



**ASHRAE**

American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers, Inc.

**La Crosse Area Chapter**

**2009-2010 Officers:**

**President**

Larry Butz  
GEA Consulting  
2420 N. Pine Creek Road  
LaCrescent MN 55947  
PH (507) 895-4001

**President-Elect**

Jim Spielbauer  
Trane  
3600 Pammel Creek Road  
La Crosse, WI 54601  
PH (608) 787-3158

**Treasurer**

Anthony Dix  
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La Crosse, WI 54601  
PH (608) 787-4625

**Secretary**

Chris Schlegel  
Trane  
3600 Pammel Creek Road  
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PH (608) 787-2040

**Board of Governors**

Michael Patterson  
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3600 Pammel Creek Road  
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Dwayne Johnson  
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PH (608) 787-3385

Paul Ulland  
562 Hickory Ln.  
La Crescent, MN 55947  
PH (507) 895-2215

May 03, 2010

Paul Melton  
ASHRAE Region VI Historian

Dear Mr. Melton,

I am enclosing the La Crosse Area Chapter's 29<sup>th</sup> entry for the Gold Ribbon and Lau Flagg Award. The La Crosse Area Chapter, 115, is pleased to submit the history of the Chapter. That Chapter is the La Crosse Area ASHRAE Chapter.

There have been two past ASHRAE society presidents from the La Crosse Chapter.

Neil Patterson, 1993-1994  
Lee Burgett, 2005-2006

Neil Patterson was a charter member of the La Crosse Area Chapter. Lee Burgett is currently a fellow / life member of the La Crosse Area Chapter.

Thank you.

James M. Ritter, P.E.  
Chapter Historian  
La Crosse Area Chapter

CHAPTER MAY NOT ACT FOR SOCIETY



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**ASHRAE History of La Crosse Area Chapter  
By Jim Ritter, Chapter Historian**

The La Crosse Area Chapter of ASHRAE is celebrating its 39<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2010. The capsule of time that has passed since the Chapter was chartered on August 22, 1971 has been challenging and intriguing. The field of energy has seen many dramatic and dynamic changes since the pre-energy crisis era up to the record-breaking energy prices and shortages we experience today. The entire concept of energy has been thoroughly studied in the disciplines of energy use, water, conservation, alternative sources, environmental applications and control so that it has become a premier parameter for ASHRAE.

The La Crosse Area Chapter of ASHRAE was profoundly involved in the development and application of numerous systems and equipment to utilize energy in the most economical and environmentally acceptable practices.

Since our first entry for "History of the Chapter" in 1983 and again in 1987, 1991, 1994, 1998, 2002, 2003 and last year in 2005, the La Crosse Area Chapter has achieved many honors.

The chapter has had a number of distinguished members. Neil R. Patterson, P.E., was named a "Fellow of the Society" in 1984. He is continually active in ASHRAE on the national level and was President of ASHRAE in 1993-1994.

Fellow Lee Burgett was installed as the President of the society at the annual meeting in June 2005.

Other members named to the rank of Fellow and the year they attained it: Clarence L. Ringquist (1975), William J. Landman, P.E. (1988), Floyd C. Hayes (1992), Carl Speich (1993) and Lee Burgett (1999).

James M. Ritter, P.E., was Region VI historian from 1989-1992. Jim was awarded the 2003 and 2005 Lou Flagg Historical Gold Ribbon Awards, upon recommendation of the Historical Committee, and approved by both the Honors and Awards committee and the

**CHAPTER MAY NOT ACT FOR SOCIETY**

ASHRAE Board of Directors. The award recognizes the most outstanding history on projects or persons related to HVAC&R. He was recognized for his work Reuben N. Trane, History of a Person in 2003 and The Trane Company in 2005.

Reuben N. Trane was inducted into the ASHRAE Hall of Fame in 1997 at the ASHRAE Annual Meeting in Boston. The award honors deceased members who have made milestone contributions to the growth of ASHRAE-related technologies. An article Reuben Trane's accomplishments was published in the June 1997 edition of ASHRAE Insights.

#### Recognition of Past Presidents

The La Crosse Area ASHRAE Chapter continues to be a viable organization with outstanding interest and participation. This success would not have happened were it not for the dedication of outstanding leaders who contributed their time and effort to make this chapter a model for the rest of the Society.

