

	<h1 style="text-align: center;">HOTNEWS</h1> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>a monthly newsletter for HPBA members</i></p>
<p>HPBA Homepage</p> <p>HPBExpo</p> <p>HPB Education Foundation</p> <p>Pellet Fuels Institute</p> <p>NFI</p> <p>Wood Stove Changeout</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Hearth, Patio & Barbecue Association · 1901 North Moore Street, Suite 600 Arlington, VA 22209 · ph 703-522-0086 · www.hpba.org · hpbamail@hpba.org</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><u>March 2011 Vol. 14, No. 3</u></p> <p><u>Optimism Prevailed at Expo 2011</u></p> <p>HPBExpo attendees and exhibitors brought excitement and enthusiasm to Salt Lake City. The exhibit halls indoors and outdoors sparkled with new products and everyone talked positively about business and the increases in consumer spending. HPBA's annual trade show brought close to 300 exhibiting companies and 6,000 hearth, patio and barbecue professionals to Salt Lake City.</p> <p>Highlights of the show exceeded expectations. The all-day Biomass Central Heating Symposium attracted over 100 people, the inaugural Young Guns (the hip under 40 set) Reception attracted a huge, very friendly crowd and the Friday Night Fever disco party hosted over 2,000 revelers resplendent in 1970s costumes. The dance floor was crowded and the disco lights flashed until the band played the last song. Plans are already underway for another all-industry party next year in Atlanta. To view photographs of the party, go to http://www.flickr.com/photos/60353838@N05/sets/7215762610532241/. If you'd like a high-resolution copy of a photo, please contact Leslie Wheeler, wheeler@hpba.org.</p> <p><u>HPBA Board Elects New Officers</u></p> <p>At its March 1st meeting, the HPBA Board of Directors elected new officers for the 2011-2012 year. Wendy Howells, Lennox Hearth Products, was elected chairman; Rodger Holland, Archgard Industries, vice chairman; Jim Hussong, Kozy Heat, secretary; Ken Belding, Empire Comfort Systems, treasurer; and Tom Wenke, Weber-Stephen Products, at-large member of the Executive Committee.</p> <p><u>First Biomass Central Heating Symposium</u></p> <p>Over 100 attendees participated in the first ever HPBA/PFI symposium on biomass central heating held last week in conjunction with HPBExpo. Invited speakers included David Atkins, U.S. Forest Service; Simon Köb, Veissman Boilers; and Cameron Hamilton, McKinstry Company. Pellet industry speakers included Scott Jacobs, Ozark Hardwood Products; Bruce Lisle, Biofuel Boiler Technologies; Francis Sharron, Solagen; John Redmond, Tarm Biomass; and Dan Veller, Fraser Plumbing and Heating.</p> <p>The program included sessions on biomass boilers and furnaces in the 200,000 – 800,000 Btu range that are currently being used to heat non-residential buildings such as schools, hospitals and poultry houses. The symposium presentations will be posted at www.pelletheat.org in the near future. Due to the success of this first symposium, plans are underway to hold a second in Atlanta at Expo 2012. If you're interested in exhibiting or being a member of the planning committee, please contact Jennifer Hedrick,</p>

hedrick@pelletheat.org.

Air Quality Regulators Tour Expo

For the seventh year, HPBA hosted an outdoor burn area tour for state, provincial, tribal and federal air quality regulators who are interested in wood stove changeout programs. Over 50 participants learned about new outdoor hydronic heaters, wood stoves, pellet stoves and gas-heating appliances. HPBA tour guides included affiliate representatives: Amie Ryan, HPBA Pacific; Leah Hauer, Northwest HPBA; Tony Gottshalk, HPBA-Canada; Harvey Gail, Oregon HPBA; Cindy Wise, Southeast HPBA; and Karen Teske-Osburn, North Central HPBA. Hearth industry experts also guided tours: Rick Curkeet, Intertec; Ben Myren, Myren Consulting; Bob Ferguson, Ferguson, Andors & Company; and David Menotti, Crowell & Moring.

