Message from the Chairperson

The March Town Hall event was great! It was wonderful to hear from Jeff Hammond on what's new and exciting with CSA and the progress they are making with upcoming C-448 revisions. If you would like to participate in the revision process or have comments or questions regarding the process, reach out to info@igshpa.org and we'll be happy to help.

I want to take a moment to say thank you to all of our Town Hall speakers to date. Everyone has done an incredible job and we couldn't be more excited to share this information with the membership. Having information and the resources available to help us all continue to nurture the market and industry we are so passionate about is crucial. And if there is something you would like to hear about, some topic you'd like covered, please feel free to reach out and let us know.

The May Town Hall should be a great opportunity to talk about utility
involvement! We are looking forward to Boyd Lee presenting on why his co-op has decided to make the investment in owning geothermal loops. Boyd has incredible information to share, and we welcome all of our members to share this event's invite out to all co-ops and utilities that may benefit from hearing the why and how directly from one of their peers.

As a reminder, if you weren't able to attend one of the Town Hall events and want to catch up, visit our YouTube channel to get caught up.

Last but not least, you still have a chance to renew! The Board has made the decision to continue allowing everyone to get caught up with their renewals and recertifications without CEU's. To renew today, just visit the certification renewal page here. And if you have any questions about the renewal process, please feel free to email info@igshpa.org.

Follow us on social media and visit our website for all our new events and updates!

Sincerely,
Kortney Lull
Chairperson, IGSHPA Board of Directors

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**May Virtual Town Hall**

During the IGSHPA April Town Hall, you heard from Jeff Hammond who gave an extremely informative update on the work of the CSA C-448 Standards Committee. If you missed the April Town Hall, you can view a recording of the event on YouTube: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l-jzPWQLoLU](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l-jzPWQLoLU)

The May Town Hall will feature Boyd Lee with CKenergy Electric Cooperative in Oklahoma. Boyd is going to give presentation on CK's very successful promotion of geothermal heat pumps in its service territory. The approach and experience of this rural electric cooperative should serve as a model for other utilities around the country.

Boyd is a 39 year veteran of 3 electric cooperatives and 1 G&T, all in Oklahoma. He is the VP of Strategic Planning for CKenergy Electric
Cooperative, where he has been for 16 years. He has pioneered several “outside the box” marketing concepts including over 1,300 free geothermal ground loop installations, multiple demand control programs, electric vehicle initiatives and unique rate concepts. The combined results for CKenergy has greatly reduced wholesale cost of power.

The Town Hall will be held on May 12th at 11:30 EDT. Please register for the event here: [May Town Hall registration](#).

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 the Geothermal Alliance of Illinois.
The Geothermal Alliance of Illinois organized and held a comprehensive virtual conference in mid-March, featuring 20 some presenters focusing on geothermal system design, installation, loop design and innovation, and service. Continuing education was available for loop installers in four states, as well as NATE and BPI. The Iowa Geothermal Assn. co-hosted the virtual conference, which was held online during eight afternoons.

The GAOI is planning a fall conference, October 18-19 in Peoria. Watch for details on this effort. Hopefully by spring of 2022 things will be back to normal. The GAOI expects to host 200-plus for its annual IL Geothermal Conference, March 14-16, 2022 in Bloomington.

The GAOI worked with community leaders in Urbana (home of the University of Illinois) and the Midwest Renewable Energy Association to develop a group buy program for three eastern Illinois counties. This group buy, Geothermal U-C, has resulted in the installation of more than 20 systems since last November. For information on this group buy program, visit www.growsolar.org/geothermal-urbana-champaign/.

For information on GAOI visit www.gaoi.org.

More News & Events

NY-GEO - Webinar Series Continues
Our friends at the New York Geothermal Energy Organization have been conducting a fantastic webinar series that deserves the attention and attendance of industry professionals across the country. They've recently wrapped up three sessions presenting five outstanding Top Job nominees. The GeoStar Top Job Competition highlights and recognizes the incredible talent, creativity and imagination that exists in geothermal system designers and installers.

