



# The Tool Box

Serving the Electrical, HVAC & Plumbing Industries Since 1912

Volume 6, Issue 109 August 1, 2009

## We Love Our Excuses By: Ed Rigsbee, CSP

Excuses rein supreme within the under achiever's personal stand for both business and life - this doesn't have to be. While I personally blame my three older sisters for all the problems in my life, the universe doesn't care. All that matters to the universe is my definitive action.

**I Need Help** Here is an overused word; "Please help me," "I could use a little help," "Can you help me out?" We are so used to asking for help that we have become co-dependent in the many facets of our lives. Ever thought of doing it yourself? Back in the 1980s Life-spring, an outcropping of Est, taught countless thousands that "hope with the how" was a hallow promise. Twenty some odd years later, I think they were right.

Exploring help and hope reveals why so many people in today's society have excuses for everything. From the proverbial, "The dog ate my homework" to the tiresome old saw, "It's not my job" we find ourselves mired in mediocrity - and it is not necessary. So what do you say, what's your favorite excuse?

**It's My Boss' Fault** When did your boss become responsible for your success? "When I was hired," you say - really? So your boss gave you an opportunity to achieve and your failure is on his or her back? I don't think so! Granted, there are some real idiots that have climbed their way to extreme levels of personal incompetence in overseeing others; however they are not as prevalent as many would have their friends believe.

Sure, union workers have absolutely no motivation to achieve, but they are not reading this article. You are. Today, now, is the time to give it up. Stop blaming your boss and start looking in the mirror. If you are lucky enough to still have a job, you can be responsible enough to make a difference at your place of work.

**They Don't Like Me** "They don't like me in this department," you say - so what! They are not paid to like you. And, you are not paid to like them. However, everyone is paid to be professional, responsible, courteous, and respectful of one another. If co-workers are truly sabotaging your effectiveness and success, then you have something about which to complain. If not, suck it up and get your job done. Do you think your company's off-shore competitors coddle their employees? I don't think so! Oh, you didn't realize that your company has off-shore competitors - wake up. Everybody has off-shore competitors.

**This Job Just Isn't Fulfilling** "This job doesn't float my boat," you say? OMG, it's not 1985. Sure thing; we all want a fulfilling position and some of us are lucky enough to have such a job - or were smart enough to select a career they love. While you might read volumes about X-gen and Y-gen workers and about all their demands, most of that went out the door when the recession started. As a matter of fact, many boomers lost so much of their retirement in the collapse that thousands are delaying their retirement or are returning to work. I'm not suggesting that employers go back to pre-1920 policies of worker abuse but I am suggesting that we are in a time of balance. I realize that many believe the Federal Government will take care of their needs, but that is not a constitutional charge of the government. And at some point the money will run out - dramatically reducing entitlement programs. My suggestion is this; if you have a job, be appreciative and work hard to serve your employer.

**I'm the Wrong Color, or Gender, or...** "The world is against me," you say? Have you noticed who the President of the United States of America is? He sure is not a bald old White man. It is time to get off the tired excuse of your skin color, gender, country of origin. If your English is lousy, I'll give you that one...if you'll accept that your lousy English is a matter of choice rather than a condition of your birth. *(Continued on page 3)*

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Many Thanks  
To All  
The Sponsors  
Of The  
Summer  
Convention  
At  
Ginn Hammock  
Beach Resort  
Palm Coast, FL  
For A Listing  
See Page 5





**“Tool Box Talks” - Safety Tip**

**HORSE PLAY**

Horse play does not have a place on the construction site! All of us like to have fun, but when horse play gets started on the job it usually ends up with someone getting injured, and none of us really wants that to happen.

Practical jokes and those who initiate them are not wanted. For example, take the foreman who knew that one of his employees was extremely sensitive to loud noise. One day he sneaked up on the employee and set off a pack of fire crackers, and the sudden loud noise surprised and shocked the employee. The end result of this “joke” was not funny; a workers compensation claim was filed and the employee was out of work for some time before recovering.

Sometimes horse play goes even further. A worker decides to play a trick on another worker by taking off or changing the position of a safety device on a power tool. Something like this is not only stupid but extremely dangerous and could cause an accident with serious injuries.

