

- 2024 Meets Dates
- Apprentice Graduation
- ACCWPA Golf Outing

2024 Meeting Dates

2024

June 13th

Board Meeting ONLY
A-Air Meeting Room

July/August

NO Board Meetings or
General Mtgs.

August 20th

ACCWPA Golf Outing
QuickSilver



The mission of the Air Conditioning Contractors of Western PA is to assist its members in managing their companies more efficiently, therefore becoming more profitable, together with increasing their exposure and credibility within the community.

HAPPY FATHER'S DAY
June 16th!!

2024 APPRENTICE GRADUATION!!

2024 ACCWPA Apprentice Graduates!!

May 9th

CONGRATULATIONS 2024 APPRENTICES!!!!

You worked hard for the 4 years! **AWESOME!**

Mike Schwartz – Guest Speaker and 4th year teacher

Stefan Zezulewicz – Admiral Heating

Westley Jennis – Phillips Heating

Levi Hayes



Admiral Heating



Phillips Heating



Levi Hayes



Is a Fire Hazard Lurking within Your Lithium-ion Batteries? Federated Insurance

Lithium-ion batteries power everything from laptops and smartphones to power tools and vehicles with efficiency and portability. However, their widespread use comes with significant risks, as these batteries are causing a growing number of **workplace fires**.

Thermal Runaway Dangers

The convenience of lithium-ion batteries masks a potentially dangerous downside. A phenomenon known as "thermal runaway" can occur when improper use, storage, or charging leads to a cell failure within the battery. Once initiated, thermal runaway produces heat faster than it can be dissipated, potentially leading to explosions, smoke, and fire. The fires caused by these batteries can be challenging to extinguish, sometimes requiring thousands of gallons of water and posing the risk of reignition over subsequent hours or days.

Fire Prevention Strategies

To help **mitigate risks**, consider the following guidelines:

- Using Certified Equipment: Ensure that batteries, chargers, and devices are listed by a qualified testing laboratory, such as UL, and avoid low-quality aftermarket replacements.
- Adhering to Manufacturer Guidelines: For storage, use, and charging, following the manufacturer's instructions can significantly reduce the likelihood of battery failure.
- Inspecting Equipment Regularly: Check batteries and devices for damage before use. Cracks, bulging, leaks, elevated temperatures, or any indication of distress warrant immediate removal from service.
- Maintaining Proper Storage: Conduct all battery charging away from combustible materials, and keep batteries and devices in cool, dry places. Ensure charged devices are removed from chargers once full to prevent overcharging.
- Ensuring Safe Disposal: Damaged batteries should be placed in a fire-resistant container away from combustibles and disposed of in accordance with instructions from a battery recycling center.

By fostering a **culture of safety and awareness** around the potential hazards of these batteries, you can play an important role in **minimizing risks** and ensuring a safer work environment for everyone.

This article is for general information and risk prevention only and should not be considered legal or other expert advice. The recommendations herein may help reduce, but are not guaranteed to eliminate, any or all risk of loss. Examples shown are for illustrative purposes only. The information herein may be subject to, and is not a substitute for, any laws or regulations that may apply. Qualified counsel should be sought with questions specific to your circumstances. ©2024 Federated Mutual Insurance Company.

ACCWPA Golf Outing QuickSilver August 20th!

**ACCWPA
Corner**



*Integrity is the
essence of
everything
successful.*

**PEACE, LOVE
and JOY
thru out 2024!**

**Smart Words
One Kind
Word can
change
someone's
entire day!**

Inspiration





August 20, 2024

ACCWPA Annual Golf

Tournament

Where: QuickSilver Golf Club

When: 08-20-2024 - Shotgun Start: 10:00 am

**Come Join Us For This Annual Fun Event at the
QuickSilver Golf Club**



ACCWPA Annual Golf Tournament

Bring your foursome and enjoy a great round of golf. All levels of expertise welcome!! 18-hole golf scramble takes advantage of everyone's skills, or lack thereof. Doesn't matter just have fun!!!!

Golf Flyer available July 1st for registration.

ENJOY: Bag drop; breakfast, hotdog at the turn; BBQ Dinner, prizes, 50/50

Fun Day on a GREAT GOLF COURSE



**Not a Contractor or Associate member?
We'd love to serve you, too.**

For additional information visit

www.accwpa.org

or call 724-687-7860

Email: pforker@accwpa.org

Additional reasons for membership are:

- Company membership applies to all employees of your firm.
- **NEW!! Contractors Free Associate Membership in Service RoundTable!!**
- Networking!!!
- Monthly meetings with informative presentations that benefit both the Contractor and Supplier.
- Relevant technical training and educational classes.
- 4-year Apprenticeship School with curriculum that is focused only on the HVAC industry!
- Monthly newsletters and email communications filled with industry information and updates.
- Insurance for member's company discount.
- Social Outings that everyone can participate
- And much more to come!



