



PHRANC *talk*

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Fall Newsletter
August 2005

PHRANC Certification in your tool bag?

The upcoming Fall conference will be an opportunity for PHRANC members to continue their training in the many work areas required in our jobs. Some training is "book learning" and some is OJT (on-the-job-training). Some is learning by talking with others to share experiences and compare notes. Each person has a particular skill and talent, and a wealth of knowledge gained through personal experience.

I have been fortunate to be part of the "Certification Task Force" for the past two years, developing the test for Rehabilitation Specialist Certification and serving with other PHRANC members who recognize the value of training and sharing knowledge. What we are learning from the test results is that those who have taken the tests are highly skilled in certain areas, but are lacking in-depth knowledge in others. This trend has been evident both for those who have passed the

test, and those who have not.

The test is designed to measure knowledge and experience across a broad range, reflecting skills that we are called on to use every day in our work. It can be seen as a tool to help us identify both our strengths, and our weaknesses. As with any other tool, however, each person has to learn how to use it in order for it to be helpful. It is discouraging to work hard, put yourself on the line by taking a difficult test, and not succeed. If you have not succeeded yet, put the test to work for you. I encourage you to use the test to identify areas where you have the least experience, then talk with other members, ask PHRANC to provide training in those areas at our conferences, and sharpen your skills. You are a success every day, and you can add to that success by becoming a PHRANC "Certified Rehabilitation Specialist."

Jim Matthews, Vice-President

Fall Conference 2005

The Fall 2005 PHRANC Education and Training Conference will be held at the Village Inn Golf & Conference Center in Clemmons, NC (Winston-Salem) - September 14-16. The three fantastic tracks are: Specification Writing and Cost Estimation: This tract will show the

importance of rehabilitation standards and codes as the foundation of a successful housing rehab program. Principles of Home Inspection:

For more information about the conference, contact PHRANC Conference Committee Chair Carlis Sweat at csweat@co.cumberland.nc.us

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"There is nothing so easy to learn as experience and nothing so hard to apply"

Josh Billing

Bedtime Stories..... or why we do what we do

The distinguished 70 year old man, fedora in his lap, waited patiently in the lobby until it was his turn. "I have a problem" he said. "I have to sleep on my couch when it rains, I have to cover my bed with a plastic sheet, I was told you might be able to help me?" I answered that I hoped we could and asked how long he had used his couch when it rained. "Oh, two years I guess" he answered. A few weeks later Mr. B had a new roof on his house and now when it rains the couch is empty.

Mrs. H is 80 years old and she has her hands full. Her daughter, a single mom had been killed in a car accident leaving four children without a mother. "These grandbabies will have a place to stay as long as I have a roof over my head" Mrs. H was heard to say. She had a roof on her house, a good roof. What she didn't have was a bathroom. There was a door that opened into a room that used to be the bathroom

but leaks left too long had rotted the floor. You could literally see into the crawl space around what used to be a floor joist. "We use the toilette at the neighbors and I can do OK giving the two year old a bath in the sink but that don't work for the 12 year old". Our plumber called the day he installed the bath tub. He told us that she was so proud of her new bathtub that she was going to sleep in it that night. The next day we visited to check up on the job, we joked with her about wanting to sleep in her bath tub. Turns out—it was no joke. Her bedtime the night before had been in that tub.



Spring Conference 2005: New Bern, NC

Elder-Friendly Design

Friendly Floors: All floors should be made slip-resistant by adding non-skid mats under area rugs. You could also get rid of area rugs completely. Trips are just as dangerous as slips, so eliminate trip points like thresholds wherever possible, or reduce their height. For those who use walkers, low-pile carpeting is safest so the walker does not catch on deep pile and cause a fall.

Better Baths: A step-in shower is safer than a tub, but if that is not a possible solution, adding grab rails can help someone get in and out of the tub. A hand-held showerhead is easier to use for someone with limited mobility than a fixed showerhead. A single-handed faucet control reduces the chances of scalding at the sink, and a pressure balanced control does the same in the shower.

PHRANC on the net:

PHRANCster 's I need your help. To better serve you and keep you up to date on PHRANC happenings and conferences our web master is building an online database. To help speed things along please take the steps outlined below.

First: Go to <http://members.phranc.org>

Click on "Retrieve Password", type in your email address and click "Send". Your password will be sent to you and should arrive within several minutes. Once you have received your password go to <http://members.phranc.org> again, sign in, click the edit button on the Profile page (upper right) and update your data. Please fill in your contact information which will usually be your work mailing address and phone number. To build the database for mailings this must be done. No personal data will be requested.

If you receive the "E-mail address not found in the system." message, you may join the list as a "New User" on the login screen.

Second: Spam blocking. If you are connected to a server please contact the network administrator and ask that phranc.org be an allowed domain name. Many emails I send with correct addresses are being blocked especially those on distributions such as the list serve.

Anyone interested in receiving PHRANC communications can sign up this way. A link will soon be available on the website.

Go to www.PHRANC.org to learn more about the conference educational tracts.

! Plan Ahead !

**Spring Conference 2006—March 29-31, 2006
Riverside Hilton, Wilmington, NC**

Did You Know? ...that Coca-Cola can be used a variety of ways. You can drink it as a nice cold beverage or you can use it to solve your everyday household problems. Below are some tips you might find handy!

