April 30, 2009

Jeff Boldt
ASHRAE Region VI Historian

Dear Mr. Boldt,

I am enclosing the La Crosse Area Chapter’s 27th entry for the Gold Ribbon and Lou Flagg award. The La Crosse Area Chapter, 115, is pleased to submit the history of a person. That person is Carl F. Speich, past development engineer with the Trane Company of La Crosse, WI.

James M. Ritter, P.E.
Chapter Historian
La Crosse Area Chapter
HISTORY OF A PERSON  
CARL F. SPEICH

Carl F. Speich has prepared the following biography for inclusion in the history of a person category for American Society of Heating, Refrigerating, and Air-Conditioning Engineers, Inc.

BIOGRAPHY OF CARL F. SPEICH

EDUCATION:

Graduate School – MSME - Purdue University – 1954-1956

EMPLOYMENT

Summer Test Engineer – General Electric – summers of 1953 and 1954

Teaching Assistant - Purdue University – 1954-1956

Battelle Memorial Institute – 1956-1963
My first project was a joint research project sponsored by ASHVE, AGA and the Oil Burner Association to study pulsations in residential gas and oil fired heating equipment. I joined ASHVE in 1956 and voted for the merger that became ASHRAE. Subsequently, I worked on a number of projects involving such things as mass fires and noise reduction of pneumatic hand tools.

Trane Company – 1963-1997
I joined Trane as a development engineer in the reciprocating compressor group. I developed techniques for measuring the motion of valves with refrigerant flow as well as measuring valve stress during actual compressor operation. A technique for measuring cylinder pressures under operating conditions was also developed from which indicator diagrams could be estimated to improve compressor performance. I also worked on shaft seals for open compressors.

In 1972, I was promoted to Senior Engineer and continued to work on various compressor projects. I also got involved with reducing noise from roof top air conditioning units.

In 1979, I was promoted to Staff Engineer and continued to work on various compressor and noise reduction projects. I became the supervisor for a finite element analysis group and performed structural analyses of a/c units in
development. I also got involved in failure analysis of hermetic motors and developed test stands to determine the reliability of hermetic motors.

ASHRAE COMMITTEES

Handbook Committee – 8 years
Meetings and Arrangements Committee - 4 years
Program Committee – 4 years
Research Advisory Committee – 4 years
TC 8.1 Positive Displacement Compressors
TC 3.4 Lubrication
TC 5.1 Fans

ASHRAE HONORS

Willis H. Carrier Award for co-authoring and presenting a technical paper - 1961
Distinguished Service Award – 1985
Fellow - 1993

Carl continues to attend monthly chapter meetings when possible and is available for society consultation.

Respectfully Submitted,

James M. Ritter, P.E.
Chapter Historian