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FUEL FOR YOUR BUSINESS

MAY/JUN 2024

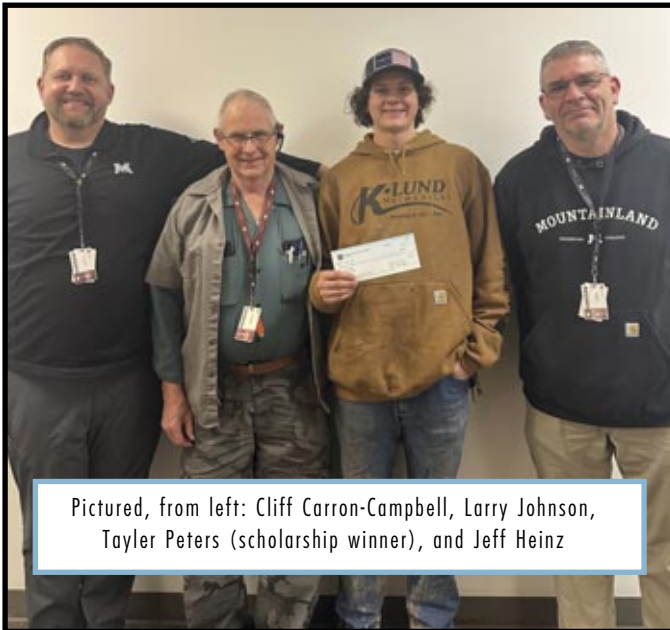
THE NEWSLETTER OF UTAH'S HVACR INDUSTRY

153 SOUTH 900 EAST, #3 • SLC, UT 84102 • WWW.UTRMGA.ORG

SAVE
THE
DATE!

RMGA Education Summit Wednesday, September 11, 2024

The 2024 Education Summit will be held at the Sheraton Salt Lake Downtown hotel. Topics include: Understanding the significant code changes adopted by the legislature in **HB518 – State Construction Code Modifications.** ■



Pictured, from left: Cliff Carron-Campbell, Larry Johnson, Tayler Peters (scholarship winner), and Jeff Heinz

Congratulations RMGA Scholarship Winner

The Rocky Mountain Gas Association's latest scholarship winner was Tayler Peters from Mountainland Technical College. The winning student's HVACR Instructors presented the check in front of his classmates, to build awareness and excitement for RMGA scholarships. If you know of a deserving first or second year HVACR technician student direct them to apply for a scholarship! ■

MANUAL J, D & S CLASS SERIES RETURNS!



Join Ed Janowiak, ACCA's manager of HVAC design education, to learn how to perform a proper HVAC design with or without design software. Classes will be held **September 24-26** with location and price to be determined.

Contact RMGAUTAH@gmail.com or call 801-521-8340 for updates. ■

RMGA Scholarships Available Now!



Encourage all 1st and 2nd year HVACR students to apply for a no-strings, \$500 cash award. Download the RMGA Scholarship Application at: <https://utrmga.org/certification-and-scholarships/> ■

Scott Carpenter
 scott@legendsmechanical.com
 801-599-8563 Utah
 208-466-1773 Idaho

MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

SCOTT CARPENTER



Dear RMGA Members & Friends,

*As we finally get out of winter and move into spring, we are hopefully preparing for another busy season. As we move into this time, we can use our work to set a new standard in quality within our industry. We are all very aware of our local and state code requirements. These are the state minimum requirements and should not be used as a ceiling but used as a minimum. If we investigate better methods and work with our local jurisdiction, I believe we can improve the overall product that we provide. I am also encouraged by the work the RMGA is doing as we move into Wyoming. I would like to extend an invitation to any contractor or building official in Wyoming to reach out to our board and allow us to provide any kind of resource we have available. I have found our association and our members to be a great place to find solutions to many frustrating issues that we all face. **I would also like to encourage all our RMGA members to reach out to others within our industry and invite them to join and participate.** We have a couple of exciting opportunities coming up that could provide a great benefit to new members. We have our RMGA education summit and our fall Manual J/D/S class in the works. Please reach out to the board if there is something you would like to see or learn more about.*

Thanks!

RMGA BOARD BRIEFING MAR/APR 2024

The RMGA board of Directors is still reviewing and approving DOL Apprenticeship Grandfathering applications for HVAC Technicians.

In March, three board members were released, and three new board members were voted onto the board: Adam Merritt with ABT Mechanical, Chris Fleming with Evergreen Efficiency, and Cooper Fasselin with Dominion Energy.

Lance Ball reported that thanks to discussions he and Rick Mair (Dominion Energy) had with Wyoming State legislators, Senate bill 37 passed during the legislative session. The bill requires reciprocity among jurisdictions for contractors that can prove "successful completion of the ICC examination for contractor, plumbing, mechanical or another appropriate examination, or an equivalent."

