

HISTORY
of the
CENTRAL OKLAHOMA CHAPTER
of
ASHRAE

Years:
2011-2025



History of the Central Oklahoma Chapter of ASHRAE, Years: 2011-2026

Publication Date: December 23, 2025

Dusty Stoabs, PE

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An Authorized Chapter of ASHRAE

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Central Oklahoma – An ASHRAE PAOE *Premier* Chapter



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Banner photos on Page 3:

Awards banners including PAOE Premier patches and ribbons going back to the inception of the PAOE program in 1970. The long red ribbon in the center of the first banner is the first PAOE ribbon ever awarded (1970-71). The PAOE award changed from a ribbon to a hexagon patch in 1977-78.



FOREWORD

Our chapter history is chronologically documented by chapter historians in a series of books. The first, *"History Recalled"*, covering the first 60 years of chapter history, 1935 to 1995, compiled by Chapter Historian, Bobbie J. Vermillion, and William J. "Bill" Collins, Jr., both now deceased, was published as part of the Society's Centennial anniversary. The second, *"History of the Central Oklahoma Chapter of ASHRAE, 1995-2011"*, covers the next decade, written by Chapter Historian, Alan Loeffler, and the late Dr. Faye C. McQuiston, was published in 2012. The third (this volume), *"History of the Central Oklahoma Chapter of ASHRAE, Years: 2011-2025"*, written by yours truly, Chapter Historian Dusty Stoabs, covers the next fourteen years of chapter history. All three of these books are available for free download on the chapter website.

We also have two biographies that contain a wealth of chapter history. *"The Life and Times of William J. Collins, Jr."* was authored by Dr. Faye C. McQuiston and published in 2010. *"The Life and Times of Louis C. Nettleship, Refrigeration Engineer"* was authored by me and published in 2016. Bill Collins was the first member ever inducted into the Central Oklahoma Chapter Hall of Fame. Louis Nettleship was the second, so it was fitting that those two have been honored with books documenting their life's work. Incidentally, Dr. Faye C. McQuiston and Bobbie J. Vermillion, along with Harry E. Rountree, were inducted together as part of the 3rd class.

Known today as the Central Oklahoma Chapter of ASHRAE, the Chapter was originally chartered by Frank Loeffler, Sr. on October 4, 1935 as the "Oklahoma Chapter of the American Society of Heating and Ventilating Engineers" (ASHVE) which was based on the original name for ASHRAE when it was founded in 1894. ASHVE, as a national Society, changed their name to ASHAE in 1954, and then to ASHRAE in 1959 when ASHAE merged with the American Society of Refrigerating Engineers (ASRE) which was founded in 1904.

The Oklahoma Chapter was rechartered in 1965 as the Central Oklahoma Chapter of ASHRAE to help distinguish it from the Northeastern Oklahoma Chapter which serves Tulsa, Oklahoma and surrounding area. The Northeastern Oklahoma Chapter was actually chartered in 1948, but it took 17 years for the Oklahoma Chapter name overlap to be rectified. When the Oklahoma Chapter was originally chartered, we were the 20th chapter of ASHVE, and were the first chapter in the southwest, now known as Region VIII.

In 1954, when the Society was divided into regions, our chapter agreed to act as the "guinea pig" and host a trial regional meeting (the type of meeting that today is called the Chapters Regional Conference, or CRC). The meeting was held at the Skirvin hotel on April 14-16, 1955 and attendance numbered 240 from 18 states including the District of Columbia and Canada. Representatives attended from more than half of the Society's chapters. In hosting this meeting in Oklahoma City, we started a new concept in Society operations.

In 1959-60 we were the first chapter to reach its quota in funding the United Engineering Center building at 345 E. 47th Street in New York City, the new home for ASHRAE Society at the time.

In 1967-68, chapter member William J. Collins, Jr. originated the Region VIII Golden Gavel Award, an award that has meant so much to the growth of Region VIII. Ours was the first chapter to win the Golden Gavel.

In 1970-71, Society President Frank Bridgers was so impressed with the Golden Gavel concept and its success that he instituted a similar award for the Society, known as the Presidential Award of Excellence

(PAOE). Our chapter earned that PAOE award in its first year in 1970-71 and has earned it every year since, allowing the Central Oklahoma Chapter to be referred to as an **ASHRAE “Premier” chapter**.

In October 1972, Ms. Carolyn Rae Crawford joined our chapter, the first female member of the Central Oklahoma Chapter, and in 1984 she became our first female Chapter President. She was also the first female chapter president in all of Region VIII.

In 1975-76, chapter member William J. Collins, Jr. served as Society President. As of the writing of this Foreword, he is the only member of our chapter to serve as Society President.

The Region VIII Chapters Regional Conference for the 1994-95 year in Oklahoma City was intentionally selected by chapter leaders to coincide with the chapter’s 60th Anniversary as well as the Society’s 100th (Centennial) anniversary. All was properly planned when the terrorist bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building occurred a few days before the conference. The welcome party was held from the top of the Liberty Bank Building in downtown Oklahoma City and the remains of the Murrah building could be clearly seen during the evening. Despite that tragedy, the CRC was held successfully.

Speaking of successful CRC’s, on Saturday, April 25, 2015, in Fort Worth, Texas, in front of ASHRAE members who traveled in from Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Louisiana, and the country of Mexico, Mr. Joe Sanders, President of the Central Oklahoma Chapter, and all the Central Oklahoma Chapter members present, were presented with the prestigious Golden Gavel; an annual award given to the best overall Chapter in the Region based on an exhaustive set of criteria including membership, donations, programs, activities, communications, and more. An award that had eluded the Central Oklahoma Chapter for the previous 22 years, going back to Chapter President B.H. Prasad in 1993.

Prior to 1993, the Central Oklahoma Chapter won this award, on average, every 2 years with the longest stretch without winning of only 6 years. The longest winning streak was from 1986 to 1991 when the chapter won the award five straight years in a row.

The Golden Gavel judging committee is taught not only to look at categorical performance considering chapter size, but to look for improvement over previous years. The award committee in Fort Worth must have certainly recognized that the Central Oklahoma Chapter experienced a tremendous year from every perspective. There were statistical year-over-year improvements in meeting attendance, research donations, regular membership, and student membership. You can read about the chapter’s accomplishments that year in this book under Chapter Year 2014-15.

Since then, we’ve had three more exciting Golden Gavel wins that we are very proud of. I hope you enjoy reading about our chapter history and, if you were there, perhaps it will bring back some memories.

Dusty Stoabs, PE
Central Oklahoma Chapter Historian



Chapter Year 2011-12



Bryan Garcia, Chapter President 2011-12

The chapter made a lot of changes this year. The meeting location changed to 50 Penn Place from The Centre to provide a more intimate setting and improved food quality. Average attendance increased 40% to 80 people and the chapter saw an addition of 21 new members! This was also a sign of success of the Chapter Technology Transfer Committees' (CTTC) effort to put on great programs.

The chapter had great involvement by two student chapters with members from OU and OSU regularly attending chapter meetings, at no cost to the student. The chapter also provided financial assistance to both universities by sending students to the ASHRAE Winter Conference in Chicago. The students that went on the trip reported back to the chapter on what they learned at the conference.

There were ASHRAE events at each university as well. OSU held a lecture series in which chapter members were invited. OU served as a site for the annual ASHRAE webinar with the chapter providing lunch. A tour of the newly constructed Central Energy Plant at the University of Oklahoma was also included for those in attendance.

The chapter made great strides to get the "Young Engineers in ASHRAE" (YEA) more involved. There were three separate YEA events this year and an increase in YEA members serving as committee chairs and even Board of Governors. The chapter sponsored Daniel Brazeale to the spring YEA Conference in which he participated and came back ready to get more involved, speaking very highly of his experience.

The chapter meetings played out as follows:

September: The annual golf tournament was held at Coffee Creek Golf Course with approximately \$10,000 in proceeds being split evenly between ASHRAE Research and Scholarships.

Highlights of 2011-12

- Successful ASHRAE Golf Tournament that raised money for ASHRAE Research Promotion and Scholarships
- New meeting location
- Supported students attending the Winter Conference from both OU and OSU
- Three YEA social events
- Sponsored a YEA to centralized training
- Created a new website, Twitter and Facebook
- 40% increase in meeting attendance
- 21 new members
- New endowed scholarship fund approved

October: The first regular chapter meeting of the year was held in a new location at 50 Penn Place. The speaker was Alan Niles of Water Furnace speaking on “Commercial Ground Loop Heat Pumps Systems: Design and Economics.” Edwin Lee, PhD student at OSU, received a \$2000 scholarship from the chapter.

November: James Roller from Chesapeake Energy spoke on “An Energy Alternate”, the use of CNG in transportation, especially in commercial vehicles.

December: Gary Meshberg spoke on “Lighting Requirements of ASHRAE 90.1 2010 and Demand Response & Digital Networked Lighting Control Systems”.

January, 2012: Distinguished Lecturer (DL), William Bahnfleth, shared a talk on Primary Chilled Water Flow.

February: Kevin Cash of TROX USA spoke on “Chilled Beams” and proper application of this new technology.

March: Jeff Jordan, of Optimum Energy Solutions, spoke on “The Building Commissioning Process and Its Effect on Best Practices in the Construction Industry”. Jeff surveyed the whole process and justified the need of the commissioning agent from the start to finish of a project. The chapter meeting was jointly sponsored with NEBB.



ASHRAE Society President, Ronald E. Jarnagin (center), among Oklahoma State University students at the 2012 ASHRAE Winter Conference and AHR Expo in Chicago, IL. Mr. Aruna Abhayagoonawardhana, chapter representative for Student Activities and Publicity, is to Mr. Jarnagin's right

April: Enrique Munoz, Commercial Applications Engineer with TACO, spoke on “Single Pipe Systems”. He discussed how energy savings could be achieved in certain applications (example: chilled beams) by using single pipe systems.

The chapter conducted a raffle at each monthly meeting by selling tickets at the registration table. Prizes were donated by members and ASHRAE Research Promotion (RP) benefited from the proceeds collected.

The new meeting room at 50 Penn Place brought with it new meeting dates and a new room set up. Starting this year, the chapter meetings moved from the second Wednesday of the month to the first Wednesday. Also, the chapter had the tradition of having a head table at the front of the room where the officers and guest speakers would sit. It was a long table and everyone sat on one side facing the membership. In the center of the head table was a lectern. Starting with the meetings at 50 Penn Place, the head table disappeared and only a lectern remained.

The Student Activity Committee was active this year joining with IEEE, OSPE, ASCE and SAME to recognize National Engineers Week. Future City is a high school student team competition to design a portion of a future city. Members of ASHRAE served as judges and the student activity chairman was the media coordinator for the Oklahoma Region. The chapter president was one of the volunteer judges. ASHRAE's committees and other members provided expertise in the HVAC field to an HVAC college course at the Oklahoma Christian University.

In February, the chapter worked with the National Environmental Balancing Bureau, Oklahoma Chapter to co-host an eight hour seminar devoted to testing and balancing HVAC systems.

The chapter changed their website host provider and updated the design. The old website had not been kept up-to-date and was languishing with outdated information and dates.

This year, the chapter also started a Twitter feed and a Facebook page to provide alternative communication paths to the members.

At the May Board of Governors meeting, member John Semtner presented documentation from the Oklahoma City Community Foundation including a Permanent Scholarship Fund Agreement for consideration by the Board. The program was voted on and approved and authorization was given to form the new endowed scholarship fund. Its funding process was to begin by transferring existing chapter funds earmarked for scholarships.

For the upcoming 2012-13 chapter year, there needed to be a change in the chapter officer line up. The 2011-12 Chapter Secretary needed to withdraw from the chairs for personal reasons, leaving a hole in the 2012-13 President-Elect position that needed to be filled immediately. The nominating committee went to work and identified David Royal as a suitable candidate to step in to the 2012-13 President-Elect position and to follow through as Chapter President for the 2013-14 year. The chapter voted David in along with the rest of the slate of officers. David was suited for the job. He had moved to the Central Oklahoma Chapter from the Nebraska Chapter, where he had already moved through the chairs and served as Chapter President in Nebraska during the 1987-88 chapter year.

Bryan Garcia was actually originally elected to chapter Secretary for year 2004-05. After moving through the chairs, Bryan would have been president in year 2006-07, however, circumstances caused Bryan to withdraw.

Harry Rountree ended up being elected President-Elect in 2005-06 to replace Bryan. Harry then served as President in 2006-07. That was Harry's second term as chapter president. His first go-round was all the way back in 1969-70, when he and the chapter won the Golden Gavel!

Bryan Garcia returned and was elected Secretary again for year 2009-10 and followed on through the chairs becoming President in 2011-12. Good thing, as the Central Oklahoma Chapter, under his leadership, had an outstanding year in 2011-12 improving in many areas over the previous year.

President Bryan Garcia reflected on his experience: *"It has been a blessing to serve as President this past year with the leaders I serve with. Everyone has stepped up and helped in areas to make sure we have had a successful year. It is because of all of us working together that we have been successful."*

Chapter Year 2011-12

OFFICERS:

President	Bryan Garcia
President Elect	Dusty Stoabs
Secretary	Brian Determan
Treasurer	Shaun Sexton

BOARD OF GOVERNORS:

Board of Governors	Jim Stengle
Board of Governors	Mark Furgason
Board of Governors	Tim Jones
Board of Governors	Trapper Wilson

COMMITTEE CHAIRS:

Attendance	Jenny Haltom
Governmental Affairs	David Royal
Historian	Alan Loeffler
Membership Promoton	Tim Jones
Newsletter	Bryan Garcia
Refrigeration	Don Carter
Research Promoton	David Royal
Roster	Dusty Stoabs
Scholarship	Grant Flurry
Special Events	Bob Carson
Student Actvites	Tom Hughes
Technology Transfer	Don Carter
Webmaster	Bryan Garcia



Chapter Year 2012-13



Dusty Stoabs, Chapter President 2012-13

The chapter kicked off the year with the traditional fall golf outing. The event was very successful with twenty-seven companies contributing to ASHRAE Research and the scholarship foundation fund.

The chapter president made it a point to leverage technology to improve communications. The chapter continued to use the eVite online invitation program to send out invitations and track RSVP's for the monthly meetings. Every month, the eVite distribution list was updated with names and email addresses to ensure that every new member got an invitation to the meeting. The eVite invitations always included the presentation topic, speaker name, bio, meeting time and location, cost and forms of payment accepted. A great feature of using eVite was that every invitee could see everyone else's RSVP and know who planned on attending. Two days prior to the event, everyone who hadn't responded to the eVite received a reminder message. Then, on the day of the meeting, everyone who RSVP'd for the event got a reminder message sent to them.

In addition to the eVite going out to all members, each month an iContact message from the Chapter President went out with announcements and a link to the newsletter. This process ensured that Chapter members always received complete and updated information on all Chapter activities.

The chapter had a new eNewsletter Editor this year. The new editor stepped into this role taking over for last year's chapter president who ended up having to edit the newsletter himself. The new editor did an excellent job giving the Sou'Wester a new look and making sure the newsletter was published every month starting in September. A total of eight newsletters were published this year.

To provide the best chapter programs, the CTTC committee kicked off the year with a topical online SurveyMonkey survey to gauge the interest of the members on different topics. Once the SurveyMonkey results were tabulated, the committee reserved the best speakers they could get for the most requested subjects.

Highlights of 2012-13

- The chapter hosted a bus trip to the AHR Expo and Winter Conference in Dallas.
- 23 students went to the Winter Conference and the chapter and the region covered \$1,000 of their expenses.
- The Region VIII Scholarship and the David C. J. Peters Scholarship were awarded to chapter student members.
- The chapter held a refrigeration tour and hosted the ASHRAE webcast at two locations.
- Chapter meeting invitations were organized and RSVP's were tracked online.
- The Chapter produced a quality newsletter every month.
- Informative iContact updates were sent out every month.

The following is a list of the programs. Interesting topics, great food, and PDH certificates lead to an average attendance of 70 people per meeting.

October: Cooling Tower Fundamentals; Brandon Rees with Cooling Tower Depot.

November: Extreme Event Engineering – Understanding IBC Seismic/Wind Requirements; Lawrence Turner with Vibro-Acoustics.

December: Air Measurement Technologies; Bob Sousa with Air Monitor Corporation.

January: Underfloor Air Distribution, Displacement Ventilation, and Chilled Beams; Julian Rimmer with Price.

February: Air Filtration Technologies; Stephen Zitin with Bioclimatic Air Systems.

March: Demand Ventilation in Kitchens Applications; Dr. Andrey Livchak with Halton.

April: ASHRAE 90.1 Compliance; Chris Mathis (Distinguished Lecturer) with Mathis Consulting.

May: Optimizing Efficiency of Condensing Boiler Systems; Joel Southwell with Synex Controls.



Matt Mitchell
Oklahoma State University Student Chapter President

Incidentally, the chapter increased the cost of the monthly meeting from \$18 to \$20 this year.

In January, 2013, the AHR Expo and ASHRAE Winter Conference took place at the Dallas Convention Center. That huge, combined event isn't held in Dallas very often, so, due to the convenience of it being so close, the chapter organized a bus trip to go. This was a repeat of the same bus trip the chapter took the previous time the expo/conference was in Dallas in 2007. The 2013 trip was a success with many members who would not normally go to the expo/conference getting the opportunity to go. The bus trip provided a unique atmosphere for visiting and comradery. The bus left OKC from the FSB parking lot at 6:00 AM, stopped in Norman at the Lloyd Noble Center, then arrived in Dallas with 56 members on board at 10 AM. There was a continental breakfast provided on the bus. After the event, the bus then departed Dallas at 6 PM and there was a box dinner on the bus on the way back. It was a long day but a great experience.

This year, the long-standing student chapter at Oklahoma State University continued to thrive. They consistently maintained a strong presence at chapter meetings and took 19 students to Dallas for the Winter Conference! The student chapter at the University of Oklahoma showed great improvement in student leadership this year by attending chapter meetings and taking 4 students to the Winter Conference. The chapter was pleased to, once again, help finance students to the Winter Conference. The Chapter and Region VIII together provided \$1,000 to split between OU and OSU to help cover travel and registration expenses. The student chapter president from each school reported to the chapter at the subsequent chapter meeting about their experience.

The chapter was honored to have two outside scholarships awarded to students within the chapter. Gaizka Lasa, a student at the University of Oklahoma, and Mei Yung (Amy) Wong, a student at Oklahoma State University, were selected at the Winter Conference to receive the

Region VIII Scholarship for \$3,000 and the David C. J. Peters Scholarship for \$5,000 respectively.

