



THE REGON DIFFUSER

DECEMBER
2025

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE ASHRAE OREGON CHAPTER SINCE 1946



President's Address

Hello ASHRAE Oregon!

As we enter the final month of the year, I find myself reflecting with a lot of gratitude. This has been one of our most active and successful years in recent memory, and that is entirely because of the energy, participation, and generosity of our members. Thank you for making ASHRAE Oregon such a vibrant and supportive community.

November was a particularly memorable month. We began with our Research & Promotion Skeet Shooting Event, which brought together a fun and enthusiastic group in support of a meaningful cause. Every participant helped raise funds for ASHRAE research, and I'm grateful for the strong turnout and the spirit everyone brought to the day.

Later in the month, we hosted Rosie's "Breaking Down the Sequence of Operation" collaborative controls workshop. Her session was clear, engaging, and genuinely educational. Through small-group exercises and real-world examples, Rosie guided attendees in evaluating typical sequences, identifying inconsistencies, and discussing opportunities to strengthen controls documentation. Her comparison of what is typically delivered at the end of design versus what often arrives at project closeout resonated strongly with the audience. She illuminated a gap many of us encounter but don't always see during design, and she did so in a way that was both accessible and highly practical. We were also honored to have Regional Leader Jeff Hurd join us. Jeff shared that this was the best technical event he has attended in years.

Our Cascades Section also had an outstanding month with their technical event on radiant floor design. Devin and I had the pleasure of attending, and it was inspiring to see such strong participation and engagement. Although the section only recently completed their formal training, they have already demonstrated a true commitment to creating meaningful opportunities for their members. Their momentum is exciting, and we look forward to supporting their continued growth.

As we reflect on these successes, I want to extend an open invitation to anyone interested in becoming more involved. Volunteers are the heartbeat of ASHRAE Oregon, and we would welcome additional support across all committees and initiatives. Whether your passion lies in technical programming, membership, YEA, student outreach, or behind-the-scenes operations, there is a place for you to meaningfully contribute.

I also want to put out a special call to our members in the Willamette Valley. The section has been dormant for several years, but we believe there is real opportunity to bring it back to life. If you live or work in the valley and would like to help restart the section, please let us know. We are ready and eager to support that effort.

Looking ahead, we have two great events to close out the year:

- CSI + ASHRAE Ugly Sweater Holiday Happy Hour
- December 9, 2025 - 5:30-8:30 PM | Wonderlove Lounge, Portland
- Hosted bar, appetizers, and all the questionable sweaters you can imagine.
- CFD Workshop
- Event details and registration:
- <https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/ev/reg/exe5z5s/lp/40b5802f-539b-4ff0-a409-148fde7142cd>

As this year draws to a close, I want to thank each of you once again for your participation, your curiosity, and your camaraderie. It's been a joy to serve this chapter, and I'm excited for everything we will continue building together in 2026.

Madeline Giovagnoli

Madeline Giovagnoli
ASHRAE Oregon Chapter President



Upcoming Events / Dates:

December 4, 2025: ASHRAE Oregon Tour: TimberLab. 1601 NE Columbia Blvd, Portland, Oregon. 4:00pm.

December 9, 2025: ASHRAE/CSI Holiday Happy Hour and Ugly Sweater Party. Wonderlove Lounge. 262 SE Main St., Portland, Oregon. 5:30pm - 8:30pm.

December 10, 2025: ASHRAE Oregon Board of Governors Meeting. Hybrid. 4:30pm - 6:00pm.

December 18, 2025: ASHRAE Oregon Technical Meeting: "Harnessing Airflow Modeling: Practical Applications of CFD in HVAC and Natural Ventilation Design." Embassy Suites Portland Downtown. 11:30am-3:30pm.

Chapter may not act for Society

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

JOIN THE FUN AND VOLUNTEER!

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 about opportunities to get involved in this dynamic chapter, please reach out to **Madeline Giovagnoli** at: madeline.giovagnoli@pae-engineers.com.

Here are just a few examples of the different chapter committees you can be a part of:

- **Young Engineers in ASHRAE (YEA) Committee:** Be part of the team that plans social and educational events for young professionals. Bowling? Happy Hours? Trivia? Hiking? PE Exam prep? What other events can we plan?
- **Student Activities:** Volunteer to help plan events to help introduce STEM to K-12 and college students! Help promote scholarship opportunities. This is great committee to jump into (especially for parents who have school-aged children).
- **Research Promotion:** Help raise funds through campaigns and events (golf and more!) to support ASHRAE's research efforts!
- **Membership Promotion:** Join the committee that recruits and manages members for our local chapter!!
- **Newsletter:** Do you have an eye for graphic design? Be part of the 2nd oldest publication in ASHRAE: The Oregon Diffuser!!
- **Willamette Section:** Are you a member in the Eugene/Springfield area who wants to get involved, but doesn't want to drive up to the Portland Metro area everytime there is an event? Let's start planning meetings and events for the local community!