1. Coca-Cola can be used to clean grout out of your floor tiles. Just pour over the grout, let it sit, then wipe away. (You might find that you need to do light scrubbing.)
2. Coke can also remove oil stains from your driveway. Pour a can of regular coke, let it soak, then spray off with a hose.
3. Coke can remove grease, creosote, and asphalt from clothing. Just pour a regular can of coke in wash water along with a normal amount of detergent.
4. Coke can also help clean your toilets. Just let the coke sit in the toilet for at least an hour, then flush clean.
5. Coke also helps loosen a rusted bolt. Just apply a cloth soaked in coke to the rusted bolt for several minutes.

To find out more of the interesting uses of Coca-Cola visit:

**[http://members.tripod.com/
~Barefoot_Lass/cola.html](http://members.tripod.com/~Barefoot_Lass/cola.html)**

PHRANC Fall Conference

Village Inn Golf & Conference Center

September 14-16, 2005

Agenda

Wednesday September 14, 2005			
	Registration and Networking		
12:00 - 1:00	Opening Session		
1:00 - 1:30	GUEST SPEAKER: Mayor Ed Brewer		
	Track 1	Track 2	Track 3
	WWU's & Cost Estimating <i>Gerry Diaz-CRTC</i> <i>Columbus, OH</i>	Property Inspections <i>Thomas J. Feehan-CRTC</i> <i>Columbus, OH</i>	Understanding & Diagnosing HVAC Systems <i>Brian Coble</i> <i>Advanced Energy</i>
1:30 - 3:00	WWU's & Cost Estimating	Property Inspections	HVAC Systems
3:00 - 3:15	<i>Break</i>	<i>Break</i>	<i>Break</i>
3:15 - 5:00	WWU's & Cost Estimating (cont.)	Property Inspections (cont.)	HVAC Systems (continued)
8:30 - 10:15	WWU's & Cost Estimating (cont.)	Property Inspections (cont.)	HVAC Systems (continued)
10:15 - 10:30	<i>Break</i>	<i>Break</i>	<i>Break</i>
10:30 - 12:00	WWU's & Cost Estimating (cont.)	Property Inspections (cont.)	HVAC Systems (continued)
12:00 - 1:30	Lunch (on your own)		
1:30 - 3:00	WWU's & Cost Estimating (cont.)	Property Inspections (cont.)	HVAC Systems (continued)
3:00 - 3:15	<i>Break</i>	<i>Break</i>	<i>Break</i>
3:15 - 5:00	WWU's & Cost Estimating (cont.)	Property Inspections (cont.)	HVAC Systems (continued)
8:30 - 10:15	WWU's & Cost Estimating (cont.)	Property Inspections (cont.)	HVAC Systems (continued)
10:15 - 10:30	<i>Break</i>	<i>Break</i>	<i>Break</i>
10:30 - 12:00	WWU's & Cost Estimating (cont.)	Property Inspections (cont.)	HVAC Systems (continued)
12:00 - 1:30			
1:30 - 3:00	WWU's & Cost Estimating (cont.)	Property Inspections (cont.)	HVAC Systems (continued)
3:00	Adjourn (Have a safe trip home)		

Fall Conference Hotel Information

Village Inn Golf & Conference Center
6205 Ramada Drive
Clemmons, NC
September 14-16, 2005

Hotel Information

To make hotel reservations, call the hotel direct at 336.766.9121, and ask for the PHRANC Conference rate. There are 40 rooms available at \$60.00 single and \$64.00 double plus 13% local taxes. Don't wait. Confirm your hotel reservations now. PHRANC's conference rates good through August 26.

Registration Form

(***Please Enclose Registration Fee***)

Please register me for the Fall Conference in Clemmons, NC (September 14-16, 2005)

Name: _____ Title: _____

Organization: _____ Phone: _____ Email: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____ Fax: _____

- I request a seat for the HQS training (Track 1)
- I plan to attend the miscellaneous sessions (Track 2)
- I request a seat for the Plumbing training (Track 3)
- I request a seat for Certification Testing

\$120 Registration Fee for Members in Good Standing

\$20 Annual Membership Dues

\$150 Registration for Non-Members of PHRANC

\$40 Rehabilitation Certification Exam Fee

Total Enclosed =

Please pre-register if possible—Get the classes you want & PHRANC saves \$\$!!

***If you do not pre-register, late Registration fees and/or membership dues payments will be accepted at the conference registration desk between 12:00 noon and 1:30 am only on Wednesday, April 6. If you pay at this time, we cannot guarantee your choice of training tracks.**

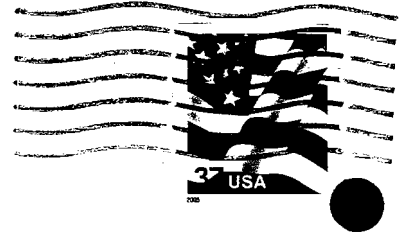
Late Registration for the Certification Test will be accepted at the conference registration desk between 8:00 and 8:30 am (only) on Wednesday April 6th.

Please make checks payable to "PHRANC"

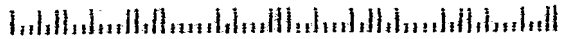
Mail this form and your check to: Kenny Faulkner
City Hall South
100 East First Street
Winston Salem, NC 27102

For more information about registration and fees,
please contact Treasurer, Kenny Faulkner
at 336-727-8575.

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Fall Conference

