HISTORY
of the
CENTRAL OKLAHOMA CHAPTER
of
ASHRAE

Years:

2016-2021



History of the Central Oklahoma Chapter of ASHRAE, Years: 2016-2021

Publication Date: September 27, 2024

Dusty Stoabs, PE

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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.


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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, *"History of the Central Oklahoma Chapter of ASHRAE, Years: 2011-2016"*, written by yours truly, Chapter Historian Dusty Stoabs, covers the next five years of chapter history and was published in 2020. This book picks up where that 3rd book left off and covers another five-year block of time. In the near future, this book and the previous book, will be combined and provided as a single volume covering 2011-2021.

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 yours truly 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 1895. 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).

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 back 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 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 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 the 2011-2016 history book under Chapter Year 2014-15.

In this current book, we have some more exciting Golden Gavel wins that we are very proud of. We 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 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
- Frist 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 chpater'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.



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

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 intensions 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

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, CLEAResult; *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

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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.

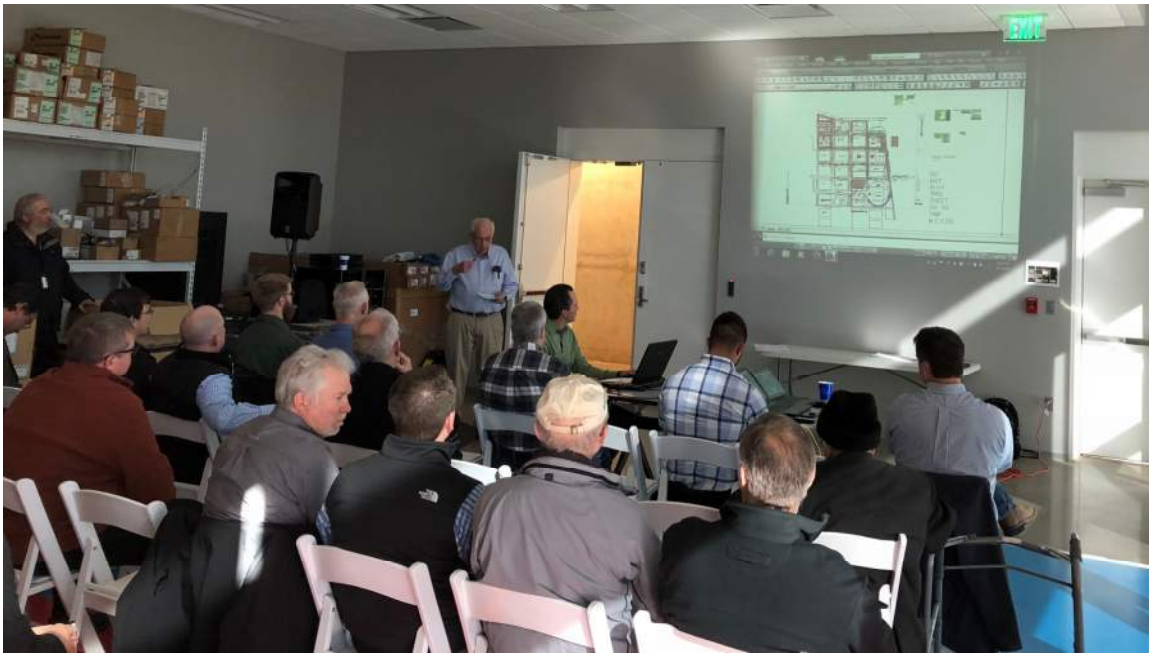
To help achieve President McClure's goal of increasing RP individual contributions, RP Chair Chris Dolan convinced the Board of Governors and Officers to not only contribute the minimum $100 to achieve the Full Circle Award (something the Chapter officers normally do) but to contribute double the minimum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

Concerning chapter educational programs, the CTTC 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 Mater 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).



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

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.

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 McClue 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

ASHRAE Central Oklahoma Chapter


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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 fund-raising 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

ASHRAE Central Oklahoma Chapter


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Chapter Year 2019-20



Madison Schultz, Chapter President 2019-20

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!

