



## Historical Boiler Licensing Board

### Mission of the Historical Boiler Licensing Board:

The Historical Boiler Licensing Board ensures public safety through the adoption of rules governing the criteria inspectors of historical boilers utilize in determining the safe operation of historical boilers. In addition, the board approves historical boiler operator courses and issues operator licenses to those individuals qualified to operate historical boilers in public.

### Historical Boilers Certificate Invoice Change

Boiler certificate invoices will now be mailed out 45 days prior to the expiration date. Historical boiler owners can pay the invoice now and receive their certificate of operation once they have the boiler inspected. If you are not planning to use your boiler this year, simply call our office at 614-644-2223, and we can put your boiler in an inactive status until you are ready to have your boiler inspected for use.

### OAC rules 1301:3-4 Historical Boiler Rules

<http://codes.ohio.gov/oac/1301%3A3-4>

#### Next Board Meeting

October 17, 2018  
10:00 a.m. and  
Special Meeting to discuss  
OAC Rules at 1:00 p.m.  
Superintendent's Conf. Rm.  
6606 Tussing Road  
Columbus, OH 43068

#### 2017 Stats:

- 28 HB inspections done
- 31 HB inspections are due
- 18 new HB licenses issued
- 33 people passed training classes
- 697 HB licenses issued to date



## Meet Board Member - Jim Lashaway

In 2006, board member Jim Lashaway from Bowling Green, Ohio was appointed by the president of the state senate to serve on the Historical Boiler Licensing Board. Jim is a lifelong resident of Wood County and earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering in 1987. He is currently serving as the chairman.

Jim has spent the last 40 years owning, restoring and operating steam traction engines. He displays his equipment at various shows throughout Ohio, as well as other neighboring states. He possesses a current inspection certificate on his equipment and has an operator's certificate. "My goal as a board member is to ensure public safety through operator education and practical application of maintenance, repair and operation of historical boilers," he said. He hopes to assist the board in staying focused on public safety and keeping qualified operators of historical boilers for future generations.

### Professional Development:

The following outlined courses have been approved by HBLB.

Hocking Valley Steam Course (OH)  
Robert Baughman—740-753-1916

"The Boss" (Northeast OH)  
Joseph Harrison—330-340-9703  
Todd Young—419-281-9935

Carriage Hill Farms (Western OH)  
Doug Haus—937-275-5012

Bennett Restoration  
Jerrod Bennett—419-789-6781

University of Rollag (MN)  
WMSTR Secretary—701-212-2034

Somerset Steam & Gas Association (VA)  
Dennis Rupert—517-398-0152

Wisconsin Historical Steam Engine  
Association  
Marshall Deets—608-882-9052

Heritage Park of North Iowa  
Jerred Ruble—jerred.ruble@gmail.com

Central States Threshermen's Reunion  
School (IL)  
Doug Smith—317-341-4987

\*This list may not include all courses in Ohio. For a complete list, please visit our webpage at <http://www.com.ohio.gov/dico/HBLB.aspx>



## Link to Webpage:

The Historical Boiler Licensing Board has a new page on the Ohio Department of Commerce's website.

Please visit the Board's [new page](#) and let us know your thoughts.

***"Coming together is a beginning; keeping together is progress; working together is success."***  
— Henry Ford

### Public Meeting Notices

Public meeting notices can be found by clicking the link below. It is located toward the end of the page under News & Reports, Latest Updates.

<http://www.com.ohio.gov/>

### Historical Boiler Licensing Board Members:

James Lashaway—Chairman

Richard Oeder

Bruce Babcock

Homer "Dan" Rufener

Kim Besecker

John Leck

John Sharier

Dawn Evarson — Board Secretary

### State Inspectors:

Bill Glover, 419-512-1904  
[william.glover@com.state.oh.us](mailto:william.glover@com.state.oh.us)

Don Frymyer, 513-505-9576  
[donald.frymyer@com.state.oh.us](mailto:donald.frymyer@com.state.oh.us)

## Sight Glass Tube Blowout:

It's a familiar scene encountered often at summertime threshing reunions or antique engine shows: the heat of the day gives way to a quick downpour, dampening the dust and scattering the crowd as they look for shelter. The rain is an inconvenience for sure, but would you have guessed it might cause a dangerous situation for a historical boiler operator?

Sudden, heavy rain showers are a threat to an unprotected water sight glass tube on an operating boiler. This was made apparent at a recent gathering of steam traction engines in Ohio and served as a practical lesson in managing a sight glass tube blowout. The situation also demonstrated the advantage of using "automatic water gages," as they are described in the 1971 edition of the ASME boiler code, paragraph A-18 in the non-mandatory comments.

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## Sight Glass Tube Blowout: (continued)

This particular traction engine boiler was not protected by a roof or cab, as some are. This exposed the side mounted water level sight glass to the wind driven rain. There was not a sudden pop when the cool rain caused the hot glass to crack and shatter into dozens of shards, it was the odd noise of steam and water escaping from the top and bottom gauge valves that attracted the attention of a nearby engineer. His quick action stopped the uncontrolled outflow with a quick turn of each of the shut-off valves. He mentioned a few interesting observations in those short moments of fast action.

- The noise of the escaping steam and water added to the stress of the situation.
- The streams of steam and water met in the middle of the space between the gauge valves, fanning out a mist of superheated water and steam at eye level, blocking direct access to the shut-off valves.
- Using a scoop shovel to block the spray provided the way to get in to turn the valves.
- Gloves and long sleeves were absolutely necessary to get in close and not get burned.
- Normal procedure is to close the water first (bottom valve), then the steam (top valve); a new spray pattern develops after the water is off.

The situation described above could have been much different had the boiler been outfitted with an automatic water gauge valve as shown in Figure 1. This particular style of gauge valve has a check ball in the top and bottom valve bodies so that when a sudden breaking of the glass causes a quick outflow of steam and water, the check balls seat and automatically stop the flow. From this point, the engineer can easily shut the valves without much hazard to himself or bystanders.

While not mandatory under the Ohio HBLB rules or the ASME boiler code, operating historical boilers should have automatic water gauge valves installed. It is also recommended, along with regular gauge glass blow downs, the check balls and seats be inspected at least once a year to make sure they are free of scale and able to function properly.

For a video demonstration showing the procedure for closing water gauge valves after the glass breaks without the automatic shut-off function, click the link below, or enter the address into your web browser.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0VIHLH-TK3U>