Practical jokers should be banned from all construction sites. If you see any kind of horse play taking place, stop it at once. Let the other person know that you don't like it, and if it continues you will notify your supervisor to put a stop to it. You should also remind the jokester that if the prank results in an injury or death, they are subject to prosecution and possible imprisonment.

Be a safe worker. Check your work area for hazards, inspect your tools before use, set a good example, follow the rules and never be the person that horses around.

Remember, if a prank backfires and someone is injured, it's no joke!

**NEVER PARTICIPATE IN HORSE PLAY ON THE JOB. AT HOME,**

**CAUTION YOUR CHILDREN - PREVENT THEIR INJURY.**

**RSS Safety, LLC**

**1122 Industrial Drive, Suite 113, Matthews, NC 28105**

**Telephone (704) 844-2519 Fax (704) 844-0291**

**Birth Announcements**

**Caroline Creech**

**Born June 12, 2009, 7 lbs 14 oz, 19 3/4 ins**

**Proud Grandparents: John & Dulcie Creech**

**Ogletree, Deakins, Nash, Smoak & Stewart - Greenville**

**Brooks Kaleb Arnold**

**Born July 20, 2009, 8 lbs 3 oz, 20 1/2 ins**

**Proud Mother: Mendi Shuttleworth**

**Cullum Mechanical Construction, Inc.**

**Welcome New Members**

**Elmer Rogers - M. C. Dean Service & Critical Support  
North Charleston**

**Bill Barber - Ecolab Water Care - Mt. Pleasant**

**Manuel Hendrix - Mechanical Design, Inc. - Columbia**

**Billy Starrett - Southeastern Electrical Distributors, Inc.  
North Charleston**

**Upcoming Event**

**2nd Annual Pee Dee Blast Sporting Clay Event**

**Friday, September 18, 2009**

**Back Woods Quail Club, Georgetown, SC**

**Happy Anniversary**

**Mr. & Mrs. Tom Brock - 8/4**

**Mr. & Mrs. Bill Caldwell - 8/4**

**Mr. & Mrs. Paul Martin - 8/14**

**Mr. & Mrs. Chris Cullum - 8/22**

**Mr. & Mrs. Calvin Meetze - 8/26**

**Mr. & Mrs. Stan Harbourt - 8/28**

**Concerns**

**Charley Hipp - Hipp Properties, Charleston**

**Rhett Leake - James M. Pleasants Co., Charlotte**

**Richard Miller, Sr. - City Plumbing Co., Florence**

**Wyman Sox - Honorary Life Member**

*(Continued from page 1)*

I admit that I see racism and bigotry frequently in business environments; I'll also state that I see it emanating from people of all walks of life and not just one group of people. My take; the citizenry of the United States of America have become so sensitive to race, gender, sexual orientation, political, and religious issues that they have allowed themselves to effectively become immobilized. Don't you ever get tired of whining? I sure do.

**Where Are We Going?** Where is America going? Your guess is as good as mine. I will state this however; *Capitalism breeds entrepreneurialism and entrepreneurialism is the sustenance salvation available to you, me, and to any American, just for the taking.* So what's your excuse?

Ed Rigsbee says what many people are thinking but afraid to say. He is the author of several hundred articles and a number of books on business topics. Ed travels internationally to share his business growth expertise through consulting, training, and keynote presentations. He has been an adjunct professor for two California universities, yet he prides himself, a practical business thought leader. Additionally, Ed's avocation is serving as CEO & Executive Director for a non-profit public charity. You may contact Ed through <http://www.Rigsbee.com>.

## 2009 Santee Scholarship Tournament Winners

### 1<sup>st</sup> Place Team:

Edward Gibbs

Dennis Anonie

Randy Jones

Shawn Holcombe

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Place Team:

Bob Jacques

Jimmy Champion

Chris Kirkland

Jim Maguire

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Place Team:

