I couldn't be more excited to see so many new faces at the Town Hall events and I look forward to seeing and "meeting" more of you as we continue! If you have any topics that you'd like us to address, we'd love to hear your thoughts. Just send us an email to info@igshpa.org. We will continue to have these events monthly, so stay tuned to our social media platforms and your email for the invite. Our next event is scheduled for March 16th and we hope to see you there!

The Board and I want to thank everyone for their patience and understanding as we navigate through all of the administrative work to ensure that this organization operates as effectively and efficiently as possible for our members. We are still welcoming renewals, and if you haven't had a chance to, visit www.igshpa.org to renew.
Do you have something fun and exciting that you would like to share with the membership? If you have an article, a project, a blog that you would like to share, we would like to review it for inclusion in our future newsletters! Please feel free to forward along any information to info@igshpa.org for consideration.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out to myself or any member of the board. We are here to serve this industry and this association and are always here to help! I look forward to "seeing" everyone at our next Town Hall event!

Sincerely,
Kortney Lull
Chairperson, IGSHPA Board of Directors

---

**March Town Hall with Seminar**

During the IGSHPA February Town Hall, you heard from the IGSHPA Board of Directors about their backgrounds and why they are excited to serve in a leadership role on behalf of the industry. And thanks to GeoExchange's Ryan Dougherty for joining the February Town Hall and providing updates from Capitol Hill and other policy fronts.

If you missed the February Town Hall, you can view a recording of the event on YouTube: [https://youtu.be/lEaUQ_t6vRc](https://youtu.be/lEaUQ_t6vRc)

The March Town Hall will feature Stephen Hamstra, the Chairman of ASHRAE's Technical Committee 6.8 dealing with ground-source/geothermal heat pump technology. Steve is Senior Vice President for Melink Corporation, a partner in the Grey Edge Group, and has been active in the application and engineering of geothermal HVAC systems for 40 years, designing systems from 2 to 1,000+ tons in the U.S. and globally. Steve will give an overview of TC 6.8 and what the committee has been working on recently.

Please register for the event here: [March Town Hall](https://example.com/march-town-hall)

Please note that you will receive an automated email from Zoom with links to join and add to your calendar about an hour after registering.
IGSHPA would like to highlight news and views from our friends and partners at state geothermal industry associations. This month, we are happy to provide an update from California Geo and some event news from other state groups.

The California Geothermal Heat Pump Association continues to roll out the first four goals of its Strategic Plan, adopted in July, 2020. The current focus is on communication via two channels. Delivery of its restarted webinar program occurred January 26th with a 12-hour course on Ground Source Heat Pumps for Design Professionals. CalGeo also hosts The Geo Exchange, a bi-monthly discussion among state, regional, and provincial geo associations toward shared techniques in organizational management. Both efforts are delivered via Zoom, and additional online events for sharing are planned. For more information
Wisconsin and Minnesota Joint Geo Event
The Wisconsin Geothermal Association and Minnesota Geothermal Heat Pump Association have teamed up and are offering a virtual event next week. The event is titled **Achieve Your Renewable Goals with Geothermal** and has a great line-up of speakers and panelists. The meeting will be held from 12:00-3:30 CST, Wednesday, March 3 and registration is free for all attendees. Please sign up via Zoom [here](#).

Illinois Geothermal Conference
The Geothermal Alliance of Illinois has gone virtual this spring! Their annual conference begins March 8 and has been broken out over two weeks. The conference will feature more than 20 sessions with topics including energy efficiency and geothermal utility programs for co-op, municipal, and investor-owned professionals. **This is the LAST WEEK to register before rates go up on March 1, so don't hesitate to sign up for one of the premier industry events of the year.**

You won't want to miss GAOI's keynote speaker Mark Matteson who is presenting a talk on managing a business in a rapidly changing, post-COVID world. The conference is co-hosted by the Iowa Geothermal Association and members of either organization can register at member rates. A company registration allows for unlimited training and participation by your firm's staff members and CEUs from NATE and BPI will be offered.

For more information, please visit [www.gaoi.org](http://www.gaoi.org) and click the registration tab. If you have any questions about the virtual conference, please feel free to contact GAOI Executive Director John Freitag at [jfreitag@gaoi.org](mailto:jfreitag@gaoi.org) or 217-971-3533.

NY-GEO Conference Postponed
Due to the ongoing pandemic, the New York Geothermal Energy Organization has pushed their annual conference to March 23 and 24, 2022. The event will be held at the Marriott Hotel in Albany and will undoubtedly be a fantastic conference as usual.
In the meantime, NY-GEO has some exciting announcements on the horizon, so please stay tuned to their website for all the latest news: [https://ny-geo.org/](https://ny-geo.org/)

If you have an event you'd like to be featured in the IGSHPA Newsletter, please let us know! Send an email to info@igshpa.org.

---

**Announcements**

**Training Committee**

The Training Committee has been meeting regularly to discuss revisions to existing curriculum and plan for future courses. There are planned updates to the Accredited Installer course and implementation of the Certified Residential Designer course. For any questions about the work of the training committee, please send your inquiry to info@igshpa.org.

**We Need You!**

If you are willing to volunteer your time to continue to promote our industry, we are looking for your help! Please contact us at info@igshpa.org with your interest in volunteering. Please also keep your eye out for any opportunities on our website and social media feeds!

**Membership Survey**

If you have not completed the IGSHPA Membership Interests Survey, please do so at [https://forms.gle/pWyy2YbmownDhHzf7](https://forms.gle/pWyy2YbmownDhHzf7)

**Town Hall Topics**

We will be hosting Town Hall with Seminar events every month and welcome your suggestions for topics you'd like to hear more information on. Suggestions we have received to date include:

- Overview of the individual training classes offered by IGSHPA
- The benefits of geothermal, including lower maintenance, indoor air quality, etc.
- Commercial building, K-12 & mixed-use building case studies
- Financing options (ESCO’s, PACE, bonds, etc.)
- The process of getting started on a geothermal project (feasibility, when to do a TC test, etc)

---

**UPDATE from GeoExchange**
GEO Maintains Presence in D.C.

With a new administration and a new congressional session, the Geothermal Exchange Organization continues to focus on political strategies that will benefit the geothermal heat pump industry. GEO is seeking commercial tax credit parity with solar in Section 48 of the Internal Revenue Code. Efforts have started with many congressional offices to highlight the inequity between solar at 30% and GHPs at 10%. GEO believes the 10% level is not sufficient to attract third party financing that the solar industry has used to grow its market over the years.

The ITC Coalition (comprised of GEO, solar, small wind, fuel cells, combined heat and power and the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association) continues to work together to look for opportunities to increase and extend the Residential Energy Efficiency Property Tax Credit for residential installations. This coordinated effort was successful in getting the two year extension contained in the end of year spending bill and keeping these clean energy technologies working together going forward gives us all a chance to again amend the tax code for the benefit of clean energy technologies.

If you have any questions about GEO's efforts in Washington, please reach out to info@geoexchange.org.

---

The purpose of the geothermal heat pump industry is to promote a sustainable and decarbonized future across the globe through the adoption of geothermal as the cleanest, most efficient heating and cooling technology.

The mission of the geothermal heat pump industry is to promote a unified effort to encourage the adoption of geothermal by increasing understanding, awareness and adoption through....

At the last Town Hall meeting, the IGSHPA Board presented a working version
of its joint Vision and Mission Statement with GeoExchange.