Outside of the monthly programs and the trip to Dallas, the chapter hosted two additional technical events. They toured a local brewery and learned how refrigeration is used during the brewing process. Additionally, they hosted the ASHRAE annual webcast in two locations; University of Oklahoma and the local Trane office. The subject of the webcast this year was Dedicated Outdoor Air Systems.

Back in 2008, Chapter President Grant Flurry enlisted Dusty Stoabs to head up a project to replace the chapter paper roster with an electronic version online. Grant had learned that the Northeastern Oklahoma Chapter had already successfully done this. Dusty then hired the computer programmer who had worked with the Northeastern Oklahoma Chapter to create the new Central Oklahoma Chapter Directory. It contained the member directory as well as company listings for product reps, consulting engineers, contractors and utility companies, plus student chapter listings and a products directory.

This online directory was updated electronically from the Society's member database and the company and product listings were updated by each company themselves via a unique log in for every company. These features relieved a chapter member from the extremely laborious task of updating the roster manually once a year. The online Chapter Directory operated successfully for four years.

Unfortunately, in chapter year 2011-12, the chapter switched website hosts and created a new and improved website, but inadvertently deleted the Chapter Directory program and the entire database. It was gone forever. All hope was not lost however, as the chapter would soon "reboot" the website and the online directory with a new version of each utilizing the "StarChapter" website service.

President Dusty Stoabs reflected on his experience: *"Every chapter success is a direct result of the efforts put forth by the volunteers we have in leadership positions. Having a high number of returning committee chairs gives the chapter much needed and valuable experience."*



*ASHRAE members showing off their Research Promotion contribution award coins.
Left to Right: Daniel Brazeale, Dusty Stoabs, David Royal, John Harrod, Alejandro Garcia*

Chapter Year 2012-13

OFFICERS:

President	Dusty Stoabs
President Elect	David Royal
Secretary	Joe Sanders
Treasurer	Shaun Sexton

BOARD OF GOVERNORS:

Board of Governors	Brian Sauer
Board of Governors	Daniel Brazeale
Board of Governors	Grant Flurry
Board of Governors	Jason Keyes
Board of Governors	John Semtner
Board of Governors	Mark Furgason
Board of Governors	Timothy Jones

COMMITTEE CHAIRS:

Historian	Alan Loeffler
Honors & Awards	Alejandro Garcia
Membership Promoton	Tim Jones
Newsletter	Tony Clark
Research Promoton	David Royal
Student Actvites	Brooke Enochs
Technology Transfer	Daniel Brazeale
Webmaster	Bryan Garcia
YEA	Daniel Brazeale



Chapter Year 2013-14



David Royal, Chapter President 2013-14

The year kicked off, again, with another successful golf outing with past president, Bryan Garcia, organizing the event at the Kickingbird Golf Course in Edmond, Oklahoma. Twenty-five companies contributed toward ASHRAE research and scholarships.

The chapter leadership implemented the new “StarChapter” subscription based website service and blog and the chapter president was diligent in posting regular updates throughout the year. New members were sent a welcome email and a link to the website with instructions on establishing a password for access to the member’s section which included the membership roster.

The highlight of the year’s programs was having Dr. Lily Wang, professor at the University of Nebraska and an ASHRAE Distinguished Lecturer, come speak on Improving Sound Performance in Classrooms.

The full slate of meeting presentation topics was as follows:

November: BIM Storm OKC, presented by the Frankfurt, Short, Bruza BIM Team.

December: Insuring Energy Efficient and Healthy Buildings—Effective Control of Outside air, presented by Peter Hmelyar with Aircurity.

January: HVAC Acoustics Strategies for Indoor and Outdoor Applications, presented by Brandon Wallace with BRD Noise and Vibration Control.

February: Single Zone VAV, presented by Brett Smith with AAON.

March: Liquid Desiccant AC Technology by Trevor Wende with Advantix Systems.

April: Acoustics that Make the Grade, Improving Sound Performance in Classroom Environments, presented by Lily Wang, University of Nebraska.

May: Recent Mechanical Code Changes, presented by Jerry King with City of OKC.

Highlights of 2013-14

- Successful golf outing with 25 companies contributing to research and scholarships
- New “StarChapter” subscription based website service with blog and roster
- ASHRAE distinguished lecturer presentation
- Society webcast hosted in three locations
- Numerous YEA events. YEA in leadership roles
- Future City, Engineer for a Day, and Math Counts participation
- Scanned old photos and documents and published the files on the new website
- Successfully resolved a significant IRS issue involving improperly filled 990 forms from years 2008-09, 2009-10 & 2010-11

The chapter hosted the ASHRAE Society webcast in three locations this year: Trane's office, R.B Akins Company, and Automated Building Systems.

YEA had numerous events this year including happy hour's, bowling, and paintball. The YEA Chair, Michael Wilson, attended the YEA Leadership Weekend in September in Atlanta, GA. Michael stated that was a great learning opportunity to help develop his leadership skills and generate ideas for YEA events.

Several members of the chapter participated in Future City and Math Counts competitions. Also, several companies sponsored "Engineer for a Day" activities and attended the Joint Engineering Societies banquet held on February 20th.

The Chapter awarded \$250 to an OSU student to help offset her expenses from attending the Winter Conference and AHR Expo in New York.

The chapter's Historical Committee sorted and scanned approximately one hundred old photos and documents and published these files on the new website under the History tab. The History tab was designated to be the source for past CRC reports, interviews, and other miscellaneous history documents, making this easily accessible to anyone.

Alan Loeffler, the chapter Historian, presented "History Notes" during three different chapter

meetings this year, with some interesting show and tell "artifacts" from the chapter archive.

The Board of Governors recognized that there were quite a few YEA members becoming involved in committee positions and began to make a concerted effort to encourage those YEA to commit to move through the chairs (Secretary, President-Elect, President and Board Member Ex-Officio).

In spite of some very good programs, however, the attendance this year dropped off from the previous year. The average attendance at chapter meetings was only 49 and it was sporadic with a low of 37 and a high of only 61.

Another challenge this year was the receipt of several letters from the IRS stating that the chapter owed thousands of dollars in penalties and interest for incorrect tax returns for the years 2008-09, 2009-10 & 2010-11. After a significant effort of communicating with IRS and hiring a tax attorney to file corrected returns, President David Royal was successful in getting all the penalties and interest charges dropped.

Mr. Royal commented on the effort and commitment required to be Chapter President: *"The Chapter has quite a few members involved in leadership positions, so the future looks promising, but we need to develop procedures that will make taking on the presidency less daunting."*



YEA Paintball Event

Chapter Year 2013-14

OFFICERS:

President	David Royal
President Elect	Joe Sanders
Secretary	John Semtner
Treasurer	Shaun Sexton

BOARD OF GOVERNORS:

Board of Governors	Brian Sauer
Board of Governors	Daniel Brazeale
Board of Governors	Dusty Stoabs
Board of Governors	Grant Flurry
Board of Governors	Jason Keyes
Board of Governors	John Semtner
Board of Governors	Mark Furgason
Board of Governors	Michael Wilson
Board of Governors	Rick Marsh
Board of Governors	Stephanie Thomas
Board of Governors	Timothy Jones

COMMITTEE CHAIRS:

Historian	Alan Loeffler
Honors & Awards	Alejandro Garcia
Membership Promoton	Timothy Jones
Newsletter	Bryan Garcia
Research Promoton	Adam Shupe
Special Events	Bryan Garcia
Student Actvites	Caleb Spradlin
Technology Transfer	Daniel Brazeale
Webmaster	David Royal
YEA	Michael Wilson





Chapter Year 2014-15



Joe Sanders, Chapter President 2014-15

The leadership of President Joe Sanders and President-Elect, John Semtner, along with all the Board of Governors and committee chairs, catapulted this year to one of the most successful chapter years seen in decades.

Chapter leadership began planning the year early by holding individual goal setting sessions with committee chairs starting in February, five months before this chapter year officially started. A survey was sent out to the membership asking what type of topics everyone wanted to see. Once the programs were finalized, "Save the Date" postcards were physically mailed to every member before the first chapter meeting listing the dates, topics, and speaker's names for each meeting of the year. This early planning and high level of organization caused meeting attendance to immediately increase. Additionally, new members were personally contacted before each meeting to encourage their attendance. The chapter saw an overall year over year increase in meeting attendance of over 25%. Chapter membership itself increased significantly in both new members and new student members.

Highlights of 2014-15

- Meeting topics and speakers determined before the year began
- Save the Date post cards sent out before the first meeting
- Program topics centered around legislation, codes, commissioning, ethics, and energy and very little emphasis on products
- Joint meetings with AIA and PHCC
- Increased YEA involvement
- Held PE examination study sessions
- Published a printed roster for the first time in many years
- Held the first Day on the Hill at the State level by any ASHRAE chapter in Society
- Appointed the chapter's first Sustainability Chair and committee
- Appointed the chapter's first Social Media Chair
- Created a new cloud storage account for chapter documents
- Revitalized the chapter's Honors and Awards program
- Inducted two people into the Chapter Hall of Fame
- Increased meeting attendance, membership and contributions
- Won the Golden Gavel Award for the first time in 22 years

The list of programs for the year was as follows:

October: Oklahoma Secretary of Energy and Environment, Michael Teague, gave a great presentation of his office's responsibilities including energy production, water resources, earthquakes, and energy codes. The meeting not only provided much needed information from his office but also opened a line of communication for helping shape future policy. The presentation was concluded with a great question and answer session discussing Oklahoma energy codes and

what might be needed to get them updated. This meeting was also a joint meeting with the American Institute of Architects.

November: Retro-Commissioning of Health Care Facilities; Ed Tinsley with TME gave an excellent presentation with great advice for control strategies that would apply to any facility, not just health care.

December: Professional Ethics; Bruce Pitts, Director of Enforcement for the Oklahoma State Board of Licensure for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors, presented on professional ethics and had a very clever take on the subject by comparing the State licensing laws on ethics to the ASHRAE Code of Conduct. This resulted in many members realizing that ASHRAE actually has an ethics policy that all members are obligated to.

January: VRF Regulations, Codes, and Standards; Keith Reihl presented on refrigeration requirements and where the future of refrigerants might be headed.

February: ASHRAE bEQ Building Labeling Program; DL Ross Montgomery, an ASHRAE Distinguished Lecturer, spoke on the bEQ program, something that many members did not clearly understand prior to this meeting.

March: Kitchen System Basics: A very special evening meeting that took place at the Francis Tuttle School of Culinary Arts' District 21 restaurant. This year the chapter re-instituted "Spouse's Night", which had been abandoned several years earlier. The event was promoted very well and sold out all 80 available tickets! The members and their spouses were first treated with a tour of the school's teaching kitchens led by Halton Hood's rep Shane Armstrong. After that, another tour of the facility's mechanical penthouse was given by the Temtrol rep Carl Cressey. The event also served as the Chapter's annual Refrigeration Tour since it included the systems for refrigerators and freezers. After the tours, everyone enjoyed a fabulous dinner prepared and served by culinary students.

April: HVLS Fans & ASHRAE 55; Jason Hornsby, with MacroAir, spoke on the application of High-Velocity Low-Speed fans and options to consider. Jason discussed how you can actually reduce AC tonnage and run-time and better disperse conditioned air in a building space.

May: Psychrometrics; Bruce Albertson led a discussion on Applied Psychrometrics and used the meeting room as the example of how to determine the moisture and temperature load and what actual supply air conditions are needed to achieve the desired room conditions.



ASHRAE chapter meeting at 50 Penn Place

Outside of the regular monthly programs the chapter also: 1) held a joint meeting with PHCC with Oklahoma City Chief Mechanical Inspector, Jerry King, 2) toured the Viola central plant which serves a large portion of downtown Oklahoma City, and 3) toured the new Central Boathouse that uses a VRF system to maintain office space, a workout facility, art gallery, and performing arts space.

Stemming from the efforts of last year's Board of Governors, President Joe Sanders brought in an insurgence of youth involvement into chapter activities with eight of his committee chairs being YEA. The chapter was even able to sponsor two of those members to attend Society-level YEA Leadership Weekends where they received valuable leadership training that they could use in ASHRAE and in their professional careers.

The chapter sponsored its first ever series of PE examination study sessions where chapter PE's volunteered their time to help prepare younger engineer intern members for the upcoming test. The sessions were a success and they had a 100% pass rate for all who studied in the group.

Through the established chapter scholarship endowments, the chapter was able to award four scholarships to college students totaling \$6,900.

Another mainstay from years long past that was brought back this year was the printed roster. The chapter had shifted to an online version through the new website but many members weren't used to looking for it there and never accessed it. While printing a roster is by no means innovative, the chapter took this as an opportunity to raise funds for the upcoming CRC in Oklahoma City by including advertising in the roster. Leadership thought they might be able to raise around \$1,500, which would offset the cost of printing and still put about \$1,000 in the CRC fund, but they actually were able to raise \$3,800.

On February 11th, 2015, the Central Oklahoma Chapter, in conjunction with the Northeastern Oklahoma Chapter, successfully completed the first ever "Day on the Hill" by any ASHRAE chapter at the state level. Members from the two Chapters spent several hours visiting offices of the

state's 150 legislators, providing information about ASHRAE and raising awareness of the work of the Society. In the subsequent weeks, follow up contacts were made to legislators thanking them for their time.

The chapter appointed its first Sustainability Chair this year and the inaugural year for the Sustainability Committee was a great success. The committee met monthly in order to identify community service sustainability events. The committee ultimately sponsored two events with non-profit organizations, Rebuilding Together and the Oklahoma City Boathouse Foundation. The first activity was an Oklahoma River Boathouse district cleanup and recycling event. Members spent the day collecting trash and recyclables from the riverfront and grounds. All recyclables were taken to a recycling center. The participants were then provided a tour of the new Chesapeake UCO Central Boathouse. The tour highlighted the variable refrigerant flow equipment unique to its air distribution.



Joe Sanders receiving the Jack Thompson Award from DRC Bill Klock

The second event was conducted in conjunction with Rebuilding Together to make improvements to the home of a physically handicapped individual. Chapter membership spent the day painting and weather proofing the interior rooms of the house. Additionally, local mechanical contractor, Trade Mechanical, installed a new accessible shower.

The chapter's biggest fundraiser, the annual golf tournament, was once again a tremendous success. Leadership was able to attract more sponsors this year and increase the sponsorship level of a few supporters. Annually, the tournament is the main funding source for increasing scholarship endowments and funding ASHRAE research. The chapter increased contributions significantly over the previous year as well as increasing the total number of individual contributors.

This year the chapter separated the social media and the webmaster responsibilities. While they had done a good job keeping the website current the past year, the social media accounts were not. By establishing an official Social Media Chair, they were able to post pictures and updates on a much more regular basis and were able to reach the YEA members with much greater success. As of this year, the chapter had a presence on Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, and Instagram.

The chapter also created a Dropbox account for the officers, committee chairs, and board members to serve as an organized central location for electronic documents to be stored indefinitely and with the intent that it would be starting place for future leaders to get the resources they need to be successful. In years past, it was as if the leadership was constantly "reinventing the wheel" with each new chairperson or officer when hard copy documents were not passed down consistently. With the new cloud storage account there was now a place to keep the work of successful predecessors and take some of the stress off of new leaders.

In the years leading up to this one, the chapter was doing a very poor job at seeking out honors and awards that chapter members could earn. So this

year, a new honors and awards chairman, Tino Mendez, was brought in to revitalize efforts and begin to formally recognize members' efforts and achievements.

The chapter honored two of its past presidents by inducting them into the Central Oklahoma Chapter Hall of Fame. The chapter hadn't bestowed this honor on anyone for 15 years. Past DRC John Harrod, and past president (current NE Oklahoma Chapter member) Mike Beda were honored for their service not only to the chapter but for their work at the regional and national levels.

Aruna Abhayagoonawardhana was honored for his service at the Regional level with the Regional Award of Merit and John Harrod with the Society's Exceptional Service Award.

This year marked the passing of chapter past-president (1973-74) C.D. "Bud" Miller. As well as being an ASHRAE Life Member, Bud was twice president of the Sheet Metal Contractors Association of Oklahoma, and he served 5 years on the National Board of Directors for SMACNA.



The prestigious Golden Gavel

As a result of the chapter's exceptional performance in essentially overhauling almost every category this year, Mr. Joe Sanders and the chapter were presented the prestigious Golden Gavel at the 2015 CRC in Fort Worth, Texas. This ended the 22 year drought going back to when the chapter last won the Golden Gavel in 1993 with B.H. Prasad as president. On top of that, Joe personally won the Jack Thompson Award which is given annually at the CRC to the most effective Chapter President in the Region.

When asked if he started out the year with the goal of winning the Golden Gavel, and now that he's done it, was there anyone in particular that he would like to thank, Joe Sanders had this to say:

"My personality is that if there is something to win, I want to win it! But really, my goal was that if I couldn't win the Golden Gavel, I wanted to work as hard as I could to put the Chapter in a position where we could really compete for it during John's (Semtner) year. However, John was actually working as hard as he could so that we could win during my year. That was one of the more significant things; normally a person going through the chairs tends to sit back and just observe during their year as President-Elect. John didn't do that. I probably had the most helpful President-Elect in history.

I tried to get it setup so that all I had to do was provide oversight to committee chairs and allow them to do their work; and for 99% of the time, that's exactly how it went. We did, however, have one committee that started getting behind, but we rallied the troops and others stepped in. Members

who weren't even really involved came in to help. If anything surprised me, it was the level of buy-in I got. Jeff Forman and Chris Dolan were two that really stepped in. I don't want to start naming people because I'm sure I'll forget someone. There were many who came in to help when needed. That committee ended up exceeding their goal.

I met with John Harrod and Tino Mendez several times throughout the year. They have a lot of ASHRAE experience at the Regional level. Their advice and confirmation that we were on the right track was very valuable. I had stressed to my committee chairs to stay in constant contact with their RVC, and they did a real good job of doing that. I got started on the CRC report early in the year. Tino told me that the Chapters that impress the judging committee are the ones that do things no other chapters are doing. I tried to highlight those kinds of things in the report, and I had several people review the report before it was final.

I can't remember who's idea it was to have a Spouses Night at District 21 and double that as a Refrigeration tour, but that hit a homerun.

Overall, it wasn't really me, it was everyone involved, especially my committee chairs that allowed us to win this award. It was a team effort.

I really enjoyed my time as Chapter President. I liked working with everyone in our industry and really benefited from the character building and leadership skills. It was a rewarding experience."



