Region 1 Leadership Recall interview

Past

How long have you been a member of ASHRAE? About 6 years.

How long were you a member of ASHRAE before you got involved as an officer or BOG member? Within the 1st year.

Do you recall if there was any particular reason you decided to get involved? Persuaded by a past officer.

Was there some particular person that helped or encouraged you to get involved in ASHRAE? Yes.

Were there any “horror stories” that you heard when you were considering becoming an officer? No

Which Chapter were you the president of? Bi-State

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? I just tried to do a descent job, nothing in particular stands out.

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 Meeting.

What did you find was the most difficult while you were president of your chapter? Getting new members and have them get involved.

What did you find was the easiest? There is no easy part.

Did you feel like you had adequate training and mentorship available when you became chapter president? Yes.

If you were asked to be a chapter officer again, knowing what it involved would you do it again? Yes

How do you recommend getting new members involved in ASHRAE, or any other professional society? That is the biggest problem. We are reaching out to the local colleges.

Do you think that your chapter faces any unique problems? If so what are they? No

Is there something that your chapter does that you feel is unique or innovative? 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? No

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

Was there a good mix of age groups that were active in the chapter when you were president? ie. attending meetings and events? 40-70

What would you say was the percentage of attendees from the different disciplines at ASHRAE meetings when you were in office? 15-20% Utilities/Consultants/Vendors/Contractors/Estimators/Management

What is one thing that you would say you gained from being involved in running the chapter? Exposure to a good organization.

Present

What is your current position/title at work? Associate Mechanical Engineer Design Firm

Did you hold the same position when you first became a chapter officer? Yes

Are you a registered Professional Engineer? Yes
If so in what states and discipline? NY

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 one sentence, what would you tell someone to encourage them to be active in the chapter? It improves your technical skills in your profession and allows you to meet your peers.

When was the last time that you were at a Chapter function or meeting? Every month meeting and BOG
Ie. Past Presidents meeting or any other?

What types of chapter activities are likely to attract you to attend? All

What would you say is the biggest draw for your attendance to meetings? PIE Points 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? Attempt to bring in new people.

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 It really doesn’t matter as long as you get people.

What do you feel would be a good way to encourage Consulting Engineers to attend meetings? We try with some success but it is always the same people.

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? I wish I knew.

What areas of the industry do you think need ASHRAE’s attention the most? I think they do a good job..

Is there anything that ASHRAE is doing now that concerns you? They’ve gone from no attention to sustainability to too much attention with goals that I think are impossible to obtain.

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? Not gone.

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.) No.