Gary Kirkland

Harvey Kirkland

Craig Kirkland

Jamie Roberts

### Tale Of The Tape Hole #11:

Edward Gibbs

### Long Drive Hole #4

Bart Stegall

### Closest To Pin:

#### FRONT NINE:

#2 Bill Simon

#6 Cullun Stone

#### BACK NINE:

#11 Harvey Kirkland

#17 Randy Jones

### Cindy Sheppard Memorial Best Dressed Award:

Female

Darlene McGee

Male

Jimmy Champion

### Poker:

Matt Patterson

### Largest Fish By Weight:

Jonathan Brock

### Most Fish Total Weight:

Derek Eager

### Fewest Fish:

Tom Brock

### Best Fish Tale:

Russell Lamb

### Best Dressed (for the occasion):

Justin McKeown

### Entertainer of the Day:

Duwayne Jacobs

**Congratulations To All The Winners!**

*A Little Business ... A Lot Of Pleasure*

MCASC 156<sup>TH</sup> SEMI-ANNUAL CONVENTION - AUGUST 6-AUGUST 9, 2009

GINN HAMMOCK BEACH RESORT - PALM COAST, FL

MANY THANKS TO THE FOLLOWING COMPANIES FOR THEIR GENEROUS SUPPORT

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# MCASC 2009 COURSE REGISTRATION



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 P.O. BOX 384, COLUMBIA, SC 29202  
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 EMAIL: mflowers@mcasc.com WEBSITE: www.mcasc.com

**NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**COMPANY:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ADDRESS:** \_\_\_\_\_

**PHONE:** \_\_\_\_\_ **FAX:** \_\_\_\_\_

**CITY:** \_\_\_\_\_ **STATE ZIP** \_\_\_\_\_

**EMAIL ADDRESS:** \_\_\_\_\_

**NAME ON LICENSE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**LICENSE NO.:** \_\_\_\_\_ **STATE:** \_\_\_\_\_

Payment Method

- Please Invoice
- Check Enclosed for \$ \_\_\_\_\_

NOTE:

All Courses Will Be Held At  
 The MCASC State Office  
 Training Facility  
 1504 Morninghill Drive  
 Columbia, SC

NOTE:

WE OFFER A DISCOUNT  
 IF YOUR COMPANY REGISTERS  
 THREE (3) OR MORE  
 FOR THE SAME COURSE.  
 SEND 3...THE 4<sup>TH</sup> IS FREE

NOTICE:

ANYONE FAILING TO WITHDRAW FROM A COURSE  
 TWO WEEKS PRIOR TO ITS START WILL BE BILLED  
 FOR THE ENTIRE COST OF THE COURSE.  
 NO EXCEPTIONS.

**PLEASE PLACE A CHECK BESIDE EACH COURSE YOU WISH TO REGISTER FOR:**

NC & GA APPROVED

- 2009 Plumbing Code Changes Part 1, Part 2 and Boosting Profits in 2009  
 Part 1 & Part 2: NC License Types; P-I, P-II  
 Part 3: NC License Types; P-I, P-II, H-1-I, H-1-II, H-2, H-3-I, H-3-II, FS, FP  
 September 30, 2009 - Columbia  
 Time: 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM  
 Member: \$175.00 Non-Member: \$225.00

NC & GA APPROVED

- Checking Out 2009 Mechanical Code Changes Part 1, Part 2 and Maximizing Profits in 2009  
 Part 1 & Part 2: NC License Types: H-1-I, H-1-II, H-2, H-3-I, H-3-II  
 Part 3: NC License Types: P-I, P-II, H-1-I, H-1-II, H-2, H-3-I, H-3-II, FS, FP  
 October 14, 2009 - Columbia  
 Time: 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM  
 Member: \$175.00 Non-Member: \$225.00

NC & GA APPROVED

- 2009 Fuel Gas Code Changes Part 1, Part 2 and Maximizing Profits in 2009  
 Part 1 & Part 2: NC License Types; P-I, P-II, H-1-I, H-1-II, H-2, H-3-I, H-3-II, FP  
 Part 3: P-I, P-II, H-1-I, H-1-II, H-2, H-3-I, H-3-II, FS, FP  
 November 4, 2009 - Columbia  
 Time: 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM  
 Member: \$175.00 Non-Member: \$225.00

NC & GA APPROVED

- 2009 Fuel Gas Code Changes Part 1, Part 2 and Maximizing Profits in 2009  
 Part 1 & Part 2: NC License Types; P-I, P-II, H-1-I, H-1-II, H-2, H-3-I, H-3-II, FP  
 Part 3: P-I, P-II, H-1-I, H-1-II, H-2, H-3-I, H-3-II, FS, FP  
 December 2, 2009 - Columbia  
 Time: 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM  
 Member: \$175.00 Non-Member: \$225

### Associate Member: COLONIAL LIFE

If you found an innovative solution for dealing with the issues surrounding employee benefits, wouldn't you want to share it?

