

THE REGION DIFFUSER

APRIL
2026

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE ASHRAE OREGON CHAPTER SINCE 1946



President's Address

Hello ASHRAE Oregon!

The cherry blossoms in Portland have bloomed, the sun is setting past 5PM again – Guys... I think we're going to make it! I'm currently defrosting my spring and summer outdoor hobbies which all have the same first step – liberally applying sunscreen.

Just like our transition into spring, your local ASHRAE Oregon Chapter is also transitioning into the next season of leadership. The ASHRAE Society year closes in July, and at that time the next President of ASHRAE Oregon will officially start their next presidential year. To determine who the next leader will be, our Chapter's nominating committee have reviewed our active volunteers and have put forward the following names for your consideration:

- Presidential Candidate: Cassie Kuwahara
- Vice President Candidate: Devin Abellon
- Treasurer Candidate: Ryan Pinckard
- Secretary Candidate: Tyler Klarkowski

In addition to these names put forward for your review, you also have the option to write in a potential candidate. Written-in candidates will have their qualifications vetted by our nominating committee to ensure that the volunteer experience required to hold that position is met.

Please use the link or QR code on Page 2 to cast your vote! There will also be an additional opportunity to vote at our next Technical Meeting on April 23rd – Applied Psychrometrics. Voting will close at the end of April, with the winners announced in the first week of May.

Upcoming Events / Dates:

April 23, 2026: ASHRAE Oregon Technical Meeting: "Applied Psychrometrics", with ASHRAE Distinguished Lecturer Doug Zentz. Stormbreaker Brewing, Portland. 5:00pm – 8:00pm

Chapter may not act for Society

Madeline Giovagnoli

Madeline Giovagnoli
ASHRAE Oregon Chapter President



2025-26 ASHRAE OREGON LEADERSHIP

Chapter President: Madeline Giovagnoli
Vice President/President-Elect: Cassie Kuwahara
Treasurer: Ryan Pinckard
Secretary: Ryan Pinckard
Board of Governors: Victoria Ericksen, Elsa Harder, Zach Harrison, Devin Abellon

Membership Promotion Chair: Victoria Ericksen
Government Affairs Chair: Athena Edison-Lahm
Research Promotion Chair: Elsa Harder
Student Activities: Brett Daniels / Zach Harrison
CTTC Chair: Eileen Jensen / Victoria Ericksen
YEA Chair: Logan Moldenhauer
DEI Chair: Hamed Shahrokhian
WIA Chair: Madeline Giovagnoli

Honors and Awards: Eileen Jensen
Programs: Cassie Kuwahara
Special Events Chair: Rosie Welch
Golf Tournament: Cassie Kuwahara / Rosie Welch
Social Media Chair: Jordan Ficca
Reception Chair: Mac Cunningham
Sustainability: Tyler Klarkowski
Historian: Kevin Marple
Newsletter Chair: Devin Abellon

Cascades Section President: Thomas Kelly
Cascades Section Vice President/ President Elect: Kyle Swenson
Cascades Section Secretary: Jack-Ryan Hilton
Cascades Section Treasurer: Eric Tabert

CHAPTER ELECTIONS - VOTE NOW!

ASHRAE Oregon Chapter 2026-2027 Board of Directors Ballot

Here is the slate of Oregon Chapter Board of Director candidates for the 2026-27 Society Year, as determined by the Nominating Committee:

- Presidential Candidate: Cassie Kuwahara
- Vice-President Candidate: Devin Abellon
- Treasurer Candidate: Ryan Pinckard
- Secretary Candidate: Tyler Klarkowski

In addition to these names put forward for your review, you also have the option to write in a potential candidate. Written-in candidates will have their qualifications vetted by our nominating committee to ensure that the volunteer experience required to hold that position is met.

Submit your vote by clicking on the QR code. Election closes at the end of the month.



CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS!

ASHRAE is a volunteer organization comprised of volunteer members serving the local chapter, region and Society. Our chapter cannot continue to thrive without our volunteers. Volunteering at the local chapter level is a tremendously rewarding way to give back to our industry and is a great way to network with the professionals in our local market. It also provides a wonderful opportunity to develop leadership and organizational skills! Some members may be hesitant to volunteer because they don't feel they have the time, but there are a lot of positions that only require a minimal number of hours per month. If you are interested in learning more about opportunities to join the team, contact Cassie Kuwahara at: cassiek@acimechsales.com.

2025-26 CALENDAR

Please note that dates/events are subject to change. Calendar will be updated throughout the year.
Please check the chapter website for details and sign up information.

