

# **CRC Chapter Summary Report 2023-2024**

**Chapter President Scott Sanders, PE**

**April 21, 2024**



## Executive Summary

In engineering we are taught three simple rules.

- You cannot create or destroy mass.
- You cannot create or destroy energy.
- You cannot create or destroy momentum.

I believe that as leaders of an ASHRAE Chapters, you must throw those rules out the window, and work to create mass, create energy, and create momentum in your Chapters.

Energy is excitement. In order to create energy, the Chapter must create excitement within itself. Energy improves the membership retention rate. This includes planning events and meeting topics that incite the Chapter membership to attend and remain active members. Last year, we realized that we have to do more than “offer a PDH;” we need to offer opportunities for networking within our industry. This year we had our largest golf tournament, and added our first annual pickleball tournament in the fall to provide another opportunity for networking in our Chapter.

In order to create mass, the Chapter must grow in membership, and increase attendance at meetings and events. An increase in energy within the Chapter increases mass. This increase in mass leads to higher levels of member engagement and increased income for the Chapter from dues collection and registration fees associated with events and Chapter meetings. This year we increased our meeting attendance by 36 percent.

Momentum is dependent upon the energy in the Chapter. Our Chapter leadership started building momentum last year with our first ever HVAC Expo and our first ever cornhole tournament modeled after the NCAA basketball tournament with 64 teams. This year, our second annual cornhole tournament was larger, and better than last year, with 84 teams registered to play. If leadership can keep the energy of the Chapter at a high level, the momentum will continue into following years, and secure the future of the Chapter.





Many of the committee members from last year stayed on to volunteer for this year, allowing us a smooth transition into this year. The advantage is that our volunteers already know the expectations for the year and can guide members that are new to our chapter operations. Our Chapter leadership consisted of the individuals listed below. An asterisk by an individual's name recognizes this person as a first-year volunteer in our Chapter.

**Officers:**

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

**Board of Governors:**

Josh Arnett; Caleb Spradlin, PE; Payton Parker\*; Eli Sanchez\*; John Dale

**Committee Chairs:**

<b>Chapter Technology Transfer (CTTC)</b>	Kale Harper, PE Josh Wiens, PE* John Dale	Chair Co-Chair Member
<b>Student Activities</b>	Michael Akins Robert Smith Austin Jones Aruna Abharagoonawardhana, PE Payton Parker*	Chair Co-Chair Co-Chair Co-Chair Co-Chair
<b>Young Engineers in ASHRAE</b>	Austin Fulmer Aaron Gooden, PE	Chair Co-Chair
<b>Membership Promotion</b>	Ryan Sutton Will Kinser* Jess Fitzpatrick, PE	Chair Co-Chair Member
<b>Historian</b>	Dusty Stoabs, PE	Chair
<b>Research Promotion/Events</b>	Heather Martin Andy Donehue Michele Lefebvre Zachary Childers Jon Wilmore	Chair Member Member Member Member
<b>Government Affairs</b>	Caleb Deck, PE Jeff Forman	Chair Co-Chair
<b>Electronic Communication</b>	Josh Arnett	Chair
<b>Social Media</b>	Jess Fitzpatrick, PE	Chair
<b>Refrigeration</b>	John Dale	Chair
<b>Chapter Honors and Awards</b>	John Harrod, PE Caleb Spradlin, PE	Chair Co-Chair
<b>DEI in ASHRAE</b>	Jess Fitzpatrick, PE Eli Sanchez*	Chair Co-Chair

## Chapter Problems (Challenges)

Our year started with President-Elect Halcomb hosting a planning meeting at his residence in July. At this meeting we identified the following challenges for the year.

- **Meeting Attendance**
- **Chapter Growth**
- **Individual Contributions for Research Promotion**
- **Energy and Excitement**
- **DEI**

### **Meeting Attendance**

Meeting attendance for our Chapter has been down since the pandemic year. Items that we felt contributed to lower attendance were:

1. The ability of engineers to obtain professional development hours via webinars.
2. Topics of presentations at our meetings.
3. The venue.

Since 2020 the opportunities for engineers to obtain the required professional development hours (PDH) to maintain licensure as an engineer have increased significantly. Today, an engineer can sit at a desk, during the lunch hour, eating leftovers from home, and at the end of an hour, receive a PDH from the presenter and sponsor. As a Chapter, we are challenged with attracting people to attend our meetings to receive those PDHs.

We identified that presentation of topics needed to appeal to engineers in our industry and we worked diligently to plan meeting topics that would entice engineers to attend the meetings. We believed that in order to increase attendance, we needed to move away from manufacturers coming in to speak to our Chapter (that go around and visit every engineering firm in town prior to the Chapter meeting), and schedule speakers without connections to manufacturers in the industry. We needed to offer topics that differed from the typical online presentations that allowed engineers to obtain PDHs.

