



# W.S.M.P.A.



## NEWSLETTER

Professionals Dedicated to Health and Sanitation

Washington Suburban Master Plumbers Association  
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**March 2016**  
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### **MEETING NOTICE**

**WSMPA GENERAL MEMBERSHIP  
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16, 2016**

Washington Suburban Master Plumbers Association's monthly general membership meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, March 16, 2016**. This meeting will be held at Knights of Columbus (College Park).

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS  
9450 CHERRY HILL ROAD  
COLLEGE PARK, MD 20740**

6:30p Cocktail/Social Hour (*drinks paid by individual*)  
7:30p FREE Buffet Dinner  
Sponsor Presentation/Meeting

This meeting is being sponsored by:

 **Barnett**

*featuring . . .*

**STOCKWISE™**  
Inventory Management Solutions



### **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

Hello Everyone,

The Senate heard SB 643 (to adopt the IPC statewide) and a FEW of us went in support. A special thanks to you for standing up for what you believe! I'd also like to thank those who showed their support by having their name added to the ICC coalition letter—I know who you are! I believe those who spoke in support of our bill and in opposing their bill (SB 831 to adopt the National Standard Plumbing Code statewide) did outstanding.

I still would have liked to have seen more support for this bill! We (WSMPA) again seem to be the ones who supported this the most. HB 711 and opposing HB 1471 will be heard on Tuesday, March 15<sup>th</sup> @1:00pm, so there is still time for everyone to stand up! Let's see who does.

There are only 3 more meetings before summer break!!! This month's meeting (3/16/16) is being sponsored by Barnett (Jeff Long). Come out for some good food, friends and times.

I look forward to seeing you there.

*Jack Walsh, 2016 President*

**GOOD FOOD  
GOOD FRIENDS  
GOOD TIMES**

## **SUPPORT OUR SPONSORS**

We have sponsored meetings each month (September thru May). The sponsors of these meetings highlight products they sell in anticipation of us purchasing from them in the future. While no responsible businessman should patronize a supplier simply because they sponsor a meeting, any good member of this association should make every effort to deal with our sponsors whenever they can.

While everyone has a favorite supplier, we shouldn't assume they know we appreciate their support. We need to continually let them know we appreciate their participation in our association.

## **MERCURY THERMOSTATS**

*Jim Mazzullo*

How many old mercury thermostats do you have laying around? Worse yet, a long time ago, did you strip the glass vial from the thermostat and put it aside for future experiments? Well, the fact is that mercury- a metal in liquid state at room temperature- is highly toxic and poses the possibility of an environmental disaster. It only makes sense to dispose of the mercury properly. To find the network of recycle locations, look up a site near you at [www.thermostat-recycle.org/zipsearch](http://www.thermostat-recycle.org/zipsearch). Look up your zip code now to reinforce your resolve to participate in this program.

This is a beginning as unfortunately, many household and commercial products contain mercury:

- Compact Fluorescent Light bulbs (CFL).
- Liquid Crystal Display monitors (LCD)
- Button batteries in toys and phones
- Suspect any object containing a silver liquid

See : [www.wikihow.com/Dispose-of-Mercury](http://www.wikihow.com/Dispose-of-Mercury)



## **MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

### **General Membership Meeting**

March 16, 2016

April 20, 2016

May 18, 2015



### **70<sup>th</sup> Annual Dinner Dance**

#### **"The Plumbers' Ball"**

February 4, 2017

The next Board of Directors Meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 4, 2016.



## **EDUCATION**

### **18-HR JOURNEYMAN/MASTER TEST REVIEWS**

#### **Location**

**JAMES A. WHEAT & SONS, INC.**  
**7832 Beechcraft Avenue • Gaithersburg, MD 20879**

#### **Plumber**

**6 Weeknights • 6p-9p/night**

**Dates Pending**

**Call 301-466-7747 to be put on waiting list.**

**COST: \$400 Members / \$450 Non-members**

#### **Gasfitter**

**6 Weeknights • 6p-9p/night**

**Dates Pending**

**Call 301-466-7747 to be put on waiting list.**

**COST: \$400 Members / \$450 Non-members**

Download Application(s) from WSMPA's website  
[www.wsmpa.com](http://www.wsmpa.com) under Education or call 301-466-7747.

**BACKFLOW TESTER/MECHANIC CERTIFICATION**

Location

**ICCP – COLLEGE PARK TRAINING LAB**  
**7501 Rhode Island Avenue • College Park, MD 20740**

32-Hour Certification & 8-Hour Recertification

For more information, contact  
Chip Matthews @ [chip@crossconnectionpartners.com](mailto:chip@crossconnectionpartners.com).

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## **PEPCO/EXELON** **Merger Challenged**

*Jim Mazzullo*

D.C. Mayor Muriel Bowser and other consumer conscious regulators have announced their opposition to the merger that had been previously approved by the Federal Regulatory Commission; the Justice Department; and the regulators in Maryland, Delaware and New Jersey. Ms. Bower's advisers have stated the merger is NOT in the public interest even if the promised \$78 million contribution to community projects is delivered. Apparently, the money could be recouped by rate hikes the current Public Utility Commissions may not be able to control.

While the benefits of consolidation of the energy services provided by Pepco to its million plus customers is questionable, it has already shown an intrusion into the Washington Metropolitan Area by the establishment of BGE Home facilities in the Washington Metropolitan Area. As you are probably aware, BGE Home is a non-regulated spin-up of BGE which already happens to be owned by Exelon. Therefore, expect (unfair) competition in our neighborhoods. This competition will be reflected in water heater sales, maintenance agreements and possibly water and sewer service insurance. As a member of the plumbing industry, it is in our interest to wish Mayor Bower the strength to resist big corporation influence and we must improve our business practices to be able to compete with this potential competitor.

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## **EDITORIAL**

If you have an Editorial or Classified Ad you would like to submit for our Newsletter Committee to consider for publication, please email it to the office at [charlotte@wsmpa.com](mailto:charlotte@wsmpa.com).

*(Opinions expressed by various authors are those of the author and not necessarily those of this association, the board of directors or the editorial staff.)*

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