

Changeout Grants Announced

The U.S. EPA awarded \$100,000 grants for wood stove changeout rebates in Rutland, VT and Spokane, WA.

And, north of the border, the Canadian Wood Stove Replacement Grant, a \$300 rebate for wood stove replacements, has been included in a Canadian residential energy efficiency program known as EcoEnergy. Information about the VT changeout is posted at <http://www.anr.state.vt.us/air/hm/woodstoverebate.htm> and the Canadian project at www.ecoaction.gc.ca/ecoenergy-ecoenergie/index-eng.cfm. For more information, contact John Crouch, crouch@hpba.org.

Richard Forslund Dies Unexpectedly

Richard Forslund, a long-time member of HPBA and a member of the Board of Directors, died suddenly in Florida on May 7. Over the many years in the industry, Dick served enthusiastically and tirelessly on many committees, his Midwest HPBA Board of Directors, as well the national HPBA Board. His warmth, love of life, and thoughtfulness will be remembered by all who knew him. Dick was survived by his wife of 35 years, Debbie, and his two daughters, Nikki and Kristy. Contributions in his name can be made to the American Heart Association, 208 S. LaSalle St., Chicago, IL 60604.

HPBEF Offers Online Training

Hearth Online Training is an exciting new program offered by the Hearth, Patio & Barbecue Education Foundation (HPBEF). The classes, presented by Rick Vlahos, are live, interactive, and conveniently taken from your office. Hearth 101, Gas Tech 101, and "Why My Wood Isn't Burning" are available.

Online training is simple enough for those with even the most basic computer skills. All that's needed is an Internet connection and speakers. High speed connection is preferable, but dial-up access is acceptable. Visit www.hpbef.org to learn more and register today.

Outdoor Decorative Appliance Agmt.

The Outdoor Open-Flame Decorative Appliance (OOFDA) task force is moving closer to an agreement with CSA to create a standard for the appliances, such as gas fire pits, gas campfires, etc. Any manufacturer not already involved with the OOFDA group should contact Tom Stroud at stroud@hpba.org.

Fireplace Task Group E.06.54.06

The Low-Mass Fireplace Task Group has published two ASTM Standards, ASTM E2558 and E2515. The group is now holding stakeholder meetings with U.S. EPA. For more

information contact Tom Stroud, stroud@hpba.org.
Mass. Plumbing Board Update

Following the advice of GAMA and NEHPBA, the Massachusetts Plumbing Board has agreed to remove the requirement for installation manuals to be supplied for every approved venting system with all direct-vent products. In its place, all products need to have installation manuals available online. This is a huge victory for GAMA and the hearth industry.

New HPBA Govt. Affairs Manager

The GA Dept. is pleased to announce the addition of Seth Voyles as the new government affairs manager. Seth comes to HPBA with many years of experience in the U.S. House, Senate and with a Colorado utility. He can be reached at voyles@hpba.org.

PFI Annual Conference

PFI's popular Annual Conference will be held July 19-21 at the beautiful Pinehurst Resort in Pinehurst, NC. Program, registration, sponsorship and display forms are now available on the PFI website at www.pelletheat.org. Program highlights include fuel standards and how to best serve consumers, government relations issues, and an update on the European pellet market.

HPBA Committee Activities

Communications

- "May Is National Barbecue Month" sizzled this year across the country and around the world. News media from the Associated Press to *The Washington Post* and *New York Times* to the *London Financial Times* picked up our story and spread the good word on the joy of grilling.

- Share Your Grill Recipes – It's grilling season and we'd like to post your favorite recipe on the HPBA website. Whether it's a meat dish, a vegetable dish or dessert dish, we'd like to hear from you. And, give us your story. Was your recipe handed down, a self creation, or a group project? Grilling is all about eating and sharing good food, so contact Deidra Darsa, darsa@hpba.org, with your scrumptious meal-time ideas.

- Economic Help from the Heart was created by Villanova University graduate Corie Podschelne, who begins his new career as a research and development engineer with England's Stove Work's, Inc., Monroe, VA. The charity was formed to provide and install donated wood stoves in the homes of families in need. So far, with the help of retailers, manufacturers and a close-knit group of hearth.com forum friends, donated stoves and stove piping have been installed in two homes and two are in the pipeline. If you're interested in donating time or material, please contact Corie at [\[schelne@gmail.com\]\(mailto:schelne@gmail.com\).](mailto:cpod-</div><div data-bbox=)

- Retailers: Help your customers understand the benefits of zone heating with gas appliances. Order our popular "Efficient Ways to Zone Heat Your Home," a brochure that explains gas fireplaces, stoves, inserts and log sets. Bulk orders are available (100 copies for \$20) by contacting Denise McDonald, mcdonald@hpba.org.

