

THE HOT AIR DIFFUSER

Chapter Newsletter

March 2018



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MARCH ASHRAE MEETING

March:

BACnet Discussion

Sean Rocke is the President of Control Sentries of Idaho, which is based in Meridian and serves the entire Northwest Region. Sean has 30 years of experience in plumbing and mechanical trades, and is currently focused on providing energy efficient and cost-effective solutions through building automation control systems.

This presentation is designed to help attendees understand the BACnet framework by analyzing BACnet essentials and how they can be used to properly specify open, interoperable, flexible, and cost-effective solutions.

When:

Wednesday, March 14

11:45 pm to 1:00 pm MST

BECOME ASHRAE CERTIFIED

<https://www.ashrae.org/education-certification/certification>

Please Register online at:
www.idahoashrae.com

Where:

**Idaho Power Building
1221 W. Idaho St.
Bosie, ID 83702**

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ASHRAE, founded in 1894, is an international organization of some 50,000 persons. ASHRAE fulfills its mission of advancing heating, ventilation, air conditioning and refrigeration to serve humanity and promote a sustainable world through research, standards writing, publishing and continuing education.



It's important to keep the chapter membership base involved and informed. In this month's dialogue, I'd like to get folks reading up to speed on the events our chapter sponsors and holds and why we do them. It is this is the time of year that our chapter typically ramps up some of our annual programs. Some of these programs are designed to be fund but raise money for a cause, while others are technical based to feed the engineer's mind. The first of these programs kicked off the effort in February with the annual bowling tournament. This is one of the newer programs that couldn't have been possible without the hard work of some of our most dedicated chapter leaders. This event started three years ago as a concept brought to the board by Russ

Pratt and continued evolution and work by Casey Huffaker and Dan Russell with support of the board of governors. The board wanted to find an event that would not only be fun and give us all an excuse to hang out with our peers outside of a professional capacity, but also raise money for a cause. The money is, and will likely continue to be, earmarked for K-12/STEM outreach to the local community. This has included science and engineering-based equipment donations to local schools. This past tournament raised about \$1,000 for this cause. A big shout to Sigler Inc., the winner of this year's tournament.

Our next program is the annual ASHRAE tech conference coming up in April at the Riverside. This is a much older program, a day long multi-track educational event which replaces our monthly meeting. It brings local experts and distinguished lecturers from out of town to speak on a multitude of topics. ASHRAE Society in Atlanta sets chapter goals for Research and Promotion (RP) funding for each chapter. This money goes directly to continuing HVAC&R research ad has helped establish the ASHRAE standards you likely use in a professional capacity. Standards like 90.1 and 62.1. Proceeds from this Tech conference go towards meeting our goals set by society. What I like about this program is it keeps us from having to cold call companies in the area and asking for a donation. Instead it pools the money, allows for direct corporate exposure of sponsors, supplies employees with a good chunk of professional development hours (PDH) all while allowing the chapter to meet our goals with Society. Wes Stanfill is planning this year's conference and has ensured the BOG that it will be the best conference to-date. This will be hard to do because last year's conference, planned by Mike Perez, was one of the biggest and best to-date.

Lastly, we have our annual Golf Tournament. Like with the golf tournament, its roots are buried deep in the chapter history. This program funds the chapter operating budget and combined with the hard work of dedicated volunteers and chapter membership dues keeps the chapter alive. This event is always a hit and ends our chapter year with a fun event before the busy season begins for most of us. This year's golf tournament is at Eagle Hills with Spencer Shepard organizing it. Spencer has been organizing this event for the better half of a decade.



HISTORY LESSON

February 2018

HISTORY LESSON

Five Years Ago

The chapter president was Randy Reed. The meeting was a tour of the US Bank Tower in downtown Boise and was organized by Russ Pratt.

Ten Years Ago

The chapter president was Xenon Long. Dan Tuskey of Photonics gave a tour of the Photonics Class I clean room facility in Boise.

