

2004 - 2005

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HEATING, REFRIGERATING AND AIR-CONDITIONING ENGINEERS

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http://www.ashrae.ottawa.on.ca **OTTAWA VALLEY CHAPTER** e-mail:contact@ashrae.ottawa.on.ca

March 2005

EVENING PROGRAM

Rob Lefebvre	EVENING PROGRAM					
Past President						
Jason MacMurdo	DATE:	Tuesday March 15th, 2005. Social: 17:30 Dinner: 18:30 Program: 20:00				
Governors Mike Derewin	THEME.	Desserve				
Mike Derouin	THEME:	Research				
Tony Doyon Gary Hartmann						
Roderic Potter	PROGRAM:	Charged Media Filters				
Stewart Woermke		-				
Kingston Section	SPEAKER:	Michael Dobbs, Camfil Farr				
Vacant	SI LI MER.					
COMMITTEES						
Audit	OVERVIEW:	The evening program will consist of reviewing the historic utilization of charged				
Paul Baker		synthetic air filters, current issues with this technology and the resultant changes				
Resource Prom.		to testing protocols.				
Jason MacMurdo						
	SPEAKER BIO:	Michael graduated from Duerson University (Dusiness) in Terents and started his				
Membership	SFEAKER DIU.	Michael graduated from Ryerson University (Business) in Toronto and started his				
Heather Garner		sales and business career with Farr Company in 1980. In 1983 Michael left Farr to				
Program		start his own filter manufacturing company in Toronto (Delcon Filtration Inc),				
Chris Workman		which was acquired, by Camfil and eventually Farr.				
Student Activities						
Chris Fudge		Michael is responsible for all HVAC/HPP sales in Canada and is also the Business				
TEGA		Unit manager for the Automotive Business in North America. Michael spends a				
Niraj Chandra		significant amount of time visiting clients throughout North America and is often				
Chapter Historian		asked to speak publicly. In the past Michael has had the pleasure of addressing				
Joel Primeau		meetings sponsored by the following organizations: ASHRAE, BOMA, IES, and				
Special Events						
Chris Healey		IPE.				
Communiqué						
Rod Potter						
Publicity						
Cynthia Gillis						
Table Top						
Gary Hartmann						
Telephone						
Cathy Godin						
Greeters						
Ray Young						
Roster						
Kevin Toll						
Webmaster						
Roderic Potter						
Al Oakes Award						
Jason MacMurdo		Menu				
Nominations		Mixed Green Salad				
David Eastwood						
CRC Action	Prin	Prime Rib Roast Beef au jus w/ Potatoes and Seasonal Vegetables				
Jay Doshi	Tiramisu					
		Coffee, Tea				



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David Fanset

Head Office 286 Atwell Drive, Unit 7

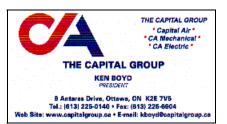
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Doug P. Breckenridge, P.Eng.

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President's Message

Did someone say that the Regional Science Fair was approaching? It brings me back to the 70's, when I attended Pembroke Senior Public School and participated in the Grade 7-8 science fair. Without benefit of the World Wide Web and a large municipal lending library, I undertook to build that stereotypical science fair project, the dreaded paper-maché volcano. It seemed very simple in concept; it was the actual construction that was tricky. First of all, do you know how long it takes paper-maché to dry? And then there's the dozens of coats of paint required to cover the newsprint. Once complete, you can't just test the 'lava' lest it actually works and then you have a soggy painted pile of newsprint; it has to be a separate test altogether. Finally, the finishing touch! Sound effects – make it sound like Pompeii, Mauna Loa and Mount St-Helens all rolled into one (although I concede that Mount St-Helens was still dormant in the 70's). And that's just what I did – endeavored to tape sound effects.

Now P.S.P.S. was housed in the former Pembroke Collegiate Institute – a very large high school and it boasted some of the largest washroom facilities I've still to see. The girls' room hosted at least 30 stalls, the walls and floors ceramically tiled the doors and partitions ancient wooden affairs that creaked and groaned. I was armed with my portable cassette recorder, until now used solely for listening to Bay City Rollers and Rick Derringer tapes. I set up in the center of the girls' room, microphone poised. To my ears the acoustics of the room combined with random flushing of thirty fixtures would simulate the rushing din of the volcano, a chaotic noise worthy of my science fair project. I recorded, edited, rerecorded – finally it was perfect.