1971-72	Hugh A. Boschert
1972-73	Neil R. Patterson
1973-74	James M. Ritter
1974-75	Thomas W. Mulrine
1975-76	Donald N. Kirby
1976-77	William J. Landman
1977-78	Eugene K. Edwards
1978-79	G. Allan Gaboric
1979-80	Ken J. Schomberg
1980-81	James R. Miles
1981-82	Phillip A. Dockendorf
1982-83	Arthur D. Hallstrom
1983-84	John F. Klouda
1984-85	Kim Olson
1985-86	James N. Wagner
1986-87	Paul W. Ehrlich
1987-88	Dennis A. Stanke
1988-89	Duane L. Lom
1989-90	John B. Heck
1990-91	James M. Porter
1991-92	Stephen M. Fedie
1992-93	Donald M Eppelheimer

1993-94	Gerhard W. Pierce
1994-95	Bruce E. Anderson
1995-96	Forrest K. Moe
1996-97	Kevin R. Schnack
1997-98	Thomas A. Ley
1998-99	Mark Halderson
1999-00	Mike Byars
2000-01	Eugene McNurlen
2001-02	Wane Baker
2002-03	Brian Reynolds
2003-04	Susanna Hanson
2004-05	Edward Swan
2005-06	William Fox
2006-07	Lane Liudahl
2007-08	Dwayne Johnson
2008-09	Rick Heiden
2009-10	Larry Butz

Respectfully submitted,



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:

Secondary School – Hudson High, Hudson, NY – 1946-1950  
College – BME - Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute – 1950-1954  
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 AND RELATED COMMITTEES

Handbook Committee – 8 years

Meetings and Arrangements Committee - 4 years

Program Committee – 4 years

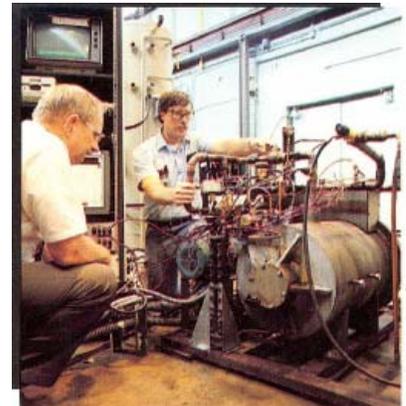
Research Advisory Committee – 4 years

TC 8.1 Positive Displacement Compressors

TC 3.4 Lubrication

TC 5.1 Fans

1973 - 1998 Member, Purdue International Compressor Engineering Conference Advisory Council



**MOTOR PLUG-REVERSAL TESTER**  
Thousands of cycles can quickly evaluate insulation materials and winding methods

## 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.

## **HISTORY OF A COMPANY**

### **BAGNIEFSKI HEATING / COOLING**

Lawrence Bagniefski started working at Badger Corrugating Co. in 1940 for Clarence Sexauer as a tin smith, building duct work for heating systems at that time. Most heating systems were fired with coal, wood and some oil burners.

In 1947 and 1948 he did the work mostly from his house on East Ave., in La Crosse, WI.

In 1961 he purchased land at 1209 S. Sixth St. in La Crosse and built the Bagniefski Heating / Cooling business. Earlier it was known as East Avenue Sheet Metal until in 1963 it was incorporated into Bagniefski Heating. The sheet metal service included four brothers - Don, Ken, Bob and Fred, and was known as B & B Sheet Metal from 1967 until 1984.

In 1984 Tim Cavadini, Route 2 Bangor, and Larry Silha, 929 S. Fifth Ave., La Crosse purchased an interest in Bagniefski Sheet Metal, Heating and Cooling at 1209 S. Eighth Street. They joined Robert Bagniefski.

Bagniefski does sheet metal work and installs heating, ventilating and air conditioning equipment for residential, commercial and other customers if they feel they can meet customer requirements.

In this day of high efficiency equipment they continue to attend seminars and conferences to stay up to date on the latest "state of the art" information.

## **History of a Person**

### **Lee Burgett, P.E.**

Lee Burgett, P.E., Fellow ASHRAE, engineering consultant, completed his secondary education at East Grand Rapids (Michigan) in 1957, and received his bachelors of science in 1961 and his master's of science in mechanical engineering in 1962 from Michigan State University and his master's in business administration from the University of Wisconsin in 1972.

