

## Champlain Valley Chapter Leadership Recall interview

### Past

Are you a registered Professional Engineer ? *No*  
If so in what states and discipline ?

How long have you been a member of ASHRAE ? *23 yrs. Continuously, 29 total*  
Are you currently a member ? *Yes*

How long were you a member of ASHRAE before you got involved as an officer or BOG member ? *7 yrs*

Do you recall if there was any particular reason you decided to get involved? *Contacts & Education*

Was there some particular person that helped or encouraged you to get involved in ASHRAE? *Bobby Miller*

What year were you president of the Champlain Valley Chapter? *89/90*

Who was the DRC when you were President of the chapter? *Name has left me*

What is your current position/title at work? *General Mgr.*

Did you hold the same position when you were President of the Chapter ? *No*

Have you ever been active in any other chapters aside from the Champlain Valley Chapter? If so what Chapters? How did they vary from the Champlain Valley Chapter?  
*No*

Did the Chapter win any awards at the regional level when you were president? *Yes*  
If so do you remember which ones? *Membership, can't remember others*

Have you ever been active at the regional or society level? If so what positions have you, or do you currently hold? *No*

If you had to pick one thing that you did during your tenure as an ASHRAE Officer that benefited the chapter what would it be? *Increased interest in meeting attendance*

When you were running the chapter, what would you say got the most members together and generated the most involvement? Monthly meetings? Trade Shows? Social Events?  
*Monthly meetings*

Was there a good mix of age groups that were active in the chapter when you were president? ie. attending meetings and events? *Yes*

What would you say was the percentage of attendees from the different disciplines at ASHRAE meetings when you were in office?

Utilities/Consultants/Vendors/Contractors/Estimators/Management

*U- 10%, Cons-30%, V-30%, Cont-30%*

### **Present**

Do you know who the elected President is for 2006-2007? *No*

Were you aware that the Champlain Valley Chapter achieved the Golden Gavel for 2004-2005 (Award for the highest number of PAOE points in Region 1), under the leadership of Tom Zoller P.E.? *No, but not surprised*

If you were asked to help mentor a new member about the benefits of being a leader in a professional society, would you be interested? *No, time constraints.*

In 1 sentence, what would you tell someone to encourage them to be active in the chapter? *It is the best resource for staying current with industry technology and is an excellent basis for overall self-advancement.*

What is one thing that you would say you gained from being involved in running the chapter? *Teamwork experience*

When was the last time that you were at a Chapter function or meeting?

I.e. Past Presidents meeting or any other? *About 2 months ago*

What types of activities are likely to attract you to attend? *Good speakers on subjects that are relative to my current technical interests, which I admit are waning.*

What would you say is the biggest draw for your attendance to meetings?

Location, Speaker/Topic, Networking, Socializing, or Professional development? *As above*

### **Future**

If you were to give one tip to next years, or any future years leadership what would it be ? *I believe some modern form of Roberts Rules should be activated to make the meeting really a meeting. I miss the formality of calling and terminating meetings and think the general attendees are not well informed as to Chapter activities and needs as a result of not having verbal committee reports, etc. The real Roberts Rules are likely too stiff and boring for the now generation but like all things, there must be some format that would bring back the meat without the bore.*

Are you currently on the Champlain Valley Chapter's mailing list ? or do you regularly visit the home-page at [www.ashraevt.com](http://www.ashraevt.com)? *On the list, admit to not visiting the site very often*

What would you say was the optimal percentage of attendees from the different disciplines at ASHRAE meetings should be in a healthy ASHRAE chapter ?  
Utilities/Consultants/Vendors/Contractors/Estimators/Management *Primarily consultants and contractors with preferably a low mix of utilities and us vendors, but then We're not in Kansas, Toto.*

What do you feel would be a good way to encourage Consulting Engineers to attend meetings ? What do you think about Engineers that do not attend because they feel that the training being offered is "below" them, yet when approached they they won't reply with what they feel would be valuable ? *I found it to be a rare and exceedingly pleasant experience to see local engineer Joe Kohler conduct his informative and interesting presentation at the meeting recently. For some reason, contractors enjoy gathering together even though they are fierce competitors. Consultants on the other hand, seem to be afraid of their peers. If anyone can find a way to deal with the paranoia that makes consultants so insecure, that person may have discovered something as great as Aspirin.*

When members are polled for ideas about potential topics at Dinner meetings the responses back are extremely minimal, what would you recommend as a way to encourage and receive feedback for new topics? *Present a potential list in writing to each meeting attendee and include spaces for additional suggestions. Usually that will generate a response.*

What areas of the industry do you think need ASHRAE's attention the most? *I think an organized effort should be put forth to force Architects and building developers/owners to bring back the long lost practice of paying consulting engineers for field supervision of designed projects. It used to be a standard many years ago and HVAC systems were installed generally satisfactorily the first time around with very few problems. The Engineers were better qualified by the experience they gained from correcting their own errors in the field before the issues became problems. Maybe something like this would attract the consultants to attend the ASHRAE meetings. It certainly would reduce the commissioning fees.*

Is there anything that ASHRAE is doing now that concerns you? *No*

Have you been to any ASHRAE winter or summer meetings? If so what did you like or dislike about them? Would you encourage members to attend? *They are fine. Yes*

Is there anything that ASHRAE has been involved with that you believe directly influenced your day to day practice in the HVAC&R field? (political topics, standards, codes, training, etc.) *Standards have always been a great stabilizer to the industry. If you follow an ASHRAE Standard, you can't go wrong.*