While our meeting attendance for the previous year was up (39 attendees on average), we still were not meeting our goal of averaging 50 attendees per a meeting. Our meeting venue was an old theater without fixed seating that is now used for hosting events such as receptions and meetings in an area that can seat 300 people. This venue was spacious with tables for six spread throughout the theater. This made it difficult to socialize and network with peers, and in many instances, people could come in, sit down, have lunch, and leave without speaking to any more than five people.

Our solution to the first challenge was to offer topics that were important to engineers and rarely advertised as webinars. This included acoustics, vibrations, energy modeling, seismic design, and application of Codes for Life Safety. This would require us to use our networks to find speakers and avoid using manufacturing representatives to find speakers for our meetings.

Our solution to the second challenge started with moving our meetings to Chicken N Pickle and their large "Be Amazing," room that is a more intimate space for 125 people. The seating in this



room is more casual, with couches that allow several to sit together for our presentations and meetings. Networking has increased as many arrive early and stay late to visit with peers.

### Chapter Growth

Our Chapter membership has remained steady throughout the years as members join or leave the industry and transfer out of our Chapter. As a Chapter we recognize that the best opportunity for growth resides in recruitment of engineers to our industry.

We realized that our focus has to be on students enrolled in higher education, which requires not only recruiting students to join ASHRAE, but also retaining those students and encouraging them to transition through the Smart Start program to a membership in ASHRAE.

Our solution recognized that social media is a powerful tool in this regard. It was encouraged that all Chapter officers, Board of Governors members, and committee chairs follow the Chapter LinkedIn account and repost Chapter news and information on meetings, opportunities, and events. This allows connections in our network to view our announcements and contact us for more information. By spreading the word throughout our network, we believed a contact could see a topic that was of interest and want to learn more.

### Individual Contributions for Research Promotion

In the past, our individual contributions for Research Promotion have been from Chapter Officers, Board of Governors, and those involved at the Regional level.

Our solution to increase meeting attendance and individual contributions from members to Research Promotion was raffle off a gift card at the last meeting of the year. In order to qualify for the gift card, a member would be required to attend six of our scheduled eight meetings and make a 25 dollar contribution to Research Promotion. Chapter officers, voting members of the BOG, and the Research Promotion committee would be ineligible to participate.

### Energy and Excitement

In order for our Chapter to meet our goal for Research Promotion we need to generate energy and excitement for our fundraising events. Our RP goal last year had increased significantly from previous years and we knew going into the year that we would have a similar goal to meet for Research Promotion. Our Chapter has depended upon our golf tournament in September, events such as a poker night, and corporate donors to meet our goal for research promotion. Since the pandemic, events such as a poker night have struggled for attendance.

We needed an event to replace poker night. We wanted it to be a fall event that would appeal to the people in our industry that are not golfers.

Our previous year started off with our golf tournament and our first ever Expo which consisted of 100 booths of vendors, sales representatives, and contractors and over six hundred registrants in attendance. The Expo featured presentations by our student chapters on research projects at their universities and seminars on topics in our industry. Both the golf tournament and the Expo were successes that created energy and excitement among our membership. Our year ended with our first ever cornhole tournament that saw nearly two hundred people attend, including some of our student members. We needed to continue and build upon that success.

Our solutions included starting off the year with our golf tournament returning to the newly renovated Kickingbird Golf Course. We received thirty team entrants and it was one of our largest golf tournaments in recent memory. We exceeded our budgeted income by almost \$12,000.00 while only exceeding our budgeted expenses by \$4,000.00. This resulted in our Chapter exceeding our budgeted net proceeds of \$17,000.00 by almost \$8,000.00, approximately 36% increase in net proceeds compared to the previous year.

We introduced our first annual pickleball tournament. We felt that we would do well attracting 32 teams to play and ended up with 37 teams registered. We had over 100 people in attendance as non-players attended to have lunch and visit the vendor tables that were set up.

Our second annual cornhole tournament just concluded and was larger than last year. While we had to make phone calls for the first cornhole tournament to sign people and teams up, for the second annual tournament, things have been vastly different. Within a month of the announcement and the flyer sent out to membership, the 64 team bracket was nearly filled, and on the day of the tournament, we had 85 teams signed up to play. We tripled our net proceeds from last year.



## DEI

The Boomer and Gen X generations have already passed judgement on diversity, equity, and inclusion, and for the most part, it is not a positive judgement. It is difficult for the Boomer and



Gen X generations to accept new ideas, and it will require leadership from Millennials and Gen Z to motivate all generations to support DEI initiatives.

Our solution was a YEA event to teach fundamental of acoustics and at that event, our DEI chairs presented on microaggressions and ageism. We had a presentation to our Board of Governors on DEI basics and asked the Region VIII Director and Regional Chair to attend to witness the work our Chapter is doing on DEI. This presentation informed the leaders of our Chapter that DEI represents a commitment to acknowledge and respect the differences between people, and ensure that everyone has an equal opportunity at success.

