

THE HOT AIR DIFFUSER

Chapter Newsletter

May 2018



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MAY ASHRAE MEETING

May:

IAQ Lunch Workshop May 9, 2018 – Bradley Harr, Summit Environmental, Inc.

Mr. Harr will provide an update on what is new in the science and politics of indoor air quality and the IAQA organization. Many ASTM and IICRC Standard Practices related to IAQ are undergoing review and there is extensive debate on what is “best practice” in the industry. The added involvement of international Consensus Body members on the IICRC IAQ related committees has expanded the discussion on best practices, worker protection, and consumer Right to Know issues. There are also new cleanup Standards out for buildings under going restoration from crime scene cleanup and fire repair. A lot of contractor work addresses IAQ concerns and the complex question of how clean is clean. Mr. Harr will also discuss the moving IAQ target for indoor air formaldehyde concentrations. Another interesting current event is that the medical community has become very active in pushing for more radon abatement in buildings. The tie to non-smoker lung cancer has finally hit home with the medical community. Many US homes and commercial buildings are operating under negative pressure due to HVAC systems and radon levels often exceed US EPA guidelines. The World Health Organization is promoting an IAQ radon guideline of 2.7 pCi/L; whereas, the US EPA is still at a higher risk 4.0 pCi/L guideline. These and more current IAQ issues will be presented by Mr. Harr.

Please Register online at:

www.idahoashrae.com

When:

May 9th

11:45 am to 1:00 pm MST

Where:

Idaho Power

1221 W. Idaho St

Bosie, ID 83702

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

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.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Michael S. Jones – PE, CPMP, CEM

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 fun 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 and 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

April 2018

Ten Years Ago

The chapter president was Xenon Long. The meeting was held on Friday, May 9, 2008 at the Idaho Power Building. Gus Engstrom, Boise State University, brought in a recumbent bicycle that he built to compete in the Human Powered Vehicle (HPV) competition. He discussed the design process, how the bike handled in the competition, and areas that he would improve in future iterations.

Fifteen Years Ago

The chapter president was Preston Nance. The meeting was held on Friday, May 9, 2003, at the Double Tree Riverside. Tim Wentz, ASHRAE Region IX DRC, gave a regional and national ASHRAE update.

Twenty Five Years Ago

The chapter president was Richard Kartchner. The meeting was held on Friday, May 14, 1993, at Edwards Restaurant. Gary Chellette, Bell & Gossett, presented a steam seminar with emphasis on steam trap operation, application, and selection.



U.S. Government Activity

President Trump Releases Statement on Earth Day

April 22 was Earth day and President Trump stated, "A healthy environment and a strong economy go hand in hand," and that his administration is "dedicated to removing unnecessary and harmful regulations that restrain economic growth and make it more difficult for local communities to prosper and to choose the best solutions for their environment." You can read the whole statement [here](#).

Speaker Paul Ryan Announces Retirement

On April 11, House Speaker Paul Ryan (R-WI) announced that he isn't seeking reelection. The announcement comes a few months after Republicans passed a tax reform bill that Ryan has "been working on my entire adult life." House Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy (R-CA) and Majority Whip Steve Scalise (R-LA) are the most likely candidates to take over the leadership post while House Freedom Caucus member Jim Jordan (R-Ohio) has also been encouraged to run. McCarthy has received support from Ryan, and Scalise has said he won't run against him for the post. However, that could change if McCarthy is unable to coalesce enough votes.

EPA Plans to Draft a New HFC Rule

The EPA intends to craft a new rule that would restrict the use of hydrofluorocarbon (HFC) refrigerants that have high global warming potential (GWP). This follows a D.C. Circuit Court decision in August of 2017 that reversed a Obama-era EPA rule restricting the use of HFCs on the basis that EPA exceeded its authority under the Clean Air Act. The EPA is holding a stakeholder meeting on May 4. [Click here for more information.](#)

Senate confirms EPA's Deputy Administrator

On April 12, Andrew Wheeler was confirmed to be Deputy Administrator of the EPA with a Senate vote of 53 to 45. Democrats Joe Manchin (WV), Heidi Heitkamp (ND), and Joe Donnelly (IN) voted with the Republicans. Wheeler is a former coal lobbyist and has previously worked at the EPA in the Office of Pollution Prevention.

EPA will Hold Meetings on NAFTA

The EPA holds a two-day meeting of the National Advisory Committee and the Governmental Advisory Committee to provide advice on trade and environment issues related to the North American Agreement on Environmental Cooperation. The meeting starts on April 26 at 9:00 AM.



President Donald Trump issues memo on National Ambient Air Quality Standards to Streamline Permitting for Manufacturing Facilities

The memo drafted for the EPA by the White House aims to streamline the process for air-quality permits that manufacturers need to expand existing plants or when building new ones. In the memo, Trump said "These actions are intended to ensure that EPA carries out its core missions of protecting the environment and improving air quality in accord with statutory requirements, while reducing unnecessary impediments to new manufacturing and business expansion essential for a growing economy." [Click here for more information.](#)

The Trump Administration Hires new Energy Advisor

The White House has hired Francis Brooke as an adviser to the President on energy and environmental policy. Brooke was a staffer for Vice President Mike Pence and has worked for Majority Leader Mitch McConnell and Rep. Andy Barr.