ASHRAE Oregon

April 23, 2026: ASHRAE Oregon Technical Meeting: **"Applied Psychrometrics"**, with ASHRAE Distinguished Lecturer Doug Zentz. Stormbreaker Brewing, Portland.

May 13, 2026: ASHRAE Oregon Board of Governors Meeting. Hybrid. 4:30pm - 6:00pm.

May 14, 2026: ASHRAE Oregon Heritage Night with ASHRAE Distinguished Lecturer Dr. Stephanie Taylor **"The Impact of The Built-Environment on Cognitive Functioning and Worker Productivity."** Oregon Zoo Conservation Hall, Portland

June 10, 2026: ASHRAE Oregon Board of Governors Meeting. Hybrid. 4:30pm - 6:00pm.

June 25, 2026: ASHRAE Oregon Technical Meeting: **"Our Story This Year! ASHRAE Oregon Fiscal Year Recap."** PAE Living Building, Portland.

ASHRAE Society

May 1, 2026: Honors and Awards Deadline for: ASHRAE Award for Distinguished Public Service, Hall of Fame, Pioneers of the Industry, F. Paul Anderson Award, Fellow, Honorary Member.

June 27-July 1, 2026: 2026 ASHRAE Annual Conference. Austin, Texas.

ASPE Portland

May 27, 2026: ASPE Tech Session: Local 290 Tour - a chance to talk with the Plumbing Union and see their training center. **Local 290 Plumbing Union** 20210 SW Teton, Tualatin, OR 97062. 11:30am - 1:00pm

2026 ASHRAE ANNUAL CONFERENCE
JUNE 27 - JULY 1, 2026 | AUSTIN, TX

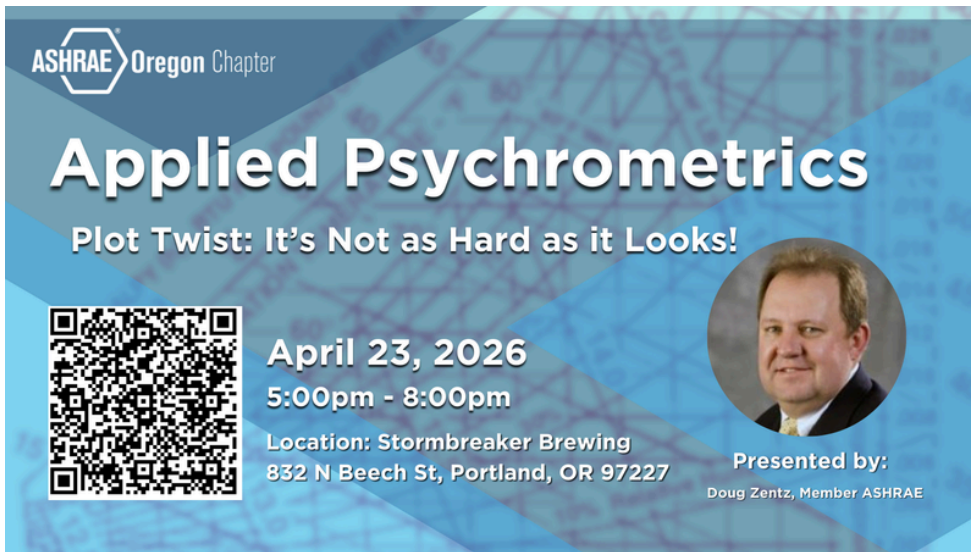
Join Us in Austin!
June 27 - July 1, 2026

Expand Your Impact in HVAC&R

Attending an ASHRAE conference is your opportunity to connect with the brightest minds in HVAC&R and building science while gaining insights you can immediately apply to your work. Attendees include engineers, architects, designers, researchers, manufacturers, contractors, and emerging professionals from around the world. Register today to deepen your expertise, grow your career, and expand your professional network.




APRIL PROGRAM



ASHRAE Oregon Chapter


Applied Psychrometrics

Plot Twist: It's Not as Hard as it Looks!



