

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



A Message from Our President

Welcome to the start of another exciting year for the ASHRAE Buffalo Chapter. I am truly honored to stand before you as this year's Chapter President. First, I'd like to thank our past president, Nicole Smith, for her outstanding leadership and dedication. I also want to recognize our officers, board of governors, committee chairs, and volunteers—without you, none of this would be possible.

Each year, the ASHRAE Society President sets a theme to guide our work as an organization. This year's theme is building our future for us at the chapter level, that means finding ways to apply this vision here in our local community—through education, collaboration, and service.

This year, our chapter will focus on three key goals:

1. Strengthening Member Engagement – offering high-quality technical programs, networking opportunities, and professional development.
2. Investing in the Next Generation – supporting student branches, mentoring young engineers, and encouraging YEA involvement.
3. Expanding Community Impact – advancing sustainability, advocating for smart energy use, and building partnerships with local organizations.”

None of this happens without you; our members. I encourage each of you to find a way to get involved. Whether it's serving on a committee, mentoring a student, attending our monthly meetings, or helping with outreach events—your participation is what makes our chapter strong.

ASHRAE is more than an organization, it's a community of professionals committed to shaping a sustainable built environment for generations to come. Together, we have the opportunity to make a real difference, both in our industry and in our community. I'm excited about what we will accomplish this year, and I look forward to working alongside all of you. Thank you, and let's make this a great year for the ASHRAE Buffalo Chapter.

Stacia Valik
President – ASHRAE Buffalo Chapter

Inside this Issue:

President's Message	1
Chapter News	2
Golf Outing Recap	4
Upcoming Monthly Events	5
PAOE Point Summary	5
2025-2026 CTT/Programming	6
Habitat for Humanity Recap	7
Member Spotlight	8
Employment Opportunities	9
ASHRAE Certification	10
Chapter Officers and Chairs	11
BOG Meeting Minutes	12

Website:

Check out our website for updated chapter information at www.buffaloashrae.org

Socials:



Follow us on LinkedIn

Editor's Note:

Do you have some ASHRAE related information to share with the chapter or an HVAC related event or opportunity to advertise? If so, please reach out to the newsletter editor and discuss options for publishing in the chapter newsletter.

Newsletter Disclaimer:

The appearance of any technical data, editorial material, or advertisement in this set of publications does not constitute endorsement, warranty, or guaranty by ASHRAE of any product, service, procedure, design, or the like. ASHRAE does not warrant that information is free from errors, and ASHRAE does not necessarily agree with any statement or opinion in this set of publications. The entire risk of the use of any information in this set of publications is assumed by the user. Statements made in this publication are not expressions of the Society or of the Chapter and may not be reproduced without special permission.

YOUR CHAPTER NEWS IN ONE PLACE

The chapter has several board positions available. If you are interested in volunteering for one of the open positions, please reach out to our Chapter President: Stacia Valik



Advertise in the Chapter Newsletter!

Advertising in The Newsletter is a great way to promote your business to local industry professionals! The Newsletter currently offers a business card size (3.5" x 2") ad for \$50. Your ad will run in every issue of the newsletter for the 2024-2025 ASHRAE year! If you would like to place an advertisement in the newsletter, please follow the instructions below:

- E-mail a PDF copy of your ad to jmee@ipdengineering.com
- Please mail a check payable to ASHRAE Buffalo Chapter and address to:
ATTN: Charlie Grochowiak
ASHRAE Buffalo Treasury
132 Clinton Street
Buffalo, New York 14224



Scholarship Opportunities!



There are scholarships available from both the chapter and national levels. At the national level, applications will be accepted from Engineering or Technical students majoring in Mechanical Engineering or in a technical course related to the field of Heating, Refrigeration and Air Conditioning. Visit <https://www.ashrae.org/membership--conferences/student-zone/scholarships-and-grants/scholarship-program> to see what opportunities are available.

