

# The A.S.H.R.A.E. Newsletter

## Southwest Florida Chapter # 139



Voted Region XII Best Newsletter for ASHRAE Year 1998 - 1999 & 2006 - 2007

[www.swflashrae.org](http://www.swflashrae.org)

## Meeting Notice

Topic:

**OPEN PANEL DISCUSSION: VAV BALANCING**

PANEL MEMBERS

**Dave Bennett, Doug Kutchman, Mike Barry,  
Jim Faulkner,**

Program Moderator

**Sam Moreland, P.E.**

Meeting Location:

### **Magnolia Room**

Town Center at Pelican Preserve  
(just off Colonial Blvd.)

Time:

**5:00 – 6:00** Board of Governors Meeting

**5:45 – 6:45** Technical Session

**6:45 – 8:30** Dinner, Meeting and Program

Date:

**Thursday**

**March 12, 2009**

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Cost:

**\$30.00 Reservations are required.**

**RSVP to Stacey Perkins:**

**(239) 275-9420**

Or

[Sperkins@trane.com](mailto:Sperkins@trane.com)

Or on line at:

[www.swflashrae.org](http://www.swflashrae.org)

## COMPANY HISTORY

COMPANY: Trane – Fort Myers

ESTABLISHED: 1996

NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES: 34

ANNUAL SALES: \$ 26,000,000

The Fort Myers Trane commercial sales office provides sales, service, parts, controls, and support for the commercial HVAC industry in Southwest Florida. The office was established in 1996 by Robert Garcia and Tom Williams who serviced the area for the Tampa Bay Trane office.

Robert Garcia has supervised the growth and

development of the Fort Myers Trane office since its inception. Robert decided to move Jason Allen from the Tampa Bay Trane sales office to the territory in 1997 to establish permanent local representation. Jason Allen has increased the average annual sales for the office by 500% over the last twelve years. Under his leadership, the office has also grown to provide complete HVAC system solutions, service, maintenance, parts and control capabilities to support their equipment sales. In 2004,

Please see **History** on page 3

*Statements made in this publication are not expression of the Society*



## Presidents Message

By Sam Moreland

President's Message:

Make sure you check out this months meeting. Roundtable discussions are always lively and a large, involved audience makes the discussion much more beneficial. Please come out and support your chapter and fellow members on the panel.

In case you missed it, everyone had a great time at the Pool Tournament. We had a large turnout and even had our RVC, Ross Montgomery, down from Tampa. Thanks to John Abramson and Lisa Duritsch for putting it all together. Also, congratulations to Jeff Jewitt for taking home the top prize, again.

Don Pine has been working diligently on the fishing tournament and has the Cape Coral Yacht Club reserved for April 25th. Don just had his first volunteer meeting and will have another on March 26<sup>th</sup> at Bar Louie at the Edison Mall. Please get with Don if you are interested in helping out (dpine@umihvac.com). Details



*Sam Moreland Southwest Florida  
Chapter 139 President*

are in the newsletter and on the website.

I look forward to seeing everyone at our next meeting.

Best regards,

Sam Moreland  
2008-2009 SW FL ASHRAE Chapter President

## Membership

By Autumn Spalding



*Autumn Spalding – Southwest Florida  
Chapter Membership Promotions Chair.*

### New Members:

**Robin Sikorski** from B & I Contractors, Inc. & **William Fruecht** of Naples.

I would also like to welcome **Josh Young** with Captive Aire... he transferred to us from the Jacksonville Chapter!

Welcome All!

ASHRAE is no longer accepting applications for grade advancement – this is a Board Approved change to membership. To advance from associate to member, a member must update their ASHRAE bio online, and notify [membership@ashrae.org](mailto:membership@ashrae.org) they have an updated bio and wish to be considered for grade advancement.

Tips for updating bios:

Go to [www.ashrae.org](http://www.ashrae.org)

Login, In Member Central, Click “Update Your Bio” Go through each of the small blue tabs to enter demographics, contact information, education, professional registration, etc. It’s very easy!

Effective July 1, 2009, the Affiliate grade dues will be increased to \$50 annually for new Affiliate members, \$70 annually for second year Affiliate members, and \$90 annually for third year Affiliate members. Upon the fourth year, they advance to Associate as they have in the past. Although Society will notify Affiliates of this change, please also take a moment to notify them when you communicate with them. This dues increase is a result of the cost to provide services and cost of benefits.