HPB Education Foundation/NFI

- Fireplace Installer Training System (FITS) - If you haven't brought FITS into your store, now is the time to do it. The first module, Gas Fireplaces Level I, will organize your internal training...BEFORE the busy season begins.

The FITS Installer Training Kit, required for each participant, consists of a Fundamentals Workbook, Installation Workbook and Field Checkbook. The FITS Company Support Package, needed to conduct the program, includes Training Leader Guides for Fundamentals and for Installation, a Training Leader Handbook, Company Startup Guide, PowerPoint/Support CD and Brand Specific Resources CD. For more information, call Caleb Woodard at 703-524-8030.

- Looking for the right place to take some classes or become NFI Certified? Visit www.nfi-certified.org to find out where. There are opportunities across the country to learn more and grow as a professional. If you have all three NFI certifications, you are eligible to be recognized as a Master Hearth Professional. For more information, contact Caleb Woodard at 703-524-8030.

Industry Statistics

- Hearth product shipment data for the first quarter is complete and in the mail to participants.
- Grill and charcoal manufacturers are strongly urged to participate in HPBA's annual Barbecue Industry Statistics effort. Your data are critical to accurately estimate the number of grills shipped in North America, and the amount of charcoal produced. Accurate shipment estimates are used extensively by HPBA and others to aggressively promote the barbecue industry in North America.
- HPBA is finalizing its biennial Barbecue Consumer Research project. The purpose of this study is to better understand how U.S. consumers perceive, and use, the grill industry's products. The results will be available in Sept.

Membership

- Attention HPBA Retailer Members! The second annual HPBA Retailer Member Survey will be emailed to you in early summer. It's simple and quick to complete and gives HPBA and its affiliates valuable information on the programs, products, and services that you want from HPBA. For more information, contact Antonio Jackson at jackson@hpba.org.



HPBExpo Report

Reno, NV • March 14-17, 2007 • www.hpbexpo.com
Innovations & Ideas for Indoor-Outdoor Living

- **HPBExpo Exhibit Space.** To date, 272 companies have reserved space and 67% of indoor and 82% of outdoor space sold have been assigned. HPBExpo 2008 will again feature indoor gas burning. Be sure to check www.hpbexpo.com for booth availability, floor plans, and contracts. For more information, contact Amy Jackson, amyjackson@hpba.org.
- **HPBExpo Website Updates.** Be sure to check the website for 2007 Attendee Statistics and Photo Gallery. HPBExpo 2008 Registration and Housing will open online September 1. Bookmark the HPBExpo's website, www.hpbexpo.com, for quick reference and posted updates.
- **Expo Department Announcements.** We would like to welcome our new Housing Assistant, Adoma Adea! Adoma replaces Lynda Lyons, who moved back to her home town of Philadelphia, PA. Adoma can be reached at 703-522-0086, ext. 143 or adea@hpba.org.
- **HGTV Expo Program.** "Hot Grills, Cool Patios," which was filmed at HPBExpo 2007, airs Sunday, July 1, 2007, at 9pm ET/PT on HGTV. (Date subject to change.) Over 60 products will be featured on the one-hour program.

SIGN-UP FOR YOUR AFFILIATE MEETING!

CANADA

June 2-4
 Huntsville, ON
 Ph: 705.788.2221

NORTHEAST

June 3-4
 Sturbridge, MA
 Ph: 603.669.2740

SOUTH CENTRAL

June 3-4
 Bossier City, LA
 Ph: 903.533.1674

MID-ATLANTIC

June 10-11
 Lancaster, PA
 Ph: 410.931.8100

NORTHWEST & OREGON

June 10-12
 Seaside, OR
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ROCKY MOUNTAIN

June 22-23
 Westminster, CO
 Ph: 303.433.4446

SOUTHEAST

June 22-24
 Charleston, SC
 Ph: 704.739.0019

MIDSTATES

July 15-16
 Huron, OH
 Ph: 636.449.5075

ARIZONA

July 27-28
 Sedona, AZ
 Ph: 602.395.4073

MIDWEST

August 6-7
 Springfield, IL
 Ph: 314.256.9926

PACIFIC, South Chapter

August 27
 Newport, CA
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HOTNEWS

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