He is an ASHRAE Distinguished Service Award recipient.

He is also active in a number of related industry organizations, including the U.S. Green Building Council, the Canadian Standards Association, Underwriters Laboratories Inc., The Air Conditioning and Refrigeration Institute and the American Society of Mechanical Engineers.

He served on the ASHRAE Board as president-elect, treasurer, vice president and director-at-large. He was chair of the Finance Committee, Members Council, the Board Policy Committee for Standards, the Standards Committee, the presidential ad hoc committee on health impacts in standards, Technology Council, and Publishing and Education Council.

Burgett was installed as president of the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE) at its 2005 Annual Meeting held in Denver, CO on June 25-29. As ASHRAE's president Burgett directs the Society's Board of Directors and oversees the Executive Committee. During his term, he is focusing on ASHRAE technology including standards development, support of research and technical activities aimed at disseminating information and educating its membership.

Burgett serves as consultant to Trane, a business of American Standard Companies, and others, following his retirement from Trane as vice president-new ventures. He resides in La Crosse, WI.

**April 24,2006**

**Mr. John Day**  
**ASHRAE Director and Regional Chair, Region VI**

### **Executive Summary**

The La Crosse Area chapter continued to provide exceptional programs, communicate effectively and actively engage with the community. Meeting attendance was up and we sponsored an excellent bus trip. We started the year off with a retreat/ planning session. During that session we reviewed ASHRAE's Mission Statements and president Lee Burgett's challenges for the year. We then developed our own priorities for the year to align with those of the society and the needs of our membership.

Our key priorities were Meeting Attendance and Community Outreach.

### **Membership Promotion**

The La Crosse area has a relatively large number of engineers working in our industry, many of whom are active with ASHRAE at the society level. The La Crosse area Membership continues to run at or near normal levels without too much effort. This, unfortunately has lead to some complacency and decreased meeting attendance. In addition, it has been difficult in the past to fill key local leadership positions. We were able to dramatically increase meeting attendance this year by having excellent programs and by reminding the membership about their professional duties via our newsletter. In addition, we have an excellent leadership group in place for the future.

Our membership is mainly made up of Trane employees and we have trouble getting the general contractor and engineering public involved. This year, we were fortunate to sponsor a second bus trip to the AHR Expo in Chicago due to a generous grant from Wisconsin's Focus on Energy. We filled the bus – mostly with non Trane people and had a great trip. We also drew several potential new members from the engineering community – mainly due to our excellent meeting topics.

How can ASHRAE Society help ?

- Target Marketing – Encourage engineers to join ASHRAE –

### **Student Activities**

- Scholarships – WWTC, CVTC, WSPE Joint Scholarship
- Joint meeting with IEEE, ASME, SME, WSPE for Engineer's week. Topic: "Connecting Educators and Engineers"

Issue: Student Chapter – Chippewa Valley Tech College – need sponsor to set this up – Hasn't existed since 2001

How can ASHRAE Society (Region) help with Students – Recognition and Awards

- Student awards ( Trip to Society Meeting ?)

### **Chapter Technology Transfer**

During the chapter year we held 9 regular monthly meetings, a bus trip, a social event, a joint societies meeting, and a satellite broadcast. Our attendance at meetings increased to an average of 41 members year to date. Previous average year meeting attendance were 31 and 27. The increased attendance was due to excellent speakers, tours, and events. We kicked off the year with a great tour of the only fully steam powered river boat on the Mississippi and had a complimentary lunch – attendance was excellent!

We were able to count a Distinguished Lecturer, President Lee Burgett, and Past President James Wolf among our excellent speakers this year.

How can ASHRAE society / Region Help

- Share program success and ideas across region / Best Practices (CTTC Regional Chair).
- Recommendations for speakers
- Continue Distinguished lecturer support
- Assist with member survey to improve programs

### **Research Promotion**

The La Crosse chapter achieved Full Circle Award status once again this year thanks to our dedicated officers and Board of Governors. Our chapter also has a tradition of providing memorials in the name of four deceased exemplary members to ASHRAE research.

Many of our members are Trane employees and we are fortunate that Trane continues the practice of “Matching Funds”

How can ASHRAE Society / Region help

- Marketing – Benefits of ASHRAE research

### **History**

Our Chapter Historian: Jim Ritter won the 2005 Lou Flagg History Award. Jim also won this award in 2003. The purpose of the award is to recognize his efforts on the History of Trane Company.