April 23, 2026
5:00pm - 8:00pm

Location: Stormbreaker Brewing
832 N Beech St, Portland, OR 97227



Presented by:
Doug Zentz, Member ASHRAE

Applied Psychrometrics

Agenda:

5:00PM - Registration Opens

5:30PM - Dinner Served

6:00PM - Presentation Starts

7:00-8:00PM - Networking
and Wrap Up

This presentation will include the following elements; (a) a review of the Psychrometric processes, (b) defining state points of saturated air and how this creates the basis of the Psychrometric Chart, (c) the application of mixed air streams, (d) defining sensible heat ratio and applying this to the Psychrometric Chart, and (e) illustrating real world examples of HVAC systems to the Psychrometric Chart. The examples illustrated will include a common heating and ventilation unit with humidification, a 100% outside air unit used in process cooling applications where supply air temperature and absolute humidity are critical, a common VAV air handling unit with mixed return/outside air which must supply cooled air to satisfy a specific space Sensible Heat Ratio, and a more complex Dual Duct system where final supply air out of a diffuser can be calculated/illustrated through psychrometric processes (this example illustrates problem solving and integrates heat transfer equations of fluids).

Learning Outcomes

- Understanding the fundamentals of the Psychrometric Chart
- Applying the Psychrometric Chart to Sensible and Latent Energy Change
- Using real world air handling systems, illustrate how Psychrometric Processes can be applied

Presenter:

Douglas F. Zentz, Emeritus Professor from the HVACR Programs within the College of Engineering Technology at Ferris State University and past HVAC Program Coordinator. Doug received his Bachelor degree in Mechanical Engineering Technology from Purdue University in 1980 and his Master degree in Career and Technical Education from Ferris State University in 2007. He is a past President of West Michigan ASHRAE, a past RVC of Student Activities for Region V, past Chair for Society Student Activities within ASHRAE, past Regional Members Council Representative for Region V, and past Director and Regional Chair for Region V of ASHRAE. Doug teaches ASHRAE Level I and Level II Essentials face to face & online for ASHRAE. He was a DL (Distinguished Lecturer) for ASHRAE since 2012 and has presented at over 100 ASHRAE chapter visits around the world. Doug has also received the Distinguished Chapter Service Award and Distinguished Service Award from ASHRAE.

In the field of HVACR, his background includes professional engineering sales for the Trane Company, manager of engineering-design-build for W.J. O'Neil Company in Detroit, vice-president of engineering for EPPA-Strand Custom Air Handling in Detroit, and co-owner of a consulting firm in the Metro Detroit area. This experience started in 1980 and continued until his transformation into teaching at Ferris State University in 2003.

In the area of teaching, he has taught junior and senior level HVAC Design (primary and secondary systems), Primary Equipment Selection, Commercial Building Heat Gain/ Heat and the senior Capstone Experience. His teaching experience includes development of new curriculum (both in the traditional classroom and fully on-line) and teaching fully on-line courses for 20 years. He has mentored nine (9) different student groups which have received either a First, Second, or Third place recognition from ASHRAE in the Student Design Competition. He served on many educational committees and was a member of Fluke Instrument's Advisory Board on IAQ. In the area of professional speaking, he has been the speaker at well over 100 events since 2005. Organizations which have invited him to speak include: 1) Mechanical Contractors of America, 2) Air Conditioning Contractors of America, 3) ASHRAE 4) ARI (teachers workshop), 5) Lily West Conference (educational workshop), 6) USGBC (West Michigan), 7) Ferris State University (Energy Conferences), 8) Efficiency United (educational arm of 16 Michigan Utilities), 9) AIA (American Institute of Architects) West Michigan, 10) RSES (Refrigeration Service Engineering Society), 11) the UA (United Association of Pipe Fitters), and the Rotary Club of America.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Young Engineers in ASHRAE (YEA)



Logan Moldenhauer
YEA Chair



Rosie Welch
Region XI YEA RVC

2026 YEA Leadership Weekend 2.0

Dates: May 29 - 31, 2026

Location: Vancouver, BC, Canada

Registration NOW OPEN until **April 24, 2026**



YEA Leadership Weekend 2.0 (YLW 2.0) is designed to provide additional, more advanced resources to YLW alumni. For this continuation of YLW, we bring back Ralph Kison to facilitate and expand on the skills he taught at the existing YLW event. As YLW alumni, you've had the opportunity to use the resources and connections you gained at YLW to not only grow your professional careers, but develop your participation within ASHRAE. The purpose of YLW 2.0 is to continue that growth and development, and hopefully inspire even further leadership skills and aspirations!

The 2026 YEA Leadership Weekend 2.0 will be held May 29-31, 2026, at the Vancouver Marriott Pinnacle hotel in Vancouver, Canada. Registration is \$600 and includes hotel accommodations for Friday and Saturday, meals during the event (dinner on Friday, all meals on Saturday, and breakfast and lunch on Sunday), and all necessary materials and resources. Airfare and any ground transportation costs are not included.