On judgement day, I proudly stood behind my volcano, my baking soda anticipating the red vinegar about to be introduced. Fresh batteries in the cassette player, I awaited my turn. Finally they arrived, principal, MP for Renfrew-South-Nippissing-East, school board trustee – I can't say that I recall exactly who else was in the judging entourage. What I do recall is the pod looking over my work, reviewing the written background poster and considering the overall visual aspects of the project. "Does it do anything?" I was asked. Here it was! My moment of glory – the science fair medal virtually gleaming around my neck.

"Yes, I have both lava and sound effects", I replied. I could imagine the photograph in the local newspaper already. And so then, I added the vinegar to the dish of soda. It bubbled and fizzed and as I expected, quickly soaked through the paper-maché – but I was undaunted, this was what I came for, after all. I pushed the play button. Now these judges were in for a treat. And as the tape caught and the sound effects began, throughout the auditorium, as plain as day, was the sound of 30 random toilets flushing.

The winner that year made a study of optical illusions, nothing fancy, just a beautifully lettered poster with the stenciled message:

Paris in the the Spring

(...cont.)

(cont...)

Good luck to all the students participating in the upcoming Regional Science Fair and thank you to Chris Fudge, Bob Kilpatrick and Rod Potter for volunteering to represent the ASHRAE Ottawa Valley Chapter and participate as judges. In other news, our own President Elect, Jay Doshi, received national recognition from Siemens and was named Canadian Sales & Operations Professional of the Year. Jay was nominated based on support and contributions toward Siemens' key business strategies, including growth, profitability and teamwork. Congratulations Jay.

Finally, if you had the opportunity to read the results of the ASHRAE Technology Awards you would have noticed that three of the four recipients were ASHRAE Region II individuals and projects. ASHRAE Technology Awards recognize outstanding achievements by members who have successfully applied innovative building designs, which incorporate ASHRAE standards for effective energy management and indoor air quality. We have a creative chapter and as Bob Kilpatrick has pointed out, the submittal process is simple. Let's get an Ottawa Valley Chapter project or two on the books.

From the website:

The ASHRAE Award of Engineering Excellence recognizes the most outstanding Technology Award winning project. The award went to Federic Genest, Eng., for Mountain Equipment Coop, Montreal, Quebec, Canada. He is a project engineer, Pageau Morel and Associates, Montreal, Quebec, Canada.

Three projects received first-place ASHRAE Technology Awards:

Jeffrey Paul Blaevoet, P.E., for Big Rock Ranch, Lucasfilm, Nicasio, Calif., in the commercial buildings, new, category. Blaevoet is principal, Guttmann and Blaevoet Consulting Engineers, San Francisco, Calif.

Nicolas Lemire, Eng., for Concordia University Science Complex, Montreal, Quebec, Canada, in the institutional buildings, new, category. Lemire is project engineer and associate, Pageau Morel and Associates, Montreal, Quebec, Canada.

Gilles Desmarais for Jean-de-Brebeuf College, Montreal, Quebec, Canada, in the institutional buildings, existing, category. Desmarais is project engineer, Dessau-Soprin, Montreal, Quebec, Canada.

Finally, we are expecting a number of students representing the Algonquin College Student Chapter. If you can assist with the sponsorship of a student meal, please see our Treasurer, Rob Lefebvre, at the door. Thank you in advance, and I look forward to seeing you at the March chapter meeting.

Sincerely, Cathy Godin, President (2004-2005) ASHRAE – Ottawa Valley Chapter

Read this:

A jumper cable walks into a bar. The bartender says "I'll serve you, but don't start anything."