At the chapter level, scholarships of up to \$4000 are available for students enrolled in an engineering or technical major relating to the HVAC field. Applicants must be a resident of Western New York or attending school in Western New York and be in good academic standing. Applicants must demonstrate a desire to locate in WNY post-graduation.

Additional information can be found here: https://buffaloashrae.org/images/downloads/Documents/scholarship_cover_page.doc
Applications can be found here: https://buffaloashrae.org/images/downloads/Documents/ashrae_scholarship_form.doc
For more information contact Drew Nowak at anowak@mollenbergbetz.com or Nick Farina at nick.farina@victaulic.com.



Check out Local Employment Opportunities!

ASHRAE is a great source to find your next career opportunity! Employers can easily post jobs at: <https://buffaloashrae.org/classifieds.php>.

- Postings are made available to the entire chapter membership through the website and the monthly newsletter.
- Postings never expire, they remain available until the employer fills the position or informs the chapter that the position is no longer available.
- There is a small, one-time fee of \$100 to post job openings. Proceeds are provided to the chapter to assist in annual chapter expenses.



Welcome to our New Members:

- Mr. Jon Stuber; U&S Services Inc.
- Mr. Julius Atkins; Pyure Company

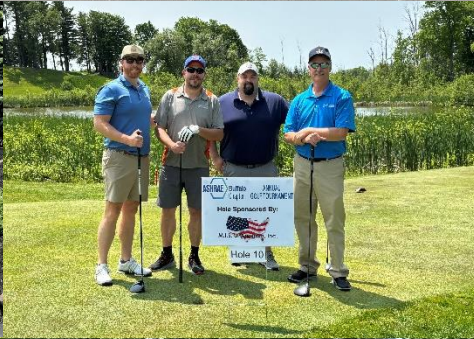
We're glad you've chosen to join the ASHRAE Buffalo Chapter and look forward to meeting you at our upcoming Chapter Events



The chapter will be adding website sponsorships to our website, see below for tiers and perks of becoming a website sponsor:

- Gold level: \$1,500; includes 2 sponsors to our two largest events of the year (golf and holiday party) and logo on Buffalo ASHRAE website for a full calendar year.
- Silver: \$1,000; 1 sponsor of choice of our two largest events of the year (golf and holiday party) and logo on Buffalo ASHRAE website for a full calendar year.
- Bronze: \$500; Logo on Buffalo ASHRAE website for a full calendar year.





2025 ASHRAE Golf Outing Results:

- First Place: Dan Arnold, Mike Barbasch, Kate Dillon, John Morris
- Second Place: Richie Celantano, Greg Dolegata, Brian Whelan, Nate Wiles
- Third Place: Cory Arbogast, Greg Baker, Mark DeJames, Sean Heidinger
- Longest Drive #1 - Men: Mark Lucatra
- Longest Drive #1 - Women: Samantha Price
- Closest to the Pole #2 - Men: Corey Monks
- Closest to the Pole #2 - Women: Kate Dillon
- Closest to the Pole #15 - Men: Tom Noonan
- Closest to the Pole #15 - Women: Bre Stapleton



1 PDH Credit!

UPCOMING CHAPTER MEETING

Date	Location	Topic and Speaker	Event Sponsor	Cost*
September 23, 2025 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.	Hutch's 1375 Delaware Ave. Buffalo, NY 14209	Green Lab Solutions presented by Mr. Jeff Hodges	SIEMENS	Member: \$50.00 Non-member: \$55.00 Student: \$20.00

* Tickets purchased less than 24 hours prior to the event and at the door we will be assessed a \$10 late fee. Please RSVP prior to the 24-hour window so we can give a proper headcount to the restaurants and do not end up short or paying for extra seats.

UPCOMING YEA EVENT

Date	Time	Location	Event Sponsor	Cost*
CHECK BACK SOON FOR EXCITING UPCOMING YEA EVENTS !				

* Please reach out Nicole Smith if your firm would be interested in sponsoring a future YEA Event. The chapter strives to keep these events free of charge for attending members so we're always in search of willing sponsors. Sponsoring firms will be recognized in the preceding newsletter.

