6666 , Toll Free: 1(800)661-8793





AMOS -Alberta Mechanical Officials Society

2009 FALL CONFERENCE Registration and Membership Update Form

Friday, October 30th, 6.30 p.m. - 11:30 p.m. & Saturday, October 31st, 8:30 a.m.- 3:30 p.m.
Black Knight Inn 2929 - 50 Avenue
Red Deer, Alberta, Canada T4R 1H1
Phone: 1 (403) 343-6666 Toll Free : 1 (800) 661-8793

Name: _____ Email Address _____

Address: _____ Postal Code _____

Representing _____ Bus. Phone _____

Please check one of the Boxes below. In the "TOTAL NUMBER" area, please record the number of people in your party that will be attending, including: yourself , your spouse, children and/or guests.
I/WE WILL BE ATTENDING, TOTAL NUMBER _____
I/WE WILL NOT BE ATTENDING. _____

Please check the appropriate Box(s) below.

I am an AMOS Member, and will forward my Spring Conference Registration Fee of: \$95.00

I am an AMOS Member, and will forward my 2009 AMOS Membership Dues of: \$20.00

My employer has paid my: Membership Dues AMOS Spring Conference fee.

TOTAL AMOUNT FORWARDED TO AMOS: \$ _____

Mail Payment by cheque or money order to:

AMOS C/o Doug MacDonald

143 Parkside Place S.E. Calgary, Alberta T2J 4K2

A block of rooms has been set aside at the Black Knight Inn for a corporate rate.
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REMEMBER: Red Deer is usually booked up on weekends!