John P. Lowery, P.Eng. Senior Territory Manager

Carrier Canada 1950 Baster Poud, Unit 8 Otawa, Ontano K2C SP1 613-820-7810, Ext. 240 Withs: 1-800-661-8395, Ext. 240 Fax: 613-820-9462 Internet: John Jower 96 carrierute.com









Theme Research (or is that Resource Promotion?) by Jason MacMurdo

The theme for our March meeting is ASHRAE Research. ASHRAE Research, or *Resource Promotion* as it is now called, raises annual and endowed funds to help support ASHRAE's mission, programs, and services. Research seeks contributions from ASHRAE members and the HVAC&R industry for the Society's research and educational programs as well as for general support of its many membership benefits and programs.

With our 2004-2005 campaign underway, the Resource Promotion committee will be contacting the membership looking for your generous support of ASHRAE Research. Our Region II RVC for Resource Promotion, Jeff Clarke, is planning on attending our March meeting. Please join me in welcoming Jeff at our Chapter Meeting.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the members of the Ottawa Valley Chapter who support ASHRAE Research, and look forward to the continued support of our membership in this very important campaign.

Jason MacMurdo, P.Eng. Resource Promotion Chair 2004-2005



What You Missed Tuesday, February 15, 2005 Meeting by Glenn MacLean

The theme for February's meeting was *Membership* and we were graciously joined by our own Frank Bann who is the Regional Vice Chair for membership in Region II. Frank spoke to the members on the importance of membership and the need to focus our efforts on retaining members that have recently joined the chapter. The pre-meeting technical seminar was a discussion on hazardous gas detection systems, presented by The Armstrong Monitoring Corporation. Various gas detection technologies and applications were discussed. Members were also instructed on the importance of properly maintaining sensors and the costs involved.

Bob Kilpatrick encouraged members to submit designs for consideration in the Technology Awards categories. Gemma Kerr, recently back from the meetings in Orlando, echoed Bob's sentiments and reported on Quebec City's successes at the society level - Region II won honours in 3 out of the 5 competitions.

The evening program, Seismic Bracing, was presented by Jean Noreau from Hilti. Jean explained some of the basic terminology and introduced members to the various codes and standards that govern for seismic design consideration. Members were instructed on some of the basics of seismic calculations and given examples of some of the different bracing materials and techniques available. It was also noted that there were changes expected to the National Building Code, pertaining to seismic design, in the next couple of years.



No Ivc. 15 Fitzgerald Road, Suite 100 Nepean, Ontario K2H 961 CANADA Tel.: (613) 829-2800, ext. 333 Fax: (613) 829-8299 www.epihar.com ~ mike.swayne@genivar.com





Table Top Display

by Gary Hartmann



InAIR Environmental Ltd. is a leading Ottawa provider of consulting services for the indoor environment. Our company has considerable experience in the areas of air quality, water quality, mould, and hazardous materials such as asbestos and lead. Come and meet with our new Certified Industrial Hygienist, Mr. Donald M. Weekes, to discuss how best to deal with environmental issues and challenges that you may encounter when working on renovations of older buildings, or when involved with new construction.



Walmar will be presenting the AAF line of Air Filtration Products. AAF has introduced new product to compliment its line of air filters including the M-Pak, high efficiency filter, the 4 inch Perfect Pleat and the Perfect Pleat HD. These products will be on display and Walmar filter specialists will be available to answer your questions.



Business Card Ads by Rod Lancefield

You can support your chapter and promote your business by placing your business card in the Capital Communiqué. It will appear in the electronic and printed version as well as on the Chapter website.

Cost is \$225.00 for the year; contact Rod Lancefield, rodl@htseng.com, 728-7400

This just in:

A sandwich walks into a bar. The bartender says, "Sorry we don't serve food in here."





People on the Move

by various



TAMCO is very happy to welcome Helena Jonas to our sales group. Helena holds a Bachelor of Engineering degree from Concordia University in Montreal, Quebec and has worked for five years as a professional sales engineer. Helena brings strong experience in industrial sales and customer support to our team.

Helena will be responsible for providing sales support to our customers and engineers in Ottawa, Quebec, Atlantic Canada, and in numerous US states.



Trane is thrilled to announce Terry Frederick as the Director of Sales for Trane Ottawa. Terry has 21 years of sales management and business development experience. He has built his reputation on his strong understanding of customer needs in various markets including education, healthcare, and government.