To see recordings of past webinar sessions you might have missed, please click here.
And to register for upcoming sessions (held each Tuesday at noon Eastern) please click here.

**EPRI Electrification 2021 Virtual Events**

The Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI) will not be holding its previously planned, in-person event this May and has instead organized a series of in-depth, topically relevant, virtual forums that will take place in May and June.

These forums will enable comprehensive collaboration and informative exchanges on the issues specific to your organization’s work, enabling progress on targeted, real-world end-use electrification solutions. The first virtual event kicks off on May 17 and is focused on building electrification.

For more information and to register, visit [https://www.electrification2021.com/](https://www.electrification2021.com/)

**NYC Announces Path to Utility Geothermal**

On April 21, New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio announced the city’s effort to accelerate its transition from fossil fuels by supporting the deployment of geothermal heat pumps at utility scale. The city intends to identify project sites and pursue legislation that would spur deployment of the technology. NYC’s move to embrace geothermal technology represents a broader trend of building decarbonization throughout the country. New York has been a leader in this effort and continues to push the envelope for clean heating. Many other states and cities are watching and planning their own energy transitions that will include geothermal heat pumps.

Read the press release [here](https://www.electrification2021.com/)

**GTO is Hiring!**

Are you a general engineer or physical scientist interested in working for the Department of Energy’s Geothermal Technologies Office? GTO is currently seeking applicants for a General Engineer/Physical Scientist position to serve as a Technology Manager in the Data, Modeling, and Analysis subprogram in Golden, Colorado, or Washington, D.C.

Interested candidates can read more [here](https://www.electrification2021.com/) and [here](https://www.electrification2021.com/).
UPDATE from GeoExchange

GEO Makes Strides on Capitol Hill

IGSHPA's partner, the Geothermal Exchange Organization, continues its advocacy work in Washington, D.C. On April 21, Senator Ron Wyden (D-OR) introduced the Clean Energy for America Act. This ambitious legislation would make major changes to America's energy landscape, incentivizing the adoption of clean technologies and reducing government support for fossil fuels.

GEO has spent several years engaged in a series of conversations with Sen. Wyden and his staff to educate them about geothermal heat pump technology. This advocacy work has paid off with the introduction of this landmark bill. Among other important provisions, the legislation:

- Creates a new residential energy efficiency property credit that applies to geothermal heat pumps (GHPs) and is indexed to inflation.
- Increases the commercial credit for GHPs to be in line with solar. The existing commercial credit is at 10%. The bill raises it to 30% and makes it permanent.

GEO is extremely grateful to Sen. Wyden and the Senate Finance Committee staff for ensuring that GHPs are appropriately recognized and characterized in the proposed language. GEO now moves its efforts to the House of Representatives where similar provisions are being considered for a separate energy bill. The different versions of the bills will be reconciled in bicameral negotiations later this spring and summer with the ultimate goal of inclusion in a 2021 infrastructure package.

GEO is deeply involved in the ongoing deliberations and discussions on Capitol Hill and continues to press for strong support of the geothermal industry. If you have any questions about GEO's efforts in Washington, please reach out to info@geoexchange.org.

Announcements
**Ongoing CGD Training**

Ed Lohrenz is currently conducting Certified GeoExchange Designer training courses which began two weeks ago. It's not too late to sign up, though! Past sessions have been recorded and you are able to participate when your schedule allows.

The online CGD course is identical to the 3-day classroom course. The only difference is the course is available in the comfort of your home or office and is available at a time it won't cut into your office productivity. Since the course is live and interactive, you have the opportunity to ask questions when the course is presented or by calling or emailing the instructor between sessions. Please register on Ed's website: [https://www.geoptimaze.ca/cgd-courses-online.html](https://www.geoptimaze.ca/cgd-courses-online.html)

**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)
At the February Town Hall meeting, the IGSHPA Board presented a working version of its joint Vision and Mission Statement with GeoExchange. If you have thoughts or comments on this statement, please reach out, we would love to get your input.