The La Crosse chapter is fortunate to have Jim continue into his 24<sup>rd</sup> year as Historian.

## **Chapter Operations**

The La Crosse chapter has an enthusiastic and hard working core group that make up our officers and chairpersons and I wish to personally thank them for their efforts this past year.

We have been fortunate to develop an excellent team for future leadership.

How can ASHRAE Society (Region) help with member diversity

- Target marketing – Encourage members to engage and participate on a chapter level. Update Brochures and provide additional materials

Respectfully

William Fox, Ph.D.  
President La Crosse area Chapter of ASHRAE

**April 24, 2007**

**Mr. John Day**  
**ASHRAE Director and Regional Chair, Region VI**

### **Membership Promotion**

The La Crosse area has a relatively large number of engineers working in our industry, many of whom are active with ASHRAE at the society level. The La Crosse area Membership continues to run at or near normal levels without too much effort.

We were able to promote ASHRAE to over 100 individuals by presenting to the Trane Graduate Training classes and LaCrosse Trane Lab Engineers. The Graduate Training class member end up in other areas of the country but we hope to have influenced some to become members and active in their local chapters.

Our membership is mainly made up of Trane employees and we have trouble getting the general contractor and engineering public involved.

How can ASHRAE Society help ?

- Target Marketing – Encourage engineers to join ASHRAE –

### **Student Activities**

- Scholarships – WWTC, CVTC, WSPE Joint Scholarship, Society's General Scholarship for 2007-2008
- Joint meeting with IEEE, ASME, SME, WSPE for Engineer's week. Topic: "How can area educators, engineers, businesses and community help students explore, energize and enhance their interest in science, technology, engineering and math?"

### **Chapter Technology Transfer**

During the chapter year we held 9 regular monthly meetings, a joint societies meeting, and two satellite broadcasts. Our attendance returned to historic levels from a high last year.

We were able to count Distinguished Lecturers, Past-President Lee Burgett, and Julian deBullet among our excellent speakers this year.

How can ASHRAE society / Region Help

- Share program success and ideas across region / Best Practices (CTTC Regional Chair).
- Recommendations for speakers
- Continue Distinguished lecturer support

### **Research Promotion**

The La Crosse chapter achieved Full Circle Award status once again this year. Thanks to our dedicated officers and Board of Governors. Our chapter also has a tradition of providing memorials in the name of four deceased exemplary members to ASHRAE research.

Many of our members are Trane employees and we are fortunate that Trane continues the practice of "Matching Funds"

How can ASHRAE Society / Region help

- Continue Research Promotion training

### **History**

The La Crosse chapter is fortunate to have Jim continue into his 25th year as Historian. He will have a display at this years CRC.

### **Chapter Operations**

The La Crosse chapter has an enthusiastic and hard working core group that make up our officers and chairpersons and I wish to personally thank them for their efforts this past year.

We have been trying to get more members outside of Trane involved beyond the committee level for the past several years without much luck. The LaCrosse chapter leadership will continue to try to recruit these individuals.

How can ASHRAE Society (Region) help with member diversity

- Target marketing – Encourage members to engage and participate on a chapter level. Update Brochures and provide additional materials

Respectfully



Lane Liudahl, P.E.  
President La Crosse area Chapter of ASHRAE

**May 10, 2008**

**Mr. Robert Linder  
ASHRAE Director and Regional Chair, Region VI**

**2007-2008 La Crosse Area Chapter President's Report**

**Membership Promotion**

The La Crosse chapter continues to have a membership dominated by engineers working in the HVAC industry due to the presence of Trane Company in the city. We continue to struggle recruiting new members from the local general contractor and engineering population. As a result, the chapter tries to make a conscious effort to include as many non-Trane people as possible in membership and leadership roles. As evidence of this our president-elect for next year is owner of a local consulting firm.

Our membership has remained nearly constant for the past three years at just over 150. Engineering employment in the area is relatively flat so it is difficult to attract new members, although maintaining current membership is typically not too difficult.

Chris Hseih continues on next year as Membership Chair. Chris and I were able to present information on ASHRAE membership on two occasions to about 60 young engineering students attending the Trane Graduate Training class. Once their training is complete they return to various sales offices around the country, so the La Crosse chapter will not likely benefit directly from any interest in ASHRAE generated by these presentations. However, many are likely to join at other local chapters or at society level.

