

April 10, 2007
Volume 1, Issue 1

MCA-KC Review

Mechanical Contractors Association of Greater Kansas City/ 816-523-3341



Bob Looman
Executive Director
MCA-KC

Special Interest Articles:

- MCA-KC launches new newsletter.
- MCAA 2007 stresses how to deal with challenge of change
- Kotubey elected to MCAA Board of Directors

Issue Highlights:

New Newsletter	1
Change	1
Speakers	1
Speeches	2
KC Attendees	2
Sessions	3
Millard	4

Welcome to the MCA-KC Review

Welcome to the first issue of the *MCA-KC Review*. We've designed this newsletter to provide you with an ongoing look at key developments taking place within our Association and throughout our industry. Publication of the *Review* will be twice monthly — sometimes more, sometimes less. Our aim is to communicate with you on a timely basis with information you will find useful. As an organization and as professionals, we are often faced with consequential decisions. Up-to-date knowledge will help us to determine choices ahead and make those decisions. We pledge to make communications a top priority. If you have any achievements of your own to share with our membership, please write about it and send it to the **Contact Us** section of our Web site at www.mcakc.org.

“Meeting Challenge of Change” MCAA 2007 Theme

More than 2,000 persons attended MCAA's 2007 Convention in Orlando, FL. to experience and celebrate the Association's achievements. The program included distinguished speakers, entertaining, engaging educational sessions; and enjoyable social events. Experts from government, business, professional sports, and entertainment discussed a broad range of topics, including the inevitability of change in our lives and how to manage it effectively; the green building movement plus the business opportunities it offers; and improving the basics of business management, such as strategic planning, cash, and profit, family business succession, reducing business costs, commissioning, new market opportunities, and finding new ways to balance our business and personal lives.

Major Convention Speakers

Speakers included MCAA President Mike Cullinane (Burt C. Young Co., Elmhurst, IL), General Colin Powell, former Secretary of State, Coach and TV Analyst Terry Bowden, UA. General President Bill Hite, and 2007 MCAA President David Kruse (L.J. Kruse, Berkeley, CA)



“Our ability to grow market share over non-union is contingent on our willingness to take risks and make change happen .”



Convention Speech Highlights

Mr. Cullinane asked participants to embrace change as an opportunity and not as a threat, adding that our ability to grow market share over non-union is contingent on our willingness to take risks and make change happen. **General Powell** said we are in a changing world economy and we must continue to lead, predicting that we will win the war on terrorism with openness to people, education, and freedom — our inalienable rights. **Coach Bowden** said he approached changes with answers to his Four Questions for Winning — which could be applied to our situation as contractors — namely: (1) Do I want to be the best? (2) Am I willing to pay the price by working harder than the next guy? (3) Can we work together as a team? (4) Am I willing to take responsibility? **Mr. Hite** emphasized the UA’s commitment to the Standards of Excellence and professionalism as critical steps to take back the market share we have lost. **President Kruse** urged contractors to pay attention to what is happening in “green” or “sustainable” design because it offers opportunities to expand our markets.

Kansas City Attendee Highlights

Cocktails, overlooking downtown Orlando, and mingling with one another highlighted the traditional Kansas City Night event for the KC area attendees. Our group included two MCAA past presidents — Smitty and Donna Belcher plus Mike and Lynn Gossman. We also were honored by the attendance of the UA leadership team, including General President Bill and Pat Hite; Assistant General President Steve Kelly; Training Director Mike and Sue Arndt; our own Local 533 success, Training Specialist Laurie Shadrick; and Training Specialist Jim Pavesic. Everyone called the event a night to remember, including the 45-minute coach ride there, when the driver got lost!

KC Pre-party Convention Reception

Members of our Kansas City contingent gathered for a pre-party celebration to help kick off the MCAA 2007 Convention on Sunday night. The reception allowed us the opportunity to meet everyone who attended from our area, including our friends from Springfield, Mo. The party was a timely and enjoyable way for all of us to meet so that we could get to recognize each other as we would cross paths throughout the convention.