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**History** from page 1

Tampa Bay Trane’s sales management teamed with Jason to develop an ancillary product portfolio offering ice storage systems, custom air outside air solutions, cooling towers, pumps, and other specialty HVAC products. S.W. Florida Trane also has a well established training facility which has provided hands-on and classroom instruction to hundreds of individuals who work in the local construction community.

The Fort Myers Trane office has always supported the Southwest Florida ASHRAE Chapter and has encouraged employees to participate on all levels. In addition to employee participation in membership and chapter chairs, the company has also consistently provided monetary support by sponsoring annual chapter events such as the Golf Tournament, Fishing Tournament, IAQ Seminar and Pool Tournament.

**KEY EMPLOYEES:**

- Jason Allen – SWF Regional Manager
- Sam Moreland, P.E. – SWF Commercial Sales Engineer
- Mike Brousil – SWF Service Sales Manager
- Stacey Perkins – SWF Office Coordinator

**ASHRAE AFFILIATION:**

Jason Allen  
Member  
Past President 2003  
Board of Governors 2005  
Research Promotion Chair 1999

Sam Moreland  
Member  
Chapter President 2008

Stacey Perkins  
Member  
Secretary 2007  
Treasurer 2008

Mike Brousil  
Member

Florice Wright  
Member

**ASHRAE Position Document Outlines Commitment to Natural Refrigerants**

ATLANTA – In a new position document, ASHRAE outlines its support for research, assessment and strategic growth in the use of natural refrigerants such as ammonia, carbon dioxide, hydrocarbons, air and water in refrigeration systems and technologies.

ASHRAE’s Position Document on Natural Refrigerants can be read at [www.ashrae.org/positiondocuments](http://www.ashrae.org/positiondocuments).

As the industry searches for alternatives that have low global-warming potential, natural refrigerants are gaining increased interest. These refrigerants offer the potential to improve the environmental performance of refrigeration systems, according to ASHRAE.

“In light of the current global scenario, ASHRAE’s response to the demand for environmental sustainability is to promote the development of systems that use natural refrigerants, safely, economically and efficiently,” Bill Harrison, ASHRAE president, said.

With this position document, ASHRAE demonstrates its commitment to:  
the application of natural refrigerants  
the development of strategic relationships to advance natural refrigerants  
the consideration of natural refrigerants in existing and new guidelines, codes and standards  
the provision of guidance and education to policy makers and the public  
the creation and dissemination of methods and tools for environmental assessment of refrigeration systems  
the publication of technical information highlighting best practices from a safety, reliability and efficiency standpoint  
the promotion of authoritative information on natural refrigerants through seminars and publications



Lisa Duritsch Lines up the shot



Past Presidents of  
Southwest Florida  
Chapter #139

1982 - 1983	Edward O'Neal, P.E.
1983 - 1984	Edward O'Neal, P.E.
1984 - 1985	Dennis Holland
1985 - 1986	Ross Montgomery
1986 - 1987	Jeff Dorini
1987 - 1988	Kermit Rood
1988 - 1989	Bill Malphus
1989 - 1990	Tom Delnay
1990 - 1991	Nelson Tarbox
1991 - 1992	Gary H. Griffin
1992 - 1993	Gary H. Griffin
1993 - 1994	Jeff Zenoniani
1994 - 1995	Lisa A. Duritsch
1995 - 1996	Jason Grabowski
1996 - 1997	James Faulkner
1997 - 1998	Robert Risley
1998 - 1999	Winifred Denius
1999 - 2000	Paul Martin
2000 - 2001	Don Pine
2001 - 2002	Randy Saul
2002 - 2003	Jason Allen
2003 - 2004	Mark Brant, PE
2004 - 2005	Guy Van Meulebrouck
2005 - 2006	John Pennington
2006 - 2007	Kurt Vega
2007 - 2008	Mike Myers

Please help us update the ASHRAE email list

email to Kurt Vega at [kurt.vega@emerson.com](mailto:kurt.vega@emerson.com).  
Or call 239-693-7200 X 218 mail to:

Kurt Vega  
Emerson Industrial Automation / Control  
Techniques.  
5580 Enterprise Parkway  
Fort Myers, FL 33905

Please include the following:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Membership # \_\_\_\_\_

## From your Chapter and Regional Webmaster:

We are seeking sponsorship for our Chapter's website. If you are interested, please send your business card or logo along with \$20 for one year of advertisement on the Chapter website. Also, I am in need of pictures of the SW Florida scenery that I can use for a new Title banner background. If you have any pictures that you think would show our wonderful climate and scenery, please forward to me in jpeg or gif format. [mmyers@jalrw.com](mailto:mmyers@jalrw.com)



## This Month's Topic **OPEN PANEL DISCUSSION: VAV BALANCING**

### Back Ground:

For years VAV balancing has been rumored to be self balancing (or impossible to keep balanced). Topics discussed include testing/adjusting process, repeatability of test results, VAV box factory setup (and field calibration), limiting AHU flows (VFD setup) and control sequences/system operation.