ASHRAE members after working with Rebuilding Together to make improvements to a home including painting, weather proofing and installing a new accessible shower

Chapter Year 2014-15

OFFICERS:

President	Joe Sanders
President Elect	John Semtner
Secretary	Mark Furgason
Treasurer	Stephanie Thomas

BOARD OF GOVERNORS:

Board of Governors	Adam Shupe
Board of Governors	Brian Sauer
Board of Governors	Daniel Brazeale
Board of Governors	David Royal
Board of Governors	Dusty Stoabs
Board of Governors	Grant Flurry
Board of Governors	Jason Keyes
Board of Governors	Michael Wilson
Board of Governors	Rick Marsh

COMMITTEE CHAIRS:

Governmental Activities	Byron Huges
Historian	Alan Loeffler
Honors & Awards	Tino Mendez
Membership Promotion	Daniel Brazeale
Newsletter	Damon McClure
Refrigeration	Jason Keyes
Research Promotion	Adam Shupe
Social Media Chair	Madison Schultz
Student Activities	Caleb Spradlin
Technology Transfer	Michael Wilson
Webmaster & Electronic Comm.	David Royal
YEA	Andy Donehue



Chapter Year 2015-16



John Semtner, Chapter President 2015-16

Seamlessly following through from the very active 2014-15 year, President John Semtner and the chapter leadership kept the ball rolling with early planning sessions and lofty targets. A separate CTTC planning session was held prior to the Board of Governors early planning meeting. The goals this year were to have a great line up of meetings plus exceptional special events and tours.

The chapter year got a great kick off with the fall golf tournament. It always serves to bring everyone together after the break and to raise money for Research Promotion and scholarships. This year, there was such an interest, they had to turn away golfers as all available spots filled up.

An additional social event/fund raiser was added this year, in March, with the chapter's first sporting clays tournament at Silverleaf Shotgun Sports in Guthrie. The tournament had 18 teams of four persons each. Between the golf tournament, sporting clays, and other smaller fund raising efforts, the chapter increased its RP contribution over last year.

The chapter increased the monthly meeting cost from \$20 to \$25 this year, however, an attendee could still get the \$20 price if they registered early. Offering a discounted early registration price was designed to increase registrations and decrease the number of unregistered walk-ups. Traditionally, the chapter president was responsible for communicating the anticipated number of meeting attendees to the venue caterer a day or two before the meeting. To ensure that enough food was prepared, a multiplier was always applied to the number of registrations to account for walk-ups. If the count was overestimated, however, the chapter would be charged for that number of meals, but the door receipts would be short and the chapter could lose money. Providing an incentive to register early was intended to allow the count multiplier to be reduced and help improve the bottom line.

Highlights of 2015-16

- Early planning meetings to keep up the momentum from Golden Gavel year
- Chapter's first sporting clays tournament
- Two Distinguished Lecturer presentations
- Diverse variety of topics at chapter meetings
- Dr. Faye McQuiston receives the Lou Flagg Award
- OSU power plant tour and presentation on their new central plant
- Two sustainability events
- Riversport Rapids whitewater rafting pumping facility tour
- Second annual Day on the Hill
- Increased number of YEA and Student Activities events
- Substantial contribution to the chapter's endowed scholarship fund
- Establishment of the chapter vice-president position

The slate of chapter meeting presentations for 2015-16 were as follows:

October: Distinguished Lecturer, Dan Int-Hout, Chief Engineer at Krueger, presented on how energy savings in the wrong areas can lead to occupant discomfort and loss of productivity. He presented strategies for optimizing airflow and the benefits of ventilation and economizer operations.

November: Billy Pope with the Oklahoma Uniform Building Code Commission, spoke to the chapter on the commission and how the code approval process works.

December: Paul Weigl, Program Manager with Oklahoma Gas and Electric, participated in the annual Spouse's Night. He spoke about OG&E's involvement in various energy related programs and was able to keep the presentation relatable to the spouses. Spouse's Night was held at Rocky's in Bricktown.

January: Brandon Wilkerson with Poole Fire Protection and SFPE facilitated a discussion in a joint meeting for explaining SFPE's goals for a standard outlining minimum requirements for fire protection design. He also led a technical presentation on special inspections for atrium smoke exhaust.

February: Ebtron's Mark McCrea spoke to the chapter over demand control ventilation strategies and approaches with different technologies.

March: The second Distinguished Lecturer of the year, Barry Benator with Benatech, spoke on negotiation skills and how important it is for both parties to come out as winners. He also presented on the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator and how one can use this knowledge to understand the personality of the person they are negotiating with.

May: Russell Hawkins with Vibro-Acoustics presented on HVAC acoustics basics and troubleshooting.



ASHRAE Central Oklahoma Board of Governor's Meeting at Junior's during lunchtime

The April chapter meeting went on the road to Stillwater for an outreach with the Oklahoma State University. The event included a tour of the existing power plant and a presentation of the design of the upcoming new central plant. Following that, was a presentation by OSU, including a team of students, on ASHRAE research projects being conducted at the university. Finally, the highlight of the meeting was the presentation of the Lou Flagg award to Dr. Faye McQuiston for his historical work on William J. “Bill” Collins, Jr.. The ASHRAE Region VIII DRC, Bill Klock, was present to help hand out the award. Upon receiving the award, Dr. McQuiston addressed the crowd and spoke from his heart of his fondness for ASHRAE and OSU and the strong bond the chapter and the university have had for decades. The chapter then presented a check for \$1,000 to the William J. Collins Jr. Graduate Research Fellowship that Dr. McQuiston established at the university in 1988.

The combination of great food, great topics, including two DL’s, plus PDH certificates lead to an average attendance of over 70 people.

This year, the regular chapter meetings were also made more entertaining with raffles held each month, with net proceeds going to Research Promotion.

The Sustainability Committee put on two volunteer days, in line with last year’s efforts. The first was conducted through Rebuilding Together to make improvements to a home. Chapter membership spent the day painting and weather proofing the interior rooms of the house. Additionally, Trade Mechanical donated and installed a new HVAC system.

The second sustainability committee activity was a cleanup and recycling event at the Oklahoma River Boathouse District. Many forms of recyclable waste float along the river and end up caught against the shore. The chapter spent the day collecting trash and recyclables from the riverfront as well as the grounds. All recyclables were taken to a recycling center. The Chapter was provided a tour of the new Riversport Rapids whitewater rafting facility by Harrison Orr Mechanical. The tour highlighted the massive pumping systems responsible for creating the rapids.



Dr. Faye McQuiston (center) receiving the Lou Flagg Award from DRC Bill Klock (left) and Chapter President John Semtner at OSU

The Central Oklahoma and Northeastern Oklahoma chapters held a joint “Day on the Hill” for a second year. March 10th, 2016 marked the second annual event where chapter members met with state representatives. This year, the focus was to urge them to give authority to the OUBCC to adopt and implement a modern energy code and to offer ASHRAE as a resource for information about HVAC and energy conservation in commercial building systems.

In years past, chapter YEA events have operated on a shoestring budget. This year, the chapter offered sponsorship opportunities for different events for \$200. That budget made a huge difference in the quality of YEA events. The YEA committee held multiple events including mini golf, bowling, TopGolf, and a brewery tour.

The chapter had an active year with Student Activities as well. They hosted six events on campuses including presentations about engineering and ASHRAE in general, career fair preparation and resume critiques, and applied psychrometrics. Ultimately, they held events on five college campuses around the state.

A few years earlier, the chapter Board of Governors authorized an endowment through the Oklahoma City Community Foundation for scholarships to students in the state. This year, the chapter was able to add an incredible \$15,000 to that endowment.

The Board of Governors voted this year to create a Vice-President officer position which would automatically be filled by the most immediate past-president. The purpose was not only to improve continuity from year-to-year, but to also provide an additional chair position that contributes to the point total calculation of the Chapter Service Award. The Central Oklahoma Chapter has struggled to award Chapter Service Awards to their past presidents at the rate that other chapters in the region were doing. This is because the chapter didn’t have a vice president position and the fact that the chapter prefers to use the same treasurer year after rather than allowing that chair position to be in the normal officer rotation.



ASHRAE members and guests gather for a group photo during a monthly chapter meeting

The chapter Honor & Awards Chairman, Tino Mendez, submitted an application to elevate Life Member, Dr. Jerald Parker to the grade of Fellow. Among his many accomplishments, Dr. Parker was most widely known as the co-author of the textbook "Heating, Ventilating, and Air-Conditioning Analysis and Design" with Dr. Faye McQuiston and Dr. Jeff Spittler. Dr. Parker's family and members of the chapter were intimately involved in the process of putting the application together and were looking forward to a favorable outcome. Dr. Parker's application had the recommendations of three other PhD's and three ASHRAE Fellows and should have been a shoe-in for the award. However, Dr. Parker passed away after the application was submitted, but before it had been reviewed by ASHRAE Society's Honors and Awards Committee. The committee notified the chapter that due to Dr. Parker's death, they rejected the application because, by rule, they do not elevate a member to Fellow posthumously. Seeing this as a tragedy, the chapter put forth a motion at the CRC so that this situation does not repeat in the future.

This year also marked the passing of another Life Member, D. Barton Turkington. Both Dr. Parker and Mr. Turkington were university professors with Barton Turkington at the University of Oklahoma for 40 years and Dr. Parker at Oklahoma State University for 28 years and then Oklahoma Christian University for 27 years after that.

President John Semtner and the chapter leadership orchestrated a highly successful year but, unfortunately, did not repeat as Golden Gavel winners, as the award went to LeAnna Reynolds and the Northeastern Oklahoma Chapter.

When asked to reflect on his years as president-elect and then president of the chapter, John said the following:

"We were riding high, but so are several others in our Region. I tried to continue the momentum that Joe set forth, but didn't push a lot of new policies. We increased membership, attendance, and RP giving from that year, and that continued growth, I'm very proud of. Our event at Oklahoma State University was huge. Honoring Faye McQuiston was special to me and you could tell it meant a lot to him and his former students."



Chapter Year 2015-16

OFFICERS:

President	John Semtner
President Elect	Trapper Wilson
Secretary	Damon McClure
Treasurer	Stephanie Thomas

BOARD OF GOVERNORS:

Board of Governors	Brian Sauer
Board of Governors	Dusty Stoabs
Board of Governors	Jeff Forman
Board of Governors	Joe Sanders
Board of Governors	Rick Marsh

COMMITTEE CHAIRS:

Governmental Activities	Byron Hughes
Historian	Dusty Stoabs
Honors & Awards	Tino Mendez
Membership Promotion	Daniel Brazeale
Newsletter	Jeff Forman
Refrigeration	Jason Keyes
Research Promotion	Chris Dolan
Scholarship Chair	Caleb Spradlin
Social Media Chair	Madison Schultz
Student Activities	Madison Schultz
Technology Transfer	Michael Wilson
Webmaster & Electronic Comm.	David Royal
YEA	Andy Donehue



Chapter Year 2016-17



Trapper Wilson, Chapter President 2016-17

A couple of years ago, in Society year 2014-15, when Joe Sanders was Chapter President, Mark Furgason was Secretary and would have followed President-Elect John Semtner through the chairs making Mark the President in 2016-17. However, at the start of the 2015-16 year, when John became Chapter President, Mark withdrew leaving a vacancy in the President-Elect position. Newly elected Secretary, Trapper Wilson, then skipped Secretary and went right into the President-Elect slot for 2015-16. Damon McClure was then elected to fill the open Secretary position for 2015-16. So, in 2016-17, we had Trapper Wilson as Chapter President having only served one year prior as an officer. Anyone who has served as Chapter President knows how valuable those two years are prior to becoming president in helping you prepare to be Chapter President.

Following two consecutive, very active years, where the chapter won the Golden Gavel Award in 2014-15, the most prestigious award a chapter can

win, and where the chapter had exceptional presentations, special events and tours in 2015-16, the membership naturally expected great things from this 2016-17 leadership ensemble, especially with this year being the year that Central Oklahoma would host the Chapters Regional Conference (CRC). So, with all that was going on, it was good that most of the committee chairs from last year remained, bringing their experience to the planning table.

This was the first year for the chapter leadership team to include the newly established Vice President position. Last year, the Board of Governors (BOG) voted to create a Vice-President officer position to be automatically filled by the most immediate past-president, in this case, John Semtner. With this, a member going through the chairs would serve a year at each of the following positions, in order: Secretary, President-Elec, President, Vice-President. The officer team in 2015-16 of John, Trapper, Damon, and Stephanie Thomas as Treasurer, worked very well together and was very effective. In 2016-17, that exact same team remained in place, plus the addition of Jeff Forman as Secretary.

Highlights of 2016-17

- Region VIII CRC held in OKC
- Huge effort by the CRC committee
- First year for Chapter VP position
- Three DL presentations
- Lost the big ClimateMaster donation
- First annual "Casino Night"
- Second annual "Sporting Clays" event
- Third annual "Day on the Hill"
- Chapter uses Basecamp for the first time
- New student branch at Eastern Oklahoma County Technology Center

The purpose for the new Vice President position was not just to improve continuity from year-to-year by allowing the outgoing president to impart hard-earned lessons-learned, but also to increase the point-total calculation to earn the Chapter Service Award. Adding an additional year of service as a chapter officer makes that award much easier to achieve since each year of service as a chapter officer counts for a certain number of points toward the award.

One category that always seems a challenge to keep the momentum going is Research Promotion. RP, as it is commonly referred to, is the chapter's fund-raising effort that supports ASHRAE Society and all the work it does to educate and provide quality resources. Society RP always sets a goal for the chapter to strive for and Central Oklahoma is known for raising money well above the average in our region on a per member basis, and we are known for hitting our goal. However, Society never wants you to let your guard down, and when you hit the goal they set for you, they then like to raise the goal for the next year.

One of the ways Central Oklahoma has achieved such a high RP level each year was by a substantial donation from ClimateMaster, year after year. However, this year, the Climate Control Group (CCG), their parent company, restructured, and the chapter lost that donation. The chapter RP Chair, Chris Dolan, helped offset the loss by adding an additional fund raiser event. Along with the chapter's traditional golf tournament (which dates back to 1957) and the second annual sporting clays event, he added "Casino Night" hosted at the Engineered Equipment Inc. office. It required a \$50 buy-in, \$25 re-buy, and the initial pot was split 50/50 between RP and the winners. All re-buys went 100% to RP. With these fundraisers, plus a rigorous calling campaign, the chapter had another successful year in Research Promotion, despite the loss of that large CCG donation.

In addition to addressing fundraising challenges, the chapter also focused on improving communication and collaboration. Society started advocating for chapters to utilize *Basecamp*, a website with features such as calendars, chats and electronic document storage.



Chapter Board of Governors Meeting at Junior's Supper Club, August 2016

After seeing a presentation of Basecamp at the CRC last year in Tyler, Texas, President Wilson started using the free, trial version. One of his goals was to reduce the number of emails members received. Another goal was to have open dialog through Basecamp about chapter business more frequently than every month at BOG meetings. If the website appeared to be a good resource for the chapter, the BOG stated they would allocate a budget line-item for the paid subscription version next year. The BOG also suggested that the chapter utilize the website, *Dropbox*, as a backup storage location to save all files that were put on Basecamp.

With seasoned committee chairs on board, the chapter's activities and outreach, once again, were very good. Madison Schultz returned for her second year as Student Activities chair. Last year, she greatly increased the number of events on campuses. This year, she kept the momentum by continuing to spread student activity meetings to new locations. One accomplishment was the creation of a new student branch at Eastern Oklahoma County Technology Center.

Byron Hughes returned for his third year to lead the Grassroots Government Advocacy Committee

(formerly the Grassroots Government Activities Committee), and for the third year in a row, the chapter participated in a joint "Day on the Hill" event at the State Capitol with the Northeastern Oklahoma Chapter. Ever since the first Day on the Hill on February 11, 2015, the GGAC committee has engaged lawmakers in conversation regarding updating our State-adopted energy codes.

Yours truly, Dusty Stoabs, returning for a second year as Chapter Historian, was presented with the Society's 2017 Lou Flagg Historical Award at the Society's Annual Conference in Long Beach, California. The award was given for my publication of "The Life and Times of Louis C. Nettleship PE, Refrigeration Engineer, 1912-1995". The Lou Flagg award recognizes an ASHRAE member for compiling information on an outstanding historical person or project related to HVAC&R. The book is 63 pages, 8.5x11 format, filled with photos, dates, stories, and humor, and illustrates the reasons why Louis Nettleship was inducted into the Central Oklahoma Chapter Hall of Fame. One aspect of the biography that makes it interesting, and unique from anything else like it, is the personal letters written by Louis himself to his family, reproduced at the bottom of every page, starting in chapter two, and continued in an appendix. The letters reveal a personal side to Louis, including his wit and humor, and include some of his artwork caricatures. The book includes an appendix with over 100 pages of historical documents to support the timeline and record of events.

The Chapter Technology Transfer Committee (CTTC) started planning with a meeting in the summer with the intent of locking in all chapter meeting presenters for the year. Unfortunately, the task proved too difficult as presenters for the first half of the year were only determined a short time before each monthly meeting. In fact, every newsletter from September to January only listed the upcoming meeting's presenter and topic but then had "TBA" as the presenter and topic for the next meeting. One monthly meeting did not have a speaker. Sometimes, the best intentions just don't materialize. In the end, however, the chapter still had many good speakers for the year. CTTC managed to bring in three Distinguished



*President's Luncheon
2017 Region VIII Chapters Regional Conference
Oklahoma City, Skirvin Hotel*

Lecturers (DL's) to fill vacancies. DL's are presenters that are vetted by ASHRAE Society and made available to Chapters at a reasonable cost. The slate of Chapter Meeting presenters, presentations, and locations for 2016-17 were as follows:

September 2016: Eli P. Howard, SMACNA Executive Director; SMACNA Standards and Tour of the SMACNA Training Facility; SMACNA Training Facility in OKC.

October 2016: Ryan Geister, Trane Systems Leader; *Next Generation Refrigerants*; 3rd Floor, 50 Penn Place

November 2016: Dr. Victor Goldschmidt (DL); *Thinking Like an Engineer & Social Challenges*; 3rd Floor, 50 Penn Place

November 30, 2016: Spouses Night, no speaker or presentation; Remington Park

January 2017: Dr. Kishor Khankari (DL); *Computational Fluid Dynamics*; 3rd Floor, 50 Penn Place

February 2017: Cory Toole and Trey Parsons, CLEARResult; *Demand Side Management*; 3rd Floor, 50 Penn Place

March 2017: Lt. Governor Todd Lamb; *Challenges Oklahoma Faces*; 3rd Floor, 50 Penn Place

April 2017: Patricia Graef (DL); *Legionellae Risk Management for Water Systems*; 3rd Floor, 50 Penn Place

May 2017: Even Berger, CALMAC Director of Energy Solutions; *Hidden Costs in Daytime Energy Use*; 3rd Floor, 50 Penn Place

Chapter Secretary, Jeff Forman, produced detailed meeting minutes of every chapter meeting, including summary notes from each presentation. This effort is worth noting as the chapter often neglects recording any minutes from chapter meetings, let alone providing a summary of the presentation in the minutes!

