

Arkansas Real Estate Inspectors attend Carbon Monoxide Safety Training



Feb. 22, 2010 – Over 100 members of AAREI (Arkansas Association of Real Estate Inspectors) hosted Carbon Monoxide Safety Training, presented by COSA (Carbon Monoxide Safety Association) in Jacksonville, AR on February 19th at the Community Center.

Bob Dwyer, COSA Director of Training and Jim Fisher, Product Manager of **Goodman Manufacturing** were the presenters. Jim's



presentation included a slide program with examples of things an inspector would look for in evaluating suspect heating and cooling equipment. The COSA presentation contained information regarding various concentrations of carbon monoxide (CO), health effects, examples of poisonings and their circumstances, combustion systems, building influences, human detection systems, home alarms, and continual dialog aimed at raising awareness and improving preventative strategies and techniques for specific service providers and consumers.

Carbon monoxide poisoning is increasing as power outages, neglected water and air heating systems continue to be neglected or improperly serviced. Also, as homes and buildings get tightened up to save energy the impact made by some changes may be detrimental to the safe operation of that equipment. AAREI members attending the program received registered continuing education credits which are required by state licensing regulation for this home inspection technical service technician.

“This is another very conscientious group of service providers who can have an impact on discovering less serious CO poisoning events before the symptoms or results of the exposure get even more serious. The act of testing every home they enter can be vital, if for no other reason than the safety of the inspector” commented Mr. Dwyer. “There is no law that says it is the responsibility of the home inspector to do a CO test. We encourage and emphasize the value” he added.

Co-sponsors of this full day COSA program included Fieldpiece Instruments, The Energy Conservatory, IntelliTec College and the Masimo Corporation. Some of the attendees chose to take a written exam for retained knowledge certification. The 50 question exam was prepared by HVAC Excellence and scored and registered by the ESCO Institute. For more information about COSA visit www.cosafety.org.