From: Atlanta Chapter of ASHRAE
To:
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JANUARY 2021 NEWSLETTER

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Atlanta Chapter Member,

I hope your holidays were as fun and exciting as mine! I had the chance to attend the Red and Green Scene virtual event – the organizers did a great job keeping the pace, fun, and trivia going. It was a great time while also supporting the Atlanta Food Bank and helping those facing sudden challenges. On a personal note, I enjoyed spending time with family. Most of us may have been indoors most of the time, but after reflecting, it was evident that sometimes we need a big change to determine what the best option is to move forward. I'm happy things turned out this way but look forward to being in the great outdoors soon once social distancing is no longer needed.

2020 was an unforgettable year but we're excited to see what 2021 has in store: let's go over this year's plan. First and foremost, I'd like to welcome both new and returning members. Your Board of Governors and Committee Chairs are busy working to provide membership value.

We are currently in the process of issuing the PDH certificates for past virtual meetings for those with continued education requirements. The remaining ASHRAE Atlanta Chapter meetings will be virtual, but we hope to have in-person meetings sometime after summer provided that it is safe to do so within the great indoors.

Whether you are a seasoned engineer, contractor or just looking into the HVAC industry, I salute you in all areas: cooling plants, heating plants, centralized systems, local systems, terminal units, modeling, installing, commissioning, or servicing these systems.

Are you ready to grow as leader or advance to the next step in your career? If

so, volunteer as a Chapter resource! Atlanta's growing population provides new opportunities that will require a new generation of leaders to take ASHRAE and its Atlanta Chapter to a new level.

In the past, Chapter Officers and Committee Chairs have earned in-state and out-of-state opportunities that became available after being noticed by industry leaders through ASHRAE experiences.

I'm happy to share that our volunteers like Glenn Northrup, Meghan McNulty, Parker Brunelle, Brian Justice, Felipe Alvarez, Mark Dahir, Chris Reininger, John Pruitt, Scott Buchberger, and others are busy engaged to help you get the most of your membership benefits.

Here are some examples of the hard work that goes behind the scenes:

As Programs Chair, Zach Moore has been successful with Chapter meeting events involving topics like BACnet SC (secured), the new ASHRAE headquarters, and Improving Indoor Air Quality in the Context of COVID-19. I can't wait to learn what other topics we'll have this year to keep us up to date with industry standards.

Kristie Teoh, our Communications Chair, has been doing a wonderful job keeping you posted on events, updating our web page, and relaying Macon Section events such as the recent Underground Thermal Energy Storage for Electricity Generation.

On the Membership Promotion side, Darrell Sandlin, Tyler Skidgel, and Patrick O'Connor have been working hard to make you aware of your membership benefits. They've even created a newsletter raffle to make things more interesting for the whole.

We'd also like to welcome our new Sustainability Chair, Michael Bresnahan, and we look forward to hearing his ideas for our Chapter!

But let me stop here. I'll let them tell you their news in the rest of this newsletter.

I wish you all a great start to the new year!

Pedro Pacheco, PE, LEEP-AP, CSI-CDT

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Atlanta Chapter President 2020 - 2021

CHAPTER MEETING

FEBRUARY 2021 ASHRAE ATLANTA CHAPTER MEETING

Join us for a virtual chapter meeting!

ASHRAE and Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC) Joint Meeting: ASHRAE 90.1-2019

Tuesday, February 9th at 12 PM EST

Technical Program Description

This presentation will feature a panel of speakers covering topics regarding some of the major 2019 updates to ASHRAE 90.1 and how they can be applied in Georgia and beyond. The article below features a conversation regarding some of the highlights of the update. More details and registration link to follow soon!

https://www.nxtbook.com/nxtbooks/ashrae/ashraejournal_TPEMPE/index.php#/p/24

GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

The Government Affairs Committee (GAC) organizes ASHRAE members to educate local, state, and national government bodies and officials about issues relating to the HVAC&R industry and promotes effective cooperation between ASHRAE members and government. Check out ASHRAE's advocacy resources: https://www.ashrae.org/about/government-affairs/public-policy-resources

ASHRAE's Epidemic Task Force: ashrae.org/covid19

The ETF recently published two new guidance documents:

- Core Recommendations for Reducing Airborne Infectious Aerosol Exposure (1 page)
- Building Guidance for Communities of Faith (18 pages)

Smoke-Free South Fulton Legislation Passes, with ASHRAE Support

The City of South Fulton unanimously passed a strengthened smoke-free ordinance on January 12, 2021, which prohibits smoking and vaping in city

buildings, other enclosed public facilities, and certain outdoor public venues. ASHRAE offered technical support to the Mayor and City Council with a letter from President Gulledge and a copy of ASHRAE's Position Document on Environmental Tobacco Smoke.