How can ASHRAE Society help?

- Provide up to date presentation materials detailing advantages of ASHRAE membership.

**Student Activities**

John Flanagan continued on from the prior years as Student Activities Chair. He is an instructor in the Air Conditioning program at Western Technical College and has provided an excellent link to the student chapter at WTC. In addition to other field trips, John took his HVAC class on a two day technical field trip in April to visit the following businesses: Cold America – cranberry storage, Aldo Leopold Legacy Center – LEED building, Kalahari resort – HVAC systems, American Family Headquarters in Madison, WI – look at powerplant.

Our chapter was able to sponsor a presentation for the students while Distinguished Lecturer Victor Goldschmidt was in LaCrosse to present a program on global warming to the chapter. Victor presented "History of Air Conditioning, a Look into

the Past and the Future” for the students over a pizza lunch. John said the program was very well received, both for the pizza and for the information.

The La Crosse chapter also continues to support through endowments two scholarships in the amount of approximately \$500 each for Western Technical College in La Crosse and Chippewa Valley Technical College in Eau Claire. We donated \$100 to help support a Joint Engineering Societies meeting with IEEE, ASME, SME, and WSPE. Also we will be donating \$400 to the Holmen, WI middle school Odyssey of the Mind team.

John Flanagan has decided to retire as Student Activities Chair at the conclusion of this year after four years in this position. We wish to thank him for his valuable service to the students and to our chapter.

How can Society/Region help?

- Provide presentation materials of interest to students.

### **Chapter Technology Transfer**

One of this year’s primary goals for the chapter was to continue our tradition of hosting excellent technical programs. With Bill Fox as the Chair of the CTT committee we were able to achieve that goal. We conducted eight technical programs, held a riverboat cruise social outing early in the year, sponsored a seminar on Leadership Principles, and hosted the recent ASHRAE satellite broadcast on green buildings.

Topics of the programs included:

- Update on ASHRAE Standard 90.1
- Noise control in water source heat pumps
- Air cleaning technology
- Tour of an acoustic test facility
- Science of snowmaking (plus ski night social activity)
- Global warming perspectives (DL)
- Global climate change (DL)
- Cold chain and impact on food safety

We were able to get two Distinguished Lecturers: Victor Goldschmidt and Tom Werkema, who presented differing view points on the topics of global warming/climate change. Attendance at these two DL meetings was outstanding – resulting in 50-60 attendees per meeting vs. our typical average of slightly over 30. We will continue the tradition of selecting the “Best Program of the Year” at our May meeting.

Thanks to Bill and his committee for their hard work in obtaining excellent speakers and arranging meetings for the year. He able to pull off getting us two DLs and almost a third! Despite a last minute cancellation for the May meeting he was able to line up a backup speaker on the same general topic on short notice. Due to the

excellence of the technical programs Bill and team have been able to line up we increased average monthly meeting attendance 10% over last year!

How can Society/Region help?

- Continue to provide a selection of DLs on a range of topics of interest. This is a great opportunity especially for smaller chapters who don't have a large local speaker base.
- Consider sharing speakers between chapters – if a particular speaker in one chapter is especially well received notify other nearby chapters so they can see if there is a possibility to schedule the same speaker.

### **Research Promotion**

Lane Liudahl headed the RP effort this past year. So far we are at about 40% of goal which is slightly ahead of the past two years at this time.

Many of our members are Trane employees and we are fortunate that Trane continues the practice of supporting ASHRAE through a dollar-for-dollar “matching funds” program.

The La Crosse chapter once again achieved Full Circle Award status thanks to our dedicated officers and Board of Governors.

We also continued the tradition of providing memorial donations totaling \$500 in the names of four deceased exemplary local ASHRAE members. Surviving relatives are notified of the donation and remembrance.

Thanks to Lane for keeping our RP donations on track!

How can ASHRAE Society / Region help

- Continue RP training at CRC and at the dedicated training session in Las Vegas.
- Create an informative video describing uses of RP dollars and reasons for contributing. Show examples of past successful research projects.

### **Chapter History**

Our Chapter Historian, Jim Ritter, is completing his 26<sup>th</sup> year in this role and is looking forward to many more! He completed and submitted “History of a Company: Bagniefski Heating/Cooling” based on the history of a local La Crosse HVAC contractor.

