



# First Thing

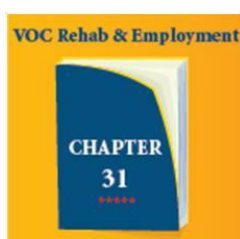
A Monthly Update from The American Society of Home Inspectors

October 2015



**Financing Now  
Available When You  
Attend The ASHI  
School**

**Do you qualify for  
G.I. Bill Benefits or  
Chapter 31?**



**October &  
November**

*Going  
back to the  
basics  
strengthens  
your  
foundation.*

Getting Back to the  
Basics...

...yet including some of  
the latest trends to benefit  
your chapters and  
businesses...

The invitations have gone  
out. Each chapter has

been invited to send a representative to the **2015 Leadership Training Conference** to prepare them to fill leadership roles in the chapters. This is a power-packed conference starting with a special speaker presentation on mentoring, communication and more. Chapters will gain the most value from this conference by sending their up-and-coming leaders.

As we get "Back to the Basics", we'll cover:

- Team building, mentoring and coaching skills
- Social Media for Chapters
- Thoughts on being successful
- Description of a Council of Representatives (CoR) member and their duties
- Organizing successful chapter events
- Handling legal issues in your chapter

*Conference Schedule:*

Fountain Blue Conference Center (across parking lot from Radisson)

## 120 Hour Classes

[Cypress, CA: Oct 26 - Nov 6](#)

[Columbus, OH: Nov. 2-13](#)

[Lakewood, CO: Nov. 2-13](#)

[Leesburg, VA: Nov. 2-13](#)

[Des Plaines, IL: Nov. 9-20](#)

[St. Louis, MO: Nov. 9-20](#)

[Cincinnati, OH: 11/30 - 12/11](#)

[Cumming, GA: 11/30 - 12/11](#)

[Tampa, FL: 11/30 - 12/11](#)

## 93 Hour Classes

[Brentwood, TN: Nov. 9-14](#)

## 160 Hour Classes

[Bellevue, WA: Nov. 9-20](#)

## Commercial Class

[Des Plaines, IL: Oct 24-26](#)



2300 Mannheim Road | Des Plaines, IL 60018

## Thursday, October 22, 2015 @ 1:00 PM

Cocktail Reception and Dinner

## Friday, October 23, 2015

Breakfast and Lunch included

Ends at 4:00 PM

For a complete agenda, [click here](#).

Chapters that send at least one member to the conference will receive \$300 to help offset the cost of attending.

## ***Book your room now:***

Radisson Hotel

1450 E. Touhy Avenue | Des Plaines, IL 60018

Contact the Radisson Hotel at 847.296.8866 to reserve your room (King room with buffet breakfast) at \$104/night (tax not included). *Group room rate deadline is October 5, 2015.*

IW Raffle to be held at LTC

Each Leadership Training Conference attendee will receive one chance to win the following:

IW2016 package includes: one (1) full conference registration and three nights at the Town & Country Resort and Convention Center in San Diego (Sunday, January 24 - Wednesday, January 27, 2016)

An iPad Mini

To win, the LTC attendee must be registered as an LTC representative of an ASHI Chapter and have paid their ASHI membership dues for 2015-2016. The winner must be present to win. The drawing will take place and winner announced at the Leadership Training Conference on Friday, October 24, 2015.

Questions? Contact Russell K. Daniels at 847.954.3185 or [russelld@ashi.org](mailto:russelld@ashi.org).

# HOME INSPECTORS

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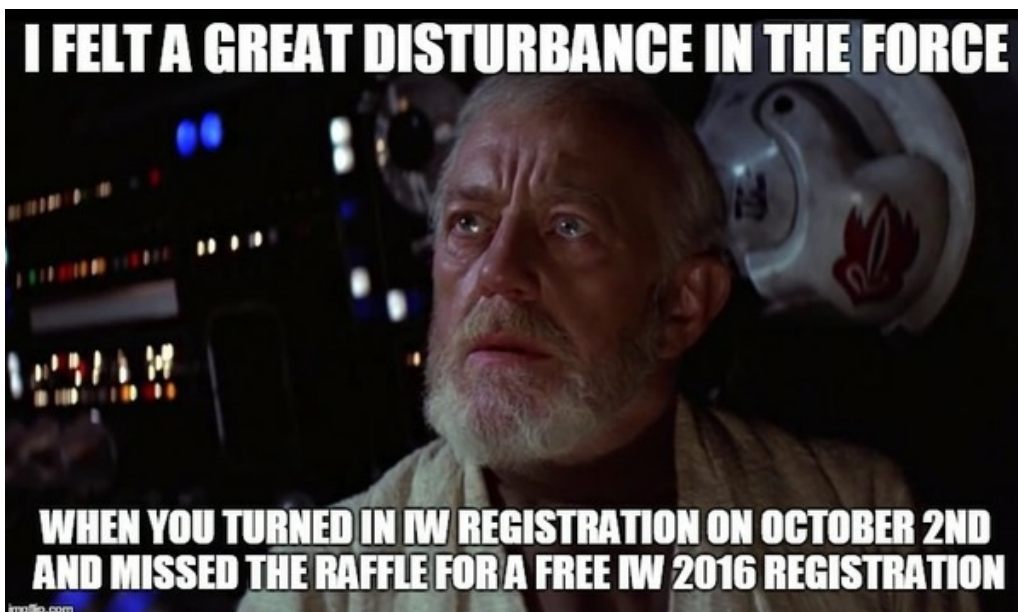
## CONGRATULATIONS RAFFLE WINNERS!



