

CHAPTER NINE

Acknowledgements

This chapter has nothing to do with steam heating, but everything to do with thanking and acknowledging all the people who helped make this field guide possible. So if you are looking for help with a steam heating problem, go back to Chapter Six. However, if you are looking for your name to be mentioned, please read on. Now I'm sure there will be someone that I will forget to mention, so I will offer my apologies to you right at the start. Sorry about that, but as I get old, it's my mind that is going first.

I would like to first thank my parents, Frank and Margaret Linhardt, for giving me the freedom to try my many different pursuits in life. They have always been there for me. In fact, the field guide is named for my father, not for me.

I couldn't have written and illustrated and rewritten and edited and redrawn this guide without my wife Jan and two sons, Kyle and Trent. Jan has sacrificed many days, nights, projects around the house, and time together to see this book to its conclusion. Thank you from the bottom of my heart. My oldest son Kyle has done a yeoman's job of data input. How he can read my handwriting is beyond me; maybe it is genetic. He has a real knack for everything computer; he set up the website too. If you bought the field guide off the web, you've got Kyle to thank because I am a computer idiot. Trent gets credit for being the shipping department.

Since it is my book and my dime, I'm going to acknowledge my five older sisters—Becky, Helen, Joan, Janet, and Kay. Together they shared and shaped my youth. While I am on family, I'd like to thank my Aunt Betty and Uncle Roger for being my favorite aunt and uncle. And I can't neglect to mention my great uncles Max and Cliff.

After my family, I have to thank another, the Arata family. The patriarch, "Silver Dollar Jimmy" Arata, founded the family business where I've worked for twenty years. A true Renaissance man, from playing the violin to bathtub gin to distributing boilers to cooking lunch for his employees, he did it his way. I have known and grown up with and gone to school with and worked with and learned from and played soccer with and been great friends with his grandson "Jimbo" since we met when we were four years old.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

His father, Lou Sr., hired me out of the Air Force with no experience in hydronic heating, but somehow saw my potential. Using an applicable cliché, he has forgotten more about steam and hot water heat than I'll ever know. I have to thank Lou's sister Mary Anne for all her help in getting the grammar and spelling correct, all except this chapter. If you ever call Aramac Supply, she will be the pleasant voice at the other end of the line, give it a try sometime at 513-541-2142. Mary Anne's daughter, Gina, keeps the spirit of her grandfather alive at Aramac Supply. Occasionally we cook lunch together, argue about the food preparations, drink some wine, and then enjoy it when our workmates and guests share the company of the kitchen with us. Those sharing the kitchen, the office, the sales counter, and the workload are Emily, Lisa, Bobby Lee, Jim, Calvin, Scott, Gerry, John and Jeff. Thanks to all.

We wouldn't stay in business without customers, so I'd like to thank some of the ones that have helped me along the way. Besides, if I don't mention them here, they might get mad and start buying from some other supply house. I'm going to list them in no particular order because they have all done things big and small to help me learn about steam heating. That is the great thing about this business, guys are willing to share information to make things work. So here we go: Roger Schweitzer, Ralph Corbin, Mike Burg, Don Jones, Gerry Schweitzer, Doc Rusk, Steve Morrison, Tony Caminiti, Kip Zimmer, Orville Bryant, Dale Schweitzer, Skip Zimmer, Jeff Greis, Jim Morrison, Mark Tallen, Tom Rehtin Sr., Mark Radtke, Chris Zimmer, Steve Schweitzer, et al. I would like to thank some of the people we buy from in this business who helped me get information from the manufacturers: Jack Jungels, Dan Molnar, John Cooper and Jerry Lamb.

Special thanks go out to the following people who were directly involved with the formation of this field guide. I want to personally thank Dan Holohan for writing the classic book, *The Lost Art of Steam Heating*. It opened my mind's eye to how steam heat works. He has also given me valuable input for the production and marketing of this manual. I also want to thank Dick Keller for the graphic design and the fabulous cover art. For helping a rookie author through his first attempt at publication, I want to thank Crystal, Dan, and Erv at DPS Associates, Marcus at Quebecor, and Kevin at QP Printing. What a strange trip it has been.

Finally I would like to acknowledge all the friends, past and present who helped me through the years. Friends make the world go round and I have been blessed with many friends in my life. Thanks to all of you.



Patrick Linhardt