### PANEL MEMBERS

**Dave Bennett**, Controls Supervisor, Collier County Public Schools

**Doug Kutchman**, Vice President, AABC Certified Balance Engineer, CXA, Tamiami Air Balancing and Commissioning

**Mike Barry**, Startup and Warranty Field Supervisor, B&I Contractors, Inc.

**Jim Faulkner**, Account Executive, TekPlan Solutions

### PROGRAM MODERATOR

**Sam Moreland**, P.E., Southwest Florida Trane

Our panel of four local industry leaders share their insight on the testing, adjusting and balancing of VAV systems. The areas of expertise of the panel includes conceptual design of the VAV system, startup, testing/adjusting/balancing, commissioning and operation of the systems. The panel will share their experience with all to bring clarity (and dispel the rumors) to the proper setup and operation of VAV systems.

## Pool Tournament

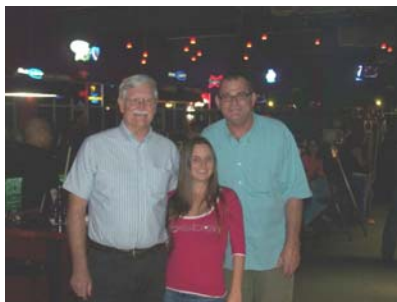


- 1<sup>st</sup> Place Jeff Jewitt
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place John Meiser
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Place Ross Montgomery



Many thanks to our Table Sponsors

- Carrier
- Waterside Mechanical
- Commercial Air
- Trane
- B&I Contractors
- Diamond Billiards
- Diversified Fluid
- Controls



Bill Malphus, Who is this woman, she shows up everywhere?????????, Ross Montgomery (Region XII)



## Southwest Florida Chapter Meeting dates:

September 11 – Modulating Kitchen Exhaust – YEA and Membership Promotion Night

October 9 – Panel Discussion – Preventative Maintenance, Joint Meeting with TCSCA

October 24 – GolftoberFest

November 13 – Green Maintenance – Robert Baker - Research Promotion Night

December 12th – Hockey Night and Germain Tour – Membership Promotion Night

January 15 - Don Shirey FSEC, Joint with AIA, Local USGBC Branch

February 12 - Ruskin – Bob Van Becelaere

February 27 –Pool Tournament – Diamond Billards

March 12 - Panel Discussion – Balancing VAVs

April 9 – Miami Dade Standards

April 25– Fishing tournament – Cape Coral Yacht Club

May 14 - Green Litigation by Mark Schultz with Henderson Franklin Law

### The Officers

President – Sam Moreland 239.246.3737 [sam.moreland@gmail.com](mailto:sam.moreland@gmail.com)

President-Elect – Randy Munsey (239) 226-1293 [randymunsey@burchcorp.com](mailto:randymunsey@burchcorp.com)

Vice President – Lawrin Ellis 239.275.4240 [lawrin.ellis@tlc-eng.com](mailto:lawrin.ellis@tlc-eng.com)

Secretary – Stacey Perkins 239.275.9420 [sperkins@trane.com](mailto:sperkins@trane.com)

Treasurer – Chuck Spelman (239) 770-2930 [cspelman@spelmanengineering.com](mailto:cspelman@spelmanengineering.com)

### The Chairs

Research Promotion – John Abramson (239) 313-9612 [John.Abramson@carrier.utc.com](mailto:John.Abramson@carrier.utc.com)

Membership Promotion – Autumn Spalding (239) 332-4646 [aspalding@bandicontractors.com](mailto:aspalding@bandicontractors.com)

Historian – Jason Grabowski (239) 332-4646 [jasong@bandicontractors.com](mailto:jasong@bandicontractors.com)