Trane is very excited to announce that Gilles Lebrun has joined their sales team. To the team, Gilles brings 25 years of controls experience and technical know-how that will help you deliver the results your customers have come to expect. You can contact Gilles about any type of system design ranging from open controls systems and equipment to system integration for any size and type of building.



Trane is very happy to announce the promotion of Martin Préfontaine to Team Leader of the Estimation & Inside Technical Sales Support. Martin and his team of estimators work closely with our sales account managers doing project take-off, costing, and submittal drawings of controls, equipment, and service proposals. Martin also has a strong technical background and has been working at Trane in the HVAC industry for 6 years.

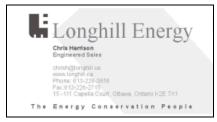


Trane is very proud to announce the promotion of Kathy Plaunt to Team Leader of Project Administration. Kathy and her team work closely with our Project Managers on the successful and timely completion of our controls, equipment, and service projects. Although Kathy has only been with Trane for a short period, she has excelled in financial management, project administration, and customer relationships.

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Steve Clayman pont for Knauf Fiber Glass Gmb

Knarf Fiber Glass GmbH 100 Uhivenity Avenue, Saite T02 Box 128, Torento, Ontario M5J1V6 Direct: (416) 993-422, Fas: (416) 986-0481 Voice: (800) 825-4434 49216, E-Mail: steve claymari@knauffiberglass.com (your card here!)





Student Activities Update

by Chris Fudge

Dr. Gu at Carleton University was just approved for funding in the amount of \$5,000 through ASHRAE's Undergraduate Senior Project Grant Program. The project is entitled "Demonstration of Microchannel Heat Exchangers for a Transcritical Refrigeration Cycle". The name of the deserved student will be announced in the near future, and there will be an official presentation later by our chapter once the grant funds have been distributed.

On another note, recently a group of ASHRAE and non-ASHRAE members who are working in our industry did a talk at Algonquin College. Those in attendance were:

Glenn MacLean, Sales Manager Engineered Air Francois Belair, Sales Walmar Randy Lee, Project Manager Sayers and Associates Hinje Andreason, Sales Engineered Air Chris Fudge, Sales Trane

Each of these guys talked about what they did in their respective fields. The really cool thing about this was that Frank, Randy and Hinje were all former graduates of the Algonquin college program. The professor hosting us was Frank Snyder. There was very keen interest on the part of the students, and Mr. Snyder will be forwarding a list of his students wishing to attend our upcoming March meeting on the 15th.

It seems that we are doing very well in the Student Activities camp!



2005 ASHRAE Curling Bonspiel Update

by Christine Kemp

Reminder:

Coming soon, Friday March 18th @ 1:00pm sharp at the Nepean Sportsplex. Be there early to register.

Please make arrangements to drop off 4 prizes per team and your cheque ASAP.

Thanks, Christine Kemp



(your card here!)



Let's Keep the "R" in ASHRAE! "R" is for Refrigeration

A letter from Don McKeen

When it comes to the subject of refrigeration it is hard to know where to begin. There is so much.

My father owned and operated an ice, coal and wood business in Prince Albert, Saskatchewan before my time. I was born in 1921. He harvested the ice out of the North Saskatchewan River. When I was a kid, 10 or 11, I traveled around with the iceman delivering the ice – three hundred pound blocks. He would cut the blocks up into smaller sizes, down to twenty-five or fifty pounds for home delivery. There were two theatres in Prince Albert, one advertised as being comfort cooled. We would deliver a couple of three hundred pound blocks, placed in a chamber over which air would be circulated by a large fan and then circulated through the theatre by a duct system. This was in the mid 1930's.

I was in the Navy during WWII and after coming back from overseas in 1944, ended up as a gunnery instructor at HMCS Cornwallis training base in Digby, Nova Scotia. They had an ice-skating and hockey arena and it was there that I first got interested in refrigeration. May 1945, it was near the end of the month and quite warm outside. I was asked if I know how such good ice conditions could be maintained and in reply I mentioned something about cold brine being circulated through pipes under the ice. Anyway, this aroused my curiosity. I visited the base library that evening and came away with two books: one on Refrigeration published by the Ontario Department of Agriculture and the second a huge 1500 page volume on Thermodynamics. The former was just what I needed and I learned much from this book.