The Region VIII CRC is held every year in April and the responsibility to host conference moves from Chapter to Chapter. Central Oklahoma has always held our CRCs in Oklahoma City and we have hosted the event six times prior: 1955 (1st ever CRC in Society), 1963, 1974, 1985, 1995, 2007, and now 2017 at the historic Skirvin Hotel. The Skirvin was the site of the original 1955 CRC and this year's CRC planning committee thought it fitting to have the conference there again. This year's event was a great success undoubtedly due to the almost TWO YEARS the planning committee worked to prepare for the three-day conference! The planning committee, led by John Semtner and Joe Sanders, had many members assisting in the preparations. Attendees came in from Texas, Arkansas, Louisiana and the country of Mexico, as well as Society folks from Atlanta.



Madison Schultz, Damon McClure, Joe Sanders (in back)

When asked about his experience with ASHRAE and his year as president, Trapper had the following to say:

“I have been involved with ASHRAE for a while and have seen many people come and go. Throughout those years there have been times where participation has varied under different leadership. I believe that in recent years our membership has become very strong, which makes the responsibility of the President and officers much easier. Joe and John both did a great job, so my goal was to continue the momentum that has been built over the past 4-5 years.”

When specifically asked about the CRC this year, and how that whole thing went down, Trapper remarked:

“First, I have been to many CRC’s, and I think the Central OK CRC was one of the best I’ve ever attended. The credit goes to the CRC committee... Joe Sanders and John Semtner were co-chairs for the event. So, for me that extra burden of planning the CRC and accomplishing our chapter goals was lifted. As a member of the committee, my observation is many dedicated people sacrificed a lot of personal time to host a fantastic event. To me, that’s what ASHRAE is about. Giving back to our industry through the Society that helps to support our livelihoods.”



CRC attendees getting the ride of their life at the OKC Riversport Rapids CRC excursion event

Chapter Year 2016-17

OFFICERS:

President	Trapper Wilson
Vice President	John Semtner
President Elect	Damon McClure
Secretary	Jeff Forman
Treasurer	Stephanie Thomas

BOARD OF GOVERNORS:

Board of Governors	Andy Donehue
Board of Governors	Caleb Spradlin
Board of Governors	David Royal
Board of Governors	Madison Schultz
Board of Governors	Travis Wolfe

COMMITTEE CHAIRS:

Governmental Activities	Byron Hughes
Historian	Dusty Stoabs
Honors & Awards	Tino Mendez
Membership Promotion	Daniel Brazeale
Newsletter	Clay Coe
Refrigeration	Jason Keyes
Research Promotion	Chris Dolan
Scholarship	Robert Smith
Social Media	Madison Schultz
Student Activities	Madison Schultz
Sustainability	Brian Sauer
Technology Transfer	Andy Donehue
Webmaster & Electronic Comm.	Michael Wilson
YEA	Caleb Spradlin



Chapter Year 2017-18



Damon McClure, Chapter President 2017-18

This year's Chapter President, Mr. Damon McClure, works as a Project Manager for Harrison-Orr Air Conditioning, LLC, a large mechanical contractor in OKC. He has worked for them for about a decade since graduating college with a degree in Mechanical Engineering. Having a contractor serve as Chapter President is actually something somewhat rare. Most presidents are either design engineers or salespeople, with a few facility owners sprinkled in from time to time.

Damon's presidential theme for the year was: *Contribute. Purpose.* His initiatives, as outlined to the Board of Governors in the back room of Junior's Supper Club, were outlined in three points: 1) Increase membership overall and increase activity of members, 2) Increase RP contributions, especially individual contributions, (individual contributions make up only approximately 11% of the chapter's total contributions), and 3) Increase student, YEA and women membership.

With his background in the industry, a passion for bringing trade apprentices and vo-tech center students into ASHRAE membership was not surprising when Mr. McClure announced that as a specific goal related to his membership initiatives. Even more rare than a contractor serving as Chapter President is a trade apprentice or a vo-tech student signing up for an ASHRAE membership.

President McClure believed that the apprentices of local trade unions represented a large contingent of untapped potential ASHRAE members. He, and a couple of other chapter representatives, met with board members of the two local unions, Local 124 (sheet metal) and Local 344 (plumbers and pipefitters), and discussed with them how ASHRAE membership could supplement their respective educational programs. The chapter followed up with a "Meet & Greet Night" with Local 344's apprenticeship school.

Highlights of 2017-18

- Contractor as Chapter President
- Focus on union trade apprentices and vo-tech center students
- Meet & Greet Night with Local 344's apprenticeship school
- Motion to extend student membership rates to apprentices
- Double the Full-Circle contributions
- Three Distinguished Lecturers
- 19 people attend Day on the Hill
- 14 students attend the winter meeting
- YEA event every month
- Dr. Jeff Spitler in Chapter Hall of Fame
- Won the Golden Gavel!

The chapter also put forth a motion at the CRC in San Antonio to extend student membership rates to certified apprentice trade school students. Locally, our two industry-related union apprenticeship schools have over 50 students learning HVAC&R related skills. The motion put forward was the combined effort of President McClure, Jeff Forman, Randy Schrecengost (Austin Chapter), and Chris Ahne (NW Arkansas Chapter). The motion called for ASHRAE to “*establish criteria for acceptable student membership regarding accredited vocational and/or apprentice trade school students.*”

The success of Mr. McClure’s second initiative rested on the Research Promotion fundraising activities of the longstanding annual golf tournament and social event, as well as the third year of the sporting clays tournament, which is especially popular with contractors, and the second year of the poker tournament. The golf tournament brought in an impressive \$18,000. It included hole sponsors and vendor displays, plus a silent auction including Thunder NBA basketball game tickets, OU football tickets, a TV, a cooler and a golf driver. The tournament also added a mulligan ball option and \$500 vendor sponsorships which allowed a vendor tent at a hole tee box. The sporting clays event was also very successful, bringing in \$8,000 for RP.

The chapter tried a new activity this year attempting to establish an “Eat at the Garage Night” at The Garage restaurant in Edmond. The Garage donated 10% of its sales to the chapter.

To help achieve President McClure’s goal of increasing RP individual contributions, RP Chair Chris Dolan convinced the Board of Governors and Officers to not only contribute the minimum \$100 to achieve the Full Circle Award (something the Chapter officers normally do) but to contribute double the minimum this year.

Concerning chapter educational programs, the CTC was able to lock in three Distinguished Lecturers from the ASHRAE DL circuit. Their programs, as well as all the others, were as follows (all meetings held on the 3rd floor of 50 Penn Place, unless noted otherwise):

October 2017: Joseph Thorndal, Greenheck Fan Corporation; *Recent Trends in Lab Exhaust Systems*

November 2017: Chris Mathis (DL), Mathis Consulting Company; *Why Buildings Matter and the Role of ASHRAE 90.1*; The Capitol Hill Library

December 2017: Dean Saputa, UV Resources; *How UV-C Can Help Your Building*



Chesapeake Central Plant Tour and Instruction, February 8, 2018

January 2018: Chris Torline, Trane; *The Future of Connected Buildings*

February 2018: Afternoon meeting; Tom Determan, Determan Scheirman Engineering, Chesapeake Tier III Central Plant & Data Center Tour; Chesapeake Central Plant

March 2018: Companions Night; Karine LeBlanc (DL), US Air; *How to Use Emotional Intelligence to Become a Better Person Professionally and Personally*; Remington Park

April 2018: Pam Duffy (DL), Lennox International; *How Standards Are Made, and Other "SECRETS"*

May 2018: Hank Hartsell, State of Oklahoma; *Update on Oklahoma Health Standards and How They Apply to HVAC*

Outside of the chapter meeting's educational programs, the OKC area had three companies agree to host the annual ASHRAE three-hour long webcast, "Making Energy Efficiency a Reality."

The Grassroots Government Advocacy Committee continued their annual "Day on the Hill" jointly with Northeastern OK Chapter, as it has been done since 2015, this time with 19 total members present (9 from our chapter).

The Student Activities committee had four active student branches this year: OSU, OU, UCO and Eastern Oklahoma County Vo-Tech. Other Vo-Tech activities were at the Metro Tech Metro STEM Academy in OKC, and Gene Autry Technology Center in Enid. ASHRAE continued to be integral to the work performed at OSU with four research grants awarded this year totaling \$20,000.

Student Activities chair, Scott Sanders, made good use of his newsletter article space to write up two Student Spotlight articles which featured the studies of an OSU and an OU graduate student. He called this focused effort the "Student Protégé" program.

President McClure and Scott Sanders made a special effort to get as many student members to the Winter Conference as possible, even going as far as personally adding financially to the chapter and regional sponsorships. With a combined contribution of \$2,600, the chapter sent fourteen college students to the winter meeting. The students were chaperoned by two professors from Oklahoma State University, Dr. Bradshaw and Dr. Bach.

The Young Engineers in ASHRAE (YEA) committee successfully accomplished a YEA sponsored event every month from October to April. Events included breweries, game centers, restaurants and paintball.

The chapter promoted sustainability and community service with the two same volunteer efforts from past years: Rebuilding Together and picking up trash along the Boathouse District for the Oklahoma City Boathouse Foundation.

Something that doesn't happen every year is someone getting elected into the Chapter Hall of Fame, but that is exactly what happened this year when the chapter Officers & Board of Governors elected Dr. Jeff Spitler of OSU to the Central Oklahoma Chapter Hall of Fame on November 20, 2017. Dr. Spitler has served at the chapter and regional level, and especially at the society level on technical committees. He has received numerous awards including the Exceptional Service Award.



Dr. Spitler Chapter Hall of Fame Induction, Jan 10, 2018

With a very well-rounded year, including every committee contributing, plus a unique and interesting focus toward trade unions and vo-techs, it resulted in setting the chapter apart from all the others in Region VIII and allowing the Central Oklahoma Chapter, and President Damon McClure, to win the Golden Gavel at the 2018 CRC in San Antonio! It had been three years since Joe Sanders and the 2014-15 leadership team had won, which was the year that ended the 22-year drought going back to when the chapter last won the Golden Gavel in 1993. In 2014-15, Mr. McClure served in the critical role of newsletter editor before he embarked on the journey of going through the chairs to Chapter President.

When asked to reflect on the chapters greatest achievements this year, President McClure responded:

“The two biggest impacts in this area were sponsoring fourteen college students to attend the Winter Conference, and our chapter’s student outreach to trade apprenticeship schools and local vocational schools.”

When asked for a speech after winning the Golden Gavel Award, Damon had these words of wisdom:

“Surround yourself with like-minded people as you are only as strong as your weakest team member.

I know that I could not have achieved this award without the help of all the local chapter volunteers, chairs, and members.

I am grateful that I was nominated by my peers to serve in this capacity and able to add to the storied history of the Central Oklahoma Chapter.

Thank you to everyone that believed in my goals and helped our chapter achieve them and much more.

Our chapter was truly able to contribute purpose to ASHRAE.”



Winter Conference Central Oklahoma Chapter Student Lunch, Jan 22, 2018

Chapter Year 2017-18

OFFICERS:

President	Damon McClure
Vice President	Trapper Wilson
President Elect	Jeff Forman
Secretary	Madison Schultz
Treasurer	Stephanie Thomas

BOARD OF GOVERNORS:

Board of Governors	Andy Donehue
Board of Governors	Caleb Spradlin
Board of Governors	David Royal
Board of Governors	Michael Wilson
Board of Governors	Robert Smith

COMMITTEE CHAIRS:

Electronic Communications	Madison Schultz
Governmental Activities	Byron Hughes
Historian	Dusty Stoabs
Honors & Awards	Tino Mendez
Membership Promotion	Daniel Brazeale
Newsletter	Conner Walters
Refrigeration	Justin Love
Research Promotion	Chris Dolan
Scholarship	Robert Smith
Social Media	Madison Schultz
Special Events	Bryan Garcia
Student Activities	Scott Sanders
Sustainability	Brian Sauer
Technology Transfer	Andy Donehue
Webmaster	Michael Wilson
YEA	Caleb Spradlin





Chapter Year 2018-19



Jeff Forman, Chapter President 2018-19

The 2018-19 year, with Jeff Forman leading the charge, kicked off with a lot of momentum coming off of a Golden Gavel year managed by last year's president, Damon McClure.

President Forman used the President's Message in the monthly newsletter not only as a platform to make announcements, but also to provide a "teaching moment" as he put it, on character, commitment, and community with a "Character Topic of the Month" message.

Jeff's chapter objectives for the year were to increase student, YEA and female membership. During the year, however, the objective refocused to continuing the effort that began last year of looking for future membership growth potential via vo-tech students and union trade apprenticeship programs. The industry had been experiencing a shortage of service technicians and tradespeople and partnering with career tech schools and trade unions remained a logical way to enable ASHRAE membership growth while

providing valuable interaction and resources to those groups.

This year, RP continued their traditional fundraising events: the golf tournament, poker (casino) night, and the sporting clays tournament. All were well attended and went smoothly. To give some perspective on the size and impact of these events, revenue was approximately \$2,000 for the casino night, \$6,000 for the clay shoot, and \$12,000 for the golf tournament. To top them all, however, the Climate Control Group donated \$20,000 to the chapter, after a two-year hiatus!

The chapter continued its commitment to community service by scheduling another Oklahoma River cleanup. A cleanup of the Riversport Rapids was scheduled for October but was rained out. The effort was, however, rescheduled and took place December 1 with a Devon Boathouse/River cleanup. A spring community service event was held in March in conjunction with Rebuilding Together OKC to renovate the home of an 82-year-old veteran. Partnering with several other groups, they were able to provide a new roof, new drywall, new flooring, exterior repair, and a kitchen remodel!

Highlights of 2018-19

- Teaching moment in every President's Message
- Focus on Vo-Tech and Trade Unions
- Impactful Rebuilding Together effort
- Three Distinguished Lecturer presentations
- Two Society Presidents visited
- End of meetings at 50 Penn Place
- Meetings at Francis Tuttle and Metro Tech
- \$50 raffle at chapter meetings
- Plant tour with three Chapters in attendance
- Updated Constitution and Bylaws
- YEA activity every month

The educational program line-up for the year was exceptional! The chapter, again, hosted three ASHRAE Distinguished Lecturers, plus two ASHRAE Society Presidents! Shelia Hayter, the current Society President, spoke at the February chapter meeting and attended an AAON lab tour in Tulsa. Tim Wentz, 2016-17 Society President, spoke at the May chapter meeting.

In February of 2019, 50 Penn Place became no longer available to host our chapter meetings. President Forman decided to use this as an opportunity to build on the desire to have career tech schools involved in the chapter by arranging for most of the remaining chapter meetings to be held at the Francis Tuttle Technology Center, Reno Campus, and the Metro Technology Center.

The following is a list of our chapter meeting presentations for the year. At every meeting, the Membership Promotion committee held a \$50 raffle, drawn randomly, for any member who brought a guest.

October 2018: Charlie Waddell, President of G.P.S.; *Application of ASHRAE 62.1 IAQ Method*

November 2018: Dave Milligan & Gary Lochner, Innovent; *Natatorium Design, Psychometrics, Outside Air and Energy (2017 ASHRAE Journal)*

December 2018: Dr. Nathon Mellor, Strata Leadership; *C3 Concept for Organization and Companies, Character, Competency, Consistency*

January 2019: Mark Fly, AAON; *Acoustic Basics, Sound vs. Noise, Rating Scales*
(Last meeting at 50 Penn Place)

February 2019: Two Part Presentation: 1) Randy Zimmerman, Titus Air Distribution; *Design Principles, Application* (DL & ASPE Joint Meeting). 2) Shelia Hayter, Society President; *Building Our New Energy Future*

March 2019: Madison Schultz, ASHRAE Central OK Chapter; *Engineering for Architecture* (Joint AIA Meeting)

April 2019: Spouses Night; Hoy Bohanon (DL); *ASHRAE Building Energy Quotient (bEQ)*; Remington Park

May 2019: Tim Wentz (DL); *Back to the Future: Our Industry in 2030, Emerging Trends and Technologies That Will Likely Shape Our Future*; ASPE Joint Meeting

Outside of the chapter meetings, the chapter hosted two refrigeration related tours. The traditional brewery tour with YEA, plus a tour of the AAON NAIC Research. The Tulsa trip had Central OK Chapter, NE OK and NW Arkansas in attendance. That event gathered a regional crowd due to Shelia Hayter being a part of the tour group.

GGAC completed its fifth annual Day on the Hill at the Oklahoma State Capitol on March 12th, 2019. Prior to that day, our chapter met in Tulsa with the NE OK Chapter to plan the event. At the event, our team, with 22 participants, received confirmation that certain representatives would put forth a bill to move the state to a more modern energy code. The State has been stuck on the 2006 IECC for a long time. Our group met directly with 26 state legislators.



Grassroots Government Advocacy, Day on the Hill. March 12, 2019

Concerning our own chapter's governance, our Constitution and Bylaws were overhauled this year; signed by the Chapter President and adopted by the BOG in February 2019. The Constitution and Bylaws used to be two separate documents but were combined into one as of this update. The chapter uses the standard Constitution and Bylaws provided by Society, but with a few edits that are specific to the Central Oklahoma Chapter.

Concerning student activities for 2018-19, the chapter had four student branches active this year: University Oklahoma (OU), Oklahoma State University (OSU), Eastern Oklahoma County Vo-Tech (EOC Tech), and the University of Central Oklahoma (UCO). OSU has had an active student branch for decades. OU has become consistently active over the past years. The smaller colleges and Vo-Techs are hit-and-miss depending on how much effort our chapter puts into them and the level of interest of the professors. This year, the chapter continued to work with OSU professors supplying equipment and coordinating for their spring research projects. For 2018-19, the chapter increased its Central Oklahoma student AHR sponsorship from \$1600 to \$2900 and had eight OSU/OU students and professors travel to the Winter Meeting/AHR Expo in Atlanta. The Student Activities committee sponsored the first student chapter meeting of the year at OSU, and followed up the next month sponsoring an OU student chapter meeting which included a tour of the Stephenson School of Biomedical Engineering (Gallogy Hall). They also had participation in their 2nd annual MetroTech STEM Academy event

which included panel discussions with the students on what companies are looking for and the benefits of ASHRAE membership.

YEA was active with an activity planned for almost every month. In October, they had a PE study session. November had a poker tournament. December, a social hour at a restaurant/bar. February, they did an escape room. March was paintball, and April was their brewery tour.

To get a jump on the next Society year, in the Spring of 2019, president-elect Madison Schultz sent out a survey to all chapter members asking how they would like to get involved. Every person who responded wanting to volunteer was given a committee, co-chair, or chair assignment. This effort was intended to add co-chairs to committees that have, in recent years, only included a single member: the Chairperson.