Our monthly newsletter also published articles on DEI written by our chairs to further inform our membership on the importance of DEI in our industry.

## Chapter Innovations and Suggestions

- **Milestone Chart**
- **First Annual President's Lunch at Golf Tournament**
- **First Annual Pickleball Tournament**
- **Diversity, Equity, Inclusion publications**
- **QR Codes for speaker evaluation, membership promotion and research promotion**
- **Scholarship Task Force**

### **Milestone Chart**

Each Chapter year, leadership struggles with remembering key dates for the Chapter, including when the Chapter audit needs to be completed, the formation of the nomination committee for nominating members to leadership positions, election by the membership of the new officers and Board of Governors, along with dates for centralized training, YEA weekends, and Leadership University. In many instances, we were relying on the memory of the past Chapter leaders that are still active in our Chapter.

As Chapter President I wanted to create a living document to help guide us through the year. This document would detail the milestones for the year, the due date, and the parties responsible for completion of the milestone. My goal is for this document to serve future Chapter leadership in guiding the Chapter through the upcoming years. Using the suggested chapter operations calendar from the ASHRAE Manual for Chapter Operations, I created a living document which incorporates the suggestions found there and includes dates for Chapter meetings, BOG meetings, training opportunities, and other Chapter events.

The Central Oklahoma Chapter milestone chart for the 2023-2024 year is posted on the Region VIII CRC Basecamp site for reference.

### **First Annual President's Lunch at Golf Tournament**

To recognize the success of our Chapter in the past and to provide an opportunity for past Chapter Presidents to give back to the Chapter, I asked our Past Presidents if they would join me in donating \$100.00 each to sponsor the first annual President's Lunch at the golf tournament. This provided us with an opportunity to recognize our past leadership and thank them for their leadership. This allowed the Chapter Presidents to give back to the Chapter. Thirteen Past Presidents joined me in donating \$100.00 each to sponsor the lunch at the golf tournament.

*THANK YOU!*

## First Annual President's Lunch Sponsors


2023-2024 Scott Sanders

2022-2023 Jon Wilmore

2021-2022 Caleb Spradlin

2020-2021 Chris Dolan

2018-2019 Jeff Forman

2017-2018 Damon McClure 

2016-2017 Trapper Wilson 

2015-2016 John Semtner

2014-2015 Joe Sanders 

2012-2013 Dusty Stoabs

2011-2012 Bryan Garcia

2008-2009 Grant Flurry

1995-1996 John Harrod

1990-1991 Chuck Darr 

### First Annual Pickleball Tournament

From our annual planning meeting, we decided that we would host our first annual pickleball tournament on November 3, 2023. This date was less than two months after our golf tournament. The premise was we would have people attend that were not golfers, but have played pickleball, and since pickleball is not difficult to learn, introduce people for the first time to the sport. Our goal was to provide additional networking opportunities for membership, and our hope was to break even on the event.

To help new players out, we scheduled a 2 hour lesson with the staff at Chicken N Pickle and rented two courts at the end of the workday to allow people to learn the game prior to the tournament. While this was a time to learn the sport, those that turned out had a good time networking.

We had 37 teams register for the tournament and held play in games for the 32 team bracket. We played best two of three sets to advance through the bracket. As teams were eliminated and courts freed up, people that stayed continued to socialize and network by playing pick-up games on the available courts. People that were not registered to play came out during lunch to eat, visit vendor tables, socialize, and take in the action on the court. We estimated around 125 attendees for the event and our net proceeds from the event was \$1000.00.



### Diversity, Equity, Inclusion Publications

The Central Oklahoma Chapter has the two best leaders in all of Region VIII for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion. This is evident by their passion and publications.

This year we started publishing articles on DEI in our newsletter to inform our membership on DEI topics. Our year started when Eli Sanchez, our DEI Co-chair learned that an article he penned for the ASHRAE Journal, “Beyond Buzzwords: The Tangible Impact of DEI in Organizations,” was selected for publication. Eli started the year by publishing in our newsletter information on the tangible impact of DEI on organizations. In November of 2023, Eli published an interview with Amada Diaz, named one of the 2023 Top Women in HVAC by ACHR News. This interview highlighted that while women hold approximately 50% of the jobs in the United States as of 2019, less than 2% of the HVACR workforce are women. In January, Eli discussed DEI terminologies that resonated in our book club book, “I Never Thought of It That Way,” by Monica Guzman. For March, Eli wrote about attending a webinar sponsored by the National Association of Women in Construction. The subject of the webinar was, “Transforming Leadership: Empowering Women and Fostering Allies in the Industry.” An interesting topic that addresses transformational leadership versus transactional leadership.

In February of 2024, our Chapter DEI Chair, Jess Fitzpatrick, learned that the article she penned for the ASHRAE Journal, “The Multigenerational Workforce: Addressing Ageism In The Workplace,” was selected for publication.

The Central Oklahoma Chapter is proud of our Chair, Jess Fitzpatrick, and Co-Chair, Eli Sanchez, and the work they do.