Fifteen Years Ago

The chapter president was Preston Nance. The meeting was held on Friday, March 14, 2003, at the Double Tree Riverside. Erik Boe, Lars Dorr, Pam Havey, and Mark Wilson, senior mechanical engineering students at Boise State University, gave a presentation on the design of a 30-watt direct methanol fuel cell system for educational research as part of their senior project.

Twenty Five Years Ago

The chapter president was Richard Kartchner. The meeting was held on Friday, March 12, 1993, at Edwards Restaurant. The scheduled program was unexpectedly cancelled and a replacement program had not been selected at the time of newsletter publishing.

Thirty Years Ago

The chapter president was Phil Terrell. The meeting was held on March 10, 1988, at the Kings Table Restaurant. Gary Powers, Honeywell Inc., gave a presentation on fire management and smoke control systems. Larry Jenkins, ASHRAE Region IX Chairman, was present at the meeting.



U.S. Government Activity

Lawmakers Fund the Government Until March 23

The House and Senate passed a continuing resolution (CR) early in the morning on February 9 to extend government funding through March 23. President Trump signed the CR a few hours later, officially ending a government shutdown that lasted only a few hours. The spending plan includes \$89.3 billion in disaster relief funds and removes budget caps, increasing spending to \$700 billion for defense programs and \$591 billion for non-defense programs in 2018. The deal also includes tax extenders for carbon capture, nuclear energy, geothermal, residential energy properties and energy efficiency including retroactively reinstating for only 2017:

- the 25C tax credit for purchases of nonbusiness energy property;
- the 45L tax credit for energy-efficient new homes; and
- the 179D tax deduction for "energy efficiency improvements to lighting, heating, cooling, ventilation, and hot water systems of commercial buildings."

The debt limit, which was projected to be reached at the end of February by the non-partisan Congressional Budget Office (CBO), was also raised until March 2019 as part of the CR.

The White House Releases FY19 Budget Proposal

The White House released their FY19 budget proposal on February 12. The budget was released with a 26-page addendum to reflect changes made following the CR on February 9 that removed budget caps and provided an additional \$63 billion in non-defense spending. The proposal is similar to the White House's FY18 request in regards to funding for the Department of Energy (DOE) and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Although the DOE's budget is increased in the proposal, the Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy would see a 66% reduction in comparison to the 2017 budget in order to offset a large increase for the National Nuclear Security Administration. The EPA's budget would also be significantly reduced under the Administration's budget proposal by slashing the budget for flood mapping and eliminating several climate study programs. The budget proposal does not eliminate the Energy Star program that was zeroed-out in the FY18 budget proposal. Instead, the FY19 budget proposal authorizes \$46 million for the program with the funds being paid back through user fees. The FY19 budget also includes several of the President's campaign promises including funding for a southern border wall, modernizing the health systems for veterans, and funds to fight the ongoing opioid epidemic.

Rationale for DOE EERE Budget Reductions

On a conference call with reporters Monday, DOE officials were asked to explain why the budget proposal was seeking to cut the energy efficiency and renewable energy office by nearly two-thirds. "The biggest reason for that is the accomplishments that each of these individual programs have made,"



said DOE undersecretary Mark Menezes. "It's actually a very good story to tell." He pointed to many "success stories" where several technologies backed by the office have hit their cost-reduction goals over the past five years, including electric vehicle batteries, solar panels, and bioenergy.

White House Releases Infrastructure Plan

The White House released its infrastructure plan on February 12. The plan calls for \$200 billion in Federal spending, which is expected to produce a \$1.5 trillion investment in infrastructure over the next ten years. The proposal emphasizes Public-Private Partnerships (PPP) and encourages the private sector, as well as state and local governments to invest in these projects. The proposal also requests changes to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) in order to streamline the permitting process for infrastructure projects. It would limit the review process to 2 years, thus changing environmental review procedures. The proposal would also reduce the statute of limitations for filing lawsuits from six years to 150 days.