Farm Bill Passes out of House Committee

On Wednesday, April 18 the House version of the 2018 Farm Bill, which includes provisions for rural energy programs, passed out of committee with all Republicans voting to advance the legislation and all Democrats voting against it. Democrats did not offer any amendments during the markup in objection to the stricter work requirements that were added in order to receive food stamps. A floor vote has not been scheduled, and the legislation still faces opponents on both sides of the aisle. [The bill can be read here.](#)

DOE Allocates \$39 million for Innovative Hydrogen and Fuel Cell R&D

On April 17, Department of Energy (DOE) announced up to \$39 million will be made available to research and develop technology "for fuel cells and for hydrogen fuel production, delivery, and storage related to hydrogen infrastructure." Topics for research listed in the announcement include: ElectroCat, H2@Scale, and Innovative Concepts. Concept papers are due May 7, 2018 and full applications will be due June 12, 2018. [Click here for more information.](#)

The Information Technology and Innovation Foundation Releases Report on DOE FY 19 Budget Proposal

The Information Technology and Innovation Foundation, a non-profit think tank, released a report analyzing the FY 19 budget proposal. They state that the proposal, if enacted, would "impose the largest single-year decrease" in DOE history to research and development. [Read it here.](#)



Grassroots News

The House Energy and Commerce Energy Subcommittee Holds Mark-Up on 5 Bills

On April 18, the Energy Subcommittee held a markup on 5 bills including H.R. 5239, Cyber Sense Act and H.R. 5240, Enhancing Grid Security through Public-Private Partnerships Act. The bills would establish a voluntary program at DOE that promotes cybersecurity and aims to protect the electric grid. The bills passed through the subcommittee with a voice vote. The markup can be viewed [here](#).

EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt will Testify before Two House Committees

The House Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on the Environment and the House Appropriations Interior, Environment and Related Agencies Subcommittee are holding hearings on the Administration's FY 19 budget proposal. EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt will testify at both hearings where he is expected to also face questions regarding recent alleged ethic violations. The hearings will be held on April 26.

State and Local Government Affairs

Florida to Hold Public Meetings on 2018 I Codes

The Florida Administrative Register, published on April 17, 2018, gives notice of several public hearings to be held on April 27, 30 and May 1 (in addition to one already held on April 24) to review the 2018 I Codes.

These reviews will consist of an "evaluation of the Cost Impact and Benefit of the 2018 I-Code Changes (Prescriptive Code Changes)."

Specifically, the Florida Building Commission, Energy Technical Advisory Committee, will meet on Tuesday, May 1, 2018 beginning at 2:00 p.m. The meeting will be conducted using communications media technology, specifically tele-conference and webinar.

To join the meeting, go to <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/874241349>

To join via conference call: United States (toll-free): 1(877)309-2073, Meeting ID / Access Code: 874-241-349.

Interested parties may attend in person at 2601 Blair Stone Road, Tallahassee, Florida.

A copy of the agenda may be obtained by contacting:

Norman Bellamy,

Energy Technical Advisory Committee, Office of Building Codes and Standards

Division of Professions

Department of Business and Professional Regulation

2601 Blair Stone Road

Tallahassee, Florida 32399

Telephone: (850) 487-1824

Fax: (850) 414-8436



New York Governor Announces New Energy Efficiency Standards on Earth Day

New York Governor Andrew Cuomo (D) announced new energy efficiency standards on Earth Day. The plan includes a new target for significant greenhouse gas emission reductions, reduction of consumer energy costs and creation of new job opportunities. Meeting the new energy efficiency target is slated to deliver nearly one third of the greenhouse gas emissions reductions needed to meet New York's climate goal of 40 percent reduction by 2030. As part of that effort, the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) will commit \$36.5 million to train over 19,500 New Yorkers for clean energy jobs to support this rapidly growing industry. Already, over 110,000 New Yorkers are employed in energy efficiency related jobs. [Click here for more information.](#)

New York Issues Emergency Rule on Lead Testing

The New York State Register, published on April 11, 2018, gives notice of emergency rule making for lead testing in school drinking water. This rule, which was filed and went into effect on March 27, 2018, is adopted by the New York State Department of Health and can be viewed [here](#).

This notice is intended to serve only as a notice of emergency adoption. The Department of Health intends to adopt the provisions of this emergency rule as a permanent rule, having previously submitted to the Department of State a notice of proposed rule-making, I.D. No. HLT-20-17-00013-P, Issue of May 17, 2017. The emergency rule will expire May 25, 2018. Comments may be submitted to and text of rule and any required statements and analyses may be obtained from:

Katherine Ceroalo,
DOH, Bureau of Program Counsel, Reg. Affairs Unit
Room 2438
ESP Tower Building
Albany, NY 12237
(518) 473-7488

email: regsqa@health.ny.gov

California Increases Efficiency Levels for Zero Energy Ready Homes

The Zero Energy Ready Home (ZERH) program continues to provide important energy efficiency and performance benefits in qualifying projects. With that comes new rules, the draft provisions of which are:

- Realize a compliance total with at least 15% savings beyond the Standard Design based on the 2016 Building Energy Efficiency Standards, or achieve a Delta Energy Design Rating of at least 4, as determined by a California Energy Commission approved software program.
- Meet all required DOE ZERH provisions, including ENERGY STAR® Homes certification, Indoor airPLUS certification, efficient hot water distribution, and the other mandatory provisions listed in Table I of the DOE ZERH – California program requirements.

These requirements may be viewed at the DOE ZERH website [here](#). Comments or questions may be emailed to zero@newportpartnersllc.com by May 25, 2018 with a planned effective date of October 1, 2018.



Grassroots News

State Legislative Updates

- Nebraska – lawmakers in the nation's only unicameral legislature adjourned on April 18 after approving a measure to allow rural communities and city neighborhoods with high unemployment or poverty the ability to use tax-increment funding to build work force housing. It is hoped this legislation will provide incentive to build new housing in areas of the state that need it. Governor Pete Ricketts (R), who does possess a pocket veto, has five days upon transmittal to sign or veto legislation that reaches his desk.



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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.