CTTC - Lawrin Ellis 239.275.4240 [lawrin.ellis@tlc-eng.com](mailto:lawrin.ellis@tlc-eng.com)

Programs – Jason Hardman (239) 332-4646 [jhardman@bandicontractors.com](mailto:jhardman@bandicontractors.com)

Student Activities - Sean Torgerson

Newsletter – Kurt Vega (239) 464-3762 [kurt.vega@emerson.com](mailto:kurt.vega@emerson.com)

Webmaster – Mike Myers 239.275.4240 [erectormik@yahoo.com](mailto:erectormik@yahoo.com)

### Board of Governors:

Kurt Vega -(239) 464-3762 [kurt.vega@emerson.com](mailto:kurt.vega@emerson.com)

Mike Myers - 239.275.4240 [erectormik@yahoo.com](mailto:erectormik@yahoo.com)

John Pennington - (941) 627-8881 [john@boyd-hvac.com](mailto:john@boyd-hvac.com)

Don Pine – (239) 939-4502 [dpine@umihvac.com](mailto:dpine@umihvac.com)

### Golf Tournament Chair

Golf Tournament Chair – Woody Wilson (239) 209-6626 [wwilson@tombarrow.com](mailto:wwilson@tombarrow.com)

### Website

[www.swflashrae.org](http://www.swflashrae.org)

*Statements made in this publication are not expression of the Society*



# A.S.H.R.A.E.



## SOUTHWEST FLORIDA CHAPTER

*Proudly Invites You To Join Us For Our:*

# 2009 ANNUAL BACKWATER FISHING TOURNAMENT

*Saturday April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2009*

**TROPHIES will be awarded for:**

- BEST TEAM CATCH (SNOOK, REDFISH, & TROUT)  
(Two heaviest fish of each of the three species)
  - 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Place for heaviest Snook
  - 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Place for heaviest Redfish

***Entry Fee is \$75.00 per person***

**Paid entry includes:**

**Entry to Tournament, Tournament T-shirt, Awards Dinner, Door Prize**

***Families Welcome!***

Dinner tickets can be purchased separately for \$25.00 each. Children under 12 years of age are \$10.00 each. Weigh-in and awards dinner will be held at The Cape Coral Yacht Club.

**A Mandatory Captain's Meeting** will be held Thursday April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2009 @ 7:00 PM at Bar Louie Tavern & grill in the Edison Mall. **One representative from each Team is required to attend to pick up rules, Tournament T-shirts and register your vessel!!!!**

***Please direct all questions to:  
Don Pine (239) 939-4502***



# A.S.H.R.A.E.



## **SOUTHWEST FLORIDA CHAPTER**

### **2009 ANNUAL BACKWATER FISHING TOURNAMENT**

#### **Tournament Rules**

*Thank you for entering the Annual Southwest Florida Backwater Fishing Tournament hosted by the Southwest Florida Chapter of ASHRAE. The festivities will begin this year on Thursday evening April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2009 at Bar Louie Tavern & Grill in the Edison Mall. The Captains meeting begins at 7:00 PM, which will be a cash bar social. One member from each fishing team is required to attend to register their boat and to pick up the tournament T-shirts and other information. Xerox copies of navigation charts will be made available if needed.*

*Saturday morning April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2009, you are free to start at anytime and from anywhere you would like. There is no formal check-in.*

*The weigh-in will be at Cape Coral Yacht Club at 3:30 PM with a Buffet dinner starting at 4:00 PM. The awards, trophies, prizes and fishing gear raffle will be held during dinner. All Anglers must be present to win!!!!*

#### **Trophies will be awarded for:**

- Best Team Catch (two heaviest fish of each species – Snook, Redfish, & Trout)
  - 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> place for heaviest Snook
  - 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> place for heaviest Redfish

*Only three fish apply to the above categories, Snook, Redfish and Trout. All other species caught do not qualify for the tournament. All fish caught and kept during this tournament must comply with Florida saltwater fishing regulations. Both artificial and live baits are allowed. All live fish must be produced at weigh-in for judges to certify.*

**Florida Saltwater Fishing Licenses are required and are your responsibility to acquire!!!!**

*If you have not paid your entry fees and turned in your registration, please do so promptly.*

