

Region 1 Leadership Recall interview

Past

How long have you been a member of ASHRAE ? I was a member from 1993 to 1996 and then from December 1999 to the present

How long were you a member of ASHRAE before you got involved as an officer or BOG member? On my first tour I waited two years then got involved with the chapter meeting sign in table. On my second tour I got involved right away and volunteered for a position

Do you recall if there was any particular reason you decided to get involved? To meet more people in my industry and to gain more experience

Was there some particular person that helped or encouraged you to get involved in ASHRAE? No the BOG were in general a very good group

Were there any “horror stories” that you heard when you were considering becoming an officer ? In the beginning of my involvement with the chapter there was one individual who made the local organization very political. But once he left everyone got along very well.

Which Chapter were you the president of? Long Island Chapter

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? 1. Switching the location of the monthly meeting to a new location.

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? *The golf outing is always a big draw for us and a good speaker (DL) is a good draw*

What did you find was the most difficult while you were president of your chapter ?
Motivating people, to get involved

What did you find was the easiest? Leading the meetings (we had a good group that were interested in growing the chapter)

Did you feel like you had adequate training and mentorship available when you became chapter president ? (Yes, I feel that ASHRAE gives enough opportunities to learn and expand these skills, if you take advantage of them)

If you were asked to be a chapter officer again, knowing what it involved would you do it again ? (yes, in the Connecticut chapter in a few years, I recently moved and my wife is due with our third child (1 boy at 3 years old, 1 girl at 1.5 years old and ? due in a month) I think if I volunteered in the next two years she would burn my ASHRAE card.

How do you recommend getting new members involved in ASHRAE, or any other professional society ?. **I explain to them all of the great people I have meet, What I have learned, the networking opportunities and chance to gain leadership and communication skills.**

Do you think that your chapter faces any unique problems ? If so what are they ? **NO, it is probably the same thing for everyone. Getting people involved.**

Is there something that your chapter does that you feel is unique or innovative?
Regretfully, no.

Have you ever been active in any other chapters aside from the Chapter you were president of? If so what Chapters? How did they vary from your chapter? **NO**

Have you ever attended another chapters meeting? **Yes, NYC Chapter, NJ Chapter**

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

Do you intend to become active at a different level? If not what would you say would be the number one reason that would keep you from being active? **NO, Family time prevents me.**

Was there a good mix of age groups that were active in the chapter when you were president? ie. attending meetings and events? **Yes, we started getting younger people involved**

What would you say was the percentage of attendees from the different disciplines at ASHRAE meetings when you were in office? **60% Vendors, 30% consultants, 10% Contractors**
Utilities/Consultants/Vendors/Contractors/Estimators/Management

What is one thing that you would say you gained from being involved in running the chapter? **Leadership skills.**

Present

What is your current position/title at work? **Vice president**

Did you hold the same position when you first became a chapter officer? **No**

Are you a registered Professional Engineer ? **Yes**
If so in what states and discipline ? **Connecticut, Mechanical**

If you were asked to help mentor a new member about the benefits of being a leader in professional society, would you be interested? **Yes, In a few years**

In one sentence, what would you tell someone to encourage them to be active in the chapter? *The best engineers, best contractors and best vendors in our industry are actively involved with ASHRAE because of all of the training, communication, networking and leadership opportunities that are available.*

When was the last time that you were at a Chapter function or meeting? *Last June Meeting*

Ie. Past Presidents meeting or any other?

What types of chapter activities are likely to attract you to attend? *Good Technical discussion or a social event.*

What would you say is the biggest draw for your attendance to meetings? Speaker Location, Speaker/Topic, Networking, Socializing, or Professional development ?

Future

If you were to give one tip to next years, or any future years leadership what would it be ? *Find good speakers (DL) and get the work out.*

What would you say was the optimal percentage of attendees from the different disciplines at ASHRAE meetings should be in a healthy ASHRAE chapter ? *Ideally, isf you had a equal split among all of them.*

Utilities/Consultants/Vendors/Contractors/Estimators/Management

What do you feel would be a good way to encourage Consulting Engineers to attend meetings ? *Push to them the technical training and Proffesional development. Ask them what type of projects they are working on and try to get speakers who are authorities on that topic.*

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? *Offer them a prize??Have a raffle for all completed returned forms and give away a IPOD or a PDA.*

What areas of the industry do you think need ASHRAE's attention the most? *Consulting Engineerings*

Is there anything that ASHRAE is doing now that concerns you? *Just lack of involvement.*

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? *No*

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](#)