



# OGA News & Views

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*We want to hear from you! Ideas, concerns, ways to make the association more effective for you.*

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## Register today for the OGA 2017 Annual Conference & Exposition

Proposed changes to Pipeline Safety Regulations have been the talk of the industry this year, and the discussion will continue at the OGA 2017 Annual Conference & Exposition scheduled for August 28 – 30, 2017 in Norman, Oklahoma.

"While our 2017 annual conference will focus on proposed changes to Pipeline Safety Regulations, we know there are countless issues, challenges and opportunities we can address," said Tom Rider, OGA Executive Director. "I appreciate the work the board has put into building a very well rounded conference which will benefit our members."

In addition to general sessions including Understanding the Changes to Section 192: An Overview by DeWitt Burdeaux, TRC Companies, and Critical Issues Facing Our Industry by Dave Darcey, Williams, the conference will include many breakout sessions addressing various proposed changes to 192.

In addressing other issues of concern to OGA members, Williams' Monte Morgan will open the conference discussing how to "Be prepared to reduce the risk of construction interference, delays, and obstructions caused by protest actions." Breakout sessions outside of the 192 discussion include: Best Practices in Line Locating; How to maintain safety equipment; the Oklahoma Pipeline Emergency Responders Initiative (OKPERI); and, Injury 101: be prepared.

Questions about the conference may be directed to Jeff Kaufmann at [jeffk@meso.org](mailto:jeffk@meso.org).

## OGA Completes Series of "Lunch & Learn" Professionals Group Meetings

The OGA recently completed a series of lunch and learn / networking events to help natural gas professionals learn about current issues and best practices.

The 2017 series which included three events in Oklahoma City and another three in Tulsa. The sessions provided a forum for sharing of ideas, concerns, etc.

As part of an on-going conversation around proposed changes to Pipeline Safety Regulations, the sessions covered: Pipeline Integrity Threat Analysis (192.917); Interior and Exterior Corrosion (192.465, 473, 478); and, Verification of Pipeline Material (192.607).

"We appreciate ONE Gas and Williams who hosted our events," said Tom Rider, OGA Executive Director.

## "Develop the Leader Within" by Participating in The Leadership Course Presented by the OGA

The Leadership Course - a six month course focusing on leadership opportunities, challenges, and skills - returns in January 2018.

"We know for an organization to remain successful, potential leaders must be identified and developed," said OGA Executive Director Tom Rider who teaches the program. "My goal for this course to provide foundational training for future leaders and those who are beginning their leadership journey.

"Each class concentrates on a specific aspect of an individual's understanding and application of leadership skills and traits," Rider added. "I expect participants will learn how to improve and maximize their talents and resources through classroom sessions and exercises, required outside reading assignments, and completion of a leadership project."

Class sessions (and dates) are:

- Leadership 101 (January 25)
- Leading Change (February 22) - All Day
- Visioning (March 29)

- Communicating the Vision (April 26)
- Developing Others (May 24)
- Leading People: Conclusion (June 28)
- Project Presentation (December 5)

The cost is \$800 and includes class material, books, and additional reading materials. Classes will be held in the OGA/MESO Training Center, 308 NE 27th Street, Oklahoma City, with sessions beginning at 8:30 a.m.

The provided course books are:

- On Becoming a Leader by Warren Bennis
- Leading Change by John Kotter
- The Secret by Ken Blanchard & Mark Miller
- Leadership & Self-Deception by The Arbingers Institute

Questions about the course may be directed to Rider at [tom@meso.org](mailto:tom@meso.org), and the registration deadline is January 5, 2018.

### **About the "LEADERSHIP PROJECT" Required to complete The LEADERSHIP COURSE:**

To successfully complete the Course, participants must complete a Leadership Project. To qualify as a Project, the participant will identify an opportunity in which they can have a leadership role. The participant must plan, conduct, evaluate and present the project. This must be an actual project not a "hypothetical" or "possible" project idea. Project activities must conclude before December 1, 2018 so the participant has the opportunity to prepare and present the Project Report December 5, 2018.

Proposed Project must be approved by the Course instructor prior to beginning. Each participant must submit a Project Proposal which describes the project, who it benefits and the role the participant will have in the project.

Project Report should address the following –

- A summary of the project and its purpose, to include who benefited from the project and the participant's role.
- A discussion of what the participant contributed to the project – time, effort, ideas, etc.
- A discussion regarding the participant's utilization of a mentor(s) to assist them in success in their role.
- A discussion on the project's outcomes – successes, shortfalls, unintended consequences.
- A review of the participant's performance – what they did well; what they need to work on or manage better; what they learned; what they would do the same; and, what they would do differently. A discussion on what aspects of the Leadership Course class material, discussion and/or reading did the participant utilize as a resource during the project.