Join today!

ACCWPA is the Professional Alliance designed exclusively for today's HVAC/R Contractor!

2024

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

BEAVER STEEL SERVICES, INC.

Kurt Treser, 412-429-8860

CARRIER ENTERPRISE BRYANT PGH.

Mike Marhefky, 412-568-3404

COMFORT SUPPLY

Dave Heckler – 412-921-6600

FEDERATED INSURANCE

Ryan Bagheri, DMM – 316-210-0267

FILTECH INC.

Andy Komar – 412-461-1400

GEO. V. HAMILTON, INC.

Ed Wallace – 412-777-4405

H. GERHARDT SUPPLY

Harry R. Gerhardt – 412-279-4880

HABEGGER HVAC CORP.

C.J. Cameron – 412-469-1010

JOHNSTONE SUPPLY

Steve Bichey – 724-561-3345

LENNOX INDUSTRIES

Tom Wainwright – 614-578-0092

R. E. MICHAEL, LLC

Joe Kuczynski – 412-526-0881

ROBERTSON HEATING SUPPLY

Tim Leja – 412-922-4001

STANDARD AIR & LITE CORP.

Tom Baney – 412-920-6505



August 20th - ACCWPA Golf Outing



HR Question of the Month...

.... Federated Insurance

Question

We have a small office setting with a few bathrooms that are used only by employees. Can we require our employees to take turns cleaning the bathrooms, or are we required to hire a cleaning company to clean them?

Answer

The decision to revise a job description or add job functions is generally at the employer's discretion. In an at-will employment environment, where no contract otherwise governs the issue, an employer may change an employee's job duties when the employer has a legitimate business reason for doing so. Job descriptions should be specific enough to describe a job accurately but flexible enough to include other duties as assigned. Employers should make clear to all employees that when the needs of the company or its customers dictate, their jobs may entail whatever needs to be done that is reasonably assigned by a manager or supervisor and is within an employee's capacity to deliver.

That said, employers must keep potential employee morale and relations issues in mind. For example, an employee may resent an employer that assigns job duties that the employee was not originally hired to perform and that are completely unrelated to their job. Such resentment may lead to decreased productivity and morale. Employers may also lose valuable employees who seek employment elsewhere.

Additionally, employers must provide a safe and sanitary workplace for their employees. There may be numerous safety and health issues associated with cleaning a restroom, such as personal protective equipment provision, harmful bodily fluids/diseases, and dangerous cleaning chemicals. Employers in industries unrelated to cleaning may be unaware of such issues and expose themselves to potential violations.

Thus, while an employer may generally change an employee's job duties, the employer should carefully consider whether adding unrelated tasks is a best practice, depending on the specifics of the situation. An employer may consider it more prudent to, for example, hire a cleaning company instead of assigning tasks that bear no relation to an employee's core job duties.

The HR Question of the Month is provided by Zywave®, a company wholly independent from Federated Insurance. Federated provides its clients access to this information through the Federated Employment Practices Network with the understanding that neither Federated nor its employees provide legal or employment advice. As such, Federated does not warrant the accuracy, adequacy, or completeness of the information herein. This information may be subject to restrictions and regulation in your state. Consult with your own qualified legal counsel regarding your specific facts and circumstances.

ACCWPA Golf Outing QuickSilver August 20th!

Misc. Info

Every Job is a

SELF- PORTRAIT

Of the Person
who does it.
Autograph your
work
with
Excellence!

AUTHOR UNKNOWN



ACCWPA Newsletter and all notices:

If you like to get our
ACCWPA Newsletter
send your
email address to:
pforker@accwpa.org



ACCWPA

Air Conditioning Contractors Western Pennsylvania



WE'VE GOT YOU COVERED...

PRODUCTS • KNOWLEDGE • SERVICE

Now with 7 locations in the Pittsburgh area stocking Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning and Refrigeration equipment.