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

December 4, 2025: ASHRAE Oregon Tour: TimberLab. 1601 NE Columbia Blvd, Portland, Oregon. 4:00pm.

December 9, 2025: ASHRAE/CSI Holiday Happy Hour and Ugly Sweater Party. Wonderlove Lounge. 262 SE Main St., Portland, Oregon. 5:30pm - 8:30pm.

December 10, 2025: ASHRAE Oregon Board of Governors Meeting. Hybrid. 4:30pm - 6:00pm.

December 18, 2025: ASHRAE Oregon Technical Meeting: **"Harnessing Airflow Modeling: Practical Applications of CFD in HVAC and Natural Ventilation Design."** Embassy Suites Portland Downtown. 11:30am-3:30pm.

January 14, 2026: ASHRAE Oregon Board of Governors Meeting. Hybrid. 4:30pm - 6:00pm.

January 22, 2025: Joint ASHRAE/ASPE Technical Meeting. **"Heat Pump Water Heating."**

February 10, 2025: ASHRAE Oregon Technical Meeting. **"Sustainable Systems: Finding Your Solution."**

February 11, 2026: ASHRAE Oregon Board of Governors Meeting. Hybrid. 4:30pm - 6:00pm.

March 11, 2026: ASHRAE Oregon Board of Governors Meeting. Hybrid. 4:30pm - 6:00pm.

March: ASHRAE Oregon Technical Event: SMACNA/ASHRAE Joint Event and Lab Tour.

April 8, 2026: ASHRAE Oregon Board of Governors Meeting. Hybrid. 4:30pm - 6:00pm.

April 23, 2026: ASHRAE Oregon Technical Meeting: **"Applied Psychrometrics"**

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

May 14, 2026: ASHRAE Oregon Technical Meeting: **Past Presidents Night**

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

June 18, 2026: ASHRAE Oregon Technical Meeting: **"Our Story This Year! ASHRAE Oregon Fiscal Year Recap."**

January 31-February 4, 2026: 2026 ASHRAE Winter Conference. Caesar's Palace, Las Vegas, Nevada. Register now!

February 2-4, 2026: 2026 AHR Expo. Las Vegas Convention Center, Las Vegas, Nevada.

February 13, 2026: Nominations close for 2026-27 Board-Appointed Committee positions.

April 13-14, 2026: 2026 Women in ASHRAE Leadership Symposium. Los Angeles, California.

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

ASPE Portland

December 17, 2025: ASPE Tech Session: Christmas Brunch on "The Commercial Restroom: How We Got Here...And Where We Are Going" at Jake's Grill, 611 SW 10th Avenue, Portland, Oregon. 11:30am - 1:00pm.

Did we miss something? If you have an event you'd like added to the calendar, please email dabellonepwsigroup.com.

ASHRAE Society

December 8-11, 2025: 2025 Buildings XVI Conference. Clearwater Beach, Florida.



DECEMBER PROGRAM



Harnessing Airflow Modeling:

Practical Applications of CFD in HVAC and Natural Ventilation

December 18, 2025 | 11:30am - 3:30pm

Location: Embassy Suites Portland Downtown
319 SW Pine St, Portland, OR 97204

Presented By:



Dr. George Lei
President | Fluid Dynamics
Solutions, Inc.

December Chapter Meeting

Harnessing Airflow Modeling: Practical Applications of CFD in HVAC and Natural Ventilation Design

This workshop will illustrate and teach attendees how Computational Fluid Dynamics (CFD), or so called airflow modeling, is applied to effectively solve HVAC/Natural Ventilation design problems. In augmenting common HVAC design methods, CFD provides an effective tool in predicting and examining the airflow/air quality in a more detailed and precise scale. Over the past few years, the significant progress in computer technology has made CFD more and more practical and affordable in the HVAC design field. This workshop will introduce CFD principles and illustrate some recent projects of the CFD applications in the field of HVAC systems and Natural Ventilation designs.

Meeting Agenda:

11:30AM - Registration Opens/Lunch Buffet Opens

12:00Noon - 1PM - Presentation Begins

1:00PM - 1:15PM - Break

1:15PM - 2:15PM - How a commercial CFD program is configured and how to run it. Demonstration of a popular CFD program Fluent. From project statement to startup, turn on the solution engine, output and conduct analysis.

