



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

I had a wonderful time at the MEMA conference last month! Pictures on pg 2.

My favorite event of the year is coming up –the annual IAEM conference. At this point, there are almost 2300 registrations, and 299 of those have some connection to Region 8, and 169 are currently IAEM members. We will have lots of R8 company! There is still time to [register and attend](#), if you are so inclined. At any rate, I will have lots of news and pictures in the next newsletter.

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REGIONAL CALENDAR (2024)

- [IAEM Conference Nov 17-20 @ CO Springs](#)
- R8 Annual Meeting
 - Mon, Nov 18th in Colorado Springs
- [CEMA Feb13-15, 2025](#), Loveland, CO

When is your state's annual conference in 2025?



REMINDER, you can see all the newsletters, notes and minutes on the [IAEM R8 website](#)

WELCOME TO OUR NEW R8 MEMBERS

Recognize anyone? Take a minute to welcome or congratulate them.

- ♥ Bradley Bartholomew, UT
- ♥ Andrea Hanson, CO
- ♥ Brian Bovaird, CO
- ♥ David Crawford, CO
- ♥ Cathy Strudle, SD
- ♥ Justin Snair, CO
- ♥ Justin Kanaber, CO
- ♥ Andrea Davis, CO
- ♥ Ella Kohlman, ND
- ♥ Gabriel Martinez, ND
- ♥ Amanda Simpson, CO
- ♥ Olivia Svanes, ND
- ♥ Sara Fant, CO
- ♥ Andrew Notbohm, CO
- ♥ Brittany Rasmussen, ND
- ♥ Nora Benson, ND
- ♥ Derek Hancock, CO
- ♥ Chris Harner, CO
- ♥ Rebecca Nielsen, CO
- ♥ Brent Lounsbury, CO

R8's NEWEST ALMOST CEM!

- ♥ Brady Scribner, ND (needs exam)

R8's CEM RECERT's

- ♥ Matt Gassman, CO

IAEM Career Center

The Job Site for Emergency Managers

CHECK OUT THE IAEM JOBS BOARD

Looking for positions, internships or volunteer opportunities is free, but there is a fee for employers posting a job position.

For Example, Hughes County is looking for an Emergency Management Director in Pierre, South Dakota

And so is Indiana University; Morganton, North Carolina; Kalamazoo, Michigan; Austin TX and several counties in California.

PICTURES FROM THE MEMA CONFERENCE, 10-3-24



Congrats to MEMA's officers for 2024-2025:

(LtoR) Eastern region rep: Brandon Roth from Richland County DES; Western Region rep: Tom Wagenknecht from Beaverhead County DES; President: Doug Dodge from Jefferson County DES; Secretary: Rochelle Hoerning from Beaverhead County DES; Vice President: David Stamey from Stillwater County DES; Treasurer: Annemarie Overcast from Yellowstone County DES; Not pictured: Central Region Rep-Kelsey Buckley from Toole County DES



(LtoR) Valerie Lucus-McEwen (your R8 President), Lisa Carrey, Butte County DES and the one who makes it all happen, James (Hammy) Ouellette the best logistics person in all of Butte County DES.

IAEM-USA BYLAWS

IAEM-USA recently undertook a complete rewrite of the IAEM-USA Bylaws. After being approved by the membership, they were formally adopted on Oct 22, 2024. Read the new Bylaws [here](#).



TRY SAYING *hexahectenneacontakaiheptagon* THREE TIMES FAST ...

Colorado's borders might trick you into thinking it's a perfect rectangle, but this is far from the truth.



The Centennial State is actually a shape with not four, but 697 distinct sides. This surprising detail emerges from the meticulous examination of its boundaries, which reveal a

complex geometry far beyond the simplicity of a rectangle. It isn't a square, it is a *hexahectenneacontakaiheptagon*!

THE IAEM-USA PRESIDENTS CORNER



Check out this new [feature](#) from Carrie Speranza, where she plans to share quarterly updates on IAEM-USA initiatives and plans with the IAEM community.

First up: [The State of the Association – Fall 2024 Edition](#).

IS YOUR AGENCY



ACCREDITED?

The Emergency Management Accreditation Program is awarded to emergency management programs that showcase their compliance with the *Emergency Management Standard* certified by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI). Last week, they awarded EMAP accreditation to 13 EM programs. All the programs that are accredited are listed [HERE](#), and they include the State of Colorado, the State of Utah, the City of Colorado Springs and the Pikes Peak Regional Program.



Presenting the R8 Challenge Coin celebrating IAEM-USA Region 8 AND the IAEM Annual conference being held in Region 8. Because this is a special one-time only coin, we are giving R8 members the opportunity to purchase one that won't be for recognition at the conference. If you aren't going to the conference, we will mail it to you. Information [HERE](#).

FEMA Quick Reference Guide

Home Repairs and Improvements for Survivors with Disabilities

For eligible homeowners, FEMA can help with additional repairs and improvements if you or a household member has a disability.

What is changing?

Based on feedback received from disaster survivors, impacted communities, and stakeholders, FEMA made changes to Individual Assistance to cut red tape and expand eligibility to reach more people and help them build back stronger. These changes apply to disasters declared on or after March 22, 2024.

The following information explains how survivors with disabilities can use FEMA funding to make certain accessibility improvements to their homes damaged by a declared disaster.

What disability-related items can FEMA help with?

FEMA can help homeowners pay for the full cost of these items when needed by a member of your household:

- Exterior ramp.
- Grab bars.
- Paved path of travel to your home from your vehicle.

FEMA can provide money to help with some or all of these items when:

- Your home was damaged by the disaster and your home already had one or more of these items,
- Your home was damaged by the disaster and a member of your household needs one or more of these items, even if it wasn't part of your home before the disaster, or
- A member of your household was disabled by the disaster and needs one or more of these items.

Who can get help to repair or install disability-related items?

Here is a resource to share with our disability community members who have been affected by a disaster: [Home Repairs and Improvements for Survivors with Disabilities: FEMA Quick Reference Guide](#)

Everyone's path to recovery looks different depending on their specific needs. If you or a loved one is living with a disability, FEMA funding can make certain accessibility improvements to homes damaged by a declared disaster on or after March 22, 2024, to eligible survivors with disabilities. Whether it's installing a ramp or grab bars, FEMA offers assistance even if your home wasn't damaged. Visit [FEMA.gov](#) to learn more.”