### QR Codes For Speaker Evaluation, Membership Promotion and Research Promotion

At our past Chapter meetings, the CTTC chair would set out speaker evaluation forms on the tables prior to the Chapter meeting starting. At the end of the meeting, the evaluation forms would be collected and certificates of attendance handed out to the attendees needing a PDH for the meeting. This resulted in having to manually tabulate the evaluation forms in order to report to the Regional Vice Chair the quality of the presentation and the speaker.

Our CTTC chair for the year decided to simplify the process by creating electronic evaluation forms. Attendees scan a QR code on the table that opens the evaluation form for the speaker. Once the evaluation form is completed and submitted, a link to a certificate of attendance is provided for the attendee to download the certificate.

#### Research Promotion

From this, we decided to also provide QR codes on the tables at our lunch meetings that would allow attendees to directly access the membership promotion page or the research promotion page at ASHRAE.ORG. This encouraged meeting attendees to join ASHRAE, or donate to research promotion while at the meeting.



### Scholarship Task Force

In the past our Chapter has struggled with scholarship applicants. Some years we only received one or two applicants for our scholarship. Last year we had 10 applicants and this year we had 12 applicants. As our scholarship endowment nears \$100,000, the amount we will be awarding in the near future will be significant, and we expect the number of applicants to increase. We have worked diligently in the past few years to market our scholarship to students at both



Oklahoma State University and the University of Oklahoma. Along with the increased award amount, we believe our marketing efforts have assisted in receiving more applicants for our scholarship. I felt it was time to review our selection process and, if needed, to make changes to the selection process. The task force consisted of two of the three scholarship reviewers for this past year, our scholarship chair, and our DEI chair and co-chair. The purpose of the task force is to create a document to guide future selection committees, as a document does not currently exist.

The task force learned the following items and proposed solutions to our selection process:

- Currently an applicant's grade point average is scored subjectively on a scale of 1 to 10. The task force will change this to an objective score on a scale of 1 to 10.
- Currently, there is not an emphasis placed on an applicant having a student membership in ASHRAE. The rubric for scoring will be updated to place an emphasis on being a student member.
- Currently, there is not an emphasis placed on current or past internships in the HVAC industry. The task force believes this is important as it indicates a commitment to the industry. The rubric for scoring will be updated to place an emphasis on HVAC industry internships.
- When applications are received, the name of the applicant is visible to the reviewers. In order to remove the risk of hidden bias by reviewers, the foundation that handles the scholarship will be asked if names can be removed and not revealed until scoring of applicants is complete.
- Lastly, the task force will document that one scholarship will be awarded to a student enrolled in a graduate program, and one scholarship will be awarded to a student enrolled in an undergraduate engineering program.



## 2023-2024 ASHRAE CRC CHAPTER SUMMARY REPORT

<b>REGION</b>	VIII	<b>CHAPTER WEBSITE: ASHRAECOK.ORG</b>		
<b>CRC LOCATION</b>	DALLAS			
<b>CHAPTER</b>	CENTRAL OKLAHOMA			
<b>CHAPTER NUMBER</b>	068			
<b>1. MEMBERSHIP PROMOTION</b>		<b>YTD/REPORTED</b>	<b>REPORTED</b>	<b>REPORTED</b>
		<b>2023-2024</b>	<b>2022-2023</b>	<b>2021-2022</b>
NUMBER OF AREA-ASSIGNED MEMBERS (AAM)		233	258	274
NUMBER OF CHAPTER DUES PAYING MEMBERS (CDPM)		129	143	115
NUMBER OF NEW MEMBERS TO DATE (AAM)		38	28	25
NUMBER OF MEMBERS DELINQUENT TO DATE (AAM)		11	23	28
<b>2. STUDENT ACTIVITIES</b>				
NUMBER OF NEW STUDENT MEMBERS		19	11	11
NUMBER OF ACTIVE STUDENT BRANCHES		2	2	2
<b>3. CHAPTER TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER</b>				
NUMBER OF REGULAR MONTHLY MEETINGS WITH TECH PROGRAM		7 WITH 1 LEFT	8	8
MONTHLY MEETING ATTENDANCE (TOTAL/AVERAGE)		371/53 TO DATE	312/39	262/37
NUMBER OF SEMINARS, ALI COURSES, TOURS OR OTHER TECHNICAL PROGRAMS OUTSIDE REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING		5	4	3