While the Senate bill does not require any specific license or certification for contractors, Wyoming Governor Mark Gordon has asked Lance to serve with Cabinet members to institute a state-wide regulation for plumbers and HVAC contractors.

It was announced that the RMGA 2024 Education Summit will be held at The Salt Lake Sheraton Downtown. Brent Ursenbach has agreed to discuss the significant changes adopted by the legislature in **HB518 - State Construction Code Modifications**. A discussion of additional topics for the Summit will be held during our May Board meeting.

John Hill and Dean Dyatt gave an update on the release date for the 2024 RMGA Certification Spanish Study Guide, and the board approved a motion to offer "Educator Pricing" on RMGA Study Guides and code books to all members, regardless of how they obtain the books; non-members will pay a higher price.

Our next board meeting is on ZOOM, at 11:00 a.m. on Wednesday, May 8th. Email John at utrmga@gmail.com to get the log in information. ■

WELCOME OUR NEW RMGA MEMBER:



McCUBBIN MECHANICAL

Tyler McCubbin
 140 W 800 N
 Pleasant Grove, UT 84062
 530-295-7729
 tyler@mccubbinmechanical.com
 www.mccubbinmechanical.com

RMGA GAS CERTIFICATION CLASSES

CALL 801.521.8340
 OR EMAIL
 RMGAUTAH@GMAIL.COM
 TO REGISTER

You can now request registration on the new
 RMGA website: <https://utrmga.org/certification>

MAY IN-PERSON

(And on Zoom)

Salt Lake City

Thursday, May 9
 Friday, May 10 &
 Saturday, May 11
 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Dominion Energy CTC Room
 1000 West 100 South
 Salt Lake City, Utah 84104

JULY IN-PERSON

(And on Zoom)

Salt Lake City

Thursday, July 11
 Friday, July 12 &
 Saturday, July 13
 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Dominion Energy CTC Room
 1000 West 100 South
 Salt Lake City, Utah 84104

SEPT IN-PERSON

(And on Zoom)

Salt Lake City

Thursday, September 26
 Friday, September 27 &
 Saturday, September 28
 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

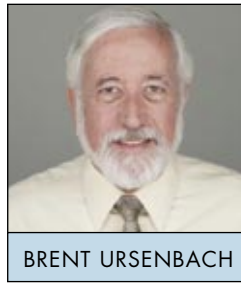
Dominion Energy CTC Room
 1000 West 100 South
 Salt Lake City, Utah 84104

All Certification Classes are \$400. Price includes the RMGA Study Guide, IFGC, online video access, 24 hours of instruction, and 2 attempts at the exam (if necessary). Technicians should attend ALL sessions. In-person attendees should bring lunch or plan to visit a local restaurant during the lunch hour. **Take the Pre-Test to evaluate your readiness for the exam at <https://utrmga.org/pre-test/>**

Partial funding of RMGA training programs has been provided by the Division of Occupational & Professional Licensing from the 1% surcharge funds on all building permits.

MECHANICAL CODE DISCUSSION

Common Air Conditioning Installation Code Violations



BRENT URSEBACH

BRENT URSEBACH

HVAC EDUCATOR/
EXPERT WITNESS

bursenbach@gmail.com

801-381-1449

WITH THE START OF air conditioning season within the next month, a review of common International Residential Code (IRC) violations is appropriate. Please see IRC Section M1411 Heating and Cooling Equipment for complete code text. Please note Code text quoted here is *italicized*.

M1411.2 Refrigeration coils in warm-air furnaces.

Cooling coils shall not be located

upstream from heat exchangers unless listed and labeled for such use.

During my career as an inspector, I encountered this quite often, typically in downflow applications.

M1411.3 Condensate disposal.

Condensate from cooling coils and evaporators shall be conveyed from the drain pan outlet to an approved place of disposal.

Such piping shall maintain a minimum horizontal slope in the direction of discharge of not less

than 1/8 unit vertical in 12 units horizontal (1-percent slope).

Too often plugged condensate drains are the result of having flat, reverse grade, or sagging drain lines.

M1411.3.1 Auxiliary and secondary drain systems.

In addition to the requirements of Section M1411.3, a secondary drain or auxiliary drain pan shall be required for each cooling or evaporator coil where damage to any building components will occur as a result of overflow from the equipment drain pan or stoppage in the condensate drain piping.

This section and sub-sections are lengthy and should be reviewed carefully for the overflow pan and safety switch requirements, as damage to building components is frequent due to frozen evaporator coils thawing and dumping



☛ gallons of water from above on a finished ceiling.

M1411.3.2 Drain pipe materials.