Economic Analysis of the Kigali Amendment

The Administration is evaluating the impacts of the Kigali Amendment, which restricts the use of high-global warming potential HFC refrigerants. A comment was made at an event hosted by the Hudson Institute titled the Environmental Policy in the 21st Century: The Future of the Kigali Amendment by George David Banks, a White House special assistant on international energy and environment issues. Banks said "Before we create a recommendation to the president, we're going to have really good economic information. We're going to have to have a real command of it. We understand there's broad industry support, but we want to understand in a concrete way, how this benefits U.S. companies, how it preserves and creates U.S. jobs, how it fosters the trade balance and exports to other countries." The EPA has already tried to enforce a rule restricting HFCs, but it was declared outside of their purview after a court decision in August 2017. The Trump Administration could still ask Congress to find a legislative solution by passing a bill that follows the stipulations of the Amendment or grant the EPA the power to publish its rule.

IRS Stops Issuing the Clean Renewable Energy Bond

Following the passage of the tax reform package at the end of last year, the IRS has stopped issuing new clean renewable energy bond (CREBS).



State Government Affairs

New York to Hold Public Forums on Energy Efficiency

The New York State Department of Public Service (DPS) and the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) plan to engage stakeholders and propose a comprehensive energy efficiency initiative by Earth Day, April 22, 2018 at the direction of Governor Andrew Cuomo (D), who included this as part of his 2018 State of the State Address. To support the development of the energy efficiency proposal, DPS and NYSERDA will jointly convene a series of stakeholder forums to take place on February 23, 2018, and March 5, 2018.

The purpose of these topical forums is for stakeholders with relevant expertise to discuss and share information relevant to each specific topic with DPS and NYSERDA Staff in support of the aforementioned energy efficiency proposal. Each session will begin with an overview of current energy efficiency strategies in New York and will explore potential new strategies that could be used to drive increased energy efficiency adoption. While the sessions will each have a primary subject matter focus, certain cross-cutting themes will be considered in all of the sessions, including driving scale, cost reduction, and low-income market penetration.

The February 23rd forum will include two separate sessions focused on the topics described below, and will take place in the 19th Floor Board Room of the DPS office located at Three Empire State Plaza, Albany, NY (Albany office) with video conferencing available in the 4th Floor Board Room of the DPS office located at 90 Church Street, New York, NY (NYC office). The March 5th forum will include three separate sessions focused on the topics described below and will take place in the 4th Floor Board Room of the NYC office with video conferencing available in the 19th Floor Board Room of the Albany office.

Each forum will be held as a moderated roundtable discussion and will allow for an opportunity for other members of the public to ask clarifying questions based on the discussion. The stakeholder forums are not intended to be a vehicle for the receipt of comments from the general public. Opportunities for public comment will be provided in the future pursuant to a separate notice. The schedule of the stakeholder forums is as follows:

Innovative Utility Strategies and Emerging Energy Efficiency Building Models

Albany, NY February 23, 2018, 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Pay-for-Performance: Next Steps in New York

Albany, NY February 23, 2018, 1:00 – 3:00 PM

Accelerating Building Codes

New York, NY March 5, 2018, 9:00 – 10:30 AM



Grassroots News

Opportunities and Strategies for Deep Energy Efficiency

New York, NY March 5, 2018, 11:00 AM – 12:30 PM

Energy Efficiency Target Metric and Framing Considerations

New York, NY March 5, 2018, 2:00 – 4:00 PM

In order to ensure adequate space for attendees, those wishing to attend should RSVP via email to EEStakeholderForums@dps.ny.gov by 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 20, 2018. In your email, please be sure to indicate which forums you will be attending, and at which location. Due to the security procedures established by the NYC building management, those wishing to attend the forums in DPS' New York City office **MUST** pre-register and be prepared to show valid photo identification upon arrival at 90 Church Street. Any questions may be directed to Katie Mammen, Office of Markets and Innovation, at Kathryn.Mammen@dps.ny.gov.

