

FURNITURE

A focus

by Joelyn Brickner



'White glove guys' offer cool end-of-summer savings

As we pass the mid-month mark and head towards the end of September, San Diegans, (perhaps more than the rest of the country), can look forward to "the dog days of summer." In other words, we can still expect some hot weather for at least another month or so.

Ancient Romans believed that these hot days of late summer were caused by Sirius, also known as the Dog Star. The notion is still around after many centuries and a dog day afternoon is still regarded by many as one of the very hot days at the end of summer.

If you've been putting off replacing your air conditioning unit and listening to the fan on high for the remaining "dog days of summer," don't. Instead, keep a cool head and call ASI Hastings Heating & Air. Now is a great time to buy a new air conditioning unit, enjoy it for another month or two (before next summer) and save up to \$2100 in rebates and tax credits.

You've heard the commercials on the radio and have seen the print and TV advertisements. You might even know the jingle: 1-800-481-COOL. "The average family spends as much on heating and cooling their homes in



Keep a cool head and save some cold cash! Call the white glove guys at ASI Hastings Heating & Air.

a year as they do on gasoline," said Ken Justo, vice president of ASI. He also said that now is a great time to take advantage of current government programs and tax savings incentives for home improvements.

In fact, the government's "Cash for Clunkers" idea successfully caught on in many retail businesses, including ASI. (Please note, however, that not all of the retail programs emulating "Cash for Clunkers," are government sponsored).

Log on to <http://energystar.gov>. You'll find a list of federal tax credits for energy efficient home improvements. On the list, central air conditioners that meet certain requirements qualify for a tax credit of 30 percent of the cost (including installation).

The best way to find central air conditioning units that are eligible for the tax credit is to ask your heating ventilation and air conditioning contractor to verify tax credit eligibility and provide the Manufacturer's Certification Statement for the equipment you plan to purchase. (or search the Manufacturer's Web site).

Call ASI Hastings Heating & Air for a free estimate on a new HVAC system. 12 months same as cash financing is also available on approved credit.

If you've been contemplating the purchase of a new HVAC system for a while now, and have sweat it out because of the cost, it probably won't get any cheaper than this. Call the white glove guys at ASI Hastings Heating and Air today – remember, "1-800-481-COOL."

Find inspiration at the Del Mar fall home/garden show

Where do you get ideas for home improvements? TV shows? Magazines? Movies? Maybe you're lucky enough to have a green thumb or "an eye," for interior design, or even a family member or friend in the business. Well, there's always more to learn and see at the Fall Home/Garden Show, whether this is your first time, or you've been going every year for 20 years (yes, it's the twentieth year).

One of the features at this year's fall show will be over four hours each day of professional advice on "How to Save Water and Have A Beautiful Yard". With increasing restrictions on water supplies, Southern Californians can't afford to waste water, but how do you maintain your yard and garden with less water? Learn from experts faced with

this dilemma how to create beautiful solutions. You'll "soak up" how to clear a yard of thirsty plants while still enjoying a lovely landscape.



Visit the Gardener's Market Place at this year's fall home/garden show.

Attendees can also enjoy professionally-designed vignettes, sponsored by the American Society of Interior Design, featuring rooms appealing to both masculine and feminine tastes. Top local designers will present leading-edge information.

Visitors may also enjoy the display gardens outside created by San Diego's most talented landscapers and shop for plants directly from a selection of San Diego's finest growers. Plus, attendees will also be able to "Meet the Experts" where they can schedule an appointment with an interior designer or ask professionals questions about everything from building codes to getting rid of garden pests.

The show hours are today from 10am-6pm; and Sunday, Sept. 20, 10am-5pm. Admission is \$8.00; children under 12 are free. Seniors only pay \$1 admission on Friday. Half-day tickets after 3 pm are \$5.00. Discount tickets on the website are \$6.00

Both Spring and Fall Home/Garden Shows are produced by Lawrence Bame of Westward Expos in San Diego. Visit www.fallhomegardenshow.com. for more information.

Every Saturday in the Union-Tribune, look for "Furniture Focus" where you'll learn about San Diego's thriving home furnishings market - the latest trends, the stores, the events and the people. For advertising information, call (619) 293-1544 or visit utads.com.