All of Jim's historical documents have been saved in electronic format and are available on the La Crosse chapter website.

Jim will also be attending this year's CRC and will be providing a historical display as he has done for many years.

We look forward to having Jim back as historian again next year and thank him for his impressive record of service to the chapter.

## **Finances**

Our chapter treasurer was unable to fulfill treasurer duties for the entire year due to work travel conflicts so Rick Heiden, president elect and honors/awards chairman, stepped in to fill the void. Thanks to Rick for his willingness to take on the extra work.

The La Crosse chapter has been able to maintain a total balance of about \$4500 which is a few hundred dollars under budget for the year and somewhat lower than previous years. We expected to realize income from the Leadership seminar hosted in March, but decided to keep the fees low to encourage additional attendance and ended up with only a slight profit for the event. We also spent some funds on door prizes for meetings to encourage attendance. In previous years we have tried dinner meetings as a way to raise money above the actual meal prices, but have found evening attendance is usually significantly lower than the noon meetings we currently conduct.

## **Website**

Jim Spiebauer continues as our Webmaster. Our website focuses on providing general chapter information, information on upcoming meetings, chapter newsletters, and history reports. We have just decided to start offering online meeting registration and payment using Benny's eChapter and Google Checkout software.

How can ASHRAE Society / Region help?

- Continue to support low cost or free applications such as Google Checkout to enable us to accept credit cards for event payments. Not being able to take credit cards has been an issue for us in the past.

## **Newsletter**

John Murphy has been our newsletter editor for the past 7-8 years and has decided to retire from this position at the end of this year. He has done a great job reminding us on a monthly basis to get our meeting information in on time, along with putting together an excellent newsletter for all these years. We thank him for his dedicated service.

We are fortunate to have recruited Jill Trochinski to the position for next year. Jill currently works in the electronic publication area at Trane and will bring a new level of technical expertise to the position. We are expecting dazzling newsletters next year!

### **Chapter Operations**

This year has been challenging for me personally as chapter president due to time conflicts between job commitments and chapter duties, but despite this the La Crosse chapter had a very successful year. My main goal was to continue our tradition of providing high value, interesting technical programs. Thanks to the efforts of a great group of chapter officers and committee chairs we were able to present a slate of excellent programs as well as provide our membership with opportunities for networking, socializing, and education. At the society level, La Crosse chapter members continue to make significant contributions by active participation on technical and standards committees in many areas.

Following is a short list of what I would consider successes and areas for improvement:

#### Successes:

- Lined up a good slate of programs including two DLs.
- Increased average meeting attendance by 10%.
- Put together a list of annual chapter activities to use as guidance for myself and future chapter presidents.
- Convened a meeting of past presidents to solicit ideas and advice.
- Conducted an afternoon BOG retreat in September at a scenic rural cabin location to generate ideas – several of which we were able to act on during the year.
- Conducted a riverboat social event and got several students to attend.
- Conducted a seminar on Leadership.
- Continued financial support of scholarships, donations to student activities such as Odyssey of the Mind, and RP donations.
- Recruited some younger BOG members for next year.

#### Areas for Improvement:

- Better definition of chapter theme and mission for the year.
- Get MBOs from all officers early. I wasn't firm on this and didn't get them from all officers on time.
- Conduct more technical seminars.
- Get more student involvement by hosting meetings/events which have more appeal to younger people (example: cold chain program at local brewery hospitality center).
- Have more involvement in local student activities such as science fairs, student chapter at WTC, etc.

- Get more chapter participation at Officer and BOG level from new people and people outside of Trane. Tend to have same core group do the work every year.
- Conduct one or two fund raising events so treasury balance can be increased.

How can ASHRAE Society / Region help?

- Help us to achieve member diversity/recruit new members outside of core groups by providing target marketing, better literature, and other presentation materials.
- Continue to provide satellite broadcasts which are relevant and interesting for a wide range of potential members.

As we near the end of the current year I feel good about the progress the chapter has made in meeting our primary goals. Looking forward we have an excellent slate of officers lined up for next year under the leadership of incoming president Rick Heiden. Rick will bring a renewed sense of enthusiasm and creativity to the chapter, and I look forward to continuing on as part of that team.