EPA Officials Participate in Expo

Gil Wood and Larry Brockman, two key EPA officials working on solid fuel issues, made important presentations to manufacturers at the Manufacturers Government Affairs meeting in Salt Lake City. Larry Brockman, the lead on wood stove changeouts, gave details on the \$5,000,000 from public funds to change out old wood stoves with cleaner burning gas, pellet and wood hearth products. Gil Wood, the New Source Performance Standards (NSPS) team leader, released a preliminary draft of the agency's position on the next version of the NSPS certification program, scheduled for official release in June or July.

Highlights of the draft included: 1) a new emissions target for wood stoves and pellet stoves at the Washington State level; 2) a two-phase target for outdoor hydronic heaters; 3) a 2014 deadline for all forced-air furnaces to meet a new target standard (with a small producer exemption); 4) a new category for 'single burn rate appliances'; 5) a new standard for masonry heaters (with a small producer exemption); and 6) no certification requirement for cook stoves, fireplaces or coal stoves.

The proposal also included a standard efficiency test method for all wood-burning appliances and possible new limits for carbon monoxide and, in some cases, visible smoke. It was strongly emphasized that all details are subject to change before the draft's release this summer. EPA also confirmed that it is depending on the pellet industry to implement its own pellet standards, and relying on pellet stove manufacturers to require the use of PFI-certified fuel once the new regulations go into affect. For more information, contact John Crouch, crouch@hpba.org.

Department Of Energy (DOE) Challenge

The negotiations regarding the DOE ban of decorative gas fireplaces within two years are reaching a critical phase. A meeting will be held in mid-March between HPBA and DOE (and their associate organizations) to decide upon a final course of action: a compromise agreement or a battle in court. At a meeting last week, the HPBA Board of Directors was given a closed-door briefing by Barton Day, HPBA's counsel on the issue. HPBA continues to press for an agreement that will allow decorative gas fireplaces to continue to be manufactured without having to meet the efficiency standards that have been set for heater-rated fireplaces. For more information, contact Allan Cagnoli, cagnoli@hpba.org.

Federal Budget Update

After nearly two months in the 112th Congress, the

Republican-controlled House and the Democrat-controlled Senate have found very little upon which to agree. In fact, only five pieces of legislation have been sent to the President's desk for enactment. One of the major sticking points for the two sides is the federal budget. Republicans are seeking deeper budget cuts than have been agreed to by the Democrats or President Obama. Congress agreed on March 4th to extend the current Continuing Resolution (CR) for two weeks, until Friday, March 18, though reports from insiders indicate that having a finished budget by that date is highly unlikely. A further extension of the CR would then be necessary to further prevent a federal government shutdown.

IRS Form 1099 Repeal

One issue that Democrats and Republicans largely see eye-to-eye on is the need to repeal the Form 1099 reporting requirements for small businesses that were put in place with the enactment of health care reform in 2010. The current law would require all businesses doing more than \$600 of business in aggregate per year with any vendor to report those transactions to the Internal Revenue Service. The House passed a bill (H.R. 4) earlier this month to fully repeal the requirement and offset the \$19 billion cost of the repeal by reclaiming health care tax credit overpayments. While the Senate has several options for considering a 1099 repeal bill, Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid (D-NV) stated earlier this week that he favored the House version over anything offered in the Senate. If the Senate chooses to take up the House version of H.R. 4, it would clear the way for the legislation to be sent for the President's signature.

Government Affairs Academy (GAA) 2011

The annual GAA in Washington, D.C., from May 15 -18, is fast approaching! Please let your affiliate know if you are interested in attending.