## OGA Hosts Annual Leadership Conference

Nearly 50 gas professionals recently gathered for the OGA 2017 Leadership Conference in Norman, Oklahoma.

While being separated into two unique leadership challenges ("Generation Separation: Frustrations, Expectations and Achieving Success Together" & "Leading In Spite of Chaos"), the attendees were challenged to consider the simple question, "Are you ready to be a leader?"

Two human resources professionals from Enable Midstream – a GenXer, Marti Canida, and a Millennial, Karlea Barnes – discussed the frustration between co-workers from different generations; how to align priorities; and, the ways they effectively work with Baby Boomers.

The two unique points of view were evident as Barnes opted to build the teams presentation for the day in Prezi rather than the more traditional PowerPoint. Prezi reportedly is preferred among younger workers, however, they agreed on working to find positive ways to communicate effectively across generations in any organization.

Mark Cluff, Vice President, Safety & Operational Excellence Williams, shared his thoughts on "Leading In Spite of Chaos." He discussed best practices to communicate effectively with leaders and employees during a crisis to keep teams engaged and focused on immediate tasks at hand and a company's vision and mission.

Cluff also introduced the concept of the Amygdala Hijack to the group. The "hijack" is an immediate and overwhelming emotional response out of proportion to the stimulus because it has triggered a more significant emotional threat. During such an event, the amygdala "hijacks" or shuts down the neo-cortex which controls regular thinking.

In addition to presentations, participants also worked in small groups on various exercises throughout the day.

"We appreciate our presenters and participants who joined us for the day," said Tom Rider, the OGA's Executive Director. "Based on our feedback, we believe it was a beneficial session for our members."



*Enable's Karlea Barnes (front) and Marti Canida discuss Generations in the Workplace.*



*Mark Cluff, Vice President, Safety & Operational Excellence Williams, shares his thoughts on "Leading in Spite of Chaos."*

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## NERC, AGA Launch Security Information Sharing Effort to Leverage Gas-electric Interdependency, Cooperation

The North American Electric Reliability Corporation and the American Gas Association have launched a new grid and energy delivery security partnership that takes advantage of the growing interdependency and collaboration of the natural gas and electricity industries.

Under the partnership, staff from the Downstream Natural Gas Information Sharing and Analysis Center (DNG-ISAC) will join the Electricity Information Sharing and Analysis Center (E-ISAC) in Washington, D.C., to improve coordination on potential security risks related to critical electricity and natural gas pipeline infrastructure.

The partnership between the E-ISAC and the DNG-ISAC builds on the long-standing efforts of the gas and electricity industries to address supply interdependencies by developing a robust information exchange on shared security risks.

Through a variety of tools, the E-ISAC and DNG-ISAC monitor and analyze potential physical and

cyber security threats to their respective industries and use their secure portals to alert and advise members on mitigating real threats. The goals of the E-ISAC and the DNG-ISAC under the partnership include exchanging information on threats within their industries that have the potential to impact critical infrastructure in either or both industries. Currently, more than 45 percent of the gas utilities represented by the DNG-ISAC are also E-ISAC stakeholders.

The partnership has three primary objectives to better serve both industries' members:

- Improve security collaboration on common threat information and incident response.
- Provide more joint analysis of security concerns and events.
- Advance shared processes for information sharing and situational awareness.

(see NERC, AGA, page 5)

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## NERC, AGA

(continued from page 4)

Benefits of the partnership include the opportunity for E-ISAC members to participate in monthly DNG-ISAC security briefings, the opportunity for DNG-ISAC members to participate in monthly E-ISAC briefings, and the development of consistent information sharing protocols for both industries.

"Partnering with the DNG-ISAC helps strengthen E-ISAC products and services for all members and especially those with a significant amount of gas-fired generation," said Marcus Sachs, NERC senior vice president and chief security officer.

The operational and security interdependency of the industries include electric utilities' need for a steady supply of gas from pipelines and gas pipelines' use of electric pumps. Pipelines are able to operate with temporary supply disruptions, provided the gas pressures are maintained within acceptable limits. A prolonged supply disruption could result in a loss of generation that exceeds available electricity reserves. Similarly, pipelines that rely on electric pumps may have difficulty maintaining pressure during a power disruption or sustained outage.

"This collaboration with the E-ISAC gives us the ability to provide natural gas and electric companies with comprehensive threat information and analysis in a more timely and efficient manner," said Jim Linn, executive director of the DNG-ISAC and managing director of information technology at AGA.

The E-ISAC and DNG-ISAC have agreed to use existing policies and procedures at NERC and AGA for safeguarding sensitive information under the partnership.

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