Georgia Building Codes Update

New Codes Effective 1/1/2021

New Mandatory State Code: 2020 National Electric Code (no GA Amendments)

New Permissive Codes: 2018 International Existing Building Code and 2018 International Property Maintenance Code, both with Georgia State Amendments. Amendments are available from the DCA.

State Codes Advisory Committee Meeting Virtual 1/27

The next meeting of the State Codes Advisory Committee is Wednesday, January 27, 2021 at 10:00 A.M. The meeting will be held virtually via Microsoft Teams. Please email codes@dca.ga.gov to receive an invitation to the meeting. For copies of the Agenda, Georgia New Codes Memo, and the 2022 Proposed Georgia Amendments, click here.

HVAC&R Provisions in the Federal COVID-19 Relief Package

In December, Congress passed a $2.3 trillion **legislative package** to fund the government through September 30, 2021. The package also provided $900 billion in Coronavirus relief and included energy and tax provisions. The 5,593-page bill included the following:

- **Appropriations:** With $1.4 trillion to fund the government in FY 2021, there were large increases to several programs that impact the building sector. The bill provides the Department of Energy's Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE) office with $2.86 billion, an increase of $72 million above the fiscal year 2020 level and $9.24 billion for the EPA, $180 million above the 2020 enacted level. The EPA funding includes $40 million for the EnergySTAR program.
- **COVID-19 Relief:** The legislation approves up to $600 in direct payments to Americans of a certain income and revives a $300-per-week supplemental benefit for the unemployed. The relief measure also provides billions of dollars in aid for businesses. Additionally, $82 billion was allocated to the Education Stabilization Fund, which includes funding for schools for updating their building systems to improve indoor air quality and minimize viral transmission.
- **Tax Extenders:** Several energy focused tax incentives were reauthorized. This included a permanent extension of the 179D tax deduction for energy-efficient commercial buildings. The tax deduction also updated ASHRAE Reference Standard 90.1 from the 2007 standard to the most recent standard as of two years before the start of construction, in addition to increasing the deduction by accounting for inflation.
- **HFC Phasedown:** The legislation will require a phasedown of the production and consumption of hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) by 85% over 15 years, per

the schedule in the Kigali amendment to the Montreal protocol. ASHRAE has **supported this legislation** (the AIM Act) previously and it was included in ASHRAE's **Public Policy Priorities** for Society Year 2020-2021.

- **Energy Provisions:** Numerous energy provisions were included in the package, including building energy and water efficiency measures for schools, federal buildings and data centers; smart building accelerator program; and reauthorization of the weatherization assistance program. The bill in total includes $35 billion in energy technology authorizations, but money will need to still be appropriated next year.

MEMBERSHIP PROMOTION

WELCOME our new Atlanta Chapter members who have joined in the months of November and December!

- Dr. Emily K Crispell, PhD
- Mr. Craig Joyner
- Mr. Michael Bresnahan
- Mr. Shane Ocenas
- Mr. Robert Grant
- Ms. Beth Ann Hanson
- Mr. Noah Eggleston
- Mr. Andrew McCulloch
- Mr. Curtis McPeek
- Mr. Richard Goetz
- Mrs. Angela Grant
- Ms. Carlos Chamorro
- Mr. Jesse Lee
- Mr. Alieu Jallow
- Mr. Erion Tafa
- Mr. Allen Stafford
- Mr. Daniel Rose
- Mr. Wilfredo Caceres
- Mr. Michael Thomas Madar
- Mr. Matthew Berrell

MP By the Numbers

- YTD Total chapter membership is 924.
- Welcomed an additional 20 new members since November 1, 2020.
- As of January 1st we have 67 chapter members with memberships past due ranging from 1 to 6 months.
- (Keep in mind at the end of 6 months, those past due memberships are "cancelled" by ASHRAE society and the member will no longer receive electronic communications from society)
- Please take 10 minutes, log onto ASHRAE.org review your membership status, renew if its time and you can, then update your Contact/Bio information.

JANUARY FUN TRIVIA

In 2009, what percentage of homes in the United States had central air condition

systems?

First correct response submitted / return email wins a $10 gift card to Chick-fil-A.

This message was sent to you by ASHRAE Atlanta Chapter
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