NUMBER OF TECHNICAL PROGRAMS ON REFRIGERATION TECHNOLOGY	3	4	2
NUMBER OF SOCIAL EVENTS SEPARATE FROM A TECHNICAL PROGRAM (I.E. GOLF, MEMBER'S NIGHT OUT, ETC.)	6	8	5
NUMBER OF TECHNOLOGY AWARD SUBMITTALS TO CHAPTER/REGION	0	0	0
<b>4. RESEARCH PROMOTION/FUNDRAISING</b>			
CHAPTER GOAL	\$41,820	\$42,000	\$25,000
TOTAL DOLLARS CONTRIBUTED	\$24,832	\$51,265	\$23,125
<b>5. GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS</b>			
LIST THE CHAPTER GOALS AND GRASSROOTS ADVOCACY OF THE PAST YEAR (USE SEPARATE PAGE)	SEE BELOW		
INFORMATION THAT MAY BE INCLUDED: HOLDING COMBINED CHAPTER MEETINGS WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS TO DISCUSS HVAC&R, VISITING ELECTED/APPOINTED OFFICIALS, HOLDING A "DAY ON THE HILL," INVITING ELECTED/APPOINTED OFFICIALS TO SPEAK AT CHAPTER MEETINGS			
SEEKING PROCLAMATIONS FROM GOVERNORS, MAYORS AND OTHER ELECTED OFFICIALS FOR NATIONAL ENGINEERS WEEK (E-WEEK)	0	1	1
SOLICITING NOMINATIONS FOR THE GOVERNMENT ADVOCACY AWARD AND OBTAINING GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS AWARD ENTRIES INTO REGIONAL COMPETITION	0	0	0
NUMBER OF ADVOCACY MEETINGS AND OTHER ACTIVITIES			
OTHER GRASSROOTS ACTIVITIES NOT MENTIONED ABOVE (USE SEPARATE PAGE)			

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<b>6. YOUNG ENGINEERS IN ASHRAE (YEA)</b>				
NUMBER OF NEW YEA MEMBERS		10	10	6
NUMBER OF TOTAL YEA MEMBERS		49	50	49
PERCENTAGE OF YEA MEMBERS FROM THE TOTAL CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP		21	19.4	17.9
<b>7. CHAPTER HISTORY</b>				
CHAPTER HISTORICAL DISPLAY AT CRC		YES	YES	YES
CHAPTER HISTORY MOVED TO WEB SITE		YES	YES	YES
<b>8. FINANCES</b>				
TOTAL FUNDS BALANCE		\$102,067.79	\$72,454.00	\$49,782.06
CHAPTER DUES		\$60	\$60	\$60
MEMBER COST OF MEALS		\$30	\$30	\$30
DATE OF LAST CHAPTER AUDIT		JULY 2023	Nov 2022	Nov 2021

## CRC Summary Form Background

### Membership Promotion:

Our Membership Promotion Chair Ryan Sutton and Co-Chair Will Kinser worked diligently this year to add 38 new members to our chapter this year. Our cornhole tournament is our biggest event for bringing non-members out to our events and encouraging them to sign up. We had 1 chapter meeting that was a “Bring a Non-Member” meeting. Ryan and Will found that inviting people in our industry that were not members to coffee or lunch and discussing ASHRAE with them contributed to this success.

### Membership Promotion



The power of social media led to a new member when he saw a repost of the announcement for the YEA tour of the downtown OKC central utility plant. This repost led to him reaching out and asking for information to join ASHRAE so he could attend the tour.

We had 3 student members transition through the Smart Start Program this year.

### Student Activities:

We have added 19 student members this year.

Central Oklahoma Chapter YEA member and Student Activity committee member, Payton Parker leads our K-12 activities. Payton has volunteered with Read OKC and is going around K-12 classes in the Oklahoma City area monthly reading “Lucy’s Engineering Adventure,” to pre-school students.

Eli Sanchez, our newsletter editor, shares our Chapter newsletter with his colleagues at Climate Control Group. An article in our newsletter on Payton’s activities inspired Abryn Wyatt of CCG to join ASHRAE, as she is currently writing 4 STEM books for K-12 students and wants to help our K-12 student activity effort.



Central Oklahoma ASHRAE Chapter member Chris Carlsen served in a role of mentor to engineering students at the University of Oklahoma for their HVAC capstone design course. Chapter member Korey Wheeler is serving in a mentor role for the University of Oklahoma Solar Decathlon Challenge Team.

Our Student Activity Chair, Michael Akins, arranged for 9 students from the Oklahoma State University Student Chapter to visit the Loren Cook factory in Springfield, MO to learn about the manufacturing process, testing, and certification for fans.

The Chapter sponsored 7 students to attend the Winter Conference in Chicago this year.

Our Chapter was able to provide 3 scholarships this year in the amount of \$2,000.00 each, one to a graduate student in engineering, and two undergraduate engineering students. Our endowment is currently at \$94,000.00 and we are considering increasing our endowment to \$100,000.00 at the end of the ASHRAE year.



On April 2, 2024, Society President Ginger Scoggins visited our Chapter. That afternoon, we visited Oklahoma State University where she toured the labs to witness first-hand ASHRAE funded research projects currently underway. Later that afternoon 78 mechanical engineering students listened to her presentation on Challenge Accepted: Tackling the Climate Crisis.