Respectfully yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Duane Johnson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

2007-08 Chapter President

## **2008-2009 La Crosse Area Chapter President's Report**

This chapter year has been outstanding both in terms of program technical content and member participation. Although disappointing in community outreach (TEGA) we did justice to the ASHRAE national and local chapter mission.

### **Mission**

The La Crosse Chapter mission is "To proactively educate the local HVAC/R industry, attract young people into the engineering profession, and inform and influence the public on the importance of HVAC/R while raising our professional standards."

### **Chapter Theme for 2008-2009**

As printed in the September newsletter our theme for the year was as follows:

ASHRAE Society President Bill Harrison's theme this year is "Maintain to Sustain – Delivering ASHRAE's Sustainability Promise." The dictionary defines sustain as "to keep in existence; to preserve or keep in a given existing condition." Clearly we desire our standard of living to be preserved. It is also clear our natural resources are limited. Prudent use of those natural resources is paramount to maintaining our standard of living and maintaining a system's energy efficiency is one way to deliver on the sustainability promise and lessen our energy demand.

We hope as we roll out programs, tours and technical sessions this year that we spark ideas in each of you of ways you can have an impact on reducing building energy demand without sacrificing our standard of living. In January, we will again be arranging a bus trip to the ASHRAE Winter meeting in Chicago, a great venue to get new ideas. Our first program will be at the City Brewery to observe the cold chain and hopefully deliver a cold one to each of you. Please join us and feel free to contact any of the board members with any concerns, suggestions or even to volunteer in what is shaping up to be another great year for the La Crosse Area ASHRAE chapter.

### **Chapter Management**

All of the executive committee and committee chairs manage by objectives and completed an MBO prior to the fourth BOG meeting. BOG meetings were conducted on a fixed schedule with agendas sent out in advance and minutes issued prior to the next meeting, in accordance with the bylaws. The BOG meeting was maintained at one hour on the Tuesday preceding the monthly chapter meeting. BOG meeting attendance was outstanding with good participation by all officers, committee chairs and members at large. Several BOG members have agreed to take on expanded roles in the 2009-2010 calendar year. The

exception for next year is a program chair. We do not have a chair and plan to operate this vital committee as a group which will likely be a challenge. The search for a chair continues however and we hope to have the position filled by August 2009.

## Committee Reports

### Programs

Continuing a tradition of attracting outstanding speakers and programs, B.J. Newton and his committee continued its commitment to excellent programs, finalizing the years' program schedule in October. All of the programs were well-attended, relevant and highly evaluated by those who attended.

The year kicked off with a dinner and technical tour at the City Brewery in La Crosse. The dinner was held at Nels Bar and Grill. The tour focused on the refrigeration and process cooling systems involved in brew making. Equipment and controls represented technology from the early 1900's to present.

Our February meeting was best attended: "Striving for Nothing: Gundersen Lutheran's Project to Become a Zero Net Energy Building by 2014".

Program titles are shown below:

17-Sep	Brewery Equipment Tour and Dinner	Larry Ferber
22-Oct	Flood Restoration: Health Hazards of Black Water	Wane Baker
19-Nov	Wind Power	Natalie McIntire
9-Dec	Environmental Update: Past, Present and Future	Larry Butz
21-Jan	ASHRAE Standard 189.1: (Requirements for Green Buildings) An Overview of the Present Standard	Lee Burgett
26-Jan	ASHRAE bus / train trip to expo	
18-Feb	Striving for Nothing: Gundersen Lutheran's Project to Become a Zero Net Energy Building by 2014	Jeff Rich, Corey Zarecki, Dennis Renaud, Don June
18-Mar	Peak Oil / Hazlenut Farm for Food & Energy	Norm Erickson
23-Apr	Historical Changes in Halocarbon Refrigerants In Response to a Changing Environment	Thomas Leck
22-Apr	Satellite Broadcast: "Clean, Lean, and Green – IAQ for Sustainable Buildings"	
20-May	Standard 180: A New Approach to HVAC System Maintenance	Robert G Baker (DL)
20-May	Technical Session: Green Maintenance Needed to Keep HVAC Systems Green	Robert G Baker (DL)

Programs continue to qualify for PDH/CEU certificates of attendance which are awarded at the meetings, or to any attendee on request.