At the Spring CRC in April 2019, President Forman gave a lively performance during his chapter presentation during the Region VIII Business Meeting in Cancun. He highlighted the chapter's successes with quick changes of his hat and shirt using them as illustration props! He did keep an undershirt on the whole time. But, with the strictly enforced presentation time limit of 5 minutes, President Forman's antics were cut short, and he didn't finish much of the presentation that he had planned. DRC Jon Symko had arranged for nerf balls to be thrown at any presenter who exceeded their time.



Final Chapter Meeting at 50 Penn Place. January 9, 2019

When looking back at the combination of 1) the motion at the 2018 CRC to allow trade union and career tech students to join ASHRAE as student members, 2) the effort to start student chapters at local vo-tech centers, and 3) having three chapter meetings at vo-tech centers, it all resulted in the focus on trade union apprentices and career technology students becoming a defining theme for the year and for President Jeff Forman.

In reflecting on the chapter accomplishments that were most meaningful to him, Chapter President Jeff Forman had the following to say:

Surpassing last year's Golden Gavel PAOE points total and being 1st in PAOE points for the Region was important to me.

One step higher was spending time with the 2018-19 ASHRAE Society president Shelia Hayter, who

accepted my invitation to visit local HVAC manufacturing companies, our chapter, and NE OK's chapter.

Getting another former Society president, Tim Wentz, to visit and speak at our last meeting capped off an exciting year. However, one of the most meaningful events was our Sustainability activity working with Rebuilding Together to rebuild one of our local veterans home.

Seeing the deplorable conditions that man lived in after serving our country and keeping us safe, and then seeing how much difference our ASHRAE members and other organizations made to improve his quality of life was humbling and extremely gratifying. Practicing the Golden Rule of "loving your neighbor as yourself" is timeless.



*ASHRAE Society President Visit to Oklahoma. February 6, 2019.
Left to Right: Gary Fields, Shelia Hayter, Mark Fly, Jeff Forman*

Chapter Year 2018-19

OFFICERS:

President	Jeff Forman
Vice President	Damon McClure
President Elect	Madison Schultz
Secretary	Chris Dolan
Treasurer	Stephanie Thomas

BOARD OF GOVERNORS:

Board of Governors	Aruna Abhayagoonawardhana
Board of Governors	Grant Flurry
Board of Governors	Joe Sanders
Board of Governors	Jordan Demas
Board of Governors	Melissa Lowry

COMMITTEE CHAIRS:

Electronic Communications	Jeremy Wood
Government Advocacy	Byron Hughes
Historian	Dusty Stoabs
Honors & Awards	Tino Mendez
Membership Promotion	Tanner Jones
Newsletter	Conner Walters
Refrigeration	Justin Love
Research Promotion	Chris Dolan
Scholarship	Robert Smith
Social Media	Kaylee Oliver
Special Events	Bryan Garcia
Student Activities	Scott Sanders
Sustainability	Korey Wheeler
Technology Transfer	Jon Wilmore
Webmaster	Jeremy Wood
YEA	Caleb Spradlin





Chapter Year 2019-20



Madison Schultz, Chapter President 2019-20

The 2019-20 year turned out to be historical in a couple of different ways. Madison Schultz, a consulting professional engineer, served as chapter President and was only the third female chapter president in our chapter's history. I'm sure to someone looking in from the general public, that fact must seem very odd once they learn that our first female chapter president was 35 years prior, and our second, 31 years prior. Why the 30+ year gap? I really have no good explanation.

Carolyn Crawford was working for R & B Equipment Company when she became the first ever female Central Oklahoma Chapter President in 1984. She was also the first female chapter president in all of Region VIII. Our second female chapter president, Diana Grundmann in 1988, was a Building Engineer at Southwestern Bell Telephone and followed Carolyn through the chairs only four years later. But in all the 1990's, 2000's and almost all of the 2010's, we had no female chapter presidents.

Highlights of 2019-20

- 3rd female chapter president in chapter history
- 31 years since the last female chapter president
- Theme was empowering members, with a focus on diversity
- Chapter sponsored eight students to Winter Meeting
- YEA mentoring event
- GGAC changed name to Government Affairs Committee (GAC)
- Chapter meetings moved to Will Rogers Theater
- Diverse group of meeting speakers
- President met personally with every committee chair
- The Coronavirus pandemic started
- Chapter started doing virtual events
- Won the Golden Gavel!

In 2014, Stephanie Thomas was elected Chapter Treasurer and became the first female chapter officer in 25 years.

The 2019-20 chapter year turned out to be historical in a second, major way. In February 2020, we started hearing news reports of a "novel" coronavirus spreading from overseas to the United States. By March 2020, the country was fixated on daily reports from New York's Governor of increasing rates of infection, sickness and death. The word "pandemic" became part of everyone's daily vernacular, and we were introduced to the term "social distancing."

On March 11, 2020, an OKC Thunder professional basketball game against the Utah Jazz was cancelled just prior to tip-off due to a Jazz player testing positive for the virus. That evening, the NBA indefinitely suspended the entire season! Something that took everyone off guard.

Quickly following this, all “non-essential” business were ordered by state and local governments to shut down, sending the majority of working adults home in an effort to “slow the spread” of the virus. Schools closed. All public parks and playgrounds were ordered closed and off limits. All sporting events were cancelled. Not one person or one business was unaffected. It was surreal.

HVAC&R companies, including engineers, contractors and parts and equipment sales people were considered essential and allowed to remain open, albeit with employees encouraged to work from home if possible. ASHRAE functions, however, were not considered essential and were cancelled.

There was a rush to figure out the logistics on how to best conduct large meetings via the internet. The term “Zoom meeting” became the catch phrase to describe an online video chat between multiple people. ASHRAE had to switch to this virtual platform very quickly. Society offered a GoToMeeting login for our use, but the chapter also purchased an actual Zoom account for flexibility. A few planned events, however, did get cancelled when a virtual option was just not feasible.

The April CRC, scheduled to take place in Houston, was postponed from April to June and was conducted as an online-only, virtual event. Most everyone that had planned on traveling to the CRC had already made hotel reservations and already purchased airline tickets. The hotel allowed cancellations but getting the airlines to refund ticket costs proved to be a challenge as the airline industry was instantly crippled and ultimately had to be bailed out by the federal government.

With this society year spanning July 2019 to June 2020 and formal ASHRAE chapter activities kicking off in September 2019, the first six months of this year was business as usual, full steam ahead with goals, programming, planning and implementation. President Madison Schultz gave her theme to the BOG of Empowering Members, with an emphasis on diversity. As it turned out, this was in tune with ASHRAE Society as it was the first year for the “Diversity in ASHRAE” committee (formerly Women in ASHRAE). Chapter past president, Aruna Abhayagoonawardhana (2007-08), served as Chairman for our chapter’s Diversity in ASHRAE committee. The committee held a Zoom meeting/happy hour event to discuss the importance of having a more diverse ASHRAE chapter and culture.



Research Promotion Golf Tournament Fund Raiser at Kickingbird Golf Course, Edmond, OK

Student branches from The University of Oklahoma, Oklahoma State University, and The University of Central Oklahoma, continued to regularly attend in-person monthly chapter meetings prior to the shutdown in March 2020, and the chapter sponsored eight students to attend the Winter Conference and AHR Expo in January 2020. Some of our student members were also speakers at the conference and many are active on Society Technical Committees. The chapter's Student Activities committee also attended a STEM Expo at MetroTech back on September 20, 2019.

The YEA committee tried something new this year by having a "Mentor Matching" event. YEA and non-YEA members attended and discussed what it takes to be a mentor and allowed some of the members to get to know each other. The YEA committee also held a virtual YEA/Student Mixer on Thursday, May 14, 2020 via Zoom and a second YEA/Student Mixer via Zoom on June 18. The committee had high hopes for many other types of events this year, but due to the pandemic, their hopes were squelched significantly. It was a very frustrating time in history.

The Research Promotion (RP) committee set out planning for three events: The longstanding tradition of kicking off the year in September with a golf tournament; along with a poker tournament and sporting clays event, both in the spring. The annual golf tournament was held at Kickingbird Golf Course on September 10, 2019. There were 19 teams and several sponsors, which in total, raised \$18,000 towards the RP goal. The sporting clays shotgun shooting event was postponed due to the coronavirus shutdown, but still ended up taking place on June 12, 2020. Unfortunately, the poker tournament ended up being cancelled. The Climate Control Group also withheld their large annual donation this year.

Three sustainability projects were planned for this year, adding one more to the chapter's usual two events. They planned to have an OKC Boathouse trash cleanup day, a Rebuilding Together home renovation workday, and a Habitat for Humanity house build workday.

The OKC Boathouse event was completed on November 23, 2019 and was a success with thirteen volunteers working hard to clean the shoreline and surrounding public areas. The Habitat workday took place in June 2020 after being postponed, but unfortunately, the Rebuilding Together renovation ended up being cancelled due to the pandemic. Just like with the RP fundraiser events, the fact that leadership set their sights on three sustainability events is what most likely allowed two of the events to actually take place. Had they only planned two events, it is very likely that only one might have taken place as in-person activities were very difficult to accomplish in 2020 from March onward.

Junke Wang and Hunter Hodges were our chapter scholarship recipients this year. Wang a PHD student at The University of Oklahoma and Hunter Hodges a senior at The University of Oklahoma. The scholarship awards were \$1,500 each.



YEA Event in November, 2019

The Grassroots Government Advocacy Committee (GGAC) officially changed its name again, this time to the Government Affairs Committee (GAC). February 25, 2020 was the annual Government outreach day. They focused on combining a statewide effort, along with the Northeastern Oklahoma Chapter, in continuing the education of local representatives to ultimately adopt the 2018 IECC for the State of Oklahoma. In the past, the OUBCC has updated the IBC Building Code but has always rolled back the section of the code that determined minimum standards for energy compliance including Chapter 13, Energy Efficiency. This roll back has always been back to the 2006 International Energy Conservation Code (IECC), which by 2020, was very outdated. Plus, calling out the 2006 IECC in the State code seemed to be just a formality as neither the State nor any city code enforcement group had yet to formally enforce the provisions of the 2006 IECC in their building inspections. Some architects and engineers were diligent in making sure all their designs complied with the energy code, but some others completely ignored it as a matter of normal practice. However, all designs done for any of our federal facilities, such as Tinker Air Force Base, were required to be in compliance with the current federally mandated energy code.

President Schultz and the BOG were tasked with finding a venue for the monthly chapter meetings. Last year, 50 Penn Place became unavailable, plus it was simply getting too crowded for our number of attendees. They ultimately decided that the Will Rogers Theater was the best location for a group our size. The theater provided much, much more room. Members liked the new location with all of its historical charm and ambiance; however, it did take a couple of meetings to get sound and projector issues worked out. The slate of speakers was as follows and was purposefully developed with a focus toward diversity in the speaker selections:

October 2019: Jennifer Lickteig, CEO of Capital Funding and President of TBS Factoring, LLC; *The Good, The Bad, and The Ugly of Government Contracting*

November 2019: Eli Howard, Executive Director Technical Services at SMACNA; *System Effects on Ductwork*

December 2019: Leanne Beasley Sutton, Product Manager for VAV Diffusers, Underfloor Air Distribution, and Displacement Ventilation for Titus; *Pros and cons of a VAV Diffuser System vs Traditional VAV Box System*



ASHRAE Central Oklahoma Chapter Meeting at Will Rogers Theater

January 2020: Ken Gilbert, Regional Technical Consultant for Automated Logic; *High-Performance Sequences of Operation for HVAC Systems*

February 2020: Joint meeting with SMACNA featuring a panel discussion with Stephanie Thomas, Chuck Darr, Scott Sanders, Kyle Bellmon, Joe McKenzie, and Mike Clark. COK ASHRAE President, Madison Schultz moderated

March 2020: Esther K. Tierney, Manager of the Sales & Applications Department at Multistack, and Bruce Barrett, Regional Sales Manager for Multistack; *Variable Primary Flow Chilled Water Systems* (the last in-person meeting before the coronavirus shutdown)

April 2020 (Online GoToMeeting): Oscar Peraza, Regional Product Manager for York Chillers in JCI's West Region; *Update on Refrigerants*

May 6, 2020 (Online GoToMeeting): Bill McQuade, Vice President Sector Services and Industry Sector Lead for Applied Products; *The Future of the HVAC&R Industry, Trends, Risks, and Opportunities*; Joint meeting with AIA

May 11, 2020 (Online GoToMeeting): Companions' Night Event; Congresswoman Kendra Horn, US House of Representatives from Oklahoma's Fifth Congressional District; *Federal Energy Policies and Q&A*

The Region VIII CRC was also a GoToMeeting starting on May 27 with the Business Meeting Part 1, then on May 28 for the Business Meeting Part 2 and Executive Caucus, then June 2 for workshops and June 3 for Honors and Awards.

As mentioned earlier, President Madison Schultz started the year with a goal of empowering members and increasing diversity among chapter leadership and technical speakers. She stated that she's never been satisfied with the way the HVAC&R industry looks with less than approximately 8% of Mechanical Engineers being women. To her, engineering has not always felt like the most welcoming place and because of that, it has been on her heart to make it more welcoming to everyone no matter their gender,

color, age, job description, experience, etc. She wants all to feel welcome in our industry.

One way she put her goals into action was to highlight the efforts of a single chapter member in her President's message at the beginning of every monthly newsletter. The region suggests that chapters put out eight newsletters each year, but Madison issued ten! In the last newsletter, she named everyone who served in any level of leadership in the chapter over the year.

Furthermore, she met individually with every committee chairperson throughout the year. Something many chapter presidents talk about but never actually get around to doing. She helped them set goals at the beginning of the year and then she monitored their progress regularly as the year progressed. Madison worked closely with each committee through every change that needed to be made on the fly in the last four months of the society year during the global "shutdown," or as some preferred to put it, the global "lockdown."



Government Outreach Day, February 25, 2020

President Schultz went above and beyond in every aspect of leading the chapter, and the Region VIII Golden Gavel Committee agreed by awarding her, and the Central Oklahoma Chapter, the coveted Golden Gavel for 2019-20! Since the CRC was an online event in 2020, they could not physically hand Madison the actual golden gavel, president's pin and banner patch, but those items would be delivered to her later. Still, it was monumental moment during the video conference as you could hear the chapter members cheering and all the congratulations started scrolling in the chat window.

Central Oklahoma had won the Golden Gavel in 2015 after Mr. Joe Sanders ended the 22 year drought going back to 1993, and then won again in 2018 with Mr. Damon McClure as president. Winning in 2020 meant that there was now, no doubt that the Central Oklahoma Chapter was back to top form, harkening back to decades past, in the mid 1970's to the early 1990's, when our chapter won the award so often that everyone almost came to expect it each year.

When the pandemic hit in March 2020, many chapters just rolled over and quit, which was the easy way out, but not Madison and not the Central Oklahoma Chapter. The chapter adapted and the show went on. She firmly believed that it was more important to host a virtual event, with most likely much lower attendance, than to have no event at all and lose touch with the membership. After winning the award, President Madison Schultz gave the following reflections on the past year and her secret to running a successful organization:

"The Golden Gavel is the highest honor a chapter can achieve, and it is a chapter award. We would not have won it without all of the amazing volunteers that we had this year. Surround yourself with people that have a different skill set and background as you. Actively recruit and engage diverse volunteers and future leaders."



OKC Boathouse Trash Cleanup Day, November 23, 2019

Chapter Year 2019-20

OFFICERS:

President	Madison Schultz
Vice President	Jeff Forman
President Elect	Chris Dolan
Secretary	Caleb Spradlin
Treasurer	Stephanie Thomas

BOARD OF GOVERNORS:

Board of Governors	Aruna Abhayagoonawardhana
Board of Governors	Damon McClure
Board of Governors	Don Carter
Board of Governors	Kaylee Oliver
Board of Governors	Tony Arango

COMMITTEE CHAIRS:

Diversity in ASHRAE	Aruna Abhayagoonawardhana
Electronic Communications	Joe Sanders
Government Affairs	Byron Hughes
Historian	Dusty Stoabs
Honors & Awards	Tino Mendez
Membership Promotion	Tanner Jones
Newsletter	Alex Roswell
Refrigeration	Justin Love
Research Promotion	Chris Dolan
Scholarship	Robert Smith
Social Media	Kaylee Oliver
Special Events	Andy Donehue
Student Activities	Robert Smith
Sustainability	Craig Yadon
Technology Transfer	Jon Wilmore
Webmaster	Joe Sanders
YEA	Gavin Swenson





Chapter Year 2020-21



Chris Dolan, Chapter President 2020-21

The 2020-21 society year began subjugated by the same extraordinary circumstance that 2019-20 ended with: The COVID-19 virus pandemic. However, from the time the virus really hit home around March 2020 to the start of this society year in July 2020, it seemed as if the public's perception of fear, as well as that of government officials, had lessened enough that most everything in Central Oklahoma had been allowed to reopen, albeit with restrictions still in place at most buildings and events. Masks were required at nearly every retail store. Sporting events had started up again, but most with mandatory reduced attendance levels. Some government offices were still closed, and many businesses were still requiring some or all employees to work from home.

President Chris Dolan and the BOG started the year off by deciding that BOG planning meetings would be held in person, at the centrally located Engineered Equipment Inc. office, instead of at a restaurant, but the meetings would also be available online for those who wished to attend virtually. The same held true for chapter meetings as well, which were held at the Will Rogers

Theater, but also available online. The virus did have an impact, however, on overall attendance (in person plus online) with the average attendance for the year being strikingly down from the previous years. Unfortunately, after a couple of months in, and a spike in reported new virus cases, both the BOG and chapter meetings went virtual-only again.

The annual golf tournament took place at Kickingbird in Edmond as normally planned in September. Players were required to wear masks only while inside the club house. Turn out for the tournament was very good, the weather was fantastic, and \$25,000 was raised for research and scholarships! This was the largest amount ever raised at any of our fund raiser events. The RP committee was also able to put on another Sporting Clays tournament in the spring which was very successful. To top it all off, the Climate Control Group donated \$20,000 to the chapter!

Highlights of 2020-21

- Early planning meetings to keep up the momentum from Golden Gavel year
- COVID-19 forced many events to go virtual
- Record setting contributions received for RP
- Reduced the number of BOG down to four
- Chapter meeting topics of particular interest to engineers, contractors and owners.
- Two Distinguished Lecturer presentations
- Colored lanyard system implemented at in-person chapter meetings
- Two sustainability events
- Chapter President also served as RP Chair
- Significant accomplishment by Government Affairs Committee
- Student Activities marketing video
- Diversity in ASHRAE meeting

The chapter leadership had almost an entirely new slate of BOG members, plus the count was reduced to only four, but most of the committee chairs returned bringing continuity to this year's leadership team from last year's Golden Gavel winning crew. The BOG meetings were "paperless" this year with reports available online. President Dolan made the uncommon choice to remain Research Promotion chair while also serving as Chapter President.