### Chapter Technology Transfer:

Our CTTC chair, Kale Harper had our speakers for the year arranged by September. The objective for the Chapter was to avoid topics presented by a manufacturer. We wanted topics that appealed to our membership and would be difficult to hear anywhere else.

Our contribution to decarbonization was using local speakers that did not utilize air travel to Oklahoma City. Five of our meetings feature speakers that are local to the Oklahoma City metropolitan area and travelled to our meeting location by automobile. Our Distinguished Lecturer for the year was Mark Fly, who travelled the Turner Turnpike in Oklahoma from Tulsa to Oklahoma City to present to our Chapter. Mark's presentation on Vibration Fundamentals was set to be a continuation to our first YEA meeting and the presentation on Acoustics 101.



We had one speaker that used commercial air travel to speak at our Chapter meetings, Nathan Kegal. Society President Ginger Scoggins, PE in her visit to Region VIII travelled via automobile from Bentonville, Arkansas to Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. We estimate our total carbon footprint to be 6.5 metric tons for our meetings this year. Therefore, we have purchased 6.5 tons of carbon offsets for our Chapter meetings, further contributing to decarbonization and tackling the climate crisis.

Our meetings on energy modeling, HVAC controls, geothermal heatpumps, and Challenge Accepted: Tackling the Climate Crisis met the ASHRAE Focused Initiatives of equipping our members, expanding our efforts, and providing meaningful leadership, action, resources and advocacy.

The topics of our meetings appealed to our membership as evident by the increase in attendance at our meetings. At our March meeting, we exceeded our total meeting attendance of 312 for the 2022-2023 Chapter year. Year to date, we have had 371 attendees, and average 53 attendees per meeting.



### Central Oklahoma Chapter Meeting Programs and Carbon Footprint

Meeting Date	Topic	Speaker	Attendance	Traveled from	Estimated Distance Traveled (mi)	Estimated CO2 amount (tons)
2023-10-04	Energy Modeling	Nathan Kegal	49	Nashville, TN	1118	0.47 speaker 0.49 attendees
2023-11-01	Vibration Fundamentals/ Society Strategic Plan	Mark Fly, PE (DL)/ Joe Sanders, R8 DRC	43	Tulsa, OK	103	0.04 speaker 0.43 attendees
2023-12-06	Seismic Design for Non-structural Elements	Mike Thompson, PE, SE	57	Oklahoma City, OK	15	0.01 speaker 0.57 attendees
2024-01-03	Life Safety Dampers in the Code	Gus Gagliardi, PE	62	Oklahoma City, OK	8	0.01 speaker 0.62 attendees
2024-02-07	HVAC Controls	Michael Halcomb	58	Oklahoma City, OK	5	0.01 speaker 0.58 attendees
2024-03-06	Geothermal Heat Pumps and Available Tax Credits	Darrin Beller	48	Goldsby, OK	30	0.01 speaker 0.48 attendees
2024-04-02	Challenge Accepted	Ginger Scoggins, PE	54	Bettonville, AR	219	0.06 speaker 0.54 attendees
2024-05-01	Healthcare Facility Panel	Varies		Oklahoma City, OK	15	0.04 speakers TBD attendees

Our upcoming May meeting is a panel discussion on Healthcare Facilities. Our panel consists of an engineer that is ASHRAE Certified as a Healthcare Facility Design Professional, an Architect that specializes in Healthcare Planning and Design, a contractor and a healthcare facility professional. The panel discussion is a fixture as our last meeting of the year and is typically well received by our membership for wrapping up the year.

We had a Refrigeration tour on February 22, 2024 at Anthem Brewing in downtown Oklahoma City. We had 12 members in attendance.



**Research Promotion:**

The goal set for our Chapter this year was \$41,840.00. Our Chapter achieved Full Circle again this year.

In an attempt to increase the number of individuals contributing to Research Promotion and to increase attendance for our meetings, Our Research Promotion Chair, Heather Martin is giving away a \$450.00 gift card to a member that makes a minimum \$25 donation and attends 6 of our scheduled 8 meetings. Currently we have 7 members in the running for the gift card that will be given away at our May meeting, and 7 more that would be eligible if they make the \$25 donation.

Last year we created a Special Events Committee under the RP Chair to help plan and coordinate events. This removed the burden of planning events from a single person and allowed us to divide up responsibilities for the event among our volunteers. This committee consists of Michele Lefebvre, Andy Donehue, Jon Wilmore, Zachary Childers, and myself. This led to the success of this year's golf tournament, exceeding our budgeted net proceeds of \$17,000.00 by almost \$8,000.00, an approximately 36% increase in net proceeds compared to the previous year. This committee approach allowed us to add our first annual pickleball tournament to raise money, allowed us to increase the size of our second annual cornhole tournament and triple our net proceeds from the first tournament, and finalize our final event for the year, our clay shoot in May.



The winning cornhole team donated their prize of \$200.00 to ASHRAE Research Promotion.

