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Carlson-Holohan Industry Award of Excellence

Dan Holohan, industry legend, author, teacher extraordinary, humanitarian and all around good guy tells Gil Carlsons' story to a crowd at "Wetstock". In his hands is the original "System Syzer®". This has become the **Carlson-Holohan Industry Award of Excellence.**



2010 - 2012 Proclamation

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Archived photo's on page 2 and 3 are courtesy of Bell & Gossett

The combined characters of Gil Carlson and Dan Holohan represent the best the hydronic heating industry has to offer in terms of design and integrity in marketing of steam and water heating systems for home comfort.

Gil Carlson (1922 - 1994), one of the founding fathers of hydronic heating was a remarkable man who understood fluid dynamics like no other. He spent most of his career at Bell & Gossett and retired there as Director of Technical Services. As of 2004, Gils stuff has been used to teach over 175,000 designers. One time colleague Bob Dilg shares this, "Gil believed in the power of education, and encouraged others to be all they could be. "I had no degree and Gil wanted me to progress," "He constantly encouraged me to further my education by taking night courses. When I told him that any degree would be years away, he just smiled that unique smile and said, 'But you'll be smarter every day!'" So is the legend of Gil Carlson.

Bell & Gossett's Little Red School

In 1954 Bell & Gossett® opened the doors to the Little Red Schoolhouse® training center in Morton Grove, Illinois.

Since that eventful day 50 years ago (1954), the HVACR industry's leading educational facility has trained more than 50,000 students in Morton Grove and over 125,000 worldwide through its "traveling classroom" program.



Gil with the System Syzer® which became one of the industries most widely used tools. The software version is made free of charge and downloadable from the Bell & Gossett web site.

<http://www.bellgossett.com>

Dan Holohan has this remarkable gift for communication. He took much of what Gil Carlson and the other "Dead Men" developed and rewrote it so others could understand. In his crusade to educate and bring together those of like minds and interest, Dan created a social network of people who care about the health, wellness, and comfort of consumers. Through his efforts and global circle of friends, he has raised hundreds of thousands of dollars for charities and individuals in need. A regular contributor to industry magazines, keynote speaker at industry functions, author, and humanitarian, Dan is industries most recognized and respected leader. If one wants to really see the big hearts and deep souls of a great industry led by a unique man visit one of the most popular sites on the web... <http://www.heatinghelp.com>.

The Carlson-Holohan Industry Award of Excellence came about when Dan auctioned off a significant portion of his personal library of collectable literature. Funds from the event went to help out a friend of Dan's, whose wife was ill and in need of full time care. Dan's friend was a small businessperson like most in this industry and faced a huge dilemma...stay at home to care for the love of his life or continue to work. The funds raised help this man do both.

In Dan's collection was the original Bell & Gossett sizing wheel invented by Gil Carlson, to help him quickly size and select pipes and pumping systems. Jim Hope who got it from Gil as a gift gave Dan this artifact. The "wheel" was eventually mass produced as Bell & Gossett System Syzer® and went on to become one of industries most widely used design tools. Today the software version is available free from the Bell & Gossett web site.

Gil's wheel came into my possession in the process of helping Dan help others... characterizing the statement "what goes around comes around". Dan (who lives by the motto 'pay it forward') at first wanted to give me the wheel as he had received it from Jim and Jim from Gil (knowing my love for the industry and industry artifacts). Rather than turn the exchange into some meaningful but inconsequential transaction we agreed to use the wheel for a greater cause. Thus, the **Carlson-Holohan Industry Award of Excellence** came into existence and is awarded every two years to an individual who has dedicated their career to growing the steam and hydronics industry through education, marketing, and fund raising. Nominations for the award can be made anytime at:

www.healthyheating.com

Criteria for nomination:

1. Over the age of 40
2. Citizen of the United States or Canada
3. Demonstrated leadership in industry as an educator and mentor.
4. Proven volunteer activities in industry associations, committees and activities.
5. Current or past fund-raiser for industry activities.

Conditions with the award:

- 1) The recipient is the sole guardian of the award...it is never to be sold, traded, loaned or owned by any one individual or company.
- 2) The recipient is required to carry the award to each seminar or public speaking engagement he or she delivers and is required to tell the story of Gil's Wheel.
- 3) During the two-year guardianship period (beginning the first of January and ending the last day of December in the second year) the recipient must search for a suitable candidate to carry on the story and with consultation of past recipients select a new keeper.
- 4) Each new holder must make some investment to protect the originality, and physical condition of the wheel so that its life journey will be preserved for all generations to see.



Wetstock attendee holds Gil Carlson's original next to the System Syzer® known to hundreds of thousands of designers around the world. One of the selection criteria for recipients is their active involvement in industry functions. This activity level takes the Award on a new journey every two years so others around the country can touch and feel the history.



A photo from the Bell & Gossett archives - Little Red School House graduates (1954).

Make your 2012-2014 nominations at

www.healthyheating.com

see [Carlson-Holohan website](#)

Carlson-Holohan Industry Award of Excellence--founders

Gil Carlson (1922-1994)

Professional Engineer
Director of Technical Services
www.bellgossett.com

Jim Hope

Marketing Manager
www.bellgossett.com

Dan Holohan

Author, Teacher, Professional Speaker
www.heatinghelp.com

Robert Bean

Registered Engineering Technologist
Professional Business and Technology Services
www.healthyheating.com

Special Thanks and Recognition:

In 2004, at the time of creating the award, we needed a strong voice in industry to carry on the heritage. One name came up over and over and so industry's best-known trade journalist,

Jim Olszynski

was asked to become one of the keepers of the story and in doing so has offered the

BNP Media Plumbing Group Magazines

to carry forth the legacy.

On behalf of all past, present and future recipients, a great big thanks to the Jim and the team at BNP.

<http://www.bnpmmedia.com/>

● Proclamation ●

In recognition of your contributions to the world of keeping the human race healthy, well and comfortable through selfless giving of your time and talents, teaching and mentoring to raise the benchmark of

professionalism and in raising awareness and funds for industry causes, the legacy of Gil Carlson and Dan Holohan forever hereby

includes,

Ken Webster

2010-2012 recipient of the
Carlson-Holohan Industry Award
of Excellence.