At the in-person chapter meetings, the leadership made available colored lanyards to allow people to indicate their comfort level with human interaction. Green lanyards meant you were willing to shake hands, yellow lanyards meant you preferred to fist bump, and red lanyards meant you preferred that people stay six feet away.

This year marked the passing of one of the chapter's past presidents, Peter G. Ray. Pete was active in ASHRAE for about two decades, joining the society in the late 1980's, and becoming involved in the leadership in the 2000's, ultimately serving as Chapter President in 2009-10. Pete was only 62 years old when he passed. To honor him,

the chapter leadership voted to contribute \$1000 for three years in a row to establish a scholarship endowment in his name. Once the \$3000 is contributed, the endowment will automatically generate \$150 per year, in perpetuity, to be awarded as part of an ASHRAE engineering scholarship.

The 2021 AHR Expo originally scheduled to be held, as usual, in January was cancelled due to COVID-19. The 2021 ASHRAE Winter Conference, which always takes place at the same time as the expo still took place but in an online-only format, renamed the Winter Virtual Conference, and was delayed until February. The conference included a mixture of live broadcasts and pre-recorded on-demand sessions. The chapter normally allocates money to help send students to the winter conference, but due to it being online, the leadership decided to reallocate the money toward sending students to the ASHRAE summer conference in Arizona, but alas, that conference also went virtual.

The Student Activities committee remained very active this year despite the setbacks of the pandemic. College campuses were shut down for



ASHRAE Central Oklahoma Chapter Meeting at Will Rogers Theater

most of the year which actually lead to the chapter coming up with a marketing video that was sent to the universities designed to encourage college students to join ASHRAE. The seven-minute video was shown in multiple classes at both OU and OSU, and was sent to Region VIII leadership to encourage other chapters to send the video to their universities.

The YEA committee also managed to remain active this year by holding an event at Top Golf as well as a number of virtual get-togethers. At the Top Golf event, chapter leadership and YEA wanted to emphasize that all of their events are actually open to anyone regardless of age. Leadership has noticed that over the past few years, that even though there has been a growing number of younger members being active, which is a good thing, there has also been a decrease in the number of older members attending events outside of the chapter meetings, which is not a good thing.

The chapter's "Women in ASHRAE" committee, formed last year, changed their name this year to "Diversity in ASHRAE" to include a much more broad focus. This committee held a webinar this

year focusing on the issue of sexual harassment in the workplace. The discussion included how to recognize sexual harassment but primarily focused on how to respond in real time.

The Government Affairs Committee was able to have two Day on the Hill events this year, and their major focus remained effecting change at the Oklahoma Uniform Building Code Commission (OUBCC), especially concerning the State energy code. Their efforts contributed to the passing of a bill that requires two additional mandatory members on the OUBCC with one being a licensed mechanical engineer and the other a licensed electrical engineer. This success will allow the engineering community to have a greater voice in future State code regulation.

The chapter continued the tradition of community service this year with a Habitat for Humanity house framing workday in the fall and a boathouse docks and shoreline cleanup workday in the spring.

President Dolan had determined prior to the start of this society year that he wanted a greater focus on engineer, contractor and owner participation in chapter meetings. To facilitate this, he paid a visit



ASHRAE Government Affairs Committee Members at the Oklahoma State Capitol

to the three largest consulting engineering firms and worked with CTTC to schedule a slate of chapter technical presentations geared toward being more interesting to those branches of our membership. The chapter tech presentations were as follows:

October 2020 (in person at the Will Rogers Theater): Al Grosskurth, Quest Climate; *Indoor Agriculture (with a focus on marijuana grow facilities)*

November 2020 (in person at the Will Rogers Theater): Chris Burroughs, Product Manager in Price Industries Sustainable Systems division; *Displacement Ventilation*

December 2020 (virtual): Stirling Boston & Jenny Hill. Jenny Hill is Product Manager of Commercial Water Quality at Watts Heating and Hot Water Solutions. Stirling Boston is Regional Sales Manager for AERCO; *Legionella Risk Mitigation*

January 2021 (Virtual): Douglas Reindl, professor of Mechanical Engineering at the University of Wisconsin-Madison (DL); *Refrigerant Safety*

February 2021 (in person at the Will Rogers Theater): James Livingston, Central Regional Sales Manager, Ruskin Company; *Life Safety Damper Overview*

March 2021 (virtual): Pam Duffy, Owner of Spark One Solutions (DL); *Productivity from Anywhere*

May 2021 (virtual): Oscar Paraza with Johnson Controls; *Heat Pump Chillers*

When President Dolan was asked, after the year was over, looking back, what accomplishments would he say were most meaningful and what was the most challenging, he had this to say:

"The most meaningful accomplishment had to be the efforts of all of the chairs. Although we were all dealing with the pandemic, there was nothing stopping them from achieving their goals. I am very appreciative of the hard work everyone put into making the year a successful one! I think the answer to the most challenging is obvious... Covid."



Habitat for Humanity House Framing Work Day

Chapter Year 2020-21

OFFICERS:

President	Chris Dolan
Vice President	Madison Schultz
President Elect	Caleb Spradlin
Secretary	Don Carter
Treasurer	Stephanie Thomas

BOARD OF GOVERNORS:

Board of Governors	Alex Roswell
Board of Governors	Aruna Abhayagoonawardhana
Board of Governors	Michele Lefebvre
Board of Governors	Robert Smith

COMMITTEE CHAIRS:

Communications	Matt Erickson
Diversity in ASHRAE	Madison Schultz
Government Affairs	Byron Hughes
Historian	Dusty Stoabs
Honors & Awards	Tino Mendez
Membership Promotion	Tanner Jones
Newsletter	Brady Anson
Publicity	Kaylee Oliver
Refrigeration	Jon Wilmore
Research Promotion	Chris Dolan
Scholarship	Robert Smith
Special Events	Andy Donehue
Student Activities	Scott Sanders
Sustainability	Craig Yadon
Technology Transfer	Heather Martin
Webmaster	Joe Sanders
YEA	Gavin Swenson





Chapter Year 2021-22



Caleb Spradlin, Chapter President 2021-22

This year's Chapter President, Caleb Spradlin, is a Partner and Director of Mechanical Engineering at DA Engineering, LLC, a consulting firm that he helped start during his year as Chapter President!

Mr. Spradlin joined ASHRAE right out of college at OU in 2013 and became active right from the start. Prior to moving through the chairs, which includes serving as Chapter Secretary as well as President-Elect and President, Caleb held a few different committee chair positions including Scholarship, Student Activities and Young Engineers in ASHRAE (YEA). He also sat on the Board of Governors for a couple of years. Plus, Caleb took advantage of the leadership training that ASHRAE offers. He attended YEA Leadership Weekend 1.0 and 2.0, went to ASHRAE Leadership Academy, and even shadowed our Regional DRC at a Winter Conference. This broad range of experience and focused training spanning about eight years prior to becoming Chapter President gave him a big

head start toward managing the chapter through another successful, but albeit, difficult year.

The 2021-22 society year was the first year since COVID began that all meetings were able to be held in-person, which is the good news. The bad news, however, was the impact COVID had on the prior two years lingered into this year, resulting in an average chapter meeting attendance of only 37. In years prior to COVID hitting in 2020, chapter meetings could approach 80+ in attendance. To bring people back to chapter meetings and even back to ASHRAE membership for those that let their membership lapse during the pandemic, a team of six Membership Promotion (MP) committee members worked together in a calling campaign.

Highlights of 2021-22

- Chapter President with extensive committee experience
- Calling campaign to boost engagement
- Society President at bonus chapter meeting
- Three Distinguished Lecturer presentations
- Golf Tournament raised \$21,500
- Surpassed the ASHRAE Full Circle target
- Engineer's Week proclamation from Governor Stitt
- Habitat for Humanity home painting and framing projects
- OSU student involvement in house framing Sustainability event
- Sponsored Winter Conference student attendees
- Awarded three \$1,500 scholarships
- Tino Mendez retires from ASHRAE service after 49 years
- Launched the "HVAC Magicians" podcast

Another setback was to the chapter leadership right from the start. Don Carter was Secretary last year in 2020-21, but after only attending one Board of Governors (BOG) meeting as President-Elec this year, he resigned for personal reasons. Jon Wilmore, the Secretary for 2021-22 was moved up to President-Elec, and Scott Sanders was elected as the new Secretary.

Also, the chapter lost a wealth of experience in the retirement of Tino Mendez from chapter activities. Tino's involvement with ASHRAE spanned many decades. He joined in 1972 and had been active in the chapter for 49 straight years. Awards he received include the coveted Golden Gavel as Chapter President in 1984, the Regional Award of Merit in 1990, recognition as an ASHRAE Fellow in 1995 for his contributions to the HVAC&R industry, and his induction into the Central Oklahoma Chapter Hall of Fame in 1996.

BOG meetings found a new home at Clark Crew BBQ, making it a unique—albeit short-lived—tradition as it turned out to be the only year they were held there due to the noise in the restaurant.

Meanwhile, chapter meetings continued at the familiar Will Rogers Theatre, marking the third consecutive year in that venue providing a consistent and spacious room for members to gather.

The Chapter Technology Transfer Committee (aka CTTC, or CTT) were faced with the goal of needing to rebuild in-person meeting attendance numbers that had suffered significantly from the massive impact the pandemic had on the previous two years. President Spradlin and CTTC Chair, Heather Martin, addressed this challenge in as many ways as they could think of. Their first idea was to lock in as many ASHRAE Distinguished Leader presentations as they could, as DL's always bring higher attendance, and they were successful in getting three. Secondly, they took advantage of the ASHRAE Society President's visit to Region VIII in January by quickly organizing an extra chapter meeting on the day President Mick Schwedler planned to visit OKC, and they got him to agree to be the guest speaker! Thirdly, knowing the popularity of panel discussions over the past years, they put in the effort to get a full panel of experts on stage for the May meeting.



"Day on the Hill" event at the Oklahoma Capitol

The following is the complete list of chapter meetings for 2021-22:

- 10/6, Will Rogers Theater, **“DL” Mark Fly,**
Fan Characteristics
- 11/2, OSU Campus, **OSU Students Symposium**
- 12/1, Will Rogers Theater, **“DL” David Schurk,**
Keeping Doc’s Cool, Dry, & Happy in the Hospital Operating Room
- 1/5, Will Rogers Theater, **“DL” Dan In-Hout,**
You Can’t Afford Discomfort
- 1/20, BONUS Meeting, Will Rogers Theater, **ASHRAE Society President Mick Schwedler,**
What Feeds your roots? & Pitfalls in Chilled Water System Design
- 2/9, Will Rogers Theater, **Bruce Barrett w/ Multistack,**
Heat Recovery and Mag Bearing Chiller Application & Design
- 3/2, Will Rogers Theater, **Dan Evens w/Critical Room Controls,**
Creating a safe pharmacy environment
- 4/6, Will Rogers Theater, **Peter Wilder w/ABB,**
VFDs & Harmonics
- 5/4, Will Rogers Theater, **Panel Discussion**
Higher Education



*BONUS Chapter Meeting in January
Caleb Spradlin, Mick Schwedler, and Joe Sanders*

The Special Events and Membership Promotion Committees pulled off a successful year, hosting several key events. The 64th annual golf tournament raised an impressive \$21,500, contributing significantly to the chapter’s expenses and Society’s research initiatives. BOG members and officers each donated at least \$200, surpassing the ASHRAE Full Circle award requirement of \$100. These committees also organized the 6th annual Sporting Clays shooting competition and hosted a "Family Day" at Chicken N Pickle in February, providing members and their families an opportunity to connect and engage in a fun, social setting, playing Pickleball and Cornhole.

The Region VIII Government Affairs Regional Vice Chair (RVC) was one of the regional leaders that started during the pandemic using online tools such as Google Forms as a way for chapter committee chairs to quickly and conveniently input their activities to their RVC on a regular basis. Making the reporting process easier should encourage more communication between chapters and the region.

The Government Affairs Committee (GAC) successfully met several goals set by their RVC. The committee participated in government outreach events, including direct engagement with the Oklahoma Uniform Building Code Commission (OUBCC). The chair attended multiple meetings and even collaborated with the governor’s office to recommend appointments for newly created positions. The OUBCC Energy Conservation Technical Committee reviewed energy codes, aiming to potentially adopt updated residential and commercial energy codes by 2023. Additionally, ASHRAE’s Epidemic Task Force guidance, which emerged out of the pandemic, was shared during our annual "Day on the Hill" event at the state Capitol. Another key advocacy effort included securing an Oklahoma statewide proclamation for Engineers Week from Governor Kevin Stitt, observed February 20-26, 2022.

The Sustainability Committee partnered with Habitat for Humanity on two projects this year. The first, in November, involved fourteen ASHRAE members and volunteers painting the interior of a new 1,200-square-foot home in Oklahoma City. The second, in April, focused on framing a home, where chapter members, including a group of eight students from Oklahoma State University, worked on framing, sheathing, building wrap, and ceiling joists. Both projects fostered teamwork and contributed to Habitat for Humanity's mission of providing affordable housing. The extra hands from the OSU students allowed for more work to get done on that one day than anyone could ever remember at a Habitat house framing.

YEA, just like the regular chapter meetings, saw a return to in-person events, including a happy hour, an arcade night, a game night, and an educational session on fan design with an engineering firm. Membership grew from 42 to 49, a fairly good increase compared to last year's stagnation. YEA members now make up 20% of total membership. YEA was also able to combine a YEA event with the chapter's annual refrigeration (brewery) tour in April. Incidentally, the number of total area assigned members for Central Oklahoma this year was 255 (pre-pandemic was 287).

The Student Activities Committee also had a productive year, engaging with students at Oklahoma State University (OSU) and the University of Oklahoma (OU). At OSU, a symposium was held where students presented research on refrigerants and compressors, with awards given to the top presentations. Chapter members actively participated as mentors and judges. At OU, discussions focused on the benefits of ASHRAE membership during and after college. The chapter sponsored seven students to attend the Winter Conference in Las Vegas and awarded three scholarships of \$1,500 each. OSU and OU faculty secured Undergraduate Program Equipment Grants, with OSU receiving two and OU one. Challenges remained, however, in engaging K-12 students due to school visitor restrictions.

In April, the chapter social media chair, Jess Fitzpatrick, started the "HVAC Magicians" podcast in which she interviewed ASHRAE members on their life and work and posted on Spotify. This unique accomplishment turned out to be one of the highlights of the year. The first episode posted on April 13, 2022, was an interview with Joe Sanders. Episode 2 on April 27 was Caleb Spradlin. This was certainly a new and innovative approach to documenting our chapter history! Right now, Jess plans to interview prominent ASHRAE members, but in the future, she plans on transitioning to non-ASHRAE members that are related to the industry like electrical engineers, architects and facility managers.



The "HVAC Magicians" podcast created by Jess Fitzpatrick, hosted on Spotify

As Chapter President following a challenging pandemic period, Caleb Spradlin faced the task of reviving ASHRAE's involvement and attendance. Aware of the lingering effects of the pandemic, including the rise of online PDH offerings (a direct competitor to in-person chapter meetings), he anticipated a slow return to pre-pandemic engagement. To address this, he and the chapter's leadership sought creative solutions to encourage participation, with hopes that some of these ideas would be realized even more in the following year(s).

While Caleb expected strong attendance at BOG meetings, thanks to a dedicated volunteer group, he found that general meeting attendance remained stagnant, a disappointment after everyone's efforts to bring people back.

However, one bright spot was the unexpected success of the chapter's social media presence, driven by Jessica Fitzpatrick, including the creation of a chapter podcast that gathered significant attention.

Reflecting on his year as president, Mr. Spradlin identified three accomplishments that stood out: a notable increase in social media engagement as mentioned via the new podcast, successful sustainability events, and a standout year for government affairs.

When asked for advice for future chapter leaders, Caleb emphasized the importance of co-chairing committees to gain experience and build stronger, more long-lasting leadership teams. He encouraged getting involved, even in small roles, to build relationships that could enrich both the individual and the chapter.



Habitat for Humanity workday, house painting



Chapter Year 2021-22

OFFICERS:

President	Caleb Spradlin
Vice President	Chris Dolan
President Elect	Jon Wilmore
Secretary	Scott Sanders
Treasurer	Stephanie Thomas

BOARD OF GOVERNORS:

Board of Governors	Adam Fitzpatrick
Board of Governors	Aruna Abhayagoonawardhana
Board of Governors	Michael Akins
Board of Governors	Michele Lefebvre
Board of Governors	Robert Smith

COMMITTEE CHAIRS:

Communications	Josh Arnett
Diversity in ASHRAE	Madison Schultz
Government Affairs	Jeff Forman
Historian	Dusty Stoabs
Honors & Awards	John Harrod
Membership Promotion	Anson Brady
Newsletter	Aaron Gooden
Refrigeration	Ryan Melton
Research Promotion	Ross Myles
Scholarship	Robert Smith
Social Media	Jess Fitzpatrick
Special Events	Andy Donehue
Student Activities	Scott Sanders
Sustainability	Craig Yadon
Technology Transfer	Heather Martin
Webmaster	Josh Arnett
YEA	Tanner Jones



Chapter Year 2022-23



Jon Wilmore, Chapter President 2022-23

This year's Chapter President, Jon Wilmore, only served one month as Secretary in 2021-22 before being promoted to President-Elect after the resignation of the President-Elect who was slated for that year. With that loss of experience equivalent to one out of three chapter chair years, one would not have been surprised if Jon had initially struggled a little governing the chapter. However, Mr. Wilmore hit the ground running by quickly introducing some unique and, as it turns out, wildly successful new ideas.

He went into the year having the opinion that the chapter's normal agenda had become too routine. He had a few new, creative ideas bouncing around in his head and was hoping these ideas, coupled with his natural sales skills, would stoke life into an organization that was still stagnating from the lingering aftermath of the COVID pandemic. Jon also believed that his new ideas might generate increased donations for the chapter and society in the process. As it turns out, he was correct on both. Mr. Wilmore's energy, along with the

combined efforts of all the committee chairs this year, really propelled the chapter forward such that we could finally say that we've left the black hole that was COVID behind.