Department Activities

Codes & Standards

- HPBA Government Affairs is working on creating a matrix of on-going codes and standards that are impacting the hearth and barbecue industries. The purpose of this matrix is to help prioritize the work on these standards and help guide the industries in the face of so many new (particularly "green") codes.
- ICC 700 (National Association of Home Builders, Green Building Standard) will meet in Washington, D.C. on March 29-30. This will be the first face-to-face meeting for the 2012 update of the National Green Building Standard. HPBA Codes & Standards Senior Manager Tom Stroud was accepted as a member of a task group for this revision. HPBA also submitted a number of proposals for this update.
- International Green Construction Code (IgCC) Draft 2 is available for review at: <http://www.iccsafe.org/cs/IGCC/Pages/PublicVersionDevelopment.aspx>. HPBA staff submitted comments on the allowance of vent-free products and alcohol fireplaces that are currently disallowed in this code. Staff also commented on the statement in Section 804.1.3 on gas fireplaces being limited to direct vent units only. HPBA's position is to allow all ANSI Z21.50 and ANSI Z21.88 products. The public meeting will take place May 16-22, 2011 in Dallas.
- NFPA 211 revision cycle for fall 2012 is currently accepting proposals for changes to the existing document. Those proposals are due May 23, 2011. Information can be found at <http://www.nfpa.org/aboutthecodes/AboutTheCodes.asp?DocNum=211> and clicking

on the "Next Edition" tab.

Communications

National Barbecue Month is right around the corner, and HPBA is ready with two new promotion tools. A new barbecue Facebook fan page, The BBQ Source, and Twitter account (thebbqsource) are in development to kick off the grilling season. Be sure to watch your email so you can be one of the first to "like" the fan page and be a part of our new online barbecue community. Contact Leslie Wheeler, wheeler@hpba.org, for more information.

HPB Education Foundation

If you bought a three-day Education Passport at HPBExpo, don't forget you also qualified for a trial subscription to [HE@RTH](#) Online Training. There are over 100 courses available and many of the education sessions from the Expo in Salt Lake City will also be added. Your trial subscription is valid right now, but the 30-day trial period will not begin until the HPBExpo 2010 sessions have been uploaded. You can catch many of the sessions you may have missed at the show. If you missed the e-mail with your user name and password, call (703) 524-8030, ext. 129 and either Rick Vlahos or Mary Jo Nadeau can help you. National Fireplace Institute (NFI) CEUs have never been easier to earn. Check it out today!

Membership

The Young Guns came out blazing at Expo! The First Annual Young Guns Reception was the place to be at Expo on Wednesday night in Salt Lake City. Over 100 "40 and Under" HPBA members kicked off Expo week with a happy hour at Keys on Main that stretched well into the evening. New friends were made and a good time was had by all. If you are under 40 and want to become part of this vibrant new group formed to help shape the future of the association and the industry, call Don Kaiser (703) 522-0086, ext. 148 or email at kaiser@hpba.org.

Statistics

HPBA Market Research Director Don Johnson released the 2010 hearth shipment numbers at Expo. Total hearth product shipments were 925,967, which is about equal to the shipment numbers for 2009, indicating that the hearth industry has stabilized and is ready for growth. The top-of-the-line numbers will be posted shortly on www.hpba.org.

HPBExpo Report

Innovations & Ideas for Indoor-Outdoor Living
Atlanta, Georgia · February 29 – March 3, 2012
www.hpboxpo.com

HPBExpo 2012 – Plans are under way! It's true we've only just left Salt Lake City, however 159 companies have already made plans for Expo 2012 and have secured exhibit space in Atlanta. Expo 2012's website is live and includes details on next year's trade show taking place February 29 - March 3, 2012 at the Georgia World Congress Center.

HPBExpo 2012 Exhibitor Portfolio. Attention prospective exhibitors: Atlanta holds the record for the highest Expo attendance, and prime booth space will go quickly. The complete Expo 2012 Exhibitor Portfolio is available online at www.hpboxpo.com under "Apply to Exhibit." The website contains 2012 floor plans, booth contracts, rules and regulations and payment information (50% is due at space selection).

Don't forget to follow us on Twitter: <http://twitter.com>

[/HPBExpo](#) @HPBExpo and become a fan of HPBExpo on Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/HPBExpo/182719555415>.

HPBExpo wants your feedback! Both attendee and exhibitor surveys were sent out following the conclusion of HPBExpo 2011. Please complete and submit your comments. Additionally, if you would like to relive HPBExpo 2011, be sure to visit www.hpbexpo.com and look at the 2011 Photo Gallery.

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