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- 2024 Meeting Update
- November 12th SAFETY
- Election 2025 Officers

Volume 19 Issue 11

2024

Meeting Dates

November 12th

(Tuesday) Note Day Change! Board & General Mtg. Topic: Active Shooter / Workplace Safety

Speaker:

Patrick L. Woods Place: Carmody's Election of 2025 Officers

December -

No Meetings





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.



November 12th ACCWPA Meeting

2024

Active Shooter / Workplace Safety

Patrick L. Woods

Senior Risk Consultant - Federated Insurance.

This presentation will provide insite on how to handle an active shooter woakplace violence situatio. We will go over a "shelter in place" senario, in the event you are nable to leave your workplace for an extended period of time due to workplace iolence or natural disasters. The preentation will give informatio on how to help prepare your business to avoid becomin a victim of workplace violence and/or crime.

WHAT YOU WILL LEARN: • Survival of Workplace Violence • Survival Bucket • Chrime Prevention Tips • Building our Tool box of Safety

Tuesday, November 12th

(Date Change)

ARMODY'S

GRILLE 4905 Grand Avenue (on Neville Island) Pittsburgh, Pa 15225 - 412-458-1813 Upstairs meeting room.

REGISTRATION FLYER ATTACHED!

Come join us for our last 2024 General Meeting! and 2025 Election of Officers

2025 ACCWPA ELECTION OF OFFICERS

PRESIDENT:

John Wilcox, SUREWAY Htg. - Clg. - Plbg.

VICE PRESIDENT:

Steve Boehmer, Boehmer Htg. and Clg.

TREASURER:

Chuck Rauch, Valley Heating and A/C

SECRETARY:

Dave Williams, A-Air, Inc.

Officers Elections will be held at our November 12th General Meeting

QUESTION OF THE MONTH - Federated Insurance

We are a small office with a hybrid remote/in-office work arrangement. We are trying to boost employee morale and get employees to come into the office more often. Are we allowed to celebrate employees' birthdays? We were thinking something simple like having everyone get together in the conference room to have cake whenever it's someone's birthday.

ANSWER:

Celebrating employees' birthdays can be a positive way for employers to build team rapport and show employees that employers value them. That said, employers should be aware of potential issues.

When implementing a birthday recognition program, employers should be mindful of respecting employees 'privacy and preferences as well as avoiding discrimination concerns. One way to respectfully celebrate is to highlight employees born in the same month (which protects their actual birth date and age). Employers could also allow employees to voluntarily opt into the birthday recognition celebrations or have a way to easily opt out (such as a person they can contact if they would prefer not to have their birthday shared).

Furthermore, employers should be aware that some employees may have allergies, making them unable to eat cake or certain other foods. Employers should give employees the choice of whether they wish to have cake or a different food.

It is always important to ensure that any workplace practice complies with broader principles of privacy and non-discrimination, even at a seemingly simple level, like birthday celebrations. Employers should work with local counsel for assistance with creating policies and practices that help boost employee morale while complying with all applicable laws.

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 Corner



Integrity is the essence of everything successful.

PEACE, LOVE and JOY thru out 2024!

SmartWords
One Kind
Word can
change
someone's
entire day!





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

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Pat Forker, Executive Director 126 Resolution Drive, Mars, PA 16046-3719 Phone/Fax: 724-687-7860 pforker@accwpa.org

Active Shooter / Workplace Safety Patrick L. Woods

Senior Risk Consultant – Federated Insurance

This presentation will provide insite on how to handle an active shooter woakplace violence situatio. We will go over a "shelter in place" senario, in the event you are nable to leave your workplace for an extended period of time due to workplace iolence or natural disasters. The preentation will give informatio on how to help prepare your business to avoid becomin a victim of workplace violence and/or crime.

- WHAT YOU WILL LEARN: Survival of Workplace Violence
 - Survival Bucket
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 - Building our Tool box of Safety

Tuesday, November 12th



4905 Grand Avenue (on Neville Island), Pittsburgh, Pa 15225 - 412-458-1813 Upstairs meeting room.

RSVP - 724-687-7860, fax or email • No Cancellations after November 4th noon!

*	* Important – RSVP is a must! * Email: pforker@accwpa.org or fax (724) 687-7860		
Company			
Name			
Email address	Cell #		

Dinner - \$55.00

NO Cancellations after November 4th - NOON. No shows will be billed.

IF YOU ALREADY MADE YOUR RESERVATIONS, THANKS! PLEASE PASS THIS NOTICE TO SOMEONE ELSE THAT WILL BENEFIT!







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

Be There Fund"

(Must be an ACCWPA member to Win!)

Next General Meeting - \$60.00

AWESOME CONTRACTOR BENEFIT!

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
 ACCWPA Apprenticeship School
- 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
 Local lobbying
- · 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 Winners Tuesday, October 8th

First Place: Chris Belculfine Second Place: Rob Champe Third Place: George Seibel





Join Us again in 2025 for loads of FUN!

Upcoming Meetings!

2024 **General Meetings** Schedule!

November 12th

(Tuesday) Note Day Change!

Board & General Mtg. Nominations of Officers Topic: Active Shooter / **Workplace Safety**

Place: Carmody's

Election of 2025 Officers

December -No Meetings



Work Hard in Silence. Let Success make the Noise!



Happy Thanksgiving!



CYBER RISK MANAGEMENT PLAN ... Federated Insurance

Your employees are often your first line of defense in keeping your digital business assets secure. Using regular training programs and implementing a <u>cyber risk management plan</u> can be an effective way to build your line of defense against digital threats that could negatively impact your business, valuable information, and profits. Consider the following:

Conduct Frequent Employee Training

- Phishing Awareness Teach employees to recognize common phishing tactics, such as suspicious emails and fraudulent links.
- Safe Browsing Habits Instruct staff on best practices for navigating the internet securely, including how to identify secure websites.
- Password Management Encourage the use of strong, unique passwords and emphasize the importance of changing them regularly.
- Regular Training Use simulations and refresher courses to help reinforce <u>cyber security</u> knowledge.

Utilize a Risk Management Plan

- Regular Vulnerability Assessments Conduct routine checks to identify and evaluate potential cyber risks within the organization.
- Automated Security Protocols Implement automated systems to oversee security measures, ensuring timely updates and responses to threats.
- Incident Response Plans Develop clear and structured response strategies for addressing data breaches or cyberattacks effectively.

Reach out to your local Federated® <u>marketing representative</u> to learn more about cyber safety and other risk management topics.

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.

HAPPY THANKSGIVING!!



Misc. Info

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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





126 Resolution Drive • Mars, PA 16046-3719

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 Assocate.



ACCWPA Upcoming Events

November 12th (Tuesday)

(Tuesday) Note Day Change! Board & General Mtg.

Topic:

Active Shooter/Workplace

Safety

Speaker:

Patrick L. Woods Place: Carmody's

Election of 2025 Officers

December - No Meetings





2024 Officers and Directors

ACCWPA

DD	EGI	DENT.	

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

VICE PRESIDENT:

John Wilcox, SUREWAY Htg. Clg. Plbg. 412-247-1300

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 Enterprise724-989-9555Keith McCann, Habegger Corp.412-913-5815Colleen Karnes, Standard Air & Lite412-920-6505

NONE

SPECIAL ADVISOR:

Executive Director:

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