

High Sierra Energy Summit flips the power switch Sunday, Aug. 10

Weeklong event starts with energy of local bands Tresspassers and Almost Famous

The power switches on Sunday, Aug. 10 when the High Sierra Energy Summit begins with a local concert featuring the Tresspassers and Almost Famous. “We can’t help it if you leave the five-day event with a new sense of responsibility toward the Earth and green living,” says event organizer Rick Phelps of the High Sierra Energy Initiative.

Event planners (a partnership between the Town of Mammoth Lakes and Southern California Edison) expect this year’s classes to break the higher level ideas of energy efficiency into ways that people can use to live green everyday.

“Instead of just putting out a lot of information like we did last year, we really want to get people’s feedback and ideas this year,” said Deanna Campbell, Director Eastern Sierra College Center (Cerro Coso in Mammoth Lakes is hosting the event). “We are hoping that by giving the scholarships that make the event free, employers will send some of their employees so not only will the energy efficient ideas get out into the community in people’s homes, but also in their workplaces.”

The first 100 participants are automatically signed up for a scholarship when they register for the Summit. The scholarships completely cover the \$40 fee for the event and you can register online at www.highsierraenergysummit.com.

Featured speakers and their subject matter broach a wide variety of topics. Hank Jackson, owner of ETech Solutions, will discuss “Green Building – Help or Hype.” The course is designed to familiarize participants with the state-of-the-art in sustainable design, current issues and design tools, and likely future developments.

The workshop will introduce participants to EnergyPlus, the public domain analysis tool that can be used to satisfy the design criteria for the U.S. Green Building Council’s Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design rating system. The course is designed for architects, engineers, residential developers, and large institutional and commercial property owners interested in building a “green building.”

Martyn Dodd has written software used in California for Title 24 energy code compliance for the past 24 years and thusly will discuss “Title 24 What’s New in 2008/2009.” He’ll talk about the latest version of the Standards, lighting and mechanical requirements that will affect building design in commercial and residential new construction projects.

Greg Sharp has been a licensed Architect in the state of California since 1980. His “Introduction to Lighting” will explore ways to decrease energy consumption and costs in your business facility through the proper selection of incandescent, fluorescent and high-intensity discharge lighting systems. Participants can enhance their understanding of light source technologies and performance characteristics, as well as their appropriate applications.

David Wylie is a registered Professional Mechanical Engineer in the State of California. Wylie will present two separate lectures. In one he will give a “Technology Update” – participants can learn how to save money by implementing technology changes.

Wylie’s second lecture will cover “Implementing EE Projects.” Do you suspect that your old equipment is using too much energy and perhaps new equipment is worth the investment? On the other hand, why make a change when the old equipment is still running? This workshop will cover how to perform energy assessments, screening audits, feasibility studies and the selection of proper equipment.

Ron Smith will start every morning of the Summit with a different “Meteorology Overview – Putting Energy into Perspective.” Ted Flanigan will discuss “Simple Household Tips to Energy Efficiency” and “Solar 201.”

For the complete Summit agenda, which runs Aug. 11-15, go online to www.highsierraenergysummit.com, and while you’re there you can go ahead and register for the event.