Membership Promotion



Victoria Ericksen
Membership Promotion Chair

2026 Joint ASHRAE
Region X and Region XI
Chapters Regional
Conference

August 17-19, 2026
Honolulu, Hawaii

Sponsorship Opportunities
Available!!

More to follow....



Start of 2025-26 Society Year: 511
Growth Goal: +10
Current Membership: 529!

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Sustainability Committee



Tyler Klarkowski
Sustainability Chair

ASHRAE Oregon Sustainability Committee

Interested in making a positive impact? Join the ASHRAE Oregon Sustainability Committee to help drive local change!

Sustainability Committee Meeting Dates for the remaining 2025/2026 Chapter Year:

- Meeting from 5:30pm till 6:30pm @ PAE's Living Building
 - April 22
 - May 27
 - June 24
 - Attendance in person preferred, virtual attendance available.
- Meeting invites/registration sent out through ASHRAE Oregon mailing list.
- Committee Chair Contact: Tyler Klarkowski (tyler.klarkowski@pae-engineers.com)

Happy Birthday!

April Birthdays

Gary C Barnes
Keith A Yelton
Kevin L Marple
James L Cundiff
George A Tsongas
Joe G Austria
Dennis L Conser
David B Bradley
Steve Welch
Bradley P Wilson
Troy J Hanson
Mitchell P Chvilicek
Adam C Carlson
Jonathan M Eicher
Shem C Heiple
James M McClelland

Joshua Checkis
Kameron P Beeks
Katie MacKenzie
Geoffrey Ledbetter
Gabriel Thomas Hoy
Paul Armatis
Alastair Hood
Cheryn E Metzger
Mark Goss
Dwight Lurlyn Gray
Homeira Mirhosseini
Craig Richards
Alexander Smoot
Yu Wang
Wayne H Brosman
Christopher Dymond

Anna Lee
J Andrew Parsons
Jack A Comfort
Aydin Jafarnejad
Colleen Collins
Dan F Somlea
Eric D Tabert
Josiah J Sawyer
Jason Jones
Maricruz Vazquez
Nathan Kaelan Fong
Megan Roseborough
Josh Ironside
Mitchell John Dec
Casey D Coffland
Nicholas A Franck

SOCIETY NEWS



2026 ASHRAE Building Decarbonization Conference

September 23-25, 2026 | Seattle, WA

2026 ASHRAE Building Decarbonization Conference

September 23-25, 2026 | Seattle, WA

The 2026 ASHRAE Building Decarbonization Conference is where vision meets execution. Designed as a dynamic exchange of ideas, insights, and real-world solutions, this premier event brings together leaders across the built environment to tackle the most pressing challenges in energy efficiency, occupant health and comfort, and greenhouse gas reduction—across both new and existing buildings.

Now in its 6th year, the conference places a strong spotlight on what actually works, moving decisively from policy to projects to performance. Attendees will dive into proven strategies, case studies, and scalable solutions across a broad mix of building types, including data centers, municipalities, airports and transportation hubs, hospitals, laboratories, higher education campuses, and K-12 school districts.

This conference uniquely convenes HVAC engineers, technical solution providers, building owners, utility program managers, local governments, and financial services leaders—professionals who are under growing pressure to meet aggressive decarbonization mandates without sacrificing performance or profitability. If you're looking for practical, cost-effective pathways to comply with evolving regulations while delivering measurable results, this is the room you need to be in.

The call for presentations is now OPEN. Deadline for proposals is February 27th!

ASHRAE's 6th building decarbonization conference will be an information and idea exchange between stakeholders in the built environment industry concerning the improvement of energy efficiency, health, comfort, and reduction of GHG emissions in new and existing buildings and systems. The scope of the conference covers a range of building types and includes topics on data centers, municipalities, airports/transportation, hospitals, laboratories, higher education and school districts. This year's theme is: "Decarbonization That Delivers: From Policy to Projects to Performance".

You are invited to submit proposals for panel and seminar sessions (60 or 90 min). This conference is only accepting abstracts for full sessions.

- Panel: 3-4 industry experts, including one moderator, on a current topic of interest or team case study.
- Seminar: 2-4 speakers to present on one of the conference topics, and a session Chair.



Sponsorship Opportunities!

The conference organizers are pleased to offer several sponsorship opportunities to engage industry participation. All sponsors will have their company logo and name on the event flyer, the conference web site and recognition during the conference. A summary of the specific benefits of each sponsorship level is included. If you have questions or are interesting in being a sponsor, please contact Staci Loeffler sloeffler@ashrae.org.

SOCIAL MEDIA



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