Proposed Regulation in Virginia References ASHRAE Standard 189.1

The Virginia Register of Regulations, issued on February 5, 2018, gives final notice of a revision to state regulations for "Standards for Planning, Design, Construction and Reimbursement of Local Correctional Facilities." The regulatory action repeals the existing Standards for Planning, Design, Construction and Reimbursement of Local Correctional Facilities (6VAC15-80) and replaces it with a new regulation, 6VAC15-81. The new regulation updates standards to reflect (i) changes in the Code of Virginia and uniform building and fire codes and (ii) best practices for correctional facilities.

As part of the revised code, ASHRAE Standard 189.1 is specifically referenced twice in the proposed code which is scheduled to be effective on March 8, 2018. View the proposed rule. The Standard is referenced on pages 1176 and 1184 (BillTrack50 pages 11 and 19).

Comment or input should be provided to:

Jim Bruce, Agency Regulatory Coordinator, Department of Corrections

P.O. Box 26963

Richmond, VA 23261- 6963

Telephone (804) 887-8215

Email: james.bruce@vadoc.virginia.gov

Congressional Hearings

The U.S. House Energy and Commerce Committee held a hearing on Modernizing the Department of Energy

On February 6, 2018 at 10 AM the House Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Energy held a hearing on "DOE Modernization: Advancing the Economic and National Security Benefits of America's Nuclear Infrastructure."



Grassroots News

The U.S. Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works Held a Confirmation Hearing for Andrew Wheeler

On February 7, 2018 the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works held a confirmation hearing for Andrew Wheeler to become the Deputy Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency. Wheeler's nomination passed out of the committee for a second time with an 11 to 10 party-line vote and will now be referred to the Senate floor.

The U.S. Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee Hearing on Energy Infrastructure

On February 8, 2018, at 10:00 am the full committee held a hearing exploring future opportunities for energy infrastructure.

House Natural Resources Subcommittee Hearing on Water and Power Infrastructure

On February 14, 2018, at 2:00 pm the House Natural Resources Water Subcommittee held an oversight hearing on Nation's Water and Power Infrastructure. [Learn more.](#)

The U.S. House Science Research and Technology Subcommittee Holds a Hearing on Mentoring, Training, and Apprenticeships for STEM Education and Careers

The House Science Research and Technology Subcommittee on Research and Technology held a hearing on February 15, 2018, at 9:00 am discussing Mentoring, Training, and Apprenticeships for STEM Education and Careers. [Learn more.](#)

Other News

EIA Sees U.S. Speeding To Net Exports

The U.S. shale boom and gains in domestic energy efficiency are behind a shift that will result in the U.S. becoming a net exporter of energy by 2022, the Energy Information Administration projected in its new long-term outlook.

[Study Released on Low-Income Energy Efficiency](#)

A new report detailing U.S. energy efficiency spending for low-income Americans was released by the Environmental Defense Fund and the Applied Public Policy Research Institute for Study and Evaluation. The study shows that although low-income households represent 27% of the market that they only receive 6% of U.S. energy efficiency funding. [Learn more.](#)

U.N. Hosted the Investor Summit on Climate Risk

The summit was hosted on January 31, 2018, at the United Nations in New York. The biennial event is attended by invitation only and brings together more than 500 investment leaders to analyze the opportunities for mitigating climate change. The Paris Climate Accord was highlighted and mentioned by Patricia Espinosa, Executive Secretary of the U.N. Framework Convention on Climate Change.



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scottstultz1@gmail.com**



Interested in becoming more involved with your local ASHRAE Chapter? Positions will be opening up soon! Please contact Mike Jones @ mikejones@seedidaho.com for more information.