2:15PM - 2:30PM - Break

2:30PM - 3PM - Q&A & Specific Project Questions

This meeting will have multiple options, depending on if you are staying for just the first presentation or the whole workshop.

Registration

Price: \$60.00

Lunch and Free Drink included



UGLY SWEATER PARTY!!

Mix, Mingle, and be Jolly!

Get ready to deck the halls and don your most outrageous holiday attire at our Ugly Sweater Party, proudly partnered with AIA and CSI! This is not just another event; it's a fantastic opportunity to mingle with fellow HVAC&R professionals, expand your network, and build lasting connections within our community.

Remember, these gatherings are essential for fostering relationships that can lead to mentorship and innovation in our industry. Don't miss out on this unique chance to connect, learn, and enjoy a memorable evening with your peers—RSVP so we can get a head count and let's make this a celebration to remember!



When: Tuesday, December 9th from
5:30pm to 8:30pm
Where: Wonderlove Lounge, 262 SE Main
Street, Portland
Cost: \$5 for Emerging Professionals
\$10 for CSI and ASHRAE Members
\$20 for Non Members

Event Includes Hosted Bar and
Appetizers
Sponsorship Opportunities Available



Register NOW!

2024 Best Sweater



RESEARCH PROMOTION

Research Promotion



Elsa Harder
Research Promotion Chair



Invest in ASHRAE Research!

The Oregon Chapter has a goal to raise \$24,500 during Society Year 25-26. We need your help. Our primary fundraising events are our golf tournament and clay shoot, but we also rely on individual and corporate donations. Scan the QR code above to learn more. Thank you!

2025 ASHRAE RP Sporting Clay Shootout Recap

We had a great turnout at the 2025 RP Sporting Clay Shootout on November 7th at Mid Valley Clays in Gervais! We'd like to thank our sponsors who helped make this event successful as we raised money for ASHRAE Research:

Silver Sponsors: Trane and ACI
Bronze Sponsors: Air Reps and Johnson Barrow

Thank you!!



TRANE



AirReps



RESEARCH PROMOTION

2025 CLAY SHOOTING COMPETITION



COMMITTEE REPORTS

Student Activities



Zach Harrison
SA Chair



Brett Daniels
SA Chair

Student Presentation Interest Form

Hello! This form is for anyone who would be interested in presenting to our ASHRAE Student Branches. This would be for the University level groups. We appreciate your time and please reach out to orashraestudents@gmail.com for any questions you have.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSenHRSFWkMrPK8dQN7a1YB6Mozi8vfZmwj5leh-su_EbYqhRGg/viewform



DEI

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion



Hamed Shahrokhian
DEI Chair



Madeline Giovagnoli
Women in ASHRAE



2026 Women in ASHRAE Leadership Symposium

Omni Los Angeles | Los Angeles, CA

April 13-14, 2026

SAVE THE DATE!

Registration opens on November 3rd. After a sold-out debut, the Women in ASHRAE Leadership Symposium returns—bigger, bolder, and more empowering than ever! Join us for two full days of connection, inspiration, and leadership growth with women from across the HVACR industry—from students and early-career professionals to seasoned veterans. This isn't just for engineers—it's for every woman making an impact on the built environment. Whether you're here to build your network, develop your leadership skills, or cheer on the next generation through the Young Women in ASHRAE EmpowerHERment Award competition—YOU BELONG HERE!

Membership Promotion



Victoria Ericksen
Membership Promotion Chair

Welcome New Members!!

We'd like to welcome three new members who joined this past month!

Silas Lortz
Maricruz Vazquez
Tanzila Haque Zerín



COMMITTEE REPORTS

Chapter Technology Transfer Committee (CTTC)



Eileen Jensen
CTTC Chair



Victoria Ericksen
CTTC Co-Chair

CTTC - ASHRAE Technology Awards

If you have recently worked on a project that was considered innovative and has been proven through actual operating data, please consider submitting it for an ASHRAE Technology Award! The ASHRAE Technology Awards recognize outstanding achievements by members who have successfully applied innovative building design in the areas of occupant comfort, indoor air quality and energy conservation. Winners are recognized by their peers as being innovative and capable of achieving a high level of competence.