UPCOMING WIA EVENT


Date and Time	Location	Women in ASHRAE Book Club	Book Discussion	Cost
CHECK BACK SOON FOR EXCITING UPCOMING WIA EVENTS				

PAOE SUMMARY

Category	Minimum Points	Par Points	Total Points
Chapter Operations	600	1500	0
Chapter Technology Transfer	550	1500	600
Communications	300	700	0
Government Affairs	500	1250	0
Historical	100	500	0
Membership Promotion	800	1400	300
Research and Promotion	800	1050	0
Student Activities	500	800	0
Young Engineers in ASHRAE	300	900	675

* Point summary current as of 09/03/2025.



2025-2026 CTT / PROGRAMMING				
Date & Time	Presenter / Topic	Date & Time	Presenter / Topic	
September 23, 2025 12:00 – 1:00 PM	Green Lab Solutions presented by Jeff Hodges of Siemens Industry, Inc.	February 10, 2026 **tentative**	Monthly Meeting <i>More Details to Follow</i>	
October 14, 2025 **tentative**	Monthly Meeting <i>More Details to Follow</i>	March 10, 2026 **tentative**	Monthly Meeting <i>More Details to Follow</i>	
November 11, 2025 **tentative**	Monthly Meeting <i>More Details to Follow</i>	April 20, 2026 **tentative**		
December 4, 2025 **tentative**	Annual Holiday Party <i>More Details to Follow</i>	May 12, 2026 **tentative**		Monthly Meeting <i>More Details to Follow</i>
January 13, 2026 **tentative**	Monthly Meeting <i>More Details to Follow</i>	June 1, 2026 **tentative**		Annual Golf Outing <i>More Details to Follow</i>



In ASHRAE meetings, we will act with honesty, fairness, courtesy, competence, inclusiveness, and respect for others, which exemplify our core values of excellence, commitment, integrity, collaboration, volunteerism, and diversity, and shall avoid all real or perceived conflicts of interest. Our culture is one of inclusiveness, acknowledging the inherent value and dignity of each individual. We celebrate diverse and inclusive communities, understanding that doing so fuels better, more creative and more thoughtful ideas, solutions and strategies for the Society and the communities our Society serves. We respect and welcome all.



On July 31, the Chapter partnered with Habitat for Humanity to assist in a home remodel in Cheektowaga. Special thanks for Leya Parks, Nicole Smith, Emma Waetcher, and Jim Beavers for participating, with special thanks to our Sustainability Chair, Krista Wayne, organizing the event.

Leya Parks of VP Supply took to social media after the event to say: "I'm incredibly grateful for the opportunity as I not only walked away with new skills but also a deeper appreciation for what Habitat for Humanity brings to our communities." Emma Waetcher of Stark Tech Equipment followed by saying "It was such a great experience to build something bigger than ourselves."



Member Spotlight

Members are the foundation of our chapter. There are a lot of members of the Buffalo Chapter of ASHRAE and we want to get to know all of you! Each month we're going to ask one of our members some questions so the chapter can get to know them better.



This month we're going to get to know our outgoing chapter president, Nicole Smith, a little bit better. Nicole is currently a Project Manager at CannonDesign. Nicole has been with CannonDesign for nearly 6 years. Prior to CannonDesign, Nicole spent time working for ME Engineering. Nicole has been an ASHRAE member since 2008 and has previously served as in all of the officer capacities as well as YEA chair, SA chair, WIA chair, and DEI chair.

Q: What aspect of your job do you find most rewarding?

A: Helping to create safe, clean, breathable and beautiful spaces for people to live their lives in.

Q: Where did you go to school?

A: Syracuse University – Go Orange!

Q: What is your favorite travel destination?

A: Either Copenhagen or Paris. The picture is from my most recent to Copenhagen.

Q: What do you love most about your job?

A: I love that every day is a new and different challenge.

Q: Are you a morning person or a night owl?

A: Morning person! I prefer to work out in the morning, to have difficult meetings in the morning and hit my hardest to do list items in the morning.