Amazing things started to click into place. Destiny or something like that. One day I was having a chat with the base protestant chaplain who dropped by the gunnery from time-to-time. On this occasion he asked as to when I expected to get my discharge out of the Navy and also as to what I was expecting to do on "Civvy" street. I mentioned this refrigeration "thing" and he came right back with the comment "you are talking to the right person!" "How come?" I asked. He told me that his roommate was the officer in charge of all the refrigeration on the base and that he was also teaching a course in refrigeration to a class of Navy motor pool mechanics. He thought that he could arrange for me to sit in whenever I had a chance and that's just what I did!

So it is now August 1945 and I am engaged to be married and on my way to Montreal for my discharge out of the Canadian Navy. I had joined the Navy in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan January 15, 1941, exactly 4 years and 8 months before. The government had started up a technical school for WWII vets, including a two-year course in refrigeration. I was able to enroll and we were off and running. I graduated as a Refrigeration Technologist. While at school, I arranged to have interviews with two of Canada's largest refrigeration companies, CIMCO (York) and Linde Canadian Refrigeration Co. Ltd. Right after graduation I was hired by Linde and I never looked back. Linde was 100% ammonia until towards the end of WWII. I was only the second Freon man to join Linde. I had four great years with Linde, then moved on to Murray Air Conditioning Co. Ltd. in Montreal. I was with Murray just one year, a great company and a great guy, but an opportunity came up that I just could not resist.

So on January 1, 1951, I was on my way to Brantford, Ontario to join the sales staff of Keeprite Products Limited, a sparkling new manufacturer of refrigeration products. I spent four years in Brantford and then it was back to Montreal as Sales Manager of all Eastern Canada including Ottawa. I could have taken Toronto; it was my choice. A wonderful company and I worked for great people. We rapidly moved into air conditioning, then heating, then building products and then OEM products like Frigidaire. I was one of the founding charter members of the Montreal A.S.R.E. Section. Some exciting times.

(...cont.)

R.J. MCKEE	ROY & ASSOCIATES ELEGTRO-MEGHANICAL CONSULTANTS INC.	SIEMENS	
Jim Siciliano, P Eng. Parter - Madanial Sector Head	161 DES SABLES GATIMEN, DO JAF 707 Daniel Roy P.0. BOX DB3. CSC T UTIMA. DUT. KIE 388		Siemens Building Technologies, Ltd.
1785 Woodward Drive Ottawa, Ontario, Canada K2C 0P9	Plan, Blache, 1		2435 Holly Lane Ottawa, Ontaria IK1V 7P2
(613) 723-9585 Fax: (613) 723-9584 Email; jhns@rjmeng.com	CBLL: (613) 274-0038 E-MOL (Mry3 royassifit) as WES STE-www.forsystemic.co	Jack Teevens General Manager	Tel: (613) 733-8781 Fax: (613) 737-4985 Jack Jeevens € sbt siemens com

(cont...)

However, opportunity came knocking once again. So on June 24, 1959, it was off to Ottawa where I became a wholesaler of refrigeration and air conditioning products and components. It was tough leaving Keeprite after 9 1/2 years – I just missed my 10-year watch by six months! It was hard on my boss at the time, the guy that had hired me and became a good friend. He was the person who got me to join A.S.R.E. in Toronto in September 1951. He could not understand me leaving Keeprite, but his boss did and helped arrange that I be the Keeprite distributor in and around the Ottawa area, a big help for me. I was almost immediately elected to the A.S.H.R.A.E. Ottawa Valley Chapter Board of Governors and became President in 1964-1965.

These are just some of the ways that refrigeration has been in my career and life. With my focus on the "R" in A.S.H.R.A.E., this is what I do not want to happen:

A.S.H.R.A.E. A.S.H.(R)A.E. A.S.H.(r)A.E. A.S.H.A.E.

Let's Keep the "R" in ASHRAE! "R" is for Refrigeration

And this:

Two hydrogen atoms walk into a bar. One says, "I've lost my electron." The other says, "Are you sure?" The first replies, "Yes, I'm positive..."