We said we'd draw and announce the InspectionWorld® 2016 Free Registration winners in the October First Thing and we didn't stutter.

Below are the 5 winners:

1. **James Funkhouser**
2. **William Handley**
3. **Kenneth Salvo**
4. **Frank Tiedeken**
5. **John Wessling**



[InspectionWorld®](http://www.inspectionworld.com) is the largest education conference and expo of the year for home inspectors. Earn your 20 ASHI CEs.

Begins at 12:30 pm, Sunday, January 24, 2016, Annual Luncheon-40th Anniversary Celebration Kick-Off.

Go to [www.inspectionworld.com](http://www.inspectionworld.com) for details.

Click [here](#) to book your hotel reservation.

Town & Country Resort and Convention



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Check out our  
**TRADE SHOW  
CALENDAR**

**Oct 11-14**  
**Inspection Universe**  
**2015**  
**Las Vegas, NV**

**Oct 22-23**  
**ASHI Leadership**  
**Training Conference**  
**Des Plaines, IL**

**Jan 24-27, 2016**  
**InspectionWorld**  
**San Diego, CA**

Center  
San Diego

\$148 room/per night. WiFi included



**Living**  
**in Place™**  
**INSTITUTE**



The American Society of  
Home Inspectors is proud  
to announce our member,  
the Living In Place  
Institute, will be  
presenting

at [InspectionWorld®](http://InspectionWorld.com) in January 2016 in San Diego,  
California.

Join us on Tuesday, January 19th at 11:30 am for a  
dynamic Lunch 'n Learn titled: ***Living In Place -***  
***Accessibility, Comfort and Safety in all***  
***Homes.***

Expand your “**ASHI Experience**” and learn with  
your peers how to increase your business by



2015-2016  
MEMBERSHIP  
RENEWAL

It's ASHI Affiliate Membership Renewal time. If you haven't renewed your membership in the most respected home inspection association, then you're missing out!

As a member, you receive a ton of benefits that places you in front of our home inspector members (the movers and shakers of the industry) in print, online and through social media.

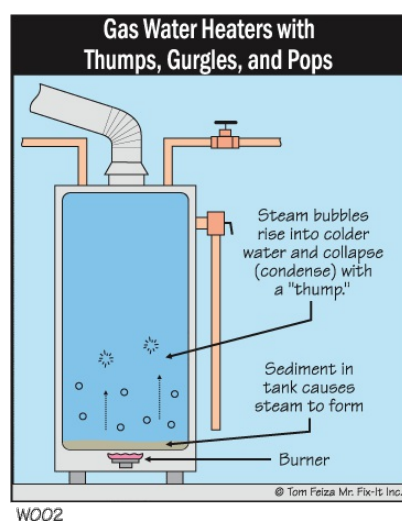
[Download the Affiliate Membership Form](#), fill out and turn back in to Dave Kogan at [davek@ashi.org](mailto:davek@ashi.org).

And now you can get involved with The ASHI School with the additional TAS+ program. Get in front of students while they are starting their career in home inspection.

becoming a **Certified Living In Place Professional™ (CLIPP™)**. This exciting new national program has been developed as a result of many decades of experience and exhaustive research in home accessibility, comfort and safety. Created by experts in the building, home safety and medical fields, this vital program establishes the future of the home design, construction and home inspection industries.

Become a part of the solution to our national crisis in home accessibility and safety at the same time significantly ***increase your business!***

To learn more, [CLICK HERE](#)



### Tip

### #14: Thump, Thump..It's the Water Heater

It's annoying when your water heater thumps, pops and whumps whenever you use hot water.