Q: What do you like most about being an ASHRAE member?

A: I enjoy meeting and getting to know others in the industry on a local and national level. I have a very curious mind so I love to continue my education with monthly meetings, conferences or reading standards or articles.

Q: When you were our chapter President is there an accomplishment you are particularly proud of?

A: Yes, two things, community engagement with various events throughout the year and starting the WIA committee with Lizzie Hagerty. I am looking forward to seeing these two initiatives continue to grow for our chapter.

Q: Tell us something most members would not already know about you.

A: I'll share two things, first I am a vegan (cheating vegan sometimes with dairy). Second, I read 100+ books a year (mostly audio books at 2.5x speed).

Q: What is your favorite book or movie (or both!)?

A: Book: either *The Nightingale* by Kristin Hannah or *The Women* by Kristin Hannah; Movie: *Legally Blonde*

Q: What is one piece of advice you received that stuck with you?

A: Always ask questions, the more questions the better. For young engineers who are mostly drafting right now don't blindly draft, ask your senior engineers the whys and the hows, know what you are putting on drawings.

Q: Any words of wisdom for our members?

A: Lead with love





Employment Opportunities

Mechanical Engineer

Trautman Associates

https://buffaloashrae.org/classifieds.php?record_number=6

May 28, 2024

As a Mechanical Designer, you'll specialize in commercial projects that range from groundbreaking new constructions to transformative renovations.

1. Collaborate with multidisciplinary teams to design mechanical systems that meet client needs and exceed industry standards.
2. Prepare construction documents and conduct comprehensive energy modeling and calculations.
3. Ensure compliance with energy codes and regulations.
4. Conduct field surveys to assess existing HVAC, Plumbing and fire protection infrastructures.
5. Engage in construction administration activities.
6. Lead teams through project milestones.

What we are looking for in our next Mechanical Designer:

1. A bachelor's degree in Mechanical Engineering.
2. A minimum of 5 years of professional experience.
3. Proficiency in AutoCAD, Revit, Bluebeam, and MS Office.
4. Understanding of relevant codes and standards.
5. Ability to manage multiple projects concurrently while meeting deadlines.
6. A collaborative spirit and excellent communication skills.

If you're a motivated individual who shares our values and is seeking a fulfilling career in mechanical design, we'd love to welcome you to our team! Join us at Trautman Associates and become part of our vibrant community. Apply today and let's build a brighter future together.

Contact Information

Marisa Scroger

mscroger@trautmanassoc.com

ASHRAE PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATIONS

Click each badge to learn more about the benefits of each ASHRAE professional certification



Building Commissioning Professional (BCxP) Certification

ASHRAE's BCxP certification program validates competency to lead, plan, coordinate and manage a commissioning team to implement commissioning processes in new and existing buildings.



Building Energy Assessment Professional (BEAP) Certification

The BEAP certification, an ANSI-Accredited Personnel Certification Program under ISO/IEC 17024 (#1139), validates competency to assess building systems and site conditions; analyze and evaluate equipment and energy usage; and recommend strategies to optimize building resource utilization.



Building Energy Modeling Professional (BEMP) Certification

The BEMP certification, an ANSI-Accredited Personnel Certification Program under ISO/IEC 17024 (#1139), validates competency to model new and existing building and systems with the full range of physics; and evaluate, select, use, calibrate and interpret the results of energy modeling software where applied to building and systems energy performance and economics.



Certified HVAC Designer (CHD) Certification

The CHD certification, managed under ISO/IEC 17024 requirements for ANSI-Accredited Personnel Certification Programs, validates competency to design HVAC systems to meet building/project requirements, including equipment, equipment sizing, load calculations, mechanical equipment room design, duct and piping design and layout, and develop HVAC plans for permit and construction.



Certified Decarbonization Professional (CDP) Certification

The CDP certification program validates competency of the decarbonization professional to do the following: Assess, analyze, and develop effective and sustainable strategies that reduce/eliminate the life-cycle carbon footprint of new and existing buildings.