**Please direct all questions to: Don Pine (239) 939-4502**





# A.S.H.R.A.E.



## SOUTHWEST FLORIDA CHAPTER

### 2009 ANNUAL BACKWATER FISHING TOURNAMENT

## Saturday April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2009

*This is your opportunity to participate in sponsoring the state's only A.S.H.R.A.E. Backwater Fishing Tournament! All prior backwater fishing events were a huge success. This year we anticipate an even bigger turnout. Please be of the first to join our team by sponsoring this event.*

**All Proceeds will be contributed to A.S.H.R.A.E.**

**Medallion sponsorship is as follows:**

- Bronze Medallion \$100.00** Company logo will be printed on T-shirt
- Silver Medallion \$300.00** Two paid entry fees, Company logo on T-shirt
- Gold medallion \$600.00** Two paid entry fees (transferable to anyone you wish), Company Logo on T-shirt and special recognition

#### Sponsorship Data

Company Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Telephone/Fax: \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

**Sponsor Level:** (Please Circle One)

**Bronze (\$100)**

**Silver (\$300)**

**Gold (\$600)**

Please make checks payable to:

Southwest Florida A.S.H.R.A.E.  
PO Box 6892  
Fort Myers, FL 33911

*Or you can pay on-line with a credit card @ [www.swflashrae.org](http://www.swflashrae.org)*

A.S.H.R.A.E. is a non-profit organization with Group Tax Exempt Status

**All Sponsorship forms and company logos must be sent in no later than April 10, 2009 in order to get the logos on to the shirts!!!!**



# A.S.H.R.A.E.



## SOUTHWEST FLORIDA CHAPTER

2009 ANNUAL BACKWATER FISHING TOURNAMENT

*Saturday April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2009*

### Official Entry Form

Captain Name \_\_\_\_\_ Shirt Size \_\_\_\_\_

Vessel Name \_\_\_\_\_

Vessel Make \_\_\_\_\_

Vessel Length \_\_\_\_\_

Vessel Color \_\_\_\_\_

#### ADDITIONAL TEAM MEMBERS

1. \_\_\_\_\_ Shirt Size \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_ Shirt Size \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_ Shirt Size \_\_\_\_\_

*I represent by my signature below that my crew and I will comply with the rules of the Annual Backwater Tournament. We will comply with the guidelines established by the State of Florida pertaining to lengths and limits of fish. I understand that I am responsible for my boat and crew at all times and that my vessel meets the minimum safety requirements set by the State of Florida. I hereby release the Southwest Florida Chapter of ASHRAE, its principals and affiliates from all liability.*

\_\_\_\_\_  
CAPTAIN SIGNATURE

\_\_\_\_\_  
DATE

Please return this completed form **NO LATER THAN 04/10/09** to:

Southwest Florida A.S.H.R.A.E.  
PO Box 6892  
Fort Myers, FL 33911  
Phone:(239)939-4502, e-mail: [dpine@umihvac.com](mailto:dpine@umihvac.com)

Please make checks payable to Southwest Florida A.S.H.R.A.E.  
Or you can pay on-line with a credit card @ [www.swflashrae.org](http://www.swflashrae.org)

# Report to Region 12-ASHRAE Winter Conference-Chicago January 23-28, 2009

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**Ross D. Montgomery, P.E.: DRC Region 12**  
6502 28th Ave E. Palmetto, Fla. 34221

☎ 941 729 4496    📠 941 722 6895

✉ [rossmont@aol.com](mailto:rossmont@aol.com) [ross@qstinc.com](mailto:ross@qstinc.com)

**A. Region 12 Awards given out at the Plenary Session Saturday afternoon.**

- Warren G. Hahn (Hahn Eng.)(FWC chapter)– Fellow

**B. Region 12 Awards to be given at the Louisville Annual Meeting June 21, 2009.**

- Yuklinia Robles (AJQ Eng.) (PR chapter) :Puerto Rico Chapter ;;2009 Government Activities Award
- Russell L. Heiken (E.V.P. GRG Eng.)(CF chapter):2009 Refrigeration Comfort Cooling Award for Project Excellence.
- James Cummings and Charles Withers, Jr. (Florida Solar Energy Center)(SC chapter); 2008 ASHRAE JOURNAL Paper Awards.
- Arthur Garbarino (Air Service )(GS chapter); Distinguished 50-year Member
- John Wells III (CEA Eng) (FWC chapter) Distinguished Service Award
- Robert Risley (FPL)(SWF chapter)Distinguished Service Award

**C. Information about the Economy and how Region 12 wants to help**

If you are doing good in your work and business---Congratulations!!!