### Government Affairs:

Caleb Deck, PE led our Government Affairs committee this year. Caleb has served on this committee prior and this was his first year chairing the committee. Caleb is a strong advocate for decarbonization and sustainability, and worked to deliver ASHRAE's message loud and clear to government officials. Caleb met the Presidential Initiative to provide meaningful leadership, action, resources and advocacy.

Caleb and Jon Wilmore also led the charge for the DOE Healthy and Efficient Schools program for the Central Oklahoma Chapter, scheduling meetings with rural Oklahoma school districts to discuss the program and the benefits for their school system.

Caleb provided an article each month for our newsletter on topics of importance for Government Affairs. This included the ASHRAE/DOE program, the ASHRAE Task Force on Building Decarbonization, Indoor Air Quality Policy Position, and the Clean Energy Careers for All Program.



Grassroots Government Advocacy 

**DAY ON THE HILL**

**Government Outreach Day**

**March 12, 2024**  
 9:00am to 12:00pm  
 Oklahoma State Capitol  
 Southeast Entrance

Contact Caleb Deck for information:  
 cdeck@fab-we.com

ASHRAE members play crucial roles educating public policymakers at all levels of government in every country about building systems, energy efficiency, indoor air quality, refrigeration and sustainability within the building industry.

On March 12, 2024, we partnered with the Northeast Oklahoma Chapter for our annual “Day on the Hill” government outreach day. A total of 15 ASHRAE Members, 8 from the Central Oklahoma Chapter, met at the Oklahoma State Capitol to discuss with Senators and Representatives important topics, such as decarbonization, energy codes (the State of Oklahoma recognizes the 2006 International Energy Conservation Code), and bills for funding construction and renovation projects for higher education. Our Chapter Vice President, Jon Wilmore, participated in committee meetings for House Bill 4013 related to funding for deferred maintenance of higher education and state buildings. This bill passed the house on March 12 by an 84 to 4 margin. HB 3819 provides training for code officials, but an addendum had been added concerning the energy code and requiring a proof of 7-year payback prior to adoption. This amendment was removed prior to passing the bill, and we believe it was due to our meeting with Representatives and Senators and informing them of ASHRAE Standard 90.1.



### GAC Meetings with Government Officials

Meeting Topic	Government Official
Decarbonization	David Todd, OKC City Program Manager
Decarbonization	T.O. Bowman, OKC Office of Sustainability Planner
ASHRAE/DOE Healthy and Efficient Schools	Geary Public Schools
ASHRAE/DOE Healthy and Efficient Schools	Blackwell Public Schools
ASHRAE/DOE Healthy and Efficient Schools	Duncan Public Schools
Energy Topics	Oklahoma Uniform Building Code Commission
Decarbonization and Energy Codes	Senator Pugh
Decarbonization and Energy Codes	Representative McBride
ASHRAE/DOE Healthy and Efficient Schools	Calvin Public Schools
ASHRAE/DOE Healthy and Efficient Schools	Ryan Public Schools
ASHRAE/DOE Healthy and Efficient Schools	Chattanooga Public Schools
ASHRAE/DOE Healthy and Efficient Schools	Murray State

**Young Engineers in ASHRAE (YEA):**

For the year we have added 10 new YEA members to our roster, bringing our total YEA membership to 49. It is important to note that 15 of these 49 YEA members volunteer in our Chapter as Officers, Board of Governors, Committee Chairs, Co-Chairs, and Committee members.

Our YEA Chair, Austin Fulmer, and Co-Chair Aaron Gooden, PE, kicked off the year with scheduling a technical presentation in September on Acoustics 101 with a DEI discussion lead by our DEI Chair and Co-Chair, Jess Fitzpatrick, PE and Eli Sanchez on ageism and microaggressions in the workplace. This event was attended by 14 YEA members.

In October 2023 our YEA members toured the downtown Oklahoma City district energy plant that provides steam and chilled water to buildings in downtown Oklahoma City. Again 14 people were in attendance.

In February 2024 YEA did something different and visited Oklahoma City’s first cat café, where the members in attendance had the opportunity to hang out with some cats while drinking coffee. YEA is planning their annual paintball outing for May.

Our Chapter has two YEA members serving on TC9.06, Healthcare Facilities. Both of these YEA members have achieved ASHRAE Certification as Healthcare Facility Design Professionals.

YEA member Aaron Gooden, PE attended YEA Leadership Weekend and YEA member Jess Fitzpatrick, PE attended Leadership Academy.

This year we had 3 student members transition through the Smart Start program for our Chapter. Our membership continues to recruit new YEA members by bringing new employees from their place of employment to ASHRAE Chapter meetings and events.



**Chapter History:**

The Central Oklahoma Chapter Historian, Dusty Stoabs, PE continued to volunteer as our Chapter Historian for his 9th year.