Chapter/Regional Technology Awards

TEGA Update – Last Call

by Bob Kilpatrick TEGA Awards Coordinator and Frank Vaculik TEGA Committee co-chair

The TEGA committee of the Ottawa Valley Chapter is looking to wrap up the campaign for this year's Technology Awards Program.

We are therefore encouraging those who intend to make a submission to complete the simple application form, available in electronic format, and get it to either of the persons identified below by next week.

Just a quick reminder of the criteria for submissions:

The project can be from any category of building, either new or existing, including:

Commercial buildings Institutional buildings Health Care Facilities Industrial Facilities or Processes Public assemblies Residential buildings Alternative and/or renewable energy use

The description of the project should include how one or more of the following has been addressed:

An innovative technology has been applied; An effective use of energy has been achieved; An improved control of indoor environment is being provided.

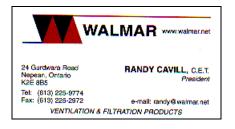
The winners in each category at the Chapter level are automatically submitted in the Regional level competition, and winners at that level could be considered for an International award.

We would like to offer our congratulations to the firm Pageau Morel and Associates (PMA) of the Montreal Chapter who were recently named winners of two international awards, the ASHRAE Technology Award 2005, as well as an Engineering Award of Excellence.

Good things can happen to good projects!









Domo arigato, Mr. Roboto

by Rod Potter

We took the family to a pumpkin farm in Toronto last October and I remember sitting in a freezing cold outside cafeteria trying to drown my sorrows by eating hot French fries with the kids. Suddenly I was struck by the urge to start singing the old Styx favorite mentioned in the title above. To my complete surprise, more than one person nearby continued to chant the next few lines (and I thought I was the only geezer old enough to remember Styx). The song gradually became one of my favourites, particularly its connection with technology.

Another favourite of mine is BBC World News which is on the TV screens in our house for approximately 50% of the time, the other half filled with Telletubbies and Scooby-Doo. On the half-hour BBC often presents high-quality filler shows and one I watched the other night was entitled "Hard Drive Heaven", and it endeavored to present a brief history of how computers have evolved in the past 20 years. Although it never actually covered anything to do with hard drives, it proved to be a good effort on their part.

I remember my first experience with a computer – John, my step-father, came home one night with a "Sinclair" which was basically a piece of garbage that you could spend hours messing with for no good reason. I did precisely that of course – I cannot remember why, but I had in my possession an early computer magazine that listed a simple program written in Basic that would probably achieve nothing but print "Yahoo" on the screen or something similar. Anyway I spent about a hour typing this stuff into the machine and saving it onto a cassette tape with great anticipation – the fruits of my labour never amounted to much because every time I tried to run the program I was presented with "syntax error" messages which basically (no pun intended) stopped me dead.

This experience with the Sinclair did not dampen my spirits however, and some time later, circa 1982, I was working at a design/construct contractor in Wolverhampton, England. These guys were actually on the ball with technology and they invested in this early PC that can only be described as a Terminal, because it contained the screen, keyboard, and floppy drive in one rather large unit. Heavens, the floppies were those enormous jobbies about 8" in diameter. But it was fun, and I can remember spending many hours developing my first programs, none of which did anything useful, but no-one seemed to care back then. Eventually a guy turned up with this mysterious box about 18x18x6" and connected it to the terminal. He said it was the Hard Drive so don't drop it...

Later on I worked for my parents at their engineering consultancy and managed to produce a couple of somewhat useful programs, the first being an accounting package for my Mum, the second the result of putting the entire Carrier Heat Gain Design Manual into program form. John thought it was incredible, and in many ways it was – in those days Basic programs could only be a certain size, and I had to split the program up into many sections that "chained" together. The greatest benefit was that we could suddenly do heat gain calculations easily and accurately and this was rather good because soon thereafter we won a contract for some Arabian Prince's palace in Saudi Arabia.

I returned to Ottawa in the Spring of 1987 and started work with an excellent consultancy, Goodkey Weedmark & Associates. One of their engineers was proud of himself because he had just arranged for the purchase of an IBM XT (those were the days) for running the Carrier HAP program. Everything was still DOS based and programs were actually quite efficient! Not long after that I purchased my first PC and this was a 16MHz 286 AT. This was really exciting stuff!