Highlights of 2022-23

- President Wilmore energized the chapter with bold, new ideas.
- Launched the inaugural Oklahoma HVAC & Plumbing Expo, drawing 600 attendees and raising nearly \$40K.
- Added the "Take It Out on the Reps" fundraiser to the fall golf tournament for extra fun and revenue.
- Introduced an NCAA-style Cornhole Tournament with 200+ attendees and 64 sponsored teams.
- Special Events champions Andy Donehue, Heather Martin, Michele Lefebvre and Zach Childers delivered highly successful golf, expo, cornhole, and sporting clays fundraisers.
- YEA participation grew with 10 new members and reduced lunch pricing.
- Chapter programs delivered with diverse technical presentations and two Distinguished Lecturers.
- Communications excelled with timely newsletters, website updates, social media outreach, and the "HVAC Magicians" podcast.
- Added a net 22 new members through strong outreach and recruitment at events.
- Student Activities strengthened OSU/OU engagement, funded students, awarded scholarships, and supported grants.
- Government Affairs secured an Engineers Week proclamation and advanced OUBCC energy code efforts.
- Continued community service continued through Rebuilding Together, Restore OKC, and Habitat for Humanity.

Right off the bat, in order to have productive BOG sessions where creative new ideas could be properly discussed, Mr. Wilmore moved the BOG meetings from Clark Crew BBQ on NW Expressway to the private upper room at Chicken N Pickle near Britton and Broadway. Clark Crew was simply too loud to hear people talking at the other end of the table.

Caleb Spradlin, last year's Chapter President, was forced to find a new venue for the meetings since Chris Dolan, chapter president the year before him, had simply held the meetings at his office and catered pizza. Clark Crew offered good food, a centralized location, and appeared on the surface to be a good choice. However, the room they had wasn't isolated enough from the noise of the main dining space. Moving to Chicken N Pickle provided the quiet atmosphere needed to really get to work.

At the first BOG meeting in August, Jon Wilmore introduced the idea of having a very large HVAC and Plumbing trade show at the brand new OKC Convention Center complete with training classes for engineers needing professional development hours. After a brilliant sales pitch and extensive discussions on logistics and financing, the chapter leadership agreed to move forward with the lofty project. In just a couple of short months, and after an extraordinary amount of effort by the newly formed Expo Committee, especially Heather Martin, this event, held on October 12, 2022, turned out to be the largest event that our chapter has ever put on outside of hosting the CRC.

It was officially called the Oklahoma HVAC and Plumbing Expo and was a joint venture between Central Oklahoma, the Northeastern Oklahoma Chapter of ASHRAE, and the OKC Chapter of the American Society of Plumbing Engineers. The expo had 100 booths from a variety of manufacturers. It had a dozen technical presentations including some from our local ASHRAE student Members. It had over 600 people in total attendance at the one-day event! Dozens of prizes were given away at a happy hour at the end of the day, and the expo raised nearly \$40,000 which was split with the local ASPE Chapter! It was such an overwhelming success the expo committee decided to make it an annual event, swapping locations every other year with the NEOK chapter in Tulsa.

At the annual fall golf tournament, President Wilmore had the new idea of a "Take it out on the Reps" fundraising experiment where they took pictures of three individuals who were product reps in our market, then created life size posters of each and placed them out on the driving range. This wasn't too offensive coming from him, as he was a product rep himself. For a small contribution, members could hit golf balls at the life size posters propped up on the driving range. This added attraction at the golf tournament ended up being a lot of fun and many members had a great time trying to hit their favorite (or least favorite) rep. The chapter actually awarded a prize to the sales rep whose image was hit the most. Next year, they plan on doing it again but changing it to "Take it out on the Contractor"!



2022 Oklahoma HVAC and Plumbing Expo at the Oklahoma City Convention Center

Springboarding off the success of the Expo, President Wilmore introduced another new idea to promote membership, comradery and to raise more money, of course, in the process: an NCAA Bracket Style Cornhole Tournament. This new idea came to reality in the Spring, occurring on March 31, 2023 at Chicken N Pickle, and was the second largest event of the year, behind the Expo, with over 200 in attendance! Along with the competition, the event included food, drinks and manufacturers' show and tell booths set up around the outdoor playing area. 64 teams competed on custom cornhole boards with printed company logos which were sold as sponsorships.

While Jon Wilmore's leadership and guidance was key, the success of each of this year's major fundraisers really came down to a single champion on the Special Events committee that ensured every detail was covered. Andy Donehue organized the annual golf tournament, Heather Martin turned the Expo idea into reality, Michele Lefebvre setup, marketed and ran the Cornhole Tournament, and Zach Childers put together the annual Sporting Clays shoot.



*Golf Tournament "Take it out on the Reps"
Joe Sanders, Chris Dolan, and Tony Arango*

Increased YEA participation (members 35 years old and under) was also one of Jon's initiatives for the year, and the YEA Committee was active and productive supporting both professional development and chapter engagement. To enhance technical learning, YEA held a presentation on control sequences led by the Chapter President-Elect, Scott Sanders. In a way to encourage more YEA attendance at chapter meetings, President Wilmore throughout the idea of lowering the cost for YEA to attend down to \$15, which the BOG approved.

YEA members played a major role in chapter leadership, with several serving as chairs, co-chairs, or on the Board of Governors, and one leading the chapter's social media efforts. Membership grew with the addition of a net 10 new YEA members on the year. The committee partnered with Refrigeration for a joint tour and concluded the year with a successful paintball event. On the DIA front, this marked the second year Society provided sexual-harassment-prevention training videos, allowing chapters to earn PAOE points for members watching the videos.

Speaking of chapter meetings, President Wilmore was concerned that past years were too heavily weighted toward manufacturer presentations. This year, he really wanted the CTT committee to schedule more speakers that didn't work directly for or rep any equipment manufacturer. The committee succeeded in putting together a diverse agenda that included a presentation on load modeling, one on engineering ethics, another on indoor air quality, and ended the year with a panel discussion which included the design and construction teams for the new Omni Hotel that just opened in downtown OKC. The CTT committee was also able to work in two ASHRAE Distinguished Lecturers, which are always popular. On the following page is the full slate of chapter meeting presentations:

Oct-22, Oklahoma City Convention Center, **Jim Riendeau with ESC/Ebtron**, Building Pressurization

Nov-22, Will Rogers Theatre, **Ted Duffy with LAARS**, High Efficiency Boilers

Dec-22, Will Rogers Theatre, **David Archer with GPS Air**, Indoor Air Quality using Ionization

Jan-23, Will Rogers Theatre, **Patrick Pease with Cove Tool**, Load Modeling

Feb-23, Will Rogers Theatre, **Eric Casper with the Oklahoma Board of Professional Engineers**, Engineering Ethics

Mar-23, Will Rogers Theatre, **Dru Crawley Ph.D and ASHRAE Distinguished Lecturer**, Decarbonization

Apr-23, Will Rogers Theatre, **Chris Mathis – ASHRAE Distinguished Lecturer**, ASHRAE 90.1

May-23, Omni Hotel, Panel Discussion on the Omni Hotel design and construction process

Our communications chair positions (Email/Newsletter & Social Media) were a bright spot in our chapter. Both roles were held by YEA members. Austin Fulmer sent the newsletter out on time each month looking great. The website, which is hosted by StarChapter, was given a thorough once-through by Josh Arnett to get everything up-to-date and to fix all broken links.

Our Social Media Chair, Jess Fitzpatrick, continued to promote the Chapter through a wide range of outreach efforts, including producing monthly episodes of her “HVAC Magicians” podcast—launched in April 2022—in which she interviews industry professionals ranging from equipment representatives and contractors to building owners, professors, and engineers. She also created a YouTube channel to highlight Young Engineers in ASHRAE, consistently posted Chapter events across Facebook, LinkedIn, and Instagram, and produced a Chapter Summary Video that was shown at the CRC. All “HVAC Magicians” episodes can be found on Spotify, Apple Music, and other platforms by searching for the podcast name.

Including the 10 new YEA members, the chapter added a total of 22 net new members this year. This was accomplished through a concerted outreach effort including a membership booth at the Expo, organizing three chapter meetings to have “Bring-a-Non-Member” award incentives, and encouraging members to bring non-members as their playing partners at the Cornhole Tournament.

The Student Activities Committee had a productive year, strengthening our outreach and support for local university programs. They visited both Oklahoma State University and the University of Oklahoma, hosting a research symposium at OSU featuring student presentations on refrigerants and compressors, and meeting with OU students to discuss the value of ASHRAE membership—both during school and after graduation. The chapter sponsored four students to attend the Winter Conference in Atlanta and awarded three \$1,500 scholarships to student members. Faculty at OSU and OU continued their strong performance by securing three Undergraduate Program Equipment Grants collectively. Chapter members remained actively engaged by mentoring and judging senior design teams.



Fun on the way to OSU; Cowboy Travel Plaza, Hwy 51 Engineers Week Feb. 2023; Jon Wilmore and Michael Akins

In the K-12 demographic, the chapter donated 25 copies of ASHRAE’s new “Lucy’s Engineering Adventure” paperback book to Read OKC – On the Go which is a mobile book bus program. The rhyming picture books introduce children to HVAC engineering through the various activities of a curious young girl named Lucy. In the book, she finds unique solutions to STEM problems and ASHRAE hopes these books will encourage young people to think about careers in engineering and HVAC&R.

This year, Government Affairs Chair, Byron Hughes, led several successful advocacy initiatives on behalf of the chapter. Working with state leadership, Byron helped secure a statewide proclamation from Governor Kevin Stitt recognizing Engineers Week, which was celebrated February 19–25, 2023. He also continued to closely watch the activities of the Oklahoma Uniform Building Code Commission (OUBCC) as they review the 2018 International Residential Code and the 2015 International Energy Conservation Code. The committee anticipates adoption of the updated residential energy code very soon, and the commercial energy code adoption is hoped to follow in future years.

Byron participated in multiple OUBCC meetings and collaborated with Chris Bruehl in the Governor’s Office to recommend appointments for two newly created OUBCC positions stemming from last year’s advocacy. Additional government affairs activities included the annual Day on the Hill and hosting virtual meetings with Senator Lankford and Representative Hern.

The chapter again hosted sustainability events this year: Rebuilding Together, Restore OKC, and Habitat for Humanity. One-day construction projects and clean-up efforts have become an annual way the chapter gives back to the community.

In all, it was a great year. President Wilmore and his Special Events crew proved themselves to be masters at conceiving of and executing large-scale, high attendance fundraising events. When asked about his experience in chapter leadership and what advice he would give to future leaders, he had this to say:

“Stay involved, be passionate, and have fun above all else. I understand how much work goes into putting together an ASHRAE Chapter President Year and I know it is easy to say “OK, I’m done,” but we need leaders to stay engaged. If you show people that you are committed to doing a great job, others will get behind you. If you aren’t having fun, do something else.”



2023 Central Oklahoma Chapter Cornhole Tournament



Chapter Year 2022-23

OFFICERS:

President	Jon Wilmore
Vice President	Caleb Spradlin
President Elect	Scott Sanders
Secretary	Michael Halcomb
Treasurer	Stephanie Thomas

BOARD OF GOVERNORS:

Board of Governors	Caleb Deck
Board of Governors	Chris Dolan
Board of Governors	Jess Fitzpatrick
Board of Governors	Josh Arnett
Board of Governors	Will Thompson

COMMITTEE CHAIRS:

Communications	Josh Arnett
Diversity in ASHRAE	Lauren Moriarty
Government Affairs	Jeff Forman
Historian	Dusty Stoabs
Honors & Awards	John Harrod
Membership Promotion	Jesse Gentling
Newsletter	Austin Fulmer
Refrigeration	John Dale
Research Promotion	Anson Brady
Scholarship	Michael Akins
Social Media	Jess Fitzpatrick
Special Events	Michele Lefebvre
Student Activities	Michael Akins
Sustainability	Adam Fitzpatrick
Technology Transfer	Heather Martin
Webmaster	Josh Arnett
YEA	Tanner Jones



Chapter Year 2023-24



Scott Sanders, Chapter President 2023-24

The Central Oklahoma Chapter commenced its activities for the 2023-24 year with a blend of camaraderie and strategic vision during a summer planning meeting held in July at the residence of President-Elect Michael Halcomb. Amidst the social gathering that welcomed members' families, including kids, for a cookout and pool time, the leadership established a robust roadmap centered on four critical objectives: overall chapter growth, boosting chapter meeting attendance, increasing fundraising of individual donors, and strengthening commitment to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI).

Along with these goals, Chapter President Scott Sanders championed operational stability. Understanding that ASHRAE's volunteer leadership can be volatile at times and there can be disconnects between one year to the next, President Sanders created a "living document" operations calendar with notes. Based on the ASHRAE Manual for Chapter Operations, this master schedule includes critical deadlines—such as audit completions, nominating committee formation and when annual votes

must take place—ensuring continuity between leadership year to year regardless of turnover. The need for this type of document was proven via case-in-point when Board of Governors members Jared Wilson and Adam Fitzpatrick resigned due to professional demands, and the Board appointed replacements Payton Parker and Eli Sanchez. A quick review can bring new board members up to speed quickly.

Highlights of 2023-24

- Added 38 new members and transitioned 3 students to Associate status.
- Increased average meeting attendance from 39 to 53 by relocating to a new venue and focusing on technical topics.
- Hosted Society President Ginger Scoggins for student outreach and a technical session on the climate crisis.
- Reduced carbon footprint for chapter meetings by offsetting emissions.
- Expanded YEA roster to 21% of membership, with 15 members serving in leadership roles.
- Met the \$41,840 Research Promotion goal driven by excellent participation in social tournaments.
- Launched the inaugural pickleball tournament, exceeding participation goals with 37 teams and over 100 attendees.
- Grew the scholarship endowment to nearly \$94,000 and awarded \$6,000 to three engineering students.
- Continued producing "HVAC Magicians" podcasts and extensively utilized social media for recruitment.
- Influenced state legislation during "Day on the Hill," aiding the passage of HB 4013 and modifying HB 3819 concerning energy codes.
- Chapter President Scott Sanders received the Jack Thompson Award for most effective Chapter President in Region VIII.

Chapter Meeting Speakers and Topics:

10/4, Chicken N Pickle, **Nathan Kegal with IES**, Energy Modeling

11/1, Chicken N Pickle, **Mark Fly (DL) with AAON & Joe Sanders ASHRAE Region VIII DRC**, Vibration Fundamentals/Society Strategic Plan

12/6, Chicken N Pickle, **Mike Thompson with ZFI**, Seismic Design for Non-structural Elements

1/3, Chicken N Pickle, **Gus Gagliardi with Rated Engineering**, Life Safety Dampers in the Code

2/7, Chicken N Pickle, **Michael Halcomb with ES2**, HVAC Controls

3/6, Chicken N Pickle, **Darrin Beller with Air Products Supply**, Geothermal Heat Pumps and Available Tax Credits

4/2, Chicken N Pickle, **Ginger Scoggins with Engineered Designs and ASHRAE Society President**, Challenge Accepted: Tackling the Climate Crisis

5/1, Chicken N Pickle, **Healthcare Panel Discussion**



*Chapter Meeting.
Mark Fly, Scott Sanders and Joe Sanders*

Recognizing that the post-pandemic landscape had altered how engineers engage with professional societies, the leadership executed a pivot to revitalize attendance. Under the guidance of Chapter Technology Transfer (CTT) Chair Kale Harper, the Chapter relocated regular meetings from the oversized Will Rogers Theatre to the "Be Amazing" room at Chicken N Pickle. This new, intimate venue, with a capacity of 125 and casual couch seating, fundamentally changed the dynamic, encouraging members to arrive early and stay late. Simultaneously, the Chapter shifted programming toward deep-dive engineering topics. The meeting schedule included topics such as Energy Modeling, Vibration Fundamentals, Seismic Design, Life Safety Dampers, DDC Controls and a Healthcare panel discussion.

This strategic shift yielded results, with average meeting attendance going from 39 to 53. The Chapter also made a concerted effort to align with Society President Ginger Scoggins' decarbonization goals. By scheduling almost all local speakers that utilized car travel—even Scoggins driving from Bentonville, Arkansas, and Mark Fly driving in from Tulsa—the Chapter calculated the resultant total carbon footprint reduction and even logged offsets via Sustainable Travel International.

To support the goals, Membership Promotion (MP) chairs Ryan Sutton and Will Kinser, alongside Communications committee members Josh Arnett, Eli Sanchez, and Jess Fitzpatrick implemented a multifaceted recruitment strategy. Josh managed the distribution of 84 email blasts, while Jess generated 97 social media posts across LinkedIn, Facebook, and Instagram. This digital visibility yielded tangible results; a notable example was a new member joining specifically to attend a tour of the downtown OKC central utility plant after seeing a posted announcement. The digital presence was further bolstered by the Chapter's outreach podcast, "HVAC Magicians," which reached Episode #18 this year featuring Dr. Jeff Spitler of OSU. Additionally, the committee modernized administrative processes by introducing QR

codes at meetings for instant access to evaluations, PDH certificates, and membership applications. These efforts, combined with a "Bring a Non-Member" initiative in January and personalized outreach via calls and visits, resulted in the addition of 38 new members.

This energy extended to fundraising efforts, which were necessary to meet a significantly increased Research Promotion (RP) goal of \$41,840. To achieve this, RP Chair Heather Martin established a Special Events Committee comprising Michele Lefebvre, Andy Donehue, Jon Wilmore, Zachary Childers and President Sanders. The strategy began with returning the golf tournament to the renovated Kickingbird Golf Course, where thirty teams competed, raising nearly \$12,000 over the budgeted income.

Momentum continued with an inaugural pickleball tournament on November 3, 2023, which attracted 37 teams and over 100 attendees. The second annual cornhole tournament also saw growth, filling a sixty-four-team bracket and tripling the previous year's net proceeds; the winning team even donated their \$200 prize back to RP.

Internally, a raffle for a \$450 gift card incentivized individual giving. Concluding with a clay shoot in May, these combined efforts ensured a highly successful RP campaign. To win the \$450 gift card, awarded at the May meeting, members—excluding officers and voting BOG members— had to attend at least six of the eight scheduled chapter meetings and make a one-time minimum \$25.00 to RP.

While the Chapter worked to secure its financial goal, it remained equally dedicated to cultivating the next generation of engineers. Under Student Activities Chair Michael Akins, outreach spanned from K-12 to graduate research. YEA member Payton Parker led K-12 engagement through "Read OKC," sharing the book "Lucy's Engineering Adventure" in local classrooms. Her work even inspired Abryn Wyatt, an author of STEM books, to join the Chapter. At the collegiate level, members Chris Carlsen and Korey Wheeler mentored students at the University of Oklahoma, while Michael organized a manufacturing tour at Loren Cook in Springfield, Missouri, for Oklahoma State University (OSU) students. The Chapter also funded seven college students to attend the Winter Conference in Chicago.



