

## Champlain Valley Chapter Leadership Recall interview

### Past – Michael A. Gallo, P.E.

Are you a registered Professional Engineer ? **Yes, seven states.**  
If so in what states and discipline ? **VT, ME, NH, CT, NY, MA, AZ**

How long have you been a member of ASHRAE ? **13 years**  
Are you currently a member ? **Yes**

How long were you a member of ASHRAE before you got involved as an officer or BOG member ? **I became Promotion Chair my first year.**

Do you recall if there was any particular reason you decided to get involved?  
Was there some particular person that helped or encouraged you to get involved in ASHRAE? **Ed Pearson was President and asked me to be the Publicity Chair and I went on from there.**

What year were you president of the Champlain Valley Chapter? **1995-96**

Who was the DRC when you were President of the chapter? **Joseph Ting, P.E.**

What is your current position/title at work? **Office Supervisor – Bio / Pharma Group**

Did you hold the same position when you were President of the Chapter ? **No, I owned my own Firm at the time.**

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?  
If so do you remember which ones? **We won some ribbons and hit our PAOE Goal.**

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? **Helped get Gus Mastro elected as the DRC.**

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? **I would say yes. The UVM Chapter was going pretty strong.**

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 – **I would say an even split.**

## **Present**

Do you know who the elected President is for 2006-2007? **Jay Pilliod.**

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.? **Yes. Tom did a great job.**

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? **Yes, time permitting.**

In 1 sentence, what would you tell someone to encourage them to be active in the chapter? **It is very beneficial to their career in the networking effort.**

What is one thing that you would say you gained from being involved in running the chapter? **That I would never do it again. No just kidding. I would say that it takes the effort of many dedicated people to have a successful chapter year.**

When was the last time that you were at a Chapter function or meeting?  
Ie. Past Presidents meeting or any other? **I attended the April 2006 Meeting.**

What types of activities are likely to attract you to attend? **Good Speakers and Topics.**

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

## **Future**

If you were to give one tip to next years, or any future years leadership what would it be ?  
**Don't be afraid to delegate and get volunteers to help you. No one can do it all alone.**

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)? **Yes.**

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 – **An even mix with maybe a higher percentage on the Professional Engineers.**

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 ? **Let them know their input, attendance and participation is healthy for the entire Chapter. If they feel participating is beneath them, then they are not going to be an asset to the Chapter and it is probably better they do not participate. I learn something new every time I attend a function.**

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 ? **Ask each member what topic would excite them and if they would help to bring such topics with qualified speakers to our meetings.**

What areas of the industry do you think need ASHRAE’s attention the most? **I think covering “high tech” industries would be a plus such as Bio / Pharma, Microelectronics, etc, would be helpful.**

Is there anything that ASHRAE is doing now that concerns you? **See my last response.**

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 ? **I only attended CRC’s. We did not have the money as a chapter for attendance at the winter or summer meetings.**

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.**