MONACA
Phone 724-775-8041

BUTLER
Phone 724-283-9100

NORTH HILLS
Phone 412-367-8040

BETHEL PARK
Phone 412-831-8188

MONROEVILLE
Phone 412-373-6360

PITTSBURGH
Phone 412-690-2388

GREENSBURG
Phone 724-216-5406

WWW.JOHNSTONESUPPLY.COM



RELAX. IT'S RHEEM. Rely on Ruud Service That Satisfies Since 1934

- BEAVER FALLS.....500 Seventh Ave.724-843-4500
- BUTLER.....678 E. Butler Rd.724-282-8200
- CRANBERRY TWP.....1245 Freedom Rd.724-772-3855
- GREENSBURG.....990 Broad St.724-836-6319
- MONROEVILLE.....1616 McClure Rd.724-733-7577
- PITTSBURGH.....952 Noblestown Rd.412-922-0500
- WHEATLAND.....10 Mill St.724-347-3774
- WASHINGTON.....84 Stewart Ave.724-222-6720

ACCWPA

Air Conditioning Contractors Western Pennsylvania

ACCWPA

Air Conditioning Contractors Western Pennsylvania

PROUD AFFILIATE PARTNER WITH!!

Service Roundtable Affiliate Association



AWESOME CONTRACTOR BENEFIT!

2024 Century Club Members

Federated Insurance
Ryan Bagheri, 316-210-0267

Standard Air & Lite Co.
Tom Baney, 412-920-6505

Johnstone Supply
Steve Bichey - 724-561-3345

2024 Vo-Tech Members

PENN COMMERCIAL INC.
Marianne albert, 724-222-5330

ROSEDALE TECHNICAL COLLEGE
Kara Chan - 412-512-6200

PITTSBURGH PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Mike Angela, 412-529-8680

WESTERN AREA CAREER
& TECHNOLOGY CENTER
Rob Rossell - 724-809-4047

Be There Fund™

(Must be an ACCWPA member to Win!)

Next General Meeting - \$30.00

Membership Benefits...

Air Conditioning of Western PA

will continue to be your local industry partner,
as we have been since 1950.

Annual Membership Brings You the Following Benefits:

- Networking events
- Discounts on seminar
- Current info from local suppliers
- Legislative efforts
- Local website
- Technical training courses
- Apprenticeship program
State recognized
- Monthly newsletter
- Information of industry news
changes within the industry
- Insurance for member's company discount
- Code enforcement updates
- ACCWPA Apprenticeship School
- Voice for the local contractors
- Golf Outing
- Education opportunities for your technicians
office staff
- Advocacy agenda promote contractor interest.
- Labor and HR legal advice before utilities
- Helping members to stay ahead of the curve
- 8 Monthly informative meetings



Trap Shoot



Join us for loads of FUN!

Tuesday, October 8th

We highly recommend you bring your own shot!

ACCWPA has some available for sale that evening.



Upcoming Meetings!

2024

General Meetings Schedule!

June 13th

Board Meeting ONLY
A-Air Meeting Room

July/August

NO Board Meeting or
General Meeting

August 20th

ACCWPA Golf Outing
QuickSilver



**Work Hard in
Silence,
Let Success
make the
Noise!**

**Make
Today
Amazing!**

ACCWPA GOLF OUTING – AUGUST 20TH!



126 Resolution Drive • Mars, PA 16046-3719

Happy Fathers Day – June 16th!!

ACCWPA is the Professional Alliance designed exclusively for today's HVAC/R Contractor!

Membership Advantages:

Networking with other contractors. This source of information is invaluable in handling problems within your own company. ACCWPA members help fellow members to be successful!



ACCWPA distributes ACCWPA Newsletters monthly to members and selected non-members, so that all those in the HVAC/R industry can keep informed of issues regarding our trade, and Chapter activities. We hope the non-members will see this newsletter as an example of the quality services that ACCWPA provide.

Contributions or suggestions can be emailed to pforker@accwpa.org

ACCWPA is proud to be a Service Roundtable Affiliate Associate.



ACCWPA Upcoming Events

June 13th

Board Meeting ONLY
A-Air Meeting room

July/August

NO Board Meetings or General Mtgs.

August 20th

ACCWPA Golf Outing
QuickSilver



2024 Officers and Directors



PRESIDENT:

Sue Pelles, Pelles Heating & Cooling 724-625-2444

VICE PRESIDENT:

John Wilcox, Wilcox Plbg & Htg 412-212-7525

TREASURER:

Chuck Rauch, Shearer Heating & Cooling 724-222-1830

SECRETARY:

Dave Williams, A-Air Company 412-728-5148

CONTRACTOR DIRECTORS:

Steve Woodring, Wade Heating & Cooling 412-787-1341

Rob Champe, Shearer Heating & Cooling (ACCWPA Past-President) 724-222-1830

ASSOCIATE DIRECTORS:

Mike Marhefky, Carrier Enterprise 724-989-9555

Keith McCann, Habegger Corp. 412-913-5815

Colleen Karnes, Standard Air & Lite 412-920-6505

SPECIAL ADVISOR:

NONE

Executive Director:

Pat Forker
pforker@accwpa.org

Office/Fax 724-687-7860
Cell 412-760-5792