Components of the condensate disposal system shall be ABS, cast iron, copper, cross-linked polyethylene, CPVC, galvanized steel, PE-RT, polyethylene, polypropylene or PVC pipe or tubing. . . . Condensate waste and drain line size shall be not less than 3/4-inch (19 mm) nominal diameter from the drain pan connection to the place of condensate disposal.

Reducing the coil drain connection to a 1/2" barbed hose fitting is not and has not been code complaint for decades. Using such a reducing fitting result in a stand pool of smelly swamp water in the coil drain pan.

M1411.3.3 Drain line maintenance.

Condensate drain lines shall be configured to permit the clearing of blockages and performance of maintenance without requiring the drain line to be cut.

This recent addition to the code (2015 IRC) simply requires a tee,

union, or similar method at the equipment location, allowing access to clear a plugged condensate drain.

M1411.4 Condensate pumps.

Condensate pumps located in uninhabitable spaces, such as attics and crawl spaces, shall be connected to the appliance or equipment served such that when the pump fails, the appliance or equipment will be prevented from operating. Pumps shall be installed in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.

Every condensate pump includes an overflow safety switch. Please take that extra few minutes to break power to the condenser when the pump fails.

M1411.6 Insulation of refrigerant piping.

Piping and fittings for refrigerant vapor (suction) lines shall be insulated with insulation having a thermal resistivity of not less than R-3 and having external surface permeance not exceeding 0.05 perm [2.87 ng/(s × m² × Pa)] when tested in accordance with ASTM E96.

Damaged insulation should fail an inspection. Dripping suction lines

in ceiling cavities may result in serious mold issues.

A common sense item.

M1411.7 Location and protection of refrigerant piping.

Refrigerant piping installed within 1-1/2 inches (38 mm) of the underside of roof decks shall be protected from damage caused by nails and other fasteners.

Another common sense item.

Let's take it one step further and make sure line sets ran in wall cavities are not placed tight against the exterior sheathing where the siding/stucco lath staples will penetrate the lines.

M1411.8 Support of refrigerant piping.

Refrigerant piping and tubing shall be securely fastened to a permanent support within 6 feet (1829 mm) of the condensing unit.

The last item in this discussion is new in the 2021 IRC, specifically identifying support requirements. I've observed some pretty sloppy sagging lines running down or across an exterior wall.

Thanks again for your support, comments, and questions. —Brent ■

Meet and Get to Know: TYLER McCUBBIN

Q. Tell us about your company.

A. I have been in the HVAC industry since my teen years, working together with my brother, family friends, and other HVAC companies in California until moving to Utah in 2020. McCubbin Mechanical launched in February 2021. We specialize in mini-split systems and retro fits in historic and luxury homes.



TYLER McCUBBIN & FAMILY

Q. What are your favorite aspects of your job?

A. Teaching people about their systems, solving challenging problems, and all the dogs we get to see.

Q. Do you have a motto to live by?

A. Say YES and learn how to do it. Fail fast and learn from it. Every failure is one step closer to success.

Q. If you could travel anywhere in the world, where would you go?

A. Northern Lights in Iceland.

Q. What is your favorite hobby? When did you last do it?

A. Learning new things and getting good at them; I do it every day.

Q. Tell us about your hidden talent.

A. I can make a song out of any situation.

Q. If you won a \$50,000,000 lottery, what would you do?

A. Buy property and stock investments, play Frisby golf, and help change systems that need overhauling.

Q. Do you have a favorite movie?

A. Not sure . . . we don't watch too many movies.

Q. If you could invite any three people (dead or alive) to dinner, whom would you invite and why?

A. One of the leaders from the Industrial Revolution (Rockefeller, Carnegie, J.P. Morgan); a current business leader (Bezos, Cardone, Zuckerberg etc.); and a rabbi — to learn how they grew their

businesses, their outlook on life, what their inspirations are, what their mistakes have been, and how to apply their biggest lessons to business and life.

Q. People would be surprised to know. . . .

A. Before starting McCubbin Mechanical, I decided I wanted to get into the insurance industry. I studied non-stop for about a month and passed the exam with flying colors on the first try. I decided that wasn't an industry for me after trying it out for a couple months, but it also sparked my interest in tax rules and creative investment and I probably know more now about tax law than many CPAs.

Tyler McCubbin is owner of McCubbin Mechanical. Their website is mccubbinmechanical.com.

He may be reached by email at tyler@mccubbinmechanical.com. ■

DO YOU OFFER HEALTH INSURANCE TO YOUR EMPLOYEES?

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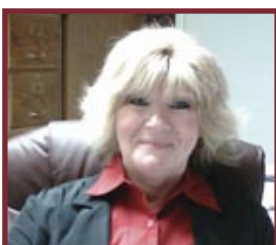
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Please contact Dori Phillips for a no obligation consultation today!



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