Educational Session Highlights

Many educational sessions were scheduled, with topics ranging from small business planning succession and managing life in a family business to Building Information Modeling and leading change in our organizations. At the *UA Strategic Planning Update*, **General President Bill Hite** told contractors that in order to increase UA market share and improve quality of the workforce, we need to improve the performance of our local unions. He also presented his commitment to the Mechanical Allied Crafts (MAC), including no job disruptions with MAC trades and increased reciprocity among trades when needed. **Steve Kelly** updated everyone on the various UA agreements that are in place. **Don House** discussed the National Service and Maintenance agreement as well as the success of the UA Star and MSCA Star certification program. **Gary Hamilton** described the UA Residential Agreement as a vehicle to help contractors regain the “lost” market of residential construction and service business. **Mike Arndt** said the new Foreman and Advanced Foreman training programs are in development for release later this year. He also spoke about the success of other training programs, including the Helmets-to-Hardhats initiative to attract mechanically minded service persons into the trades. **Robert Smedley, AIA**, presented *Revolutionizing the Delivery Process: Building Information Modeling (BIM)*. The impact of BIM is being observed in Kansas City, as **JE Dunn** has committed to use this process for the construction of its new corporate headquarters building.



Mike Kotubey Elected to MCAA Board

Mike Kotubey, President of Midwest Mechanical Contractors, Inc., Kansas City, Mo. and Vice President of the MCA-KC Board of Directors, was elected to the MCAA Board of Directors during the Association’s 118th convention in Orlando, Fla. He will serve on the Board for a six-year term. MCA-KC President Steve Hancock praised Mike’s election as another example of Kansas City caliber again being represented on the national board. Bob Looman, MCA-KC Executive Director, added that Mike’s newest honor brings further distinction to the Kansas City chapter’s leadership capabilities. At the Association’s national level, Mike also serves on the Plumbing Contractors of America (PAC) Board of Directors and on the Emerging Trends Task Force. At the local level, he also is a member of the Plumbing JAC (Joint Apprenticeship Committee), the Plumbing Committee, and the Pipe Fitters Committee. In addition, he is active in a number of other industry organizations. Please congratulate Mike on his worthy MCAA Board recognition and his commitment to serve our industry.



“Mike’s service on the MCAA national Board of Directors brings much credit, pride, and honor to MCA-KC.”

LMC Honors Herb Millard

The Labor-Management Council (LMC) of Greater Kansas City honored Herb Millard, retired MCA-KC executive director, at its 9th annual Awards Dinner and 28th anniversary celebration March 22 at the Argosy Casino. Presenter Tom Whittaker, in conveying the Council's tribute, said, "Herb has demonstrated passion and leadership in serving and promoting the mission of the LMC, He has been aggressive in recruiting members and participants, providing ideas and resources, and sharing wage advice for many years. Herb has stepped up whenever the LMC has needed his leadership and support, and has elevated the labor-management relationships in the construction industry,"



Flanking Herb Millard (center) are l-r, Garry Kemp (Building Trades), Steve Hancock U.S. Engineering), Bob Looman (MCA-KC, and Bob Jacobi (LMC).

Mechanical Contractors Assn of Greater KC

9229 Ward Parkway
Suite 270
Kansas City, MO 64111

PHONE:
816-523-3341

FAX:
816-333-4603

E-MAIL:
ralooman@mcakc.org

We're on the Web!

See us at:

www.mcakc.org

MMC Celebrates Million-Hour Safety Milestone

Midwest Mechanical Contractors, Inc. gave an exclamation point to the theme of thinking *Safety First* by recognizing its field employees for surpassing the 1-million-hour mark without a single lost-time injury. The company celebrated the achievement March 26 with a drawing for a brand new 2007 Chevrolet Silverado Pick-Up truck, won by employee Bob Watson. MMC Safety Director Chuck Paulson said, "The dedication to quality construction, safe work environments, and a "Zero in On Safety" culture contributed to reaching this milestone."

Membership Meeting to Stress Performance

An update on the BIG Change in labor leadership direction will be presented by local leaders, including Garry Kemp, Building Trades; Neil Willis, Pipe Fitters Local 533; and Frank Jackson, Plumbers Local 8. All members are encouraged to attend this session, as it is a follow-up to Mark Breslin's "tipping point" presentation last November in Kansas City to 4,000 union members. Speakers will explain what we are doing locally through the Labor-Management Council to promote the quality, image, and performance of our construction industry.

Contractor Safety Training Date Set

Learn the new safety requirements for Hex Chrome welding and hear an update from the Mine Safety Administration in the Training Center at 7 a.m. on April 25. Because safety must continue to be our number-one priority, please make it a priority to attend these important programs that will keep you current on safety training and initiatives.