Each year the Society may present awards in six categories (subcategories in parentheses):

- Commercial Buildings (New, Existing, Existing Building Commissioning)
- Institutional Buildings (New, Existing, Existing Building Commissioning)
- Health Care Facilities (New, Existing, Existing Building Commissioning)
- Industrial Facilities or Processes (New, Existing, Existing Building Commissioning)
- Public Assembly (New, Existing, Existing Building Commissioning)
- Residential.

It all starts at the chapter level. This year the deadline for chapter applications is **Tuesday, March 17th, 2026**. All current members of ASHRAE are eligible to submit. Entrants must have had a significant role in the design or development of the project. Performance must be verifiable through at least one year of operating data. The short form application that is required can be found here: [tech-award-application_fillable_2025.pdf](#) For the chapter level, only pages 1 and 2 of the form need to be completed. The form also contains information on what needs to be included in a brief narrative (4 pages max) and schematic describing the project. For more information go to: <https://www.ashrae.org/membership/honors-and-awards/technology-awards-program>



Tech Award Application

Benefits of Winning a Technology Award



Recognized by peers as being innovative and capable of achieving a high level of competence



Recognition on ASHRAE's website



Winning projects are highlighted in the ASHRAE Journal and High Performing Buildings Magazine



Opportunity to bring additional recognition and prestige to buildings with innovative design



First place awards and the Engineering Award of Excellence are honored at the Plenary Session of the Society's Winter Meeting

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Government Affairs



Athena Edison-Lahm
GAC Chair



Geoff Jenks
Region XI
GAC RVC

Subscribe to the Government Affairs Update to receive information on activities within Congress and Federal agencies from the ASHRAE Washington office.



Oregon Governor Issues Executive Order on Energy Efficiency and Electrification

On November 18, Oregon Gov. Tina Kotek signed an executive order titled “Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Advancing Oregon’s Clean Energy Future.” The order is intended to complement Oregon’s new Energy Strategy, also released in November. It sets new goals to create 8 gigawatts of energy storage by 2045, enough to power about 6 million homes, and to reduce the carbon intensity of gasoline and diesel by 50% by 2040, by strengthening the state’s existing low-carbon fuel standard. It also directs state agencies to better coordinate renewable energy deployment through reforming the siting, permitting, and interconnection processes for renewable energy projects. Another priority in the executive order is to increase the energy efficiency and strategic electrification of buildings, which includes the implementation of the state’s Building Performance Standard program based on ASHRAE Standard 100, Energy and Emissions Building Performance Standard for Existing Buildings.

DOE Rescinds Definition of Zero Emissions Buildings

On December 3, the DOE Office of Critical Minerals and Energy Innovation published a notice in the Federal Register to rescind the “National Definition of a Zero Emissions Building.” DOE stated that the goals of the National Definition of a Zero Emissions Building are not consistent with current administration priorities, and, as a result, the department no longer supports the definition. Under the Biden administration, DOE defined a zero-emission building as highly energy efficient, free of on-site emissions from energy use, and powered solely by clean energy sources.” The national definition was not a regulatory standard or legally binding but served as a framework for industry to follow for both new construction and existing buildings.



December Birthdays

William E Brookhart
Robert G Davis
Roderick G McLeod
Jackson P Schenck
Roy M Steege
Paul M Williams
Neil B Smith
John M Walters
Brian R Stanfill
Stephen L K Ku
Maurice E P Gunderson

Bret H Davis
Adam E Mangrich
Christopher M Boyd
Joe Gamble
Christine Nan Flyte
Varun Sood
Louis Starr
Graham Scott Wright
Brett Showers
Steve Leeb
Ian J Bickford

Mia Yang
Korey Watts
Kwok Lung Lai
Matt McCormick
Maille S Ryan
Katie Braman
Benjamin Latson
Tyler R Klarkowski
Mikaela Jean Byrnes
William Conner Coplin

SOCIAL MEDIA



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#MYASHRAE

SOCIETY NEWS



ASHRAE[®]

**2026 ASHRAE
WINTER CONFERENCE**

LAS VEGAS, JAN 31 - Feb 4, 2026 | AHR EXPO, FEB 2-4



AHR[®] **VEGAS** FEB 2-4
2026

Join Us in Las Vegas!

Registration is Now Open!

Register today for the 2026 ASHRAE Winter Conference and AHR Expo taking place Jan. 31-Feb 4 in Las Vegas.



Immerse yourself in a world of HVAC&R with 100+ technical sessions and 1700+ exhibitors at the AHR Expo.

Join ASHRAE in Las Vegas—where bright ideas can shape the future in the city that never sleeps!

REGISTER NOW!

>> Check out the [registration page](#) to see what's available for in-person and on-demand registration options.