(...cont.)



(...cont.)

Technology was really starting to rev up back in those days – it was funny, I recollect that Goodkey Weedmark had just purchased its first fax machine. There were rules connected with it, and only Special people were allowed to touch it. Now of course everyone just takes all this technology stuff for granted, and when your printer runs out of ink, the temptation is to simply throw it in the bin and buy another because they are so cheap!

I have fond memories of those early days of technology on the rise. Heavens – AutoCad workstations as they were called were selling for about \$4000 a pop! Nowadays all of the mystique seems to have washed away and the prospect of upgrading your PC is no longer an exciting one. Late in 2002 I decided it was time to upgrade my motherboard and chip again and got all excited about what this would do to AutoCad regen time. I was purchasing a 1.7GHz system and I was rather perturbed when I heard a techie say that it would only make a slight difference to performance. He turned out to be right and the performance only improved slightly. This was surprising to me because every time I had gone up a chip level in the past the speed increase had been remarkable – the first time I jumped to a 586 based machine I was over the moon!

Recently I decided it had to be time to upgrade again after more than two years with the same machine. We are lately bombarded with flyers and adverts from computer stores shouting about wonderful deals and I had been gradually convinced that the upgrade path had finally dropped to only about \$1200 instead of the rule-of-thumb \$2000. After some pricing exercises I was dismayed to find that to get what I wanted actually cost me \$2200, and that was just for the box with no peripherals! Ok, it does contain four 80GB hard drives that are RAID 5 and 2GB of RAM, and other goodies I do not need to go into here; the main point is that even though I spent all that moolah, the machine is only marginally better than the old one, now relegated to the other desk in my office, occasionally squeaking and rumbling away on its own planning to get its own back for my abandonment.

It appears that we have reached a plateau with PC development, and maybe we will have to wait until true 64bit programs come along to really take advantage of what today's hardware has to offer. The excitement has fizzled a bit, and it has all become a little ho-hum don't you agree?

There are one or two things out there to get excited about still though, now that we have the wonderful internet. Check out this site: <u>http://babynamewizard.com/</u> where you can check the popularity of baby names through the ages by means of a Java-based interface called "NameVoyager" that is, well, stunning. And the fact that I can rummage around and find a picture of myself that dates from about 1992, scan it, and then use it in this document to prove that at one point I DID have hair!

I leave you with this little story, which just about sums it all up:

Three men, one American, one Japanese and an Irishman were sitting naked in a sauna. Suddenly there was a beeping sound. The American pressed his forearm and the beep stopped. The others looked at him questioningly. "That was my pager," he said, "I have a microchip under the skin of my arm."

A few minutes later a 'phone rang. The Japanese fellow lifted his palm to his ear. When he finished he explained, "That was my mobile phone. I have a microchip in my hand."

The Irishman felt decidedly low tech, but not to be outdone he decided he had to do something just as impressive. He stepped out of the sauna and went to the bathroom. He returned with a piece of toilet paper hanging from his behind. The others raised their eyebrows and stared at him.

The Irishman glanced around behind him and said "B-Jesus, will you look at that, I'm getting a fax!"



ASPE Meeting Update

Courtesy Francois Belair francois@walmar.net

Stewart Seaton is a senior inspector with TSSA's fuel and oils division. Responsible for Ottawa and the surrounding area, Stewart will explain TSSA's role in the plumbing industry, and the legislation enforcing their mandate with an emphasis on conformance issues and certification.

The meeting will take place at Sirolas steakhouse located on St-Joseph Boulevard in Hull, with the social beginning at 5:30 pm and the dinner at 6:30 pm. For additional information regarding meeting times and directions go to: www.aspeottawa.org.

ASHRAE OTTAWA VALLEY CHAPTER MEETING LOCATION

Our meeting location is LA CONTESSA BANQUET HALL, 156 Cleopatra Drive, Nepean, K2G 5X2 Tel. 613-224-8700. Parking is available just to the north of the building in a small multi-storey parking lot. Make sure you lock your car and bring your valuables with you.

*** end of Communiqué ***



(your card here!)



ASHRAE OVC Capital Communiqué

March 2005