*What can you do?*

The water heater's thumping is caused by sediment that has built up in the bottom of the metal tank or around the electrical heating elements. The illustration shows a gas water heater with this problem. The sediment interferes with even heat transfer and allows steam bubbles to form. The bubbles float upward and then implode with a muffled thump.

You could try to drain sediment from the bottom of the tank. Attach a hose to the drain valve and route it to a safe plumbing fixture, such as a floor drain. Be careful; the water will be hot. Drain a few



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If you plan on exhibiting at InspectionWorld 2016 San Diego, then wait no further to reserve your

gallons; repeat this several times. Often, though, sediment is difficult to remove from the tank.

The thumping does not cause any damage to the water heater, but it certainly is annoying. Consider installing a water softener to eliminate the hard water sediment.

By Tom Feiza, Mr. Fix-It

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Helping you operate and maintain your home



## Nominating Committees Slate Officers, Certification Committee Members and Directors

The Committee met on September 17, 2015, and decided on the following

slate for 2016 ASHI Officers. The names are listed in alphabetical order by office.

### ***OFFICER SLATE FOR 2016***

**President: Randy Sipe**

**President-elect: Howard Pegelow**

**Vice President: Robert Walstead**

**Treasurer: Tim Buell**

**Secretary: Scott Patterson**

Any voting member wishing to run as a petition candidate should submit a matrix to headquarters and download a petition form from the website and file it by October 18 as per the rules below.

### ***DIRECTOR SLATE FOR 2016***

The ASHI Directors Nominating Committee for 2016 slated the following for ASHI Directors:

**John Biegalski, Shannon Cory, Rich Hart, David Haught, Blaine Swan, John Wessling**

Five directors and one alternate will be chosen based on the number of votes each receives. Any additional Council Representatives who would like to be included on the ballot should submit a matrix and download a petition from the website and file it by October 22 as per the [rules attached](#).

exhibit space as booths  
are going fast!

We are currently 60% full  
and it's just the beginning  
of September!

[Download](#), fill out, and  
turn in your Exhibitor  
Registration today!

Looking to beat out the  
competition at  
InspectionWorld 2016 San  
Diego?

Consider a [sponsorship](#).  
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outs in the Program Guide  
and in the official  
InspectionWorld app; or  
sponsor an item such as  
the tote bag, coupon  
book, program guide, Wi-  
Fi service, entertainment  
or meal/breaks, classes,  
tent cards, special annual  
luncheon giveaway or  
special booth giveaway.

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noticed at North  
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inspection conference.

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Our fiscal year is coming  
to a close and that means  
our publication year is  
also coming to a close.

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noticed, advertise with  
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There are many ways to  
Get Noticed when you  
advertise in:

- *ASHI Reporter*: our  
monthly print publication
- *First Thing*: our monthly



When I got my first supply  
of KritterCaps ® , which  
consisted of 3" corner  
inserts, I showed them to  
family members. I was  
astounded to find out that  
my daughter and son-in-

law wished I had showed them my product two  
weeks earlier. While they were both at work their  
dog tore up two corner posts on their house trying  
to get at a chipmunk which was hiding up inside  
the open corner post. Not only did their dog tear  
up their corner posts it also tore off one of the  
neighbors corner post. After the repairs they  
installed my corner inserts and have had no  
further problems.

I had a call from a homeowner who asked me to  
look at their corner post because hornets were  
flying around the bottom of it. There was a huge  
hornets nest up inside the corner post. We waited  
until the hornets migrated to the ground for the  
winter and installed my corner inserts. They have  
not had hornets or bees since.

My biggest surprise came just a couple of months  
ago when a lady in South Carolina called me in a  
panic. She was working in her yard when she  
noticed a snake sticking its head out from below  
the corner post with a bird in its mouth. She said  
that last year there was a snake in her house but  
no one could figure out how it got into her home.  
She was relieved to know that I had a product to  
solve her problem and prevent future invasions.

My next article I will describe how and why my  
ridge vent EndCaps™ became a product.

John Stouffer  
[KritterCaps.com](http://KritterCaps.com)

p.s. Please stop and see us at InspectionWorld®  
2016 in booth 504.

e-newsletter

- *ashi.org*: Banner ads on our website
- *InspectionWorld*: exhibit and sponsor or just sponsor or just exhibit - but the only way to Get Noticed is to be visible.

[Download our 2015-2016 Media Kit](#), fill out pages 7 & 8, and send in to Dave Kogan at [davek@ashi.org](mailto:davek@ashi.org).

Advertising is on a first come, first serve basis.

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932 Lee Street, Des Plaines, IL | 847.759.2820