*YEA/DEI September Educational Session Lead by Eli Sanchez and Jess Fitzpatrick.
Location: Alvine Engineering*

The collegiate programming peaked on April 2, 2024, when Society President Ginger Scoggins visited OSU. She toured ASHRAE-funded research labs and presented “Challenge Accepted: Tackling the Climate Crisis” to 78 mechanical engineering students. To help support these future engineers, the Chapter continued to grow its scholarship endowment, managed by the Oklahoma City Community Foundation. A task force revamped the selection process to eliminate bias, resulting in the awarding of three \$2,000 scholarships—one to a graduate student and two to undergraduates—selected from a growing pool of applicants. Furthermore, the focus on retention paid off, with three student members transitioning to Associate Member via the Societies new SmartStart program—a three-year prepaid membership offering students the Associate member benefits at a reduced cost.

As students transitioned into professionals, the Young Engineers in ASHRAE (YEA) demographic experienced robust growth, now comprising 21% of the total membership with 49 members. Under Chairs Austin Fulmer and Aaron Gooden, YEA programming blended technical skill with social awareness. A standout event in September combined "Acoustics 101" with a presentation on workplace ageism and microaggressions led by Jess Fitzpatrick and Eli Sanchez. Other social events included a unique visit to a Cat Café in February and their traditional paintball outing in May. YEA members also pursued society service and education with Aaron Gooden attending Leadership Weekend 2.0, Jess Fitzpatrick attending the Leadership Academy, and member Brian Worthen along with Jess serving on a national Technical Committee (TC9.06).



November Pickleball Tournament at Chicken N Pickle

The Chapter's commitment to inclusivity was further formalized by renaming the "Diversity in ASHRAE" (DIA) committee to the "Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion" (DEI) committee. Along with the combined September event, Chairs Jess and Eli also presented on "The Basics of DEI" at a BOG, hosted a book club discussion on "I Never Thought of It That Way" by Monica Guzman, and organized a "New Management Mentality" event in May.

Beyond internal growth and development, the Chapter turned its attention outward to influence public policy under Government Affairs Chair Caleb Deck. The committee focused on the "Healthy and Efficient Schools" program, visiting six public school systems and one university. Advocacy efforts culminated on March 12, 2024, during "Day on the Hill." Fifteen members from the Central and Northeastern Oklahoma Chapters met with state legislators to discuss infrastructure and energy codes. This engagement contributed to the passage of HB 4013 (passing overwhelmingly 84 to 4), which funds higher education infrastructure, and the successful removal of a restrictive "7-year payback" amendment from HB 3819, ensuring that the eventual upgrade to the state energy

code could proceed based on previously verified ASHRAE Standard 90.1 savings.

The year concluded with high honors at the ASHRAE Region VIII Chapters Regional Conference (CRC) in Dallas. Chapter President Scott Sanders received the prestigious Jack Thompson Award, recognizing him as the most effective Chapter President in the region. Upon accepting the award, Sanders reflected on the collective effort of the Chapter:

"The guy that was presenting the award might have tipped his hand a little prior to announcing, because he had been as cool as a cucumber all evening, but when presenting this award, he started stumbling over his words a little... When it was announced, I was somewhat surprised... The first thing I did was hug my wife because without her support I would not be able to pursue my passions... The first thing I said for the acceptance was while this award had my name on it, it was the effort of our Chapter that deserved the recognition; my job was simple: empower and encourage those around me to be the best ASHRAE volunteer that they could be."



Chapter Meeting at Chicken N Pickle's "Be Amazing" Room

Chapter Year 2023-24

OFFICERS:

President	Scott Sanders
Vice President	Jon Wilmore
President Elect	Michael Halcomb
Secretary	Will Thompson
Treasurer	Stephanie Thomas

BOARD OF GOVERNORS:

Board of Governors	Caleb Spradlin
Board of Governors	Eli Sanchez
Board of Governors	John Dale
Board of Governors	Josh Arnett
Board of Governors	Payton Parker

COMMITTEE CHAIRS:

Communications	Josh Arnett
Diversity in ASHRAE	Jess Fitzpatrick
Government Affairs	Caleb Deck
Historian	Dusty Stoabs
Honors & Awards	John Harrod
Membership Promotion	Ryan Sutton
Newsletter	Eli Sanchez
Refrigeration	John Dale
Research Promotion	Heather Martin
Scholarship	Robert Smith
Social Media	Jess Fitzpatrick
Special Events	Michele Lefebvre
Student Activities	Michael Akins
Sustainability	Adam Fitzpatrick
Technology Transfer	Kale Harper
Webmaster	Josh Arnett
YEA	Austin Fulmer



Chapter Year 2024-25



Michael Halcomb, Chapter President 2024-25

Michael Halcomb grew up in Cement, Oklahoma, and earned an associate degree in Air Conditioning and Refrigeration Technologies from OSU–Oklmulgee. His fascination with HVAC began in childhood and evolved into a career focused on systems, commissioning, and building automation—the “brains” that bring mechanical systems to life. As a leader at ES2, he emphasizes teamwork and problem-solving to improve building performance and efficiency. A dedicated ASHRAE member, Michael served as Chapter President this year, guiding the chapter to win the Golden Gavel through collaboration, mentorship, and clear goals. By empowering others, measuring progress, and keeping the work enjoyable, he led the chapter to another very successful year!

The year began with a planning meeting at Michael’s home in July, his second time hosting the event. Alongside good food, drinks, and conversation, chapter leaders discussed strategies to improve meeting attendance, address rising food and venue costs, grow membership, and organize social events beyond regular meetings. The tone for the year was one of teamwork, transparency, and inclusion.

As the new year approached, the chapter entered a period of transition when longtime member Jess Fitzpatrick moved away. Jess had made a lasting impact through her leadership in social media, her innovative “HVAC Magicians” podcast, and her work advancing Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI). Although she had volunteered to serve as Chapter Secretary for 2024–25, her relocation required the Board to elect a replacement. Kale Harper, who was already serving as Chapter Technology Transfer Chair (CTTC), stepped up to fill the secretary position—graciously agreeing to carry out both roles for the year.

Highlights of 2024-25

- Kicked off with a planning retreat hosted by Michael Halcomb
- Josh Arnett sent 60 email blasts; Heather Martin boosted social media.
- DEI: Committee renamed from DIA; Chair Jamie Whittington featured Stephanie Thomas in an interview
- Six members attended Day on the Hill, supporting pro-efficiency legislation
- Roy Crawford named the chapter’s 10th ASHRAE Fellow
- Added 26 members; hosted cornhole and “bring a non-member” events
- Golf, pickleball, and sporting clays tournaments held successfully
- Reached Full Circle; \$450 raffle awarded for attendance plus donation
- Added 15 students; sent 8 to Winter Conf.
- Added 6 YEA members; hosted 3 socials; 13 YEA served in leadership
- All speakers booked early, including Society President; QR code for PDHs
- Migrated all chapter files to the Society Basecamp platform
- Won the Region VIII Golden Gavel

In communications, Josh Arnett excelled as Communications Chair, distributing roughly 60 email blasts promoting meetings, events, and volunteer opportunities. Heather Martin maintained an active online presence through Facebook, Instagram, and LinkedIn, ensuring the chapter stayed visible and engaged across multiple platforms. Together, their efforts significantly enhanced outreach and member connection.

This year, the former Diversity in ASHRAE (DIA) committee was renamed Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) to align with Society’s national direction. Since its founding in 2019–20 under Chair Aruna and President Madison Schultz, the committee has strived to attain continuity and purpose. In 2024–25, Jamie Whittington chaired DEI and conducted a feature interview with Chapter Treasurer and Professional Engineer Stephanie Thomas. Stephanie, a Purdue graduate and founder of Moxify Engineering, shared her journey from HVAC sales at Carrier to entrepreneurship, emphasizing her commitment to creating inclusive work environments. A long-serving Treasurer, she has been a trailblazer for women in engineering and a strong advocate for DEI within ASHRAE.

The Government Affairs Committee remained active in legislative outreach. Six Central Oklahoma members attended “Day on the Hill” on February 27, joining colleagues from the Northeastern Oklahoma Chapter to meet with state legislators. The group supported bills promoting energy efficiency and professional standards—such as HB 1580 (tax credits for high-efficiency homes), HB 2084 (continuing education for contractor licensing), SB 99 (extension of energy efficiency tax credits), SB 614 (energy program listings), and SB 619 (industrial energy efficiency plans)—while opposing legislation that could hinder renewable energy or conservation efforts, including HB 1450, HB 1452, HB 2037, and SB 239.

As Chapter Historian for the ninth consecutive year, yours truly, Dusty Stoabs, continued chronicling the chapter’s legacy through newsletter articles and updates to the official history records. This year’s topics included the Gold Ribbon Award, Diversity in ASHRAE, and profiles of notable members such as Scott Sanders, Tino Mendez, Damon McClure, Bobbie J. Vermillion and Frank Loeffler Sr.; all past Chapter Presidents.



Board of Governor’s Meeting, Chicken N Pickle, August 2024

A major highlight of the year was the recognition of Dr. Roy R. Crawford of Johnson Controls as the chapter's newest ASHRAE Fellow—an honor that is rare and prestigious. With seven patents, 35 publications, and extensive contributions to HVAC research and education, Roy exemplifies the innovation and excellence required for this distinguished grade of membership. In the 90-year history of the Central Oklahoma Chapter, only ten members have ever achieved the rank of Fellow.

The Membership Promotion Committee, led by Bill Kinser, had another active year focused on recruitment and engagement. “Bring a Non-Member” meetings in March and April featured gift card raffles to encourage guests, while the third annual Cornhole Tournament provided a fun and relaxed networking opportunity. The chapter grew from 233 to 259 Area Assigned Members and utilized a QR code at meetings linking directly to ASHRAE’s membership page. The committee also recognized employers who sponsor their employees’ ASHRAE memberships, highlighting the importance of company support in fostering professional growth. Meanwhile, Special Events Chair Michele Lefebvre organized the chapter’s traditional golf, pickleball, and sporting clays tournaments—all well attended.



Joe Sanders (Region VIII DRC) and Dusty Stoabs (Historian) at the Chapters Regional Conference (CRC) in Tulsa

John Dale, Refrigeration Chair, hosted a tour of Anthem Brewing on February 27, 2025, attended by 12 members, combining education with camaraderie.

Under new Research Promotion Chair Matt Akins, the chapter set a fundraising goal of \$31,000 and achieved “Full Circle” participation, with all officers contributing at least \$100. Donors were recognized at the January meeting, and the chapter continued its successful raffle of a \$450 gift card for members donating \$25 or more and attending at least six of eight meetings.

Though Jess moved away, her creative legacy endured. Her “HVAC Magicians” podcast—launched in April 2022—featured engaging interviews with ASHRAE members and industry professionals. As of April 2024, she had posted 21 episodes, leaving a lasting and innovative mark on how the chapter documents its history.

The Student Activities Committee, co-chaired by Michael Akins and Payton Parker, fostered impressive growth and outreach. Payton led K–12 initiatives, volunteering with “Read OKC” and reading “Lucy’s Engineering Adventure” to students. At the University level, the chapter added 15 new student members for a total of 34 and provided financial assistance for eight to attend the ASHRAE Winter Conference in Chicago.

Unfortunately, the Sustainability Committee was inactive this year. Traditionally, the chapter holds two or three single-day events such as Habitat for Humanity or Boathouse District volunteer days, but no chair was appointed following the departure of former chair Adam Fitzpatrick. However, Society continued offering the Decarb 101 training video series.

CTTC Chair Kale Harper secured all program speakers by November 2024, ensuring a well-planned year of presentations. Attendance increased modestly over the previous year, and a new QR code system was implemented to make PDH credit collection more efficient for attendees. A list of all chapter meetings, speakers and topics is provided on the following page. A notable one is ASHRAE Society President Dennis Knight speaking at the December meeting.

Chapter Meetings:

10/9, OKC Convention Center, **Fred Berry with JCI**, Chiller Applications for Electrification

11/6, Chicken N Pickle, **Cory Futrell with FSB**, Central Plant Fundamentals

12/5, Chicken N Pickle, **ASHRAE President Dennis Knight**, Challenges in the Workforce

1/8, Chicken N Pickle, **Caleb Deck with FSB**, HVAC Impact on Building Sustainably

2/5, Chicken N Pickle, **Greg DuChane with Trane**, Air Handling Unit Applications

3/6, Chicken N Pickle, **Tracey Jumper with Microsoft**, Data Center Commissioning

4/2, Chicken N Pickle, ASHRAE/AFCOM Joint Panel Discussion

5/7, Fogo De Chao, **Brent Fullerton with Loren Cook**, Optimizing Fan Efficiency

Under Ty Klakulak, the Young Engineers in ASHRAE (YEA) Committee enjoyed a strong year of engagement. Six new members joined, bringing YEA participation to 21% of the total chapter membership. The committee hosted three standout events—"Controls 101", a rock-climbing outing, and a paintball competition—all designed to blend professional development with fun. YEA members continued to demonstrate leadership with 13 serving in official roles including six as committee chairs.

Behind the scenes, the chapter addressed a long-standing issue with its Basecamp file management system. After learning that the free version no longer supported uploads beyond a certain limit, leaders coordinated a time-consuming but necessary migration to the Society-provided Basecamp project in December 2024, ensuring long-term file access and continuity.

At the Region VIII Chapters Regional Conference (CRC) in April 2025, hosted in Tulsa, attendees used the "ASHRAE 365" mobile app for the first time to view schedules and event details.

All the hard work by every committee certainly paid off. The CRC concluded with an unforgettable moment: when the Golden Gavel winner was announced, the we were stunned to hear our name called. After a brief pause of disbelief, cheers erupted as twelve members made their way to the stage, with President Michael Halcomb proudly holding the famed trophy. The chapter had edged out Monterrey—winner of the previous three years—by a narrow margin, marking a remarkable achievement for the team.

Reflecting on the chapter's success, Michael shared these words of wisdom for future leaders:

"Empower your team—don't try to do everything yourself. Give people ownership and trust them to deliver. Keep the scoreboard visible—set clear goals and track progress so everyone knows how they're contributing to success. And make it fun—whether it's meetings, socials, or fundraisers, people stay engaged when they're learning and enjoying themselves."



*Central Oklahoma chapter members receiving the Golden Gavel award
Tulsa CRC, April 2025*

Chapter Year 2024-25

OFFICERS:

President	Michael Halcomb
Vice President	Scott Sanders
President Elect	Will Thompson
Secretary	Kale Harper
Treasurer	Stephanie Thomas

BOARD OF GOVERNORS:

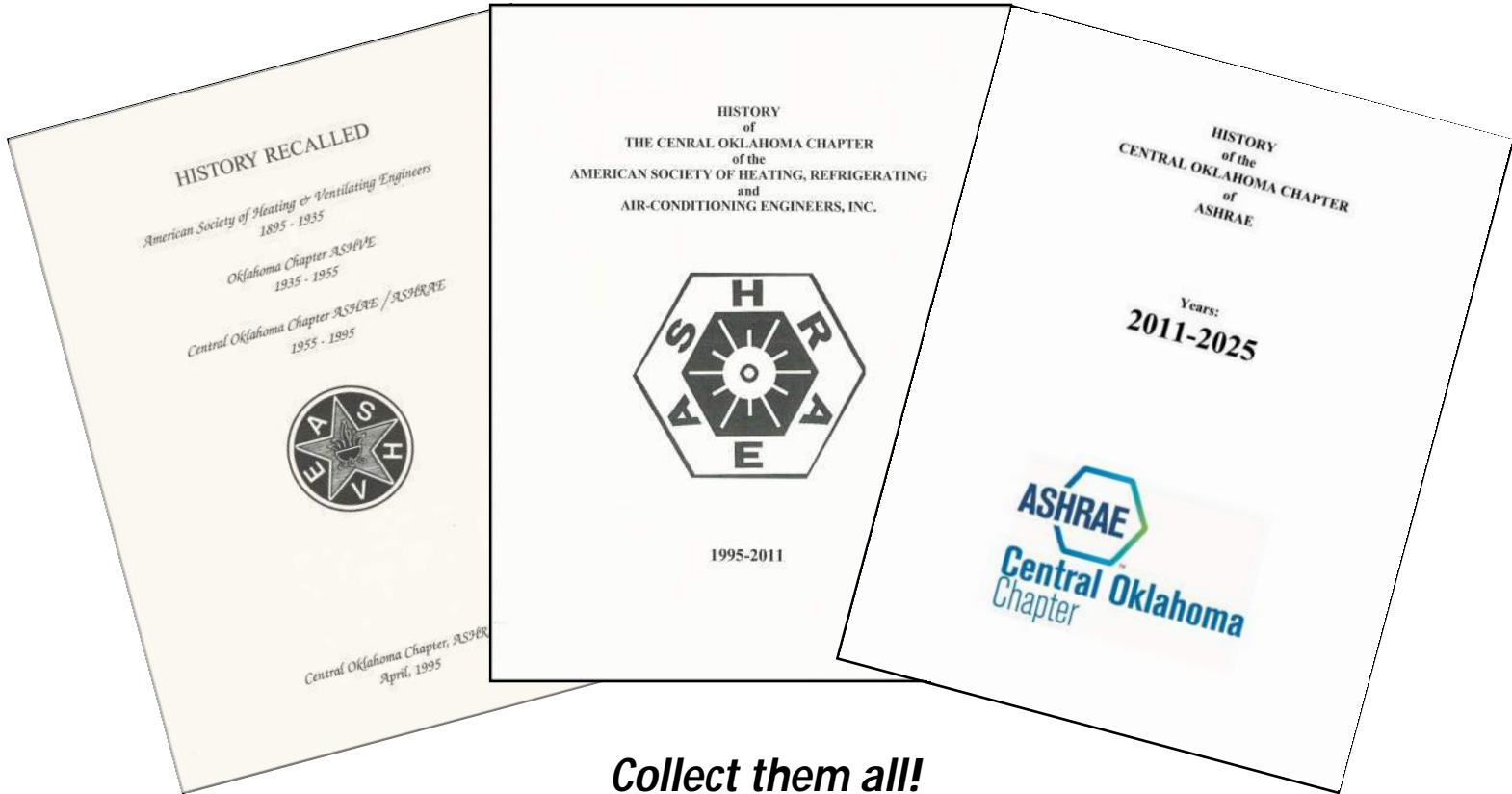
Board of Governors	Damon McClure
Board of Governors	John Dale
Board of Governors	Jon Wilmore
Board of Governors	Josh Arnett
Board of Governors	Payton Parker

COMMITTEE CHAIRS:

Communications	Josh Arnett
Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion	Jamie Whittington
Government Affairs	Caleb Deck
Historian	Dusty Stoabs
Honors & Awards	John Harrod
Membership Promotion	Bill Kinser
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Special Events	Michele Lefebvre
Student Activities	Michael Akins
Sustainability	
Technology Transfer	Kale Harper
Webmaster	Josh Arnett
YEA	Ty Klakulak



Central Oklahoma Chapter History Books



Collect them all!