- Personal employee insurance product choices with voluntary, employee-paid benefits.
- Communications and counseling support for all components of your benefits program, including tailored salary illustrations, benefits statements and individual needs analyses.
- Flexible enrollment options for customized, streamlined enrollment support.
- Ongoing benefits counseling for your employees so they will understand and appreciate the benefits you provide.
- Outstanding service and access to hassle-free, flexible administrative support, including a wide range of electronic services for easy administration.

Colonial Life has been meeting the benefit needs of employers and employees for 70 years. Currently, the company has more than 2.7 million policies in force and supports more than 50,000 businesses and organizations. Colonial Life has also helped more than 30,000 employers enroll and communicate flexible benefits plans, which can provide tax savings for you and your employees.

Contact Carey Adamson at (803) 781-2246, extension 102, (800) 863-3500 or e-mail [carey.adamson@coloniallife.com](mailto:carey.adamson@coloniallife.com) for more information.

**Colonial Life**  
**P. O. Box 211034**  
**Columbia, SC 29221-6034**  
**Phone: (803) 781-2246, Fax: (803) 781-2296**

**Congratulations to our next Associate & Mechanical Members who will be  
 highlighted in the upcoming issue of "The Tool Box":  
 McCartha, Cobb & Associates, Inc., Columbia - Associate Member  
 Waldrop, Inc., Spartanburg - Mechanical Member**

### **SEPTEMBER 2009 MONTHLY AREA MEETINGS**

#### **MIDLANDS AREA**

Thursday, September 3, 2009 @ 6:00 PM  
 Location: MCASC State Office, 1504 Morninghill Dr., Columbia  
 Sponsored By: John J. Kirilin Company, Inc.

**Topic: TBA**

**Speaker: TBA**

#### **PIEDMONT AREA**

Tuesday, September 8, 2009 @ 6:00 PM  
 Location: 1523 Antioch Church Road, Greenville  
 Sponsored By: Southern Piping Company

**Topic: TBA**

**Speakers: TBA**

#### **PEE DEE AREA**

Friday, September 18, 2009 @ 9:30 AM to 5:30 PM  
 Location: Back Woods Quail Club, 647 Hemingway Lane,  
 Georgetown  
 Sponsored By: Pee Dee Area

**2nd ANNUAL PEE DEE BLAST  
 SPORTING CLAYS EVENT**

#### **COASTAL AREA**

Tuesday, September 22, 2009 @ 6:00 PM  
 Location: 4447 Dorchester Road, North Charleston  
 Sponsored By: Eck Supply Company

**Topic: TBA**

**Speaker: TBA**



P.O. Box 384, 29202  
1504 Morninghill Drive  
Columbia, SC 29210  
Phone: (803) 772-7834  
Fax: (803) 731-0390  
E-mail: mflowers@mcasc.com  
www.mcasc.com

*Serving mechanical contractors in  
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**MCASC Executive Board & Staff**

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Chris Cullum, Secretary  
Jim Maguire, Associate President  
Mona Flowers, Managing Director

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**MCASC Vision Statement**

The Mechanical Contractors Association of South Carolina (MCASC) will be the leading construction association in South Carolina for specialty contractors and suppliers in the electrical, mechanical (HVAC), and plumbing fields by serving its membership, the industry, and the Community in a vibrant and harmonious fashion.

**MCASC Mission Statement**

The Mechanical Contractors Association of South Carolina (MCASC) will provide its membership with:

- current business/technical information and support
  - a proactive political/legislative agenda
- a joint industry collaboration to improve relative business practices
- an ongoing effort to offer training opportunities for both professional and craft personnel
  - educational scholarships for deserving students
- the development of industry related career opportunities

The Association's objective for this mission is to enhance the future of the Construction Industry in South Carolina.