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.

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
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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

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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."*

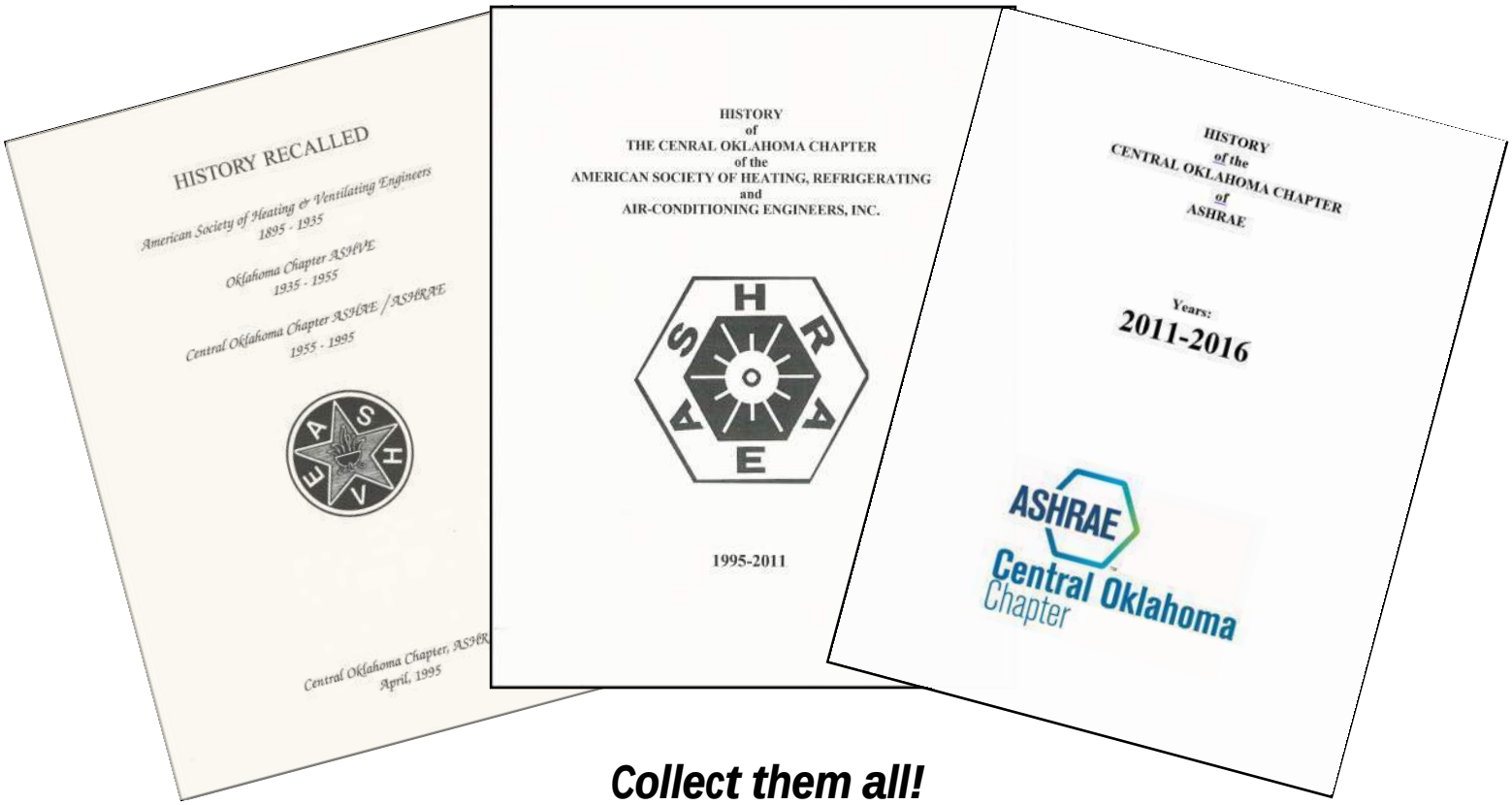


Habitat for Humanity House Framing Work Day

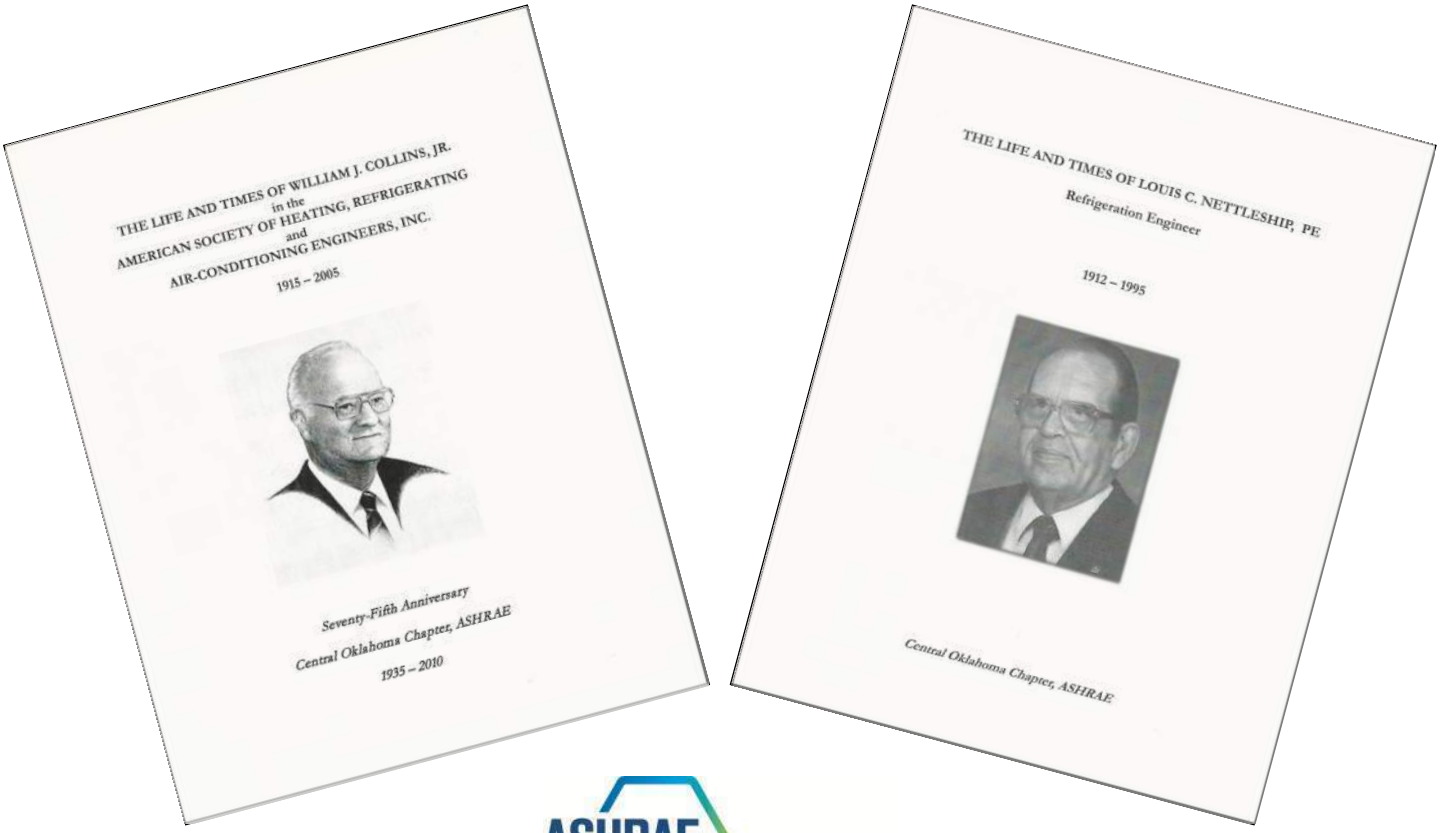
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Diversity in ASHRAE	Madison Schultz
Government Affairs	Byron Hughes
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