Some of our members are not; If you are not; please give me some details and ideas on how we can all work together to make it better. Let's talk it up !!! [rossmont@aol.com](mailto:rossmont@aol.com)

If you are in a business that needs help or could use some expertise that ASHRAE members may be able to fill, let me know, and I can broadcast that out to our members, and we can communicate to you and your company via email.

If you are in a business or/and individual looking for partners or help or new horizons, let me know, and we can group together and advertise to find individuals that have similar ideas and aspirations.

If a number of you are looking for "entrepreneurs" or "ideas and capital" to promote new business's or ventures within our ASHRAE community---let us know—we can deal in confidence.

If you are looking for a job, or you have jobs to offer---let us know.

If you are looking to merge or acquire companies >>> Let us know>>>We can help !!!!

Let's work together as ASHRAE members to help each other. We need to get through this "economic period"??? And help each other as ASHRAE members.

We are a strong Society of ASHRAE members...it is time for us to prove another value of being an ASHRAE member !!!!!

Send me your comments. !!! [rossmont@aol.com](mailto:rossmont@aol.com)

These are listings of recruiters that we have been contacted by, if you have an interest and need to contact them.

**Diane Schade-Roche**

Office: 847-705-9917

Cell: 847-404-0635 • Email: [dianeselect@aol.com](mailto:dianeselect@aol.com)

**Benamati & Associates, Professional Recruitment**

5239 Copperleaf Circle • Delray Beach, FL 33484

Phone: 561 865-2352 • Fax: call to fax

**Alexander Associates Executive Search LLC**

22 Herbert Avenue - Suite 300 - White Plains NY 10606

specializing in HVAC, Facilities Management, Mechanical Engineering,  
Building Automation and Energy Engineering Professionals

**Robert J. Cohan 914.949.6538 Direct 866.543.3533 Toll Free**

[rob@hvacexec.com](mailto:rob@hvacexec.com) [www.hvacexec.com](http://www.hvacexec.com) 914.206.4546 Fax

**Lori-Ann Jakel**

Vice-President - Recruitment & Business Development

Tel: 416.979.7575 Ext. 557

E-mail: [ljakel@fepsearchgroup.com](mailto:ljakel@fepsearchgroup.com)

[www.fepsearchgroup.com](http://www.fepsearchgroup.com)

**D. Happenings In Region 12 and ASHRAE:**

- In Chicago, there were meetings with Steve Comstock and myself, regarding translation of some of our standards, guidelines and handbooks into Spanish and Portuguese. The first ASHRAE Standard 62.1 in Spanish, was published and available at the Bookstore (as translated by the Colombia ACAIRE association)
- We met with Fabio Clavijo and we are making plans for the ceremony for the Colombia Section September 2009, and starting a new Student Branch in Bucaramanga.
- We met with Eduardo Donoso about starting a new Section in Ecuador.
- We are talking to Panama about becoming a Section of ASHRAE.
- Ron and Carolyn Vallort, Past President of ASHRAE has moved to New Port Richey Florida. He is now in our region and the FWC chapter.
- We are translating our applications into Spanish and Portuguese. Thanks to Roberto Aguilo (Argentina) and Oswaldo Bueno (Brasil) for helping us translate.
- The Certification Exams for Commissioning is being launched in June 2009 in Louisville.
- With the help of Larry Stoff, The Student Activities Committee is going to make its Student Design Competition more available for our Southern Hemisphere (South America) members by making their deadline dates coincide with their school calendars.
- YEA Leadership Weekend at HQ is scheduled for May 15-17, 2009. Please plan to send a representative from the chapter. Jason Alphonso is coordinating this and can answer questions. Region 12 is partially sponsoring 4 persons to this event.
- Scholarships are now more available to Student Branch students. Todd Moore can comment more on this revised rule that helps our students in existing student branches.

- Send Mike Myers any ideas or news that you want to add to our new Website Region 12. It is a really good looking and useful tool.
- CRC is coming August 2009. See the Region 12 website for info and registrations.

#### **E. Information from Washington Office about the Stimulus:**

*ASHRAE is pleased to provide the following Special Report on provisions of the recently signed American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (H.R. 1). Recipients are encouraged to share this Special Report with interested colleagues who may also sign-up for the ASHRAE Government Affairs Update enewsletter at <http://www.ashrae.org/gaupdate>.*

### **Stimulus Package to Impact the Building Community**

On February 17, 2009 President Obama signed the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (commonly referred to as the stimulus bill). The bill focuses on two primary means for stimulating the economy—tax credits for the private sector and spending for the public sector (with a resulting impact on the private sector). Both areas focus heavily on infrastructure and buildings related opportunities.