Newsletter	History Topic
August	Oklahoma State Board of Registration for Professional Engineers
September	Interview with Chapter Past President Jon Wilmore
October	In Remembrance of Tom Detterman
November	What Happened to the Head Table?
December	The COVID Years, Part I
January	The COVID Years, Part II
February	Hall of Fame: Harry Roundtree
March	Hall of Fame: Dr. Faye McQuiston

Dusty is diligent in making all our chapter's historical documents readily available on our website and always keeps the history pages on our website current. As evidenced above, Dusty's articles for our newsletter covered everything from the history of the law that created the Oklahoma State Board of Registration for Professional Engineers, to remembrance of Tom Detterman, a member of our Chapter Hall of Fame that passed away, to a two-part series on the challenges that we faced as a Chapter, Region, and Society during the pandemic. Continuing the tradition of interviewing the Past President, Dusty interviewed last year's Chapter President, Jon Wilmore. This annual interview inspires the future Chapter leaders to maintain Central Oklahoma as a leader in Region VIII. Dusty has sent 8 monthly written reports to the Regional Historian outlining all the Chapter's activities related to History.

Dusty's slide for the CRC is an excellent reminder of our roots and lists many of the firsts in Region VIII and Society that Central Oklahoma has been part. We presented Dusty's slide at our April meeting as a reminder to our members, and informing our new members, of our Chapter history and success.

### Finances:

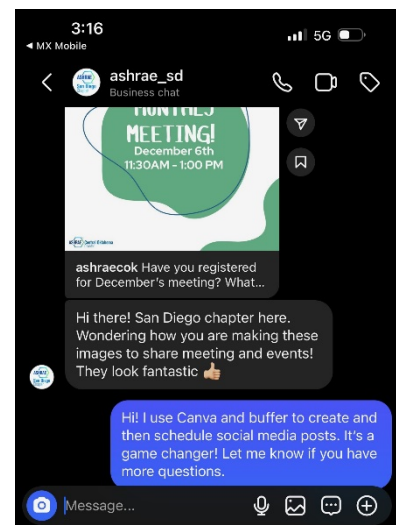
The Central Oklahoma Chapter is performing well financially. Our active checking account sits at \$60,787, our expo fund at \$300, and our CRC fund at \$40,980. As mentioned, our scholarship endowment is approximately \$94,000. We have set up line items for our budgets starting this year to fund the expenses associated with centralized training for Research Promotion, Student Activities, and Membership Promotion; attendance at YEA Leadership Weekend, and Leadership Academy. We also continue to help offset the cost for attending the Winter Conference for Student Members that attend.

### Chapter Communications:

Our Communications/Newsletter/Social Media chairs are Josh Arnett, Eli Sanchez, and Jess Fitzpatrick, PE, and all 3 are a bright spot in our chapter and continue to set the bar high for communication.

Josh Arnett is our webmaster and keeps our website up to date. Josh also is responsible for our e-mail blasts to our membership.

Eli Sanchez is in his first year as newsletter editor, and had a fantastic idea of applying a theme each month to the newsletter. It is worth taking a look at it to see how he dressed it up each month. Our Chapter worked diligently to issue our newsletter on time.



Jess Fitzpatrick, PE serves as the Chapter Social Media Chair and uses Facebook, Instagram, and LinkedIn to announce our meetings, events, and market our scholarship. Jess was contacted during the year by the San Diego Chapter to ask how she does such a great job with our social media posts. Jess continued to host our Chapter podcast, “HVAC Magicians.” The HVAC Magicians podcast was ranked the number 1 podcast for 4 listeners on Spotify.



Podcast Episode	Guest
14	Nick Searle, Titus
15	Interview with Jess Fitzpatrick
16	Bill Harrison, Society Past President
HVAC Adjacent Episode 3	Alison Healsey, Architect
17	Jeff Forman, Central Oklahoma Past President
18	Dr. Jeff Spitler, Oklahoma State University
To be released May	Eli Sanchez
To be released	Jon Wilmore, Central Oklahoma Past President

**DEI:**

While the Chapter Summary Report does not address diversity, equity, and inclusion, I believe it is important to discuss the efforts of the Central Oklahoma Chapter during this year.

The Central Oklahoma Chapter DEI Chair Jess Fitzpatrick, PE and Co-Chair Eli Sanchez worked to inform our Chapter on the importance of DEI in our industry. Jess and Eli chaired three events this year. The first was our YEA event on Acoustics 101. Jess and Eli discussed ageism and microaggressions in the work place. This was a very informative session, especially for young engineers in our industry. A fourth event is scheduled for May on New Management Mentality and how DEI practices will impact managers in the future.



Jess and Eli also presented at our October Board of Governors meeting on the Basics of DEI. Jess and Eli led the discussion on how DEI represents a commitment to acknowledge and respect the differences between people, and everyone has an equal opportunity at success.

Our third event was a book club meeting where we read “I Never Thought of It That Way,” by Monica Guzman. While attendance for this meeting was low, the book was very thought provoking in this day and age where we are quick to jump to conclusions or arguments without peaceful discussion without the use of email or texting.