High-Performance Building Design Professional (HBDP) Certification

The HBDP certification, an ANSI-Accredited Personnel Certification Program under ISO/IEC 17024 (#1139), validates competency to design and integrate sustainable HVAC&R systems into high performing buildings.



Healthcare Facility Design Professional (HFDP) Certification

The HFDP certification validates competency to Incorporate standards and guidelines as well as unique healthcare facility requirements and design principles in HVAC system design.



Operations and Performance Management Professional (OPMP) Certification

Developed with the participation of APPA and the General Services Administration (GSA), the OPMP certification validates competency to do the following:

Manage facility operations and maintenance to achieve building performance goals, including those related to indoor environmental quality, health and safety.

WHY GET CERTIFIED?

BUFFALO CHAPTER OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS

	Name	Company	Phone	Email
President	Stacia Valik	Stark Tech Group	716-693-4490	valiks@starktech.com
President-Elect	Elizabeth Hagerty	Cannon Design	716-774-3381	ehagerty@cannondesign.com
Vice President	Dan Arnold	JW Swanson	716-877-6900	darnold@jwswanson.com
Secretary	Eben Piazza	Emerson-Swan	716-290-1090	epiazza@emersonswan.com
Treasurer	Charlie Grochowiak	RF Peck	716-276-8933	cgrochowiak@rfpeck.com
Board of Governors	John Stuber	U&S Services, Inc.	716-693-4490	stuberj@usservicesinc.com
Board of Governors	Thomas Marone	BJ Muirhead Co.	631-599-3971	tmarone@bjmuirhead.com
Board of Governors	Nicole Smith	Cannon Design	716-774-3256	nsmith@cannondesign.com
Historian	Rick Robinson	Retired	716-983-6292	krickr67@gmail.com
Scholarships	Drew Nowak Nick Farina	Custom Sheetmetal Victaulic	716-614-7472 716-961-8844	anowak@mollenbergbetz.com nick.farina@victaulic.com
Awards	Rick Robinson Russ Stuber	Retired Retired	716-983-6292 716-693-4490	krickr67@gmail.com russStuber@gmail.com
Membership	Eben Piazza	Emerson-Swan	716-290-1090	epiazza@emersonswan.com
Newsletter Editor	Joshua Mee	IPD Engineering	716-431-5719	jmee@ipdengineering.com
Refrigeration				
Research Promotion	Jake Muller	Stark Tech Group	716-693-4490	mullerj@starktech.com
Young Engineers	Aditya Sharda	IMEG Corp.	716-249-0099	aditya.sharda@imegcorp.com
Student Activities				
Webmaster	Thomas Marone	BJ Muirhead Co.	631-599-3971	tmarone@bjmuirhead.com
CRC Delegate	Nicole Smith	Cannon Design	716-774-3256	nsmith@cannondesign.com
CRC Alternate	Elizabeth Hagerty	Cannon Design	716-774-3381	ehagerty@cannondesign.com
Grassroots Government Advocacy	Charlie Grochowiak	RF Peck	716-276-8933	cgrochowiak@rfpeck.com
Sustainability	Krista Wayne	Cannon Design	716-774-3459	kwayne@cannondesign.com
Woman in ASHRAE	Nicole Smith Elizabeth Hagerty	Cannon Design	716-774-3256 716-774-3381	nsmith@cannondesign.com ehagerty@cannondesign.com
Diversity, Equity and Inclusion	Nicole Smith	Cannon Design	716-774-3256	nsmith@cannondesign.com



BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING MINUTES

When: Wednesday September 10, 2025 @ 5:00 PM

Attendees: Eben Piazza
Dan Arnold
Elizabeth Hagerty
Aditya Sharda
Krista Wayne
Charlie Grochowiak
Stacia Valik

Location: Big Ditch Brewery

[ASHRAE 2025-26 PAOE Guide, William McQuade](#)

Minutes: [ASHRAE Buffalo Chapter BOG Meeting Minutes](#)

Next Meeting: October 8, 2025.