#### **Private Sector Provisions**

For the private sector, the stimulus includes significant incentives for utilization of renewable energy and energy efficient technologies. Tax credits for the production of renewable energy (e.g., utilities) would be extended until at least 2012 along with an expansion of qualified energy conservation bonds and renewable energy loan guarantees. Incentives for non-business energy property (i.e., residential) would see an increase in amount (up to \$1,500) and an extension through 2010. Research expenses associated with renewables, conservation, and carbon capture and sequestration could result in higher tax credits in 2009 and 2010. Investment tax credits at 30% would be available for facilities that manufacture advanced energy property. The Department of Energy also is authorized to provide grants (in some cases up to 30% of the cost) to assist in installation of energy equipment including fuel cells, solar, small wind, geothermal heat pumps, and combined heat and power systems.

Bond authority also has been increased to encourage investment in energy related projects and infrastructure. The bill authorizes an additional \$2.4 billion of qualified energy conservation bonds to finance State, municipal and tribal government programs and initiatives designed to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The bill creates Qualified School Construction Bonds for the construction, rehabilitation, or repair of public school facilities or for the acquisition of land on which a public school facility will be constructed (with a limit set at \$22 billion for state and local governments and a \$400 million for Indian tribal governments).

Also of interest to the engineering and construction fields, the bill would delay until 2012 a provision set to begin in 2011 that would require federal, state and local governments to withhold three percent of all payments for goods and services to assure proper taxes are paid.

Finally, the bill extended through 2009 provisions allowing a business' capital expenditures to depreciate faster by permitting the immediate write-off of fifty percent of the cost of depreciable property (e.g., equipment, tractors, wind turbines, solar panels, and computers).

## Government Spending

Regarding spending in the public sector, funds are targeted at the federal, state and local levels. While the funds are initially targeted to improve government owned infrastructure and buildings, the private sector will need to provide the labor, technical, and manufacturing base for implementation. For federal agencies, considerable funds would be provided to retrofit and upgrade existing facilities to meet energy and water use requirements placed on federal agencies and alleviate maintenance backlogs. A quick rundown of the agencies and the amount of buildings related funding provided appears below.

- Department of Agriculture (\$850 million some of which goes toward buildings)
- Department of Commerce
  - National Institute of Standards and Technology (\$360 million for research facility construction)
  - National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (\$830 million for procurement, acquisitions and construction)
- National Science Foundation (\$600 million for modernization and construction of research facilities)
- Department of Defense (\$6.2 billion)
- General Services Administration (\$5.5 billion with not less than \$4.5 billion to convert GSA facilities to High-Performance Green Buildings, also include \$3 million for training and apprenticeship programs)
- Department of Homeland Security (\$620 million)
- Department of the Interior (\$1.5 billion some of which would go to buildings)
- Department of Health and Human Services (\$2.4 billion)
- Smithsonian Institution (\$25 million)
- Department of Education (\$53.6 billion of which approximately \$10 billion can be used for school and higher education modernization and repair)
- Department of Veterans Affairs (\$1.15 billion)
- Department of Housing and Urban Development (\$1.76 billion for public and HUD assisted housing improvements)

Other federal programs of interest include:

- Department of Energy
  - Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (\$16.8 billion for research, weatherization assistance, grants, and other programs)
  - Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability (\$4.5 billion to modernize the electric grid including smart meters and demand responsive equipment)
  - Advanced Research Projects Agency—Energy (ARPA-E) (\$400 million)
- Department of Labor (\$750 million for job training with significant focus on emerging industry sectors including energy efficiency and renewable energy)

Additionally, the Department of Energy, Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, may provide additional funds (above current base allocations) to states under the State Energy Grants if the governor certifies that states will work towards adoption of building energy codes at least as stringent as ANSI/ASHRAE/IESNA 90.1-2007 for commercial buildings and develop a plan for achieving 90 percent compliance with the code including training and enforcement programs. This provision could help speed state adoption of Standard 90.1-2007 and pave the way for future adoptions of 90.1-2010 which is expected to require 20 to 25 percent less energy use than the 2007 version.

### *About the ASHRAE Government Affairs Update*

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