

Region 1 Leadership Recall interview

Past

How long have you been a member of ASHRAE ? 20 years

How long were you a member of ASHRAE before you got involved as an officer or BOG member? 14 years

Do you recall if there was any particular reason you decided to get involved? I was asked by the nominating committee. If fit my career needs and I do like to volunteer in general.

Was there some particular person that helped or encouraged you to get involved in ASHRAE? Doug Rothman, Nominating Committee

Were there any “horror stories” that you heard when you were considering becoming an officer ? No. The six year commitment is challenging to make.

Which Chapter were you the president of? Connecticut

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? Challenge the status quo. Meeting format, time, place. Needed to address the fiscal strength of the chapter

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? Our golf outing in June has the most 1 event attendance. Aggregate the monthly meetings have the most members. We canceled our tradeshow due to poor response.

What did you find was the most difficult while you were president of your chapter? Keeping momentum up with the committees.

What did you find was the easiest? Leading the monthly meetings.

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? No. Not because of a bad experience, I did my tour others should and there are other organizations that I want to volunteer with.

How do you recommend getting new members involved in ASHRAE, or any other professional society? Ask. Every new hire at Trane, outside of the administration role is informed of ASHRAE.

Do you think that your chapter faces any unique problems? If so what are they? **I would think it is unique, the problem is apathy. Members are content to get the journal and standards and do the 9 to 5. Attending a meeting or volunteering is very far down the priority list.**

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?

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. I try and keep my volunteer work local.**

Was there a good mix of age groups that were active in the chapter when you were president? ie. attending meetings and events? **No, under 35 was very light.**

What would you say was the percentage of attendees from the different disciplines at ASHRAE meetings when you were in office? **5-50-25-15-0-5**
Utilities/Consultants/Vendors/Contractors/Estimators/Management

What is one thing that you would say you gained from being involved in running the chapter? **Maturing in my leadership skills and increasing my sphere of influence in marketplace.**

Present

What is your current position/title at work? **BOG, Research Chair, Nominating Committee Chair.**

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

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

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?

When was the last time that you were at a Chapter function or meeting?
Ie. Past Presidents meeting or any other? [Jan mtg](#)

What types of chapter activities are likely to attract you to attend? [All of them. The chapter is a social circle for me.](#)

What would you say is the biggest draw for your attendance to meetings?
[Speaker/Topic, Networking, Socializing, and Professional development.](#)

Future

If you were to give one tip to next years, or any future years leadership what would it be?
[Don't miss the opportunity in Aug to plan. Create a plan and work the plan. If you can break the year into tasks it will be easier to stay on track.](#)

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
[5/50/20/20/0/5](#)

What do you feel would be a good way to encourage Consulting Engineers to attend meetings ? [CEU points for the presentations.](#)

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? [Don't know, seem to get dead air.](#)

What areas of the industry do you think need ASHRAE's attention the most? .

Is there anything that ASHRAE is doing now that concerns you? Concerned that they are following LEED on the sustainability front. [Supplement through Standards or define a different process.](#)

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, don't see a fit for my role in the market, 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.) [The technical information developed by ASHRAE effects everything I do.](#)