### **Membership**

Chair Chris Hseih did a great job in his 3<sup>rd</sup> year as Membership Promotion Chair. Chris also acted as programs promotions and meeting attendance, a clear example of going above and beyond. Chris spoke to students at Trane as well as recruited student chair Scott Hintz to speak at WTC. Membership is level with the past two years with less student members than in the past. We are looking to reinvigorate the student club with more joint meetings next year. Chris continues as our MP chair next year.

### **Technical, Energy and Government Affairs (TEGA)**

There was no activity in TEGA this year and no active committee chair. Programs and technical seminars were our main focus and consumed available board members time. It is desired that ASHRAE refocus this section and provide guidance on how to reinvigorate local efforts.

### **Electronic Communications**

Jim Spielbauer has continued to serve as the Chapter Webmaster and done an outstanding job keeping the site current along with some new feature / functionality. The site, [www.ashraelacrosse.org](http://www.ashraelacrosse.org), has been a core communication device for the chapter since 2002-2003, and was expanded this year to allow online meeting registration and payment using the regional eChapter login and Google checkout functionality. The site is updated monthly with highlights from the previous month Chapter meeting including a photo gallery and the speaker presentation materials. La Crosse Chapter historical documents and Gold Ribbon History Reports are available online, as well as links to other chapter and society websites. Jim has agreed to serve next year and hopes to incorporate a more extensive meeting registration, webinar functionality for expanded program access to distance chapter members.

The newsletter role was filled by Jill Trochinski at the year's outset. Jill reformatted the newsletter from past years adding color content, used Microsoft Publisher as the editing software and added more internet functionality. Life events changed Jill's availability and Jim Spielbauer stepped up to fill her shoes suggesting this role should fall under the ECC position. Jim has agreed to continue as newsletter editor for the upcoming year. An example newsletter is attached.

### **Resource**

Dwayne Johnson took the Resource Promotion position this year and did an excellent job as the La Crosse Chapter qualified for the Full Circle Award and is on pace with last year for Research contributions. Trane

continues to be the only HVAC manufacturer matching dollar-for-dollar, and our chapter is taking full advantage of matching funds.

Five memorial contributions were made again this year to ASHRAE Research each in honor of five of our esteemed ASHRAE colleagues who are no longer with us. Remembrance letters were sent at the time of the contribution.

### **History**

Our Chapter Historian, Jim Ritter, is in his 26<sup>th</sup> year as Chapter Historian. Winner of the 2008 Lou Flagg Historian award, he submitted again this year for the award. This year we proudly submit our 2009 History report on Carl Spiech.

Carl has been a valued member of our chapter for decades, a huge asset to ASHRAE through his distinguished service, in addition to being an engineering hero at Trane, leaving a long legacy of successful inventions and engineering processes. We are proud to have him as a continuing active member.

Thank you Jim for compiling this report adding to your decade's legacy of keeping our chapter history alive and good luck in your pursuit of the Lou Flagg award.

9 of 37 past presidents attended the September meeting to be recognized by the Chapter members for their past service.

### **Student Activities**

Scott Hintz was student activities chair this year and did a great job in his first year. Scott gave a presentation to the student ASHRAE club at WTC on LEED certification and sustainable building practices. He also mentored a WTC in the ASHRAE student design contest which the student unfortunately was unable to carry through on. Scott has agreed to chair the committee next year and looks forward to developing a "traveling" display to aid in student demonstrations and science fairs.

**Scholarships:** Two scholarships at \$250 each were awarded to recipients at Western Technical College and one scholarship for \$500 to a recipient at Chippewa Valley Technical College. Thank you letters from the recipients are included as attachment to this report. We also contributed to four \$500 scholarships awarded to local high school students aspiring to engineering careers. One of these scholarships was renamed in honor of Bruce Staples, an IEEE charter member and community leader who died in 2003.

### **Region and Society Visitors**

Unfortunately there were no regional visitors this year. Communication with the RVC and associated officers was not consistent and schedules

were not aligned to provide good collaboration. We hope to improve in this area next year.

As we near the end of this year I feel good about the progress that the La Crosse Chapter made in 2008-2009. I feel especially grateful for the support I got as President from an excellent BOG. I am optimistic about the leadership of Larry and his staff that will take us into 2010. I am looking forward to being part of that team as well.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rick Heiden". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Rick" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Heiden".

Rick Heiden  
2008 – 2009 ASHRAE LA CROSSE AREA Chapter President